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S E C R E T 191325Z JUN 69 CITE []

DIRECTOR

INTEL REDTOP

SUPDATA: ZRWAHOO. NO PROJECT. [] FROM [] WHO

REFUSED TO IDENTIFY YUGOSLAV JOURNALIST. []

STATED THAT JOURNALIST CLAIMED TO HAVE ATTENDED MOSCOW

FILM SHOWING. FILE AND INDEX DEFER.

FILED: 191325Z

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19 JUN 69 IN 85022

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The following intelligence information, transmitted from a CIA Field Station, requires review within the Clandestine Service, before being released outside the Agency. Pending results of this review, a copy is being provided for your advance information

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| GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification |
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COUNTRY: USSR

DOI: MAY 1969

SUBJEC: SOVIET FILM REHABILITATING STALIN

ACQ: ITALY, [(17 JUNE 1969) FIELD NO. []

SOURCE: AN ITALIAN LEFTIST WHO IS A NEW AND UNTESTED SOURCE.
HE OBTAINED THE INFORMATION FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED
YUGOSLAV JOURNALIST WHO HAD RETURNED RECENTLY FROM
MOSCOW.

1. A FILM FULL REHABILITATING JOSEF STALIN IS TO APPEAR SOON IN THE SOVIET UNION. THE FILM, PRODUCED BY THE "MOSFILM," IS DIRECTED BY YURIY OZEROV AND IS BASED ON SCREEN PLAY BY YURIY BONDAREV AND O. KURGANOV. TWO PARTS ARE ALREADY FINISHED, "THE ARCH OF FIRE" AND "THE BREAK." THREE ADDITIONAL PARTS ARE STILL IN PREPARATION; THEIR TITLES WILL BE: "THE MAIN BLOW," "THE BALKANS," "THE BATTLE OF BERLIN." EACH SECTION LASTS ONE HOUR. THE FIRST TWO PARTS WERE RECENTLY SHOWN PRIVATELY TO A RESTRICTED AUDIENCE OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND HIGH RANKING MILITARY

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OFFICERS. THE OVERALL TITLE OF THE PRODUCTION IS "LIBERATION." IN THE "MOSFILM" STUDIOS IT IS SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE FILM IS TO RE-ESTABLISH THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR BY REPLYING WITH FACTS TO DISTORTIONS OF WESTERN HISTORIANS. THE WORK IS FILMED IN SUPER-PANAVISION AND COLOR AND FOLLOWS THE INTERPRETATION OF THE EVENTS GIVEN IN THE MEMOIRS OF SOVIET GENERALS YAKOVLEV, SHTEMENKO, ROKOSSOVSKIY, GRECHKO AND ZHUKOV.

2. STALIN IS THE CENTRAL FIGURE OF THE FIRST TWO EPISODES SHOW. HE APPEARS SURROUNDED BY HIS DIRECT COLLABORATORS ZHUKOV, VASILIEVSKIY AND ANTONOV. HE IS PORTRAYED, AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLES OF KURSK, DNEPER AND KIEV, PACING ABOUT HIS OFFICE, PIPE IN HIS MOUTH, GIVING HISTORIC DIRECTIVES ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR, LISTENING TO THE REPORTS OF THE GENERALS, PROVIDING EXPLANATIONS, GIVING ORDERS. WHENEVER SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR ARISE, GENERALS ARE SEEN RUNNING TO MOSCOW TO GET GUIDANCE FROM STALIN, AND AS A RESULT SOVIET TROOPS ADVANCE IRRESISTIBLY LIBERATING TERRITORY AFTER TERRITORY. STALIN IS SHOWN AS DIRECTING EVERYTHING PERSONALLY. FOR INSACEWN AS SOVIET^{TANCE} TROOPS

PS -e- APPROACH GERMAN OCCUPIED KIEV, STALIN GATHERS THE GENERALS AND ASKS THEM WHEN THEY THINK THE CITY CAN BE LIBERATED. THE GENERALS

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SAY THAT IT CANNOT BE BEFORE THE END OF NOVEMBER. STALIN SAYS THAT THIS WILL NOT DO, AND THAT KIEV MUST BE FREED BEFORE THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ^{7th} DECEMBER REVOLUTION. THEN THE EXHAUSTED SOVIET TROOPS ARE SEEN MAKING A SUPERHUMAN EFFORT TO LIBERATE THE CITY BY THE DATE SET BY STALIN, AT THE COST OF ENORMOUS SACRIFICES. IN THE FILM THE RED ARMY IS PORTRAYED AS EQUIPPED WITH MOTORIZED DIVISIONS, AIR SUPPORT AND OTHER MODERN WEAPONS NOT AT ALL CORRESPONDING TO THE TRUTH OF THE SITUATION.

3. GREAT ATTENTION IS GIVEN IN THE FILM TO THE TEHRAN CONFERENCE, THE PREPARATIONS AND TO THE PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS, WITH SALIN PRESENTED AS THE REAL HEAD OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE REAL MANAGER OF THE ENTIRE WAR. ROOSEVELT IS SHOWN AS A SICK MAN, WHO AT ONE POINT IS SAVED BY STALIN FROM A GERMAN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. CHURCHILL APPEARS AS OPPOSING THE OPENING OF A SECOND FRONT. VERY HASTY TREATMENT IS GIVEN TO PARTISAN WARFARE IN THE GERMAN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES, WITH MORE ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE POLISH PARTISAN ACTIVITIES THAN TO THE YUGOSLAV. RHETORICAL OVERTONES ARE NOT LACKING, AS WHEN STALIN REPLIES TO GENERAL VASILIEVSKIY, WHO REPORTS THE GERMAN PROPOSAL TO EXCHANGE VON PAULUS FOR STALIN'S SON: "I AM NOT ONLY A FATHER, BUT ALSO A SOLDIER."

4. FIELD DISSEM: NONE.