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Weekly Political Intelligence Summary No. 387

FOREIGN OFFICE,
(RESEARCH DEPARTMENT),
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Since August, 1946, this Summary has become a more confidential document than it had previously been, and full weight must be given to the label **SECRET**. The side-lined passages especially must not be divulged to anyone other than the authorized recipients.

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The Next Number of this Summary will appear on the 16th April

EUROPE

GERMANY

No real progress on German affairs was recorded during the third week of the Moscow Conference, although discussions were held on the procedure for drafting a treaty (see under "Moscow Conference"). The Ministers had to wait until the 28th March for the Sub-Committee's report on points of agreement and disagreement, since its members had been unjustifiably led astray by M. Vishinsky into a maze of political verbiage. His most important statement was that the Soviet Government considers four-Power control of the Ruhr to be an essential condition of economic unity. As shown by Mr. Bevin, the week before, this is precisely the reverse of His Majesty's Government's view. The Russian Minister retold the legendary

accusations against para-military formations and the treatment of Displaced Persons in Western Germany. Russian allegations about reparations are equally hard to kill. Mr. Bevin had explained to the Conference on the 21st March how Great Britain had received only £22,990,000 in reparations from all sources and would get no gold, all of which was held in custody for other countries. On the 26th March *Pravda* accused Great Britain and the United States of taking 10,000,000,000 dollars (£2,500,000,000) and virtually planning to keep the gold for themselves; and of withholding from other countries essential information in connection with German patents. *Pravda* as good as called Mr. Bevin a liar to his face by reiterating that German coal was being used as reparation since it was not being

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