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BIWEEKLY REPORT

SINO-SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS

EIC WGR 1/202
4 November 1963

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

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

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Summary of Events
18-31 October 1963

Negotiations by the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture for the sale of substantial volumes of beef and mutton to Communist China reportedly are entering the final stage. Although Communist China is not normally a heavy importer of meat, it has been stated that as much as 100,000 tons of meat is being sought from Argentina. Argentine officials have released no information on the proposed transaction. Doubt has been expressed, however, that Argentina could supply more than 50,000 tons without disrupting shipments to its regular customers.

Two economic agreements were signed by the USSR and Afghanistan during Soviet President Brezhnev's recent visit to Afghanistan. One agreement was related to the exploitation of Afghanistan's natural gas reserves, and the other to a joint Afghan-Soviet survey of the Ab-i-Panja River, which forms the border between the USSR and northeastern Afghanistan.

Poland and Hungary have offered economic credits, valued at \$15 million and \$10 million, respectively, to Iran for the purchase of sugar-refining machinery and other industrial equipment. Czechoslovakia also may have offered to sell machinery to Iran on favorable credit terms.

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CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. Latin America	1
Argentine Negotiations for the Sale of Meat to Communist China	1
II. Middle East	1
Bloc Offers of Economic Credits to Iran	1
III. Asia	2
Brezhnev's Visit to Afghanistan	2
IV. Brief Notes	2
Haiti	2
Mexico	3
Syria	3
United Arab Republic (UAR)	3

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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