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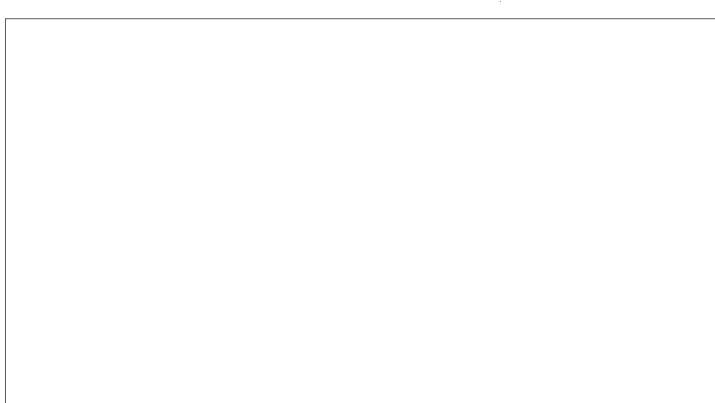
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1. STRIKES IN POLAND

Comment on: [redacted]

The strike for higher wages of nearly 11,000 transport workers in Lodz, Poland's second largest city is still in progress. Police and workers' militia have established a 24-hour patrol of the city, and, according to the press, Polish army units have been brought into the city. In at least one instance, police used tear gas to break up a workers' demonstration, and five casualties were reported in clashes between police and strikers. The strike has reportedly affected the interurban transport system surrounding Lodz and may extend to other industries and localities unless quickly settled.

The regime has dispatched four high-level representatives, including General Komar, commander of the internal security forces, and Ignacy Loga-Sowinski, a politburo member, to the scene. [redacted]

[redacted] the internal security forces had been alerted. According to the press, military personnel at the scene of the strike were instructed not to use firearms except in an emergency.

Under intense heckling, the acting minister of communal economy promised that the government would make available 50 million zlotys (\$12,500,000) annually for wage increases for transport workers throughout Poland and offered to negotiate the wage issue. As yet, however, no formal workers' committee to negotiate the wage issue has come forward.

These disturbances followed a strike during the first week of August by meat-processing workers in Lodz who demanded a 100-percent wage increase. Although the Polish press

stated no increase was granted. The US embassy in Warsaw reported that, [redacted], the workers' demands were met. A factory-wide strike of chemical workers in Brzeg Dolny was reported by the embassy on 8 August. In this case also the government was forced to grant the strikers unspecified "concessions" to obtain a resumption of production. Government concessions to the transport workers would generate demands for wage increases by other workers which would confront the regime with the threat of either serious inflation or increasing disorders.

Economic measures of the Gomulka regime have benefited mainly the agricultural workers. The transport workers are one of the lowest paid groups in Poland. The Gomulka government has not outlawed strikes and in the past has not prosecuted strikers.

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2. NINTH SHIPLOAD OF COMMUNIST ARMS ARRIVES IN YEMEN

Comment on:

Two Soviet vessels delivered military cargoes including heavy arms to the Yemeni port of Salif on 29 July and 6 August.

The first vessel's cargo included 20 self-propelled guns and an unspecified quantity of trucks. The cargo of the second ship included 10 field artillery pieces and an unspecified number of large crates believed to contain aircraft or trucks.

[redacted] reconnaissance shows five aircraft already assembled and nine in process of assembly at Salif airport. These aircraft, [redacted] previously identified as IL-10 piston ground attack aircraft, have now been identified as YAK-11 piston trainers.

These shipments bring the number of Soviet arms deliveries to Yemen during the past year to nine--including one in October 1956, one delivered from Egypt by a Yemeni ship during the closure of the Suez Canal, and seven, carrying approximately 13,000 tons of military items, since May 1957. Another ship in early May brought port equipment to assist unloading of the subsequent arms deliveries.

[redacted] at least 50 Soviet bloc advisers and instructors are now in Yemen.

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3. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE OMAN SITUATION

Comment on:

The Middle East chief of the British Foreign Office told the American embassy in London on 12 August that although the major phase of the Oman campaign would end with the dispersal of the rebels into the hills, no decision had yet been taken on the Sultan of Muscat's request to retain British troops in Oman.

The US army attaché in London has gained the impression that the British War Office does not feel guerrilla operations will be of such magnitude as to require the retention of British units and the Trucial Oman Scouts in Oman. A War Office source told the attaché on 12 August, the day Nizwa fell, that these forces would be returned to their prerebellion locations if the situation remained as favorable to the Sultan as at present, and that the War Office hoped the Sultan's forces could control the area. The ability of the rebel leaders to retaliate from the hills on the Sultan's forces

[redacted] however, that the Sultan's forces will be inadequate to maintain order.

London hopes to avoid the Security Council debate threatened by the Arab League decision on 12 August to request an immediate council meeting. The British say they fear that a public debate might spoil relations between King Saud and his Western allies and Iraq. The majority of the Security Council probably would oppose inscription of the Oman item. [redacted]

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4. BELGIUM REQUESTS UN CAMPAIGN ON NUCLEAR WARFARE EFFECTS

Comment on:



Belgium on 12 August requested the General Assembly to consider a plan to inform the world of the destructive effects of the armaments race and nuclear weapons. A discussion of the plan at this fall's General Assembly would provide the USSR with another opportunity to insist on a ban on nuclear tests independent of other disarmament measures, and might result in a General Assembly call for a ban on nuclear tests.

The Belgian request was accompanied by a draft resolution which asks the secretary general to submit to the 13th General Assembly a plan for an effective and continuing world-wide publicity campaign under UN auspices concerning the destructive effects of nuclear weapons and "disregarding all ideological or political considerations."

On 1 August, Belgian Foreign Minister Larock told the American embassy that he believed the widespread dissemination of an "impressive scientific report" would increase pressure on the Soviet leaders to reach a disarmament agreement by bringing home to the Soviet people the results of atomic explosions and Western superiority in the field.

