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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D. C.

407289

February 28, 1956

DAILY INTELLIGENCE ABSTRACTS No. 568.

1. LATIN AMERICA. Ambassador Kulazhenkov and First Secretary Kazantsev of the Soviet embassy in Mexico City were scheduled to fly to Argentina on February 27, CIA reports. CIA comments that they may be planning to coordinate Soviet efforts in support of Premier Bulganin's public bid on January 16 for diplomatic and economic relations with Latin America. [redacted] item #1, [redacted]

2. AFGHANISTAN. The USSR has been shipping some arms and ammunition to Afghanistan, the Army Attache in Kabul believes. G-2 comments that this is the first reliable report of such shipments it has received. DIB 1781, Feb 27, 56 page 6, S.

3. PHILIPPINES. President Magsaysay has expressed to Ambassador Ferguson his concern over the strong pressure from exporting groups for devaluation and the abandonment of economic controls, and has again requested that the US provide a top flight personal economic advisor of the caliber of Joseph Dodge. Embassy Manila strongly recommends early consideration of this request and notes that the assignment would be very brief and designed primarily to bolster Magsaysay's self-confidence. Manila 2389, Feb. 27, 56, S.

4. JAPAN. The Japanese, especially the fishing interests, are strongly opposed to the nuclear tests scheduled for this spring, but realize that there is no hope of having them called off, Embassy Tokyo reports. Nevertheless, they do feel strongly that they are entitled to compensation for damages to their alleged legitimate interests. The Embassy, arguing that the propaganda value in Japan would be immeasurable, renews its request that the U.S. offer to compensate the Japanese for legitimate losses on an ex gratia basis. Tokyo, 2013, Feb. 23, 56, S.

5. ECONOMIC. 1) Actions affecting textile imports and cotton exports. On February 6 the Department of Agriculture turned down the domestic industry's position for establishment of import quotas on textiles under Section 22, of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. On February 7, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Butz took a position against new legislation such as that sponsored by the H.R. 8658, H.R. 8659 and S. 2702 bills which would impose quotas on textile imports on 150% of the 1953-1954 import average. (Current Economic Developments - Secret)

2) The Tariff Commission was split 3 to 3 in its report on fluorspar. The President has 60 days from January 18 to decide whether or not to increase the import duty on fluorspar. Italy, Mexico, Spain, Germany and Canada are the countries that will be most affected by the President's decision. (Current Economic Developments - unclassified)

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