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21 April 1960

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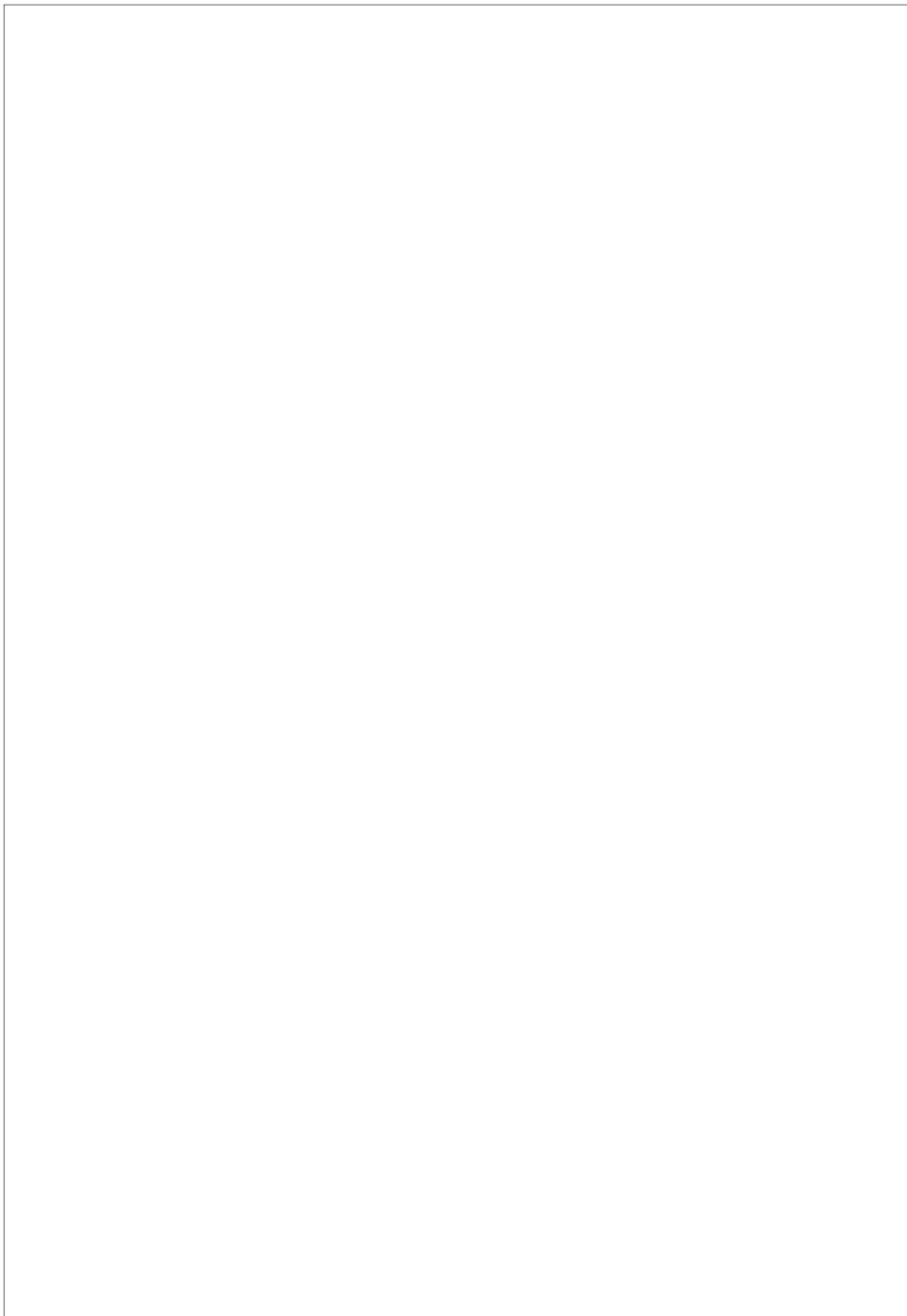
# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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21 APRIL 1960

**I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC**

Marshal Zakharov, commander of Soviet Forces in East Germany since 1957, replacing Sokolovsky as first deputy defense minister and chief of general staff of Soviet Army and Navy.

**II. ASIA-AFRICA**

Malayan Government to end 12-year-old state of "emergency" this July.

Israel's recent receipt of additional Super Mysteres from France brings its total of such jet fighters to an estimated 38.

**III. THE WEST**

Venezuelan military uprising at San Cristobal localized at present but could become threat unless promptly suppressed.

**LATE ITEM**

- ⑤ Tension continues in South Korea; cabinet resigns but Rhee government faced with deciding between harsh repression and concessions which might endanger existence of regime.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

21 April 1960

## DAILY BRIEF

*SIR AB*

## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

*ZK*  
USSR: Marshal Zakharov, commander in chief of Soviet Forces in East Germany since November 1957, informed Allied military representatives in East Germany on 16 April that he had been appointed chief of the general staff of the Soviet Army and Navy and first deputy defense minister. Zakharov thus will be replacing Marshal V. D. Sokolovsky, for whom no new assignment has been announced. Zakharov said that he hoped in his new job to "preside over the dissolution of the Soviet armed forces in concert with his counterparts" in other countries.

Zakharov's replacement in East Germany is his former deputy, Colonel General I. I. Yakubovsky. [redacted]

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

*DK*  
Malaya: The state of "emergency" declared 12 years ago to combat the Communist rebellion will be officially ended on 31 July. Communist jungle forces, which once numbered over 5,000 well-armed insurgents, have gradually been reduced to an estimated 600 terrorists, most of them now across the border in Thailand. [redacted] (Page 2)

*DK*  
*delete 2/2*  
*P's*  
Israel: During the past two months, Israel has received an additional number of Super Mvstere jet fighters, probably 12, from France, [redacted]. The Israelis now have an estimated total of 38 Super Mysteres, which are superior to any fighter the Arabs have. However, the UAR, which has been exerting strong efforts to obtain comparable fighters, apparently has made arrangements to obtain a limited number of additional aircraft, possibly MIG-19s, from the Soviet Union.) [redacted] (Page 3)

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### III. THE WEST

*OK  
Revised  
at least  
in peace  
esp 2  
of course  
in case*

\*Venezuela: Dissident Venezuelan military leaders, who are receiving Dominican aid, gained control on 20 April of the garrison at San Cristobal, an isolated provincial capital in southwest Venezuela bordering on Colombia. The uprising is localized and the Betancourt regime will probably be able to quell it. Pro-Castro leftists in Venezuela are likely to be strengthened as a result of the affair--at the expense of the military establishment--and will probably exert greater pressure on Betancourt for radical domestic policies and for retaliation against the Trujillo regime.

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### IV. WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

- A. [No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against the continental US or its possession 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 orbit in the immediate future.]
- C. [The following developments are susceptible of direct exploitation by Soviet/Communist hostile action which could jeopardize the security of the US in the immediate future:]

None.)

### LATE ITEM

*OK  
Revised  
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of course  
in case*

\*South Korea: Following the imposition of martial law and the suppression of large-scale violence in Seoul and other major cities, student-led opposition groups have regrouped on the

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DAILY BRIEF

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outskirts of Seoul. Some demonstrations and incidents occurred on 20 April and it is possible that the people of Seoul and in the rest of the country are priming themselves for a further mass upheaval. The cabinet has resigned but the Rhee government is faced with deciding whether to continue, and perhaps increase, harsh repressive measures, or to make concessions which might endanger the existence of the regime.

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DAILY BRIEF

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

### Soviet Commander in Germany to Be First Deputy Defense Minister

Marshal Zakharov, commander in chief of Soviet Forces in Germany since 22 November 1957, told the chiefs of the Allied liaison missions on 16 April that he was being transferred to the post of chief of the general staff of the Soviet Army and Navy and first deputy defense minister. He said he hoped, in his new capacity, to preside over the dissolution of the Soviet armed forces. To accomplish this, he said, it would be necessary for the West to move closer to recent Soviet disarmament proposals.

He also stated that army officers should not fear the end of their military careers, because their experience would make it easy for them to find jobs in many walks of life. This comment reflects the Soviet Government's continued preoccupation with the problem of the morale of career military personnel threatened by forced retirement.

Zakharov will replace Marshal V. D. Sokolovsky, who at 63 is only one year older than Zakharov himself. Sokolovsky, who also held the post of GSFG commander for several years, has been chief of staff of the Soviet Army and Navy since 1953. Zakharov's promotion, considering his relatively late date of rank as a marshal, is a reflection of satisfaction with the vigorous manner in which he carried out his assignment in Germany. His transfer at this time does not appear to reflect any unusual reshuffling in the Soviet high command.

Zakharov can be expected to maintain cordial relations with Defense Minister Malinovsky, his wartime boss and later his associate in the Far East, and to pursue his new duties with characteristic energy and effectiveness. He is to be succeeded in GSFG by Colonel General I. I. Yakubovsky, his deputy. [redacted]

[redacted]

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## II. ASIA-AFRICA

### State of "Emergency" in Malaya Scheduled to End 31 July

The Paramount Ruler of Malaya announced on 19 April that the state of "emergency" declared 12 years ago to combat the Communist rebellion will be officially ended on 31 July. The declaration symbolizes a major victory for Prime Minister Abdul Rahman's aggressive anti-Communist policies, which have reduced Communist terrorist strength from about 2,000 at the time Malaya achieved independence in August 1957 to today's total of approximately 600, of whom nearly 500 are across the Malayan border in Thailand. Peak Communist strength was reached in 1949, when there were estimated to be over 5,000 well-armed jungle terrorists.

The ending of the "emergency" will not result in any lessening of military pressure on the remaining terrorists, although they may not be completely eliminated for years because of halfhearted Thai cooperation in the border areas. The Rahman government now is in the process of providing a legal base for continuing its stringent domestic anti-Communist policies after 31 July by incorporating into the constitution certain key anti-Communist measures now contained in the emergency regulations.

[The declaration ending the "emergency" probably fore-shadows increasing attacks by opposition parties on the UK-Malayan defense agreement, which has long been justified by the government as of particular value because of the Communist rebellion. The attacks are likely to center on the treaty provisions which permit the stationing of British Commonwealth troops in the Federation. The government now takes the position that the treaty relates mainly to the defense of the Federation from external aggression and points out the economic advantages of having the Commonwealth bear a large part of Malaya's defense burden.]

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### French Super Mystere Fighters Obtained by Israel

[During the past two months, Israel has obtained from France additional Super Mystere jet fighters, probably 12 in number, ]

[Accumulated evidence indicates that six of the aircraft were flown to Israel on 11 March and that at least six in disassembled sections were ferried there earlier by air transport. The estimated total number of Super Mysteres in the Israeli Air Force accordingly is now 38. Israel has an estimated 171 jet fighters, all of which are of French manufacture. The UAR is believed to have 228 jet fighters, of which about 140 are MIG-17s. Israel's Super Mysteres are superior to any fighters the Arabs are known to have.]

The UAR, which has been exerting strong efforts to obtain comparable fighters, apparently has made arrangements to obtain a limited number of additional aircraft, possibly MIG-19s, from the Soviet Union. These probably will be furnished as part of major new agreements still being negotiated, which will cover T-54 medium tanks and other modern bloc weapons, as well as aircraft.

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strongly suggests that Cairo after almost two years of intermittent negotiations--frequently delayed by poor political relations between the UAR and the bloc as well as by repayment difficulties--may soon conclude the major new deals.

[Israel is hoping to get other types of military equipment from the United Kingdom. London is prepared in principle to raise its 1958 offer of 60 Centurion tanks--of which only 30 have been ordered because of a shortage of funds--to a total of 90, unless Israel purchases similar tanks from South Africa. The British will also sell Israel three motor torpedo boats, but probably will not supply the Bloodhound antiaircraft missiles the Israelis have requested. Throughout the Israeli-British negotiations, London has been anxious to minimize the Arabs' resentment by informing them in advance of general plans to sell arms to Israel.]

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### III. THE WEST

#### The Military Uprising in Venezuela

Dissident Venezuelan military leaders gained control on 20 April of the garrison in San Cristobal, an isolated provincial capital in southwestern Venezuela bordering on Colombia. The uprising is localized for the present and apparently not an immediate threat to the stability of President Betancourt's three-party coalition regime. Top military commanders have affirmed their loyalty to the government, and key political and labor groups have rallied to its support. The armed forces, which have been on alert status for several days and have taken extensive precautions against a coup attempt, have reportedly airlifted troops to the area held by the insurgents. In addition, several officers implicated in the plot have been arrested.

The principal dissident elements today are the followers of former dictator Perez Jimenez and of former Defense Minister Castro Leon--a leader in the anti-Perez revolt who has long been involved in subversive activity--and the associates of military leaders arrested last January for plotting against the government. None of these groups, which may be cooperating to some extent, has any sizable civilian backing, but apparently all of them have the assistance of Dominican dictator Trujillo.

[redacted] the Dominican regime obtained visas for entry into Colombia of Castro Leon and other plot leaders who apparently subsequently crossed into Venezuela to launch the revolt. [redacted]

The coup attempt, which seemingly has shelved the dissension among the members of the coalition temporarily, could develop into a serious problem for the government if not suppressed promptly. It may also reflect against the armed forces establishment and encourage Communists and leftists to renew their demands for a further reduction in the power and prestige of the military, whose loyalty and support Betancourt has cultivated with considerable success since he entered office in February 1959. [redacted]

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## LATE ITEM

South Korea

Despite the suppression of large-scale violence by the imposition of martial law on Seoul and other major population centers, some demonstrations and incidents occurred on 20 April. The people of Seoul along with others in different parts of the country are perhaps 'priming themselves' for a further mass upheaval. Some student-led groups have reportedly regrouped on the outskirts of the capital city and perhaps in other metropolitan areas.

The government has admitted 92 persons killed in Seoul, and unofficial estimates place the number of wounded in the hundreds. The extend of the recent bloodletting combined with the deeply felt outrage of large segments of the population with the regime's record of police-state tactics is likely to prevent any return to normal for the present. [The cabinet has resigned but the regime is faced with the decision either of continuing, and perhaps increasing, harsh repressive measures or of making concessions which might endanger its existence.]

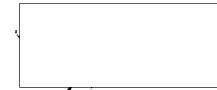
[President Rhee has been isolated from the true state of the crisis by his advisers and continues to believe that the demonstrations and violence are the work of a small group of hoodlums and agitators manipulated by the Communists. He has given the American ambassador no indication of recognizing the basic issues or of making any effective conciliatory moves. Continued uprisings and the absence of constructive action by Rhee may lead the armed forces to intervene to establish a temporary government acceptable to the people and to provide for free elections.]

[While no Communist elements have as yet appeared to play a part in the unrest, some American observers feel that they may soon do so unless the situation is returned to normal. The appearance of anti-American sentiments among the demonstrators would]

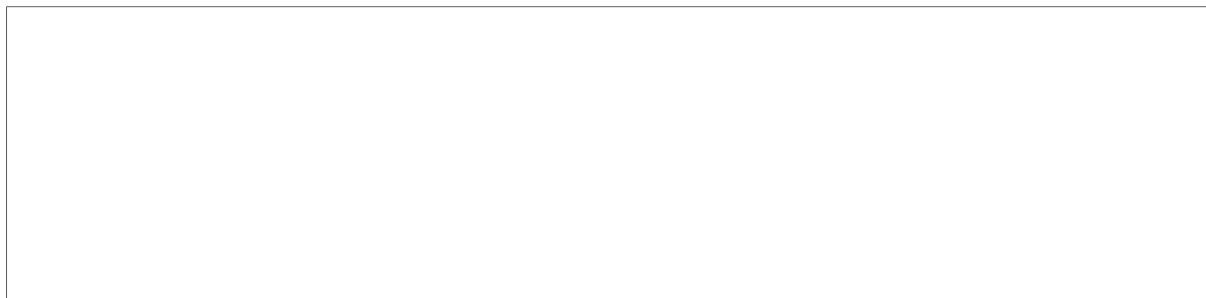
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[be an indication that Communist agitators were attempting to influence the dissidents. However, no anti-American sentiments have yet been observed.] [redacted]



[redacted]  
the North Korean Air Force and the air defense organization are on an alert. On 20 April two 90-minute practice air defense exercises were conducted by North Korean air defense facilities. Both of these exercises were defensive in nature, simulating air attacks against North Korea. It is likely that the entire North Korean military establishment is on an alert as a result of developments in South Korea. [redacted]

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Executive Offices of the White House

Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Executive Secretary, National Security Council

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration

The Counselor

Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Director, The Joint Staff

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Department of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

Atomic Energy Commission

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The Director

National Indications Center

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