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8 April 1961

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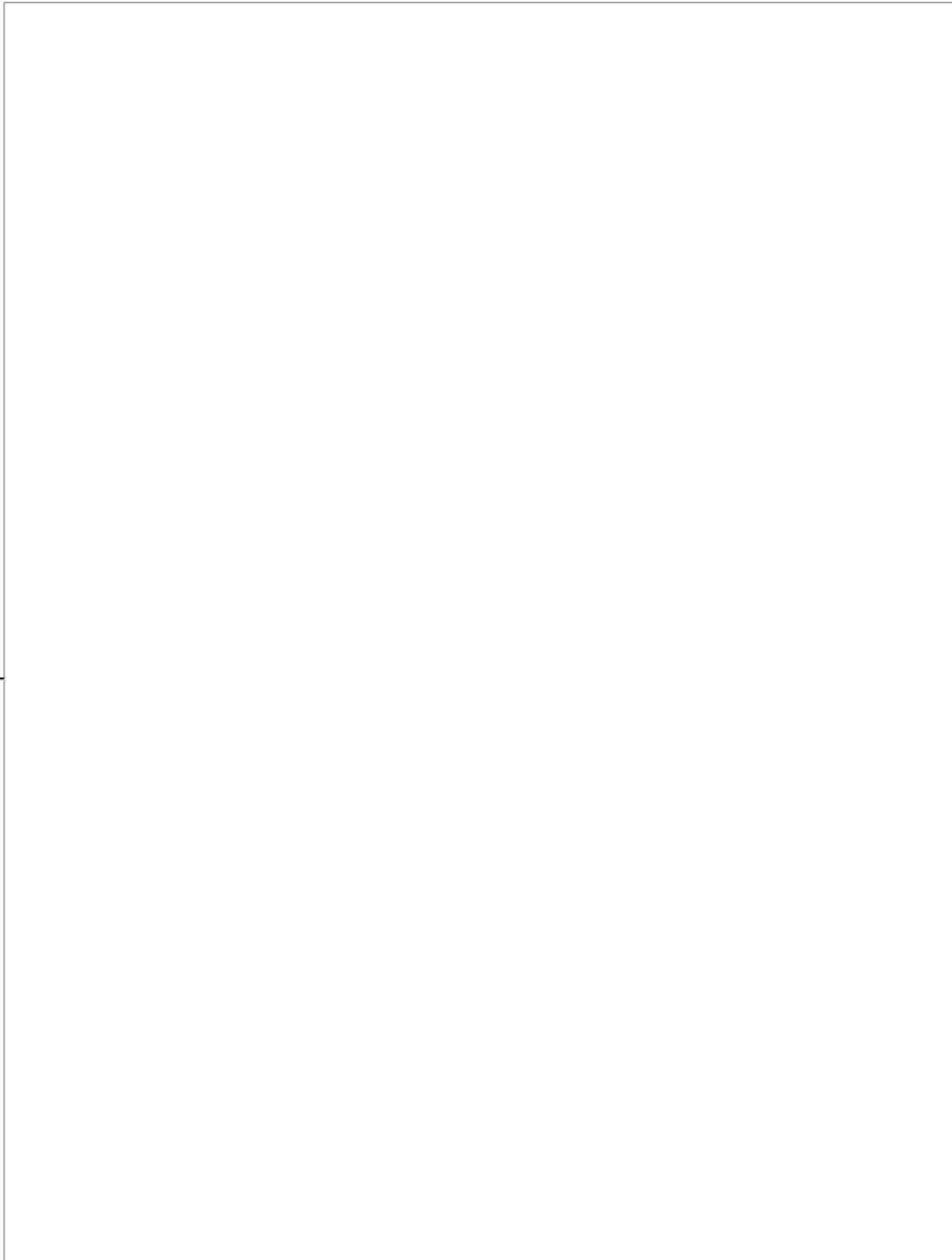
INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

8 April 1961

DAILY BRIEF

Jurah

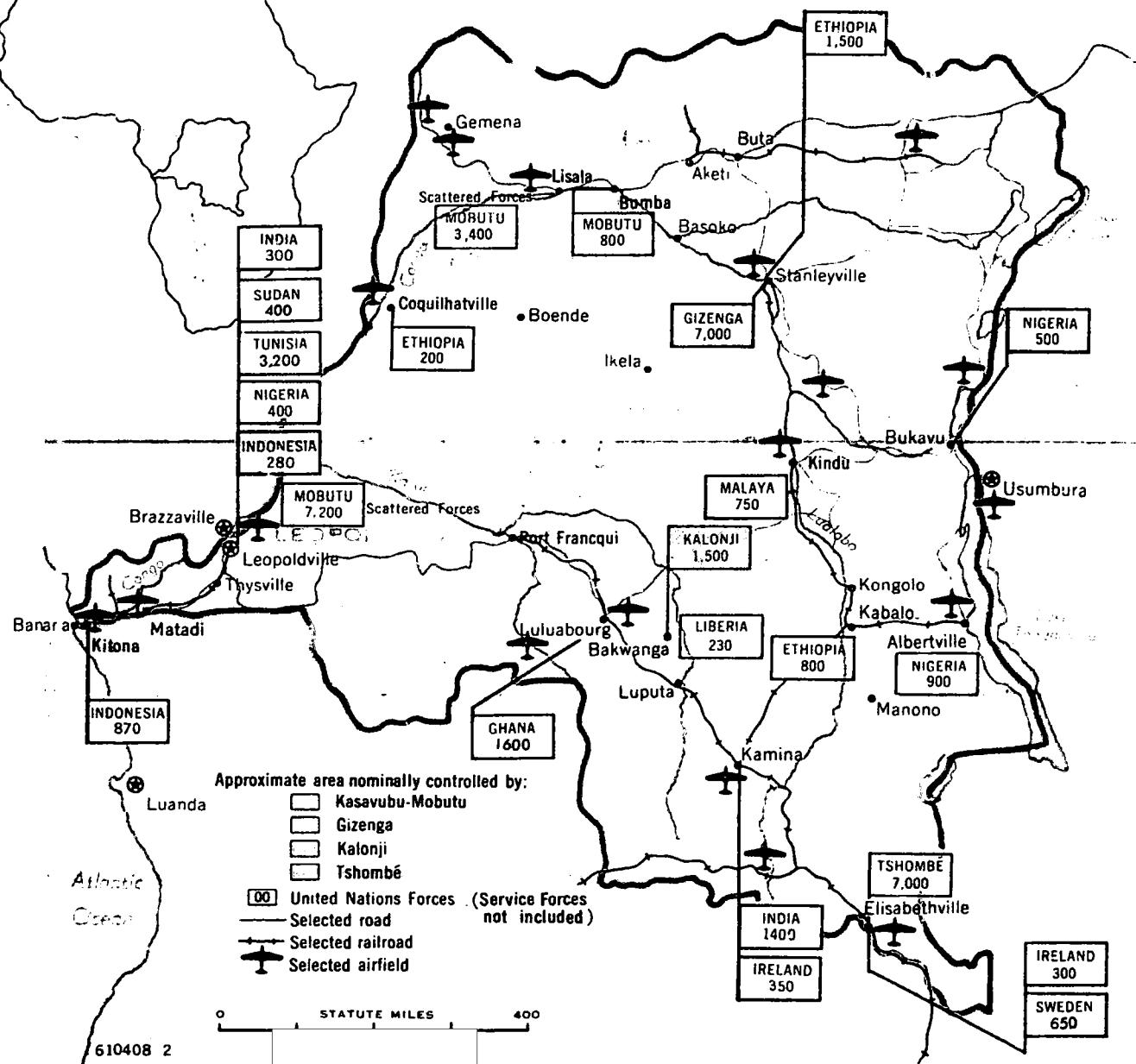
*Laos: Elements of the two airborne battalions north of Muong Kassy are reported to have reached the town's outskirts and to be planning an attack. To the south of Muong Kassy, enemy artillery and automatic weapons fire has halted one column of government groups moving toward the town, while another apparently is making some progress.

(Backup, Page 1) (Map)

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Republic of the Congo



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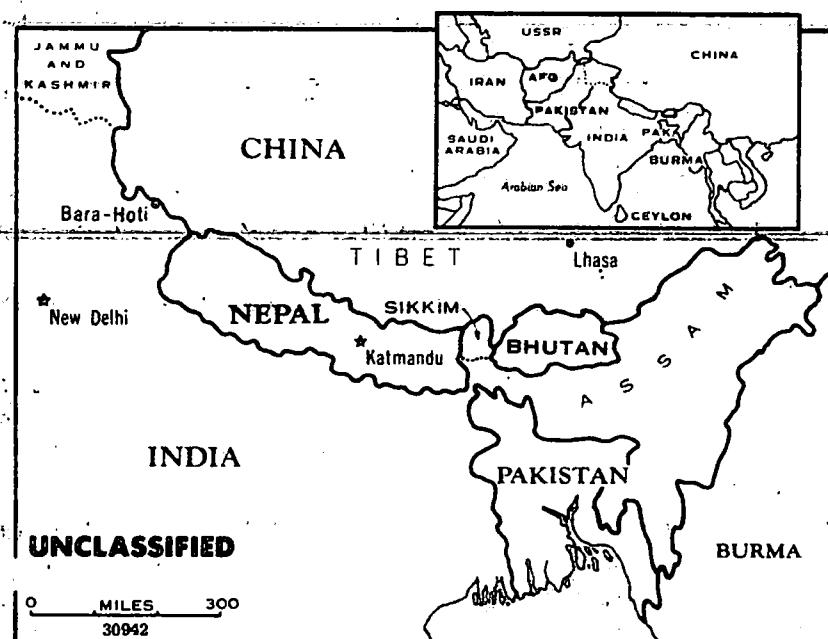
Map Page

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*Congo: Leopoldville Economic Affairs Minister Deri-coyard announced on 7 April that the river blockade of Orientale Province has been lifted. He stated [redacted] that the Ileo government was willing to permit all supplies except aviation fuel to be shipped to Stanleyville. The first upriver shipment probably will leave Leopoldville early next week. The blockade, in addition to producing virtual economic collapse in Orientale and Kivu, had weakened the Leopoldville government financially through the loss of export duties on cotton and other agricultural products. Its removal is a further sign of the growing rapprochement between Leopoldville and Stanleyville. Resumption of river shipments to Orientale will also weaken the position of bloc Red Cross groups which are seeking to send relief supplies to Gizenga through the Sudan. The bloc and some African states may now attempt to [redacted] (Map) *No*

[redacted]
West Germany: Defense Minister Strauss [redacted] fears that the United States wants to reduce its European commitments and seek some kind of understanding with the USSR on nuclear disarmament. Possibly exaggerating his position on the assumption that his views would be communicated to American officials, Strauss said he had always felt that an American "retreat from Europe" would occur "not too far in the future" and that he is concerned NATO will be left without any nuclear capability to maintain its own security. Strauss said West Germany would feel particularly threatened if the United States negotiated with the USSR over regional disarmament or a reduced armaments zone. He plans to urge Adenauer to make a strong case in Washington that NATO could break apart over the nuclear disarmament question. While Adenauer's views are probably more moderate than those of Strauss, the chancellor told General Norstad on 26 March he intends to discuss with the President the need for NATO to have a voice in the use of nuclear weapons for the defense of Europe. [redacted] *No*
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SINO-INDIAN BORDER AREA

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Communist China - USSR: Firsthand information recently made available provides evidence of the tense state of Sino-Soviet relations at the time the Chinese were negotiating the shipment of Canadian grain early this year. In response to repeated Chinese requests for earlier shipments of wheat, the Canadian representatives explained that the USSR had suddenly decided to take up its option to buy 200,000 tons of Canadian wheat soon after the news broke that the Chinese were discussing purchases of Canadian grain. When the Canadians suggested that China might ask the USSR to delay taking up the option, the reaction of the Chinese was "icy," leaving little doubt that such a request was unthinkable.

No.

India - Communist China: New Delhi plans to return troops to a number of its important outposts on the Sino-Indian border early this spring before Chinese forces move forward from their winter quarters.

Indian troops are already reported moving toward the border area northwest of Nepal to occupy Bara Hoti by force if necessary. This remote upland pasture, inaccessible in winter, is in an area which is claimed by India but which has been occupied alternately since 1954 by Chinese and Indian troops. The Indian Government, frustrated in discussions with the Chinese to resolve the border problem, is apparently more than ever determined to secure its position along the border even at the risk of possible small-scale clashes with the Chinese.

OK

Africa: First reports on the All-African People's Conference in Cairo indicated that one of the resolutions issued by the conference had denounced the Peace Corps. This report was based on advance releases made available to our embassy and the press in Cairo. Final texts of the resolutions as actually passed by the conference make no mention of the Peace Corps. It is apparent that more moderate elements at the conference disapproved of the extremism in the first draft of the resolutions.

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[redacted] all units not to be fooled by "Phoumi propaganda about a cease-fire, as this is probably a trick to give him time to strengthen his forces during negotiations."

[redacted] Phoumi's forces are "demoralized and useless," and orders all front-line units to continue attacks on government troops in their respective areas.

[redacted] fighting in progress about 10 miles northwest of Ban Ta Viang, where recently reinforced Kong Le - Pathet Lao forces are trying to reduce a stubborn pocket of mixed Lao and Meo troops.

[redacted] In discussing Laos with the UK ambassador on 6 April, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Pushkin raised the problem of Laotian representation at an international conference. However, [redacted] expressed the belief that the USSR was merely trying to maintain its position of support for Souvanna Phouma rather than attempting to sabotage the prospect of a conference with new demands regarding the Lao representation.

[redacted] Pushkin did not raise the question of a cessation of arms supplies into Laos and, while expressing some doubt as to the suitability of Phnom Penh as a site for the conference, alluded to Prince Sihanouk's sensitivity on this matter.

In a press commentary on 7 April Peiping took pains to depict Laotian developments as a demonstration of US weakness, with the US pictured as having been forced by military defeats to agree to a Laotian settlement. Commenting on US reluctance to have an international conference convene in Phnom Penh, Peiping quotes a Cambodian broadcast stating that "the time in which the fate of Asian peoples was determined in the capitals of Western powers has gone."

A 7 April broadcast by the Xieng Khouang "government," summarized by Peiping radio, contained further reflections of aversion to a cease-fire before the convening of an international conference. The broadcast insisted that only an

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international conference would provide a "reliable foundation" for a cease-fire. In addition, the broadcast suggested that the US immediately halt military aid to Phoumi.

Soviet airlift flights into Laos continue without change. One Soviet IL-14 is en route to Hanoi from the USSR, possibly to replace the IL-14 shot down by Meo tribesmen on 17 February. After leaving Moscow on 5 April it landed at Kazan, where a large aircraft engine plant is located, before continuing on to Irkutsk. It may have picked up a cargo of replacement parts for the planes involved in airlift operations.

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~~SECRET~~Strauss Stresses European Need for Nuclear Weapons

[Strauss' statements repeat in stronger terms remarks made to American officials in Bonn on 6 March in which he stated "again and again" that all West Germany must be covered by a nuclear deterrent. Strauss has repeatedly insisted that West German armed forces should possess weapons comparable to those of the USSR.]

[Strauss had welcomed the Eisenhower proposals last December to make NATO a fourth atomic power by providing American nuclear and retaliatory weapons in substantial quantities to the European powers. This, he felt, "would enable the Europeans to have and to use their own deterrents and to make threats with them." This ability would reduce Europe's dependence on American retaliatory power--which Strauss fears is not likely to be used except in a conflict directly involving the continental United States.]

[Strauss asserted that he believed the new American administration was not interested in giving the Europeans their own separate deterrent but wanted to have "the last word" regarding the scope of any conflict. Strauss warned that failure to recognize European security requirements could lead "the Europeans" to take the same course taken by France --building up their own nuclear potential outside of NATO.]

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