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SECURITY INFORMATION

15 April 1953

3.5(c)

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SUMMARY

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EASTERN EUROPE

5. Orbit trade meeting in Switzerland reported (page 5).

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GENERAL

1. Former Nazi SS officers reportedly ready to serve in Egypt:

3.3(h)(2)

Comment: The reaction of the Nagib regime to this offer is not known. Extremist elements would be interested in any preparations which might make future Egyptian activities against Britain more effective. Should Anglo-Egyptian relations sharply deteriorate, even the more conservative members of the regime might approve acceptance of such an offer.

3.3(h)(2)

Approximately 70 German experts, not considered to have been Nazi sympathizers, are now employed by the Egyptian Army. They would be inclined not to cooperate with the SS group.

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FAR EAST

2. New divisions from Southwest China may be in Korea:

3.3(h)(2)

Comment: It is not clear whether these divisions represent additional strength or are replacements. The 11th Army has been based on south Szechwan and the 13th Army has been located in Yunnan near the Indochina border since 1950.

3.3(h)(2)

nine divisions of the 2nd Field Army, to which the 11th and 13th Armies belong, would be ordered into Korea

3.3(h)(2)

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3.

3.3(h)(2)

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3.3(h)(2)

4. Soviet bloc delegate makes friendly overture to Israeli UN delegate:



Israeli UN delegate Rafael has told Ambassador Lodge that a member of the Soviet bloc has made overtures to the Israeli delegation that might lead

3.3(h)(2)

to renewal of diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR.

Comment: This may be the initial Soviet response to the publicly voiced Israeli hope for a resumption of relations.

EASTERN EUROPE

5. Orbit trade meeting in Switzerland reported:



Orbit countries are holding a meeting in Switzerland this week to coordinate procurement of strategic goods,

3.3(h)(2)

that this is connected with the meeting in Geneva of the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

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Comment: Such a meeting at the time of the ECE sessions would indicate an attempt to coordinate approaches to Western European delegates as well as to commercial agents.

[redacted] Satellite delegates meeting at Prague 3.3(h)(2) in January discussed coordination of purchases from the West of anti-friction bearings. 3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] concern over negotiations by the Western nations for "the closing of free ports to the transport of strategic materials." The Ministry requested further information so that it would have time to make "all necessary arrangements."

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