

U.S. Officials Only

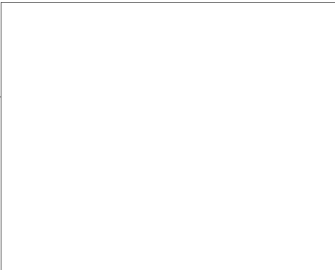
SECRET

FBI  
455

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY **USSR**

SUBJECT **Coastal Protection in the Caspian**



25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED, ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

DATE DISTR. **10** May 1954

NO. OF PAGES **1**

NO. OF ENCLS.

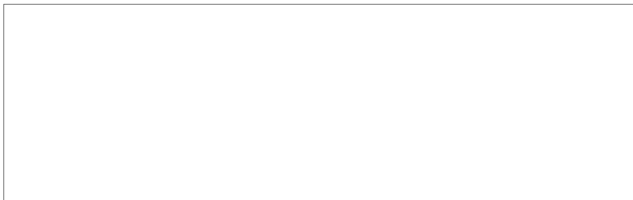
SUPP. TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION



1. Certain movable marine obstacles known as "chains" to the Soviet authorities are being laid by naval trawlers along the coast of the Caspian Sea. The purpose is to protect the marine oilfields of the Gulf of Baku, the region around the island of Artem, and the city of Alyaty (thirty kilometers to the south of Baku).
2. These so-called "chains" consist of a two to four series of nets, with a breadth of two to three kilometers. The series toward the outside are equipped with explosives, which detonate at the least contact. These "chains" are constructed and laid with the utmost secrecy, by the Soviet Navy.
3. These devices are nearly invisible. Only a few of them are indicated by buoys. As a result, vessels navigating in the affected waters have to be handled by naval pilots, using secret charts for navigation. When the laying of the new devices was beginning, a tanker is reported to have run into one of them by accident and been sunk.



25X1

U.S. Officials Only

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI				
--------------	-------	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination. All or parts of the contents, however, may be used by the above organizations in intelligence publications receiving overseas distribution providing the publication contains this original.