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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY

USSR and Cominform countries

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1950

SUBJECT

Political - Cominform organization

DATE DIST.

HOW

PUBLISHED

Daily newspaper

Jul 1950

WHERE

PUBLISHED

Trieste

NO. OF PAGES

DATE

PUBLISHED

5 Apr 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Italian

REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Le Ultime Notizie

DISCUSSES ORGANIZATION OF COMINFORM

A Soviet vessel which ran aground recently on the coast of the Aegean sea. carried, among other passengers, a Soviet government official, identified by the initials K. M., who held an executive post with the Cominform. His statements on the structure and activities of the Cominform are as follows:

The Cominform has a staff of 700 employees in the Bucharest offices. The Cominform is divided into large sections like the departments of a ministry. These sections are:

1. The Political Section, with a staff of 150 persons, which, in turn, is divided in four subsections: Foreign Affairs, Propaganda and Secret Information, Youth Organization, and Religious Control.

The Propaganda and Secret Information Subsection deals primarily with the organization of trade unions and the workers' militia, and prepares lists of persons opposing Communism who are to be eliminated at an opportune moment.

The head of the Youth Organization Subsection is Mikhailov, a Russian, assisted by Pesse, an Italian, and Altmann, a Pole. These names may be pseudonyms.

A Rumanian, Keghendy, heads the Religious Control Subsection. His assistants are Cento, an Italian, and Kogan, a Czech. The Russian Chaborin is in charge of affairs pertaining to the Orthodox Church.

2. The Military Section is the largest one and its activities are highly secret. It employs 350 persons. The entire activity of this section is centered in Moscow, which issues the main directives. This section is divided into the following subsections: (a) recruiting, primarily concerned with finding recruits for International Brigades, (b) espionage, (c) transportation, (d) arms supply for fifth columnists and in general for all Partisan groups, and (e) liaison services, including clandestine crossings of borders. The head of this section is Soviet Colonel Kimarov.

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- 3. The Economic Section is divided in two subsections: the monetary subsection headed by Soviet Commissar Slavskiy, now operating in Czechoslovakia; and a strictly economic subsection whose primary task is to fight the Marshall Plan.
- 4. The Propaganda Section, considered the most important of all, is divided in the following two subsections: Revolutionary Affairs and Internal Affairs. The Revolutionary Affairs Subsection is directed by a certain Edward Kollman, of unknown nationality, who speaks Hebrew, Czech, and French. The subsection has two branches, one in Vienna, the other in Prague. Its main activity consists of intensifying the class struggle and collecting information for this purpose. Internal Affairs, is divided into four branches: a Slab branch; a German branch (headed by a Russian), a Latin branch (headed by the Italian Corsi and by Dolores Ibarruri, the Spanish Passionaria), and a colonial branch headed by Malmann and Krainik.
- 5. The Information Section is headed by the Russian Kruparov. This section deals with archives documentation and publication services.

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