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27 September 1957

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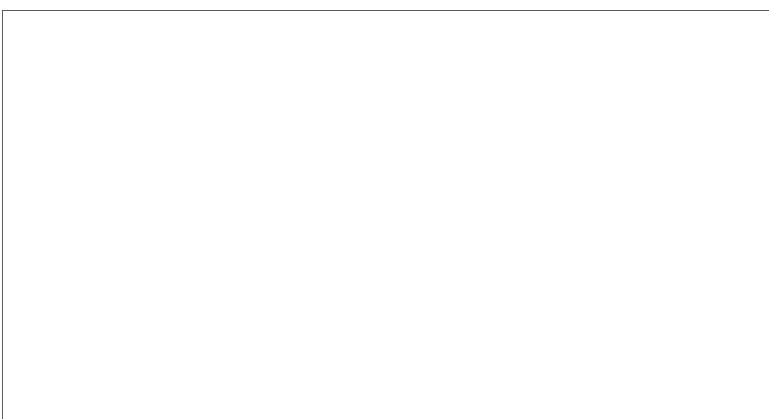
# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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**OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE**  
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## CONTENTS

*OK*

1. USSR CONTINUES NUCLEAR TESTS [ ]  
(page 3).

*No*

2. SAUDI ENVOY REPORTS JORDAN SITUATION STILL  
CRITICAL [ ] (page 4).

*No*

3. YEMENI CROWN PRINCE ALLEGEDLY ASSURED OF  
CZECH ARMS IN SUCCESSION FIGHT [ ] (page 5).

*No*

4. BELGIUM PREPARED TO CLOSE CZECH CONSULATE IN  
CONGO [ ] (page 6).

*No*

5. FRENCH GOVERNMENT FACES CENSURE MOTION  
[ ] (page 7).

ANNEX--Conclusions of the Watch Report of the Intelligence  
Advisory Committee [ ]  
[ ] (page 8).

~~SECRET~~**1. USSR CONTINUES NUCLEAR TESTS**

[redacted] [redacted]  
[redacted] another Soviet nuclear  
explosion occurred at 0500 GMT on 26  
September at the Semipalatinsk proving  
ground.

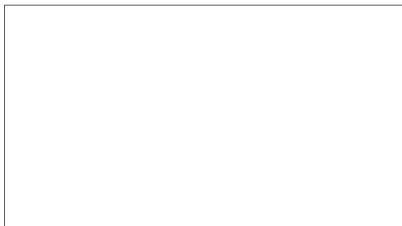
[redacted]

Comment This is the 12th Soviet nuclear test detected this year. Two tests have been conducted at Semipalatinsk and two off the east coast of Novaya Zemlya this month. The frequency and extent of tests thus far observed in the 1957 series suggests a high degree of urgency in the conduct of the program and is indicative of a considerable technical and logistical support capability for nuclear test operations.

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## 2. SAUDI ENVOY REPORTS JORDAN SITUATION STILL CRITICAL



[redacted] public opinion

[redacted] in Jordan is beginning to grumble against the conduct of the present government,"

that the "prevailing opinion in all circles is to change the present government," and that "the majority of army officers are dissatisfied with the present situation and they have expressed their complaints." [redacted] added a number of details on recent events unfavorable to the government, and concluded that as a result of these factors, "it is expected that the present government will not last long."

### Comment

A pessimistic report such as this on Jordan's internal situation is likely to strengthen the belief of Prince Faysal and King Saud that some accommodation must be reached with Syria, the main base for subversive efforts against the Jordanian government. Jordan's King Hussayn is particularly fearful that Saudi support for his policies may weaken as a result of the current visit to Damascus by Saud and Iraqi Prime Minister Ali Jawdat.

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### 3. YEMENI CROWN PRINCE ALLEGEDLY ASSURED OF CZECH ARMS IN SUCCESSION FIGHT

The Yemeni minister in Cairo, Abu Taleb, has informed Ambassador Hare that during a recent trip to Czechoslovakia he was told by a Czech official

that Prague had received an appeal for arms support from Yemen's Crown Prince Badr. According to Taleb, Badr had reported growing opposition to his succession to the Imamate and asked the Czechs to ship him light weapons to control a possible tribal outbreak. The Czech official allegedly asserted that his government is prepared to assist Badr in every way possible and would send the arms.

#### Comment

Badr reportedly has been one of the leading advocates of Yemen's military and economic deals with the Soviet bloc, and it is accordingly possible that the Czech government would send arms specifically to support his bid for the throne. This report, however, appears to be part of the increasingly active contest for Western favor being carried on by partisans of the two leading contenders for the Imamate. Abu Taleb, [redacted] is a supporter of Prince Hassan, the Imam's eldest brother. Badr, the Imam's son, recently made a bid for American financial aid, claiming that it is Hassan who is supported by Egypt and, indirectly, the Soviet bloc.

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#### 4. BELGIUM PREPARED TO CLOSE CZECH CONSULATE IN CONGO

Comment on:

The Belgian government plans to order closure of the Czech consulate in the Belgian Congo on 15 October if Prague does not give a satisfactory reply by 30 September to a Belgian memorandum, presumably concerning the arrest in October 1956 of four Czech employees of the Belgian legation in Prague.

Brussels has become increasingly sensitive to all foreign influence in the Congo since the June racial riot in Leopoldville. It has refused Polish and Soviet requests to open consular posts in the Congo. The only other Soviet bloc diplomatic posts in Africa south of the Sahara are in Ethiopia and South Africa.

## 5. FRENCH GOVERNMENT FACES CENSURE MOTION

### Comment on:

If French Premier Bourges-Maunoury fails to bring the proposed basic statute for Algeria to a vote before the start of the regular session of the National Assembly on 1 October, he may not get

another chance. The American embassy in Paris reports that the Communists have taken the lead in attempts to drag out the debate, presumably in the expectation that economic issues will be given precedence over Algeria when the regular session begins. Censure motions already filed on Finance Minister Giscard's austerity program are expected to be considered immediately after the election of the assembly president and the appointment of committees.

Even if Bourges-Maunoury succeeds in winning assembly backing this week for the Algerian statute, deputies willing to support him on this issue may desert him on the economic censure vote and bring about his fall.

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Watch Report 373, 26 September 1957  
of the  
Intelligence Advisory Committee

[Redacted]  
Conclusions on Indications of Hostilities

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the Intelligence Advisory Committee concludes that:

- A. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against the continental US or its possessions in the immediate future.
  - B. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against US forces abroad, US allies or areas peripheral to the orbit in the immediate future.
  - C. Unstable conditions and tensions stemming from developments concerning Syria continue to create possibilities for conflict in the Middle East. Although Turkey is in position to launch an attack against Syria with little or no warning, an evaluation of available evidence does not indicate that Turkey intends to do so in the immediate future.
- [Redacted]

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