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19 April 1958

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

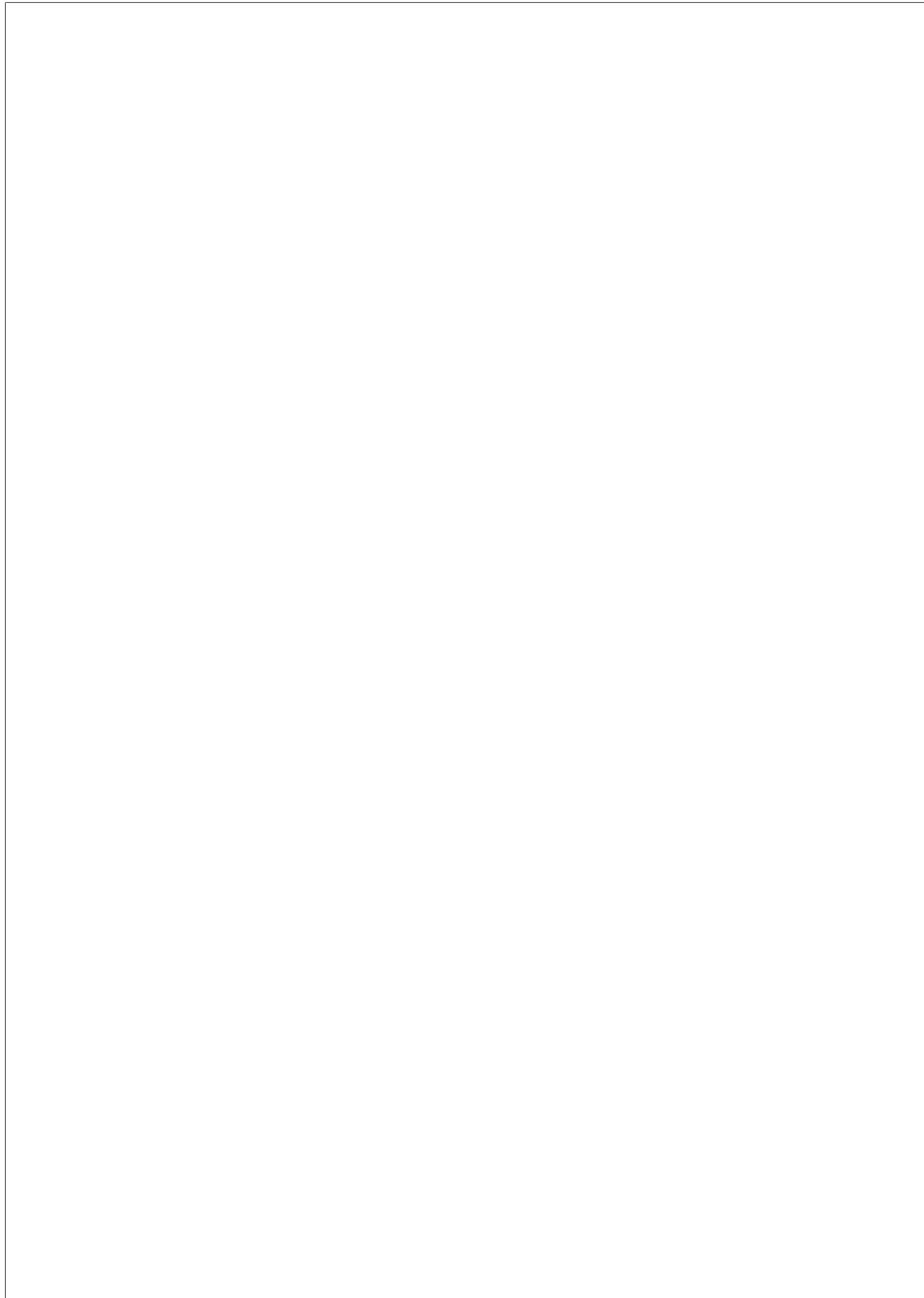
BULLETIN



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19 APRIL 1958

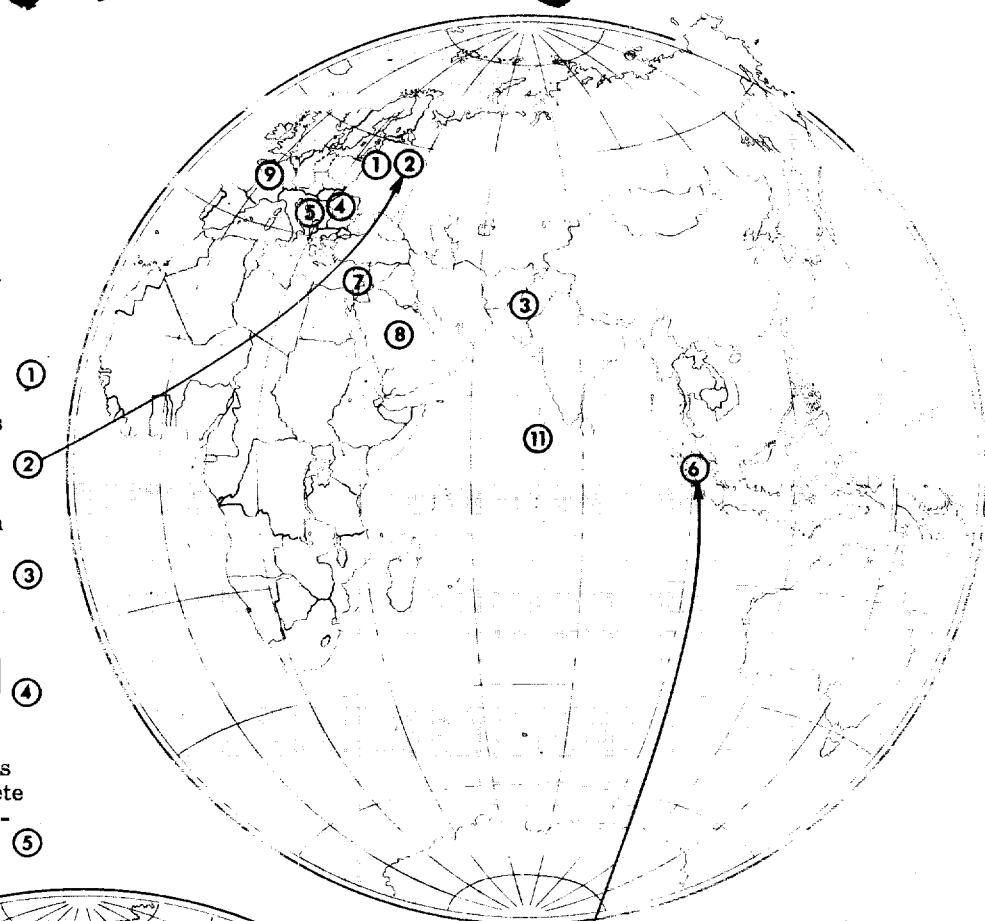
## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Soviet protest on US flights toward USSR is tactic aimed at placing US on defensive during important negotiations; Gromyko wants separate rather than joint ambassadorial talks to probe for Western divergences.

Pravda for second day running issues what may be warning to Khrushchev opponents.

Soviet protest to Pakistan on Western military bases aimed at harassing Pakistani negotiations with US.

Bloc receives order from UAR for substantial quantity of late-model weapons for Syria.  

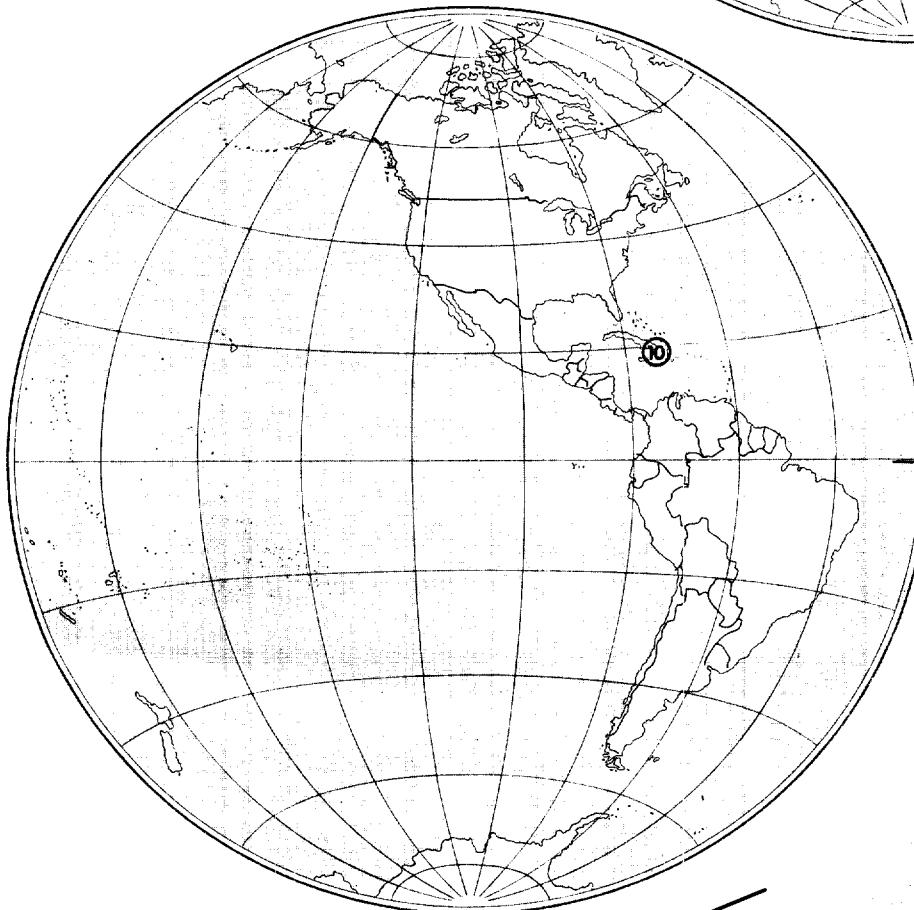


## II. ASIA-AFRICA

⑥ Indonesian government forces pushing toward Bukittinggi; dissidents in Sumatra plan to take up guerrilla tactics; campaign against dissidents in North Celebes planned for last week in April.

⑦ Lebanon - Civil disturbances against Chamoun government continue with support from Syria.

⑧ Text of supplementary royal Saudi Arabian decree reveals details of Faysal's powers.



## III. THE WEST

⑨ French President may give Soustelle first chance at forming new government.

⑩ Haitian President Duvalier in weakest position since inauguration; continued army support uncertain.

⑪ Maldivian Islanders delay British in building of air base.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

19 April 1958

## DAILY BRIEF

SIRAB

## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

*No*

USSR--Summit tactics: In bringing a protest to the UN Security Council against alleged flights of United States bombers carrying nuclear weapons across the Arctic toward Soviet frontiers, the USSR has reverted to a standard Soviet device designed to place the United States on the defensive during important negotiations. This move has the same purpose as Gromyko's attack last June on NATO commander Norstad on the day when the US delegate to the London disarmament talks was scheduled to outline the American response to the USSR's proposal for a test suspension. Moscow is seeking to discredit US intentions and generate distrust of US leadership at the opening of the diplomatic talks on summit preparations.

(Page 1)

*No*

\*Foreign Minister Gromyko has told the three Western ambassadors that he wants separate meetings with them and that, if the West insisted on joint meetings, he would propose the inclusion of other ambassadors such as those from Poland and Czechoslovakia. Presumably Gromyko hopes to use this device to probe any divergence of views among the three Western powers and to emphasize the Soviet position on parity of representation at a summit meeting. Despite the USSR's previous position that ambassadors should only discuss procedural arrangements for a foreign ministers' meeting, Gromyko queried Ambassador Thompson about appropriate topics for negotiation.

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*no*

Soviet leadership: Pravda on two successive days has published what may be a warning to the opponents of Khrushchev's policies. Although not specifically referring to opposition to his Machine Tractor Station proposal, Pravda at some length listed agricultural policies opposed by the "antiparty group of Molotov, Malenkov, and Kaganovich" and warned that the party "has overcome and will continue to overcome" any obstacles in the way of building a Communist society. The pre-election speech of Party Secretary Suslov and some other evidence suggest that he may not be in sympathy with Khrushchev. Khrushchev has given the impression recently of being tired and ill-tempered, some of which may be due to factors other than the rigors of the Hungarian visit.   (Page 2)

*yes*

USSR - Pakistan: The most recent move in the Soviet propaganda campaign against Western military bases is a formal note of protest to Pakistan, attacking the establishment of American bases on Pakistani territory. Soviet pressure probably is intended to embarrass current American-Pakistani negotiations on the establishment of a United States Air Force communications facility and may cause the Pakistanis to stall or seek greater concessions in the Washington military and economic aid talks in late April.   (Page 3)

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\* USSR - Yugoslavia: The latest issue of the Soviet party journal, Kommunist, has broken the uneasy Yugoslav-Soviet ideological truce by condemning virtually every significant section of the program for the Yugoslav party congress next week. The Yugoslavs, who had made concessions on the foreign policy sections of the program following a discussion in Moscow between Khrushchev and the Yugoslav ambassador, will reply in kind. The Soviet attack is the most complete repudiation of Yugoslav dogma since the reconciliation in 1955.

(Page 4)

## II. ASIA-AFRICA

720

Indonesia: Having occupied Padang, central government forces are pushing on toward the last dissident stronghold at Bukittinggi, where dissident troops are expected to make only a token stand. Most dissident troops are regrouping in the mountains a few miles east of Bukittinggi, [redacted]

[redacted] a military campaign against North Celebes to begin the last week of April. Four battalions and a "cavalry" detachment will be used. [redacted]

(Page 5) (Map)

No

Lebanon: The authorities continue to be plagued with internal security problems, created in large part by infiltration of weapons and armed parties from Syria. Although the pro-Western government has suppressed several outbreaks of violence by elements who oppose President Chamoun, further attempts at civil disturbances by these elements seem likely. Opposition elements are presumably aware that General Shihab will support the present government. [redacted]

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**Saudi Arabia:** The text of an unpublished supplement to King Saud's decree issued on 22 March, which details the authority relinquished by him to Crown Prince Faysal, reveals that Faysal's jurisdiction now extends over such former royal preserves as the national guard, the government of the Eastern Province where Aramco's interests are centered, and payments to the Bedouin tribal leaders. Saud apparently retains ultimate formal authority, as well as command of the royal guard, the kingdom's best-equipped armed force, and his son, Prince Fahad, is still minister of defense.

(Page 8)

### III. THE WEST

*260*  
**France:** Speculation continues that President Coty may call on the Social Republican, Jacques Soustelle, to make the initial attempt to form a new government during the period between the two local election dates of 20 and 27 April. Such a move would permit Soustelle to exploit anti-American sentiment to try to rally support for the return of General de Gaulle. This prospect might in turn prod the major nonextremist parties into earlier efforts to reach a compromise solution and avert a long crisis.

(Page 9)

*262*  
**Haiti:** President Duvalier seems to be in a weaker position than at any time since his inauguration last October. He is uncertain of continued support from the army, because of growing tension among the officers and friction between the President and his recently appointed chief of staff.

(Page 10)

*263*  
**Britain-Maldives Islands:** London fears further delays in construction of an air staging base on Gan Island in the Maldives Islands, a vital alternative to transit facilities on Ceylon which Britain is relinquishing. Britain is prepared

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to conciliate the Maldivians by granting considerable autonomy in foreign relations. The Maldivians have already sought support from India and Ceylon and may stir up a propaganda campaign which would damage Britain's relations with countries in the Indian Ocean area.

(Page 11) (Map)

19 Apr 58

DAILY BRIEF

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

### Soviet Protest Against Alleged US Bomber Flights

The USSR's request for an immediate United Nations Security Council meeting to consider a Soviet protest against alleged flights of American bombers carrying nuclear weapons across the Arctic toward Soviet frontiers appears aimed at disrupting Western unity in the current Moscow talks on preparations for a summit conference. By portraying American policy as provocative and irresponsible, Moscow hopes to generate distrust of United States leadership and force Britain and France, under pressure of public opinion, to break with American views on prerequisites for summit talks.

The appeal to the UN was foreshadowed by Khrushchev's statement during an interview on 14 April with the Belgian ambassador and Queen Mother Elizabeth that American planes were carrying atomic bombs toward the USSR. He said he would produce documentary evidence to support this charge later. He conceded that the US planes in question had not overflowed Soviet territory, but claimed that other American aircraft had done so recently.

The Soviet press and radio are renewing earlier warnings of "catastrophic consequences" in the event of war for those Western European nations that permit the establishment of nuclear stockpiles and missile sites on their territory. Moscow has also denounced the Paris meeting of NATO defense ministers as heightening international tension and hindering summit talks. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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### Signs of Stress in Soviet Leadership

Khrushchev appears to be showing signs of strain. His speech immediately after his return from Hungary was disjointed in its delivery and contained many jumbled phrases and unfinished sentences. Foreigners who have seen him recently have said that he looks tired and lacks his customary bounce; particularly crude remarks by Khrushchev have also been noted.

These tensions may be symptomatic of increased stress in the leadership as a whole; there is considerable evidence that opposition to Khrushchev's agricultural policies continues. Pravda on two successive days has warned opposition elements that failure to fall in line will place them in a class with the "antiparty group" of Molotov, Malenkov, and Kaganovich, and it has issued a broader warning that the party "has broken in the past and will break in the future" all obstacles standing in its way. Although the editorials do not pinpoint the dissidence on this issue, there have been several indications that Party Secretary Suslov is opposed to Khrushchev.

During the same period, First Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov abruptly withdrew a note he had only just handed to Ambassador Thompson--possibly a sign of confusion in the leadership. More recently, Mikoyan admitted that the Soviet Union had overestimated popular opinion in favor of a summit conference--perhaps implying that in his own view the issue had been pushed too vigorously.

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~~SECRET~~Soviet Protest to Pakistan

On 17 April, Moscow made its first formal protest to Karachi on the establishment of American military facilities on Pakistani territory. This is in line with Soviet attempts to hamper Western efforts to strengthen military cooperation of Baghdad Pact and SEATO countries and is probably intended to embarrass current American-Pakistani negotiations on military assistance. Soviet Ambassador Shpedko declined Prime Minister Noon's offer to escort him to any suspected location in order to disprove the charges.

Moscow propaganda has made frequent reference to the establishment of American air and "atomic" bases in Pakistan, including the repetition of erroneous Indian allegations regarding jet airfields in Gilgit and Kashmir. Moscow is exploiting Pakistan's economic troubles by charging they are the product of military obligations forced on the country by its ties to the West.

Continued strong Soviet pressure on this subject might cause the Pakistani Government to delay signature of the communications agreement now under discussion, pending a review of the situation. The Pakistanis also might use Soviet protests to seek additional military and economic aid from the United States during the forthcoming visits to Washington in late April and early May of the finance minister and the commanders of the army and air force. [redacted]

[redacted]

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### USSR Attacks Yugoslav Party Program

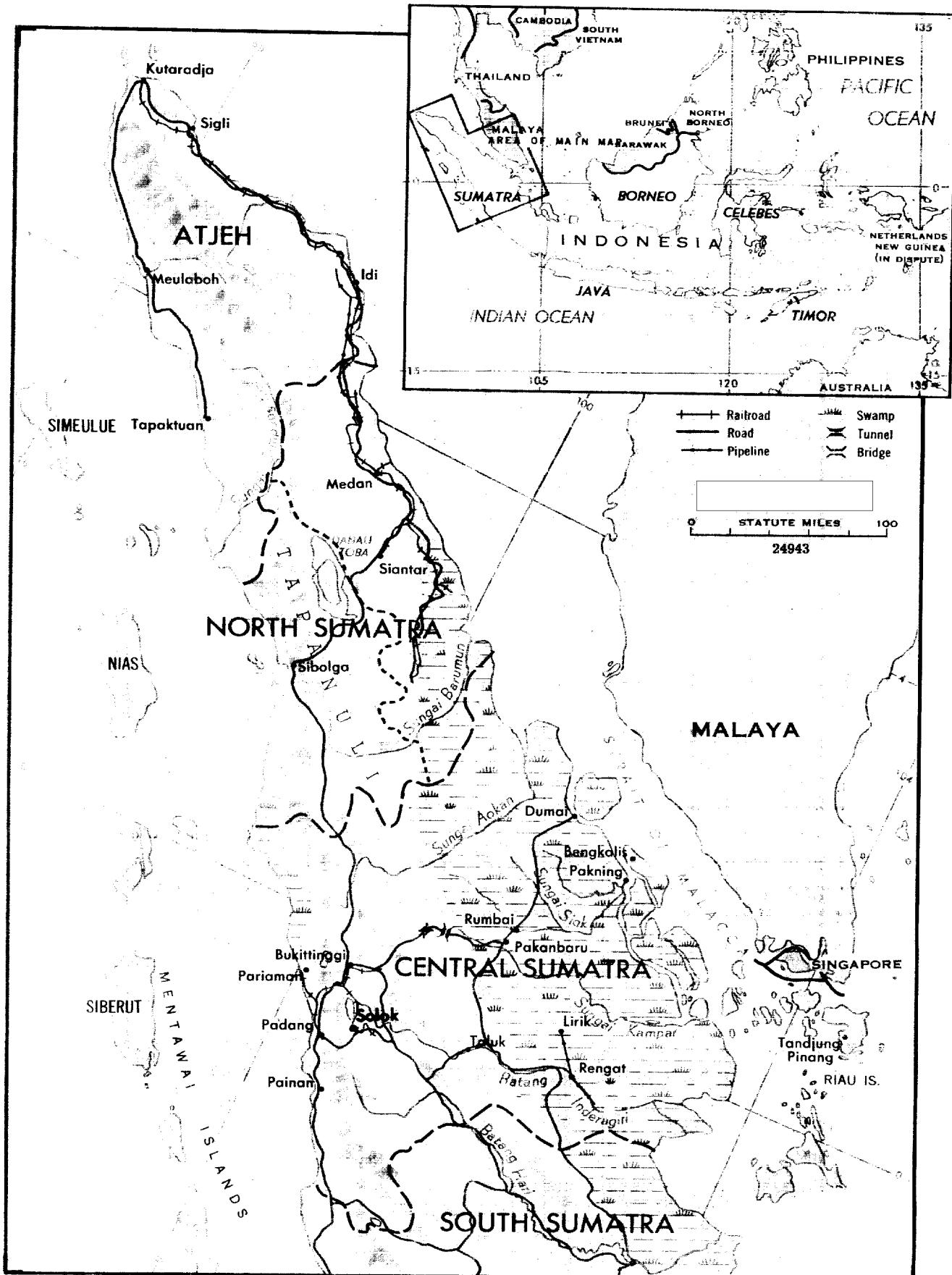
The latest issue of the Soviet party journal Kommunist condemns virtually every significant section of the Yugoslav party program and undoubtedly heralds Moscow's intention to read Belgrade out of the Communist world unless the Yugoslavs make extensive alteration in the program next week at their party congress. It now appears probable that the bloc parties will not be represented by official delegations at the Yugoslav congress. The attack on Yugoslav dogma will probably strengthen the hand of the hard-line Communists in Eastern Europe and place Gomulka in a difficult position with his party and with the bloc generally in view of his announced intention to receive Tito in Warsaw next month.

The Soviet announcement in early April that Voroshilov, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, would visit Yugoslavia in May could be evidence that Moscow hopes to maintain good state relations with Belgrade, whose stand on foreign policy is still valuable to the USSR.

The Yugoslavs undoubtedly will vigorously defend their program particularly since they have recently made concessions on certain of its foreign policy aspects following a meeting between Khrushchev and the Yugoslav ambassador in Moscow on the draft program. Although Tito will regret the sharpness of the Soviet attack, he has the opportunity by standing up to the USSR to strengthen his currently declining domestic support as well as his international position.

In view of its stand in the past that Khrushchev was the most sympathetic Soviet leader toward the Yugoslav brand of Communism, Belgrade may interpret this article as a sign that Khrushchev has yielded to the "Stalinist wing" of the Soviet party. [redacted]

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

### Indonesia

Central government forces are pushing on toward Bukittinggi, about 52 miles from Padang. Another government column will probably move toward Solok in an effort to link up with elements proceeding overland from the east. The dissidents are said to be hampered in employing conventional defense tactics by inexperienced leadership, lack of fire discipline, and poor lateral communications.

[redacted] the American Embassy in Djakarta claims to have information that the dissident government will shift its headquarters to Menado, in North Celebes, after the fall of Bukittinggi, leaving Hussein to conduct guerrilla warfare in Sumatra.

In North Sumatra, a central government battalion has been ordered to pursue dissident remnants fleeing into East Atjeh after having been driven from an area just to the northwest of Medan.

In Djakarta, President Sukarno has ordered the minister for veterans affairs to organize and arm veterans in a Nazi-SS type of organization as an offset to the army if and when necessary, [redacted]. There have been rumors that the Communists backed such an organization, but no positive evidence has been uncovered.

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Two corvettes for the Indonesian Navy are en route to Djakarta from Italy, where they were built on contract; they are scheduled to leave Colombo, Ceylon, by 28 April. A direct foreign exchange Soviet loan of \$25,000,000 which would be negotiated under the \$100,000,000 Soviet credit may be under discussion in Djakarta.

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### Lebanese Security Situation

Despite the success of the Lebanese Government in suppressing or warding off attempts by the anti-Chamoun opposition to create serious incidents, the internal security situation remains critical. Pro-Syrian tribes near the Syrian border have been engaged in sporadic fighting with anti-Syrian elements since 10 April; Lebanese security forces have refrained from interfering. The situation in the south has improved somewhat as a result of the government's success in countering moves by the opposition Druze faction to create disorder. Army commander Shihab's prompt support of the gendarmerie in this case, as well as his reported stern warning to opposition leaders to desist from inciting further incidents, has apparently temporarily spoiled their plans to embarrass President Chamoun by generating more serious outbreaks.

The arming of the populace, both pro-Chamoun and opposition elements, continues at a rapid pace. Chamoun has said he provided arms to "friendly" elements, and the Shah of Iran has disclosed he furnished 2,000 rifles to the President. The Egyptians and Syrians are smuggling arms into Lebanon, as well as giving guerrilla training to opposition partisans. Lebanese authorities claim to have arrested the leader of a Syrian-inspired team sent to assassinate Chamoun and have learned that up to 400 Syrian fedayeen and 300 Druze tribesmen have been planning to infiltrate Lebanon over the Ramadan holidays--18 to 21 April.

Chamoun has indicated that while at present he hopes to amend the constitution and secure re-election during the first two weeks of May, he may postpone taking action until July if he feels he lacks sufficient strength. A potentially dangerous situation may arise through Chamoun's stated intention to "provoke" the opposition into taking actions which would embarrass it.

~~TOP SECRET~~Scope of Faysal's Authority in Saudi Government Defined

A text of a supplemental decree issued by King Saud on 22 March, which details the authority relinquished by him to Crown Prince Faysal, indicates that Faysal has taken on wider authority than had previously been indicated. When all the new authority has actually been assumed by Faysal, in his capacity as chairman of the Council of Ministers, the position of the King would seem to be considerably restricted. However, Saud apparently retains command of the relatively well-equipped royal guard, and his son, Prince Fahad, is still defense minister.

The scope of Faysal's control over conduct of foreign affairs, as set forth in the supplementary decree, has been confirmed [redacted]. However, the scope of Faysal's authority in internal administrative and fiscal matters has not previously been defined.

By the terms of this decree Faysal has been given supervision of all "ministers, government departments, agencies and provinces," including the national guard (tribal forces which outnumber the army), directorate of intelligence, and the administrations of the city and province of Riyadh, of the northern frontiers, and of the Eastern Province. These entities have in the past answered directly to the King, and in practice the jurisdiction of the Council of Ministers has been confined largely to the western coastal province of the Hejaz.

In fiscal matters, all expenditures are to be within the general budget, and Faysal is specifically charged with supervising "privy purse" expenditures for the national guard, the royal guard, and payments to the Bedouin tribes. These matters were previously associated with the person of the King. The only authority specifically reserved to the King in this decree is supervision of payments to members of the royal family, once these amounts have been set, presumably by the council.

The foreign policy statement issued over Mecca radio on 18 April, affirming the government's belief in "positive neutrality," appears to confirm that the Saudi government under Faysal will return to a more neutral policy in intra-Arab matters and in relations with the rest of the world. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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### III. THE WEST

#### Coty May Ask Soustelle to Try to Form New French Government

Speculation continues that French President Rene Coty might call on Social Republican Jacques Soustelle next week to make the initial attempt to form a new government. The American Embassy understands that Coty has informally sounded out Independent leader Pinay, but that Pinay declined, probably assuming his chances will increase as the crisis worsens.

Present anti-American sentiment affords Soustelle a good opportunity to try to rally support for the return to power of General de Gaulle. Coty might call Soustelle in an effort to force the major nonextremist parties--particularly the Independents and Socialists--to speed up their efforts to arrive at a compromise choice and thereby avert a prolonged crisis.

Coty, moreover, is under pressure to make some move to clear the way for serious party negotiations. It is believed in Paris that the choice of Soustelle, whose party's organization at the grass-roots level is too weak to permit it to play a significant role in the 20 and 27 April local elections, would have less influence on the second-round vote than most other selections. Nevertheless, there is a possibility that an investiture try by Soustelle would significantly aid the right-center, thereby supporting the latter's view that there is countrywide support for its tough position on Tunisia and Algeria.

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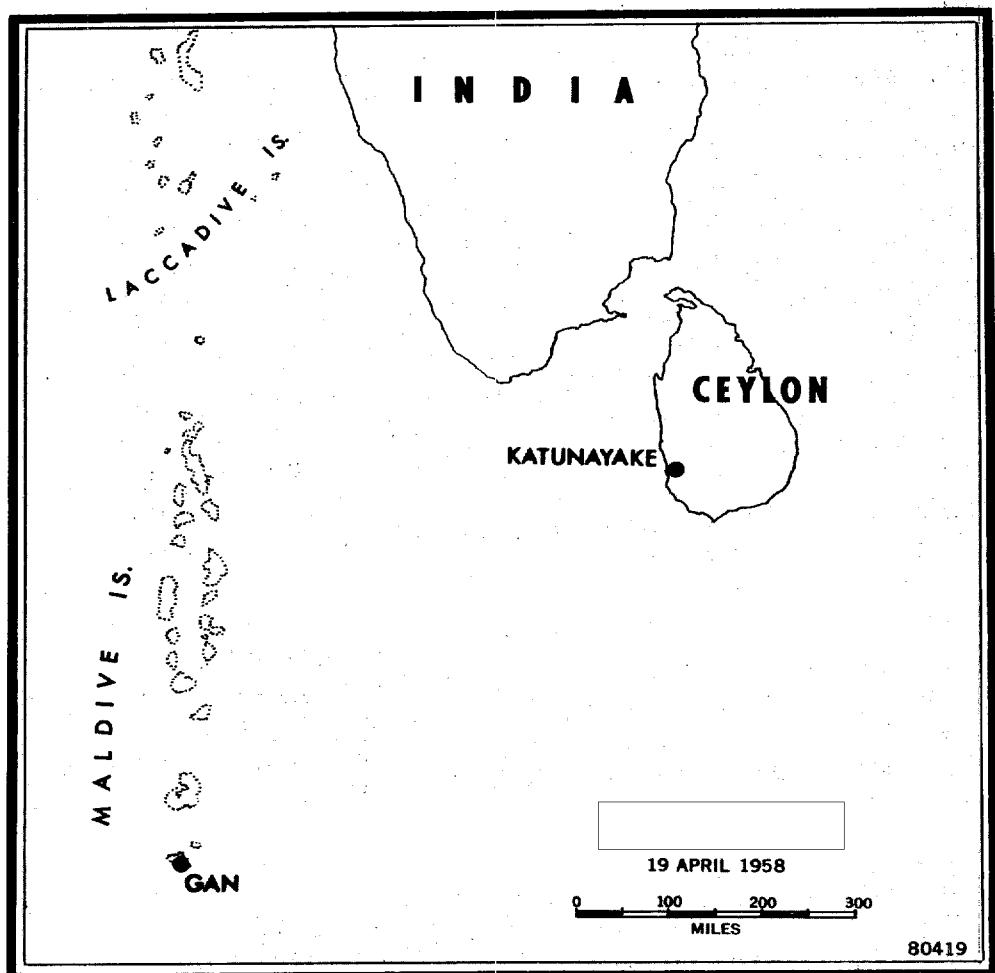
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### Growing Friction With Army Threatens Haitian President

Haiti's President Duvalier appears to be in a weaker position than at any time since his inauguration last October. Duvalier's power struggle with the army probably offers the most immediate and serious threat to his position. On 16 April the army was placed on a 100-percent alert, which was somewhat relaxed the following day. Tension is increasing because of arrests and transfers of officers, many of them ordered by Duvalier in order to replace men whose personal loyalty he doubts with others firmly committed to him. These moves have thrown Duvalier into conflict with Chief of Staff Flambert, who on at least one occasion is said to have refused to carry out an order from Duvalier. A break with Flambert might lead to a coup attempt by the army and in any case would give the Duvalier regime little chance of surviving an antigovernment move by any of the President's several political opponents.

Rumors persist that ousted Chief of Staff Kebreau is plotting against Duvalier with the support of Dominican dictator Trujillo, who has repeatedly denied involvement in Haitian politics. An anti-Duvalier radio propaganda campaign has recently begun from the Dominican Republic.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Britain-Maldives

Difficulties with the government of the British-protected Maldives Islands have caused Britain to halt reconstruction of the wartime airstrip on Gan Island, and London fears that completion of this vital air-staging base will be seriously delayed. The Gan base will be an essential refueling stop on the transit route to the Far East once facilities at Katunayake, Ceylon, are abandoned. Britain is committed to relinquish use of these by 1962 but intends to quit them earlier.

The new Maldivian Government, which came into power last December, has been attempting to renegotiate the 1956 base agreement with Britain, with arrangements for resettlement of the nearly 600 displaced islanders being the principal controversial issue. The Maldivians have not been placated by a recent British economic aid offer and have tried to arouse public support in India and Ceylon.

The British evidently fear the Maldivians, who are influenced by Cairo radio, will stir up a propaganda campaign damaging Britain's relations with countries in the Indian Ocean area. In order to speed negotiations, London is prepared to grant the Maldivian request for revision of the protectorate agreement to permit independent conduct of foreign cultural and economic relations.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

19 April 1958

New bloc arms for UAR: Substantial quantities of Soviet bloc arms, including 78 T-54 medium tanks, radar-controlled 100-mm. and 57-mm. antiaircraft guns, and small arms, were ordered by the UAR for Syria early this week. These late-model weapons are superior to similar types held by the Israelis. The UAR arms purchasing agent in Moscow was requested by Damascus to arrange for delivery to Syria by "1 May if possible." The equipment may be some of the Soviet bloc materiel purchased by Syria under a "military contract" signed in Moscow on 20 February.

NATO commander Norstad on the day when the US delegate to the London disarmament talks was scheduled to outline the American response to the USSR's proposal for a test suspension. Moscow is seeking to discredit US intentions and generate distrust of US leadership at the opening of the diplomatic talks on summit preparations.

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\*Foreign Minister Gromyko has told the three Western ambassadors that he wants separate meetings with them and that, if the West insisted on joint meetings, he would propose the inclusion of other ambassadors such as those from Poland and Czechoslovakia. Presumably Gromyko hopes to use this device to probe any divergence of views among the three Western powers and to emphasize the Soviet position on parity of representation at a summit meeting. Despite the USSR's previous position that ambassadors should only discuss procedural arrangements for a foreign ministers' meeting, Gromyko queried Ambassador Thompson about appropriate topics for negotiation.

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