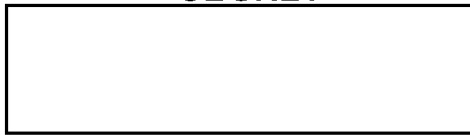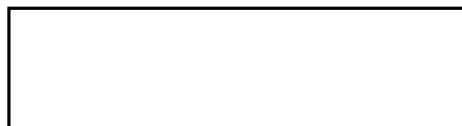Copy Nọ 408

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BIWEEKLY REPORT

SINO-SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS

EIC-WGR-1/37

8 July 1957

PREPARED BY THE WORKING GROUP
ON SINO-SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES
IN UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

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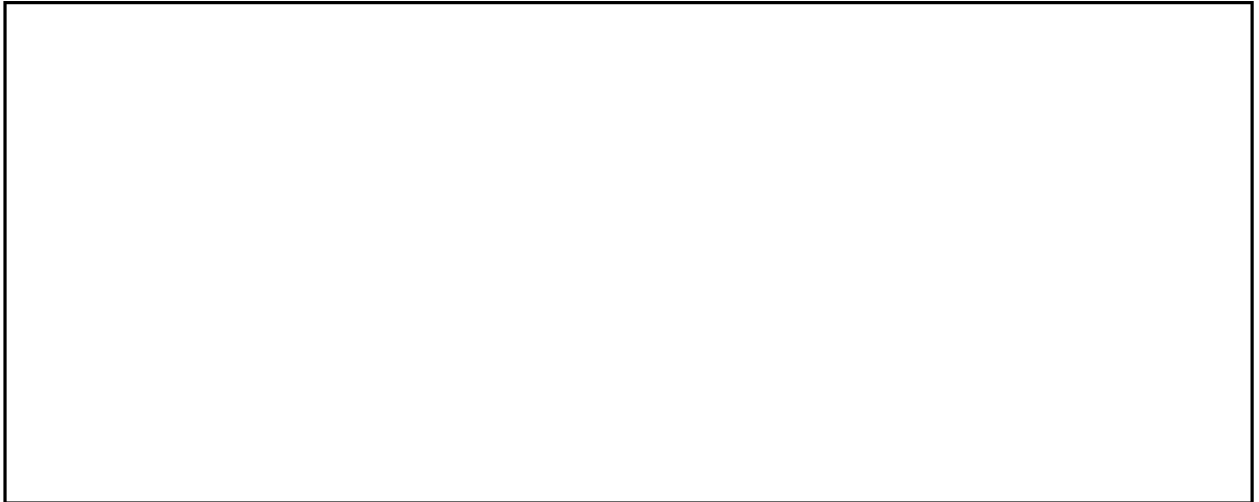AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

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nomic relations of Sino-Soviet Bloc countries with under-
developed countries of the Free World. The EIC–R–14 series
of reports, under the same title, provide periodic summaries
and analytical interpretations of these developments.

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S-E-C-R-E-T

Burmese trade surpluses with the Sino-Soviet Bloc have risen by
$5 million since 30 September 1956. Burma has attempted to utilize
its Bloc credit balances by transferring $11.5 million from its Soviet
account to its Czechoslovak account and by encouraging imports from
the USSR and Czechoslovakia. The Burmese surplus has not been re-
duced, however, and Burma is trying now to transfer Soviet credits
into the account of its major Bloc trading partner, Communist China.

A survey of Sino-Soviet Bloc activities in civil aviation during the
past 2 years indicates that significant efforts are being made to sign
bilateral air transport agreements with many underdeveloped nations
in the Free World. Yugoslavia, Greece, Afghanistan, and Burma
have already signed these agreements. Negotiations between Bloc
countries and Iran, Egypt, Syria, and India also are in progress.

The 22-man Soviet agricultural advisory mission in Burma has
met with the approval of Burmese officials and a contract for the re-
tention of the group for another year has recently been signed.

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Although Liberia has turned down a Soviet proposal for a treaty of friendship and commerce and for the establishment of diplomatic relations, it is reliably reported that Liberian officials will attend the September 1957 Agriculture Fair in Moscow at Soviet expense. Elsewhere in the Middle East and Africa, the USSR for the first time in recent years purchased 9,000 bales of cotton valued at $2.1 million from Sudan, a Turkish commercial bank mission left for Moscow to discuss a Soviet offer of industrial products, and the USSR is reported to have offered additional credits to a Turkish governmental concern for the purchase of industrial and agricultural products.

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