

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

HR70-14

TELETYPE INFORMATION REPORT

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CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T SECRET	DISSEMINATION CONTROLS
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DATE DISTR.	28 OCTOBER 1957	PRECEDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> XXXXX PRIORITY
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COUNTRY USSR	PLACE ACQUIRED USSR
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SUBJECT 1. SOVIET OFFICER REACTION TO REMOVAL OF ZHUKOV AS DEFENSE MINISTER 2. CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF GRECHKO AND SHTEMENKO	APPROVED FOR RELEASE HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS DIVISION HR-70-14 4-18-2012
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DATE OF INFORMATION 26 OCTOBER 1957	REFERENCES
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APPRAISAL OF CONTENT (TENTATIVE) 3

SOURCE (EVALUATION DEFINITIVE) A RELIABLE SOVIET SOURCE
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1. SOURCE STATES THAT ZHUKOV'S REMOVAL AS USSR MINISTER OF DEFENSE IS A DEMOTION. THE BASIS FOR THIS STATEMENT IS THE CURT MANNER IN WHICH THE ANNOUNCEMENT APPEARED IN THE SOVIET PRESS; IF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WERE ONLY A PRELUDE TO ZHUKOV'S TAKING A NEW POSITION, FOR EXAMPLE, BULGANIN'S POST, A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT WOULD HAVE BEEN ADDED TO ANY COMMUNIQUES RELEASED TO THE PRESS. EVEN WHEN IT IS DESIRED TO CONCEAL THE NATURE OF A SOVIET OFFICIAL'S NEW POST, IT IS NORMAL TO INDICATE IN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT THE REMOVAL IS IN CONNECTION WITH "TRANSFER TO OTHER DUTIES".

2. SOME SOVIET MILITARY OFFICERS WERE SURPRISED, SHOCKED, AND UPSET WHEN THEY HEARD THE NEWS OF ZHUKOV'S REMOVAL FROM HIS POST.

3. MARSHAL GRECHKO HAS BEEN IN THE USSR SINCE EARLY OCTOBER 1957. COL. GEN. S. M. SHTEMENKO, CHIEF OF SOVIET MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, WAS REPLACED BY [COL.] GEN. [M. A.] SHALIN ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH ZHUKOV'S DISMISSAL.

GRECHKO REPORTEDLY LEFT EAST GERMANY FOR THE USSR IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1957 BY AUTOMOBILE, ACCOMPANIED BY A PHYSICIAN (CF. TDCS-3,329,718); HE IS BELIEVED TO BE

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A STRONG SUPPORTER OF KHRUSHCHEV. SHTEMENKO WAS REPORTED IN CSDB-40019 TO HAVE REPLACED SHALIN AS CHIEF OF SOVIET MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SOME TIME IN SUMMER 1956.]

COMMENT: EVALUATION REQUESTED OF OCI.

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FORM NO. 618
 JULY 1954 PREVIOUS EDITIONS. DISSEMINATION LADDER (15)

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