

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Iran

SUBJECT Tudeh Party Finances

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO.

1. It appeared from a recently-circulated Tudeh Party report, Second Six-Months' Program for Cells and Individual Members, that one of the main current preoccupations of the Party was the necessity to increase its revenues. This fact was later confirmed at a cell meeting for probationary members held in Tehran where the leader told four probationary members, all of whom were attending their first cell meeting, that the Party was desperately in need of funds and that their primary duty was to contribute as generously as possible to Party funds. The leader also referred to the necessity for supporting "needy families."
2. The cell leader explained that, when the Party had functioned openly, members had been required to contribute one percent of their monthly incomes as membership dues. Now, however, they were expected not only to increase their dues, but to donate additional amounts and to collect money from their friends. One of the probationers, who during the four months since the completion of his membership form had paid 10 rials monthly on the basis of one percent of his income (in addition to amounts paid for the purchase of copies of Mardom and the Tudeh Party Instructional Pamphlets), was asked to pay 50 rials monthly. All the probationers were told that they would be notified at the next meeting as to the exact amounts which they were to pay.
3. At the following meeting two of the probationers were told that they were expected to pay 50 rials monthly and the other two were to pay 30 rials monthly. They were further asked to pay this amount for the previous four months. When one of them stated that it was impossible to pay all the arrears in one lump sum, it was agreed that they would pay in installments of 20 rials which would be added to their monthly contributions.
4. At the first cell meeting two of the probationers had volunteered to give 300 and 400 rials respectively. As a result, one of the other members was urged to contribute 500 rials on the ground that he was single and had no family to support.

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5. The probationers were also asked to sell as many copies of Mardon as possible to friends with left-wing sympathies, and to bring with them to the second meeting a list of such friends. At the following meeting four of the probationers volunteered to sell several extra copies of Mardon and the cell leader agreed to bring to the next meeting the specified number of copies, but the probationers were requested to pay in advance, and the money was collected immediately.

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