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30 December 1958

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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30 DECEMBER 1958

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Iraq - UAR message says trial of Arif has begun.

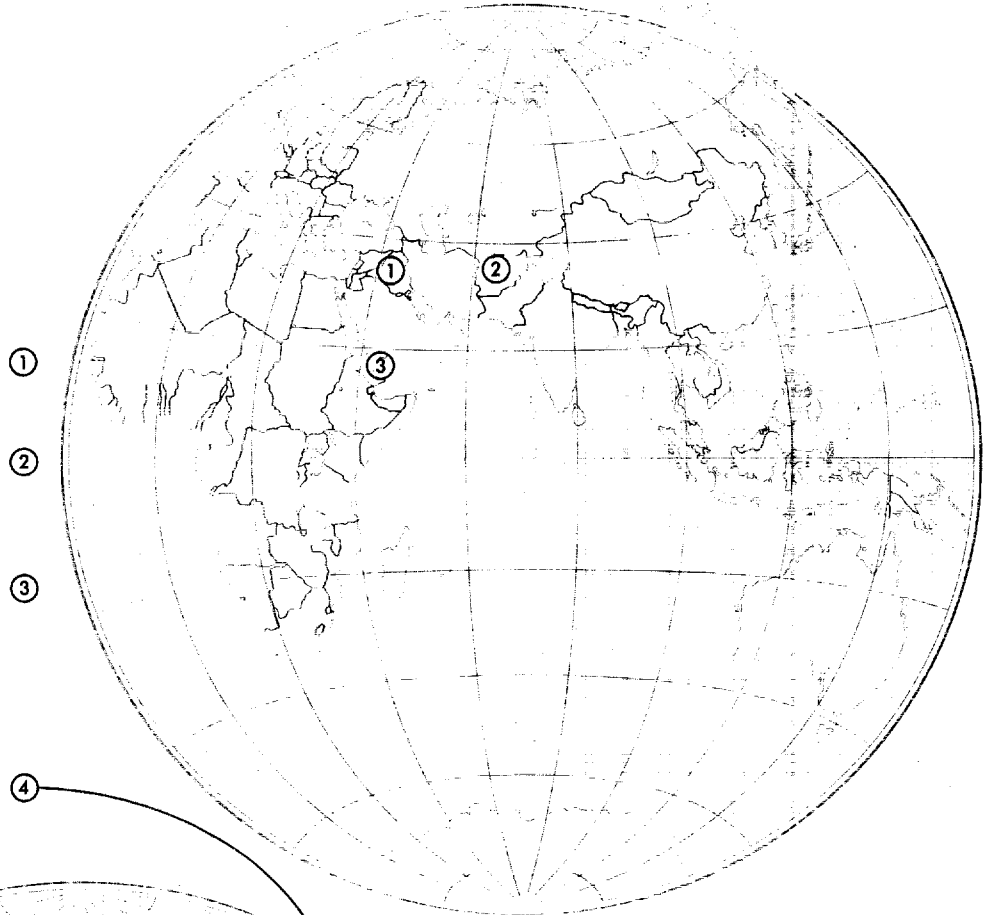
Afghan foreign minister's visit to Moscow may lead to new military aid agreement.

Yemen regime has arrested number of plotters.

Imam seen alive in Taiz on 26 December.

III. THE WEST

Cuba - Indications are that rebels may declare a provisional government at any time; they will demand dominant role if Batista falls.

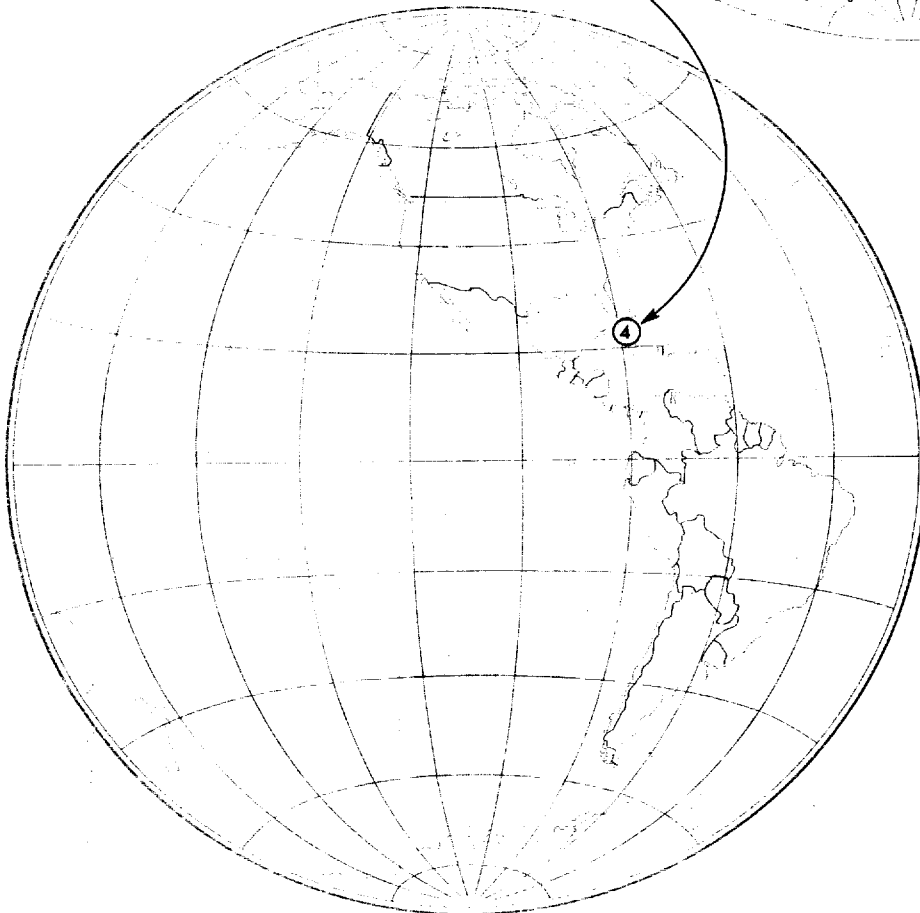


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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

30 December 1958

## DAILY BRIEF

## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

## II. ASIA-AFRICA

*SIRAB*

**\*Iraq:** The trial of Col. Arif, self-appointed leader of pro-UAR elements in Iraq, began on 27 December. [redacted]

*no*

[redacted] Rashid Ali al-Gaylani, titular leader of the recent UAR-backed plot against the Qasim regime, also has been tried and condemned to death. If this information is confirmed, it would appear that Qasim is reacting to Nasir's indirect campaign against him by moving quickly to liquidate popular personalities around whom the opposition might rally. This would, in turn, make Qasim even more dependent on the Communists. [redacted]

*no*

**Afghanistan-USSR:** Foreign Minister Naim's forthcoming visit to Moscow may lead to the signing of a new military aid agreement with the USSR. Since the advent of the Ayub regime in Karachi, Afghanistan has felt that its relations with Pakistan have deteriorated. [redacted] (Page 1)

*no*

**Yemen:** A number of officials and army officers suspected of conspiring to overthrow the Yemeni Government have been arrested, [redacted]

The arrests apparently follow a warning received by the Imam on 15 December of a new plot against him. [redacted]

[redacted] Despite earlier rumors of his death, on 26 December the Imam was seen alive in Taiz. [redacted] (Page 3)

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## III. THE WEST

\*Cuba:

[redacted]  
the Castro movement will demand a dominant role in any new government if the Batista regime falls. [redacted]  
[redacted]

760 [redacted] rebel representatives in Havana to "keep the workers' units on the alert in order to unleash a general strike" if Manuel Urrutia, Castro's choice for president of the rebel-dominated "free territory of Cuba," is not placed in power. There are indications that the rebels may declare a provisional government at any time. [redacted]

Meanwhile, the government's military high command is reported to be dividing into factions, with open dissension among ranking officers; demoralization continues to spread throughout the armed forces. [redacted]  
[redacted]

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DAILY BRIEF

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## I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC (No Back-up Material)

## II. ASIA-AFRICA

### New Afghan-Soviet Military Assistance Agreement May Be Concluded

Afghan-Foreign Minister Naim, who left on 29 December for Moscow, apparently intends to conclude a new agreement to expand the Soviet military assistance program in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government may regard such a move as a calculated risk necessary to strengthen its position against what it regards as an increasingly unfavorable Western attitude toward Afghanistan.

Afghanistan has been slow in training its troops to use Soviet weapons which have already been delivered. Any new military assistance agreement will therefore probably include an expanded training program, involving the use of additional Soviet military instructors. It would also provide for additional Soviet weapons, including heavy arms and more modern aircraft,

The new agreement for a reported \$50,000,000 would probably be financed by a long-term Soviet loan, ending the year-old Afghan policy of refusing to accept further loans in favor of grant aid. Because of discount prices, Afghanistan has apparently received bloc arms worth about \$75,000,000 under the \$25,000,000 Soviet arms-assistance agreement signed in 1956 and the \$7,000,000 Czech arms agreement of 1954.

Kabul has expressed strong concern over what it considers the deterioration of relations with Pakistan since the new military regime was established there on 7 October. The Afghan royal family apparently feels it now must deal with a tougher

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Pakistani Government indifferent to Afghanistan's support of autonomy for "Pushtoonistan." On 2 December, Afghan Prime Minister Daud attacked the United States' bilateral negotiations with Pakistan and Iran as upsetting the local balance of power and thereby imposing economic burdens on other countries which must build up their own armed forces as a result.



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Developments in Yemen

A series of arrests of individuals suspected of conspiring to overthrow the Imam appears under way in Yemen [redacted]

[redacted] Persons arrested reportedly include high government officials and army officers. Yemeni authorities apparently also fear a tribal uprising [redacted]

[redacted] The arrests presumably were prompted by a warning received by the Imam on 15 December from [redacted]

[redacted] that there were many rumors regarding the outbreak of a revolution "this month," which probably had some "basis of truth. "

[redacted]

[redacted]

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**THE PRESIDENT**

**The Vice President**

**Executive Offices of the White House**

Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Office of Defense and Civilian Mobilization

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Special Adviser to the President

**The Treasury Department**

The Secretary of the Treasury

**The Department of State**

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary for Administration

The Counselor

Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Director of Intelligence and Research

**The Department of Defense**

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

The Director, The Joint Staff

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of the Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

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The Director

**Atomic Energy Commission**

The Chairman

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The Director

**National Indications Center**

The Director

**United States Information Agency**

The Director

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