

December 9, 1941 Cable from Dimitrov to Stalin, Molotov, Beria, and Malenkov

Citation:

"Cable from Dimitrov to Stalin, Molotov, Beria, and Malenkov", December 9, 1941, Wilson Center Digital Archive, RGASPI, f. 558. op. 11, d. 66, II. 43-44. Contributed by Jamil Hasanli and translated by Gary Goldberg. https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/119104

Summary:

Cable to top Soviet officials advising against reviving the Communist Party of Iran, and instead advising its members to work through the People's Party. Kuybyshev believes the Communist Party would be too small to be significant, and would give British and Nazi agents in Iran an opportunity to turn Iranian elites against the Soviet Union.

Credits:

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Original Language:

Russian

Contents:

Original Scan
Translation - English

СТРОГО СЕКРЕТНО

Снятие копий воспрещается

Кому послана

МЗ КУЛЬНІШТЬ Отправлена 23-25 9 ХП 1941 г. Поступила в ЦКЛЬКП(б) на расцифрование 10 ХП 1941 г. ч. 7 м. 30 М. 1202/т. МОСКВА, ЦК ВКП(б) Т.Т. СТАЛИНУ, молотову перия маленкову.

Группа иранских коммунистов, бынких пожитыеских заключенных, приступила к восстановлению компартии Ирана Они создали временное бюро, выделили одного товарища (Арташес Отанесян) для связи с ИККИ и обращаются к нам за директикой. Просит также быстрейшего согласия отправить своего делегата к нам По материалам Отдела кадров ИККИ и на основе сведений работников НКВД, которые на месте связаны с ними, можно считать этих иранских коммунистов вполне честными революционерами и просоветскими людьми.

Одновременно в Иране создана демократическим деятелем Сулейманом-Мирза народная партия с демократической программой. Мирза уже на протяжении 30 лет ведет борьбу за демократические преобравования в Иране. В этой народной партии принимает участие и часть иранских коммунистов.

Учитывая особые условия Ирана (совместная с англичанами оккупация, демагогическая и подрывная работа гитлеристов и их агентов,
настороженность и враждебность части правящих иранских кругов), мы
считаем, что восстановление Иранской компартии, которая всегда была небольшой сектантской группой, вряд ли принесет в настоящее время пользу, а известные затруднения и осложнения причинит наверняка.
Это усилит подозрительность и недовольство в рядах правящих кругов,
даст больше возможности немецким агентам запугивать иранскую буржув
вию опасностью советизации Ирана, да и самих англичан сделает более
подозрительными в отношении Советского Союза, якобы стремящегося к
советизации Ирана.

Поэтому полагал бы, что при нинешней ситуации не следовало бы восстанавливать компартию, а коммунисты должны работать в народной партии и проводить линию:

- 1. Ворьбы за демократизацию Ирана;
- 2. Защиты интересов трудящихся;
- 3. Укрепления дружественных отношений между Ираном и Совет-
- 4. Полного искоренения агентуры фашизма в Иране и подавления антисоветской пропаганды.

Наряду с этим, коммунисты должны работать для создания профсоюзов и крестьянских организаций.

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[Handwritten across the top of the text: "I agree with Cde. Dimitrov [V]/ Molotov 10 December Cde. Stalin agrees. I sent to Cde. Dimitrov. Molotov"]

CABLE

from KUYBYSHEV sent at 2325 9 December 1941 arrived at the VKP(b) CC for decipherment at 0730 10 December 1941 Incoming N° 4202/sh

MOSCOW, VKP(b) CC, to Cdes. STALIN, MOLOTOV, BERIA, and MALENKOV.

A group of Iranian Communists, former political prisoners, has begun to revive the Communist Party of Iran. They have created a temporary bureau, identified one comrade (Arashes-Oganesyan) for liaison with the IKKI [Executive Committee of the Communist International], and turned to us for directions. They are also requesting prompt agreement to send their delegate to us. Per the materials of the Personnel Department of the IKKI and on the basis of information of NKVD officials who have been in touch with them locally, these Iranian Communists can be considered completely honest revolutionaries and pro-Soviet people.

At the same time a People's Party with a democratic program has been created in Iran by a democratic figure Suleiman Mirza. Mirza has been fighting for democratic reform in Iran for 30 years now. Some Iranian Communists also participate in this People's Party.

Considering the special conditions of Iran (joint occupation with the British, the democratic and subversive work of the Nazis and their agents, the wariness and hostility of part of the Iranian ruling circles, we think that the revival of the Iranian Communist Party, which was always a small sectarian group, would hardly make a difference at the present time, but would definitely cause certain difficulties and complications. This will strengthen suspiciousness and dissatisfaction in the ranks of the ruling circles and provide more opportunities for German agents to frighten the Iranian bourgeoisie with the danger of the Sovietization of Iran, and indeed they make the British themselves suspicious with respect to the Soviet Union, which is supposedly striving to Sovietize Iran.

Therefore I would suppose that in the present situation the Communist Party ought not be revived but that the Communists ought to operate in the People's Party and pursue a policy of:

- 1. Fighting for the democratization of Iran;
- 2. Defending the interests of the workers;
- 3. Strengthening friendly relations between Iran and the Soviet Union;
- 4. Completely eradicating the agent network of fascism in Iran and suppressing anti-Soviet propaganda.

Along with this, the Communist should work to create trade unions and peasant organizations.

I also consider it inadvisable for a delegate from the Iranian Communists to be sent to us since this fact will be also used by our enemies in Iran. One of our suitable comrades under suitable legal cover, who could help the Iranian comrades in pursuing this policy, could be sent instead.

If there are to be no other instructions from you I am thinking of sending the Iranian comrades advice to this effect.

DIMITROV

Deciphered at 1220 10 December 1941. Six copies printed. Kozlov, Nezlobin, Luk'yanova. [Stamp: draft and cipher text destroyed] Illegible signature

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