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24 February 1958

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

no Soviet leadership: According to rumors current in Moscow, Suslov and other members of the party presidium are highly annoyed with Khrushchev for publicly proposing to abolish machine tractor stations last month before discussing this idea in the presidium. These rumors and the fact that Khrushchev's proposals have received relatively little attention in the Soviet press tend to support speculation that Soviet leaders may be embroiled in an internal policy dispute.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

OK
Indonesia: The attacks by the Indonesian Air Force against dissident strongholds on Sumatra and the North Celebes are in line with the central government's announced intention to suppress the rebels by all available means.

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OK
Turkey: The government's investigation of conspiracy charges against several army officers who were arrested in mid-January has failed to uncover evidence that they had been planning a coup d'etat. Problems of army discipline and morale, largely due to poor pay, continue to inspire criticism of the Menderes regime.

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DAILY BRIEF

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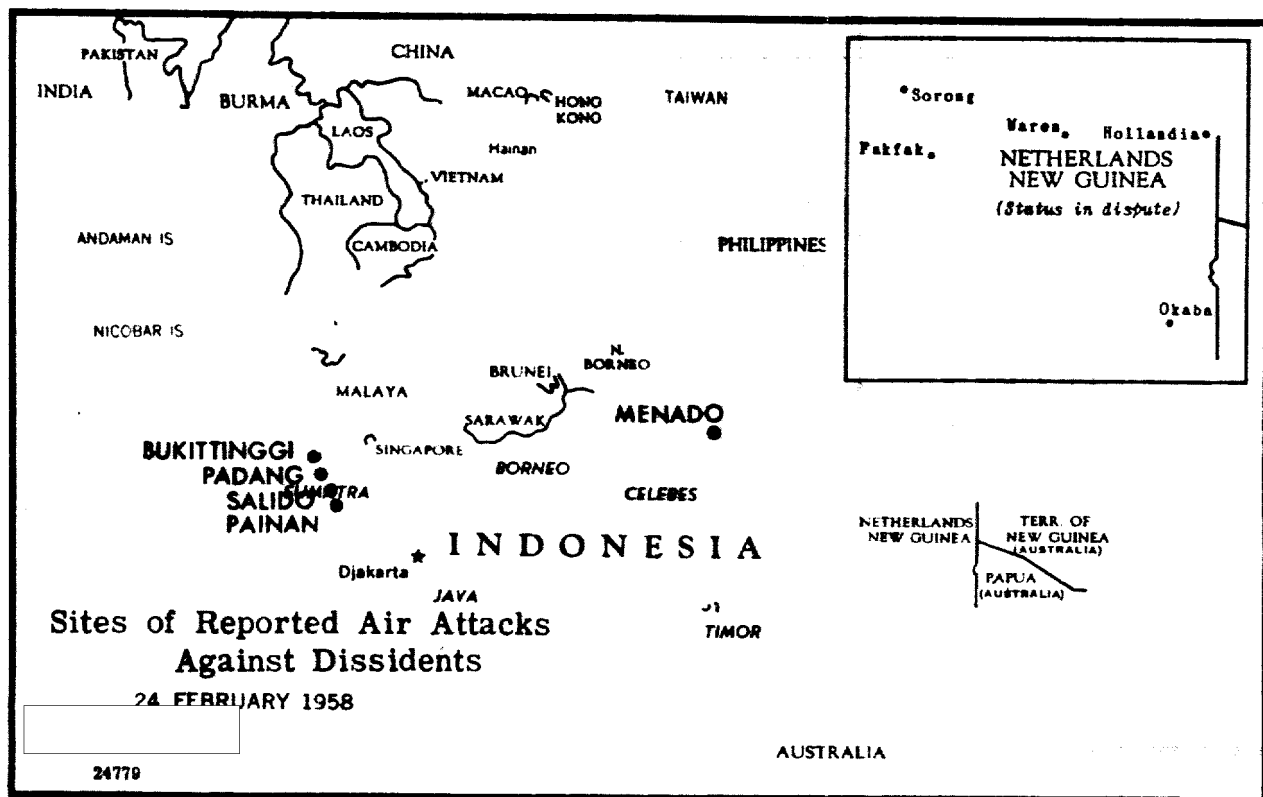
III. THE WEST

no Finland: Local Communist agitation against Finland's joining the OEEC or any other Western economic grouping is becoming increasingly strong. The Finnish Government suspects this agitation may be Soviet-inspired and is taking a cautious attitude toward formal membership in the OEEC. Government officials remain convinced, however, that Finland must eventually be associated with Western economic projects in some manner if the country is not to lose its Western markets and drift into the Soviet economic orbit.

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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC
No Back-up Material.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Djakarta Apparently Plans Concerted Effort to
Crush Dissidents

Continuing air attacks by the Indonesian Air Force on dissident centers in Central Sumatra and North Celebes are in line with the central government's announced intention to crush the rebels by all available means. Bombing targets so far have been transportation and communication centers, presumably in an effort to isolate rebel areas as much as possible. Preparations are also apparently under way for the use of air- and sea-borne troops against rebel strongholds in Central Sumatra.

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Tension Growing Between Morocco and France

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Rabat's concern about the situation on the southern border was demonstrated on 19 February when three top cabinet ministers flew to the Agadir area to review the situation. On his return the foreign minister stated that the situation was extremely sensitive due to collaboration of Spanish and French troops in Saharan areas claimed as part of a greater Morocco by nationalists. The Spanish foreign minister says that the boundary problem is the most important for Spain and is willing to reach a settlement if the southern boundary of Morocco is guaranteed by the US and other powers.

French embassy officials in Rabat are convinced that relations with Morocco depend on the course of French-Tunisian relations, and they have been reluctant to proceed with any negotiations on outstanding problems in view of the prevailing popular feeling against France.

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Alleged Turkish Military Plotters Exonerated

Eight of the nine Turkish army officers arrested in early January on charges of conspiring against the government have been released, apparently completely exonerated. One officer is still under arrest for spreading the malicious information about his fellow officers which led to the widespread military investigation.

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The full repercussions from the alleged conspiracy against the regime of Prime Minister Menderes are probably not yet apparent. Suspicion and resentment have been sown widely, even spreading to the air force and the navy. At least 16 high-ranking army officers were transferred from western Turkey on 8 January and several general officers were forced to retire,

Contrary to earlier expectations, the Turkish Government has made no move to exploit the incident in an attempt to discredit its political opposition. The initial reaction of the Menderes regime suggests great concern, however, over the potential threat to political stability and the regime's existence. The regime may now move with greater caution in its economic and political programs and will probably attempt to remove some of the causes of discontent, especially among the military.

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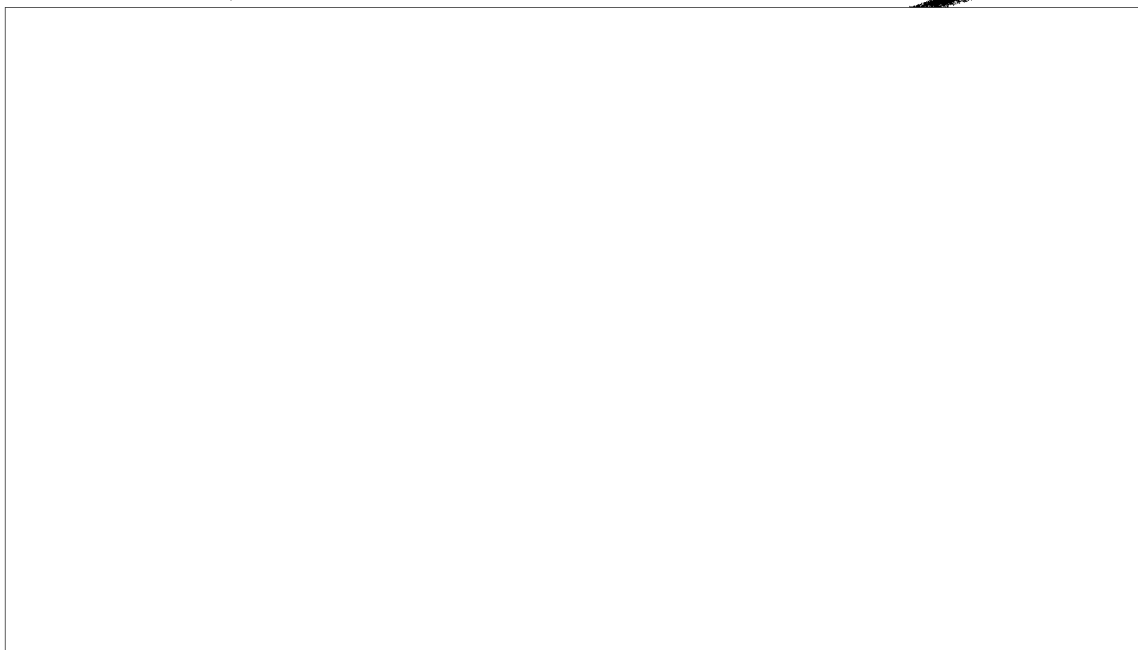
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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC



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