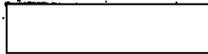
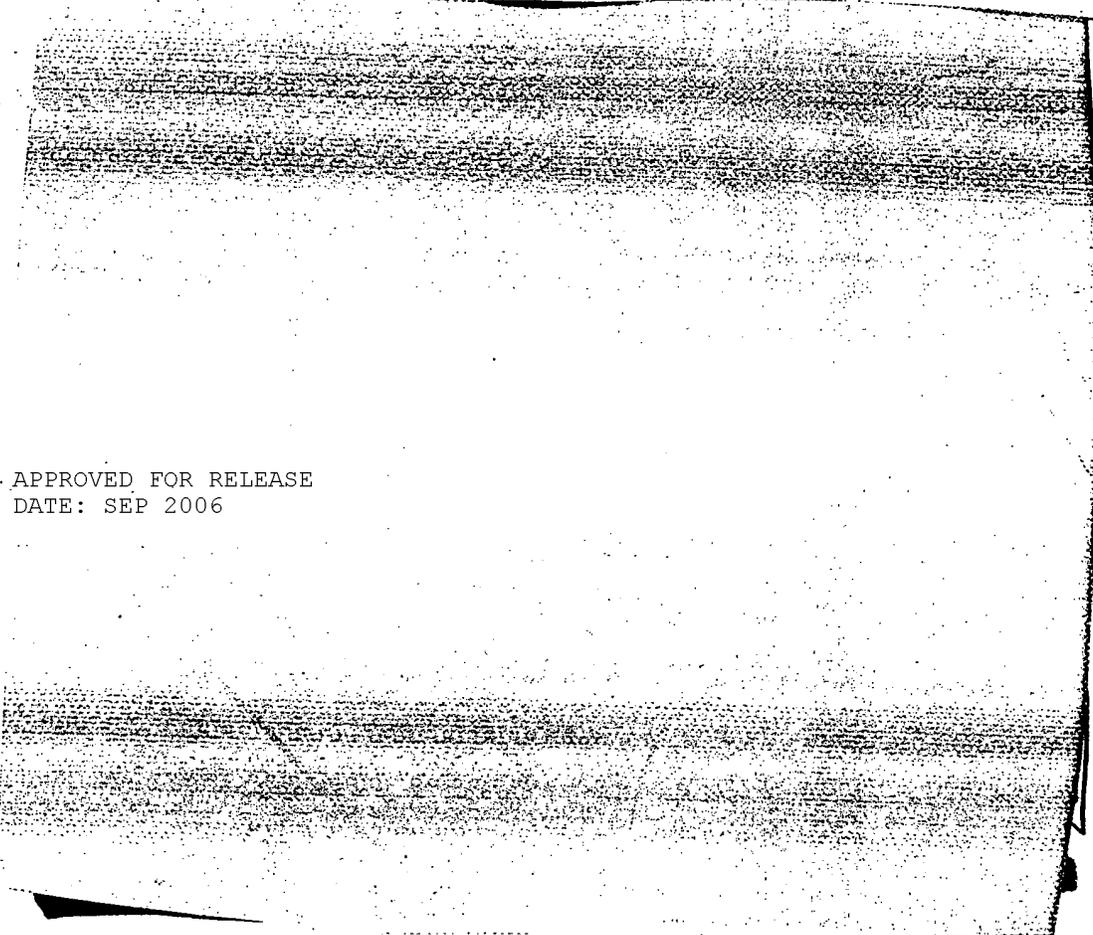


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(b) (1)
(b) (3)
(c)



1. ITALY: De Gasperi encouraged over electoral chances--According to Ambassador Caffery, French Foreign Minister Bidault reports that De Gasperi appears encouraged over prospects in the coming Italian elections. Bidault reported that De Gasperi expects to win as many seats as the Communist-Nenni Socialist combination. Ambassador Kirk reports that although Belgian Foreign Minister Spaak fears the Italian Communists will poll somewhat more than 30% of the vote, he feels that, as long as Communists remain in the minority, there would be no reason for De Gasperi to take them into the Italian Government.



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