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14 January 1959

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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14 JANUARY 1959

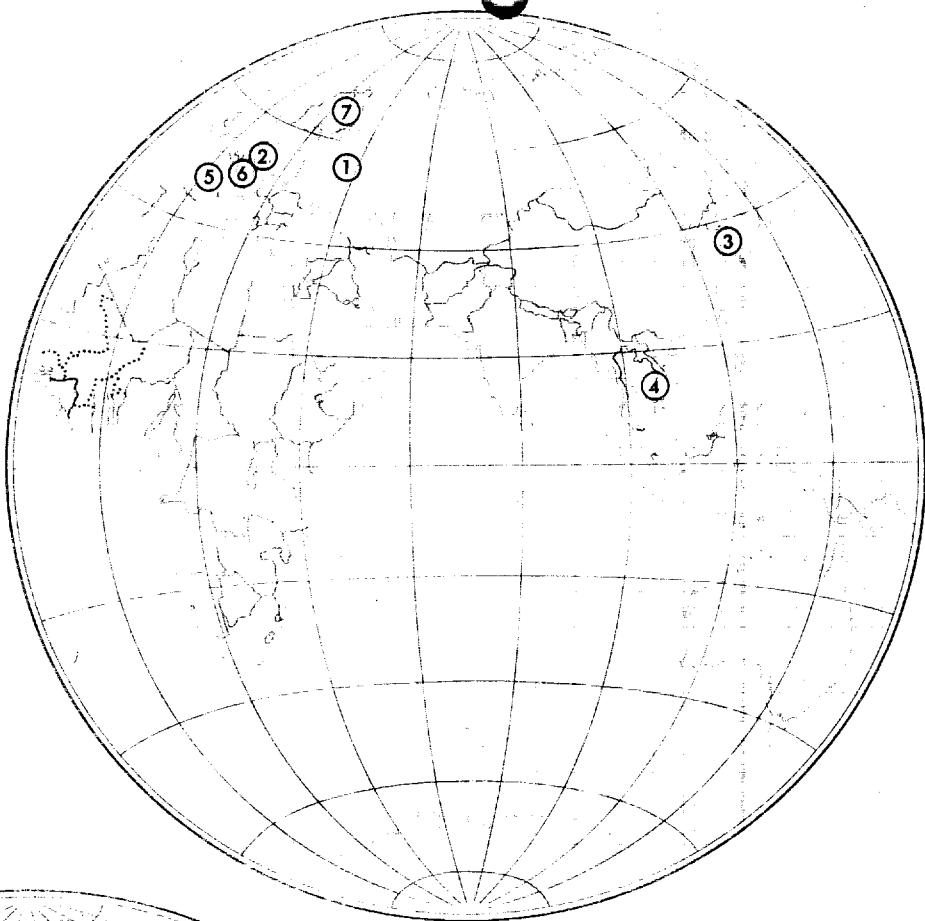
I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Moscow's reporting on Mikoyan visit gives prominence to cordial reception by US public.

(1)

Shortage of doctors becoming more serious in East Germany.

(2)

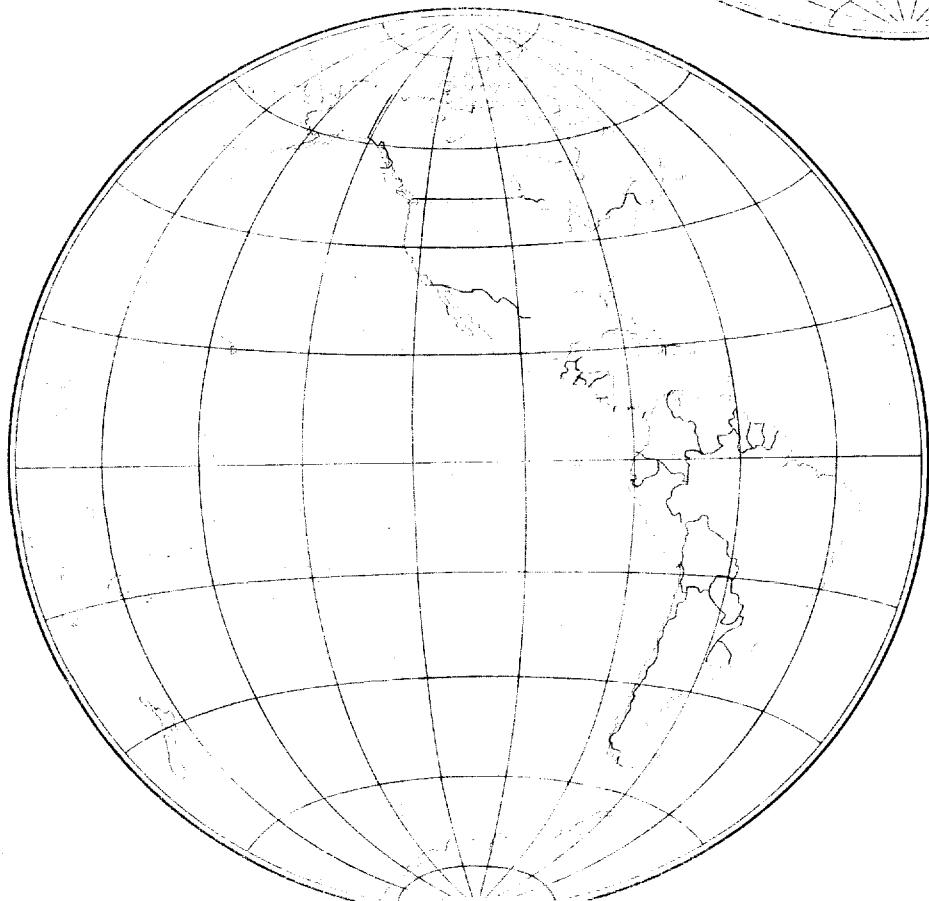
**II. ASIA-AFRICA**

South Korea - Protests against National Security Law may culminate in rioting in major cities.

(3)

Cambodia - French ambassador discusses with Sihanouk reports of plots against him.

(4)

**III. THE WEST**

- (5) De Gaulle seeking "prestige" NATO commands for France.
- (6) Bonn's press chief now in US to assess reaction to Mikoyan visit.
- (7) Finland - Weak minority government formed.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

14 January 1959

DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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Mikoyan visit: Moscow press and radio are giving extensive coverage to the "vacationing" Mikoyan's activities in the US. So far there has been little editorial comment. The demonstrations against the deputy premier have not been reported. Emphasis on the cordiality of the welcome gives the impression that the "American public" favors the visit and sympathizes with the Soviet position on many issues, with the implication that it is the US Government that is responsible for blocking progress toward better US-USSR relations. [] (Page 1)

OK

East Germany: [The shortage of medical doctors is becoming increasingly serious despite efforts to stop their defection. Plans are being considered to bring in physicians from other bloc countries, especially Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.] [] (Page 3)

II. ASIA-AFRICA

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South Korea: The 13 January clash in Seoul between "hundreds" of National Police and opponents of the recently revised National Security Law may presage an outbreak of rioting in the major cities of South Korea. [] Armed police units have

been mobilized to suppress "unlawful" protest rallies apparently being planned by the Democratic party. []

[] (Page 4)

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NO

Cambodia: Our embassy in Paris has been informed by the Foreign Ministry that the French ambassador in Cambodia has discussed with Premier Sihanouk the plotting against him by certain Vietnamese, Thai, and Cambodian elements. Sihanouk's remarks to the French ambassador confirmed previous reports that the Chinese Communist ambassador had already informed the premier of the plotting and had indicated the US was involved. The French ambassador warned Sihanouk to be wary of Chinese allegations.

III. THE WEST

NO

France-NATO: [De Gaulle may propose combining the Western Mediterranean Naval Command and the East Atlantic Command into a single NATO command headed by a French officer. A French admiral now heads the subsidiary Western Mediterranean Command, but the Mediterranean as a whole and the Eastern Atlantic area are commanded by British officers. In addition to seeking "prestige" NATO commands, De Gaulle is probably also attempting to gain NATO support for French retention of naval and other military bases in North and West Africa.] (Page 5)

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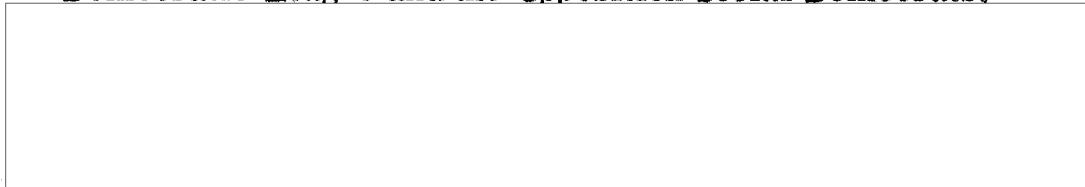
West Germany-Berlin: Bonn press chief von Eckardt, one of Adenauer's closest advisers, particularly on foreign affairs, is in the United States to assess official reaction to the Mikoyan visit. Eckardt will also sound out opinion regarding some form of eventual UN action on Berlin. He fears that world opinion is fed up with recurring Berlin crises and that public pressure will force the West to accept a solution of the German question at the expense of German interests.

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***Finland:** The minority Agrarian government of Prime Minister Sukselainen, formed on 13 January, will have as its principal task the normalization of trade and political relations with the USSR, which have become steadily worse since last fall. Facing a difficult domestic economic situation and commanding only 48 of the 200 seats in the Diet, the government has an uncertain future unless it is willing to depend upon the 63 votes of the Communist-front Finnish People's Democratic League and the Opposition Social Democrats.

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Soviet Propaganda Treatment of Mikoyan's US Visit

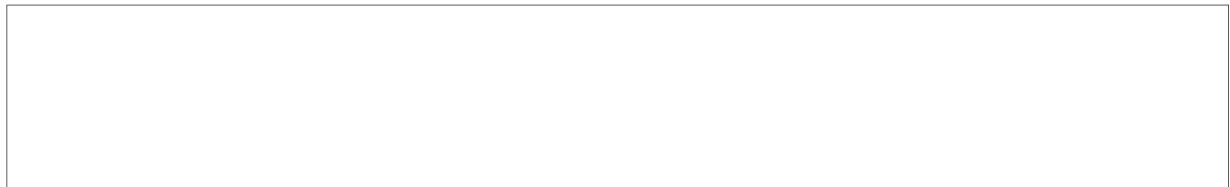
The Soviet propaganda apparatus has given prominent play to detailed daily factual reporting on Soviet Deputy Premier Mikoyan's tour, omitting any mention of the anti-Mikoyan demonstrations. The emphasis has been on the cordiality, candor, and mutual respect of all concerned. With respect to other topics, Moscow's standard attacks on the United States have continued.

The US Embassy in Moscow notes that Soviet accounts portray the American reaction as friendship for the USSR and sympathy with its positions. These reports have included Mikoyan's remarks on such general subjects as the need to end the "cold war," peaceful coexistence, and the improvement of Soviet-American relations. Many of his more pungent comments on specific current problems of international importance, however, have not been quoted, nor have his statements on internal Soviet questions.

Soviet news media, noting that Mikoyan is "on holiday," reported that he has nevertheless talked with American government and business leaders and is expecting to be received at the White House. The subjects of discussion were said to have included the Berlin question and "other international issues," peaceful coexistence, and US-Soviet relations--particularly increased trade, which was presented as a steppingstone to the solution of more complex problems. A public lecturer in Moscow added a new thought--that if Mikoyan is getting such a welcome from top Americans in and out of government when he is only on a private visit, then it is clear how starved Americans are for official contacts with Soviet leaders, how vitally necessary such meetings are, and how right the USSR has been in pursuing a summit conference.

Soviet officials in Moscow have not commented thus far on the visit. [] []

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~~SECRET~~East German Medical Situation Worsens

[The East German Communist party's medical commission, which met on 18 December 1958, was told that the shortage of doctors in East Germany has led to an alarming increase in illnesses and deaths.]

[For example, infant mortality, which had gradually declined between 1945 and 1957, rose during 1958. Since last September the regime has been granting substantial concessions to doctors in an attempt to stem the numerous defections to the West.]

[the medical commission again considered a proposal to bring physicians to East Germany from other bloc countries, a proposition that had been rejected by the party a few months ago because it was feared the regime would be generally blamed for the situation that brought on the need to import foreigners. The party now appears receptive to plans to bring in physicians primarily from Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia, but a suggestion to invite Hungarian doctors was rejected on political grounds. [two central committee functionaries said that only "progressive" doctors would be invited.]

[following the central committee's fourth plenum, to be held 14-16 January, unsatisfactory and inactive medical commission members will be replaced by politically and professionally qualified doctors. Such appointments would be designed to make a good impression on East German doctors and to make the commission more effective in dealing with the doctors.]

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Tension Mounting in South Korea

[redacted] a tight network of police armed with pistols and carbines has been mobilized to crush any "objectionable elements" that attempt to demonstrate or pass out leaflets opposing the recently revised National Security Law. According to a 13 January press report, "hundreds" of police forcibly broke up a protest meeting in Seoul and arrested some 10 opposition Democratic party members, including at least two National Assembly representatives. There are indications that the opposition will attempt to hold additional protest rallies.

There appears to be little prospect that the government and opposition Democratic party will revert to a normal working relationship in the near future. While some leaders on both sides have indicated a desire for moderation, extremists appear to have gained the upper hand for the time being.

(Meanwhile, [redacted] President Rhee [redacted] accuses the State Department of continuing "to meddle in our policies and internal affairs, which we strongly resent." [redacted]

[redacted] lest the United States use the adverse publicity generated by the government's police tactics to reduce aid to South Korea. Rhee's charges of US interference may be his way of replying to US expressions of concern over extreme aspects of the National Security Law.) [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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III. THE WEST

De Gaulle Seeks Greater NATO Command Role

[De Gaulle is [redacted] reported to have stressed to top government and military leaders on 7 January the importance of Algeria and the Sahara to NATO and the "inadequacy" of present NATO naval command arrangements for north-south communications between France and Africa. De Gaulle wants to combine in a new command, under a French officer, the Atlantic lines of communication between France and French Africa--which now are part of the Eastern Atlantic Command under a British admiral--and the present Western Mediterranean Command. A French admiral now is in charge of the Western Mediterranean but is subordinate to the over-all British command of the Mediterranean. The new command would be either independent or directly subordinate to SHAPE.]

[Such a proposal will probably revive the controversial question of a NATO "Iberian Command," covering the general sea area west of Spain and Portugal, which the French requested in 1955 be assigned to a French officer. IBERLANT did not materialize because of political sensitivities concerning its composition and control.]

[In addition to seeking "prestige" NATO commands which he believes France should have because of its international importance, De Gaulle is probably aiming at securing NATO support for French retention of naval and other military bases in North and West Africa. This proposal may also be connected with De Gaulle's reported desire for a NATO land command in North Africa under a French general.] [redacted]

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[REDACTED]

Bonn Official Seeks UN Trusteeship for Berlin

[West German press chief von Eckardt, now visiting United Nations headquarters in New York, claims that Chancellor Adenauer has given him a "free hand" to explore the possibilities of a UN solution for Berlin. He has probably also been authorized by Adenauer to assess American reaction to the Mikoyan visit, since Adenauer reportedly is dissatisfied with embassy interpretations.]

[Eckardt personally favors submitting the Berlin question to the UN in the hope of obtaining a UN trusteeship for the city, probably with Western forces remaining as UN executors. The city's four-power status, which Eckardt reportedly feels is becoming increasingly unrealistic and dangerous, would then be dropped. He feels the UN must take over Berlin as quickly as possible because world opinion, tiring of recurring crises there, inclines to accept a German settlement at the expense of German interests.]

[Foreign Minister Brentano and Foreign Ministry circles are strongly opposed to any UN involvement in Berlin and were not consulted about the trip. Brentano distrusts the neutralist nations in the UN and feels such a move would undermine the legal position of the West.]

[Eckardt is one of Adenauer's closest advisers and in the past has performed similar missions for the chancellor. He is well known at the UN where he was West German observer in 1955 and 1956. Adenauer, who is under constant pressure to show a more flexible policy, may feel that a UN trusteeship could serve Bonn's objective of retaining Western troops while answering Soviet charges that Bonn wanted to maintain an "occupation regime" in Berlin.]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**THE PRESIDENT****The Vice President**

Executive Offices of the White House

Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Office of Defense and Civilian Mobilization

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Special Adviser to the President

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Administration

The Counselor

Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

The Director, The Joint Staff

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of the Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Department of the Interior

The Secretary of the Interior

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

National Security Agency

The Director

National Indications Center

The Director

United States Information Agency

The Director

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