

21 APR 1948

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~~TOP SECRET~~  
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DOS, DIA reviews completed

EUROPE

1. **CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Benes may oppose Communists--US Ambassador Smith in Moscow has been told by the Czechoslovak Ambassador (who has just returned from Czechoslovakia where he talked with President Benes) that Benes intends to veto the new Communist constitution, even though it may result in Benes' forced resignation. According to the Czechoslovak Ambassador, Benes declared, "My position is not as weak as it might appear on the surface. I can still veto the new constitution, and while I will be forced to resign afterwards the effect will be unmistakably to show the world again the ruthlessness of the dictatorship which has now been imposed on Czechoslovakia by the Communist minority."**

(CIA Comment: Despite Benes' apparent intention to veto the constitution, he may be unable, in view of his status as a virtual prisoner of the Communists, to make such an action known to the Czechoslovak public and the world.)

THE AMERICAS

2. **NICARAGUA: Possibility of Somoza overthrow--The US Naval Attache in Guatemala City has been informed [redacted] [redacted] that uprisings against General Somoza are scheduled shortly in Nicaragua. The NA estimates that the chances are good that the uprisings will be successful.**

(CIA Comment: Despite Somoza's awareness that such uprisings are planned, his ability to suppress them will be reduced by the presence of armed Nicaraguan revolutionaries and hostile Guatemalans along the southern frontier of Nicaragua and by his considerable loss of prestige for having supported the losing side in the Costa Rican civil war. Although Somoza will probably receive aid from the Dominican Republic, such help may not be sufficient to prevent his overthrow.)

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