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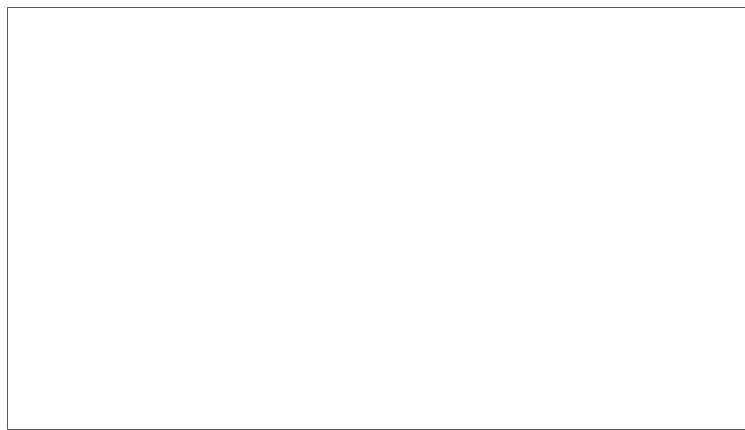
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CONTENTS

N 1. POSSIBLE SOVIET PREPARATIONS TO LAUNCH 950-NAUTICAL-MILE MISSILE [redacted] (page 3).

N 2. PARIS OBSERVERS PREDICT MOLLET'S FALL
[redacted] (page 4).

OK 3. BULGANIN'S LETTER TO MOLLET [redacted] (page 5).

N 4. HAITIAN ARMY CHIEF OUSTED [redacted] (page 6).

OK 5. RIGHT CENTER GAINS IN FRENCH BY-ELECTION
[redacted] (page 7).

N 6. GREEK CYPRIOT MOVES TO BREAK CYPRUS STALEMATE
[redacted] (page 8).

N 7. PAKISTAN APPARENTLY FAVORS DEFERRING UN
CONSIDERATION OF KASHMIR UNTIL OCTOBER [redacted]
(page 9).

~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

**1. POSSIBLE SOVIET PREPARATIONS TO LAUNCH
950-NAUTICAL-MILE MISSILE**

A practice countdown occurred on 17 May 1957 between the rangehead of the Kapustin Yar missile-test range and a station 950 nautical miles downrange, which was first noted in July 1956.

Comment

[redacted] this station compared in permanence and importance with other stations located in the three major impact areas of the range. While operational traffic has been passed recently between the rangehead and the 950-nautical-mile downrange area, this is the first practice countdown. There have been no previous firings beyond the 650-nautical-mile range station. Based on past experience this practice countdown signifies that missile firings involving the station 950 nautical miles downrange will probably take place in the near future--possibly before the end of May. A missile test-fired to 950 nautical miles could have a maximum range of 1,200 nautical miles, sufficient to reach most European targets from launching sites within the USSR.

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2. PARIS OBSERVERS PREDICT MOLLET'S FALL

French Senator Roger Duchet, leader of the right-center Independent-Peasant bloc told Adlai Stevenson on 19 May that Premier Mollet would be defeated in the 21 May vote on new taxes. In a last-minute rundown [redacted]

[redacted] a spokesman for Duchet stated that two-thirds of the 88 deputies in the Independent-Peasant group are now determined to vote against the government.

Other observers in Paris, [redacted]

[redacted] expect Mollet to be defeated, but [redacted] points out that last-minute changes on the basis of the Algerian problem and the current UN debate on the Suez issue might upset [redacted] calculations. The British [redacted] expects Mollet to squeeze by.

Comment

Prior to the last confidence vote on general policy at the end of March, Duchet correctly predicted that he would be able to persuade the Independent-Peasant bloc to abstain and thus assure Mollet's survival.

In the past, Mollet has been successful in last-minute appeals to persuade the assembly to support his government on confidence issues. These were package votes, however, involving both domestic and foreign policy; opponents of Mollet's financial policies reluctantly agreed to such packages in order to assure firm action in Algeria. In the present instance, Mollet's opponents must weigh, in addition to Algeria and the Suez issue, President Coty's imminent visit to the United States and the need for Socialist support to form any subsequent government.

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3. BULGANIN'S LETTER TO MOLLET

Comment on:

Soviet premier Bulganin's 17 May letter to French premier Mollet, like his letter to Prime Minister Macmillan on 20 April, seeks a resumption of high-level contacts on a bilateral basis. Bulganin re-

views the USSR's established policies on international problems and says the Soviet-French statement signed during Mollet's visit to Moscow in May 1956 represents the correct basis for improving Soviet-French relations. Furthering Moscow's campaign to prevent the arming of the West German Bundeswehr with nuclear weapons, Bulganin attempts to exploit chronic French fears of Germany.

The letter repeats Moscow's warning that German participation in plans for an integrated Europe will mean German domination of Western Europe. Referring to France and the USSR as the two Continental powers that had suffered most from German militarism, Bulganin says the situation in Germany is in many ways similar to that before World War II, "when many Western European leaders turned a blind eye" to German preparations for war.

In an apparent attempt to dissuade France from participating in EURATOM, Bulganin holds out the prospect of Soviet co-operation in developing atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

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4. HAITIAN ARMY CHIEF OUSTED

Comment on:

[Redacted]

The ouster on 20 May by the executive council of government of Haitian army chief of staff Brigadier General Leon Cantave on charges of insubordination may set off further unrest and rioting.

The ouster may indicate that the executive council is gaining ground in a struggle for power with opposition presidential candidates who, on 19 May, stated that they recognized the authority of the army but did not recognize the executive council. The council appeared to be losing control over the country when five of the presidential candidates, led by Clement Jumelle and Francois Duvalier, set up revolutionary "committees of public safety" in St. Marc and Cap Haitien, two important cities to the north of Port-au-Prince, and showed impressive support throughout the north and west.

Although Cantave ostensibly supported the government, rumors have persisted since last December that he was in close collaboration with Jumelle. The council blamed Cantave for the army's failure on 19 May to prevent Jumelle and Duvalier supporters from threatening council members when they attempted to enter St. Marc.

[Redacted]

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5. RIGHT CENTER GAINS IN FRENCH BY-ELECTION

Comment on:

The vote in the by-election in Lyon on 19 May to fill the National Assembly seat vacated by the death of Radical Socialist Edouard Herriot appears to

be following the trend toward the right center which has been evidenced in other French by-elections during the past six months. Although the Communist candidate led with 52,204 votes, an Independent Peasant ran a close second with 47,116, winning 5 percent more of the total vote than in the 1956 general election. Communist support fell off compared with the 1956 election, but this is normal in by-elections. General Jacques Faure, who had Poujadist support, ran a poor sixth with only 15,409 votes.

No candidate received a majority, and a runoff vote will be held on 2 June, at which time the center parties are likely to turn their support to the leading right-center candidate to assure him the plurality needed to win a runoff. The second round may see an increase in the votes for both extremes as they step up activity in the next two weeks.

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6. GREEK CYPRIOT MOVES TO BREAK CYPRUS STALEMATE

it is "virtually certain" violence will not be resumed on Cyprus, since the leadership of the union-with-Greece movement recognizes that further violence would damage its cause.

[redacted] the leader of the underground organization EOKA, George Grivas, may already have left Cyprus. Archbishop Makarios intends to leave Athens soon on an "enlightenment" mission to northern

Europe and plans to arrive in the United States before the opening of the UN General Assembly session next fall.

Comment

Athens probably hopes that these moves, and continued peace on Cyprus, will cause

the British to reopen negotiations with Makarios. The British

[redacted] would not be pleased if Makarios arrived in London, it would nevertheless have to talk to him informally.

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7. PAKISTAN APPARENTLY FAVORS DEFERRING UN CONSIDERATION OF KASHMIR UNTIL OCTOBER

Comment on:

Pakistani officials now are inclined toward deferring a UN Security Council session on the Kashmir dispute until October, [redacted]

Karachi may be interested in prolonging the issue in order to exert maximum pressure on India,

[redacted] Top-level

Pakistani officials apparently foresee no acceptable solution to the problem through UN action, but hope that international opinion eventually will force India to seek a compromise settlement. Furthermore, Prime Minister Suhrawardy probably would prefer to complete his trips to Afghanistan and Europe, scheduled for June and July, and also have time to stabilize Pakistan's internal political situation, prior to further deliberations on Kashmir.

Willingness to postpone UN consideration of the problem until fall suggests that the Pakistani government feels confident it can manage any internal agitation over the issue during the summer and restrain any attempts by tribal elements to "liberate" Kashmir. [redacted]

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