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21 February 1958

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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21 FEBRUARY 1958

**I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC**

USSR - Indications suggest launching attempt at Tyura Tam/Klyuchi missile test range within 24 to 72 hours.

USSR supports Peiping's maneuvers on Korean issue.

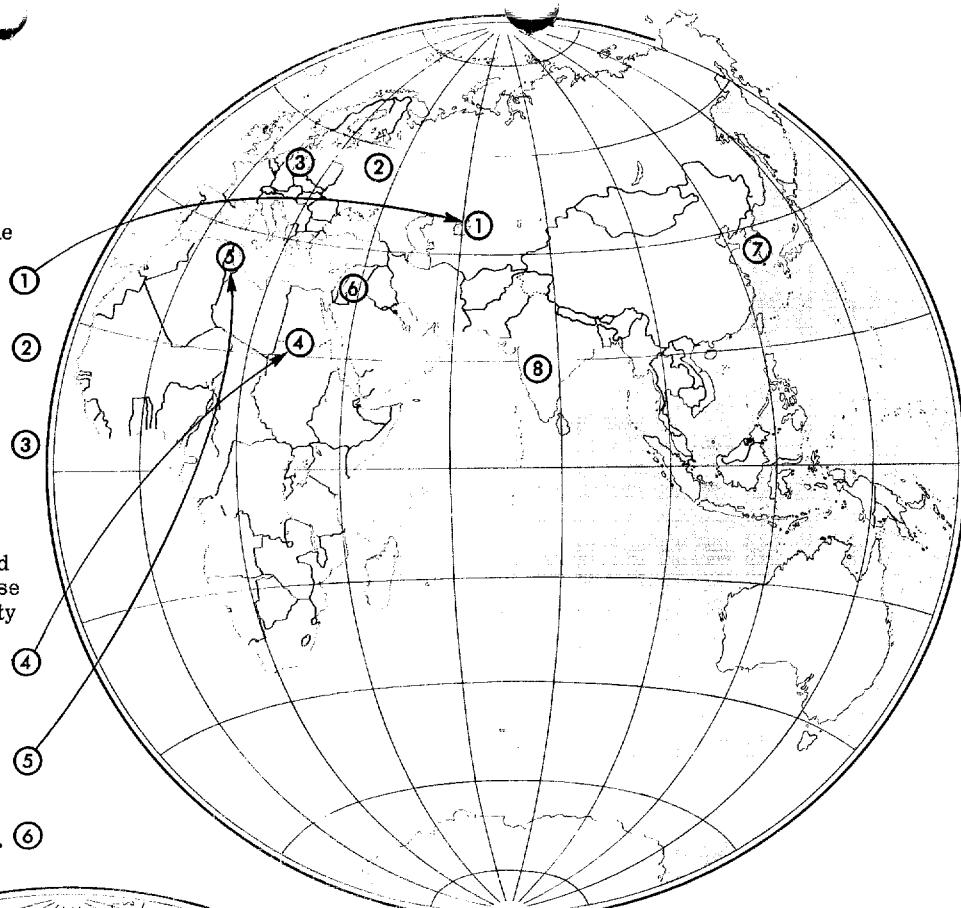
Mikhail Pervukhin, former Soviet economic administrator, appointed ambassador to East Germany.

**II. ASIA-AFRICA**

Nasir threatens use of force to extend 21 February plebiscite to two Sudanese areas claimed by Egypt. UN Security Council to consider case today in response to Sudan's request.

Tunisia - Anti-European disorders possible.

Iraqi and Jordanian security authorities fear unrest following federation.



⑦ South Korea - Demonstrations protest North Korean hijacking of airliner.

⑧ India will probably press for UN troop withdrawals from Korea and for admitting Communist China to UN.

**III. THE WEST**

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

21 February 1958

## DAILY BRIEF

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### I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

\* Soviet missile activity: Continuing and broadening activity associated with the Tyura Tam/Klyuchi ballistic missile test range suggests the possibility of a Soviet effort to conduct another launching event in the very near future, possibly within the next 24 to 72 hours. Available evidence, [redacted]

[redacted] indicates that this launching may involve an earth satellite, and that an attempt to recover the satellite may be made. [redacted]

Pervukhin to East Germany: Mikhail Pervukhin, long-time member of the Soviet party presidium, has been named new Soviet ambassador to East Germany, a post vacant for more than a month. Although Pervukhin has lost standing in the Soviet hierarchy and will probably be excluded from the party's top policy-making body, he is regarded as a top-rank economic administrator. His appointment underscores the USSR's concern over East German problems, particularly in the economic sphere. [redacted] (Page 1)

USSR supports Peiping on Korean issue: Peiping's evident interest in developing the Korean issue as a justification for Communist Chinese participation in international talks is given explicit support by Moscow in a Foreign Ministry statement released on 20 February. Commenting on Peiping's declaration of intention to withdraw its forces from Korea, the Soviet statement calls for a "conference of interested states" to discuss the Korean problem. The Soviet statement indicates that the USSR will press for the prohibition of nuclear and rocket weapons in Korea. In this connection, the American Embassy in Seoul believes that the elimination of American nuclear capability in South Korea is a primary Communist objective. [redacted]

*No*

## II. ASIA-AFRICA

*No*

\*Egyptian-Sudanese dispute: The breakdown in talks between the Sudanese foreign minister and the Egyptian authorities leaves the next move up to Cairo. Nasir is reported to be threatening to use force to extend the United Arab Republic plebiscite on 21 February into the two Sudanese-held areas to which the Egyptians lay claim. The Sudanese have refused to withdraw or compromise in the face of Nasir's threats. The UN Security Council will meet today in response to a Sudanese request.

*No*

The Tunisian situation: President Bourguiba is being widely criticized in Tunisia for having accepted Anglo-American good offices, an act viewed locally as a victory for the French. In addition, he is under attack for not pressing the Algerian problem and Tunisian grievances before the UN Security Council. Fear is widespread that the French are engaging in provocative actions, thus creating an atmosphere in which anti-European disorders might easily occur.

(Page 3)

Iraq-Jordan: Security authorities in Iraq and Jordan are concerned over possible unrest following the federation of their two countries.

(Page 4) (Map)

*No*

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee as of 20 February 1958, the Intelligence Advisory Committee concludes that a deliberate initiation of hostilities in the Middle East is unlikely in the immediate future. Tensions in the Middle East continue to create possibilities for serious incidents.

*No*

South Korea: The government is organizing large-scale demonstrations to protest the Communist hijacking of an airliner and its 34 passengers on 16 February. It has also showed its defiance by scheduling maneuvers by 50,000 troops near the 38th parallel, according to the press. The government has reacted to Communist China's announcement of

21 Feb 58

DAILY BRIEF

ii

~~TOP SECRET~~

withdrawal of its troops from North Korea by demanding disbandment of the North Korean Army and free elections in the North as the conditions for Korean reunification.

No

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee as of 20 February 1958, the Intelligence Advisory Committee concludes that there is no evidence of Sino-Soviet intention to become militarily involved in the Indonesian situation. Continued failure to resolve the basic differences between the central government and the dissident leaders, who have proclaimed a rival government on Sumatra, is creating a situation progressively favorable for the Communists on Java. The Djakarta government has plans to move against the dissidents, but a decision for action or for a compromise rests with Sukarno.

No

Indian view of Korean issue: India, which apparently had advanced notice of the Chinese Communist intention to announce unilateral troop withdrawal from North Korea, can be expected to use Peiping's announcement to press for the withdrawal of UN forces and for the admission of Communist China into the United Nations.

### III. THE WEST

Argentine elections:

No

21 Feb 58

DAILY BRIEF

iii

~~TOP SECRET~~

## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

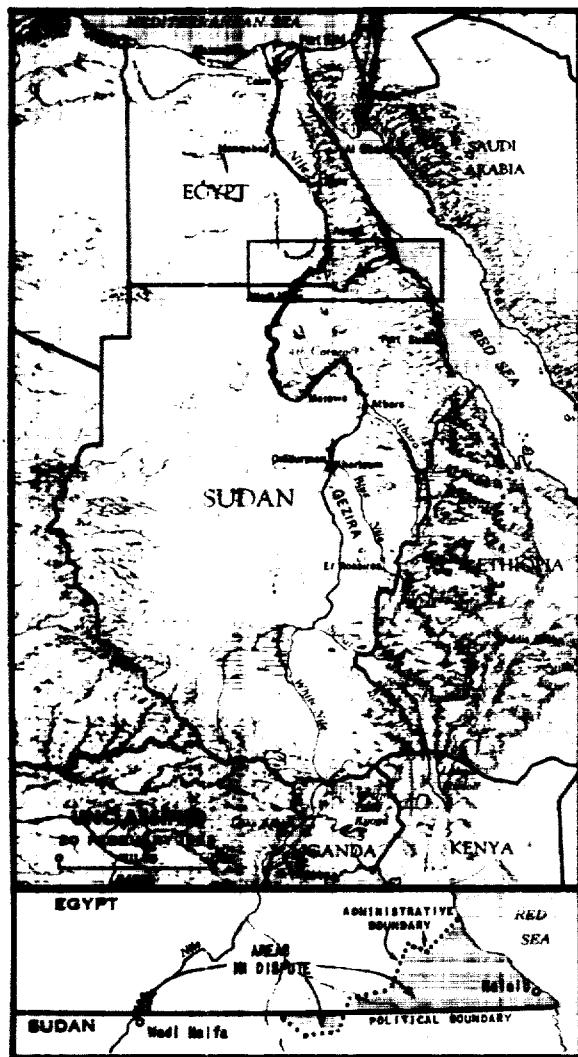
### Peruvkin Named Soviet Envoy to East Germany

Mikhail Pervukhin has been named Soviet ambassador to East Germany. The post has been vacant since Ambassador Georgi Pushkin returned to the USSR on 9 January.

There has as yet been no announcement concerning Pervukhin's positions of candidate member of the Soviet party presidium and chairman of the State Committee on Foreign Economic Relations. He has for years been one of the USSR's top economic executives but was demoted from full to candidate membership in the party presidium last June. Recent signs have pointed to a further loss of standing in the hierarchy, and the new appointment would probably signify that he will lose the presidium post. His experience in the economic field would be helpful to East Germany, where an extensive economic reorganization is now under way. [redacted]

[redacted]

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

### Nasir Threatens Force in Sudanese Border Dispute

President Nasir has threatened to use force to defend Egypt's right to conduct the 21 February plebiscite on the United Arab Republic in the disputed territory Egypt claims on the Sudanese border, [redacted]

[redacted] Nasir is reported to have told the Sudanese foreign minister, following the breakdown of negotiations in Cairo on 19 February, that Egypt would hold the plebiscite, and that the Sudan would have to choose between acquiescing and trying to stop the proceedings.

Sudanese Prime Minister Khalil reportedly has indicated that the Sudan will neither withdraw nor compromise on the issue and has called for an urgent session of the UN Security Council. The council will convene today.

[redacted]  
 Two national guard battalions previously destined for Ghardaqah on the Red Sea coast have been alerted for movement, and the Eighth Cavalry Regiment, believed to be equipped with light armor, apparently has been transferred from northern Egypt to the southern area.

The Sudanese have moved three companies (about 500 men), one toward Wadi Halfa and two toward the Red Sea sector. A Sudanese approach to Ethiopia is reported to have received the Emperor's promise to furnish a "brigade" if necessary. Britain has offered to sell the Sudan military equipment the Sudanese had requested earlier and is asking whether the need is urgent in view of the present crisis.

An agreement of 1903 placed two areas inhabited by Sudanese tribes, north of the 22nd parallel which forms the political boundary, under Sudanese administration, and gave Egypt administrative control of a small area below the parallel.

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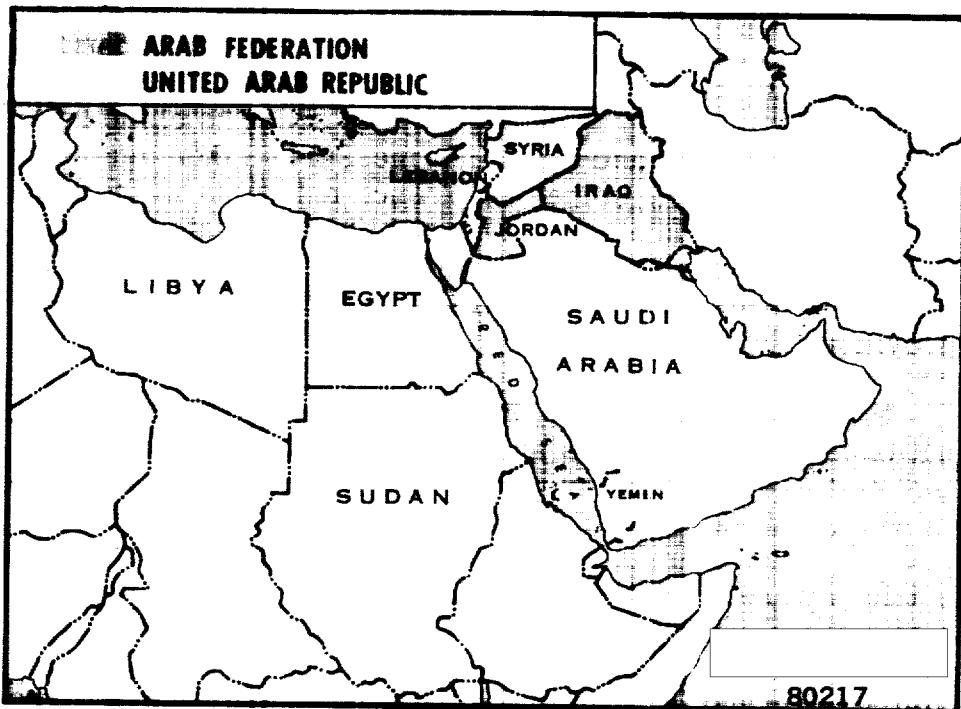
### The Tunisian Situation

President Bourguiba is rapidly losing the support of politically minded Tunisians who criticize him for not pressing his case in the UN Security Council and for having "conceded victory" to France in accepting Anglo-American good offices. He retains, however, the unwavering support of the general public.

Widespread fear of possible French moves against Tunisia is intensified by the French demand of 18 February that Tunis cancel without delay its order to close five French consulates and expulsion measures taken against several consuls and some 500 French nationals in the border area. If France has not closed the consulates by 21 February, Bourguiba is prepared to extend to all Tunisia the "state of urgency" which now is in effect in the border provinces.

Provocative activities on the part of some French nationals and army units and failure to begin regrouping isolated French military units have created an atmosphere in which anti-European disorders might easily be incited. Several French arms caches have been discovered, and two settlers were arrested on 17 February for carrying automatic arms and a hand grenade. Feelings were further embittered on 19 February, when the local Tunisian administrator and two national guardsmen were forcibly taken to the French army post at Remada in remote southern Tunisia for questioning.

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### Iraq and Jordan Take Internal Security Precautions

The recent proclamation of Iraqi-Jordanian federation has added to the concern of the internal security authorities in the two countries. Iraqi security chiefs have been apprehensive that pro-Nasir nationalists might stage demonstrations against the two Kings' federation, which seems to have little popular support. Police and security forces are confident, however, that they can cope with any trouble.

In Jordan, which has been under martial law for some time, troops have been deployed in the field near the Syrian border, and Iraqi troops presumably could be requested in an emergency. In any event, Iraq will probably eventually move troops into Jordan under the federation agreement. Jordanian political exiles in Syria are reported attempting to promote demonstrations among Jordan's Palestinian majority against the Iraqi-Jordanian federation.

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### III. THE WEST

#### The Pre-election Situation in Argentina

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The Director

**National Indications Center**

The Director

**United States Information Agency**

The Director

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Argentine elections: [redacted]