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1. INDIA SEEKS VISIT BY PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

Secretary General Pillai of the Indian Foreign Ministry told Ambassador Cooper on 16 August that Prime Minister Nehru is deeply interested in having President Eisenhower visit India and other countries of Asia.

Pillai noted that the President has been to Europe and that no American president has ever come to Asia. A visit at this particular time, he said, would be of greatest benefit to both the United States and Asia.

Comment Ever since Nehru's trip to the United States in 1949, the Indians have hinted at the desirability of a return visit by an American president.

Soviet premier Bulganin has accepted an invitation to go to India, and is expected to do so this winter. The request for a visit by President Eisenhower is probably inspired by a desire to promote India's position as a bridge between the United States and the Communist bloc. It is also in line with recent Indian emphasis on the President's contributions to world peace.

2. JAPANESE OPPOSITION TO REARMAMENT SEEN DIMINISHING

The Hatoyama government's strong appeals to national pride for a defense build-up may be reducing popular opposition to rearmament, according to Ambassador Allison. With growing boldness, the prime minister and others have taken the line that a defense build-up is necessary to free Japan from dependence on "foreign troops."

Hatoyama now has publicly asserted that he desires a popular mandate to revise the constitution. Furthermore, Defense Agency Director Sunada has publicly offered proposals which range from creation of a Defense Ministry to advocacy of production of hydrogen and cobalt bombs.

Allison notes that these statements have received a minimum of criticism, in contrast to last year when less inflammatory ones aroused widespread critical comment.

Comment

The Hatoyama government has recognized that warnings of possible Communist aggression have been ineffective in stimulating sentiment in favor of rearmament. By picturing a defense build-up as a prerequisite to the withdrawal of American forces and revision of the US-Japanese security treaty, the government has not only produced an effective incentive for rearming, but has stolen some of the Socialists' thunder on these popular objectives.

3. AIR OBSERVATION UNCOVERS NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY IN NORTHEAST CAMBODIA

Aerial observation on 18 August uncovered no unusual activity in the Voeune Sai area in northeast Cambodia, according to the American army attaché in Phnom Penh.

Cambodian army authorities said they anticipated a new attack by five Viet Minh battalions in that area.

The attaché believes the government's failure to request an investigation by the International Control Commission of earlier attacks on the Cambodian outpost may indicate that earlier reports were exaggerated.

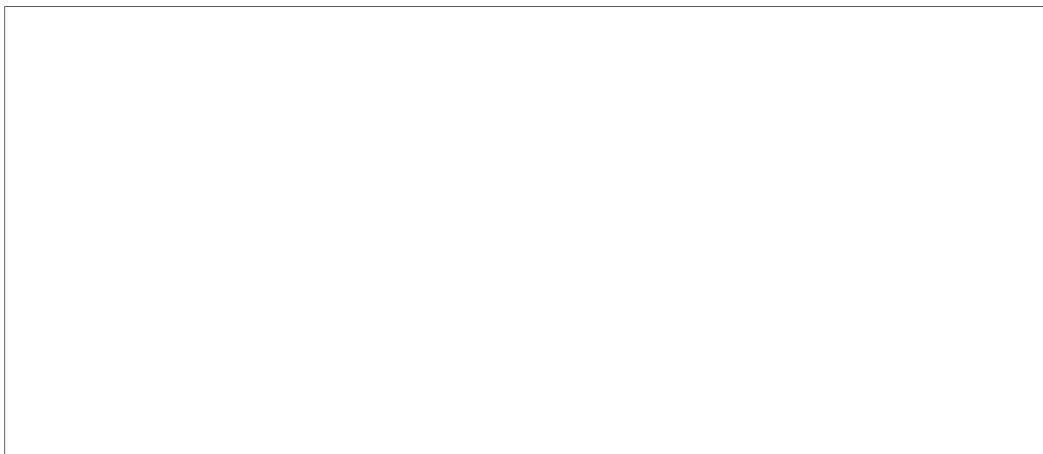
Remnant elements of Viet Minh units are known to be in hiding in the area and in south Laos, but the attaché doubts that there are five battalions--or even one.

Present Cambodian strength at Voeune Sai is estimated at 1,150.

4.

MOROCCAN

SULTAN



Comment

Although the removal of Ben Arafa might temporarily appease the Moroccan nationalists and gain their co-operation for Resident General Grandval's reform plans, it could also be expected to lead to violence by the counterterrorist organization of the French settlers.

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5. COMMENT ON MUTINY IN SOUTHERN SUDAN

The mutiny on 17 August of three companies of the Sudanese army was probably the result of Egyptian attempts to arouse the fears of the southern Sudanese that they would be dominated by the Moslem north should the Sudan opt for independence.

The mutinous units, which comprise half the fighting strength of the 800-man Equatorial Corps of the Sudan defense force, are made up of southern enlisted men commanded by northern officers.

The long-term effects of the mutiny, particularly the killing of southern soldiers in a company which refused to disarm, are likely to be serious for relations between the northern-dominated government and the southern tribesmen. Cairo will almost certainly use these incidents, as it used the riots in southern Sudan last month, in claiming that stability in the Sudan and protection of the southerners can be secured only by union with Egypt.

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