Approved for Release: 2019/07/17 C05722434

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	CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED SECURITY THEORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCE INFORMATION FROM	ESTRICTED ORT NO.
	FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROA	DCASTE CU NO
COUNTRY	USSR; US	DATE OF
SUBJECT	Military; Political	INFORMATION ,1951
how Published	Daily newspaper	DATE DIST. 78 Jan 1952
WHERE PUBLISHED	Cairo	NO. OF PAGES 2
DATE PUBLISHED	2 Dec 1951	_
	French	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.
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OURCE	Le Journel d'Egypte.	

SOVIET ATOMIC INSTALLATIONS IDENTIFIED

The USSR is continuing its atomic preparations under a centralized technical command, while the manufacture of the constituent elements is scattered across a wide territory. It has been possible to identify atomic factories in the Kuznetsk Basin, at Magnitogorsk, in the Kara Tau mountains, east of the Caspian Sea, and even in the heart of the frozen forests of the Siberian Taiga, in a considerable but unidentified center established about 103 or 104 E. 65 or 66 N. "Atomgrad No 1," the first Soviet atomic bcmb factory, has been located in caverns dug in the crater of the extinct volcano Aragats (Alagez) in the (aucasus. Bomb reserves are stored in deep, vast underground shelters constructed in the Kuznetsk region, which appears to be one of the principal special arsenals of the Red Army.

In addition to rockets and other self-propelled machines on which the Soviets are experimenting every day, without, however, being able to overtake the Americans, it would seen that the Supreme Command of the Kremlin is prepared to deliver atomic bombs by two types of completely new and ultrasecret jet planes made in distant factories in the Urals, under the direction of the celebrated expert, General Savitskiy. One of these is fast enough to cruss the finest net of fighters, radar, or the best antiaircraft defense.

Furthermore, there are excellent reasons to think seriously of the theory of a "polar war" between the USSR and the US over the Arctic ice, when one examines in detail information on the considerably accelerated preparations the Soviets are making in the entire northern section of the USSR, and the American-Soviet aerial incident of 7 November.

Nevertheless, the West has good reason for hopes of reaching a settlement with the East. Indeed, the strategic and diplomatic situation between the USSR and the Western Powers has undergone an almost complete reversal in the past few months for the following reasons:

1. The recent and spectacular series of atomic explosions in the US will have been noted. We remember that the US Department of State arranged that certain information concerning these explosions, nomirally secret, should reach the Soviets.

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2. The admission of Turkey to NATO constitutes a major change in the policy of the West, making easier the rapid entry of Western ships and planes into the Black Sea. Moreover, for this reason the USSR can less and less tolerate in Yugoslavia a government establishing friendly relations with the West. This attitude thwarts the Soviet plans of counterattacking the Dardanelles via Rumania and Bulgaria.

3. There are indications leading us to believe that there is a stock of atomic bombs at the US naval base at Port Lyautey, loaned by France on the coast of Morocco. This port, base of the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, has grown very rapidly. Small atomic bombs could easily be delivered from this base to the fleet, whose 60 ships include the carriers Roosevelt, Leyte, and Siboney, there cruisers, two submarines, two destroyers, and 30 supporting ships. In addition, the US fleet announced 2 months ago that crews were specially trained to participate in atomic attacks launched from carriers.

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