

~~INTELLIGENCE~~

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP**  
**INTELLIGENCE REPORT**

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COUNTRY China

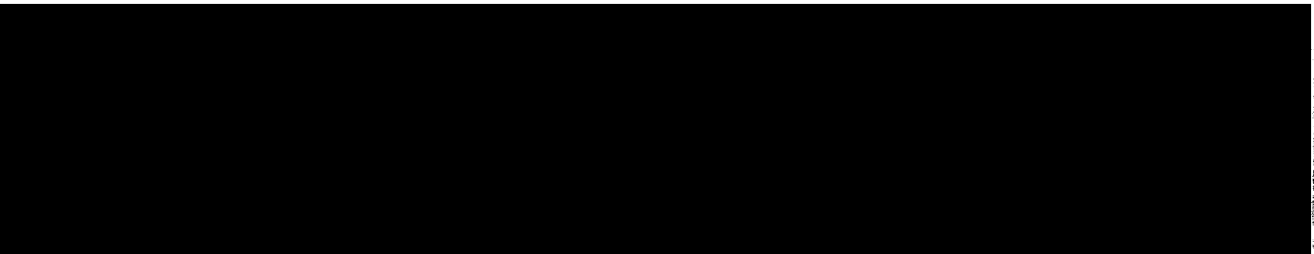
SUBJECT Political Information: Dispute over the Control  
the Local Greek Orthodox Church

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ORIGIN

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1. A dispute over the control of the Greek Orthodox Church is developing in Tsingtao between Russian emigrants and Soviet citizens. The church was originally built by Russian emigrants, many of whom have since become Soviet citizens. The Soviet Association now desires to control the church and possibly replace the present priest, who has Chinese nationality, with a Tientsin Soviet priest named Skinaysky, who is expected to arrive in Tsingtao soon. Skinaysky has the reputation of injecting a considerable amount of USSR propaganda into church services.
2. The Emigrant Association is strongly opposed to this transfer of control and has the upper hand since the deeds and legal documents pertaining to the church were executed in the name of the Emigrant Association. A.A. Kostin presented the Soviet case for the control of the church to the Shanghai Consul-General in a letter on 12 May 1947.

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letter of 23 October 1973 from the  
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Next Review Date: 2008

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 NO CHANGE in Class.  
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