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30 September 1958

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

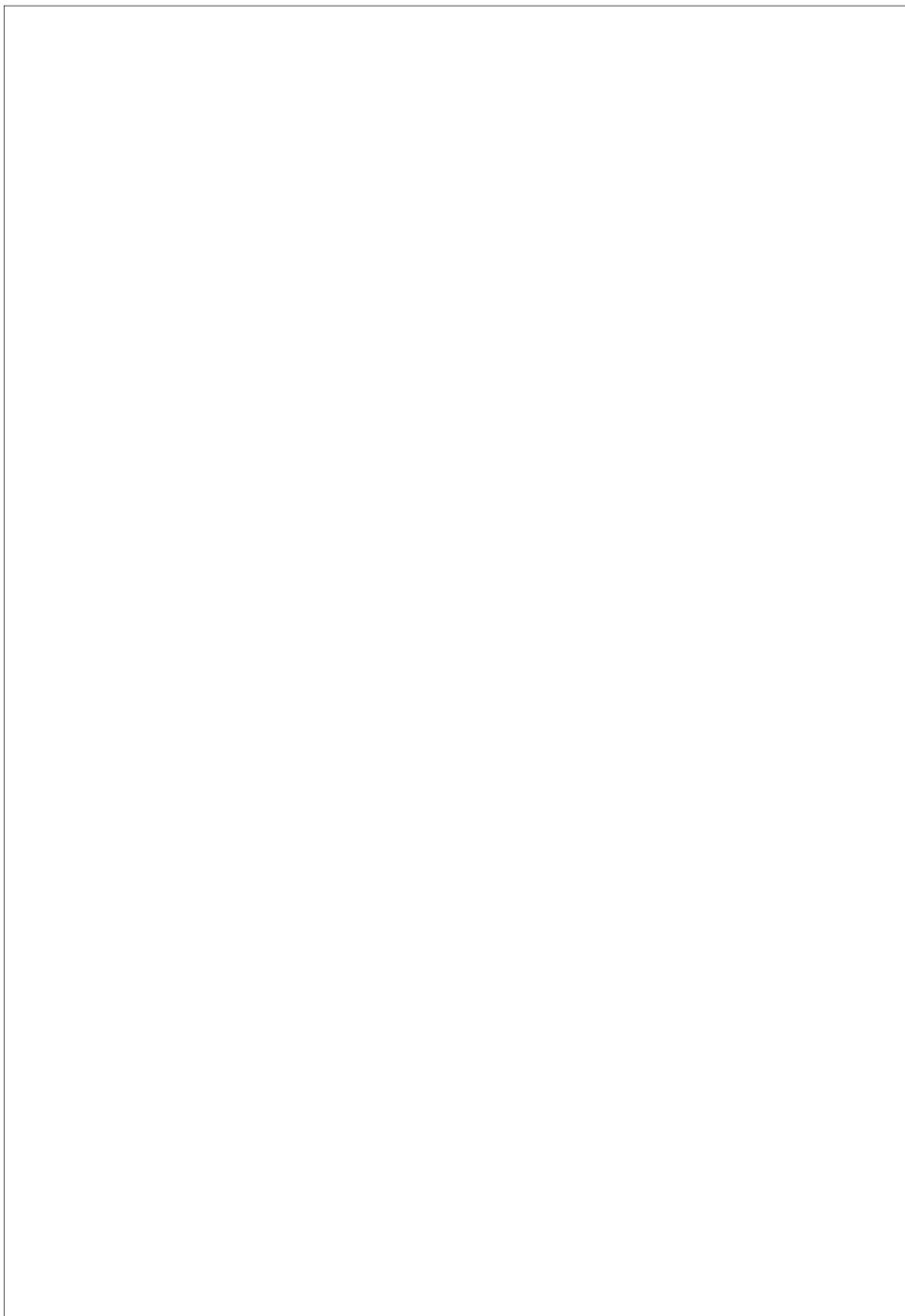
BULLETIN



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30 SEPTEMBER 1958

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Taiwan Strait - Peiping cites Nationalist use of Sidewinder missiles as "provocation."

(1)

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Nasir says he complained to visiting Soviet leader about "sabotage" of Arab nationalism by Middle Eastern Communists.

(2)

Nasir pushing UAR reorganization plan to tighten his control over Syria.

(3)

Cairo's role in Middle Eastern oil grows as Syrian pipelines come under UAR control and Kuwait, prime producer, agrees to join Arab League.

(4)

Egyptians learn Iraq may drop four pro-UAR ministers from cabinet.

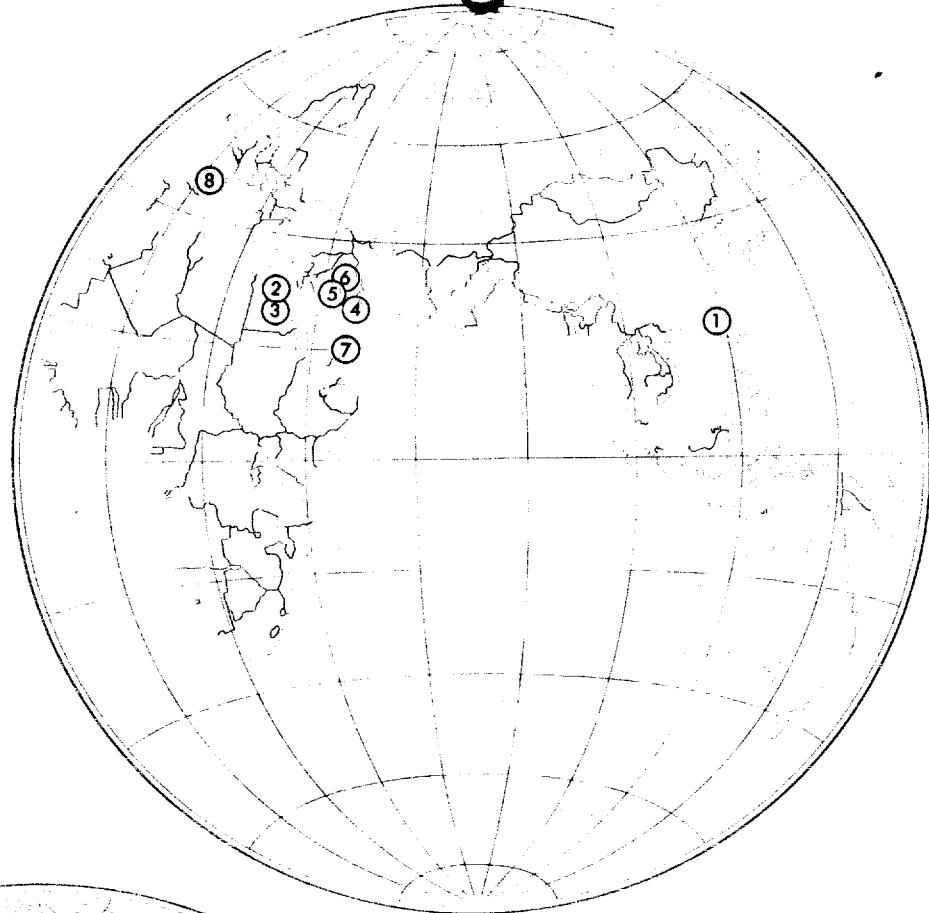
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Iraq prepares land reform program.

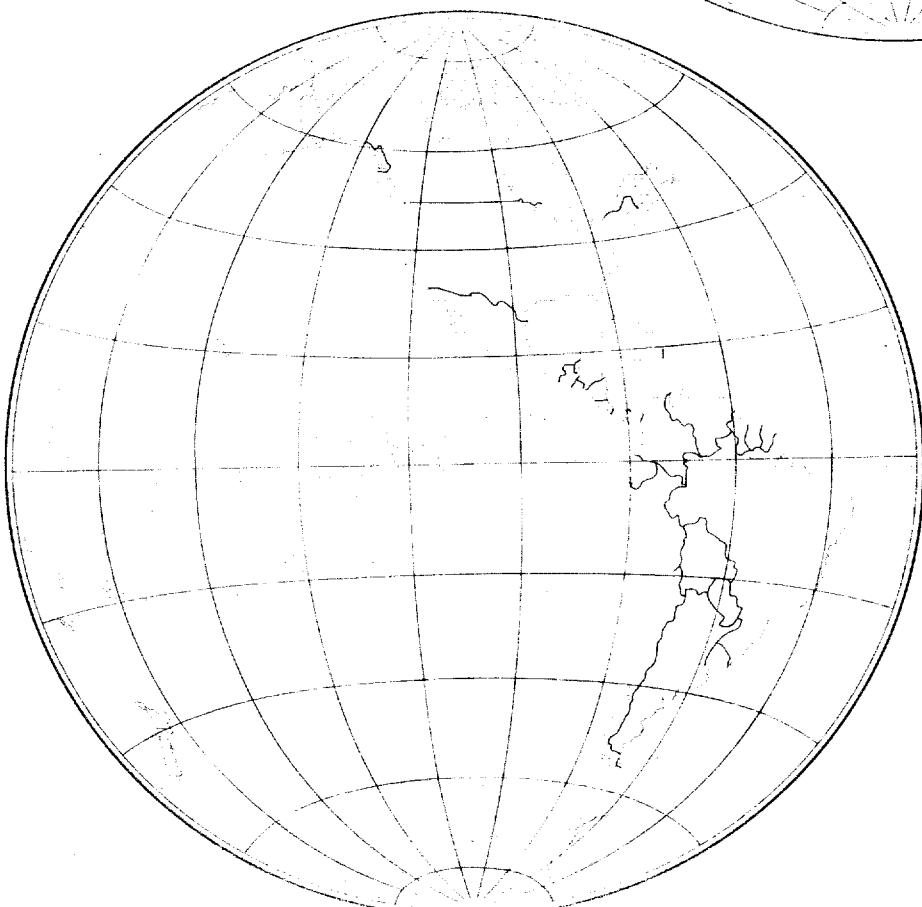
(6)

King Saud attempts to bolster his position in Riyadh.

(7)

**III. THE WEST**

(8) France plans early negotiations with Guinea, only territory to opt for independence.



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

30 September 1958

DAILY BRIEF**I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC**

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Taiwan Strait situation: The Chinese Communist announcement that parts of Sidewinder missiles fired by Nationalist planes have been recovered and brought to Peiping for "public exhibition" suggests that foreigners now arriving for the 1 October celebrations are to be shown "proof" of American "provocation." Peiping on 29 September issued its 17th warning to the United States against "grave military provocations," and a Defense Ministry announcement on the use of Sidewinders promised "punitive" action against the Chinese Nationalist Air Force. Generally Peiping's propaganda continues to reflect a desire to continue the Warsaw talks, blaming the deadlock on American insistence on an immediate cease-fire but making no threat to suspend the negotiations.

There were no significant military developments in the Taiwan Strait area on 29 September

II. ASIA-AFRICA

OK

Nasir-USSR: President Nasir has told

American officials that he complained to visiting Soviet party presidium member Mukhitdinov on 25 September about USSR support of Middle Eastern Communist parties, which he charged with "sabotaging the goals of Arab nationalism." Nasir has effectively suppressed the Communists in Egypt, but is concerned over their activities in both Syria and Iraq, where they have been actively

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opposing union with Egypt. Mukhiddinov denied there was any connection between the USSR and the local Communists, and defended the USSR's support of Kurdish nationalism, which Nasir also criticized.

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UAR: Details of the planned centralization of the UAR Government and names of selected officials may be announced soon. Syrian Vice Presidents Akram Hawrani and Sabri al-Assali are likely to be ousted, along with Egyptian Vice President Baghdadi. Nasir appears to be taking steps to control dissident Syrian officials and military personnel.

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Middle East oil: Nasir's establishment of a "Public Corporation for Petroleum Affairs" to plan UAR petroleum policy, will assure Cairo of control in all details over Syrian oil matters. Cairo has already stymied Syrian negotiations with the American company operating the pipeline from Saudi Arabia, and the new petroleum authority may well emerge as the instrument for implementing Nasir's over-all Arab oil policy toward Western oil companies.

An Arab League spokesman in Cairo has announced that Kuwait, the Middle East's largest oil producer, has applied for membership in the Egyptian-dominated league. Kuwait's adherence could set a precedent for the oil-producing Persian Gulf states of Bahrein and Qatar.

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Iraq--Political:

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four Iraqi cabinet members, who in varying degrees support union with Egypt, may be replaced. These would include Deputy Premier Arif, who also holds the post of interior minister.

(Page 2)

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Middle East land reform--Iraq: Announcement of a land reform program will strengthen the dominant faction in the Iraqi Government headed by Premier Qasim and deprive advocates of union with the UAR, which has just proclaimed land reform in Syria, of an overwhelmingly popular issue. Land

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reforms in Syria and Iraq will probably increase agitation against the Shah of Iran, who is chiefly dependent on the support of large landowners

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Saudi Arabia: King Saud has continued efforts to strengthen his personal position in and around his capital at Riyadh. He has recently drawn on Saudi Government stocks to equip his royal guard with tanks and machine guns, and continues his efforts to purchase arms for loyal tribal forces. The King appears to be making plans which he is not yet ready to discuss with American officials, but which may involve an attempt to rally forces opposed to Crown Prince Faysal's reforms.

III. THE WEST

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France-Guinea: Paris plans to begin early negotiations with Guinea--the West African territory whose "secession" from the French community was acknowledged by France on 29 September--to formalize Guinea's independent status. Guinea Premier Sekou Toure has often expressed the desire to retain close economic and political ties with France following independence. (Page 3)

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

No Back-up Material.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Nasir Concerned Over Middle East Communists

President Nasir states that he complained to Soviet party presidium member Mukhitdinov during the latter's recent nine-day visit to Cairo that the USSR was supporting Communist parties in Iraq and the UAR and was urging the Kurdish minority to seek national independence. [redacted]

American officials, that Mukhitdinov "blandly" denied a connection between the USSR and local Communists and defended Moscow's support of Kurdish nationalism.

Nasir [redacted] dis-approval of the role of the Communists in Iraq and Syria and once indicated he might be considering making a public address denouncing their activities. Although Communists have been prominent among those Iraqis opposing union with the UAR, key figures among the Iraqi nationalist leaders are also opposed to Nasir's brand of unity.

Mukhitdinov was in the UAR ostensibly for a good-will visit, but he may have attempted to iron out points of friction which have arisen between Moscow and Cairo on the activities of local Communist parties. The USSR recently has shown signs of concern with Nasir's economic and political overtures toward the West. [redacted]

[redacted]

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Developments in Iraq

[redacted] that four pro-UAR cabinet ministers are to be dropped from the Iraqi cabinet. All in varying degrees support union with Egypt. Included among those to be dismissed are Deputy Premier and Minister of Interior Arif, Baathist Minister of Development Fuad Rikabi, the minister of economy, and the minister of public works and communications.

[redacted] The pro-union chief of Iraqi G-2, Lt. Col. Rifat, is working for UAR interests and has been consulting "senior officers" in an attempt to thwart Arif's ouster.

These "senior officers" are probably the Supreme Defense Council, which appears increasingly to be emerging as the actual locus of power in Iraq. The senior officer group, which includes the four division commanders, did not participate directly in the 14 July revolt. It apparently turned down the proposal of pro-UAR junior "Free Officers" to establish a military "Revolutionary Council" on the Egyptian model, and remove civilians from the cabinet. The senior officers would presumably also resist the desire of anti-union Minister of Guidance Shanshal to remove all military men from the cabinet, although their position is unknown.

Arif's former brigade has been sent on a security mission to southern Iraq, and elements of Qasim's brigade may also have been withdrawn from Baghdad.

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III. THE WEST

France to Negotiate a New Independent Status for Guinea

The French Government plans early negotiations to define the new status of Guinea, which rejected the De Gaulle constitution by a ten-to-one negative vote in the 28 September referendum. Paris on 29 September delivered a note to Guinea Premier Sekou Toure acknowledging the West African territory's "secession" from the French community. About two months of negotiations will probably be required to complete the formalities. The bilateral negotiations will prove difficult if the French set too high a price for Guinea's retaining special ties with France.

Meanwhile, the new constitution will not apply to Guinea, and France will arrange the gradual withdrawal of its administrative personnel and financial credits. Paris considers Guinea's juridical status "in suspense" and has warned that diplomatic recognition by other states could lead to "unpleasantness" with France.

Sekou Toure, hoping that Guinea will join the association of free states provided for in the new constitution, has stated that France will always hold first place in Guinea's international relations. Toure, a 36-year-old leftist labor leader with previous Marxist-Leninist sympathies, has promised no "great upheaval" in existing economic and social structures. In addition to his desire for close ties with France, including membership in the franc zone and continued economic assistance, Toure has indicated to the French high commissioner for West Africa that he expects "proper propaganda efforts" will lead to the eventual domination of both Liberia and Sierra Leone by Guinea.

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The Secretary of State

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The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Administration

The Counselor

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Commandant, United States Marine Corps

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