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INFORMATION REPORT

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CD NO.

COUNTRY Indonesia/China

DATE DISTR.

31 March 1949

SUBJECT

Local Attitudes toward MAO Tse-tung

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- 1. At the beginning of this year the directors of the Sin Po and the Keng Po felt that MAO Tse-tung was not a "Russiar" Communist, but a "Chinese" Communist and that he would put the interests of China above those of Russia.
- 2. This feeling has changed gradually and the majority of the editors and directors of newspapers now feel that MAO is directly controlled by the Kremlin. The main reason for this shift in opinion is the recent broadcasts\*from Communist China over a powerful transmitter beamed to Indonesia and Southeast Asia. Some of the broadcasts have attacked Sukarno, Hatta and Sjahrir as American puppets and have praised Tan Malaka. These broadcasts are easily heard in Indonesia.
- 3. Source believes that these broadcasts have forced Republicans, such as Sjahrir, who want to remain neutral in the Russian-American conflict, to see the precariousness of their position and to recognize Tan Malaka as their greatest enemy.
- In the light of his knowledge of recent activities in the area, source is of the opinion that the Kremlin, in order to keep MAO Tse-tung firmly under Russian control, has offered to "split the world" with him, giving MAO a free hand in the Far East, Southeast Asia and possibly in India.
- 5. MAO Tse-tung and Tan Malaks are personal friends.

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Comment. A broadcast from North Shensi on 21 March warned Indonesian Republicans that their efforts to obtain liberation were doomed as long as they were led by by the feeble-minded bourgeoisie and urged them to create a proletarian-led revolutionary army, to start with guerrilla warfare, build up the Communist party and prepare to capture big cities later. The broadcast concluded by boasting of Chinese Communist successes and said the Indonesians could do likewise if they would follow the Chinese Communist pattern. This broadcast was heard in San Francisco.

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