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17 September 1960

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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TOP SECRET  
17 SEPTEMBER 1960**I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC**

Two recent launchings of 350-mile Soviet air-surface missile suggests this missile now in operational training status.

①

USSR seeking to modify usual UN procedures to ensure that Khrushchev will get fullest opportunity to debate disarmament issue.

②

**II. ASIA-AFRICA**

Jordanian and UAR forces along Syrian border in high state of readiness; UAR apparently believes Jordanian "operation" against Syria imminent.

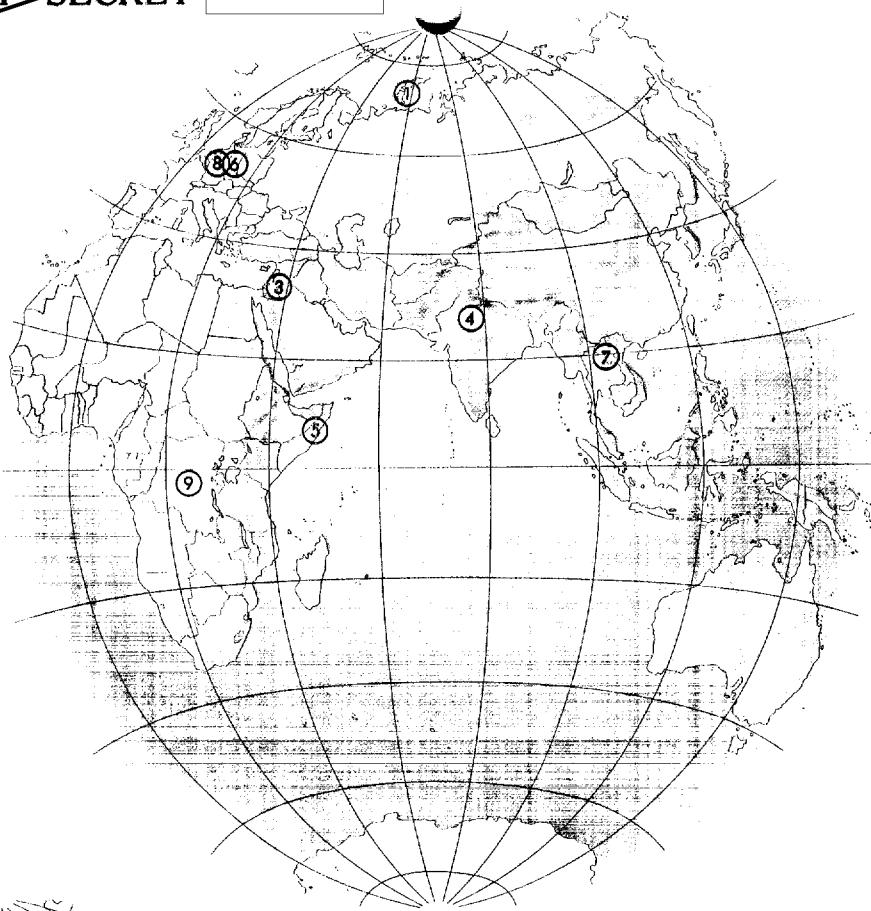
③

Indian cabinet approves proposal to purchase Soviet helicopters and cargo aircraft for use in development of Himalayan border region.

④

Somali Republic agrees to diplomatic relations with USSR and four European satellites.

⑤

**III. THE WEST**

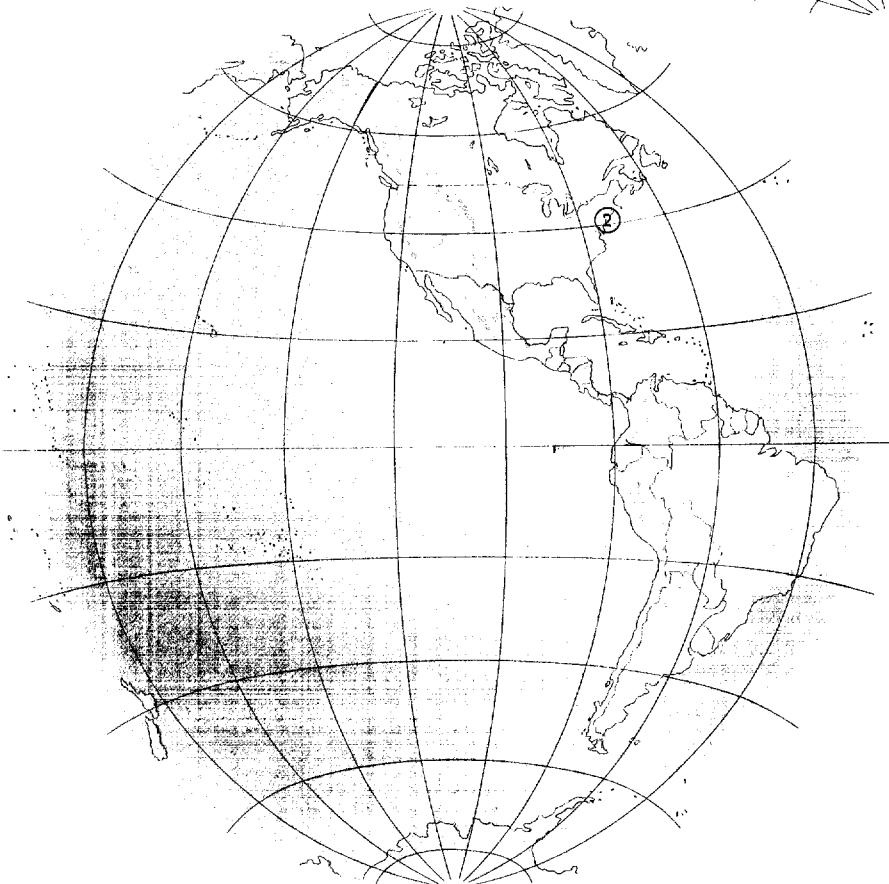
⑥ UK and France indicate reservation regarding imposition of economic countermeasures in reaction to recent Communist moves in Berlin.

**LATE ITEMS**

⑦ Situation in Laos.

⑧ Soviet jet fighter has "near miss" with Western airliner in Berlin air corridor.

⑨ Situation in the Congo.



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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

17 September 1960

## DAILY BRIEF

*SIRAB*

## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

USSR: Two recent launchings of what appears to have been a supersonic air-to-surface missile by Soviet Long Range Air Force Bear (TU-95) aircraft off the coast of Novaya Zemlya suggest that the Cherub 350-n. m. missile is in operational training status. This is the first evidence that an operational unit has employed air-to-surface missiles anywhere in the USSR except at known missile test ranges and only the second indication that the aircraft launching the Cherub has been indentified as part of an operational unit rather than a Soviet research and development organization.

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USSR-UN: The USSR is apparently seeking such changes in normal UN procedures as would permit Khrushchev to participate in substantive committee debate on disarmament in addition to his speeches to the full General Assembly. The political committee of the General Assembly--whose major item of business is disarmament--does not usually meet until after the one- or two-week period of general opening statements is over. The USSR is trying to change this practice, as the committee might not otherwise meet until after Khrushchev had departed. According to the Polish UN delegate, the USSR will request that the assembly divide each day's work into two parts, general debate in the morning in the General Assembly and disarmament debate in the political committee in the afternoon.

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

Jordan-UAR: [Jordanian and UAR military forces deployed along the Jordanian-Syrian border remain in states of readiness and both sides are taking precautions against the possible infiltration of saboteurs or assassins.]

[the possibility of a Jordanian attack in support of a coup attempt in Syria, as set for the night hours of 16 or 17 September. The Jordanian army command near the Syrian border has established direct communications with the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut, which is still awaiting word from the Syrian coup plotters. King Husayn, who visited his troops in the field on 14 September, returned to Amman the same night.]

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India-USSR: [The Indian cabinet is reliably reported to have approved a proposal by the Border Road Development Committee to buy eight Soviet helicopters, probably the Hound (M-4) type, and eight Soviet cargo aircraft, probably the turboprop Cub (AN-12). The cabinet's decision is motivated primarily by Indian determination to control the strategic Himalayan border region and by the fact that payment is to be in rupees at prices considerably cheaper than those in the West. The approval is contingent on the ability to meet the costs from increased exports to the USSR.]

OK

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Somali Republic - Communist Bloc: The Somali Republic has decided to permit five Communist bloc countries--the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Albania--to establish diplomatic missions in Mogadiscio. Bids from Communist and Nationalist China were turned down, but a Somali foreign affairs official implied that Mogadiscio might reconsider Peiping's request at a later date. Regarding the subject of aid to the new republic, the Somali official indicated his government would accept bloc aid if the West does not meet the country's needs.

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### III. THE WEST

Germany: At a meeting of the three Western Allied chiefs of mission in Bonn with Acting Chancellor Erhard, the French and British representatives expressed reservation with respect to the imposition of economic countermeasures by West Germany against the Soviet Zone's recent interference with access to West Berlin. Although US Ambassador Dowling urged that the time had come to take such measures and that the Federal Republic was the only country in a position to apply effective sanctions, Erhard said no initiative could be taken without prior agreement among the four powers. 7 20

### LATE ITEMS

\*Laos: Souvanna Phouma, still casting about for a solution to the political crisis, has asked the King to dismiss General Phoumi from the cabinet. Presumably in an earlier attempt at conciliation, he had offered Phoumi two companies of King Le's troops to reinforce Sam Neua Province, under growing pressure from Pathet Lao forces. Phoumi's reported rebuff of this offer, which would remove from Vientiane a sizable portion of the opposition troops that Phoumi claimed prevent his return, points to his continuing unwillingness to arrive at any terms with the Souvanna regime. Prince Souphanouvong meanwhile has sent a message to Souvanna which, although holding open the possibility of negotiations, declares that Pathet Lao armed units will continue to oppose the Phoumi - Boun Oum group which he charges is carrying out "the schemes of aggression and war of US imperialism." OK  
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DAILY BRIEF

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\*Berlin: A Soviet jet fighter had a "near miss" with a British airliner flying in the Berlin-Frankfurt air corridor on 16 September, according to press reports. This incident follows at least four other instances in as many days of close flight by Soviet jet fighters to Western civilian aircraft, [redacted] This series of incidents has apparently been deliberately undertaken by the USSR, possibly to elicit a Western protest which could be used to raise the question of East German "sovereignty" over the air corridors. In any event, Moscow may calculate that continuation of such incidents will disrupt Western civilian flight schedules between West Berlin and West Germany, in view of the stated unwillingness of Western commercial pilots to fly this route on any but a volunteer basis, if they should consider civilian flight operations in any of the corridors to be hazardous. [redacted]

\*Congo: The UN Security Council, over the negative vote of the USSR, called for an emergency session of the General Assembly to deal with the Congo situation on the night of 17 September following the Soviet veto of a moderate resolution sponsored by Tunisia and Ceylon.

Meanwhile, Colonel Mobutu, under his policy of "neutralizing" contentious political forces, moved to consolidate his control in the Leopoldville area on 16 September by using loyal troops to prevent a meeting of the Congolese National Assembly. He also raided Lumumba's residence and arrested about twenty of the premier's staff, although Lumumba himself remained unmolested. Mobutu also ordered Communist bloc diplomats to leave the Congo by 17 September. [redacted]

In Katanga, the latest attempt by the central government to invade the seceding province apparently has failed, but the Tshombé government continues to be troubled by serious tribal disturbances in the northern part of the province. At least 60 tribesmen reportedly have been killed by Katanga security forces in Luena and Manono. [redacted]

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~~TOP SECRET~~Soviet Cherub Missile May Be in Operational Training Status

The launching of what appear to have been supersonic long-range air-to-surface missiles (ASM) by Long Range Air Force Bear (TU-95) aircraft during exercises on 9 and 10 September off the coast of Novaya Zemlya suggests that the Cherub missile is in operational training status.

[redacted] the movement on both 9 and 10 September of flights of Bear aircraft of a 43rd Long Range Air Army heavy bomber division from their base at Chepelevka in the Ukraine to and from a target area off the west coast of Novaya Zemlya. [redacted] reports imply the separation of a missile from the carrier aircraft and indicate missile speeds of close to 1,000 knots and ranges of over 310 and 360 nautical miles. The speeds, ranges, and flight profiles noted are comparable with characteristics associated with the Cherub missile. It is estimated that this missile could carry a 3,000-pound nuclear warhead, and is designed primarily for use against land targets.

All previously noted launchings of the Cherub missile have occurred on the Vladimirovka - Dzhaman Sor Test Range. With exception of an operation on 25 August, also believed to have been conducted by an aircraft of the Chepelevka-based operational unit, all 23 Cherub launchings prior to the Novaya Zemlya activity have been conducted by aircraft of the State Committee for Aviation Technology (GKAT).

The existence of a program for modification of the Chepelevka unit's Bear aircraft to carry Cherubs is suggested by two recent movements of some of the aircraft of the Chepelevka unit to and from Kuybyshev, site of the Bear production plant, and the fact that these movements appeared to be under GKAT control.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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[Redacted]

### Soviet Bloc Tactics at 15th UN General Assembly

The USSR is apparently seeking changes in usual UN procedures to permit Khrushchev to participate in substantive committee debate on disarmament in addition to his speeches to the full General Assembly. According to the Polish delegate, the USSR will request that the assembly divide each day's work into two parts: general debate in the morning in the General Assembly and disarmament debate in the political committee in the afternoon.

The political committee of the General Assembly--whose major item of business is disarmament--does not usually meet until after the one- or two-week period of general statements is over. If it followed that procedure this year, it might not meet until after Khrushchev had departed. The Soviet premier is scheduled to be in North Korea in early October.

If successful, the Soviet move would give Khrushchev an opportunity to exercise personal influence on other heads of government in order to obtain early action in the political committee in support of the Soviet approach to future disarmament negotiations. Nehru now is expected to be in New York during the early part of the assembly.

In his major address to the assembly Khrushchev will probably propose that any future talks on disarmament include key neutral states. He probably hopes thereby to enlist Afro-Asian support for a subsequent resolution endorsing his call for complete and general disarmament. Within this context he also intends to advance proposals designed to appear responsive to Western disarmament policies, including a plan for immediate destruction of all nuclear weapons delivery systems as a first step, according to a Polish official at the UN. The Soviet premier will also propose control measures which would differentiate between "espionage and inspection" and have the appearance of meeting Western conditions for disarmament controls.

General Assembly presidential candidate Frederick Boland of Ireland believes that, under these circumstances, Nosek of

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Czechoslovakia would step down as candidate for assembly president and seek instead the chairmanship of the political committee, an office he would have a better chance of winning. Boland would then be assured of the presidency, since the only other candidate, Thors of Iceland, is not considered a strong contender.

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Jordanian-Syrian Border Situation

Jordanian troops deployed along the Jordanian-Syrian border remain in a state of readiness in anticipation of a coup in Syria. King Husayn visited the troops on 14 September and then returned to Amman to await further word from the plotters.

"the operation"--apparently referring to the possibility of a Jordanian attack in support of a coup attempt in Syria--is scheduled during the night hours of 16 or 17 September.

extensive preparations have been made by Syrian police and security forces and that further border control measures have been ordered. Syrian Desert Guard forces throughout the region have been placed on "100-percent alert." Damascus radio announced on 16 September that all roads leading to Jordan will be closed from 1900 to 0600 hours until further notice. UAR Syrian Region Minister of Interior Sarraj, [redacted] enumerated the acts of sabotage committed by Jordanian infiltrators on Syrian installations near the border--including a bridge, part of the rail line from Damascus, and a police post. Sarraj asked whether this information should be published "or should we lie low until some of the culprits have been arrested?"

The Syrians have moved additional military units to the Israeli as well as the Jordanian border area as a precaution against a suspected coordinated move by Israeli and Jordanian forces with "imperialist" backing. Israel probably would become involved if it appeared that a UAR-Jordanian conflict threatened the existence of Husayn's regime.

Two Israeli military aircraft attempted to force a Syrian plane en route from Cairo to Damascus to land in Israeli territory on 14 September. [redacted] The Syrians suspect the Israelis were really after another plane which carried UAR Vice President Kahlalah.

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~~SECRET~~India Plans to Purchase Soviet Helicopters and Cargo Aircraft

The Indian cabinet is reliably reported to have approved a proposal by the government's Border Road Development Committee on 14 September to buy eight Soviet helicopters, probably Hounds (MI-4s); eight Soviet cargo aircraft, probably the turboprop Cub (AN-12); and a limited quantity of Russian and Japanese road-construction equipment.

New Delhi is determined to carry forward its border-development program in the Himalayas despite the low level of the nation's foreign exchange reserves. The Soviet aircraft are being offered at cheap prices--reportedly totaling \$24,000,-000--and can be paid for with rupees rather than with hard currency. However, the cabinet made its approval contingent on a determination that India's exports to the USSR can be expanded to meet the cost. In addition, apparently only the Hound, one of which the Indians purchased in August, meets India's helicopter requirements for the mountainous border region.

The cabinet's decision supports proposals made recently by Defense Minister Krishna Menon, over the objections of his service chiefs, that additional Hounds be bought and that a military mission be sent to Moscow to look at other types of materiel. At the same time, the decision, which will bolster India's defensive position vis-a-vis the Chinese, perhaps reflects Nehru's own policy of trying to isolate Peiping by pointing up the cordiality of Indo-Soviet relations.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Somali Republic to Establish Early Ties With Communist Bloc

The newly independent Somali Republic decided on 10 September to accede to requests by five Communist bloc countries--the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Albania--to establish diplomatic missions in Mogadiscio. This decision may have been influenced by the country's precarious financial position and by Mogadiscio's desire to be in a position to accept bloc aid should traditional Western sources fail to come through. A Somali official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commented to the American ambassador recently that his government would not refuse aid from the Communist bloc if the West did not meet the country's needs.

The Somali official also commented that requests to establish missions by both Communist and Nationalist China were "turned down for the time being," but implied that Peiping's request might be reconsidered later. Although not invited to the Somali independence ceremonies in July, Peiping sent a four-man Chinese Communist Moslem delegation in August in an obvious attempt to reassure the Somalis that Communism is not incompatible with Islam.

Moscow has repeatedly indicated its interest in establishing its official presence in Mogadiscio since March 1958 when the USSR's first attempt to set up permanent representatives in Mogadiscio was rebuffed by Italy, the then administering power in Somalia. The USSR's delegation to the Somali independence celebration--augmented by three motion picture photographers, a correspondent each from Izvestia and Pravda, and a TASS representative--ostentatiously distributed expensive gifts to numerous Somali officials, interviewed a large number of scholarship applicants, and pressed for an immediate exchange of diplomatic missions.

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~~SECRET~~Situation in Laos

The Souvanna Phouma government has voted to dismiss General Phoumi from his various posts in the cabinet and has asked the King to sign an ordinance giving legal effect to this decision. Similar action has been taken against Minister of Economic Affairs Leuam, who, along with Phoumi, remained in Savannakhet after investiture of the Souvanna government early this month. The King, despite his apparent sympathy for Phoumi, may feel constrained under constitutional procedure to accede to the government's request.

[As examples of Phoumi's intransigence, Souvanna informed Ambassador Brown on 15 September that he had attempted to call a conference of Laos' five military region commanders to reconcile differences but that Phoumi had refused to permit the Second, Third, and Fourth Region commanders to attend. The premier also claimed that he had offered to send two companies of Captain Kong Le's Second Paratroop Battalion to Sam Neua Province to help meet the growing Pathet Lao threat there but that Phoumi had refused the offer. Phoumi's rebuff of this offer, which would have materially depleted Kong Le's strength in the Vientiane area, points to his continuing unwillingness to arrive at any terms with the Souvanna regime.]

[The American army attaché flew to Sam Neua town on 15 September for a first-hand observation of the military situation there. The local Laotian commander informed him that approximately two Pathet Lao battalions and two battalions of tribal Thai trained in North Vietnam had been attacking outlying posts since about 4 September. As the result of these attacks the commander is out of contact with four companies dispersed in the jungle. The balance of his forces have abandoned forward positions and are withdrawing toward Sam Neua town. He claims that the tribal Thai units have North Vietnamese cadre, that they came from North Vietnam, and that they were trained and supported by the]

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North Vietnamese. The attaché comments that while the strength of the enemy probably is exaggerated, the situation in Sam Neua Province is serious.]

Pathet Lao Neo Lao Hak Sat leader Prince Souphanouvong, in a statement on Souvanna's now-suspended bid for negotiations, announced over the Pathet Lao radio that his group is ready to participate in such talks "when and if assurance is given the negotiations will be fruitful." Meanwhile, according to Souphanouvong, "armed Pathet Lao units" will continue to oppose the Phoumi - Boun Oum clique which he charges is carrying out "the schemes of aggression and war of US imperialism." He admonishes Souvanna that only by stopping "persecution and terrorism" at home and entering into relations with Sino-Soviet bloc countries can "the government muster enough strength to fight the rebels and foreign intervention."

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~~TOP SECRET~~The Congo Situation (Information as of 0300 EDT)

Colonel Mobutu has moved to consolidate control in the Leopoldville area. On 16 September, troops loyal to him prevented a meeting--called by President Kasavubu--of the Congolese National Assembly. Mobutu troops also raided Lumumba's residence and arrested about twenty of the premier's staff, although Lumumba himself remained unmolested. Censorship reportedly has been imposed at the Leopoldville telegraph office. This activity is in line with Mobutu's announced policy of "neutralizing" contentious political forces.

Mobutu also repeated his demand that Communist bloc diplomats leave the Congo by noon on 17 September. According to press sources, on 16 September personnel of the Soviet and Czech embassies began preparations to depart Leopoldville. A TASS newsmen was quoted by a western journalist as saying, "We are all leaving tomorrow."

Of the eleven Soviet Il-14 transport aircraft in the Congo, two were at Leopoldville on 16 September, with the balance at Lumumba's stronghold of Stanleyville. Thus, while the two aircraft at Leopoldville could be used to evacuate the bloc diplomats, it is not clear whether they will leave the country or only retire to Stanleyville until the situation in Leopoldville has been clarified.

The latest attempt by the central government to invade Katanga apparently has failed, and at least part of the Congolese invading force has retired across the border into Kivu province. The Tshombé government continues to be troubled, however, by serious disorders among Baluba tribesmen in northern Katanga. Tshombé's troops reportedly have killed fifteen persons in suppressing disturbances at Manono in the north central part of the province, and another 20 tribesmen have been killed at Luena, about 60 miles southeast of Kamina.

At the Security Council meeting on 16 September, Tunisia and Ceylon introduced a moderate resolution designed to confirm the

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present UN position without specifically condemning the USSR's activities. [This resolution was vetoed by the USSR, supported by Poland with France abstaining. The US then called for an emergency session of the General Assembly which was summoned, over a negative Soviet vote, for 2000 EDT 17 September. Secretary General Hammarskjold is confident that the African states will support him in the Assembly, and he believes he can force the USSR into the unpopular position of defending unilateral military support of the Congo in defiance of the UN.]

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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

Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Executive Secretary, National Security Council

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 Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State 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

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

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

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

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

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Department of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

National Security Agency

The Director

National Indications Center

The Director

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