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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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SUBJECT Soviet Activities along the Iranian Border

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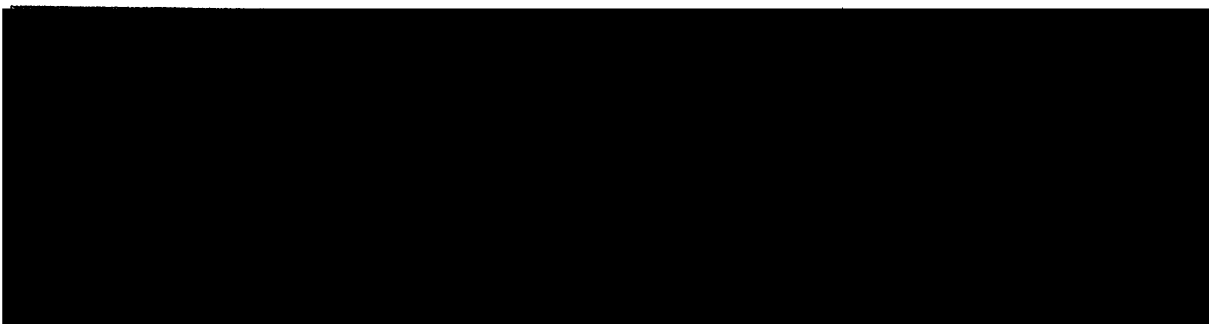
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The following is a summary of Soviet activity along the Iranian border for the period 28 September to 4 October 1951.

Rail Traffic

1. Pol Dasht: The combined east and westbound rail traffic totalled 47 trains.
2. Dzhulfa: The combined east and westbound rail traffic totalled 66 trains.
3. Sia Rud: The combined east and westbound rail traffic totalled 40 trains.\*
4. Khuda Afarin: The combined east and westbound rail traffic totalled 39 trains.
5. One of the eastbound trains from Yerevan to Nakhichevan carried about 600 soldiers, four guns, and four machine guns. One of the eastbound trains from Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa carried about 100 soldiers and six guns.
6. Lutfabad: Combined east and westbound rail traffic between Ashkhabad and Kaakha totalled 102 cars in an unspecified number of trains. One train carried 30 carloads of soldiers from Ashkhabad to Kaakha. One train moving from Kaakha to Ashkhabad carried 36 carloads of soldiers.

Road Traffic

7. Dzhulfa: East and westbound road traffic between Ordubad and Dzhulfa-Nakhichevan totalled 172 trucks, 1,136 soldiers, 32 jeeps, nine autos, seven ambulances, and 32 motorcycles. Eastbound road traffic from Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa totalled seven truckloads of soldiers, seven guns, and two companies of soldiers accompanied by three tanks.
8. Astara: Total road traffic in the Astara area totalled 304 trucks, 103 carts, 33 jeeps, three autos, 641 soldiers, seven officers, eight sergeants, and 11 motorcycles.

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Military Activity

9. Dzhulfa: An estimated 80 to 200 Soviet soldiers maneuvered daily. On one day 300 soldiers with eight 75 mm guns and seven mortars performed firing exercises north of Dzhulfa.
10. Namin and Garmi: Some of the Soviet border guard personnel appear to have been replaced in these areas.
11. Astara: The Soviets are bringing in construction material to construct a new border post and watch tower opposite the Iranian post of Qanbar Mahalleh.
12. Khorassan: In the Bajgiran (37-37N, 58-26E) area several Soviet tents were observed along the frontier in the Sarani and Cheshme Sia areas, specifically at Favnal, Zeydanlu, and near Bajgiran. Each tent has 30 to 40 infantry soldiers. The Soviet frontier patrols are four men strong. In the Kalat (37-01N, 59-47E) area nine Soviet spray planes entered the USSR from Iran via Chacha (36-37N, 60-18E).

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**Comment:** A well-qualified source who is in a fairly good position to obtain such information comments that on 3 October 1951 one train composed of nineteen boxcars carrying unarmed soldiers, three gondolas carrying 47 trucks, and an unstated number of cars carrying 49 anti-aircraft guns went from Baku to Dzhulfa.

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