

SECRET

SOURCE

25 May 1949

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF, CONTACT BRANCH

Subject: Debriefing of Mr. Nikolai Nikolaevich POPPE

1. It is requested that Mr. POPPE be debriefed in conformance with the City Questionnaire on the city of Ulan-Ude (Buryat Mongol Autonomous Republic of the USSR). If Mr. POPPE can supply the information, he should also be debriefed on the city of Tashkent (Kazakhstan USSR) and any other cities he knows well in Central Asian USSR which fall within the following union republics: Turkmen, Uzbek, Tadzhik, Kirgiz, and Kazakh.
2. What friction is there between the various ethnic groups living in Central Asia; extent, causes, and significance?
3. To what extent do the residents of Central Asian USSR, particularly the indigenous groups, identify themselves with the Government of the USSR? Do they actively support it? Is there appreciable resistance to the government?
4. To what extent do the natives of Central Asian USSR participate in their own government?
5. How stringent and effective are the travel controls in the Central Asian union republics of the USSR? Do the inhabitants often visit neighboring countries (Iran, Afghanistan, India, etc.)? Legally or illegally?
6. Discuss the distribution of the Mongols within the USSR and in neighboring countries.

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