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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY	Egypt/USSR	DATE DISTR.	26 November 1948
SUBJECT	Failure of Egyptian Government to Expel Archimandrite Dekhterev	NO. OF PAGES	1
	25X1A6a	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
PLACE ACQUIRED	[redacted] 25X1X6		25X1A2g
DATE OF INFO ACQUIRED	[redacted] 25X1X6	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	[redacted]

[redacted]

1. In an effort to expel Archimandrite Aleksandr (Alexis) Dekhterev from Egypt, Bimbashi Izzat, Inspector of the European Bureau of the Alexandria Governate, on 26 September 1948 booked a passage for the prelate on the BEREZINA, sailing from Alexandria to the USSR.

2. After consultation with the ship's captain and the Soviet Legation in Cairo, the shipping agents, Moss and Company in Alexandria, told Izzat that the Legation would not authorize the captain to take Dekhterev (who holds a Soviet passport) aboard the vessel. Izzat then requested permission from his superiors to use police action to force Dekhterev to leave. He was informed that Dekhterev was to be kept under "surveillance" with a view toward expelling him at a more "opportune time."

3. On 28 October Aleksei Chvedov, First Secretary of the Soviet Legation in Cairo, visited the Orthodox Patriarch of Alexandria, Christophoros, and discussed the detention of Dekhterev at Kom al-Dikka Prison. Chvedov urged the Patriarch to use his position as head of the Orthodox Church in Egypt to force the Egyptian authorities to free Dekhterev. [redacted] Comment. Source did not state whether or not Chvedov was successful in his effort to gain the help of Christophoros.) 25X1A6a

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