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4 July 1960

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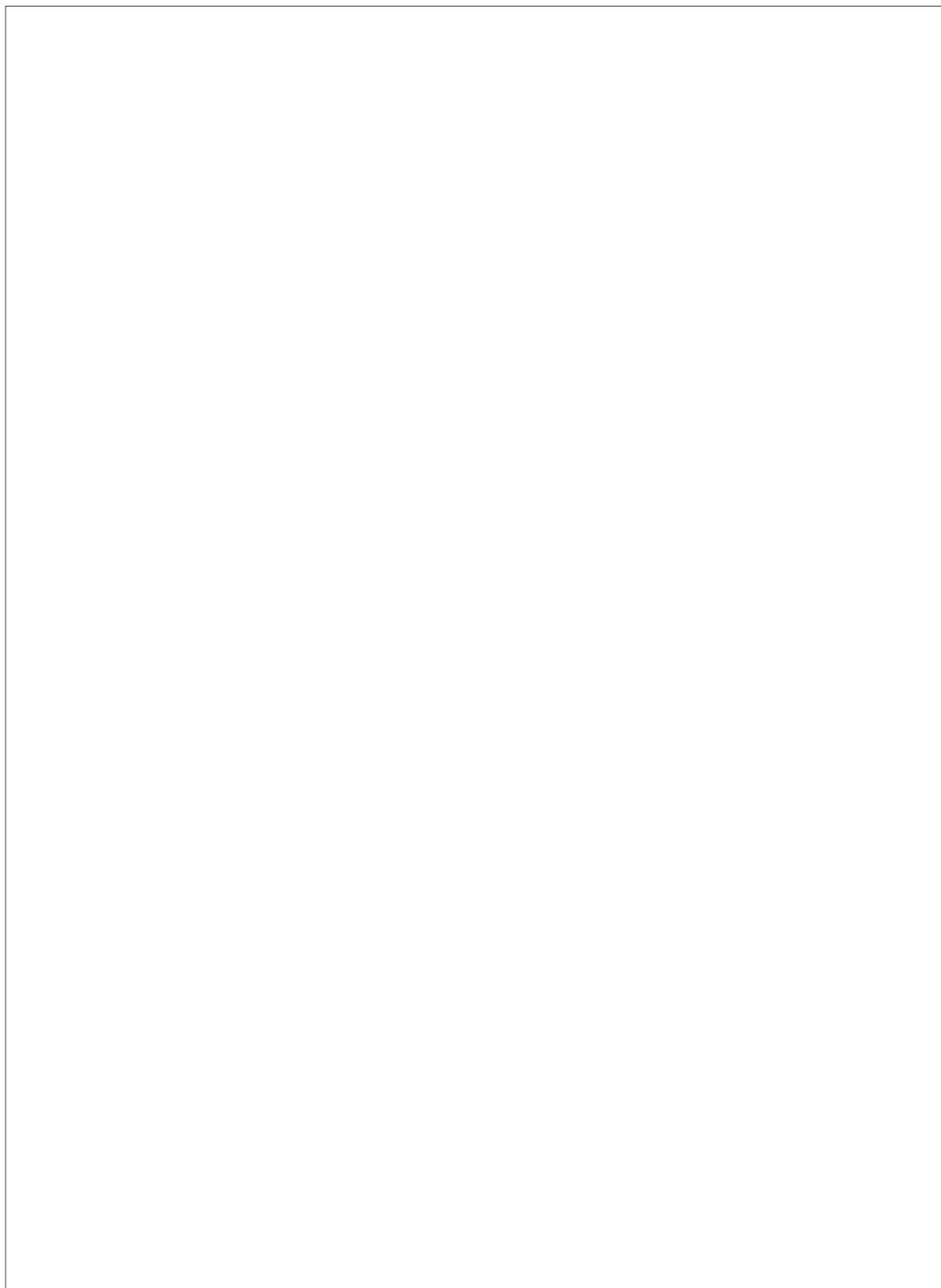
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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4 JULY 1960

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Soviet fighter aircraft scrambled against US RB-47 reconnaissance aircraft in Barents Sea, but no evidence aircraft was downed by hostile action.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Laos--Recent escape of Prince Souphanouvong and other NLHS party leaders from prison prompted by fear of impending "liquidation" by government. (TOP SECRET DAUNT ISHTAR)

②

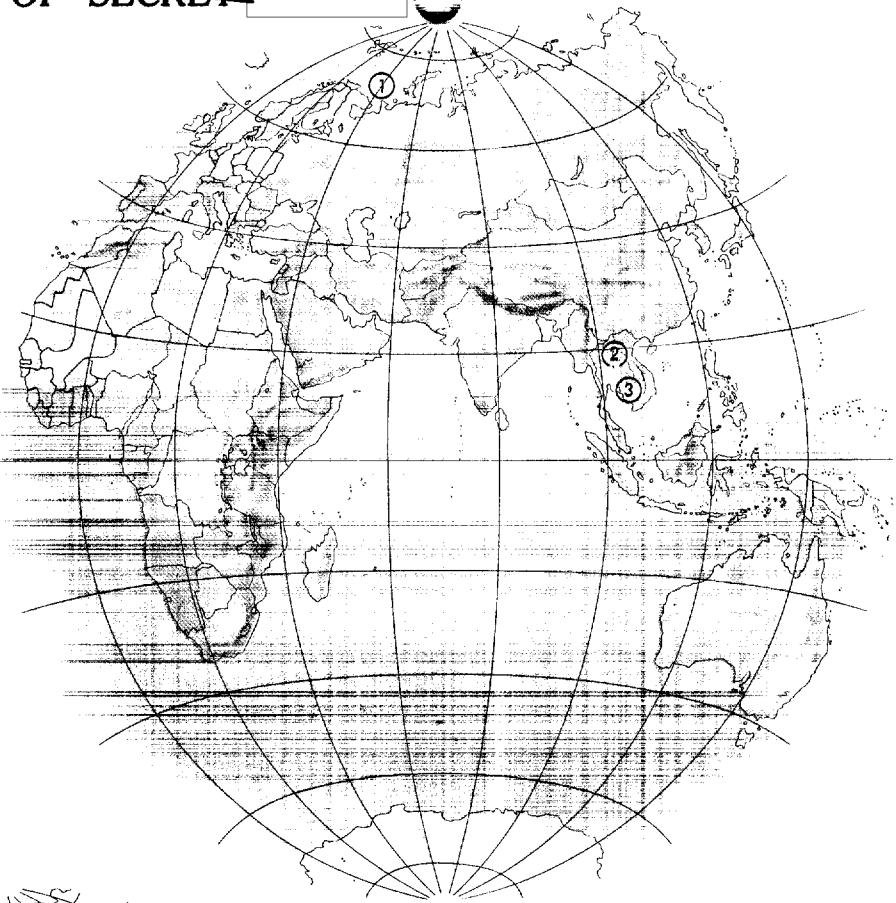
Cambodia--Reports persist of pending arms deal with Czechoslovakia.

③

III. THE WEST

Venezuela wants OAS to convene foreign ministers' meeting not later than 15 July to take action against Dominican Republic.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

4 July 1960

DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

USSR: The US RB-47 which failed to return from a routine reconnaissance flight over the Barents Sea on 1 July is believed down in an area approximately midway between the Kola Peninsula and Novaya Zemlya.

[redacted]
that the US aircraft did not approach closer than 30 nautical miles to Soviet territory. At least six fighter aircraft were scrambled against the RB-47 mission in the general area during the last hour of the flight, but there is no conclusive evidence that an intercept was accomplished. Two fighters from a Kola Peninsula base were vectored in what appeared to be an identification pass against the US aircraft.

[redacted]

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Laos: [redacted]

[redacted] the escape of Prince Souphanouvong and 15 other leaders of the pro-Communist Neo Lao Hak Sat (NLHS) party from a Vientiane prison last May was prompted by the prisoners' fear of impending "liquidation" by the government, and was coordinated with the Pathet Lao central headquarters. The prisoners were convinced that the triumph of the militantly anti-Communist Committee for Defense of National Interests (CDNI) in the late April national elections foreshadowed their early prosecution and the suppression of all pro-Communist elements in Laos. Communist propaganda continues to place heavy emphasis on the "dangerous anti-popular" nature of the Somsanith government in Vientiane.

[redacted]

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Cambodia: Recent statements by Chief of State Sihanouk indicate he does not contemplate requesting arms and aircraft from the Chinese Communist in the immediate future unless he is provoked by sudden inimical acts by South Vietnam or Thailand. Reports persist, however, of a pending arms deal with Czechoslovakia, where a Cambodian mission headed by Deputy Premier Tioulong now is visiting. Sihanouk may have in mind a stand-by arrangement with Czechoslovakia or may be planning to use such arms to outfit Cambodian irregular forces, pending American reaction to Cambodia's request for stepped-up aid to the Cambodian regular forces.

III. THE WEST

Caribbean: Venezuelan Foreign Minister Arcaya hopes that the meeting of the Council of the Organization of American States, which Venezuela has requested for 6 July, will convene a meeting of foreign ministers not later than 15 July to take action against the Dominican Republic. Venezuela holds the Trujillo regime responsible for the 24 June attempt to assassinate President Betancourt, and Arcaya has told the American ambassador that if the OAS does not act firmly his government will be unable to restrain its people from direct action against the Trujillo regime. Colombian President Lleras Camargo is also intent on OAS action against Trujillo and has told the American ambassador in Bogota that, if action is taken first against Trujillo, he will then help persuade other Latin American governments to take quick action against Fidel Castro.

Betancourt plans to take military action to overthrow the Trujillo regime shortly after the Venezuelan case has been presented to the OAS foreign ministers. Betancourt has reportedly designated ex-President Figueres of Costa Rica to organize an anti-Communist and anti-Castro junta for the Dominican Republic following Trujillo's ouster.

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Scientific Adviser to the President
Director of the Budget
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The Under Secretary of State
The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
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Director, International Cooperation Administration
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