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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Communist China

SUBJECT Apprehensions Concerning Malenkov's Domestic Policy

PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE) [Redacted]



25X1



DATE (OF INFO.) [Redacted]

DATE DISTR. 2 Jan 54

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Chinese Communist leaders are disturbed about the present trend in Russian domestic policy. Russian Communist propaganda has been stressing the party's desire to raise quickly the people's standard of living and to provide more comfort for the masses in the coming two or three years. The Soviet press is filled with criticisms, about the food that is not sufficiently varied and tasty, the bad service in restaurants and canteens and, that clothes are not cut neatly, etc.. The Chinese Communists regard this campaign as dangerous to the militant spirit of the party cadres, and as an influx of Western degeneration. The Chinese Communists feel more than ever that they have become the standard bearers of the Young Revolution, while the Russian Communist Party, under the pressure of its internal opposition, may tend towards appeasement.
2. Faced with grave economic difficulties the Chinese Communist Party is preaching a regime of austerity and sacrifice to its cadres. They fear, that the Russian Communists, while improving living standards at home, will not be disposed or able to allocate sufficient heavy industrial equipment to China, and that the progress of Russian industrialization might also be considerably slowed down because of Malenkov's new course.

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SUBJECT & AREA CODES

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