COUNTRY Finland

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DATE:

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SUBJECT

Police Activities and General Items

INFO. DIST.

26 February 1947

**PAGES** 

SUPPLEMENT

- 1. The Finnish Chief of Police, Martti E. Koskimies, and the former State Police Chief, Saarnio, have been arrested for the part they took in the weapon smuggling affair. It is thought that the indictment will be much more severe for Moskimies, since he has no superior officer directly over him upon whom the blame could be placed.
- 2. During the summer of 1946, the State Police of Finland inaugurated a system for checking all travel permits. All travel out of the country is recorded on cards. It is reported that anyone who makes more than two trips to Sweden during a period of two years or less will be under suspicion and will be regarded as being in the service of the Western Powers. Travel permit cards showing more than two trips will be brought to the attention of Eero Hautojärvi, Assistant Chief of the Foreign Department of the Finnish State Police.
- 3. In spite of several public statements to the contrary, the State Police are still tapping the telephone lines.
- 4. The Ingermanlanders who have remained in Finland instead of returning to Russia as requested, are reported to be worried lest Finland force them to return to the U.S.S.R. All Finnish Provinces have been requested through a circular letter from the Ministry of Internal Affairs to give detailed information regarding any Ingermentanders living in their respective areas. It is believed that a large number of these persons will attempt to flee to Sweden in the near future.
- 5. Many well known Communists have arrived in Finland from Russia. Among them are Inkeri Lehtinen and Thure Lehen, the internationally known revolutionist. These individuals possessed Soviet passports when they arrived in Finland, and when asked about their occupation, gave the Finnish Communist Party as their employer.
- 6. The September issue of the monthly journal "Det Basta" was ordered confiscated because of the summary of Bullitt's book This Very Globe Itself.
- 7. According to reports, there is an increasing feeling of depression apparent in general expression of public opinion, particularly regarding prospects of the future. Such affairs as industrial socialization, the burden of war damages, inflation, agricultural reform, and the attempts by Communists and other leftists to make Finland into a Soviet state are all causes for worry. Indifference of the Western Powers to Finland's problems at the Paris Confer-

ence is cited as a heavy blow.
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