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13 Sept 62

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

USSR: Analysis of the highlights of Moscow's statement of 11 September on Cuba points to the conclusion that it was designed to advance a variety of Soviet objectives, foremost among them being to deter the US from active intervention in Cuba.

Although the statement avoided a clear-cut commitment to defend Cuba in all contingencies, it has further engaged Soviet prestige in ensuring the survival of the Castro regime. As before, the USSR attempted to create the impression that Cuba is under the protection of Soviet nuclear and missile power.

The statement conveyed an indirect assurance that the USSR will not simultaneously confront the US with critical challenges in both Cuba and Berlin. It suggests that Moscow intends to postpone further serious Berlin talks until late this year. In the meantime, it will assess the impact on the Western position of propaganda attacks on US "aggressive actions" and possibly of maneuvers to involve the UN in a Berlin settlement.

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East Germany: [redacted]

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[redacted] the new East Berlin commandant, Maj. Gen. Poppe, as a mere figurehead who lacks authority even to deal with purely local exigencies in the Berlin situation. [redacted] the position of EGA commanders is "impossible" because demands on them have increased to the point that all desire to serve is disappearing.

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[redacted] scheduled to receive one battalion of Soviet surface-to-surface missiles similar to the US Honest John before the end of 1962. The other satellites have not been equipped with surface-to-surface missiles.

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[The USSR is not expected to turn over weapons of mass destruction to any satellite army.]

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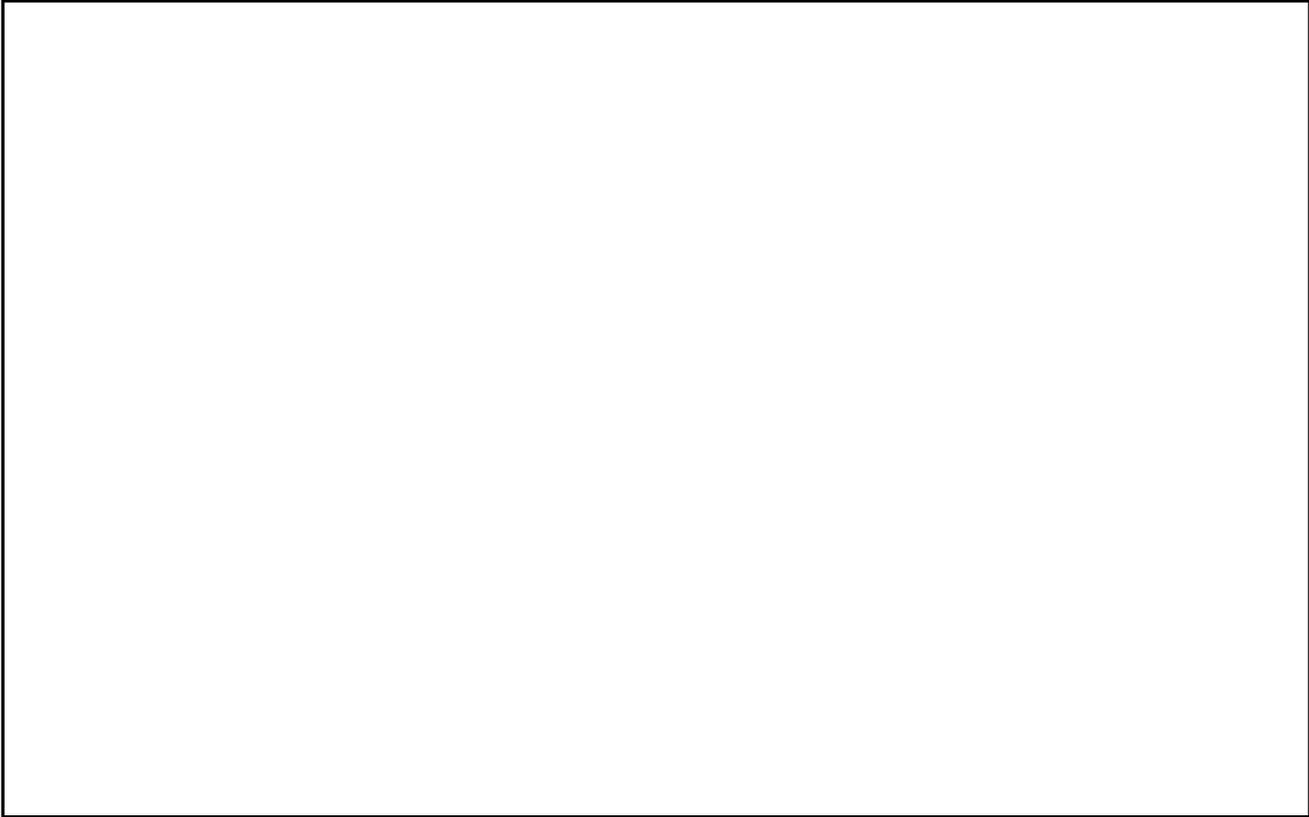
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Communist China - US: People's Daily charged on 12 September that US disarmament proposals are designed to prevent "nuclear proliferation" and "tie China's hands in developing nuclear weapons."

The statement follows several recent expressions of Peiping's determination to acquire a nuclear arms capability. In July, Foreign Minister Chen Yi claimed that Chinese scientists had made progress toward the production of atomic bombs.

Peiping has on many occasions underscored its intention not to be bound by any disarmament agreement reached without its participation.

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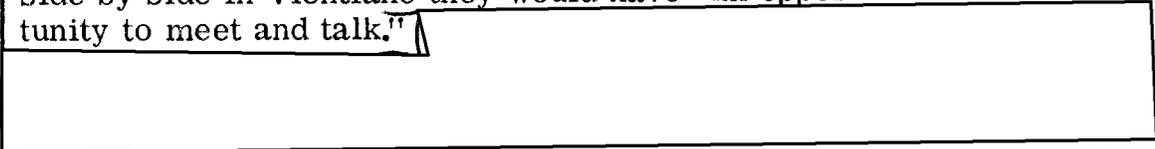


South Vietnam - Laos: [South Vietnam is considering severing relations with Laos because of Vientiane's decision to recognize North Vietnam. The Diem government has called its ambassador to Laos home for consultations. However, it is loath to leave the field to the Communists, and hopes that some kind of modus vivendi can be arranged.]

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[Souvanna, while urging that South Vietnam maintain its presence in Vientiane, has said that Laos will receive an ambassador from North Vietnam if one is sent. Souvanna is interested in a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam problem. He told the South Vietnamese representative that if the two missions existed side by side in Vientiane they would have "an opportunity to meet and talk."]

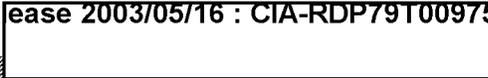


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DAILY BRIEF

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Cambodia: The Cambodian Air Force has been ordered to shoot down unauthorized overflying aircraft.

Cambodia has long complained of Thai and Vietnamese territorial violations. Its irritation was aggravated on 10 September when South Vietnamese amphibious, air, and ground forces pursued Viet Cong forces into Cambodia.

Sihanouk has announced that he will tolerate only "two more" South Vietnamese "acts of aggression" before breaking relations. He has threatened to establish diplomatic relations with North Vietnam.

Despite their modest equipment, Chief MAAG Cambodia rates the Cambodian pilots as aggressive, skillful, and "itching for the opportunity to shoot down an intruder."

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Ghana-USSR: Ghana has reportedly decided to withdraw 46 of the 71 military cadets sent to the USSR for long-term training last year.

The cadets to be withdrawn are expected to return to Accra by the end of October. Those who will remain in the USSR for further training are said to be the better qualified members of the original group.

Ghana's British-trained military leaders have consistently opposed the program, which was arranged during Nkrumah's visit to the USSR in 1961. They are known from other reports to have become increasingly critical in recent months of the cadets' training.

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