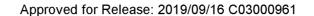
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CONTENTS

- 1. SOVIET OFFICIALS DISCUSS PRESIDENT'S BLUEPRINT **PROPOSAL** (page 3).
- 2. MOSCOW AGAIN URGES IRAN NOT TO JOIN BAGHDAD PACT (page 4).
- 3. ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH KOREA IN-**TENSIFIED** (page 5).
- 4. INTERNAL CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC DISPUTES **REPORTEDLY THREATEN SEGNI GOVERNMENT (page 6).**

28 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin Page 2

Approved for Release: 2019/09/16 C03000961

1. SOVIET OFFICIALS DISCUSS PRESIDENT'S BLUEPRINT PROPOSAL

An adviser to the Soviet representative on the UN Disarmament Subcommittee told American officials on 23 September that the USSR did not reject President Eisenhower's Geneva "blueprint" and

aerial flight proposals and said "our attitude is positive." He used passages from Molotov's speech before the UN General Assembly to illustrate that the USSR was still earnestly studying the proposals, but indicated that the USSR would like to have more details on how the plan would operate.

The Soviet official also indicated that while he could understand why the United States was reserving its position regarding the abolition of nuclear weapons, the USSR was disturbed by the American reservation regarding conventional force levels. He insisted that the United States intended to revise these upward.

Soviet officials present at the meeting denied that the USSR was principally concerned with force levels and bases and declared that establishing a "legal basis" for the proscription of atomic weapons was still the important thing. In arguing that adoption of the Soviet 10 May inspection plan was necessary to guard against concentration of forces, one Soviet spokesman contended that a surprise blow could never be decisive, either now or in 100 years.

Comment

These remarks appear to indicate a more favorable attitude toward some form of President Eisenhower's proposals than Bulganin's letter, which only stated that they were still under consideration. Bulganin's strongest criticism of the President's proposals was that they failed to meet the main problem of ending the arms race because they did not include reduction of either conventional forces or atomic weapons.

The Soviet leaders have consistently defended their 10 May proposals regarding "control posts" by contending that modern war, including the necessary followup to any surprise blow, requires drawing into action armies of many millions and enormous quantities of equipment.

28 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 3

Approved for Release: 2019/09/16 C03000961

2. MOSCOW AGAIN URGES IRAN NOT TO JOIN BAGHDAD PACT

Comment

Soviet ambassador

Lavrentiev's demarche to the Shah on 8 September and were timed to counter the effect of the Turkish president's recent visit to Iran. Iranian foreign minister Entezam told Ambassador Chapin on 26 September that the Shah was not particularly concerned at this veiled threat.

The Soviet Union is able to bring severe economic pressure on Iran as required in order to influence the Shah on this question, but Moscow would probably prefer to avoid any act which could endanger the Soviet program to encourage "neutralism" among the other Middle Eastern states.

28 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 4

TOP CROPET	
Approved for Release: 201	9/09/16 C03000961

Approved for Release: 2019/09/16 C03000961

3. ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH KOREA INTENSIFIED

President Rhee appears to be making a deliberate effort to promote Korean suspicion and dislike of the United States, according to Ambassador Lacy

in Seoul. This is suggested by recent bitter attacks by Korean officials who have used "lies and innuendos" in misrepresenting American policies.

Recent charges include allegations that the United States intends to wreck the South Korean economy, that American businessmen are "carpetbaggers and smugglers," that a secret American agreement exists which would eventually return Korea to Japanese domination, and that the United States is prepared to barter Korean independence for a momentary relaxation of world tension.

Comment

These attacks reflect an attempt by Rhee to force the United States to substitute Rhee's objectives in Korea for its own. Rhee's exploitation of strong Korean nationalist feelings has brought about a deterioration of American prestige. One consequence is a growing threat to the position of pro-American Korean officials.

28 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 5

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4. INTERNAL CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC DISPUTES **REPORTEDLY THREATEN SEGNI GOVERNMENT**

The intraparty maneuvers of Italian Christian Democratic secretary Amintore Fanfani against Premier Segni may bring about the fall of his

government

Fanfani is allegedly using various domestic issues, such as the establishment of a constitutional court, land tenure pacts, and the reform of state-owned industries, to create difficulties for Segni. Segni reportedly threatened to resign over these intrigues at the 15 September meeting of his party's national council.

Meanwhile, President Gronchi is reported to look forward to the possible fall of Segni, since this would open the way to the premiership for Budget Minister Vanoni.

Comment

Intrigue by Gronchi contributed to the downfall of the Scelba government last June. Gronchi favors a single-party Christian Democratic government with parliamentary support from the Nenni Socialists on domestic issues and Fanfani would probably go along. The candidacy of Vanoni seems to find favor with both Gronchi and Fanfani.

28 Sept 55

Current Intelligence Bulletin

Page 6

TOP SECRET		
Approved for Release: 201	9/09/16 C0	3000961