

~~Top Secret~~

No Foreign Dissem

RECEIVED IN

NOV 8 1968

LIAISON WOC



DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

① Donahoe
② Whitson
Initials on
memo.
[Signature]

Central Intelligence Bulletin

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-15-99 BY SP4BJA-MLB
#421800



F(b)(3)
(U)

~~Top Secret~~

144

8 November 1968

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JUL 25 2000

109-12-330-384 enclosure

Controlled Dissem

The *CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN* is produced by the Director of Central Intelligence to meet his responsibilities for providing current intelligence bearing on issues of national security to the President, the National Security Council, and other senior government officials. It is produced in consultation with the Departments of State and Defense. When, because of the time factor, adequate consultation with the department of primary concern is not feasible, items or portions thereof are produced by CIA and enclosed with brackets.

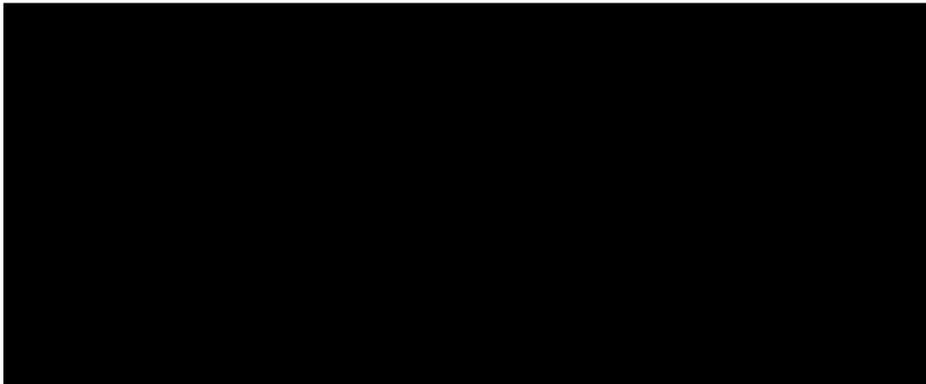
Interpretations of intelligence information in this publication represent immediate and preliminary views which are subject to modification in the light of further information and more complete analysis.

Certain intelligence items in this publication may be designated specifically for no further dissemination. Other intelligence items may be disseminated further, but only on a need-to-know basis.

The *CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN* is published in both a Top Secret Codeword and a Secret edition. Recipients of the more tightly held Codeword version should not discuss it or its Codeword contents with recipients of the Secret edition.

WARNING

This document contains classified information affecting the national security of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, US Code Title 18, Sections 793, 794, and 798.



F(b)(3)
(U)

NOV 8 10 45 AM '68
LIAISON SECTION, FBI

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~Top Secret~~

[REDACTED]
8 November 1968

F(b)(3)
(U)

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

South Vietnam: Situation report. (Page 1)

Communist China - Laos: The Chinese have apparently resumed building roads into Laos. (Page 2)

Korea: A large group of North Korean infiltrators seems trapped in South Korea. (Page 3)

Yemen: A break in royalist ranks may presage an end to the fighting. (Page 4)

Czechoslovakia: There have been more anti-Soviet demonstrations. (Page 5)

West Germany - Berlin: Student demonstrations (Page 6)

USSR: Circumlunar flight (Page 6)

USSR: Nuclear test (Page 6)

USSR-Iraq: Aircraft deliveries (Page 7)

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

[REDACTED]
Venezuela: Terrorist plans (Page 7)

F(b)(3)
(U)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

F(b)(3)
(U)

[South Vietnam: The Saigon government is casting about for a face-saving formula for participation in the Paris talks.

One proposal, [REDACTED] involves a variation of the "our side - your side" position which would allow the South Vietnamese to be acknowledged publicly as the chief spokesman for the allied side at the talks. President Thieu reportedly feels that this proposal would ensure equity with Hanoi and hopefully give Saigon a superior position over the National Liberation Front. At the same time it would render the government's decision to go to Paris palatable to the Vietnamese public and political elite.

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

Thieu wants the proposal passed to Ambassador Bunker as soon as possible, so that discussions can begin. According to the source, Thieu does not believe that the Americans will accept the proposal, but he is hopeful that it might serve to open up a new dialogue with Washington and eventually lead to some sort of acceptable compromise.

* * * *

Communist military activity on 6-7 November was confined to light mortar attacks against a few towns and villages and a US Marine base. Three district towns in the Saigon - III Corps area and civilian hamlets on the outskirts of Quang Ngai and Hoi An were hit with light mortar fire. Casualties were light. A US Marine base south of the DMZ was hit by 34 rounds of 140-mm. rocket fire in four separate incidents with no casualties or damage.

Although major enemy units continue their stand down, [REDACTED] main force units of regimental size are expecting attack orders in the near future. Two regiments in the area of the Demilitarized Zone--the 27th and the 164th Artillery--and another two in the highlands--the 95B and the 66th--discussed attack plans in messages of 5 November. (SECRET [REDACTED] (Map)]

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

F(b)(3)
(U)

8 Nov 68

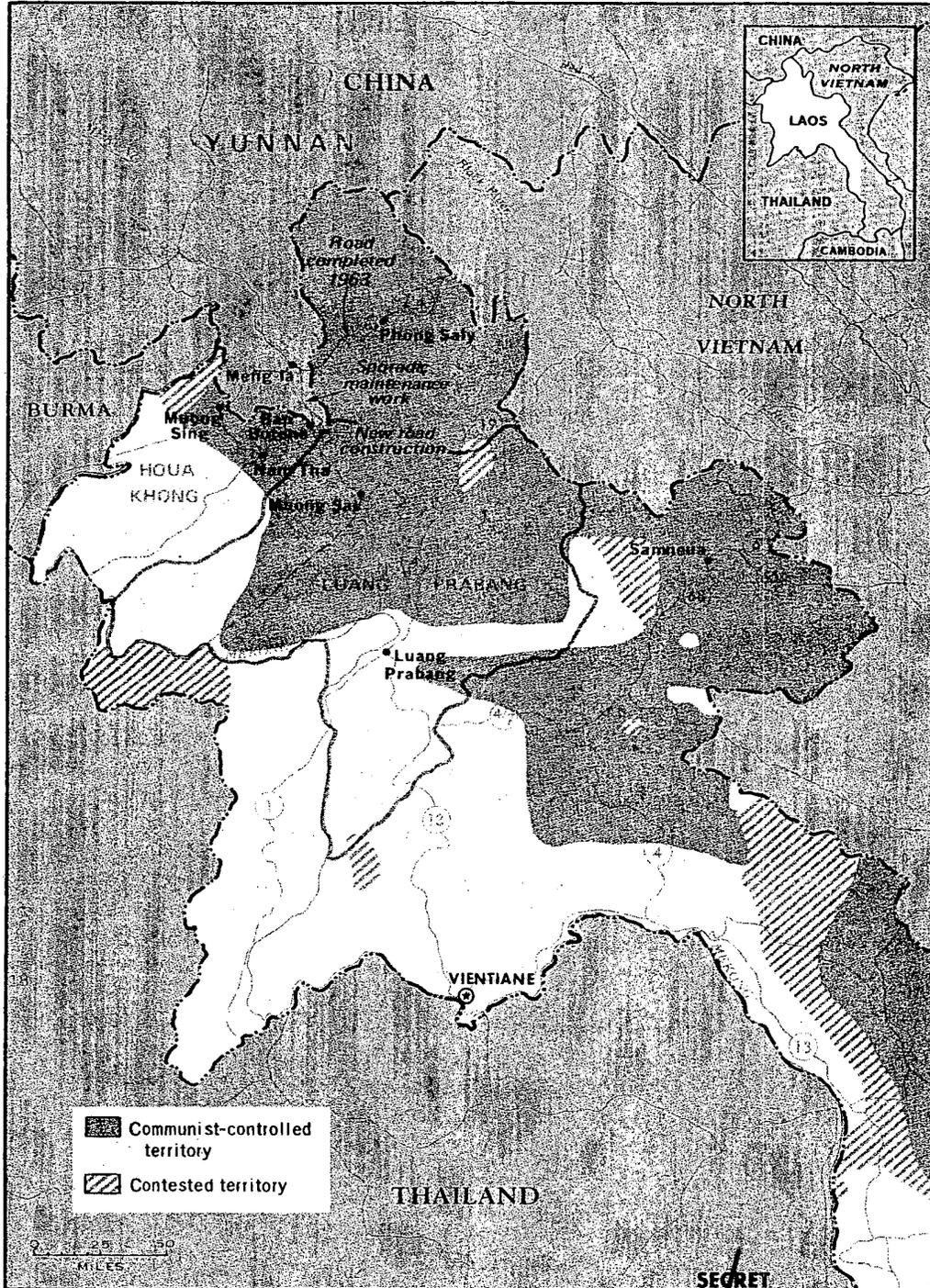
Central Intelligence Bulletin

1

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

F(b)(3)
(U)

Chinese Resume Road Construction in Northern Laos



Communist China - Laos: The Chinese have apparently resumed construction of a road from southern Yunnan Province into northern Laos.

[REDACTED] since early September several thousand Chinese have been working on a road leading southward from the border village of Ban Botene. The laborers apparently are accompanied by Chinese security troops. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that the road will continue south to Nam Tha, with one spur heading southeast toward Muong Sai.

Roads linking Nam Tha and Muong Sai with China would facilitate the flow of supplies to Pathet Lao troops in remote areas of northern Houa Khong and Luang Prabang provinces that are not connected by road to North Vietnam. The new road construction may be the Communists' reaction to the increased activity of government guerrillas in the area during the past year.

The Chinese have been engaged in intermittent road building in the area under the terms of an agreement reached with Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma in 1962. The current activity is the most significant since 1963, when similar numbers of Chinese laborers were used to complete the Meng-la - Phong Saly road. At that time, the Chinese publicly announced plans to build a road system linking southern Yunnan with larger Laotian villages across the border. Little had been done to carry out this plan, however, except for sporadic work on the Meng-la - Ban Botene section of road by small labor gangs. (SECRET) (Map)

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

Korea: The North Korean guerrillas who landed on the South Korean east coast on 3 November appear trapped. More than 15,000 South Korean security forces, including offshore naval units, have blocked possible escape routes. South Korean authorities estimate that two 30-man infiltration teams are in the area, and thus far seven guerrillas have been killed. The roundup is expected to take considerable time because of rugged terrain and bad weather.

The North Korean infiltration attempt appears to be the largest since the Korean war. Another unique aspect was the forced indoctrination of villagers, the first instance of "armed propaganda" since the war. (SECRET [REDACTED])

F(b)(3)
(U)



Yemen: A major break in Yemeni royalist ranks may represent a first step toward an end to the fighting.

On 3 November a prominent royalist tribal leader, Qasim Munassir, agreed to end the fighting around Sana and to merge his tribal forces with those of the republic, [redacted] Munassir was rewarded by being appointed military commander of the eastern zone. In addition a council of elders is to be established before 21 November to discuss changing the name of the Yemeni Arab Republic to something more palatable to the strongly Muslim tribal leaders, such as eliminating the word republic.

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

Coming at a time when the republic was facing a new royalist offensive as well as internal disorders in the capital, this change-over by the most tenacious of the royalist leaders must be regarded as more than simple defection. The conditions he extracted from the republicans appear to support this view.

There is no clear evidence, however, that his action is connected with the tenuous peace negotiations which have been dragging on between the two sides and with the Saudi Arabian Government. It is more likely that, as the tribal leaders have become increasingly independent of both royalist and republican governments, they have tended to carry on their own negotiations. A continued trend among royalists in switching allegiance to the republicans could substantially reduce the area of fighting and might result in a general tribal peace. (SECRET [redacted])

F(b)(3)
(U)



[Czechoslovakia: There were more anti-Soviet demonstrations in Prague yesterday.

Czechoslovak soldiers and police used force to attempt to break up crowds shouting anti-Russian slogans. The demonstrators included several thousand young people, students, workers, and office employees. The presence of white- and blue-collar workers is a sign of the unusual depth of the anti-Soviet feeling in Prague.

Some of the marchers were apparently demonstrating against their own leaders--including Dubcek--for participating in ceremonies on 6 and 7 November commemorating the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution.

Early on 7 November there were manifestations of anti-Russian sentiment centering on the Esplanade Hotel, and the police exercised restraint in breaking them up. During the late afternoon and evening the situation deteriorated, especially near the party central committee building, and the police began using their clubs.

The Soviets seem to have been expecting the disturbances. On 5 November [REDACTED] Soviet combat elements 15 kilometers from the city and near the best high-speed roads leading to downtown Prague. [REDACTED] some small Soviet units in the outskirts of the city where none had previously been stationed.

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

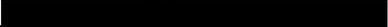
F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

Moscow will undoubtedly consider the demonstrations a serious affront. The Soviets will see additional evidence that the Dubcek leadership is either unable or unwilling to live up to its promise to control anti-Soviet manifestations. The Soviets, however, probably intend to intervene with their troops only if the situation gets out of control of the Czechoslovak security forces.

There may be more demonstrations or even street clashes on 10 November, when pro-Soviet party conservatives plan to hold a public rally. (~~SECRET~~) (Map)]

NOTES

West Germany - Berlin: Radical student groups plan nationwide demonstrations tomorrow to commemorate an abortive Communist revolution in 1918 and to protest the Vietnam war. Some groups are planning deliberate violence in order to provoke the police and thereby recover the broader student support the activists had last year. West Berlin police, despite many casualties, acted with restraint in putting down radical-initiated violence on 4 November; the authorities hope thus to undercut the radicals. (CONFIDENTIAL)

USSR: The Soviets probably will attempt an unmanned circumlunar flight within the next several days. Space support and recovery ships in the Pacific and Indian Oceans are heading for circumlunar support stations and should arrive by the 9th. 

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(T)

USSR: On 7 November the Soviets conducted an underground nuclear test at the Novaya Zemlya test area. The yield of the device tested was in the intermediate range--200 kilotons to one megaton. 

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

(continued)

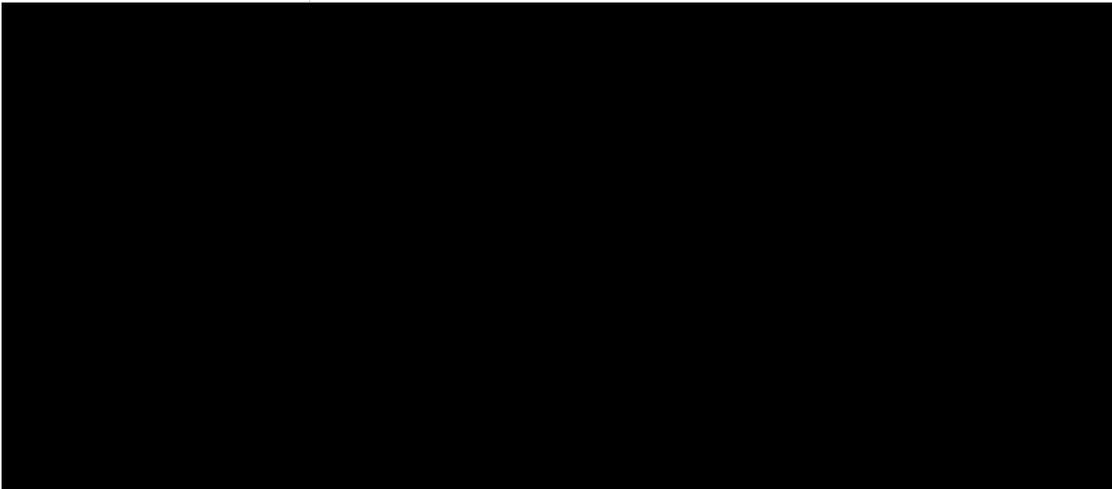
8 Nov 68

Central Intelligence Bulletin

6

USSR-Iraq: Ten SU-7 fighter-bombers arrived in Basra on 27 October, the first Soviet delivery of SU-7s to Iraq in a year. In addition, the USSR delivered by air three AN-12 cargo transports and two AN-24 passenger transports last month. Four more SU-7s out of a total of 32 remain to be shipped under an agreement signed in May 1966. Another arms pact was concluded in July 1967, and an Iraqi military delegation went to Moscow last September, probably to seek additional military equipment. (TOP SECRET [REDACTED])

F(b)(3)
(U)



F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

Venezuela: A dissident Communist terrorist group reportedly plans some unspecified action against "an American colonel" in the near future. Other terrorist groups are also reportedly planning to try to disrupt the national elections on 1 December. US business facilities as well as US nationals would be easy targets for hit-and-run terrorist attack, and it is doubtful that government forces unless forewarned would be able to prevent such action. (SECRET [REDACTED])

F(b)(3)
(U)

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board on 7 November 1968 approved the following national intelligence estimates:

- NIE 12-68 "Eastern Europe and the USSR in the Aftermath of the Invasion of Czechoslovakia" (SECRET)
- SNIE 11-16-68 "Soviet Approach to Arms Control" (SECRET)

8 Nov 68

Central Intelligence Bulletin

8

~~Top Secret~~

109-12-330-384



~~Top Secret~~