SOVIET AID TO GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR

APPARENTLY KARUME REQUESTED VISIT SO AS PRESENT HIS REASONS ACCEPTING SOVIET AID. KARUME TOLD HE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH ASSISTANCE SOVIETS HAD PROVIDED SO FAR AND HE HOPED THAT MORE WOULD BE FORTH COMING. HE CITED 50 SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS NOW ON ISLAND AND THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT JUST RECEIVED AS EVIDENCE SOVIET GENEROSITY, SAID, "YOU SEE, THEY (THE SOVIETS) ARE WITH US WHILE THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS ARE AGAINST US."
2. Karume said 50 military advisors, headed by one colonel, two majors, will begin shortly the training of 300 men who will form the nucleus of the Zanzibar Army. This training will last about 3 months. Other training courses will be given thereafter.

50X1, E.O.13526

The advisors are housed in Zanzibar government buildings which were confiscated (sic). The party later saw 2 Europeans who were pointed out as Soviet military advisors. They did not see the other 48.

50X1, E.O.13526

3. After the talk with Karume, 50X1 Hum, E.O.13526 toured the city, boarded the Soviet ship Faisabad briefly, saw 50 trucks still on the dock which apparently had come from the Faisabad. They were shown the walled enclosure where the arms from the Faisabad are stored although they did not see the arms themselves. This enclosure is, according to Police Commissioner Kisasi 50X1 Hum, E.O.13526 under his control. However, he is charged only with guarding the arms; eventually they will be given to the army. Kisasi gave a general description of some of the arms but he did not say how many were stored.

50X1, E.O.13526
ACCORDING TO KISASI, THE 300 ARMY TRAINEES ARE "FREEDOM FIGHTERS". HE DID NOT SAY TO WHOM THEY WERE LOYAL NOR DID HE SAY WHO THE ZANZIBAR ARMY OFFICERS WERE TO BE.

4. VICE PRESIDENT HANGA. HE SAID PRACTICALLY NOTHING; KARUME DID ALL THE TALKING. NEITHER KARUME NOR HANGA WENT ON THE TOUR OF THE CITY WHICH WAS MADE A MINOR ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, NAME UNKNOWN, SERVED AS GUIDE. CAME AWAY WITH STRONG IMPRESSION THAT ZANZIBAR IS WELL ON WAY BECOMING COMMUNIST BASTION. HE ALSO BELIEVES KARUME HAS SWALLOWED THEIR IDEOLOGICAL LINE AS WELL.

7. FIELD DISSEM: STATE, CINCMEAFA.

(END OF MESSAGE)