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REPORT NO. CSDB-312/00283-72

DATE DISTR. 21 JANUARY 1972

COUNTRY CHINA

DOI SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1971

SUBJECT 1. BRIEFING OF PEKING WORKERS ON THE LIN PIAO AFFAIR IN WHICH K'ANG SHENG IS PRAISED
2. RUMORED CREATION OF A MILITARY GROUP TO REPLACE LIN PIAO AND KEY MILITARY LEADERS WHO HAVE FALLEN

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ACQ HONG KONG (13 JANUARY 1972)

FIELD NO.

SOURCE A FORMER WORKER IN A CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY IN PEKING WHO LEFT CHINA IN MAY 1971. HIS REPORTING ON HIS OWN OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES IN PEKING HE OBTAINED THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO EXITED CHINA LEGALLY IN EARLY JANUARY 1972.

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1. IN THE COURSE OF BRIEFING EMPLOYEES OF THE PEKING PAPER MILL ON THE FATE OF L I N PIAO, IN A MEETING HELD CIRCA EARLY NOVEMBER 1971, THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE MILL'S COMMUNIST PARTY COMMITTEE PRAISED POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER K ' A N G SHENG, SAYING THAT K'ANG HAD BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN ROOTING OUT MEMBERS OF THE "516" CORPS, INVESTIGATING THE INVOLVEMENT OF C H ' E N PO-TA IN THE "516" CORPS, AND EXPOSING LIN PIAO AS A TRAITOR. THE ACTING SECRETARY IDENTIFIED K'ANG SHENG AS HEAD OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY (CCP) INTELLIGENCE APPARATUS.

2. AMONG THE CRIMES ATTRIBUTED TO LIN PIAO IN THE CCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENT FROM WHICH THE ACTING SECRETARY READ DURING THE BRIEFING WAS THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF

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PREMIER C H O U EN-LAI. CHOU WAS SAVED BY PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER H S I E H FU-CHIH BUT, IN SHIELDING CHOU, H S I E H HIMSELF WAS WOUNDED. TO CONFIRM THIS, THE SECRETARY DISPLAYED TWO PICTURES SHOWING H S I E H'S WOUNDS. () COMMENT. EXCEPT FOR THE CHOU EN-LAI - H S I E H FU-CHIH SIDELIGHT, THE ACCOUNT OF THE LIN PIAO STORY RELATED TO THE SOURCE BY THE PAPER MILL WORKER IS SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN IN NUMEROUS EARLIER REPORTS.)

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3. ACCORDING TO RUMORS CIRCULATING IN DECEMBER 1971 AMONG WORKERS AT THE PEKING PAPER MILL AND AT THE NUMBER FIVE CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY IN PEKING, A MILITARY GROUP HAD REPLACED LIN PIAO, CHIEF OF STAFF H U A N G YUNG-SHENG, NAVY POLITICAL COMMISSAR L I TSO-P'ENG, LOGISTICS DIRECTOR C H ' I U HUI-TSO, AND AIR FORCE COMMANDER W U FA-HSIEN. THE MILITARY GROUP CONSISTS OF: VICE CHAIRMEN OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION Y E H CHIEN-YING, N I E H JUNG-CHEN, AND H S U HSIANG-CH' IEN; FOREIGN MINISTER C H E N I; NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS CHAIRMAN C H U TE, AND VICE CHAIRMAN L I U PO-CH'ENG; NANKING MILITARY REGION COMMANDER H S U SHIH-YU; NAVY COMMANDER H S I A O CHING-KUANG; PUBLIC SECURITY MINISTER H S I E H FU-CHIH; AND DIRECTOR OF THE GENERAL OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE W A N G TUNG-SHING. (SOURCE COMMENT. ACCORDING TO THE PEKING PAPER MILL EMPLOYEE, IT WAS GENERALLY BELIEVED AMONG THE MILL WORKERS THAT HSU SHIH-YU WOULD EMERGE AS THE REPLACEMENT FOR LIN PIAO OR HUANG YUNG-SHENG BECAUSE HSU HAS THE MOST PRESTIGE AND IS YOUNGER THAN THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY GROUP.) () COMMENT. CHEN I'S

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RECENT DEATH FROM CANCER INDICATES THAT IF HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MILITARY GROUP, IT WAS IN NAME ONLY. THE SAME COULD HOLD TRUE FOR SOME OF THE OTHER OLD MARSHALS, SUCH AS CHU TE AND LIU PO-CH'ENG. HSU SHIH-YU AND H S I E H FU-CHIH HAVE

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NOT APPEARED PUBLICLY SINCE JUNE 1971 AND WERE NOT PRESENT AT CH'EN I'S FUNERAL.)

4. AT BOTH THE PEKING PAPER MILL AND THE NUMBER FIVE CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY, MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY CONTROL COMMITTEE AND THE PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY (PLA) PROPAGANDA TEAMS WERE REPLACED IN LATE SEPTEMBER 1971 BY AIR FORCE PERSONNEL. AMONG THE EMPLOYEES OF THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS, IS WAS SUSPECTED THAT THE PLA PERSONNEL WERE REPLACED BECAUSE THEY WERE PART OF A LIN PIAO FACTION.

5. A STORY CURRENT IN THE PEKING PAPER MILL AS OF LATE DECEMBER WAS THAT THE 4801 PUTUI, A UNIT OF THE 38TH ARMY, WHICH WAS LOYAL TO LIN PIAO, HAD MOVED INTO THE PEKING AREA CIRCA MID-SEPTEMBER 1971 AFTER LIN HAD FAILED IN HIS THIRD ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE M A O TSE-TUNG. THE 4801 WAS THEN DISARMED BY TROOPS OF THE 8341 PUTUI IN COOPERATION WITH HSIEH FU-CHIH' PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES. THE 8341 PUTUI IS THE UNIT CHARGED WITH PROTECTING THE CHUNG-NAN-HAI AREA OF PEKING AND IS RESPONSIBLE TO W A N G TUNG-HSING. THE STORY WAS ALSO CIRCULATING THAT W E N YU-CHENG, THE FORMER PEKING GARRISON COMMANDER, HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH CONSPIRING WITH "516" LEADER AND FORMER AIR FORCE POLITICAL COMMISSAR Y U LI-CHIN, BUT THAT HIS CASE WAS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION.

6. ANOTHER STORY CURRENT IN THE PEKING PAPER MILL WAS THAT L I N T O U T O U, LIN PIAO'S DAUGHTER, HAD REPLACED L I N A, MAO'S DAUGHTER WHO USES THE PEN NAME H S I A O L I [REDACTED], AS ONE OF THE EDITORS OF THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY. LIN T O U - T O U WAS REPORTEDLY AWARDED THE POSITION FOR REVEALING HER FATHER'S PLANS TO ESCAPE TO THE SOVIET UNION.

7. [REDACTED]

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