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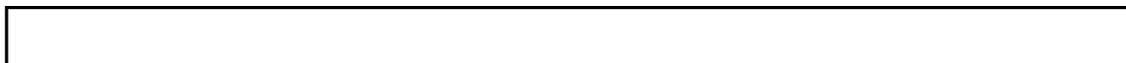
9 January 1962



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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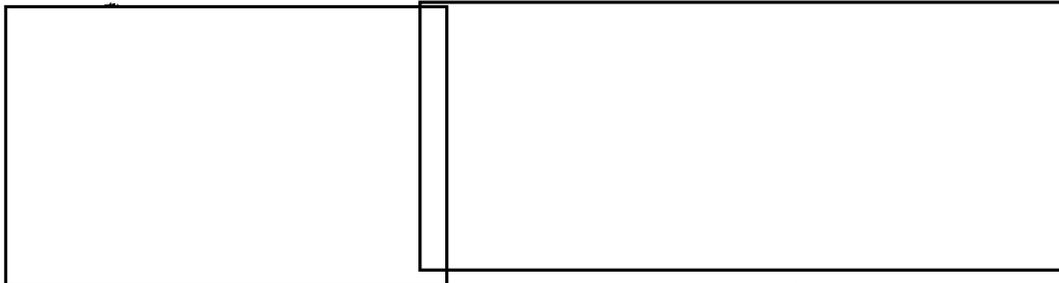
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

9 January 1962

DAILY BRIEF

USSR-Laos: Soviet delegate Pushkin, in discussing Ambassador Harriman's recent "personal message" on Laos, stated that the Souvanna - Pathet Lao forces would refrain from any attacks and would resort to force only if attacked. Pushkin said, however, that the US intention to give full support to Phoumi if the Pathet Lao initiate a major military action constitutes a "threat to the USSR." The US delegate feels that this latter remark was made by Pushkin as a matter of "pure gamesmanship."

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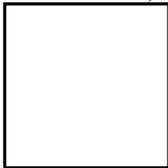


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*Thailand: Foreign Minister Thanat has told the US ambassador that the Thais are becoming increasingly apprehensive over developments in Laos. Many members of the government, he said, are now considering some form of a neutral or independent foreign policy for Thailand, outside of SEATO. He asserted that in spite of Thailand's concern over the situation in Laos, the government has kept faith with the Western goal of establishing a neutral government in Laos under Souvanna Phouma.

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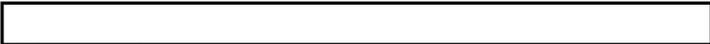
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Ghana-Bloc:



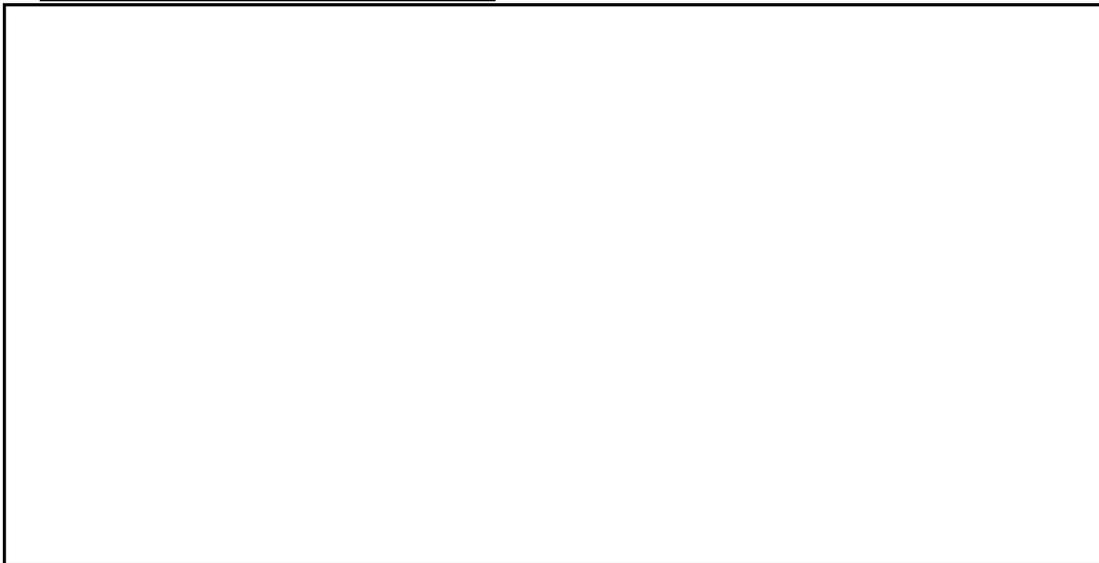
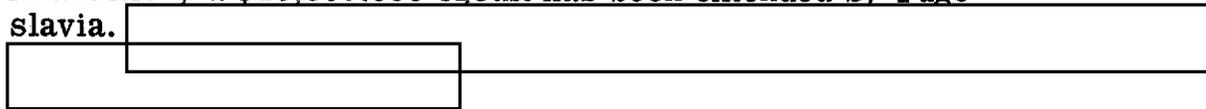
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President Nkrumah's visit to nine Sino-Soviet bloc countries last summer led to new bloc credit commitments to Ghana totaling at least \$93,000,000. Coupled with earlier credits, most of which have not been drawn against, the aggregate value of bloc economic and technical assistance made available to Ghana now totals about \$182,000,000. Slightly over half came from the USSR; the rest came from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Communist China, Hungary, and East Germany.

In addition, a \$10,000,000 credit has been extended by Yugoslavia.

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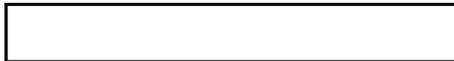


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DAILY BRIEF

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Bolivia: The cabinet's offer on 6 January to resign to allow President Paz "to ratify his confidence in all or some of the members" appears to reflect increasing differences within the governing Nationalist Revolutionary Movement. Bitterness has developed between Vice President Lechin's faction, which is particularly strong among organized labor, and the faction headed by Luis Sandoval, a provincial leader in eastern Bolivia. The Bolivian Communist party is reported to be seeking help from the Sandoval faction for a general strike against the government to begin on 13 January, and for a move to oust Lechin from his long-held position as head of the mineworkers' union.

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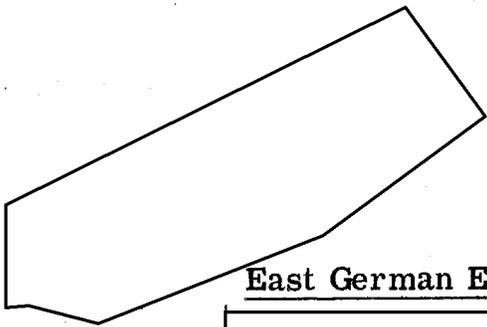
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DAILY BRIEF

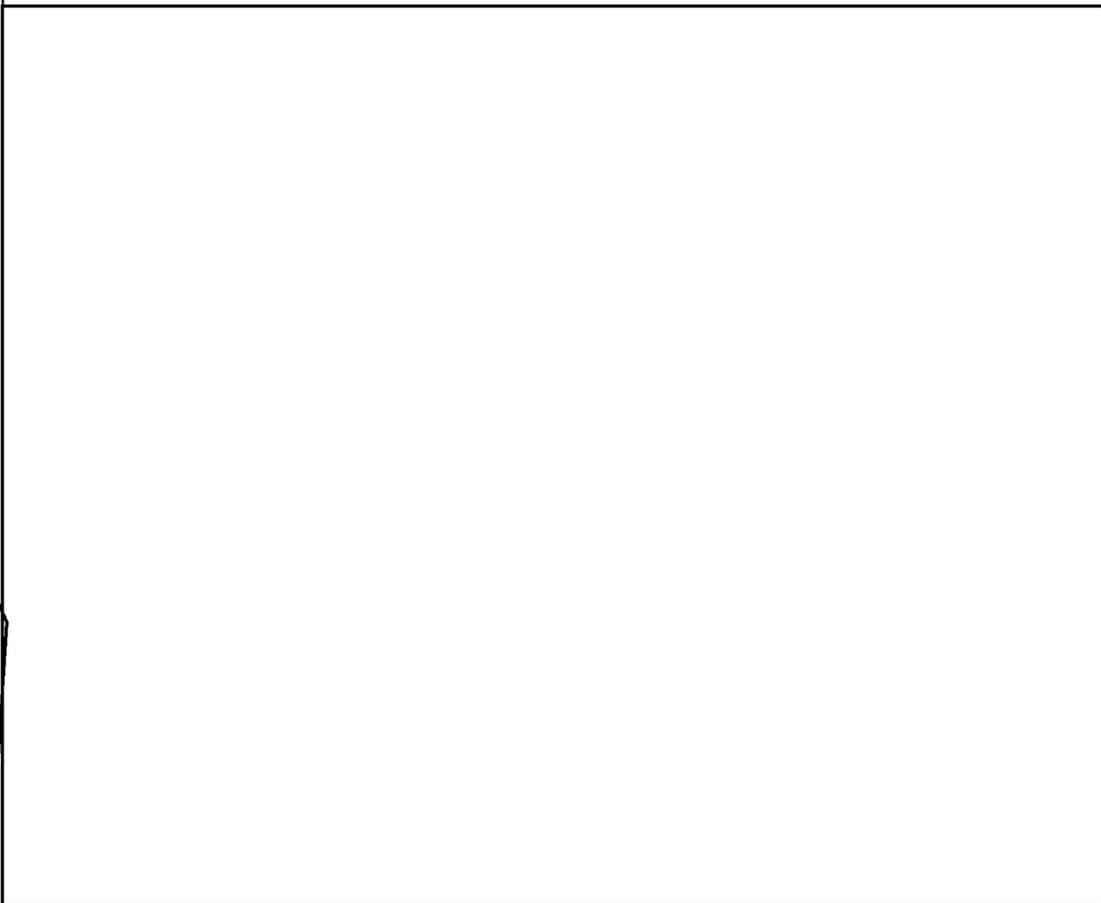
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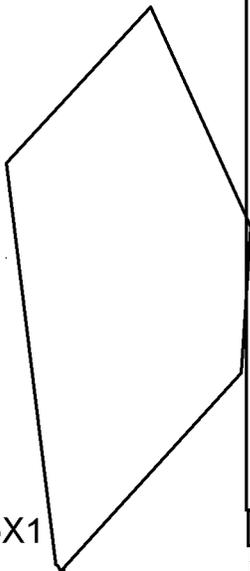


East German Economic Planning Difficulties



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[redacted] party boss Ulbricht, in an article in Pravda on 30 December, admitted that East Germany is "to a considerable extent" dependent on West German materials and equipment. He called for "close cooperation" between the East German and Soviet economies as the only means of eliminating dependence on West Germany.]]

[The regime can expect that food shortages will worsen in the early spring. Production of grain and potatoes in 1961 is]]

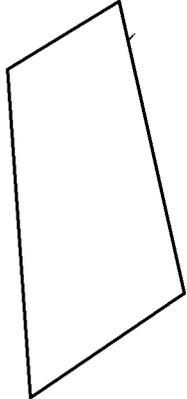


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Estimated to have been as much as 10 to 12 percent below 1960. A shortage of fodder and the resulting necessity for slaughtering more animals than planned in 1961 will probably cause a decline in the number of animals available for slaughter next year. Further deterioration may force an extension of rationing, which has been in effect for some time on such items as butter, bread, and potatoes, to other items.

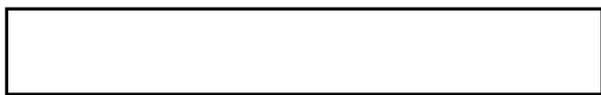
The cold weather in East Germany is compounding annual winter fuel problems. The regime has asked the public to conserve heat and has reportedly cut back the supply of gas for heating public buildings and factories in order to supply the population.

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Special Counsel to the President

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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 Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

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The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

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Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

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