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Eisenhower U-2 Anxiety Disclosed

By the Associated Press

New York — Five years before Francis Gary Powers crashed in the Soviet Union, then-President Eisenhower expressed misgivings about just such an event involving a U-2 spy plane, according to an article in *Look* magazine.

Mr. Eisenhower expressed his anxiety at the time he approved the U-2 program in 1955, *Look* said. The article quoted friends of the former President as saying Mr. Eisenhower told his advisers that "if one of these planes is shot down, this is going to be on my head." And he added, "The world will be in a mess."

The Soviet Union wouldn't disclose it, *Look* quoted the advisers as having told Mr. Eisenhower, because the Soviets wouldn't "run the risk of being humiliated by the revelation that their skies had been invaded repeatedly."

The magazine said "The President was not convinced. They would protest, he felt, because that would be the only way to stop the flights."

Nevertheless President Eisenhower approved the U-2 flights.

But three years later—two years before Mr. Powers' plane went down in the Soviet Union on May 1, 1960—Mr. Eisenhower disclosed continued misgivings about the project in a conversation with his press secretary, James Haggerty, *Look* said, adding: "He told Mr. Haggerty he often had asked the

Central Intelligence Agency, 'What happens if you're caught?' But the CIA always replied, 'It hasn't happened yet.'"

The *Look* report, "The Secret History of the U-2," also asserted that Allen W. Dulles, then CIA director, inspected records of the routine preflight psychological examination Mr. Powers took just before his flight.

"If he (Dulles) had been the agent on the scene, he decided, he would not have sent Powers over the Soviet Union that day," the magazine said.

"Dulles did not reveal the specific reasons for his reservations about Powers," the article stated.

The tests "were used to determine whether the pilot had confidence in himself, his plane, and his equipment," the magazine said.

Mr. Powers was captured, convicted of spying, and sentenced to prison. He recently was freed in exchange for Col. Rudolf Abel, a Soviet spy convicted in the United States.

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Eisenhower Misgivings on U-2 Flights Told

NEW YORK (AP) — Five years before Francis Gary Powers crashed in Russia, President Eisenhower expressed misgivings about just such an event involving a U-2 spy plane, Look magazine said Monday.

Gen. Eisenhower expressed those fears at the time he approved the U-2 program in 1955, Look said. The article quoted friends of the President as saying Gen. Eisenhower told his advisers then:

"If one of these planes is shot down, this is going to be on my head. I'm going to catch hell. The world will be in a mess."

Russia wouldn't disclose it, Look quoted the advisers as having replied, because the Soviets wouldn't "run the risk of being humiliated by the revelation that their skies had been invaded repeatedly."

Not Convinced

The magazine said "the President was not convinced. They would protest, he felt, because that would be the only way to stop the flights."

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The tests "were used to decide if spying and sent to determine whether the pilot, sentenced to prison. He was released in exchange for his plane and his equipment. Col. Rudolf Abel, a Soviet agent," the magazine stated, "was captured in the United States."