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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China
SUBJECT Conditions in Shanghai

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1. The population of Shanghai is estimated at over six million. It was four million during the Japanese occupation, dropping to three million after the Communist takeover; but since that time there has been a great influx of refugees because population controls there are not so strict as in other cities. The population growth has also been affected by the increased numbers of personnel sent to Shanghai by the Chinese Communist Party and by the army.
 2. The Shanghai-Canton through train now runs on a faster schedule, requiring only two days to make the trip.
 3. The No. 24 Trackless Tram, using reconstructed motor buses, is a round-the-city route which went into operation on 3 July 1953. A ceremony was held to mark the inauguration of service, and the person who supervised the reconstruction of the buses was given a month's leave on the West Lake (Hangchow), which is now known as the Workers' Paradise.
 4. The old greyhound-racing arena has been fitted up as a People's Cultural Palace. The Great Eastern Hotel has been changed into the Workers' Cultural Palace, which has a social club and a library.
 5. Licensed taxi-dancers in Shanghai are under strict control. They receive JMP 7,000 for three dances; but since unlicensed girls get JMP 50,000 for keeping company with a customer at his table, many girls have given up their licenses.
 6. Restrictions on wearing apparel have been removed in Shanghai. A year ago it was impossible to find anyone wearing foreign-style clothes, or even to find any beautifully-dressed women; everyone took care to wear old clothes or native-style clothing. Now, however, men in western-style suits and women in fashionable dresses are to be seen everywhere. The Shanghai broad-

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casting system continually urges the people to appear in public well-dressed. Restrictions were removed because Shanghai is one of the cities open to tourists from East Europe, and the Communist authorities wish to put on a good show.

7. No really large buildings have been built during recent years in Shanghai. The new hostels, to which much publicity has been given, are not large, considering the size of the population.
8. Many houses originally owned by "bureaucrats" and since taken over by the House Control Commission, are still occupied by the original owners. So far, the Communist authorities have not openly put too much pressure on these tenants, and many cases of dispute over the validity of key-money paid to the original owners are before the courts for settlement.
9. The highest law court in Shanghai is the China Eastern District Court, which comes directly under the Supreme Court of the Chinese People's Government. In Shanghai there are also 20 district law courts and a Shanghai City Law Court.

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