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15 September 1958

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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15 SEPTEMBER 1958

**I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC**

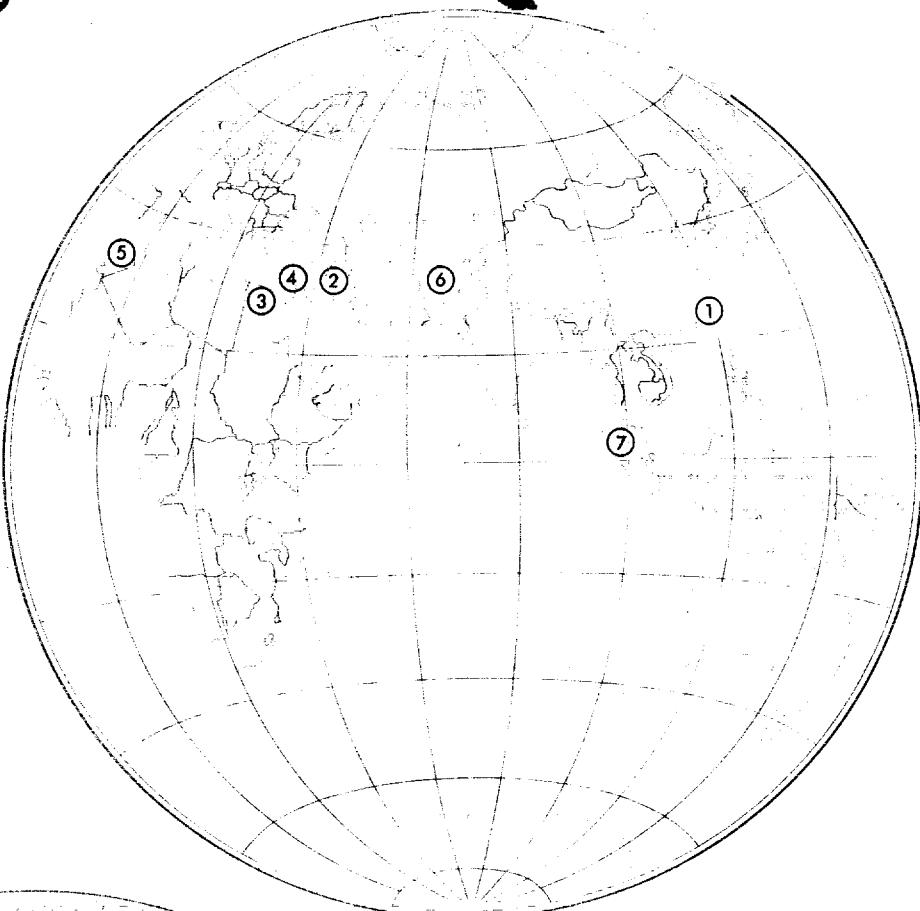
Taiwan Strait - Chiang says "drastic steps" may be needed if there is no improvement in resupply operations. (1)

**II. ASIA-AFRICA**

struggle between UAR supporters and other elements in Iraq may be coming to a head. (2)

Iraq and UAR reach agreement on delivery of Soviet bloc arms. (3)

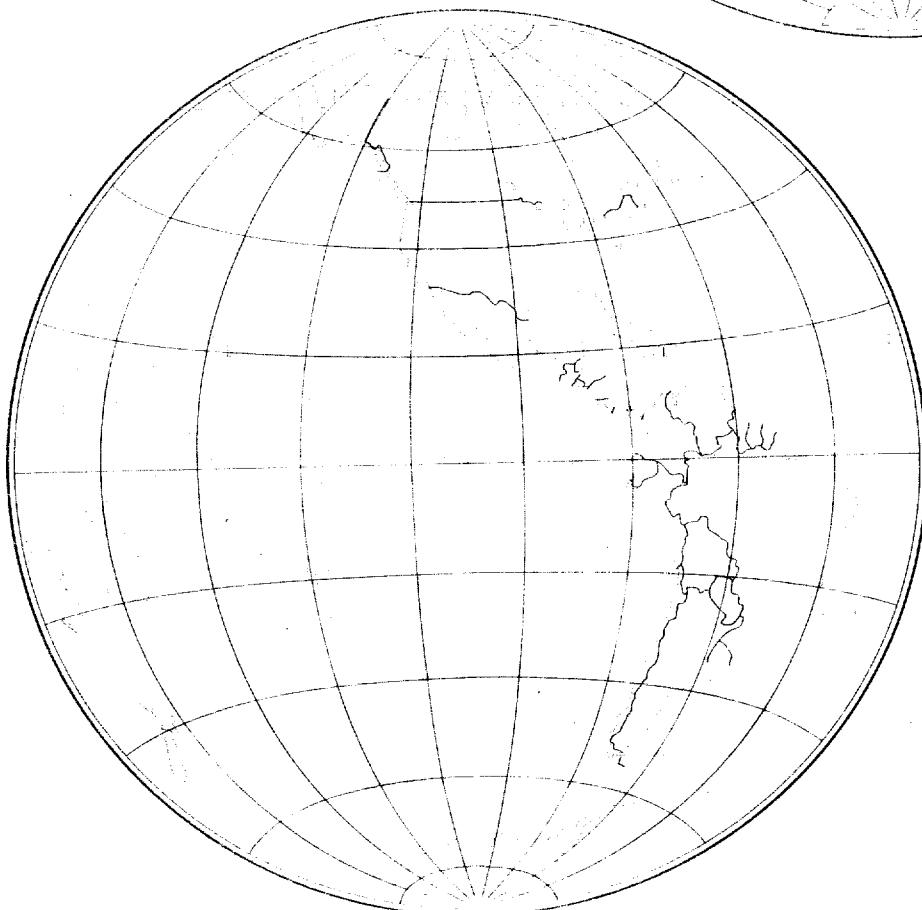
Israel - Foreign minister says country may occupy Jordanian territory in event of "chaos" or "impending presence" of UAR. (4)



(5) Morocco - Istiqlal leaders and King will probably be invited to visit Egypt.

(6) Afghan foreign minister to visit Moscow in October; probably will conclude civil air credit agreement.

(7) Indonesia - Dissident group on Sumatra reportedly prepared to surrender.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

15 September 1958

## DAILY BRIEF

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Taiwan Strait situation: The Nationalists continue to attempt to get supplies through to Kinmen, but with little success. Chiang Kai-shek told US officials that "drastic steps" would have to be taken if there is no improvement in the resupply operations during this week.

There are new Communist jet aircraft movements from both the north and south toward the strait area.

(Page 1) (Map)

## II. ASIA-AFRICA

Iraq-UAR:

*No*

the struggle between the UAR supporters and other elements may be coming to a head.

(Page 4)

Iraqi arms:

*No*

delivery from Egypt by sea

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to Basra rather than directly from the USSR. The delivery is probably in accordance with the Iraqi-UAR military agreement signed on 19 July. A group of Iraqi officers arrived in Cairo last week to discuss Iraqi requirements for Soviet bloc arms.

*HQ*

Israel: Foreign Minister Meir has indicated [redacted] that Israel may move to occupy Jordanian territory in the event of "chaos" in Jordan or the "impending presence" of the UAR on the west bank.

[redacted] (Page 5)

*NO*

Morocco-UAR: Istiqlal left-wing leader Mehdi ben Barka told the UAR ambassador in Rabat that he would like to pay Egypt an official visit. The ambassador then recommended that Cairo invite not only Ben Barka but also influential Istiqlal theoretician Allal el-Fassi and King Mohamed V. These overtures are of particular significance in light of the Istiqlal left-wing's efforts to supplant the moderate Balafrej regime.

[redacted] (Page 6)

*HQ*

Afghanistan-USSR: Afghan Foreign Minister Naim is now scheduled to visit Moscow in mid-October. The US ambassador in Kabul believes an agreement probably will be concluded on the Soviet Union's reported offer of a long-term credit to finance the entire cost of an Afghan civil air development program. Naim's visit will precede his planned trips to Peiping and Washington.

*NO*

Indonesia: The army commander in North Sumatra, [redacted] reported indications that dissidents in Tapanuli were prepared to surrender en masse. He sought policy guidance from Chief of Staff Nasution as to how any such surrender attempt should be handled. The surrender of this group, which has been the most aggressive of all dissident elements on Sumatra, would be a severe blow to dissident morale and capabilities.

[redacted] (Page 7) (Map)

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

### Taiwan Strait Situation

Nationalist attempts to resupply Kinmen on 13 and 14 September again ran into heavy and accurate artillery fire. Of the three LSM's scheduled to unload on 13 September, only one succeeded in putting cargo--five amphibious tractors--ashore before being driven off.

[redacted] it successfully off-loaded but may have been put out of action by Communist shelling. The Nationalists continue to make limited air drops, mostly at night. The amount of supplies getting through to the Kinmen garrison by any means is very small. Resupply of Matsu continues without US escort or Communist interference.

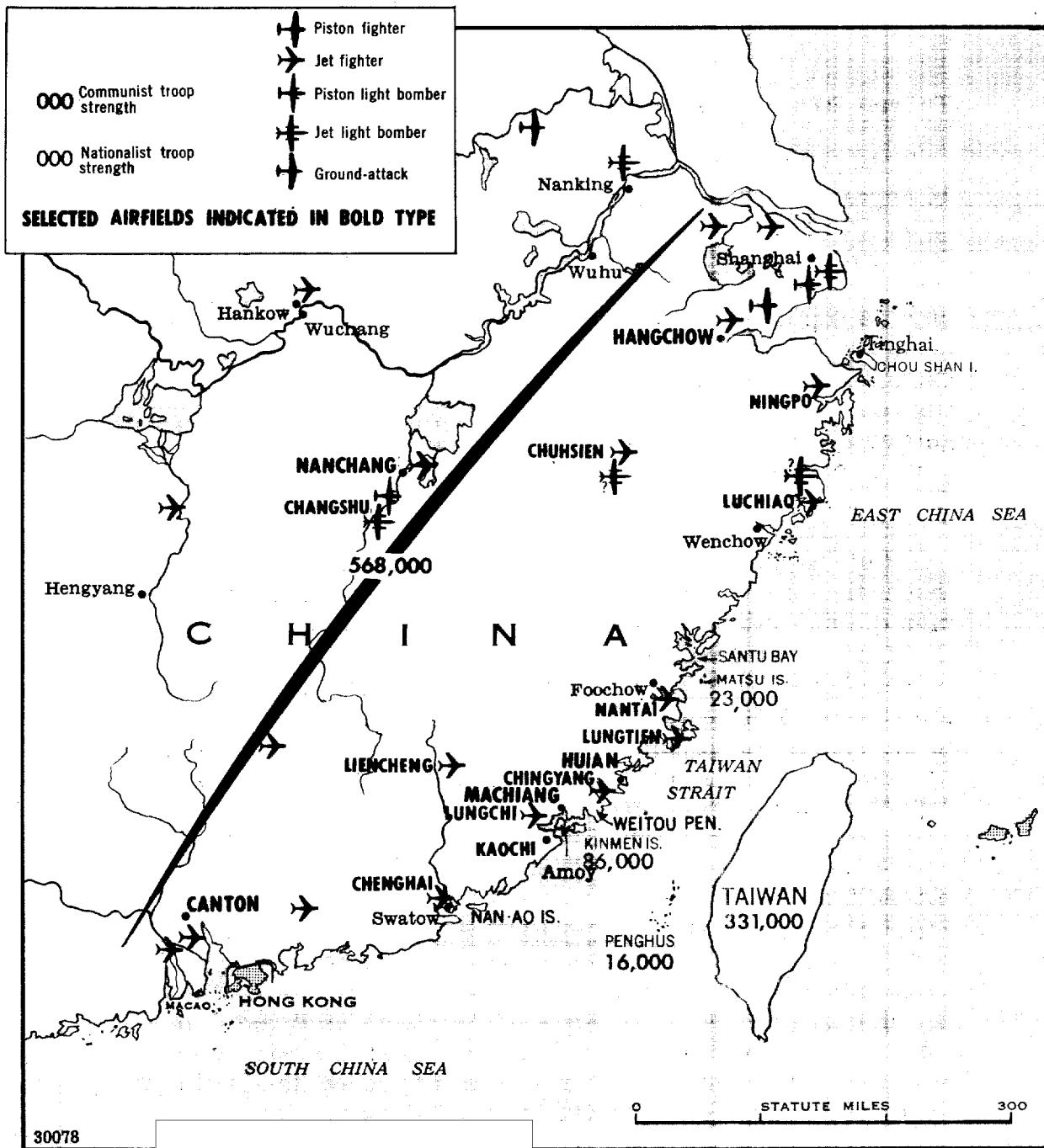
Chiang Kai-shek told Admiral Smoot on 12 September that if the US-Nationalist capability to land supplies on Kinmen did not show marked improvement in five days, "drastic steps would have to be taken." Nationalist Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Chou Shu-kai, told another official that the Control Yuan expressed anger over the resupply problem to the cabinet on 13 September. With the Legislative Yuan convening on 16 September, Chou felt that the cabinet could expect no peace from any quarter.

A large group of jet fighters, possibly a naval unit, which moved from Hainan Island to Canton to Nanchang on 9-10 September apparently continued to Hangchow on 11 September.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Associated transport flights suggest that the fighters will continue to Ningpo, from where they might deploy to one of the northern strait coastal fields.

Another large group of jet aircraft moved from the Nanchang area to Canton on 14 September. It could not be determined whether they were fighters or light bombers. It is

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possible, however, that these are jet fighters which were training in the Nanchang area on 6 September and which may have been withdrawn from some of the coastal fields for that purpose. In any case, it seems probable that they will deploy to coastal fields from Canton.

Six North China Fleet vessels--two submarines, three sub chasers, and an auxiliary--which moved from Tsingtao to Shanghai on 10 September apparently remained in that area through 12 September.

Poland has announced that the first meeting between Chinese Communist Ambassador Wang Ping-nan and Ambassador Beam will take place on 15 September in Warsaw's Mysliwiecki Palace.

In its first comment on President Eisenhower's speech, Peiping, in a People's Daily editorial on 15 September, uses abusive language in denying charges of aggression and reiterating its adamant position on Taiwan and the offshore islands. The editorial's tone is somewhat moderated in commenting on the prospect of negotiations, stating "This is not a bad thing if it is not aimed at deceiving world opinion." It warns, however, of "grave consequences" if US convoying operations do not cease, a threat which probably will be repeated at the ambassadorial talks to increase world apprehension and to underscore Peiping's insistence that the fate of the offshore islands is an internal matter.

Soviet bloc commentaries are describing the speech as indicating an "unchanged" US position and as an effort to justify "provocation" against Communist China. A Pravda editorial of 13 September suggested that the Soviet UN delegation may propose in the General Assembly session a ban on the "movement of foreign fleets for purposes of political pressure, blackmail, and provocation."

The Chinese Communists are using the Taiwan Strait situation to expand the regime's militia organizations and integrate them with the new "communes," where they are to strengthen control over the peasants and provide a large organized labor

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pool. Peiping's propaganda asserts that militiamen will fight the US "with arms in one hand and tools in the other." [redacted]

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

UAR Reports on Iraqi Affairs

[redacted] continuing conflicts within the new regime in Baghdad and growing Egyptian involvement in Iraqi affairs. The question of union with the UAR is apparently a major cause of the internal struggle, and Nasir is attempting to allay suspicions of various Iraqis regarding his intentions.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Arif had convinced Qasim of the "necessity" of replacing Iraqi civilian cabinet ministers with members of the army. However, Arif's own status is unclear, since it was announced in Baghdad on 12 September that he had been relieved of his position as deputy chief of staff. He still retains his dual position as minister of interior and deputy prime minister [redacted]

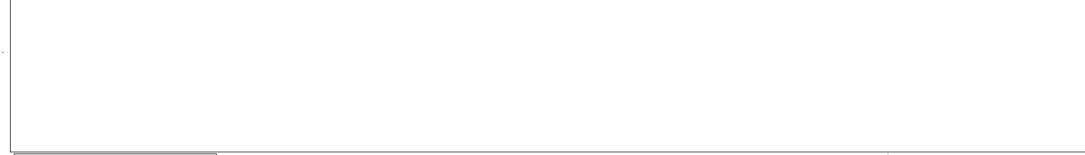
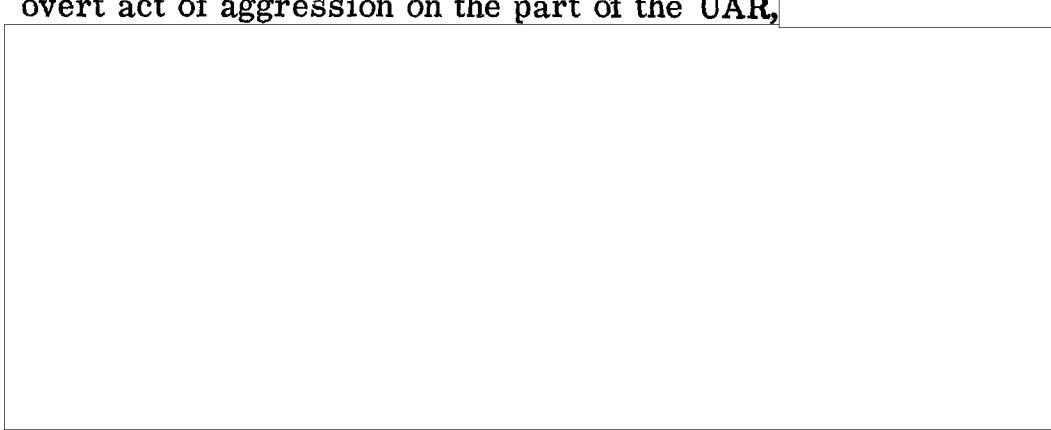
[redacted]

Sources: NSA 3/0/QOD/T21452, T21238, and T21245, 6, 9, and 11 Sept 58 (Top Secret Eider).

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~~TOP SECRET~~Israeli Concern Over Jordanian Situation

Israeli Foreign Minister Meir has suggested that, if Nasir's domination of Jordan becomes apparent, Israel may move to occupy Jordanian territory without waiting for any overt act of aggression on the part of the UAR,

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~~TOP SECRET~~UAR Activities in Morocco

The UAR ambassador in Rabat, [redacted]

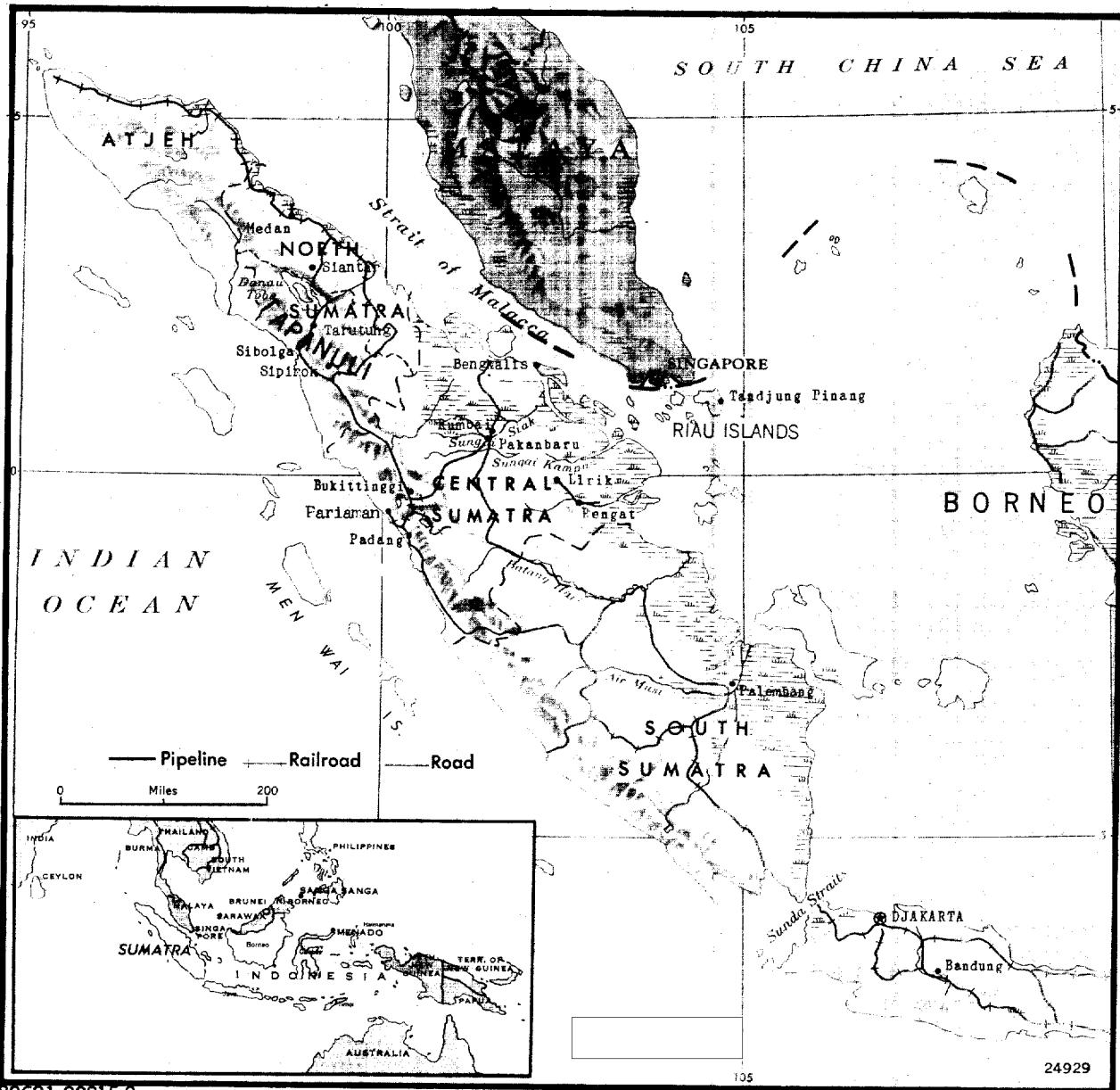
[redacted] suggested that three prominent Moroccans representing various political tendencies be invited to visit Cairo. Istiqlal left-wing leader Mehdi ben Barka, president of the Moroccan Consultative Assembly, had requested an official invitation for himself, according to the ambassador. The ambassador recommended that the first invitation be sent to Ben Barka with the suggestion that he include Cairo in his proposed visit to Peiping next month. Ben Barka is currently allied with Moroccan Vice Premier Abderrahim Bouabid and labor leader Mahjoub ben Seddik in an effort to wrest control of the party and government from moderate Premier Balafrej and to limit severely the power and influence of King Mohamed V.

The ambassador suggested that a second invitation be directed simultaneously to the influential Istiqlal theoretician, Allal el-Fassi, "out of flattery to him." El-Fassi--notably cool toward Cairo for the past year--has been actively attempting to heal the breach between the moderate and left-wing factions of the party.

The ambassador's third recommendation was that Nasir send a letter to the Moroccan King inviting him to Cairo and expressing support for his position regarding the withdrawal of foreign troops from North Africa, for Algeria, and for liberation of North Africa from the vestiges of imperialism. Such a letter, he said, would reassure the King and "put an end to the intrigue which wishes to portray us as the greedy one who is desirous of imposing his authority on North Africa."

The American Embassy in Rabat reports that since the UAR ambassador's arrival this summer he has attempted to present himself as the conscience of the Arabs. He and the UAR military attaché, who maintains close contacts with Algerian rebels in Morocco, with the Istiqlal left wing, and with Moroccan irregulars are probably attempting to cultivate all groups in an effort to enhance Cairo's influence during the present political instability in Morocco. [redacted]

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~~TOP SECRET~~Major Dissident Group on Sumatra May Surrender

Ever since the collapse of formal resistance to central government forces on Sumatra last May, the Tapanuli dissidents have been perhaps the most active and effective of all rebel elements on the island in mounting guerrilla attacks on central government outposts and lines of communication. During the first half of August, they maintained a sustained offensive against major government-held towns in Tapanuli, but their activities have since subsided, probably because of the virtual exhaustion of their slender stocks of ammunition. In addition, communications intelligence contains some indication of differences between the two major dissident commanders in North Sumatra, which might also be a factor inclining the Tapanuli elements toward surrender.

The surrender of their forces in Tapanuli would be a severe blow to the morale and capabilities of the Sumatran dissidents and would greatly facilitate the central government's task of suppressing by military means those rebel elements still remaining in the field in Central Sumatra and the east coast region of North Sumatra.

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Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Office of Defense and Civilian Mobilization

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Special Adviser to the President

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Administration

The Counselor

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The Secretary of Defense

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