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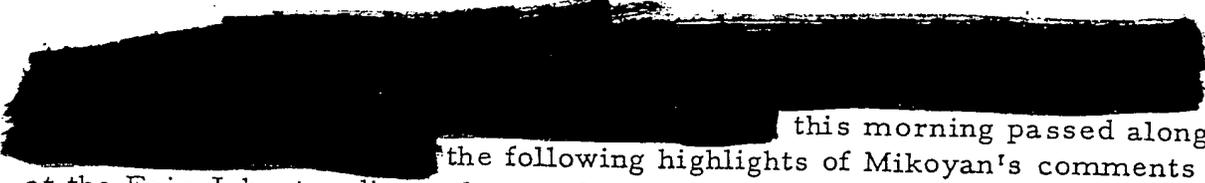
7/15-14

6 January 1959

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TO: (DCI), DDCI, DDI

SUBJECT: Eric Johnston's Dinner for Mikoyan

 this morning passed along the following highlights of Mikoyan's comments at the Eric Johnston dinner last night:

1. Mikoyan talked for two hours -- one-half hour of which was practically a speech giving the usual Communist "peace" line. He answered most questions freely and frankly. He made several efforts at humor, but obviously had none. Mikoyan's interpreter was very good. Ambassador Thompson, who was close by almost constantly, said all was very "above board".

2. When William McChesney Martin asked him to comment on "how they supervise budgets for satellites," Mikoyan snapped, "We have no satellites; that word is yours!" Mikoyan answered a question on Berlin (substance on radio this morning) saying in fact that they didn't mean what they said -- that six months was just a suggestion.

3. Mikoyan was asked if they would "put tracking stations in China?" He commented, "No, it is not necessary. We know what you are doing and you know what we are doing."

Commenting on Geneva, he said, "You didn't accomplish very much, did you?"

With reference to observation and inspection of armaments, Mikoyan said they would agree if we would be reasonable, but obviously our interests are in "intelligence".

4. When asked if they would give any nuclear weapons to China, Mikoyan replied, "There are no plans to give nuclear weapons to China at this time." Mikoyan was very high in his praise of the Chinese.

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5. There was general conversation about hopes that the U. S. and the USSR could get along and live in peace, etc.

6. As a side note, [REDACTED] was told that all the Republicans invited to the dinner declined after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon -- with the exception of Senator Cooper who left immediately after dinner saying he did not feel well. (The Washington Post reports that J. Carroll Reece attended.)

7. [REDACTED]

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