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**INFORMATION REPORT**

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INTRODUCTION: RZECZPOSPOLITA, the Polish Government organ, equates the Inaugural Address with "increased chaos in a world which is split into two camps...."<sup>1</sup> And over the weekend, monitored foreign radio reactions continue to divide along these "two-camp" lines. It is of interest, however, that generally the negative comment from within the Soviet orbit appears to be somewhat less vitriolic and sweeping than has been true on previous occasions. Truman's policies, for example, are not explicitly identified with "warmongering"; and there are such relatively mild statements as the Czech radio's observation that "Truman used the word 'peace' in all sorts of connections, but failed to show a way to bring about a lasting peace."<sup>2</sup>

THE USSR RADIO: To date, Moscow's only monitored comment appears in an otherwise straightforward summary of the Inaugural Address. Noting that "Truman said... all people have the right to think freely and to express their thoughts freely," the USSR radio tells its domestic audience that "in spite of this assertion, Truman proceeded furiously to attack Communism as advocating war."<sup>3</sup> The Soviet radio also tells domestic listeners that, during the Inauguration parade, a civil rights organization distributed leaflets demanding the franchise for D.C. residents, the abolition of the Taft-Hartley Law, the defense of civil rights, and the liquidation of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

## CLASSIFICATION

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STATE	X NAVY	X NSRB	DISTRIBUTION	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
ARMY	X AIR	X					

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SOVIET SATELLITE RADIOS: One of the strongest attacks has appeared in a Soviet-controlled Leipzig commentary describing the Address as reminiscent of similar speeches by Laval, who likewise "used to proclaim grandiose world programs to disguise his ambitions of world rule"; the Address is said to be a "clear statement of imperialist ambitions camouflaged with vaguely humanitarian phrases." The Warsaw radio, reporting Polish press reactions, claims that Truman "intends to comply exclusively with the will of the capitalists." It also speaks of "the forthcoming attempt to impose the so-called 'United States era' on states within the sphere of the State Department's influence"; but it adds mildly that "such attempts undoubtedly abuse the good will of the U.S. people who sincerely wish to help Europe.... The outcome of all this will be another bitter disappointment for U.S. policy." The Czech radio at Bratislava contrasts Truman's "petty-bourgeois clicques on human rights to freedom and security" with the "actual state of affairs in the U.S., where the trial of the 12 Communist leaders has begun. The Romanian radio identifies the following as the subject of the Address: "an unlimited armaments program, aggressive agreements, and a savage policy of colonization." And the Hungarian radio, likening the Inauguration ceremonies to those "suitable for a circus procession," feels that they could not make the American taxpayers forget the dark economic clouds "towering over the United States."

In the context of commenting on the Address, a number of Satellite radios also allude to the "victory of the Chinese popular army" as proof that the nations "do not want to have happiness bestowed upon them in the American way" (Leipzig), that "the plans of a great Asiatic colonial empire have become ashes and smoke" (Hungary), and that "the technique and strategy of men in the service of imperialism cannot resist the technique and strategy of the peace front" (Romania).

RADIOS OUTSIDE THE SOVIET ORBIT: A considerable volume of monitored broadcast comment has been received from radios outside the Soviet orbit. And, as was the case initially, the great bulk of it is highly laudatory. Truman, the man, and Truman, the symbol of democracy and peace, are both applauded. An Italian comment describes the speech as "one of the noblest documents of humanity and one which constitutes the fundamental charter of the new world democracy." And a French

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commentator wonders whether Truman's four points may not come to occupy a place in history equivalent to Wilson's 14 points. Among the few monitored speculations about the significance of the Address relative to future U.S.-Soviet relations, the comment ranges from the Swedish MORGONTIDNINGEN's (Social Democrat) belief that now a "compromise will be more difficult" to the Belgian Catholic INDEPENDANCE's hope, since "the President carefully refrained from any comment which might have given offense to the Russians," that the Soviet Union will take the first opportunity to "ease the strain." There have been few negative reactions; the Nanking radio says that Truman "merely reaffirmed his Europe-first policy," and one Chinese commentator is said to have "remarked that the Chinese Communists could draw some comfort from the President's speech."

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