

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10 December 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The following report from a usually reliable source, a prominent dealer in ores on a worldwide basis, is evaluated as probably true.

Up to a few days ago indications were that the Soviets would continue to export to the United States manganese and chrome "according to expected and agreed upon schedules." From conversations and communications both in the United States and abroad with the Soviets, we now have the distinct impression that exports of manganese and chrome will not be "according to expected and agreed upon schedules in the year 1949."

Just what tonnage the Soviets will ship, we are unable to determine as of today (10 December 1948) as negotiations are continuing. We are unable to name any estimate of the tonnage whatsoever but assume it would be some percentage (and again we have no idea what percentage) of "expected and agreed upon schedules."

In our opinion, based on our talks with the Soviets over several months, we judge this a sudden change in policy in retaliation for the reluctance or refusal of the United States Government to grant them export licenses to purchase in the United States the materials and equipment which they deem essential for their economy.

~~REGRADED SECRET~~

Approved by

~~NW 24666~~

~~JH~~

~~DATE: OCT 8/5/04~~

R. M. HILLENKOTTER  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central  
Intelligence

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: OCT 2006

EXEMPT from Declass.

Per E. O. 12065, Sec. 3-4

Re-review ~~1990~~

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Regraded per E.O. 11652  
Sec. 5(B)(2)  
CIA MEMO, 29 JUN 1976  
L. Skidgeman 6 JUL 1976  
NW 24666 - 17

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