

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**  
**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

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**S-E-C-R-E-T**

COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	MVD Penetration of Moslem Religious Groups in the USSR	DATE DISTR.	26 July 1955 25X1
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		This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1	

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The activities of Moslem religious groups, like those of all other religious cults in the USSR, are controlled by the Council on Religious Cults Affairs, of the Council of Ministers, USSR.<sup>1</sup>

2. [Redacted] 25X1  
 [Redacted] there are Islamic theological seminaries in the Soviet Union, and that undoubtedly the MVD has agent-informants at these schools.<sup>2</sup> 25X1

3. [Redacted] in the [Redacted] 1953 pilgrimage to Mecca [Redacted] 25X1  
 The MVD very definitely had agents among the pilgrims making this pilgrimage; otherwise, it would not have been authorized. This event also served external propoganda purposes but the Soviets are not interested in using it for internal propoganda. If any mention of it is made in the Soviet press, it will be a small comment appearing on the last page of the newspaper.

1. [Redacted] Comment: The Council on Russian Orthodox Church Affairs, under the chairmanship of G. G. Karpov, supervises the Russian Orthodox Church and, apparently, the Georgian Orthodox Church as well. All other religious groups are supervised by the Council on Religious Cults Affairs. 25X1

2. [Redacted] Comment: MVD was the correct designation as of the date of information. This is probably now a KGB function. 25X1

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