

Radio Free Europe/Munich  
Office of the Policy Advisor  
Background Information USSR

December 15, 1959

THE PARTY AND THE POLICE (VI)

During the four and half years between the spring of 1954 and the winter of 1958, from the completion of the post-Beria transformation of the MVD-MGB into the Committee for State Security under Col.-General (later Army General) I.A. Serov until the appointment of A. N. Shelepin, Head of the CC Department of Party Organs for the Union Republics, the leadership of the Republican police organizations remained surprisingly stable. Only five changes of the top police officers were recorded in the first three years of this period which ended with Khrushchev's victory over the anti-Party group -- in Moldavia, Azerbaidzhan, Kirghizia, Tadzhikistan, and Turkmen.<sup>1</sup> In no case has any change or criticism been raised against the few functionaries who were dismissed; nor has it been possible to identify a single subsequent appointment for any of the five. There may well have been some problems involved in these republics, however, since three of the five replacements were unable to maintain their positions for more than two years and A. Propenko (Moldavia), F. Kopylov (Azerbaidzhan), and S. Bannikov (Turkmen) were ousted in the reorganization of the KGB leadership which began in September 1959. In addition, V. V. Gubin, the veteran security chief in the Kazakh SSR, was replaced by a Deputy Chairman of the USSR KGB, K. Lunev.<sup>2</sup> The former Minister of Justice of the BeloRussian SSR, I. Vetrov, was transferred to the security police as successor to A. Perepelytsin,<sup>3</sup> and K. Lyaudis, a party apparatchik assigned to the police in the post-Beria period, last month gave way to A. Randakevicius as Chairman of the Committee for State Security in Lithuania.<sup>4</sup> Thus, the past three months there have been six new appointments to the posts of KGB chiefs in the republics, as compared to only five shifts in the previous 5 years.. Because of lack of information it is still impossible to draw

1 See Party and the Police (IV), Background Information, 13 Oct. 1959.

2 Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 11 Oct. 1959.

3 Sovetskaya BeloRussiya, 24 Nov. 1959.

4 Tiesa, 28 Nov. 1959. The newcomer is a member of the Lithuanian CC and member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR; there is no record of previous police experience.

any firm conclusions from this sudden acceleration of the rate of change among the police. As the comparative table of 1st secretaries and chairmen of Council of Ministers shows,<sup>5</sup> the number of KGB chiefs found wanting by Khrushchev is not greater than that of the party secretaries and far less than the turnover among the incumbents of the top state posts.

To date the record of personnel changes among the police has provided no clues as to the nature of the problems they have been unable to solve and even less indication of the character of the tasks to which the Party has assigned their successors.

hr

---

<sup>5</sup> See below, p. 1.



PARTY, POLICE AND STATE - 1954-59

		<u>KGB Chiefs</u>	<u>1st Secretaries</u>	<u>Chairmen of Coun. of Ministers</u>
	<u>No changes</u>			
1.	Ukraine	V.Nikichenko	A.Kirichenko N.Podgorny	N.Kalchenko
2.	Estonia	I.Karpov	I.Kebin	A.Myurisep
3.	Georgia	A.Inauri	V.Mzhavanadze	G.Dzhavakhishvili
4.	Uzbek	A.Byzov	A.Niyazov N.Mukhitdinov S.Kamalov S.Rashidov	Yu.Yusupov N.Mukhitdinov S.Kamalov M.Mirza-Ahmedov A.Alimov
5.	Armenia	G.Badalyants	S.Tovmasyan	A.Kochinyan
6.	Latvia	J.Veveris	J.Kalnberzin A.Pelshe	V.Latsis J.Peive
	<u>One change</u>			
7/8.	USSR/RSFSR	I.A.Serov A.N.Shelepin	N.S.Khrushchev	G.M.Malenkov N.A.Bulganin N.S.Khrushchev
9.	BeloRussia	A.Perepelytsin I.Vetrov *	N.Avkhimovich K.Mazurov	K.Mazurov N.Avkhimovich T.Y.Kiselev
10.	Lithuania	K.Iyaudis A.Randakevicius *	A.Sniechkus	M.Gedvilas
11.	Kazakhstan	V.Gubin K.Lunev *	S.Shayakhmetov P.Ponomarenko L.Brezhnev I.Yakovlev N.Belyaev I.Razzakov	M.Sumauskas D.Kunaev
12.	Kirghiz	A.Tereshchenko N.G.Yermolov		K. .Dikambaev
	<u>Two changes</u>			
13.	Moldavia	J.Mordovets A.Propenko I.Savchenko *	Z.Serdyuk	G.Rud A.Diorditsa
14.	Azerbaidzhan	A.Guskov F.Kopylov A.Kardashev *	I.Mustafayev V.Avkhundov	T.Kuliev S.Ragimov V.Aukundov M.Iskendrov
15.	Tadzhikistan	D.Vishnevsky P.Zakharov K.Zwigan	B.Gafurov T.Uldzhabayev	D.Rassulov T.Uldzhabayev N.Dudkhodoyev
16.	Turkmen	V.Vaskin S.Bannikov D.Pishchulin *	B.Babayev D.Karayev	D.Ovezov D.Karayev D.Ovezov

\* Appointed since September 1959.