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3. Soviet chiefs of mission in the Middle East reported recalled to Moscow: [redacted] and an article in a prominent Tehran newspaper have stated that all the chiefs of Soviet diplomatic missions in the Middle East have been recalled to Moscow for a secret conference, the exact date of which is unknown. [redacted]

Comment: [redacted] these reports may reflect the rumor which has been widely circulated in the Middle East in recent months.

It is not unusual for high-level Soviet diplomats in this area to return to Moscow for consultations and vacations in the early summer. The Soviet chiefs of missions in Afghanistan and Israel are known to have departed for Moscow in April and May, respectively, and the Soviet Ambassador to Iran announced on 6 July that he planned to vacation in the USSR. His departure was postponed on 14 July, however, because of illness.

4. [redacted]

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28 July 52

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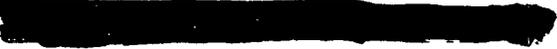
NEAR EAST - AFRICA

20.

Former Minister of Interior warns of further Egyptian violence: Former Minister of Interior Maraghi Pasha states that General Mohammed Nagib is a mere figurehead for a group of the most extreme elements in the Egyptian Army. Maraghi alleges that the insurgents are determined to revert to violence to achieve their objectives, among which are the expulsion of the British by force and the establishment of a "Communist-Moslem Brotherhood dictatorship."

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Ambassador Caffery believes that Maraghi's allegations may be exaggerated in an effort to encourage Anglo-American military intervention. Caffery warns, however, that the possibility of extremist influence on the new movement cannot be overlooked. 

Comment: An alliance between Nagib and the Moslem Brotherhood or the Wafd Party would offer a new threat to moderate government and to Western interests. Any cooperation on the part of the small, outlawed Communist Party would be on its initiative and wholly opportunistic.

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