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ADVANCE FOR 6:30 P.M. EST TODAY

CIA

21 March 1964

(350) COLD WAR-CIA

(ADVANCE) WASHINGTON, MARCH 21 (AP)-SOME MEMBERS OF A HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE WERE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE RECENT RELEASE BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OF A REPORT SAYING THE RUSSIAN ECONOMY IS GOING DOWNHILL.

"PEOPLE DO NOT TRUST THE CIA," SAID REP. FRANCES P. BOLTON, R-OHIO. "IF THE PRESIDENT HAD ANNOUNCED IT . . . IF THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAD ANNOUNCED IT . . . IT WOULD HAVE HAD AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT IMPACT. I THINK IT HAS HAD ALMOST A BAD IMPACT. THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IT. I THINK THAT IS TERRIBLY UNFORTUNATE."

MRS. BOLTON WAS SPEAKING TO UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE AVERELL HARRIMAN DURING A RECENT CLOSED HEARING ON THE U.S. IDEOLOGICAL OFFENSIVE, OR HOW TO WIN THE COLD WAR. THE TESTIMONY WAS RELEASED TODAY.

HARRIMAN DISCLOSED THAT IT WAS HE WHO ASKED THAT THE RUSSIAN ECONOMIC STUDY BE MADE. AS TO ITS RELEASE UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE CIA, HARRIMAN SAID "THIS PARTICULAR DECISION WAS MADE BY APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.

"SOMEBODY CALLED IT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PRESIDENT OR THE SECRETARY OF STATE," SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DANTE B. FASCELL, D-FLA., SUGGESTED.

"YES," HARRIMAN SAID.

AT ANOTHER POINT IN THE HEARING, WITH DON WILSON OF THE U.S. INFORMATION SERVICE ON THE STAND, REP. H. R. GROSS, R-IOWA, SAID "THIS CONCERNS ME, AND I AM SURE IT DOES THE CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE . . . IF THE CIA IS NOW IN THE BUSINESS OF MAKING RELEASES THAT CERTAINLY ARE OF SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FROM THE FOREIGN POLICY STANDPOINT, WE HAD BETTER KNOW IT AROUND HERE."

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FASCELL COMMENTED, APPARENTLY REFERRING TO THE CIA, "LET US HOPE, MR. GROSS, WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET TO THE ROOT OF THAT MATTER, BUT AT THE PRESENT TIME WE SEEM TO HAVE SOME RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF THE AGENCY TO APPEAR."

MRS. BOLTON ADDED "MY PEOPLE AT HOME ARE EXCEEDINGLY WORRIED TO HAVE THE CIA MAKING FOREIGN POLICY. WHO IS GOVERNING THE COUNTRY ANYWAY? WHO IS RESPONSIBLE? THEY DO NOT LIKE IT. IT GIVES A SENSE OF INSECURITY IN MY AREA."

FASCELL SAID HE TOO IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE FOREIGN POLICY IMPLICATIONS, AND ASKED WILSON TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT ON WHETHER THE CIA RELEASE HAD CREATED ANY OBJECTION IN OTHER COUNTRIES OR ADVERSE CRITICISM.

IN A STATEMENT SUBMITTED LATER, THE USIA SAID THE ONLY FOREIGN REACTION HAD COME FROM MOSCOW, WHERE RUSSIAN NEWSPAPERS CALLED IT "THIS LATEST FABRICATION BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE," AND IN THE LONDON TIMES, WHICH QUESTIONED THE WAY IT WAS RELEASED.

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