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ADDP, CA 2, CA/PEG, CA/PROP, CI, CI/OPS,  
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MODED: SR 7 VR

INFO

CITE DIR

PAV: BUK STOC: MUMUKPHE COPE, (SECRET) BOGS  
 M TI LONN BULN VEEN GRVA BERN AINS  
 PROB FRAN DWAK SUNA TOKY ANKA TELS  
 NACH WEND KANI MEYI BOBE MOST  
 LOND BRUS HAOV (SECRET)

33000

SS: DIR A-53

1. POLITICAL MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS RE CURRENT USSR ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. AS BOUND REF, ITEMS INTENDED AS OPERATIONAL AID FOR ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION SOVIETS, AND AS MEANS HOW DOUBT RE REGIMES ABILITY DEAL WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. RECIPIENTS SHOULD NOT MENTION ALL ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE APPROPRIATE FOR OWN USE. REPORT SOVIET CONTACTS VIA OSS CHANNELS. HQS WILL SCREEN FOR VALUE.

2. WESTERN PRESS (REUTERS VIENNA 16 NOV) REPORTED STRIKE BY WORKERS KRIVOI ROG. REASONS WERE BREAD SHORTAGE AND DEMAND FOR WAGE INCREASES MEET RISING FOOD COSTS. SINCE NO ANNOUNCEMENTS FOOD PRICE INCREASES TO DATE, ARE THEY BEING RAISED SECRETLY? WHAT ITEMS AFFECTED? BREAD PRICES BEING INCREASED? HOW MUCH AS MUCH AS THIRTY PERCENT PINE MEAT PRICES LAST YEAR? IF PRICES BEING RAISED, IS FAILURE MAKE THIS PUBLIC RELATED GOVERNMENT YEARS RIOTS SUCH AS LAST YEAR

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ROUTINE

TO INFO CITE NO. 91660

NOVOCENOVICH WHEN MEAT AND MILK PRICES INCREASED

3. NOVOCENOVICH IN PERSON SPEECH SAID GRAIN CROP TWENTY PERCENT BELOW LAST YEAR HAS MEAT SUPPLIES UP. AS RESULT RESULT EXTENSIVE BUSINESS SLAUGHTERING LIVESTOCK IN VIEW SEVERE FODDER SHORTAGE NOVOCENOVICH ALSO SAID MILK PRODUCTION DOWN THIS YEAR. DOES THIS INCREASE EVEN MILK COWS BEING SLAUGHTERED DUE FODDER SHORTAGE?

4. IF FODDER IN SUCH SHORT SUPPLY WIDESPREAD SLAUGHTERING NECESSARY, WILL SOVIET GOVERNMENT FOLLOW HUNGARY EXAMPLE AND BUY FEED GRAINS ABROAD, IN ADDITION WHAT FOR KIBAN CONSUMPTION?

5. NOVOCENOVICH SAID SOVIET COMRADES STARVED 19-7 WHILE GRAIN BEING EXPORTED, PRIMARILY TO PAY FOR IMPORTS MACHINERY AND OTHER CAPITAL GOODS. COULD SITUATION BECOME THAT SERIOUS THIS YEAR? HAS OR WILL SOVIET GOVERNMENT PUT RESTRICTION ON ALL FOOD IMPORTS ABROAD, OR WILL IT CONTINUE SELF FOOD EASTERN EUROPE AND CUBA AS IN PAST YEARS WHETHER HARVEST GOOD OR BAD?

6. WESTERN PRESS (REUTERS VIRGINIA IS BOV) REPORTED SOVIET GOVERNMENT CUBA REFUSED LOAD BUTTER FOR CUBA. HAVE CUBA GOVERNMENT BEEN STOPPED? NOVOCENOVICH SAID CUBAN SUPPLIES DOWN THIS YEAR IS DOWN. STATE CUBA NORMALLY BUYS CUBAN

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WILL THE U.S. BE ABLE TO OBTAIN CONTINUE FOOD SHIPMENTS CUBA IN EXCHANGE REGARDLESS  
OF THE STATE OF CUBA? WILL THESE SHIPMENTS CONTINUE OR WILL GOODS BE REQUIRED  
FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL EFFORT?

THE NEW CHEMICAL PROGRAM WILL BE TROUBEDOUS DRAIN ON SOVIET ECONOMY.  
WILL THE U.S. BE ABLE TO OBTAIN CONTINUE FOOD SHIPMENTS CUBA IN EXCHANGE REGARDLESS  
OF THE STATE OF CUBA? WILL THESE SHIPMENTS CONTINUE OR WILL GOODS BE REQUIRED  
FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL EFFORT?

8. IS KHRENECHENOV DEMAND FOR CREDIT FROM WEST TO FINANCE INVESTMENT PROGRAM  
INDICATION SOVIET GOLD RESERVES AT HIGHER LEVELS? IS THERE EFFORT IMPROVE PRESENT  
MINING METHODS OR FIND NEW GOLD DEPOSITS TO PAY FOR MASSIVE IMPORTS?

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13. MY BASE: AGRICULTURAL WORKERS LOWEST PAID IN SOVIET UNION. DOES NOT BELIEVE AND BELIEVES THEIR WAGES TOO LOW AND MUST BE INCREASED:

14. PHYSICAL THROUGH LATEST IN LONG SERIES PARADES, INCLUDING NEW LANDS, ... PLAN TO MATCH UP TO U. S. IN MEAT AND MILK OUTPUT, FALLOW LAND ... OF WHICH FAILED. EACH PROMISED ASSURE ... WILL SOVIET PEOPLE BE WILLING WAIT AGAIN, THIS TIME TILL ... THEIR LATEST PARADES TESTED, OR THEIR PATIENCE AND HOPE EXHAUSTED? DO THEY BELIEVE GOVERNMENT SERIOUS IN PUTTING FORTH PROGRAM, OR THEY THINK IT JUST ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY NEGATIVE GAIN TIME IN HOPE PROBLEMS SOMEHOW DISAPPEAR?

14. MUCH OF SOVIET UNION TOO DRY FOR EFFECTIVE FERTILIZER UTILIZATION, ESPECIALLY GRAIN ... WILL CONCOMITANT INVESTMENT IRRIGATION BE MADE SO FERTILIZER, IF AND MILK PRODUCED, BE EFFECTIVELY USED? WHERE WILL INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR THIS COME FROM?

15. IN PLENUM SPEECH KHRUSHCHEV ONCE MORE REFERRED TO LYSENKO AS EXAMPLE SCIENTIFIC PRACTITIONER. DOES THIS MEAN LYSENKO AND HIS THEORIES, COMPLETELY DISCREDITED BY AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS EVERYWHERE OUTSIDE BLOC, CONTINUE HAVE

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WHAT IMPROVEMENTS IN SOVIET AGRICULTURE WERE IN TIME OF CRISIS?

THEY WERE NOT SHOWN BY THOSE WHOSE KNOWLEDGE WAS LIMITED TO PLAINLY EVIDENT FACTS.

END OF MESSAGE

IN DRAFT:

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- (CER/OS - Mr. James D. Carson)
- (CER/CI - Mr. Hugh Montgomery)
- (SR/RR - Mr. A. S. Vaisada)
- (LS - Mr. [Redacted])
- (MR - Mr. Gavin Magill)
- (MR - Mr. Paul P. Patton)
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- (SR - Mr. Walter L. O'Brien)
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