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Editorial

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25 August 1951

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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUMMARY

GENERAL

[Redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

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[Redacted]

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NEAR EAST

- 5. Alert of British air transport in Suez Canal Zone reported (page 6).

EASTERN EUROPE

- 6. Ambassador Allen recommends small military mission to administer Yugoslav aid program (page 6).

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WESTERN EUROPE

- 7. France approves suspension of Czech overflight privileges (page 7).

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3.3(h)(2)

GENERAL

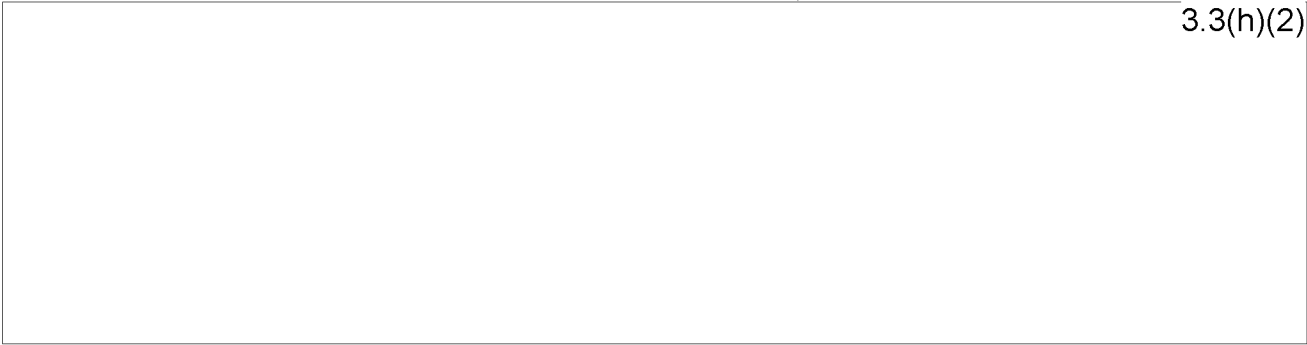
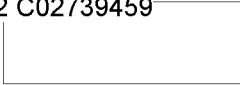


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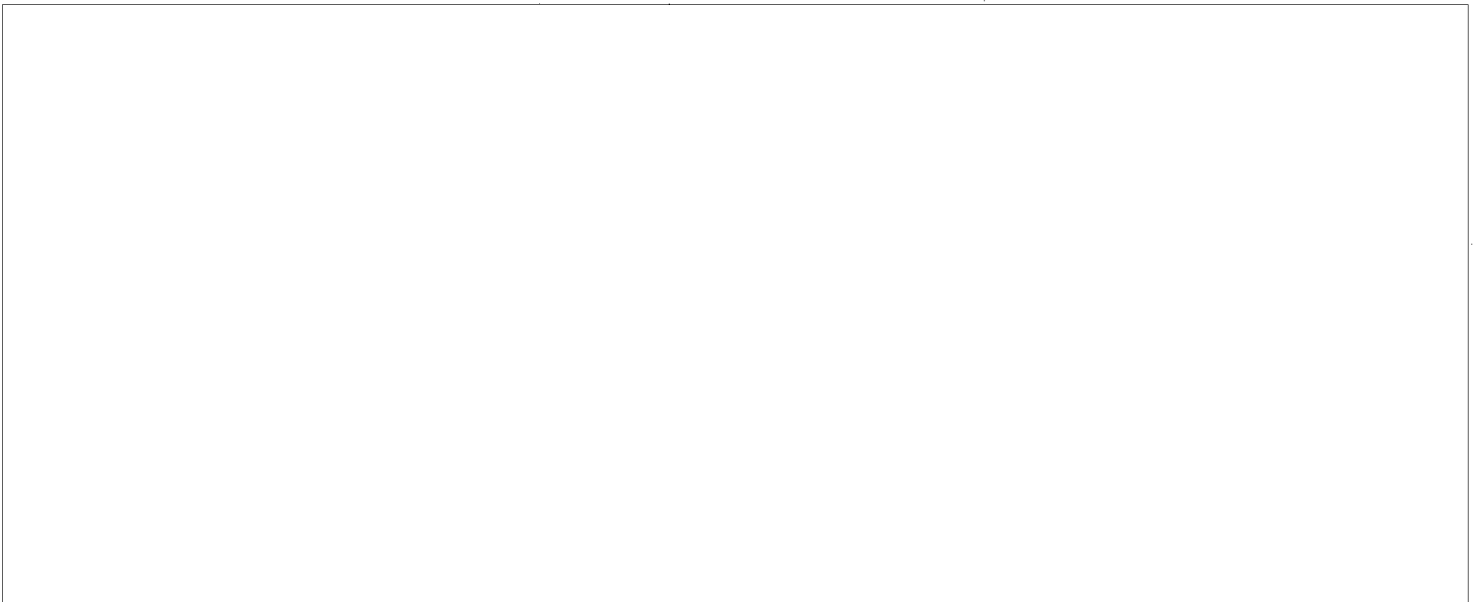
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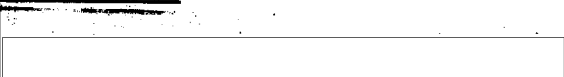
3.3(h)(2)

2. USSR "to expose American designs" at the San Francisco Conference: 3.3(h)(2)



FAR EAST

3. "Reign of terror" reported on Formosa:



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since 15 August "a reign of terror" has been conducted by the army and police on Formosa under the guise of a "census" check. The purpose of

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the check is to round up more than 15,000 deserters from the army and over 7,000 Formosan recruits who have failed to make proper register as required, and, in general, to conscript all men between 18 and 30 who are not engaged in essential work. 3.3(h)(2)

The fact that many soldiers recruited in 1950 died of starvation and disease and the fear that, once inducted, they will be unable to leave military service has reportedly made the Formosans hide by the thousands. 3.3(h)(2)

[Redacted]

[Redacted] suicide and desertion are a serious problem in all branches of the armed forces. [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Area]

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NEAR EAST

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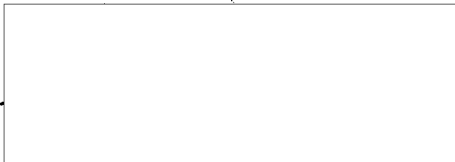
5. Alert of British air transport in Suez Canal Zone reported:

"Authentic information" that British air transport in the Suez Canal Zone is on a six-hour alert is reported by the US Consul at Nicosia, Cyprus, who assumes this is due to the Iranian situation. He has also noted unusual convoy movements in Cyprus.

Comment: British air transport facilities have been on alerts ranging from four to 24 hours at various times during the Iranian crisis. It is not clear whether the airlift would be for troop transport or for civilian evacuation; so far as is known, the UK Government still intends to take "necessary measures" to protect its nationals only if the Iranian Government fails to do so.

EASTERN EUROPE

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6. Ambassador Allen recommends small military mission to administer Yugoslav aid program:

Ambassador Allen believes that there are strong reasons against the immediate establishment of a standard military mission in Belgrade to supervise the US military assistance program.

Chief of Staff Popovic strongly opposes the idea for administrative reasons and Allen believes that the proposal will be resisted on political grounds as well.

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Allen also doubts that the contemplated mission of approximately fifty men would find suitable Yugoslav working counterparts. He favors, therefore, the establishment of a nucleus of a mission, consisting of possibly ten or fifteen men, within the staff of the present US service attaches to carry out normal MAAG functions. If this proposal is adopted, Allen intends to explain to Tito that the group must have direct access to Yugoslav staff organs rather than having to deal with the Yugoslav foreign liaison unit, which is the case for attaches.

Comment: The Defense Department has proposed a military mission of at least fifty men to handle the US arms aid program for Yugoslavia. Chief of Staff Popovic recommended, during his recent visit to the US, that the staff of US service attaches in Belgrade be expanded to handle the aid program.

WESTERN EUROPE

3.3(h)(2)

7. France approves suspension of Czech overflight privileges:

The French Cabinet on 22 August approved a suspension of Czech overflight privileges in Western Germany as a measure of solidarity with the US, according to a Foreign Office

spokesman.

The spokesman added that the French have had no satisfaction whatever from the Czech Government in the cases of two French citizens now serving long-term sentences.

Comment: Within the past two weeks, the French rejected US proposals to suspend overflight privileges and withdraw tariff concessions from the Czechs, apparently because of concern for the economic losses involved. The reversal of the French position may be intended in part to strengthen France's hand in holding out for exceptions to export control arrangements.

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