

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

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SECRET (When Filled In)	CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS	EO 12958 6.1(c)>25Yrs

COUNTRY	CHINA	REPORT NO.	TDCS-3/568,570
SUBJECT	CHINESE COMMUNIST REACTION TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH AND EXPECTATIONS FOR PRESIDENT JOHNSON	DATE DISTR.	24 DECEMBER 1963
DATE OF INFO.	DECEMBER 1963	PRECEDENCE	ROUTINE
PLACE & DATE ACQ.		REFERENCES	IN: 86807
APPRAISAL		EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)	
		FIELD REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE	
	EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH SOURCE ON 12 DECEMBER AN OFFICIAL OF THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY STATED THAT AS FAR AS HE KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE OFFICIAL CHICOM VIEW IS THAT THERE WILL NOT BE ANY IMPORTANT POLITICAL CHANGE IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AS A RESULT OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE.

2. ALTHOUGH THE CHICOM GOVERNMENT CERTAINLY DID NOT LIKE KENNEDY, IT IS NOT TRUE, AS REPORTED IN SOME WESTERN NEWSPAPERS, THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS WERE HAPPY ABOUT HIS DEATH. IN PRINCIPLE THE CHINESE ARE AGAINST ANY POLITICAL ASSASSINATION BECAUSE THEY DO NOT CONSIDER SUCH AN ACT A POLITICAL SOLUTION AND BECAUSE IT CAN MAKE

SECRET	CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS	GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification										
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THE SITUATION WORSE THAN IT WAS BEFORE.

3. THE CHICOM GOVERNMENT EXPECTS THAT JOHNSON WILL CONTINUE THE POLICY LINE OF KENNEDY AT LEAST UNTIL THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. THERE IS A BIG QUESTION HOWEVER AS TO WHAT HIS POLICY WILL BE AFTER HE IS PERHAPS ELECTED NEXT YEAR. THE CHINESE ARE CONVINCED THAT HE IS MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN KENNEDY WAS.

4. FIELD DISSEM. CINCPAC, PACFLT, ARPAC, PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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