

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Egypt/USSR

DATE DISTR. 7 APR 1949

SUBJECT Aleksei A. Chvedov, First Secretary of the Soviet Legation in Cairo

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Source reports the following data on Aleksei A. Chvedov, First Secretary of the Soviet Legation, Cairo:

- a. Born about 1911, probably in Moscow, USSR.
- b. Religion: Russian Orthodox.
- c. Education: Political School, Moscow.
- d. Languages: Russian (native); good French; some English.
- e. Home Address: 2 Sharia Comboni, Zamalek, Cairo.
- f. Personal description (as of May 1948): 5 feet, 8 inches tall; medium build; chestnut-colored hair; brown eyes; mustache. Subject was a bachelor.
- g. Career: Has been a member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union since the age of 16. Trained for three years in a propaganda school and was for two years Secretary to Beria, former head of the NKVD, now called the MVD.
- h. Recent Activities: Appointed First Secretary at the Soviet Legation in Cairo on 17 December 1945. Chvedov deals mainly with political subjects and the preparation of political reports. Has several times been reported in close touch with various satellite legations in Cairo, especially the Yugoslav, Hungarian, and Rumanian. Paid frequent visits to the Rumanian Legation soon after it was established in June 1948, and reportedly questioned personally all the servants there to establish their identities and fitness for service.

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On 2 August 1948, Chvedov had a long conversation with Peter Nagy, then Chargé d'Affaires at the Hungarian Legation, apparently in connection with the tightening up of security measures at that Legation.

In June 1948 he was reported to have taken over from Ivan Yanchenko, the Tass correspondent in Cairo, the task of liaison with the Yugoslav Legation. In the weeks before his defection and flight in October 1948, Chahin Chahinpachic, then Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires, was in increasingly frequent touch with Chvedov, who seems to have been the chief instigator of his defection.

Some time in 1946 Chvedov is reported to have been in touch, together with Yanchenko, with a local representative of the Jewish Agency, named Boris Kahanov.

In November 1948 and January 1949 Chvedov visited the Greek Patriarch in Alexandria to arrange the replacement of Deichterev (deported by the Egyptian authorities) by Prozorov, as priest of the Russian Orthodox Church in Alexandria.

- i. Source reports Chvedov to be "extremely inquisitive."

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