

~~SECRET~~

COPY NO. 77
OCI NO. 0427/62

27 July 1962

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

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



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: SEP 2004

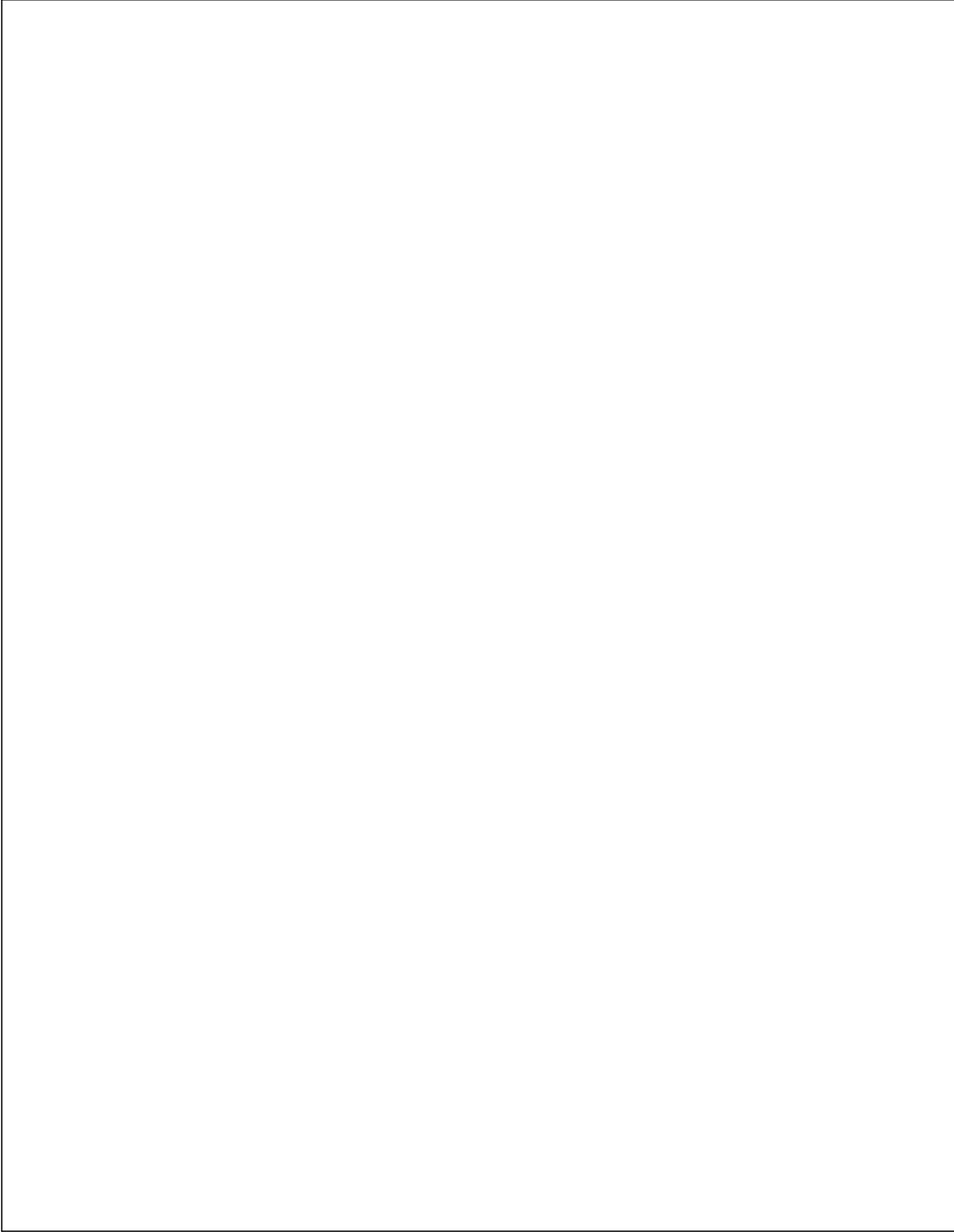
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

27 July 1962

THE WEEK IN BRIEF
(Information as of 1200 EDT 26 July)



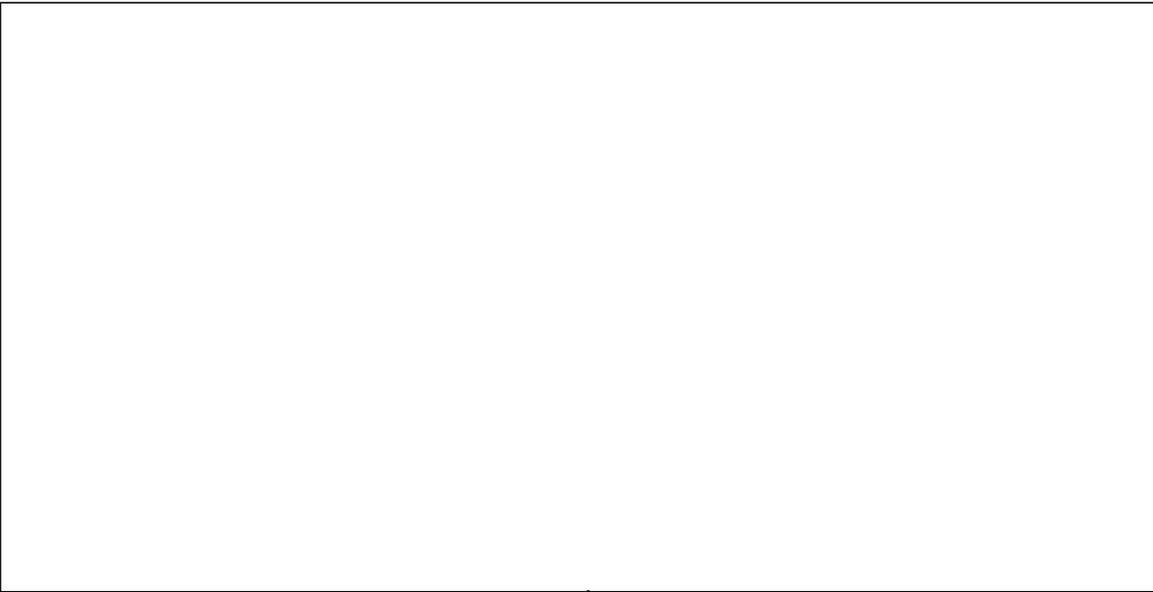
~~SECRET~~

27 July 1962



UAR MISSILE DEVELOPMENTS Page 11

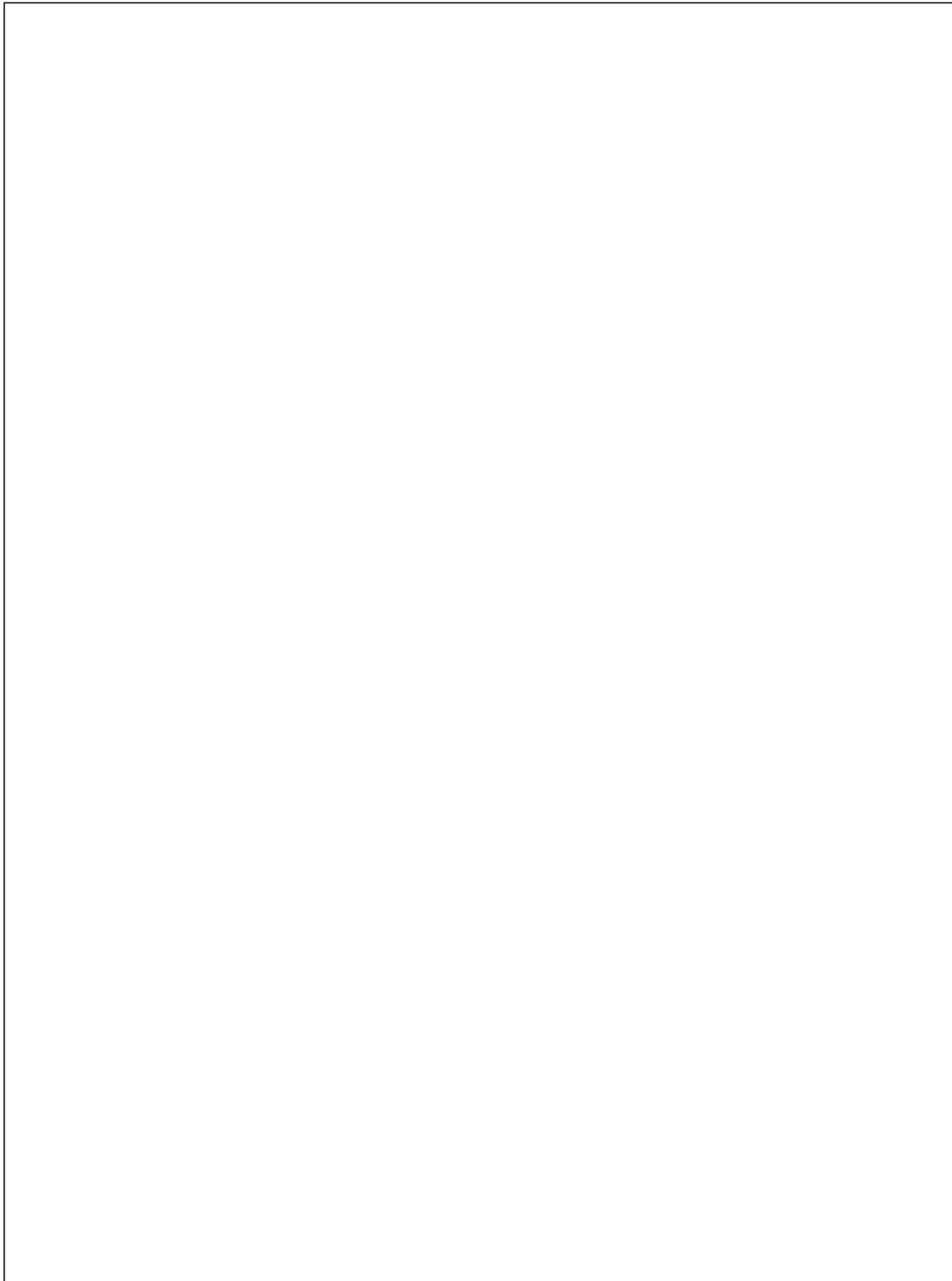
The Nasir government is trying to derive full propaganda advantage from the progress in missile development which it demonstrated during the tenth anniversary celebration of the Egyptian revolution. The larger of the two types of missile shown in the parade on 23 July appears generally similar to the improved V-2 type which West German scientists have been reported assisting the UAR to develop. Israeli officials, while noting the need for separating truth from fiction in Cairo's claims, have nonetheless expressed serious concern and will probably soon ask again for missiles from the United States and other Western countries.



~~SECRET~~

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

27 July 1962



~~SECRET~~

iii

BRIEFS

~~SECRET~~

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

27 July 1962



~~SECRET~~

iv

BRIEFS

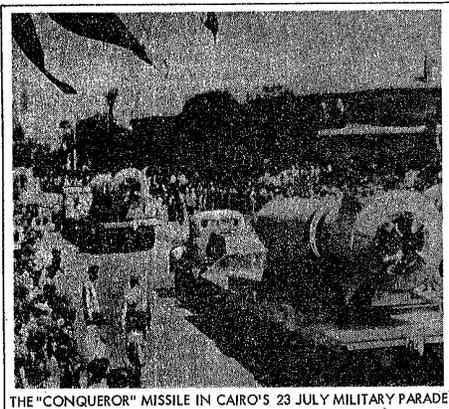
~~SECRET~~

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

UAR MISSILE DEVELOPMENTS

The Nasir government is continuing its campaign to derive full propaganda advantage from its progress in missile development. Nasir made this the real theme of the week-long celebrations of the tenth anniversary of the Egyptian revolution. It serves as ideal propaganda material for the peoples of all the Arab countries, long frustrated by the fact that Arab scientific and technological achievement has for many generations lagged far behind that of the Western nations. Radio Cairo claims that UAR missile accomplishments "testify to the greatness of Arab socialism, destroy the myth of Israeli scientific and military superiority, and shake the earth under the feet of Arab reactionaries and feudalists."

Nasir's own observations to the press--after the launching on 21 July of four single-stage



missiles from a site about 50 miles northwest of Cairo, and some six or seven miles from the point where reporters had been brought to watch--were more restrained. He said that the two types tested were "of Egyptian manufacture and in large-scale production." He added that their real significance was their range--great enough in the case of the larger of the two, the Conqueror, to reach "a little south of Beirut"--that is, anywhere in Israel. Cairo claims a range of some 370 miles for the Conqueror and 235 miles for the Victor.

The Conqueror, ten of which were displayed in Cairo's 23 July military parade, is reported to be 40 feet long and four feet in diameter with a cluster of four nozzles visible at the rear. There have been reports for some time that the UAR was receiving technical assistance from a group of West German scientists and engineers in developing a surface-to-surface missile. These West Germans, some of whom were retained as early as 1959, have the technical competence, utilizing materials and components procured in Europe, to assemble a missile similar to a V-2 which would be able to carry a payload of about 1,000 pounds to a range of from 200 to 500 miles. The dimensions of the displayed Conqueror are not inconsistent with such a vehicle. While the second missile, which is reported to be 18 feet long

~~SECRET~~

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

and 30 inches in diameter, might reach a maximum range of 200 miles, a preliminary analysis suggests that its range with any worthwhile military payload would be considerably less.

The larger missiles were carried in cradles resting on flat-bed truck trailers--the smaller ones on trucks. These arrangements appear to have been specially rigged for the parade. This suggests that operational ground support equipment of a mobile nature for the missiles' erection and firing is lacking.

There is, moreover, no convincing evidence as yet that the Conqueror has been successfully tested. The vehicles launched on 21 July might not have included the Conqueror and perhaps not even the smaller Victor. Egypt still had several two-stage meteorological sounding rockets obtained many months ago from a US firm; these could easily have been separated into single stages and launched with a near certainty that they would fire successfully. Thus, it is likely that the Egyptian missiles displayed will require consider-

ably more testing and development before they can be regarded as operational. In addition, there is considerable doubt whether the UAR has the resources or will be able to import the components necessary to produce these rockets in the hundreds.

The Nasir government has nevertheless taken a step toward the development of an operational surface-to-surface rocket of significant range. This would be an important addition to other up-to-date weapons, reportedly including some other types of missiles, which the UAR may obtain from the USSR.

Israeli officials, while noting the need for separating fact from fiction in the Egyptian rocketry claims, have expressed serious concern, especially over the possible eventual change in the balance of military strength. Israel will probably, in the near future, ask again for missiles from the US and other Western nations.

* * *