

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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- The greatest barrier to world peace imposed by US-USSR relations is the mutual lack of trust. One step to improve this is the expansion of free and easy personal contacts between "the high and the low" of both nations; fortunately, the official policies of both are "heading that way." These contacts should be wholly unsupervised discussions between average Americans and average Russians.
- Another need is the "end of name-calling," including those in diplomatic exchanges. For these and other reasons, he had been disposed to doubt what his reception here would be, but he was gratified that it has been "warm and friendly."
- His government has "plenty to do at home," and none of it will "enlarge the US." Its purpose is to increase the supply of "meat, milk" and other popular living standards. Is that war making? The USSR is totally opposed to war on many grounds, including moral. One doesn't have to "believe in God" to have this moral prompting. There is, by the way, full religious freedom in the USSR.
- His policies are merely based on facts and realities. Its hope is peaceful co-existence with the West "while we try to make our country as rich as yours." Is that wrong? I have noticed that your stress now is on our economic instead of our military world activities as "our weapon in the Cold War." Well, the shift indicates a better rivalry for humanity at any rate. "We just want to catch up with you." But the USSR is not "weak". We have made mistakes of act and policy, but do not deceive yourselves into thinking that these are indices of "weakness." The same thing can be said of the advances in science: their goal also is peace. How can our "plans" be regarded as a military threat? Its discoveries in space will be useful to all nations. Long ago the USSR "gave up the concept of war" as the sine qua non of "catching up" with the US.
- His thinking (my impression was that he meant at the highest level, and of the USSR-Soviet nations, except, at this point, Communist China) is very desirable. It should not have an agenda because the West would list all the events of the past that impel recriminations. What is needed is a demonstration on how to solve the divisive issues in the form in which they exist today.

Approved for Release - end -
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