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22 February 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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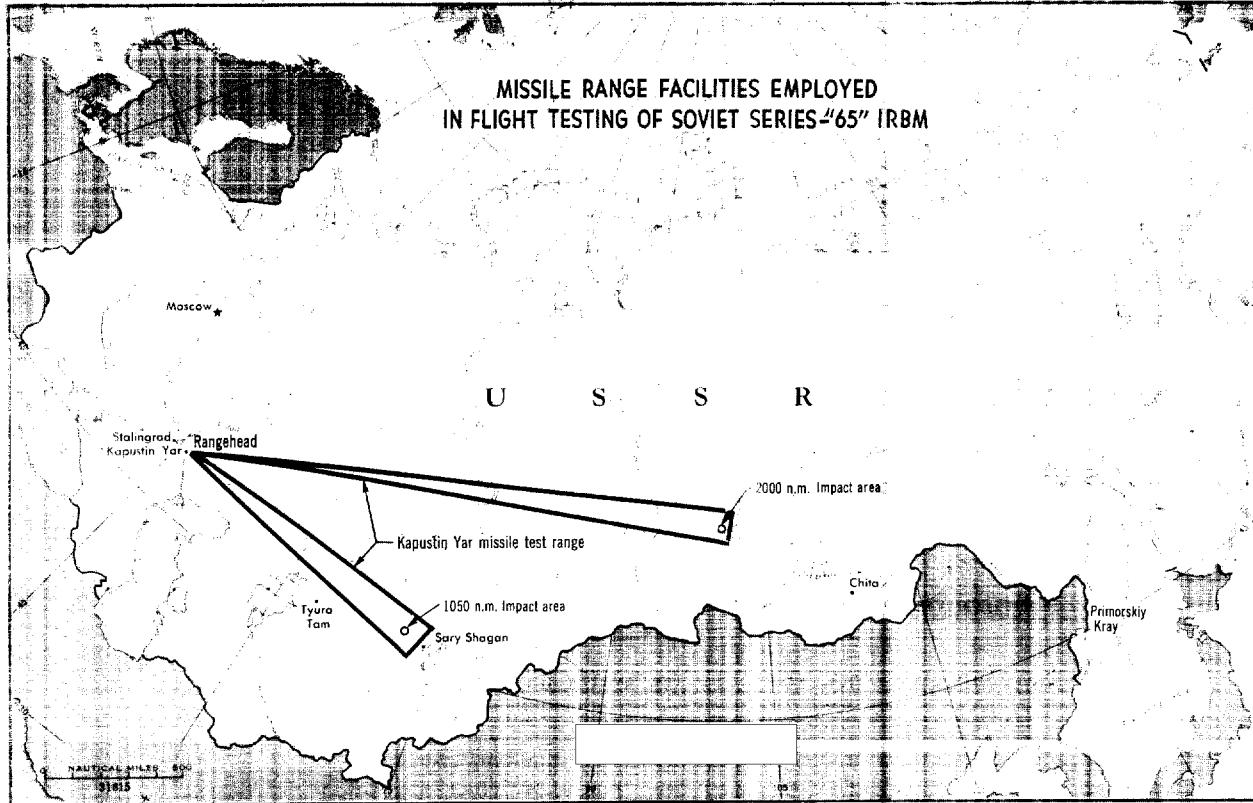
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DAILY BRIEF

USSR: The Soviet series—"65" 2,000-n.m. intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) has been undergoing intensive flight testing since last June. There have been 21 test operations to date--six of them in a recent three-week period--with only one known failure. The high priority apparently accorded to development of this new missile suggests that Soviet authorities have placed a premium on the development of a missile system which can be deployed in more secure areas within the USSR and can reach all the wartime targets on the Eurasian periphery.

(Map)

USSR-Germany: The Soviet memorandum of 17 February to Bonn probably is a reminder to the West that the Berlin and German questions remain unsolved. It may have been timed to influence Chancellor Adenauer's talks with Prime Minister Macmillan on 22 February. Although the memorandum asserted that negotiations cannot be further deferred, it avoided establishing an explicit deadline. Moscow makes no new proposals and reaffirms its long-standing positions on establishing a free city in West Berlin and concluding a German peace treaty. The memorandum does not exclude the possibility of an interim solution of the Berlin question under a definite time limit, and repeats the general threat to conclude a separate peace treaty.

Congo: Tshombé has reacted immediately and vigorously to the UN Security Council's 21 February resolution. Charging that the resolution was a "declaration of war by the UN against Katanga and the whole former Belgian Congo," he announced the

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mobilization of the province's population to "defend lives and property menaced by the United Nations." He said that the UN would be responsible for any bloodshed as a result of the resolution.

Laos: The Cambodian Foreign Ministry has informed the Laotian ambassador in Phnom Penh that Cambodia would be unable to participate in the neutral nations commission (NNC) requested by King Savang. In its note, the Cambodian ministry explained its position as due to the "unilateral" character of the proposal and its belief that such a commission could be established only after an international conference. An earlier report that Burma had accepted membership in the NNC now appears to have been erroneous.

As yet, there has been no independent comment from the bloc on the neutral nations proposal, although Hanoi and Peiping have rebroadcast Souphanouvong's bitter denunciation of this concept.

Former Laotian Premier Souvanna Phouma, accompanied by his wife and two Pathet Lao emissaries, left Phnom Penh on 21 February aboard a Soviet plane reportedly destined for the rebel government headquarters in Xieng Khouang.

Souvanna apparently planned to remain in Laos for only a few days. Soviet Ambassador Abramov has been urging Souvanna Phouma to go to Xieng Khouang. This move will strengthen the bloc's claim that he represents the "lawful government," and Souvanna will be encouraged to speak out against the neutral nations commission proposal.

Portugal: Defense Minister Botelho Moniz claims he has given Premier Salazar a virtual ultimatum that immediate economic and social reforms must be undertaken to alleviate the deteriorating situation in Angola and the other African provinces. Moniz told Salazar a few days ago that action had to be taken before the UN General Assembly reconvenes on 7 March and that

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his ministry would "take the matter into its own hands" if Salazar did not comply.

In northern Angola the leading non-Communist Angolan nationalist organization, which is based in Leopoldville, reportedly plans to launch a terror campaign about 15 March in an effort to focus world attention on Portuguese Africa while the UN General Assembly is in session.

Saudi Arabia: Rivalries within the Saudi royal family continue, and several princely factions, including backers of Crown Prince Faysal, have combined against King Saud. The King has already been forced to send two of his liberal advisers out of the country as ambassadors. A showdown over the King's "progressive" cabinet and its "liberal reform" policies is likely. However, dissension will continue and will weaken the family's hold on the country. This development would give further encouragement to anti-monarchical elements, which include some army officers as well as disgruntled younger Saudi "intellectuals."

*Burma: Press reports of yesterday's rioting in Rangoon are essentially accurate. They were the most violent anti-American demonstrations ever held in Burma; well planned and directed, they probably have set the stage for further disturbances. The leaders were leftist students from the Communist-dominated Rangoon University Student Union and the All Burma Federation of Student Unions together with representatives of the pro-Communist Burma Trade Union Congress and the National United Front. They intended,

[redacted] to provoke police intervention. Having succeeded, some students returned to the University campus to pass resolutions condemning the "police brutality" --a move which traditionally precedes expanded student strikes and

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demonstrations.

[redacted]

[redacted] the demonstrators had obtained a permit to march in protest against the murder of Patrice Lumumba and against the supply of American materiel to the Chinese Nationalist irregulars in northeastern Burma. They had been denied, however, authorization to approach the American Embassy. As of nightfall, the demonstrators in front of the embassy had been dispersed by Army troops called in to assist the police, but continued to agitate and demonstrate in smaller groups throughout the city. Although a number of police and demonstrators have been injured and one death has been reported, thus far no Americans have been injured and property damage has been limited to smashed windows in the embassy building and at the Pan American office.

[redacted]

WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

- A. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against the United States or its possessions in the immediate future.
- B. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action against US forces abroad, US allies, or areas peripheral to the bloc in the immediate future.
- C. Communist forces in Laos continue the active defense of their base area in the Plaine des Jarres. The bloc shows no inclination toward a political settlement except on its own terms. The Communist forces in Laos retain the

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capability to increase somewhat their military efforts in support of their political objectives.

- D. Effective implementation of the strengthened UN mandate in the Congo will probably tend to arrest the disintegration of the Gizenga regime, to inhibit the military activity of Mobutu's forces, and to raise a serious possibility of armed clashes between UN forces and the Katanga army.

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 The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization
 The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
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 Executive Secretary, National Security Council

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 The Under Secretary of State
 The Director, International Cooperation Administration
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