

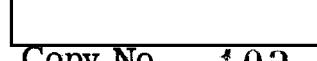
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19 April 1956



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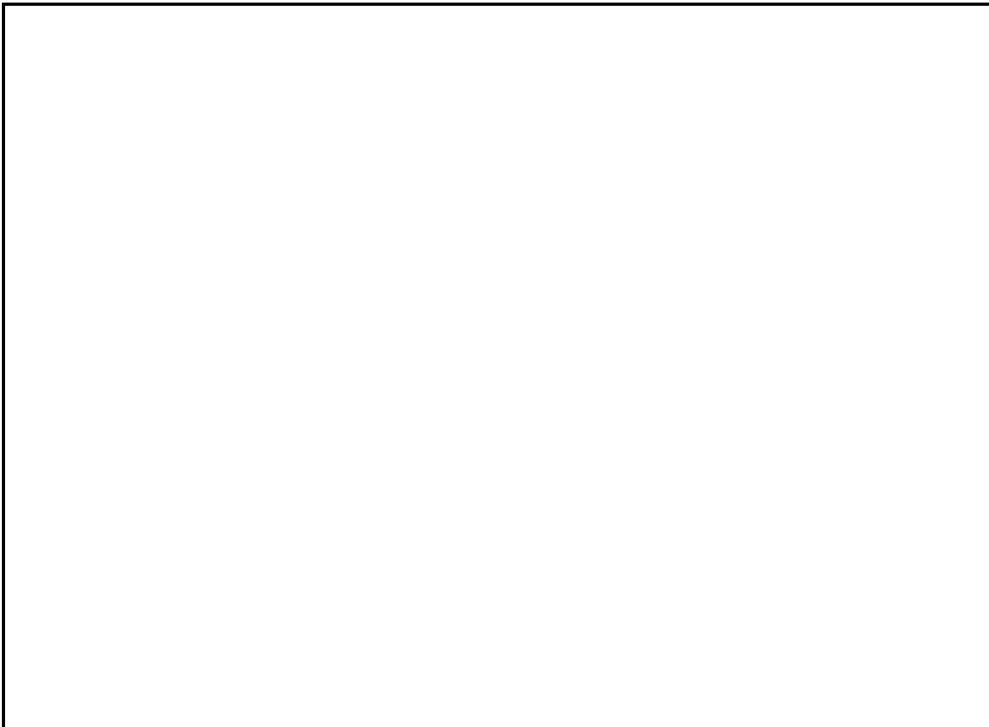
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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THE TAIWAN STRAIT

1. SOUTH KOREAN NAVAL MOVE MAY PROVOKE INCIDENT WITH NORTH KOREA

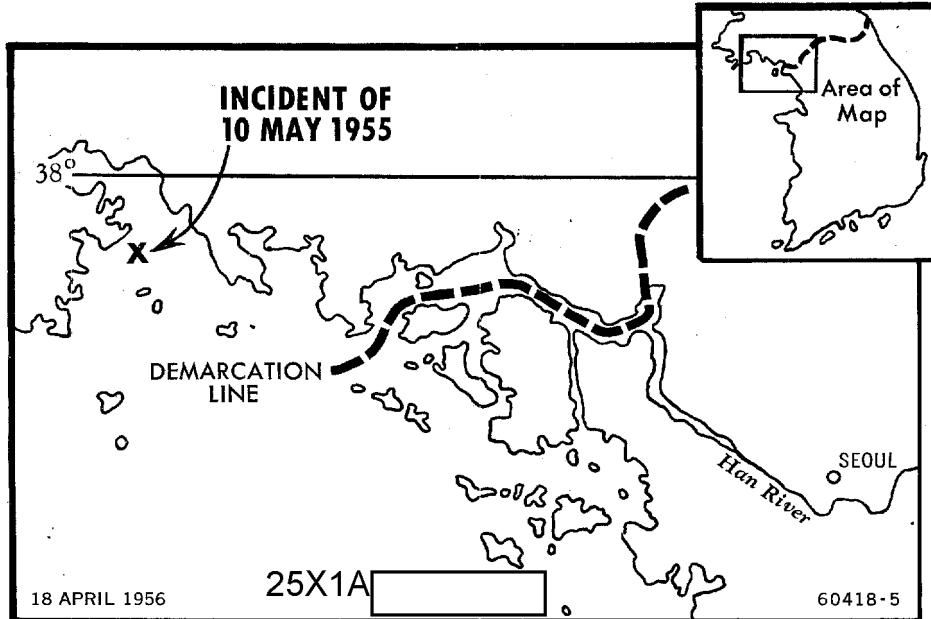
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Movement of South Korean naval units to west coast fishing grounds off North Korean territory below the 38th parallel may result in an incident with North Korean forces.

At a press conference on 17 April, South Korea's chief of naval operations, Chong Kuk-mo, said the move was designed to prevent a repetition of the incident of 10 May last year near the Han River estuary, when North Korean shore batteries shelled a South Korean fishing fleet.

Following last year's incident, Pyongyang issued a statement avowing its intention to protect its territorial waters--i. e., up to 12 miles from the coast--and outlining procedures to provide for the "convenience and safety" of South Koreans desiring to fish in the area. The statement specified that "no armed vessels or armed persons" would be permitted to enter the fishing grounds inside the 12-mile limit. Admiral Chong indicated on 17 April, however, that South Korean naval vessels will patrol up to three miles from the North Korean coast this year.

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**3. POLISH REGIME FACES PROBLEM IN CONTROLLING
RELAXATION POLICY**

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[redacted]
Warsaw is in "a state of real ferment," as a result of the government's recent relaxation policy which encourages greater freedom of expression, according to [redacted] the American embassy in Warsaw. The embassy considers it possible that the regime may have even instigated some of the criticisms from literary circles, but points out that there are now indications of a real effort on the part of writers to see how much public criticism the regime will tolerate.

The government's main concern may be that the policy of relaxation will lead to more overt expressions of disaffection among the workers. There are already unconfirmed rumors of labor unrest at some large factories in recent days.

Rumors are current in Warsaw that the regime has reacted to a few of the most outspoken criticisms by firing--or even arresting--the people responsible. [redacted]

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[redacted] First Secretary Ochab warned writers against using an attack on the cult of the individual as an excuse for attacking the party, saying, "You don't want me to bring tanks into the Warsaw streets, do you?"

Although leading officials have called for greater initiative and condemned the stifling of free discussion which resulted from the cult of the individual, the regime will face increasing difficulties unless it is able to set forth clearly the limits of the new freedom.

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 18 April)

Egyptian prime minister Nasr has issued categorical orders to military commanders not to fire across the demarcation line even if fired upon unless there is clear evidence of a prospective Israeli attack,

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Violation of these orders, would lead to "serious court-martial charges."

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25X1A An Israeli military spokesman told the US army attaché in Tel Aviv that Israel believes there are six groups of fedayeen terrorists still in Israel.

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The American army attaché in Amman re-
ports that it now appears that the shift of Arab Legion units into
West Jordan is not as complete as originally reported, in that
not all of the armored brigade is in West Jordan.

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The Egyptian naval commander in chief 25X1A
stated that the six Soviet-built motor torpedo boats which sor-
tied from Alexandria on 10 April are on training maneuvers.

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**BIWEEKLY SUMMARY
5-18 April 1956**

THE TAIWAN STRAIT

**Report of the IAC Current Intelligence Group
for the Taiwan Strait Problem**

Again there were no significant combat operations in the area. Chinese Communist junks and small naval craft have been sighted in increased numbers along the coast, particularly in the Matsu area. Nothing ominous is seen in these sightings. The increase is believed due to improving weather and the usual intensification of coastal fishing during the spring. [redacted]

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