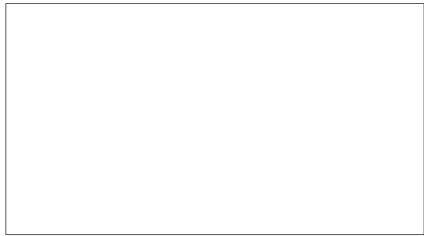


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13 September 1958

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
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13 SEPTEMBER 1958

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Taiwan Strait - Interdictory fire against Kinmen highly successful.

USSR - Indications mounting that Soviet Union will resume nuclear tests before 31 October.

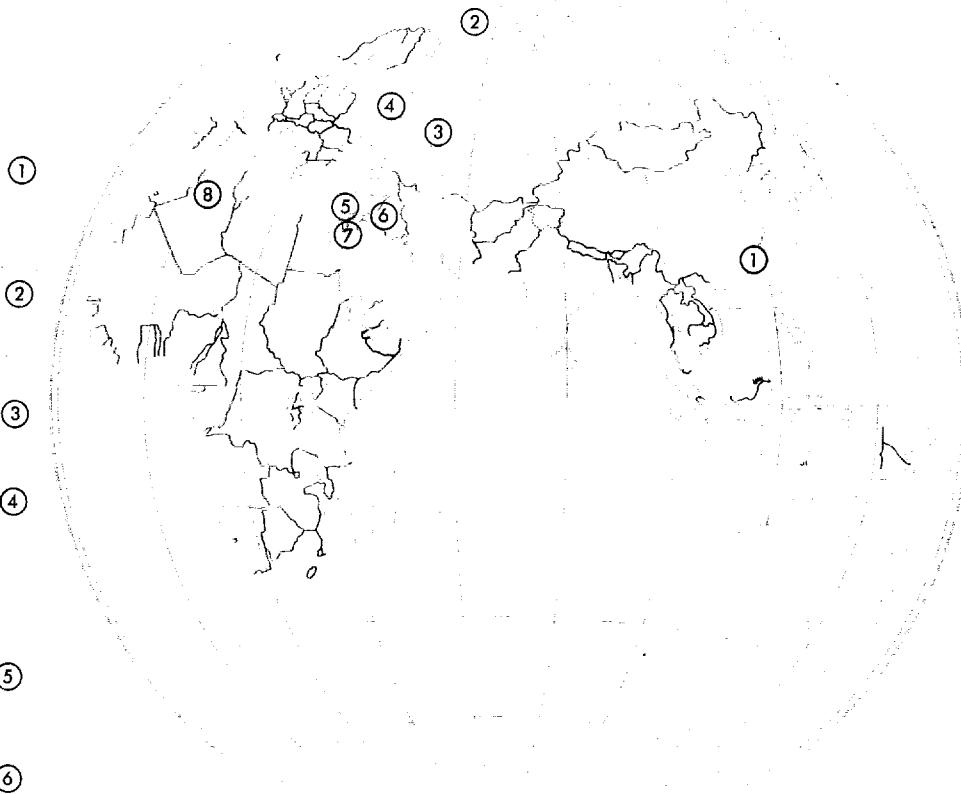
Preliminary information indicates unusual guided missile firing demonstration at Kapustin Yar on 8 September.

Khrushchev may have interrupted his vacation again to return to Moscow.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Lebanon - Shihab seeking Nasir's support; Nasir apparently insuring against Shihab's failure to satisfy opposition.

Iraq - Pro-Egyptian Vice Premier Arif relieved as deputy commander of armed forces.



⑦ Jordan - Opposition groups reportedly planning to attack UK troops and government leaders.

⑧ Algeria - FLN steps-up terrorism.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

13 September 1958

DAILY BRIEF

SRAB

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Taiwan Strait situation: Communist interdiction of Kinmen has prevented resupply; the garrison's position could become critical in less than a month if it is not resupplied. [] (Page 1) (Map)

No
USSR: The Ministry of Defense announcement of 11 September that the Northern Fleet would conduct exercises in the Barents and Kara Seas in September and October with the "actual use of various types of modern weapons," strengthens earlier indications that the USSR will resume nuclear tests prior to the start of Geneva talks on test suspension on 31 October. [] (Page 3) (Map)

No
USSR: Preliminary information indicates that a large guided missile demonstration, possibly involving firings to the 75, 150, 300, 450, 650, and 1,000 nautical mile impact areas, was conducted on the Kapustin Yar missile test range on 8 September. All firings with the exception of the 1,000-nautical-mile firing apparently were run in a very close time sequence with concurrent countdowns. This activity was observed by many political and military officials, possibly including Khrushchev. []

No
*USSR-Khrushchev: After making a speech at Stalingrad on 11 September, Khrushchev may have proceeded on short notice to Moscow. The Soviet Foreign Ministry had

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announced on the same day that he would resume his vacation in the Crimea. His aircraft was apparently scheduled to fly to the Crimea on the 12th; instead, it flew to Moscow under circumstances suggesting a sudden change of schedule.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

HQ
Lebanon: General Shihab sent an emissary to Cairo on 9 September seeking Nasir's support for a cabinet headed by a rebel leader. Shihab assured Nasir he would ask for the withdrawal of American troops as soon as he assumes the presidency. The UAR has resumed arms deliveries to the rebels, against the eventuality of renewed fighting after the troop withdrawal. Syria may be planning to send paramilitary terrorists to Lebanon as soon as Shihab assumes office to harass US troops and "hasten" their departure. (Page 4)

OK
Iraq: The relief of pro-Egyptian Vice Premier Arif as deputy commander of the Iraqi armed forces appears to be the first move in the struggle for power between the pro-Arif and pro-Prime Minister Qasim factions in the ruling clique. Arif was planning a coup in the near future against Qasim. (Page 6)

NO
Jordan: opposition groups are planning to attack UK troops inside the country, as well as Jordanian Government leaders. (Page 7)

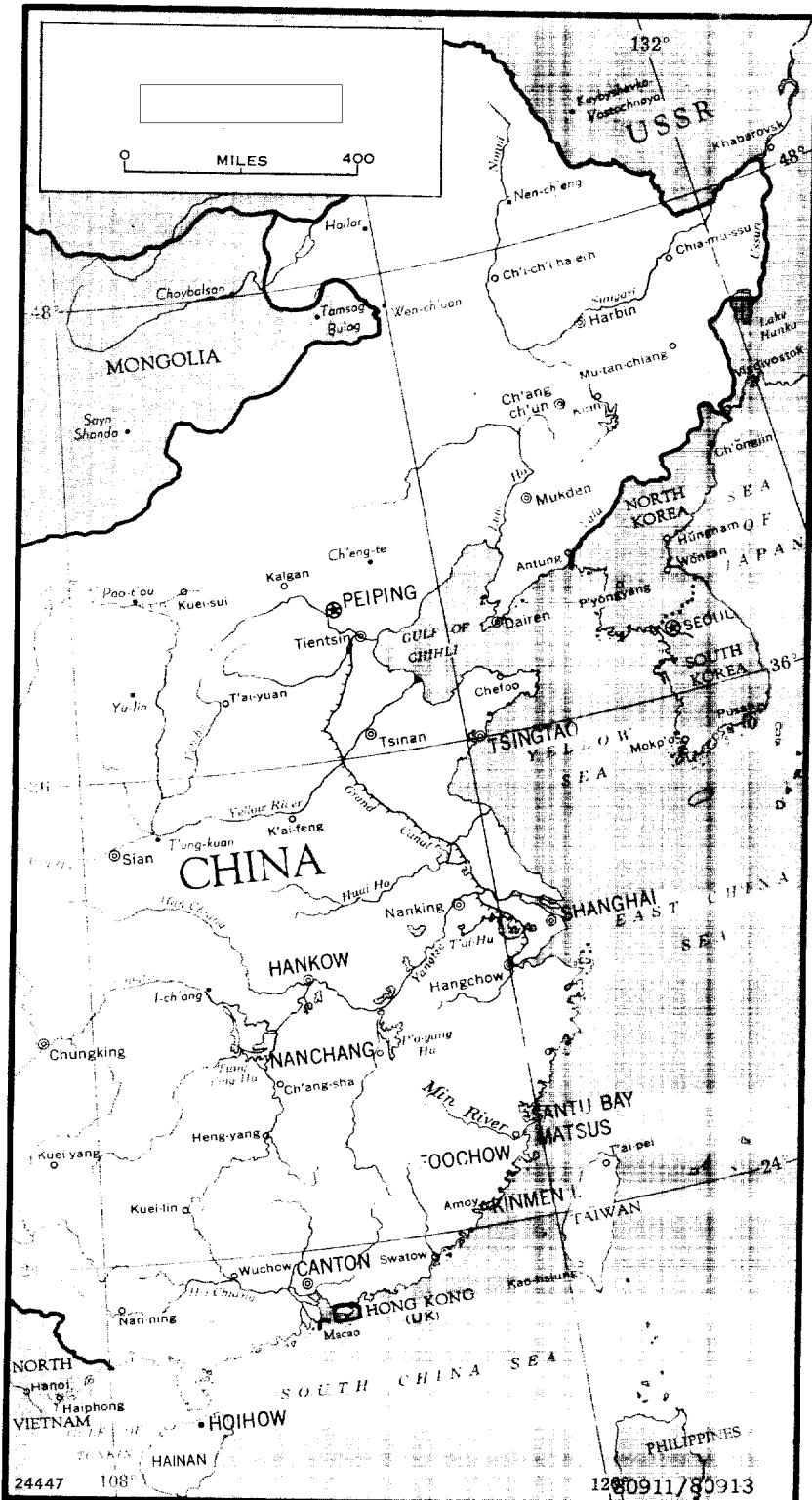
HQ
Algeria: The FLN's call for a boycott of France's constitutional referendum, scheduled for 26-28 September, has been reinforced by a step-up in rebel terrorism. (Page 8)

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Rebel fighters inside Algeria have been instructed to undertake an all-out campaign of terrorism and sabotage on the eve of the voting aimed primarily at "all lines of communication." (Page 9)

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Taiwan Strait Situation

Ambassador Drumright believes that if the problem posed by Communist artillery interdiction is not solved within the next two weeks the Nationalists may become so desperate they will initiate unilateral retaliatory action in an attempt to relieve the Kinmen garrison. Nationalist supplies landed on Kinmen since 23 August total only about 100 tons. Estimated daily consumption of supplies of all categories is about 700 tons.

President Eisenhower's speech was well received in Taipei and Ambassador Drumright feels it will go far to allay the worry and apprehension about American intentions. As of 10 September, thought was reportedly being given in certain Kuomintang circles to rallies or demonstrations between 12-15 September against American - Chinese Communist negotiations.

The civil air authorities in the central China city of Chenghsien complained to Peiping [redacted] that they had only two to three days' supply of aviation gasoline. They informed Peiping that the military air force at Chenghsien was also short of gasoline and could not lend any since it was proceeding with "war preparations."

The civil air fleet has often borrowed gasoline from the military. Aircraft now involved in tactical activity in the strait area are jet-powered and have no need for aviation gasoline. Nevertheless, there is an implication in the message that Communist air units outside of the strait operations area are on an alert status. The 23rd Air Division, equipped with TU-2 piston-engine light bombers, is based at Chenghsien. The 25th Air Division, also equipped with TU-2's, earlier deployed to the Nanchang area, placing it within combat range of the strait, but there has been no specific indication that the 23rd Air Division is preparing to deploy forward.

The Chinese Communists are continuing their propaganda effort to establish justification for any shelling of US warships which might venture within Communist artillery range in the Kinmen area. In condemning the latest convoy operation, a People's Daily editorial on 12 September

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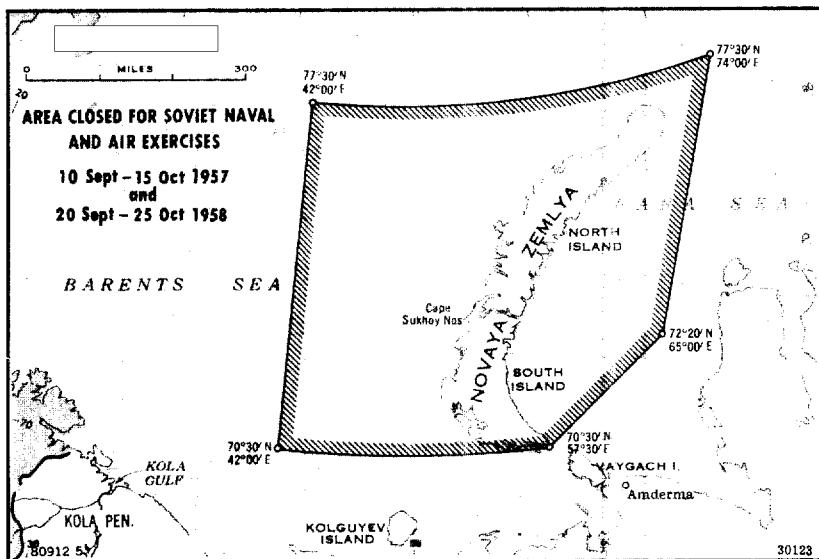
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declared that Peiping cannot look on American logistic support of Nationalist forces "without taking action." The editorial warns that "artillery fire is not a merciful thing" and that the United States must not blame Communist China for not having issued warnings.

Communist China's ambassador to Poland and negotiator in the forthcoming Sino-American talks, Wang Ping-nan, professed optimism on his return to Warsaw from Peiping consultations on 12 September. Wang stated he was anxious to reach a peaceful solution to the Taiwan problem, declared that the Chinese people "love peace," and repeated Mao Tse-tung's recent statement that the talks will produce some result if both sides show good will. [redacted]

A convoy carrying supplies to Kinmen on 12 September withdrew in the face of Chinese Communist firing after five LVT's were unloaded, according to preliminary reports.
[redacted]

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Soviet Air-Sea Exercises to Include Use of "Modern Weapons"

The Soviet Ministry of Defense announced on 11 September that ships and aircraft of the Northern Fleet would conduct exercises in the Barents and Kara Seas in September and October with the "actual use of various types of modern weapons." This announcement, together with aircraft movements and Soviet naval communications on 10 September, strengthens earlier indications that the USSR will resume nuclear tests prior to the start of Geneva talks on test suspension on 31 October.

A large area surrounding Novaya Zemlya was declared closed to all Soviet and foreign ships and aircraft from 20 September to 25 October. A similar announcement was made in September 1957, closing the identical area, and a series of four nuclear tests were conducted. Two of those tests appeared to be in conjunction with tactical exercises and two were developmental tests of new thermonuclear weapons or devices.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Lebanese Situation

President-elect General Shihab sent a member of the opposition to Cairo on 9 September seeking Nasir's support for the appointment of either rebel leader Rashid Karame or pro-Nasir opposition leader Husayn Uwayni as Lebanon's next prime minister.

Shihab assured Nasir he would ask for the withdrawal of American troops immediately after assuming the presidency on 24 September. This assurance is in line with what Shihab has told UN Secretary General Hammarskjold and the American ambassador. An indication of Shihab's susceptibility to UAR pressure was his response to Ambassador McClintock that "Lebanon must live with the UAR" when it was pointed out that the Arab League's blocking of Lebanese Foreign Minister Malik's candidacy for the presidency of the UN General Assembly was a victory for Nasir. The mission to "clear" the membership of the proposed Lebanese cabinet with Nasir seems to be the logical result of this attitude.

Shihab also informed Nasir he intends to collect the weapons of the opposition as soon as he takes office. The UAR, however, has resumed the shipment of arms into Lebanon, to be cached safely for distribution to the rebels in the event fighting is renewed following Shihab's inauguration.

Pro-Chamoun supporters also expect the renewal of the recent struggle and are securing arms from a number of sources as insurance against the future. Should fighting break out after Shihab's assumption of the presidency, it is likely that the struggle will turn into sectarian warfare between Christians and Moslems.

Syria is planning to send paramilitary personnel into Lebanon as soon as Shihab assumes office in order to harass American troops and "hasten" their departure.

money has been sent to the rebels in Sidon and

indicate that a rebel headquarters located in the Biqa Valley, under the command of former Syrian Chief of Staff Shawqat Shuqayr, is reporting directly to UAR military personnel in Syria.

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Iraqi Struggle for Power Breaks Into Open

The removal of pro-Nasir Vice Premier Arif from his post as deputy commander of the Iraqi armed forces appears to be the first overt move in the power struggle between pro-Arif and pro-Qasim factions in the ruling clique. Arif, who still retains his posts as deputy premier and minister of interior, presumably has been effectively cut off from the direct chain of command in the army.

[redacted] Arif was planning a coup against Prime Minister Qasim, who may have learned of Arif's plans and moved first.

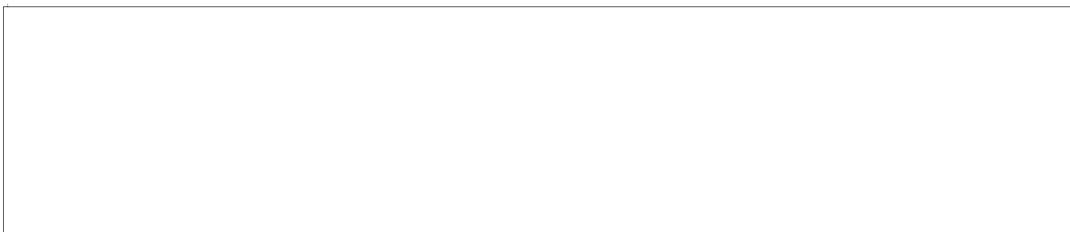
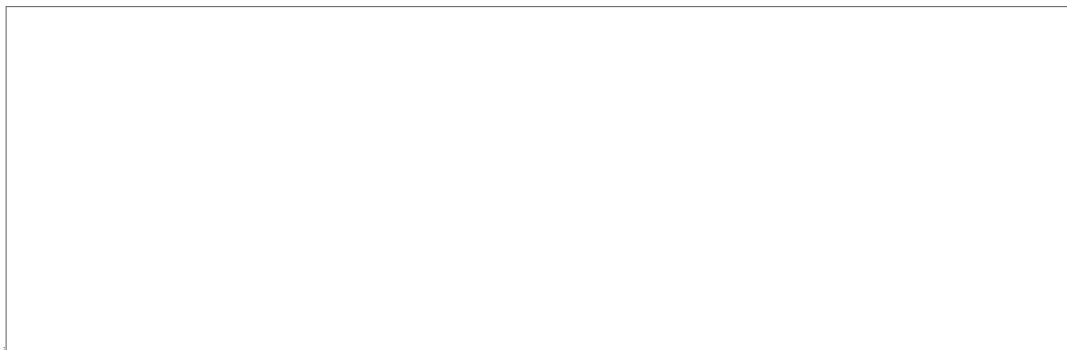
Nasir has indicated his support of Arif and will probably be alarmed that he is apparently losing ground. He may contend that the removal of Arif, whom he claims to be the only Iraqi capable of combating Communist influence, is a victory for the pro-Soviet and anti-UAR faction. This claim could serve Nasir as an excuse for active interference in Iraqi affairs.

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Developments in Jordan

[redacted] Jordanian opposition groups are planning to attack, with Communist support, British military personnel in public places in Amman. Assassination of Crown Prince Muhammad and presumably other key Jordanian officials is also reportedly planned. [redacted]
[redacted]



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Algerian Rebels Stepping Up Drive for Moslem Boycott Of French Referendum

The Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN) is stepping up its efforts to dissuade Algerian Moslems from participating in the French constitutional referendum. Voting in Algeria will be spread over 26, 27, and 28 September to enable security forces to provide protection to a maximum number of Moslems.

The American consul general in Algiers reported on 11 September that, despite an attempt by the local press to play down rebel activities, the upward trend of rebel-initiated terrorism noted in recent weeks was continuing. A significant proportion of these attacks take the form of assassinations and kidnapings, especially of persons who have overtly cooperated with the French. At the same time, attacks on communications have also increased.

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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

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