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SECURITY INFORMATION

23 October 1952

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Office of Current Intelligence

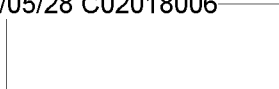
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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3.5(c)

SUMMARY

SOVIET UNION

1. 
2. Soviet Black Sea Fleet apparently receives new cruiser (page 3).

3.3(h)(2)

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. UN will order Arab emigrants in Jordan to return to Israel (page 4).
4. Turkey changes attitude on Arab participation in MEDO (page 4).

EASTERN EUROPE

5. "Rebellion" reported in northeast Rumania (page 5).

WESTERN EUROPE

6. East Germans reportedly activate First Army Group headquarters (page 6).
7. Pinay sees increased American aid necessary to EDC ratification (page 7).

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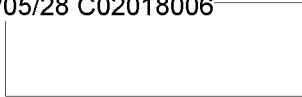
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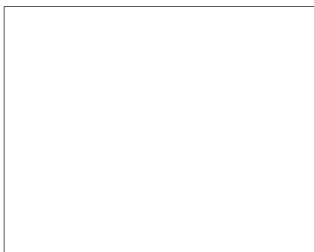
SOVIET UNION

1.



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2. Soviet Black Sea Fleet apparently receives new cruiser:



What is believed to be a newly constructed cruiser was identified for the first time in Black Sea Fleet

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The ship's callsign is part of a block allocated to battleships and cruisers.

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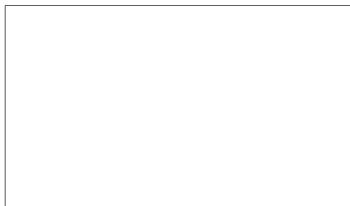
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Comment: No vessel larger than a cruiser is known to be under construction for the Soviet Navy. Two Sverdlov-class cruisers have been under construction at the Black Sea port of Nikolaev since 1949, [redacted] Completion of one of these ships would bring the total of Soviet cruisers in the Black Sea to eight, six of them modern.

3.3(h)(2)

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. UN will order Arab emigrants in Jordan to return to Israel:

The UN Mixed Armistice Commission will order 850 Bedouins who left Israeli territory for Jordan in September to return to Israel. The Arabs are expected to resist repatriation because of fear that they will be forced to settle on unproductive land.

3.3(h)(2)

The American Consul General in Jerusalem predicts that Israel intends to make it so uncomfortable for its remaining Arabs that eventually they will all try to emigrate.

Comment: Officially, Israel practices no discrimination, but for security reasons it has placed some restraints on its 170,000 Arabs. This attitude is also motivated by a desire to make sufficient land available for Jewish immigrants.

4. Turkey changes attitude on Arab participation in MEDO:

The British Foreign Office reported on 20 October that Turkish Prime Minister Menderes agreed during the recent

3.3(h)(2)

- 4 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

3.5(c)

~~TOP SECRET~~

3.5(c)

British-Turkish talks in London that the formation of the Middle East Defense Organization should proceed without the Arab nations. Menderes nevertheless insisted that it would be better if they participated.

He suggested that Iraq rather than Egypt should be the first Arab state approached since Egyptian leadership of the Arab bloc had been weakened by suspicion of General Nagib's "republican tendencies."

Comment: Turkey had previously urged that one more attempt be made to obtain Arab cooperation before going ahead with the organization, and had suggested that since Egypt was clearly the key to Arab participation, it should be approached informally. It is possible that the Turkish attempt to sound out the Egyptians in early October failed.

American observers believe that the Egyptian position in the Arab world has been strengthened by the military coup, and there is no evidence that Iraq is prepared to lead the Arabs at this time.

EASTERN EUROPE

3.3(h)(2)

5. "Rebellion" reported in northeast Rumania:



[Redacted] Rumanian security police and militia were investigating "the beginning of a rebellion" in the Dorohoi area in northeast Rumania and had already arrested 90 persons.

3.3(h)(2)

Comment: [Redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

[Redacted] considerable peasant unrest and some overt acts against local authorities, although nothing on the scale of a "rebellion." The militia has also been recruiting additional men for rural posts.

- 5 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

3.5(c)

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Peasant dissatisfaction has been heightened this year by a resumption of the collectivization drive and by crop failures. [redacted] the Rumanian Government found it necessary to reduce taxes and crop delivery quotas imposed on peasants in communities "stricken by natural calamities."

3.3(h)(2)

WESTERN EUROPE

6. East Germans reportedly activate First Army Group headquarters:

[redacted]

The East German Government has activated the First Army Group headquarters at Pasewalk, north of Berlin, under the command of Brigadier General Hermann

3.3(h)(2)

Rentzsch, [redacted] The headquarters allegedly commands three infantry divisions with supporting arms, with a total strength of 30,000 to 35,000 men, and it may also control an additional 18,000 to 20,000 men in a major unit on Ruegen Island.

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted]

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The formation of such a headquarters for administrative purposes is possible, but the state of training and armament of the Alert Police makes it unlikely that full divisions exist as yet or that a new headquarters would have any tactical responsibilities.

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7. Pinay sees increased American aid necessary to EDC ratification:

 Prime Minister Pinay has assured the American Ambassador that the recent attacks against EDC by Herriot and other Radical Socialist leaders have not affected the determination of the government to insist on ratification of the treaty.

3.3(h)(2)

Pinay stated, however, that the success of the government depended to a great extent on the maintenance of American military aid at a figure not less than that originally proposed by France; otherwise the government would be unable to refute parliamentary criticism of France's "inferior status" in EDC and NATO.

Defense Minister Pleven added that the government was unwilling to present the military budget on the basis of the present American aid figure and would postpone it until this matter was settled.

Comment: American assistance to France for 1953 is tentatively set at \$525,000,000 as contrasted with the French request for \$650,000,000.

Despite Pinay's qualified assurance, it still appears doubtful that the French Government can get the necessary National Assembly support for the EDC treaty in its present form. Growing demands for renegotiation and Pinay's determination to avoid staking his government on a foreign policy issue threaten an indefinite delay at best.

- 7 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

3.5(c)