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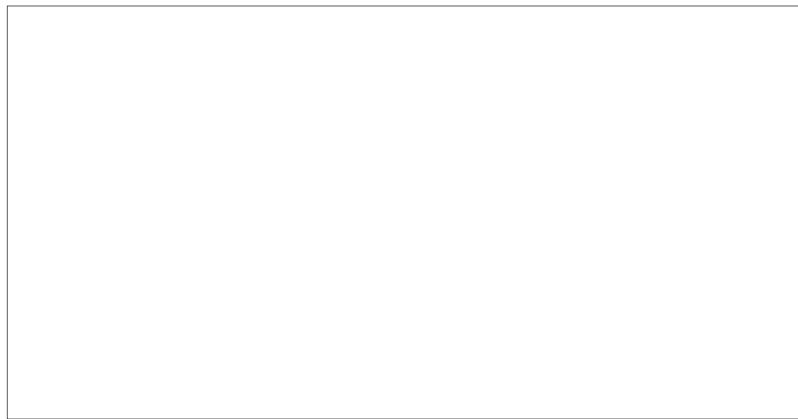
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1. USSR EXPECTS NEGATIVE WESTERN RESPONSE TO ITS MIDDLE EAST PROPOSALS

[redacted] Soviet deputy foreign minister Zorin told Egyptian ambassador Kuni on 15 February that the six proposals contained in the Soviet note of 11 February should be "taken together as a whole"

and that Western maneuvers to modify or reject some of them would be unacceptable.

[redacted] Zorin predicted that a complete negative attitude, "which is more probable," would be very difficult for the West to justify.

In requesting closer liaison between the USSR and Egypt, Zorin complained that neither Moscow, its UN delegates nor the Soviet ambassador in Cairo was familiar with developments in Egypt, the main line of Egyptian policy, or the information necessary to be of help.

Zorin warned that the introduction of international forces into the area constituted a great danger. He added that Hammarskjold was influenced by "his New York atmosphere" and that "we are dealing with a system through which America acts as a real force."

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2. [REDACTED] ALLEGES
ISRAELIS MOBILIZING

[REDACTED] Israeli military police called up army reserves in Jerusalem on 17 February and that an Israeli parachute battalion arrived in Jerusalem on the evening of 16 February,

[REDACTED] Israeli authorities were also reported to be requisitioning civilian vehicles. [REDACTED] reports of Israeli concentrations opposite the Tulkarm area in the northern bulge of West Jordan, [REDACTED] the presence of French aircraft and airmen on Ramat David airfield in Israel had been confirmed.

[REDACTED] this information confirmed earlier Syrian reports of a partial Israeli mobilization. [REDACTED] the Jordanians would reconnoiter [REDACTED] and would reinforce West Jordan if it appeared that Israel intended to carry out operations against Jordan.

Comment The reported Israeli moves in the Jerusalem area may reflect a limited mobilization there. Military police have been used to summon army reserves in recent covert mobilizations. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Israel had undertaken limited mobilization were not substantiated by the US army attaché in Israel as of 11 February, and both the Syrians and the Jordanians have exhibited considerable nervousness over Israeli intentions.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] additional French-built jet fighters have recently arrived in Israel, and command echelons of Israeli units on the Jordanian border are believed to be in a high state of readiness. [REDACTED]

3. ASIAN COMMUNIST FRONT TO HOLD FIRST CONFERENCE IN CAIRO

Comment on:

[Redacted]

President Nasr has approved the convocation of an "Asian-African Solidarity Conference" --at a date as yet unannounced-- in Cairo, according to Dr. Anup Singh, secretary of the "Asian Solidarity Committee." This conference is the first planned by a Communist-dominated organization which has the potential to become the major Communist front for Asia. Nasr may try to use the conference to propagandize Asian-African support of Egypt's position vis-a-vis Israel and the West.

The committee was set up in 1955 by the Asian Conference for the Relaxation of International Tensions, which met in New Delhi under the influence of the Communist-sponsored World Peace Council. National committees were established in Communist China, the USSR, North Korea and North Vietnam, as well as in India and Japan, in 1955 and 1956. Although the committee has been successful in obtaining support from some non-Communist Asian personalities and Indians play the primary role in the secretariat, most of the leaders are also officials of the World Peace Council.

The USSR is accepted by the Solidarity Committee as an Asian country, and with Communist China may use the conference to further new economic and "cultural" relationships in Asia and Africa. Inclusion of Africa in the conference suggests that an attempt will be made to broaden the geographical scope of the cultural and economic activities of the committee.

4. [REDACTED] FURTHER
UNREST IN SYRIA



Comment Incidents in Syria might be triggered by the "treason" trials now drawing to a close. Unrest exists among some rightist groups as well as in certain army quarters. The Populist Party and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party are reported secretly organizing resistance in Aleppo with the aim of stirring up the public against the government and demanding an end to the state of martial law.

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5. USSR REPORTEDLY BACKS DOWN ON AGREEMENT TO ASSIST YUGOSLAV ALUMINUM INDUSTRY

The Soviet Union has made it clear that the East German-Soviet agreement to aid Yugoslavia in building an aluminum complex cannot be put into effect until 1961 when the current Soviet Five-Year Plan

will be completed.

Comment Soviet cancellation of the \$175,000,000 credit granted in August 1956 for the construction of a large aluminum complex in Yugoslavia to be completed by 1960 clearly indicates that the USSR is now attempting to bring economic pressure to bear in the ideological struggle between Moscow and Belgrade. According to the Yugoslavs, negotiations in Moscow for a new trade agreement have been proceeding with difficulty. Trade talks with the East Germans were suspended recently when Belgrade withheld indirect recognition of the Pankow regime by refusing to sign the trading arrangement on the governmental level.

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6. BRITISH BELIEVE EOKA TERRORIST CAPABILITIES NOW SEVERELY LIMITED

British authorities on Cyprus are confident that their recent "very substantial" successes against EOKA have severely limited the terrorist organization's ability to carry out its plans for violence during

~~the UN debate~~ on Cyprus. These officials also told the American consul that they have "extensive factual evidence" of Athens' complicity in EOKA's campaign for use in the debate.

Comment Recent indications suggest that British forces on Cyprus may have crippled EOKA so seriously in the past two weeks that it can no longer mount co-ordinated attacks. However, isolated attacks will probably continue.

The recent sharp rise in confidence of the British on Cyprus may indicate a belief that they will soon capture EOKA leader Grivas. The British will also probably try in the UN to exploit official Greek complicity, although the consul reports the evidence he has seen is unconvincing.

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7. SOUTH KOREAN ENVOY "OPTIMISTIC" CONCERNING REOPENING OF TALKS WITH JAPAN

[Redacted]

South Korean minister to Japan Kim Yong-sik has told Ambassador Dowling in Seoul that he is now "very optimistic" concerning prospects for reopening talks between Japan and South Korea aimed at "normalizing" their relations.

Kim stated that President Rhee had agreed to postpone demands for the return of four of his political enemies from Japan, thus removing the final obstacle to an agreement involving a simultaneous mutual release of detained nationals and renunciation by Japan of property claims in Korea. Commencement of negotiations on broader issues would follow this preliminary agreement.

Comment Continuing anti-Japanese propaganda from Seoul indicates that Rhee may desire only a partial settlement with Japan.

The return of detainees would remove a major cause of friction between Japan and South Korea. Japan now holds 1,400 Koreans, mostly illegal entrants, while South Korea has detained about 700 Japanese fishermen who have served sentences for violating the "Rhee line" fisheries boundary.

8. ISHIBASHI'S ABILITY TO RESUME DUTIES IN DOUBT

Comment on: [Redacted]

The continued illness of Japanese prime minister Ishibashi may prevent him from appearing before the Diet on 21 February as scheduled. His failure to appear would probably raise Socialist and press criticism of the government to fever pitch. It has already precipitated a renewal of power struggles within Japan's ruling conservative party. The American embassy reports that Ishibashi and his cabinet may be forced to resign if his convalescence extends into March.

[Redacted]
Should Ishibashi remain incapacitated, the necessity of providing effective substitute leadership and of quelling intraparty discord suggests that Foreign Minister Kishi might be appointed deputy prime minister, thereby making him a logical choice to succeed Ishibashi in the future.