

Approved For Release 2002/06/28 : CIA-RDP78-04864A000300050005-8
CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY COMMUNIST CHINA

DATE OF Feb. 23 -
INFORMATION Mar. 1, 1953

SUBJECT INDICATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL VULNERABILITIES

DATE DIST. 1 Apr 1953

HOW PUBLISHED

CHANGE TO
UNCLASSIFIED
PER REGRADING
BULLETIN NO. 20

NO. OF PAGES 2 ILLEGIB

WHERE PUBLISHED

DATE PUBLISHED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

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CFW Report No. 63-A -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Feb. 23 - Mar. 1, 1953)

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SUMMARY

Echoes of Soviet Army Day celebrations still are heard, with eulogies for Soviet soldiers who "liberated the Northeast," and stress on China's need to copy the Russian Army. Evidence that the Soviet advisers' role is to make the most of what China has without new aid from Russia is seen in reports that Soviet experts reduced soot resulting from use of low-grade coal.

Hundreds of trained Chinese railway workers are sent to Korea amid claims that "in spite of heavy bombings" they prevented destruction of transport. Automotive workers for the front are recruited by the RAAK, suggesting that one aim of the new RAAK drive is to supply trained manpower to cope with U.N. air attacks.

A Russian-type general election is planned, apparently for propaganda; it is admitted that most of the voters are illiterate and do not understand voting procedures. Hundreds of private contractors, unable to operate under a system which depleted their capital and shut off their supplies, "now see the advantages of State jobs." The forcing of Post Office employees into the propaganda field seems to have backfired, as postal officials are accused of pressuring people to buy publications and of issuing propaganda materials to employees as part of their pay.

Worry concerning East China coastal defenses still is evident, with sabotage and armed resistance to the regime admitted in isolated instances. An order to agriculture models to stick to production and "not waste time in attending meetings" suggests a failure for one type of propaganda. These models have been busy propagandizing agents for the Russian farm system.

Confiscation of an important British company in Canton and accusations against the Hong Kong Government suggest new pressures on that colony. The opening in Peking of an office for the Dalai Lama, and special propaganda efforts to allay Tibetan fears regarding religious freedom, indicate new policies concerning Tibet.

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