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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Political Information: Newspaper Threatened for Ignoring Sinkiang "Invasion" Story, Shanghai

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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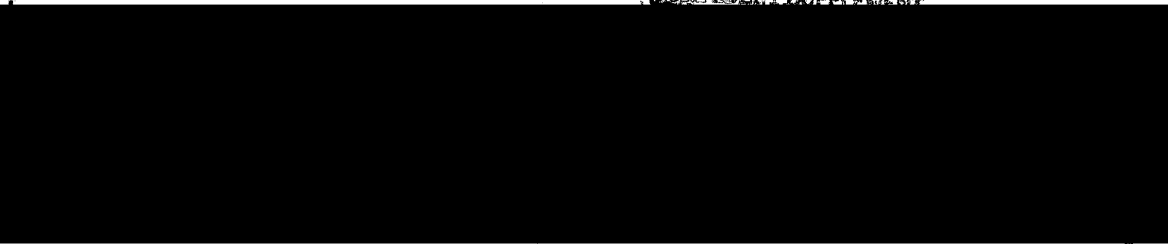
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ORIGIN

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1. On 11 June all the newspapers in Shanghai except the Ta Kung Pao and the Soviet sponsored Shih Tai Jih Pao gave prominent space to the story of the Sinkiang "invasion." The Ta Kung Pao put the story in small print in the last column of the second page in the section generally used for national political news.
2. On the evening of 11 June when most of the staff of the Ta Kung Pao were working in the editorial offices of the paper, over three score young men in ordinary dress surrounded the office and shouted, "Editors of the Ta Kung Pao, give us the reason why you ignored the news on the Outer Mongolian invasion of Sinkiang with the help of the Soviets. Is it not important, not reliable, or are there traitors among you?" While this demonstration was taking place, WANG Yun-sheng, editor-in-chief of the paper, succeeded in getting in touch with General HSUAN T'ieh-wu, Shanghai-Woosung Garrison commander who sent police to disperse the crowd. It is the [redacted] that the crowd was composed of members of the San Min Chu I Youth Corps.
3. On the same evening the Hua Mei Wan Pao demanded that the Ta Kung Pao answer to the public for its failure to publicize the story. The Ta Kung Pao ignored this demand but the next day followed other newspapers and gave prominent space to further accounts of the incident.

Opinion

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Note: [redacted] in Nanking stated that the Ta Kung Pao was queried by the Ministry of Information as to the reason for not headlining the Sinkiang "invasion" news on 11 June and was reprimanded for their negligence. See [redacted] on opinion regarding the Central Government use of this story to obtain United States loan. The activities of the Youth Corps in connection with the story are further described by the Shanghai (Communist) News Letter of 19 June quoted as follows: "It was very revealing to notice the use made of the invasion news by the Kuomintang Youth Corps on every university campus here. They put up large official accounts of the 'Soviet Attack' on China and at once started announcing that all questions of liberty and democracy were now in abeyance and even irrelevant since China's national honour and territorial integrity were involved."

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