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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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16 DECEMBER 1959

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

USSR renews charges that West German rearmentament jeopardizes possibility that summit talks could achieve detente.

Soviet submarine detachment may again be operating in South Atlantic.

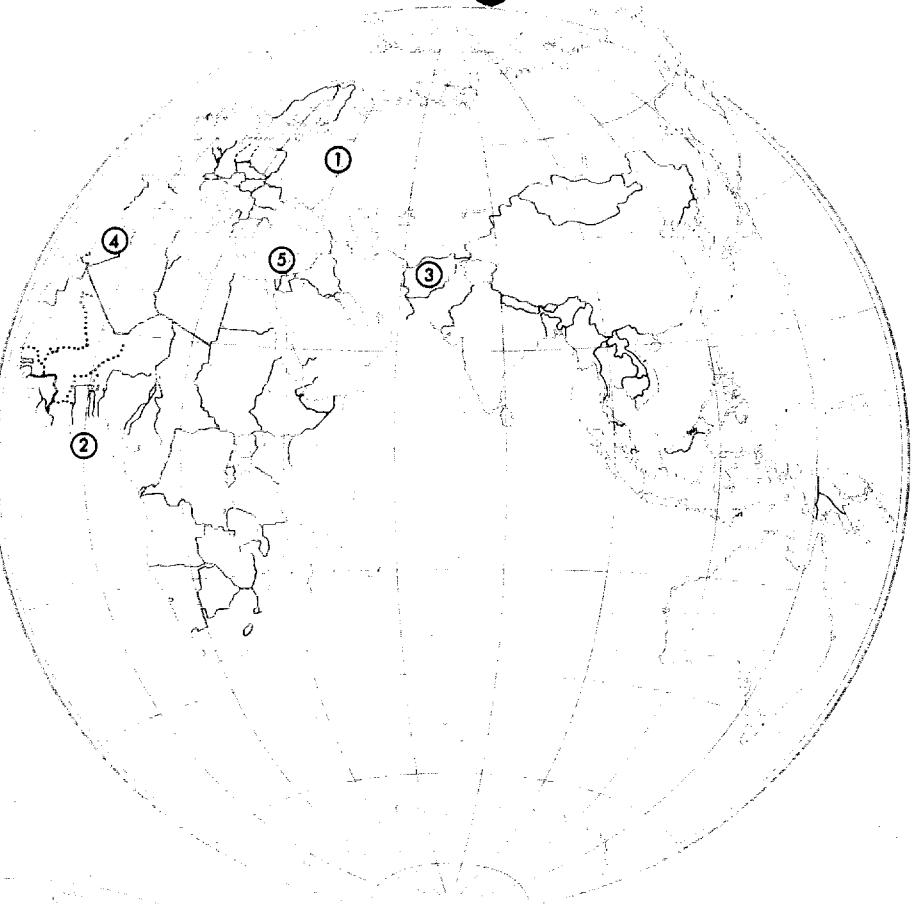
II. ASIA-AFRICA

Soviet technicians to begin survey for improvement of highway into southern Afghanistan.

Morocco--King asks US for patrol ships to combat arms smuggling.

Outcome of Cyprus presidential election indicates probable decisive victory for Makarios followers in legislative vote next month.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

16 December 1959

DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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USSR - West Germany: Moscow's notes of 14 December to Bonn and other members of the Western European Union, protesting a number of recent decisions "to speed up" German rearmament, are further moves in the campaign to discredit Bonn as the major factor obstructing a "peaceful adjustment of postwar problems," which "could be achieved at the coming summit meeting." The timing of the notes, anticipating the NATO ministerial meeting in Paris on 15 December, follows the usual Soviet practice, on the eve of high-level Western meetings, of emphasizing the dangers of continued German rearmament. [Foreign Minister Gromyko delivered mildly worded protests on 11 December against the establishment of NATO supply bases in Denmark and Norway for the possible use of the West German forces; the protest coincided with the Norwegian Parliament's consideration of legislation appropriating funds for the bases.]



No

Soviet Submarine Operations: The Soviet merchant tanker Vilyuyesk, which is in the South Atlantic off the west coast of Africa, may be supporting the operations of several Northern Fleet submarines. This operation probably is similar to the one conducted last year in South Atlantic waters, which is believed to have included scientific observations and communications tests of basic military application. (TOP SECRET DAUNT) (Page 1)

II. ASIA-AFRICA

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Afghanistan-USSR: A party of Soviet technicians will shortly begin a survey for improvement and surfacing of the 470-mile road from the Soviet border through Western Afghanistan to Kandahar under the Soviet-Afghan agreement announced in May 1959. This will bring substantial numbers of Soviet technicians

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into southern Afghanistan for the first time, and will probably cause concern to Pakistani President Ayub, who has already denounced the road as more strategic than economic. Negotiations are continuing on two large dam projects announced in early 1956, to be financed under the original \$100,000,000 Soviet loan. [redacted] (Page 2) (Map)

No
Morocco: King Mohamed V on 12 December asked the United States to supply Morocco with several Coast Guard craft to combat arms smuggling along Morocco's Mediterranean coast. Morocco would require at least two American officers per craft as instructors. Anti-smuggling operations probably would be aimed more against arms destined for possible Moroccan dissidents than against those consigned to the Algerian rebels. The King's request apparently is a follow-up to the Moroccan midsummer request for American military equipment, and probably is unrelated to the crown prince's recent desire for a secret consignment of small arms to be distributed to "pure and uncontaminated" Moroccan elements.)

No
Cyprus: Election of Archbishop Makarios as first president of Cyprus by a two-to-one margin indicates that his followers will probably win a decisive victory in the 10 January elections to the unicameral Cypriot legislature. The Cypriot Communists, who apparently supplied most of the votes for Makarios' opponent, are expected to become the major opposition party. The size of the opposition vote deprives Makarios of his former stature as unchallenged leader of all Greeks on the island.

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DAILY BRIEF

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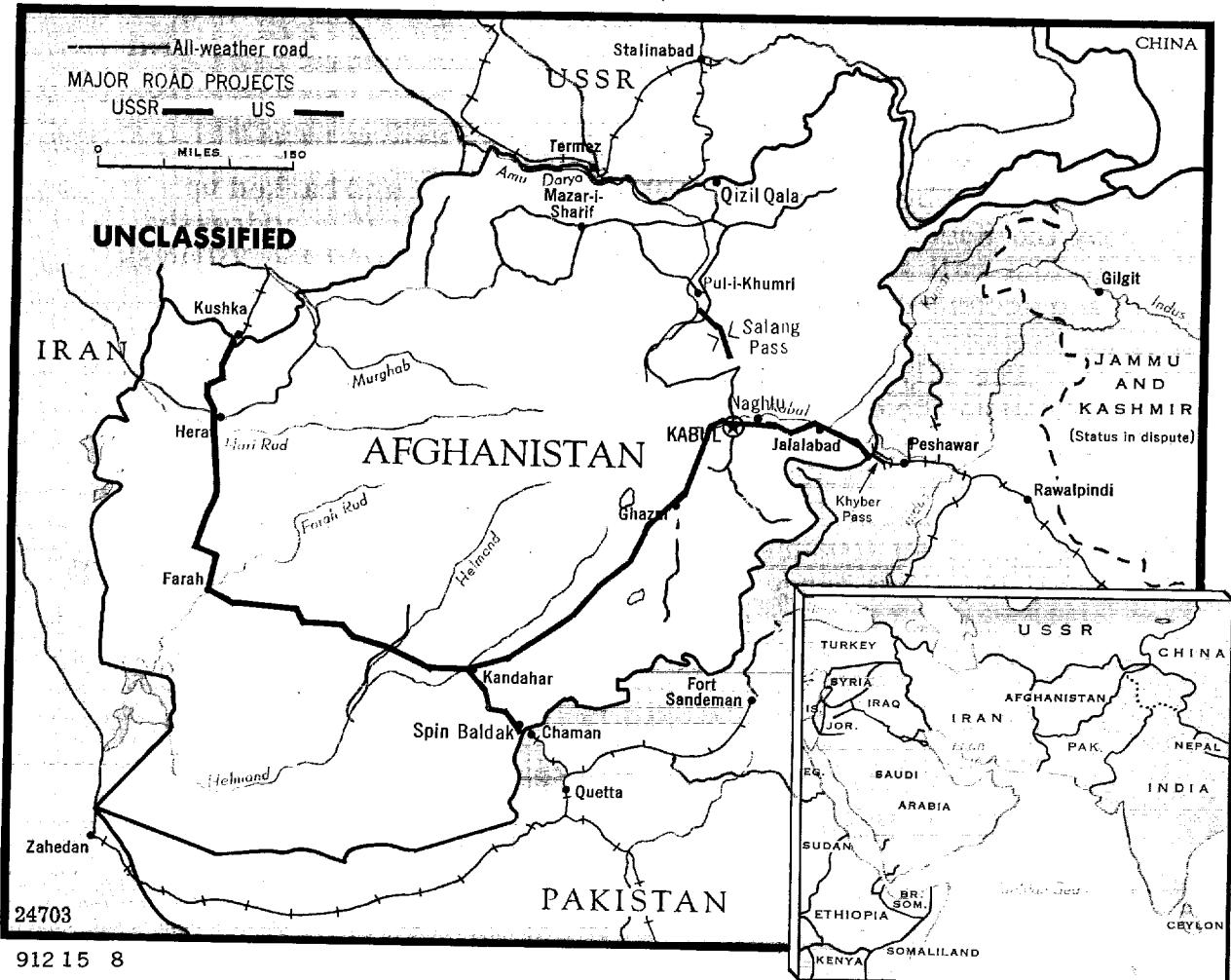
I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Soviet Submarines and Tanker in South Atlantic

The Soviet merchant tanker Vilyuysk, which called at two Ghanaian ports on 10-12 December, now is off the west coast of Africa, probably supporting the operations of several Northern Fleet submarines.

The Vilyuysk left the Northern Fleet area for this voyage about the end of October. This tanker participated in an extended cruise of one or more Northern Fleet submarines into the South Atlantic as far as the tip of South America between November 1958 and March 1959. That operation probably involved concurrent tests of communications and a low-frequency long-range navigation system.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

USSR to Survey Road in Southern Afghanistan

A party of Soviet technicians will shortly begin a survey for improvement and surfacing of the 470-mile road from Kushka, on the Soviet border, through western Afghanistan to Kandahar under the Soviet-Afghan agreement announced in May 1959, according to a TASS report. This will bring substantial numbers of Soviet technicians into southern Afghanistan for the first time. Heretofore the major foreign economic assistance activity in the area has been carried on by the United States, notably in the Helmand Valley irrigation project and on the Kandahar International Airport.

The presence of Soviet technicians so close to the Pakistani border will probably cause concern to Pakistani President Ayub, who has already denounced the road as more strategic than economic. [Additional Soviet technicians may be brought into southern Afghanistan close to the Iranian border if Afghan Prime Minister Daud decides to seek Soviet assistance to build a proposed dam near the Helmand delta area.]

The USSR is apparently moving to implement the Kushka-Kandahar road agreement promptly. Some construction work has apparently been under way since last summer on the northern portion between the Soviet border and Herat. The USSR's rapid start on another road, which will eventually go through the Salang Pass north of Kabul, has added to its reputation for prompt implementation of agreed projects in Afghanistan. Some Soviet projects financed under the Soviet \$100,000,000 loan of 1956 have yet to get beyond the survey stage, however, usually because of Afghan reluctance to accept Soviet cost figures for the construction work. Negotiations apparently are continuing for a large irrigation dam project at Jalalabad and a hydroelectric project at Naghlu, both of which were originally established as agreed projects in early 1956.

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