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SECURITY INFORMATION

4 May 1952

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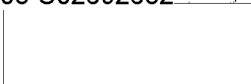
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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GENERAL

1. French Foreign Office sees "technical motives" behind Soviet airliner attack:

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] The American Embassy in Paris reports that the French Foreign Office, which first believed that the recent Soviet attack on a French airliner was made for political reasons, now agrees with the US High Commissioner's office in Berlin that the attack, though deliberate, had "technical motives."

When the Foreign Office spokesman read its protest note aloud to the Counselor of the Soviet Embassy in Paris in the absence of the Ambassador, the Counselor was apparently fearful of accepting the responsibility, and refused the note as "reflecting on the honor of the Red Army."

SOVIET UNION

2. Realignment of Soviet Far East Air Forces indicated:

[REDACTED] a fighter division of the 9th Air Army, located in the Maritime Province and Port Arthur-Dairen area, has been transferred to the Khabarovsk region. [REDACTED] aircraft from all three regiments of this division to be under 10th Air Army rather than 9th Air Army control.

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Transfer of this division, if confirmed, increases fighter strength in the Khabarovsk area to four divisions with 12 regiments and gives the 10th Air Army a total of 23 fighter regiments.

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Comment: The suggested realignment of Soviet Far East air forces is in line with indications of a buildup during the past 15 months of the 10th Air Army, whose zone of operations stretches from the Khabarovsk area to the Chukotsk peninsula and includes Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands. Whereas fighter strength in the 9th Air Army has remained relatively stable since February 1951, the 10th Air Army has received other significant unit reinforcements and has apparently been engaged in jet conversion training at a faster rate than the 9th Air Army.

The transfer of three fighter regiments out of the 9th Air Army may also be related to indications that the buildup of the Chinese and North Korean air forces has reached proportions making possible withdrawal of Soviet units involved in air defense of the Yalu River border.

FAR EAST

3. Tokyo May Day riot may cause repression of Japanese labor:

Ambassador Murphy in Tokyo reports that while the hard core of Tokyo's May Day rioters was obviously Communist, he is concerned because the incident may serve as a pretext for repressive actions threatening the healthy development of the labor movement.

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Non-Communist labor leaders have disclaimed responsibility for the riot, according to CINCFE. They fear that unless they clearly disassociate themselves from the Communists, they may become victims of the growing anti-Communist mood of the population.

Comment: The combined opposition of non-Communist labor, the press, and Yoshida's political opposition has until now prevented Diet passage of the Subversive Activities Bill, by which the Communist Party may be curbed or even outlawed. The various groups opposing the bill have seen in it the eventual means of their own suppression.

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4. Karen military leader [redacted] negotiating in Rangoon:

[redacted] the Karen insurgents was in Rangoon to negotiate the surrender of his forces. [redacted]

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Comment: There are two distinct Karen commands, one in the Irrawaddy River delta around Rangoon and the other in the eastern mountains. [redacted]

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strong likelihood of an early Karen-Communist alliance. The Burmese Government may be trying to prevent such a development by serious peace negotiations with the Karens.

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

5. Iranian security officer fears attempt to assassinate Prime Minister Mossadeq:

[redacted]

The Iranian official charged with security of 3.3(h)(2) Majlis says that he "has been given clearly to understand" that the terroristic Fedayan Islam is planning to assassinate Prime Minister

Mossadeq and other National Front leaders. The security official is reportedly seeking a transfer, fearing that such an attempt might occur in his jurisdiction.

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Comment: Mossadeq did not attend the opening of the seventeenth Majlis on 27 April, presumably because of his earlier expressed fears of an assassination attempt. The Fedayan Islam boasts of its record of assassinations. Mossadeq, along with other National Front leaders, has long been threatened by the organization.

6. Soviet Ambassador absent from inauguration of Iranian Majlis:

[redacted] The absence of Soviet Ambassador Sadchikov at the inauguration ceremony of the new Majlis has aroused speculation in diplomatic circles in Tehran. [redacted]

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[redacted] Sadchikov reportedly had criticized Mossadeq's agreement to resume US military aid, and his absence may have been intended as a warning to Iran against this step. The possibility of sharp propaganda attacks on Mossadeq and a change in relations between the two countries were suggested by the [redacted]

[redacted] although the Soviet Embassy allegedly stated that Ambassador Sadchikov's absence was caused by illness, responsible sources assert that he was "furious" over the resumption of American military aid to Iran. The Russians are reportedly making their strong displeasure known to "every Iranian circle with which they are in contact."

3.3(h)(2)

WESTERN EUROPE

7. French threaten to suspend Defense Community negotiations:

[redacted] A new French-German impasse has arisen in the European Defense Community conference, creating a situation which the chief of the French delegation has declared is "of the utmost seriousness" and forces his country to insist that initialing of the treaty

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be postponed. The head of the German delegation has suddenly refused to accept a limitation of 18 months on the transitional period during which each of the Defense Community's territorial military organizations will cover the area of a member country and be under the command of a national of that country.

While members of the German delegation have told American Embassy officials in Paris that their chief is prepared to modify his position, the Embassy advises that, should the French not be satisfied, "there is no predicting" what drastic action they might take to allay parliamentary fears of a revived German general staff.

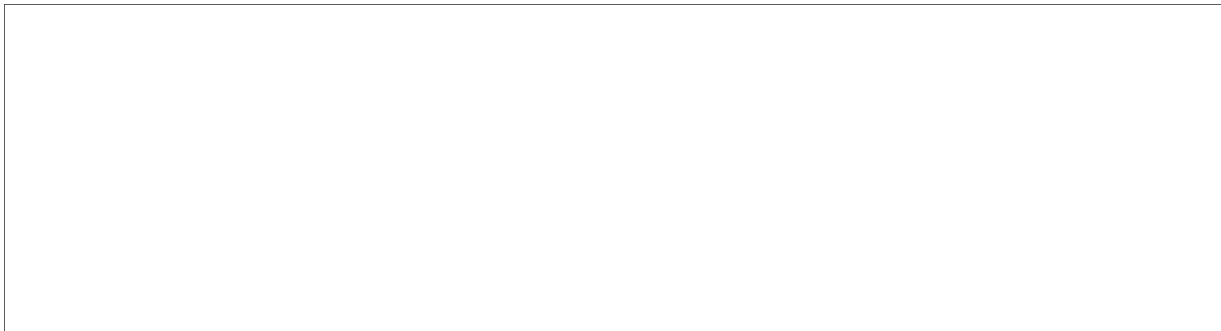
Comment: The German Government is seeking additional treaty concessions in order to overcome the Bundestag's growing opposition to restrictions of German sovereignty in the nearly completed texts on contractual relations with the Allies.

LATIN AMERICA

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8. Argentina hesitant on recognition of Bolivia:

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Comment: Argentina has not yet recognized Bolivia, although government-controlled newspapers in Argentina have highly praised the revolt. Argentina may be awaiting the outcome of the current struggle for power within the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement; or, sensitive to charges of aiding the revolt, it may be waiting for other countries to extend recognition.

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