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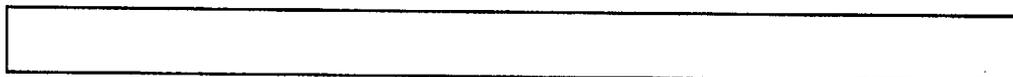


26 September 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept., USAF reviews completed

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

26 September 1961

DAILY BRIEF

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USSR - Warsaw Pact: The announcement on 25 September that troops of the Warsaw Pact countries will conduct exercises in October and November is a logical and consistent development of Moscow's extensive efforts over the past two months to impress the West with the strength and combat readiness of Soviet and bloc forces. These exercises, to be held in the "territory of the Warsaw treaty countries," follow the decision at the meeting of the Warsaw Pact defense ministers on 8-9 September to work out "practical measures" to strengthen the defense of the bloc countries.

o/c

Thus far the Warsaw Pact countries have held only rudimentary combined exercises, mostly involving the presence of satellite observers at Soviet maneuvers. This spring, however, elements of the East German Army participated in an exercise with Soviet units in East Germany. Because of the lack of past combined exercises, it is unlikely that any realistic large-scale maneuvers can be accomplished on such short notice.

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Congo: The cease-fire in Katanga continues, although Tshombé has charged the UN with numerous armistice violations, including the reinforcement of UN forces in Katanga with additional armed vehicles. A US Air Force officer in Northern Rhodesia reported on 23 September that a Katangan aircraft had arrived in Ndola to pick up eight Rhodesian, Belgian, and South African mercenaries for service in Katanga. The Congo Army has airlifted 150 soldiers from Leopoldville to Luluabourg, and other troops reportedly are en route to the Luluabourg area by steamer. It appears unlikely, however, that the central government plans an invasion of Katanga at this time.

o/c

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(Map)

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