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COPY NO. 20

OCI NO. 8855/55

10 November 1955

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



DOCUMENT NO. 17
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
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CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 1989
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 26 July 2000 REVIEWER:

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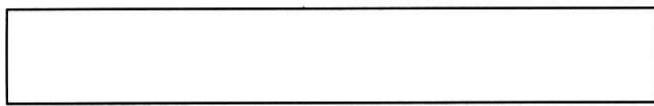
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State Department review completed

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PART II

NOTES AND COMMENTSBolshevik Revolution Anniversary

The 38th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution was highlighted by the traditional speech at the Bolshoi Theater and the currently fashionable gay diplomatic reception the next evening, at which Soviet leaders undertook to dance polkas, mazurkas, and gavottes in demonstration of their human qualities.

Since 1947, the honor of delivering the important annual year-end review has rotated among members of the party presidium. This year's spokesman, L. M. Kaganovich, a first deputy premier and chairman of the State Committee for Wages and Labor, restricted himself to previously well-defined themes of the party line. He remained in character as an Old Bolshevik on a Bolshevik occasion, combining doctrinaire attitudes and expressions with the Khrushchev-Bulganin coexistence policy.

His speech, although it utilized such clichés of the revolution as "dictatorship of the proletariat," "class struggle," and "belief in the victory of Communism in the 20th Century," nevertheless managed not to distort the Soviet Union's current peace line.

Foreign Policy Implications

Kaganovich reaffirmed the USSR's loyalty to "the struggle for peace and coexistence" but reiterated the adamant Soviet stand on the German issue and the need for agreeing on a European security plan. His brief reference to disarmament marked time along the lines of Bulganin's 19 September letter to President Eisenhower in stressing the necessity of ending the armaments race and banning atomic weapons.

Kaganovich devoted particular attention to the USSR's good relations with the Bandung powers and affirmed the significance of Bulganin's and Khrushchev's coming visits to India, Burma, and Afghanistan. He declared that the Soviet Union will always remain on the side of the peoples of Asia and Africa in their struggle for freedom and independence.

Kaganovich analyzed the nature of Communist revolution at some length, in an apparent attempt to rebut Western charges of international Communist conspiracy while reaffirming faith in the inevitable world triumph of socialism. This was the first public speech by a top Soviet leader which rationalized the relationship of the USSR and non-Orbit Communist parties within the framework of "relaxation of tensions."

Internal Implications

Kaganovich carefully steered around the troubled question of the composition of the Soviet leadership. He did not even dimly echo any implied criticism of Molotov, and discreetly observed the "collectivity principle" by balancing praise for Khrushchev's and Bulganin's speeches before "our central committee." Achievements of the Soviet Union were prudently assigned to the leadership of Lenin and the Communist Party.

Reflecting present Soviet preoccupation with the sixth Five-Year Plan to be promulgated at the Twentieth Party Congress in February 1956, Kaganovich focused attention on the labor productivity problem in industry, transport, and agriculture. He stressed the necessity for rapid introduction of up-to-date scientific and technological

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achievements and rationalization of labor. This emphasis probably anticipates the major methods for expanding industrial output which will be employed in the forthcoming plan.

Kaganovich called for Satellite implementation of "the Lenin plan for construction of Socialism." He stressed co-ordination of bloc economic plans and, unlike recent discussions of the same subject, said nothing about special conditions in each of the Satellites. Such projected co-operative economic planning may signify an increased role for the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance.

Military Parade

Marshal Zhukov's 10-minute oration preceding the 7 November

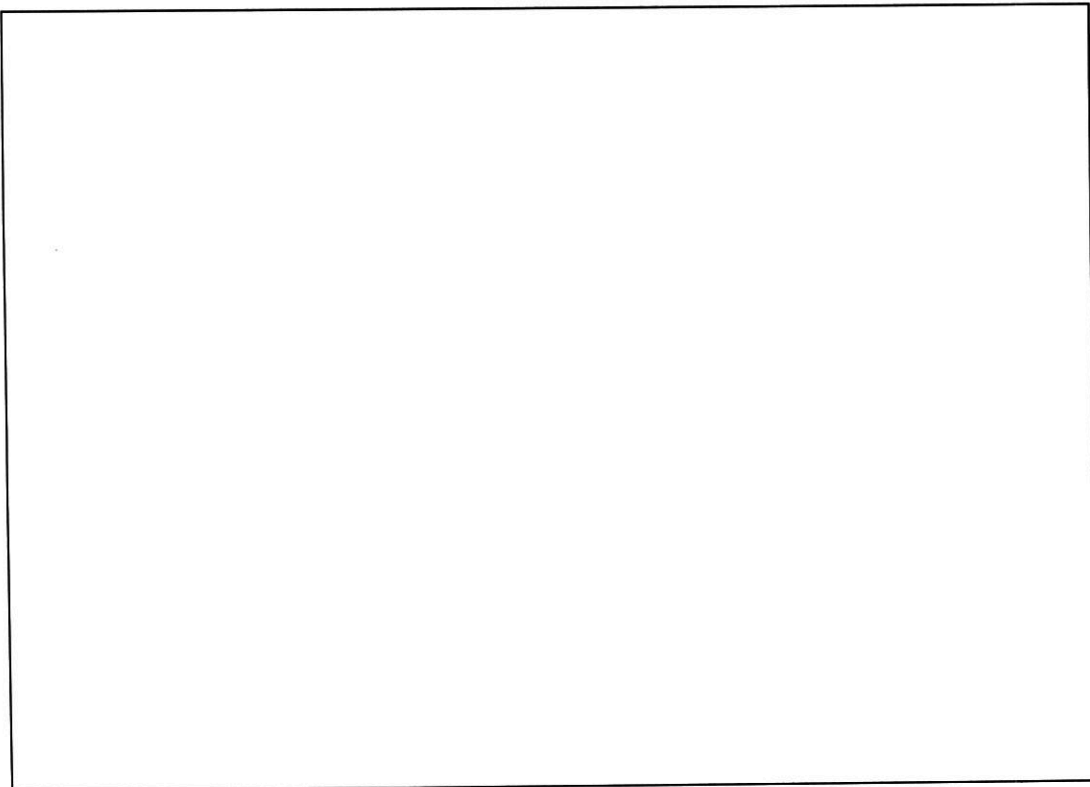
parade was the mildest address delivered by a military figure since Stalin's death. There were no references to encircling military bases, imperialist threats, or military groupings, and only an indirect call for strengthening the Soviet armed might, a standard ingredient of such speeches.

The display of military force, conforming to this pattern, was of modest proportions. No new Soviet aircraft were displayed in the parade fly-by, which included one BISON jet heavy bomber, nine BADGER jet medium bombers, and fewer than 50 jet fighters. Similarly, in contrast to previous Soviet celebrations, the parade revealed no new ground equipment and was a perfunctory display.

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