

16 September 1958

Report BOFOSTER

SUBJECT: Intelligence

SECURITY INFORMATION

SOURCE: Talk by Cardinal Tisserant, during an interview by Kagle and Co.

I. Bulgaria: Religious persecutions have begun a turn to violence: two bishops out of three have been arrested; twenty-five percent of the priests are in prison. Dimitrov had always been opposed to religious persecutions which may be the cause of his murder.

USSR: In a sense, it is accurate to say that the theoretical conditions for a rebellion against the regime exist. Factory workers put up with the regime, but the peasants have reached the limits of endurance. In the satellite countries, the suffering is terrible. But all this means nothing in the face of an armed and all-powerful police. There is no chance of a rebellion in normal times. The populations of the satellites say to the West: "You pray for peace, but we pray for war. We know that in case of war, half of us will die; but if peace lasts we will all die."

The USSR cannot make a long war. Her agriculture is so industrialized that she cannot at the same time mobilize the men to keep up a mechanized army and the men to work a mechanized agriculture. Her army, contrary to the European armies, is equipped for winter war. It is conceivable that, Russia being in control of timing, will start war after the first snows, so as to reach, before the end of winter, positions which will be impregnable. It is noteworthy that the calling of the Supreme Council of the USSR is precisely the indication of serious events. The Congress (convention) is to proclaim Khrushchev as the heir presumptive; it is also, perhaps, to forecast the possibility of an approaching war.

While it is true that Islam is separated from Leninist-Marxism by spiritual questions, Marxism is, nonetheless, using the lever of nationalism which is, at this moment, raising a great shout in the countries of Islam: Iran, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon.

The USSR is pulling the strings in Iran and Egypt. Fifty hundred Russians arrived in Cairo at the time diplomatic relations were reopened.

Many Germans who are Russian agents are also in Egypt and Iran. It is thanks to these German military men that Naguib succeeded in his "coup". Who, exactly, is Naguib? What is he? What does he want? One can't tell yet. It seems very probably that the Moslem countries are used by the USSR as a line (front line) against the West. When the USSR judges the time ripe, she will start (perhaps) the war.

It is against England (Egypt, Iran) that the USSR is shooting. If Mossadegh is murdered, it will be Communism in Iran. If Naguib should disappear, it is Communism in Egypt. America doesn't seem to understand that in opposing England, she is playing into the hands of the USSR who is her enemy also.

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II Saw two letters from the Cardinal to Kegley which indicate his regard for Kegley and BOFOSTER:

1. Thanking Kegley for a letter, one ended "May God bless your good work."
2. The other had a paragraph deploring the ignorance of the Communist peril which seemed to characterize the Western countries.

III Kegley stated to me that his Czechoslovak source of documentation is Veritas, a Czech Catholic press agency in Rome. This agency has contacts behind the Curtain. Kegley added that they have offered him documentation which U. S. agents in Rome had wanted. According to Kegley Veritas told him they would prefer to give it to him for the same price. I shall get the address and other information on Veritas and will report further.

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