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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Iran	REPORT NO.	[]	25X1
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1 The following is an assessment of the Tudeh Party []

25X1 1. Subsequent to 19 August 1953,¹ a large number of Tudeh members and activities abandoned the Party and openly criticized its policy. These members, deceived and charmed by the numerous successes achieved by the Party during former Prime Minister Mossadeq's Government, left the Party after the National Front's defeat and the collapse of the Tudeh network. They were disillusioned and some of them reported this to their responsables and contacts.² Later, when the Tudeh postponed its plan for an armed revolt (because the Party was sure that it would be defeated) and therefore called upon its members to conduct explanatory work, the members accused the Party of betrayal and supported their arguments with convincing proofs. They not only did not cooperate with the Party, but went as far as to take a path entirely opposite to that of the "Party line." In order to save itself by means of further lies and distortions, the Party admitted that a large number of its members had deviated and acted against the Party interests.

2. Among those who left Party activities after 19 August was a group of poor workers and craftsmen who had joined the Party because of the hardships they experienced. The promises made by the Party had great charms for these wretched people and they were entirely fascinated by the "golden air castles" that the Tudeh had built. When 19 August came, they realized that the very little which they had earned was in danger. They did not know what would happen to their families if they were arrested by the Police, which they expected to occur at any moment. Some of them wished that the Party would revolt, and wanted the Party to give them arms. They wanted a revolution, which they believed, and had been given to understand, would realize their golden aspirations, but the Party would not revolt. This astonished the members and caused them to give up Party activities. It is quite likely that, fearing the Police, some of the members exposed their responsables and divulged Party secrets. A number of responsables have reported their encounters with such members.

3. A group of more intelligent members also has given up Party activities because it no longer believes in the Party. This group, including a number of intellectuals

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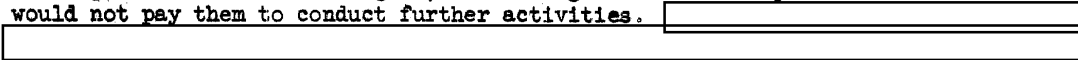


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and students, consists of between 15 and 20 percent of the members. These accuse the Party of having misappropriated Party funds, and believe that the leaders have not only betrayed the members but have embezzled the money collected from poor members.

- 4. Some members believe that a number of effective Tudehists, working actively for the higher committees and organs, have resigned because they realized that it would not pay them to conduct further activities.

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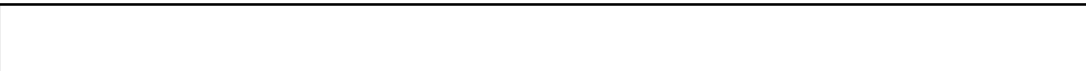
- 5. In general, it can be asserted that the Tudeh Party has now lost a fairly large number of its supporters and activities, and that the main force of the Tudeh, upon which the Party has depended and of which it has always been proud, has now diminished. Forty-five percent of the Party members have given up their activities because of the reasons described above. It is probable that more members will abandon the Party because of the pressure exerted by the Government upon the Tudeh activists.

- 6. The Tudeh is also losing the success which it had recently achieved with the peasants who generally are devoted to the Shah. In the recent developments it was made clear to the peasants that the Tudeh was opposed to the Shah. Therefore, they not only left the Party but also began to conduct anti-Tudeh activities.

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Comment. The date of the overthrow of the Mossadeq Government.

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