

May 5, 1975

Political Report for the Month of April 1975, K.N. Mohta, Charge d'affaires, 'President Kekkonen's Foreign Policy'

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Summary:

President Kekkonen's foreign policy towards the Soviet Union was more active and vigorous, based on Finland's geo-political situation.

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FROM: K.N. Mohta, Charge d'affaires

TO: Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary

President Kekkonen's Foreign Policy

□The President in a television interview drew a clear-cut distinction between his own foreign policy and that of his predecessor, President Paasikivi. In his opinion, the Paasikivi line of pro-Soviet foreign policy was passive and dictated by circumstances, whereas his own policy was more active and vigorous, based on Finland's geo-political situation. For instance, he cited his active interest in the establishment of nuclear-free zones, expansion of trade with USSR, the convention of the CSCE in Helsinki nowhere envisaged in the Fenno-Soviet Treaty of Friendship.