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VIA AIR

BOOK DISPATCH NO. 1047

DATE 1 4 JAN 1959

TO : Chiefs of Certain Stations and Bases

FROM : Chief, SR

SUBJECT: General - Operational/REDCAP/LCIMPROVE Specific - Reduction in Soviet Foreign Representation

ACTION REQUIRED: See Paragraph 2.

1. During the past week Headquarters has received information that the Soviet military attache's office in Copenhagen is being closed, with its affairs being transferred to the naval attache's office which will remain active (this item also appeared in FBIS in an AFP radioteletype dated 6 January 1959). Another WE area (FYI, Norway) has reported the reverse -in this area the Soviet naval attache's office will be closed, with one member of the office being transferred to the military attache's office which will remain in operation. In addition, another WE area has reported that replacements have not been sent from Moscow for vacancies existing in the T/O of the Soviet Embassy there.

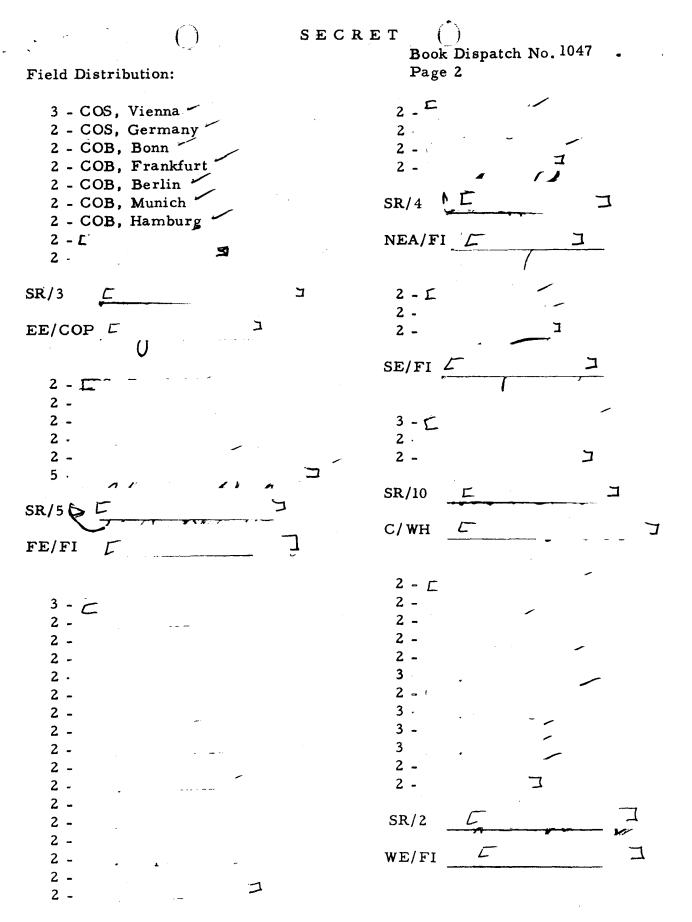
2. In view of these three examples of cut-backs in staffing of Soviet Embassy components in the WE area and a reported reduction in the number of local employees hired by an FE Soviet installation as well as the elimination of the overseas pay for Soviet officials stationed at this FE post, it is requested that each station keep alert for any such changes in the Soviet representation in that area and the reasons therefor, and notify Headquarters by cable. It is hoped that the information received from the various stations will enable us to ascertain whether these are local restaffing moves or whether it is a world-wide cut in the size of the Soviet diplomatic missions abroad and in the budget allotments for the foreign service, and consequently in the number of military attache and diplomatic slots available for RIS cover.

3. The above information may be discussed in general terms with liaison.

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Book Dispatch No. 1047 Page 3 1 - WE/1/CE 1 - WE/2/B

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