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28 March 1961

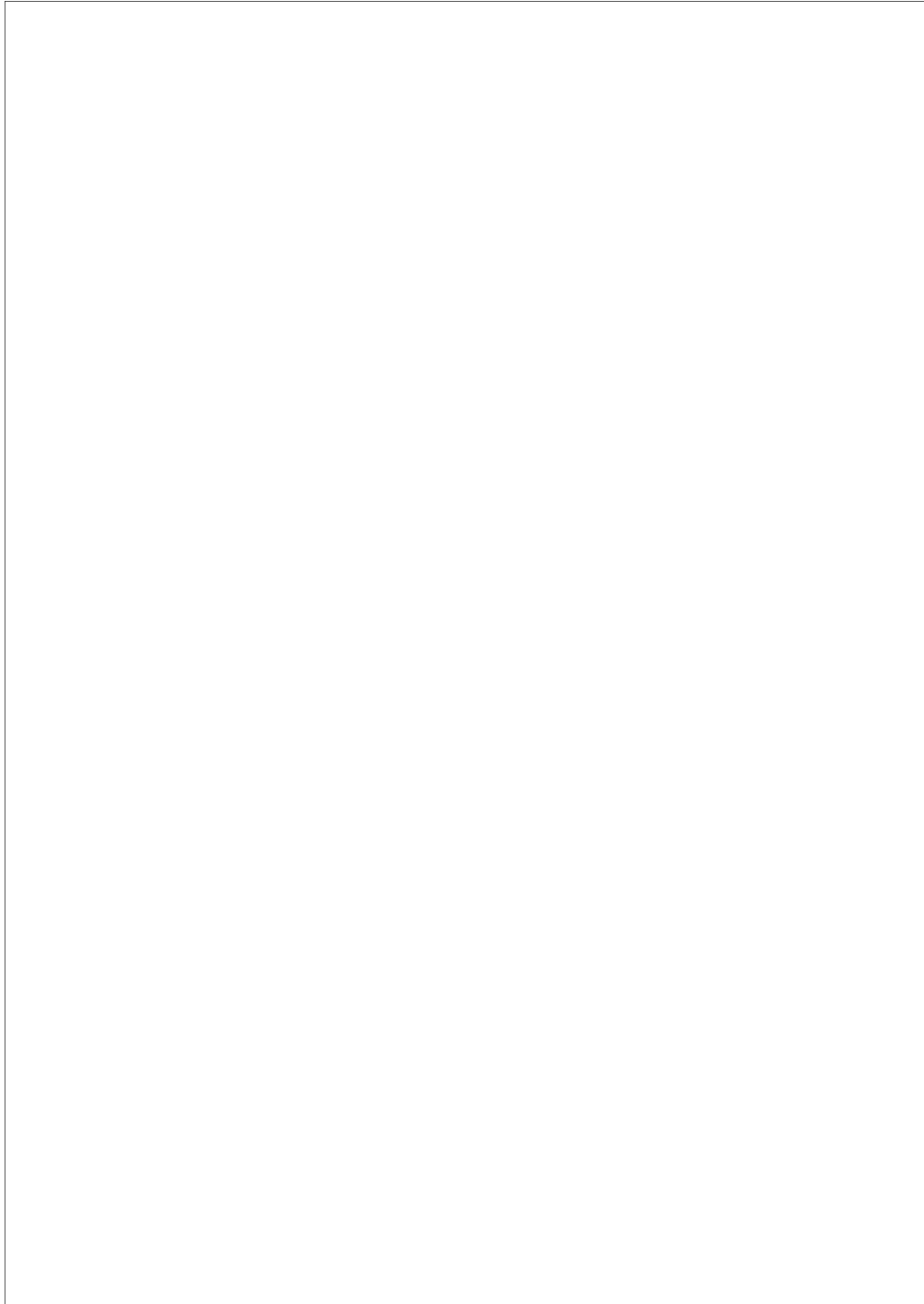
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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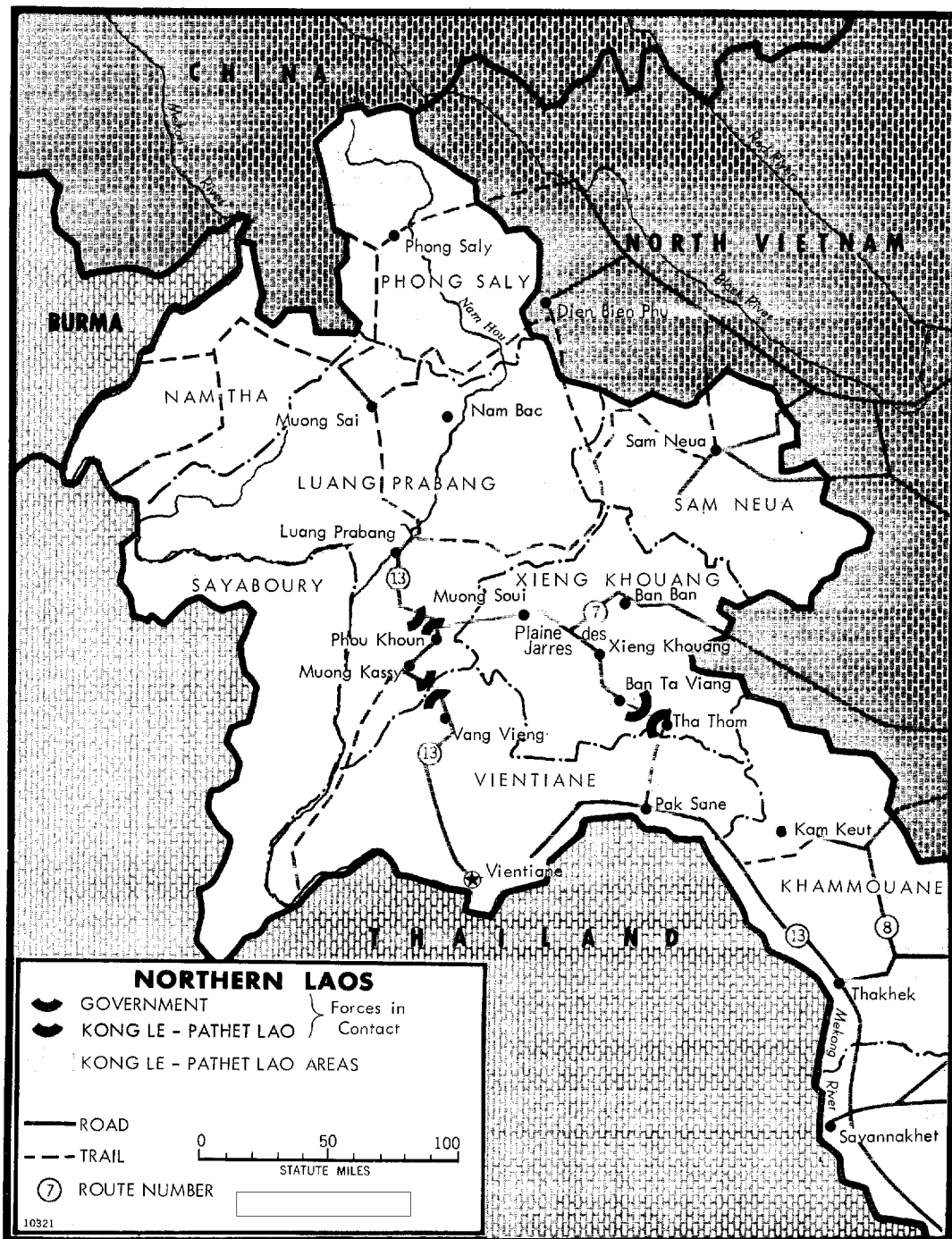
28 March 1961

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

1. Situation in Laos. (*Page i*)
2. Congo: Nehru implies movement of Indian troops to Congo may be held up unless UN regains control of Matadi. (*Page ii*)
3. Portuguese Guinea: Colonial regime under increasingly heavy propaganda attack from neighboring Republic of Guinea. (*Page ii*)
4. Iraq: Antiregime demonstrations in Baghdad. (*Page ii*)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

28 March 1961

DAILY BRIEF

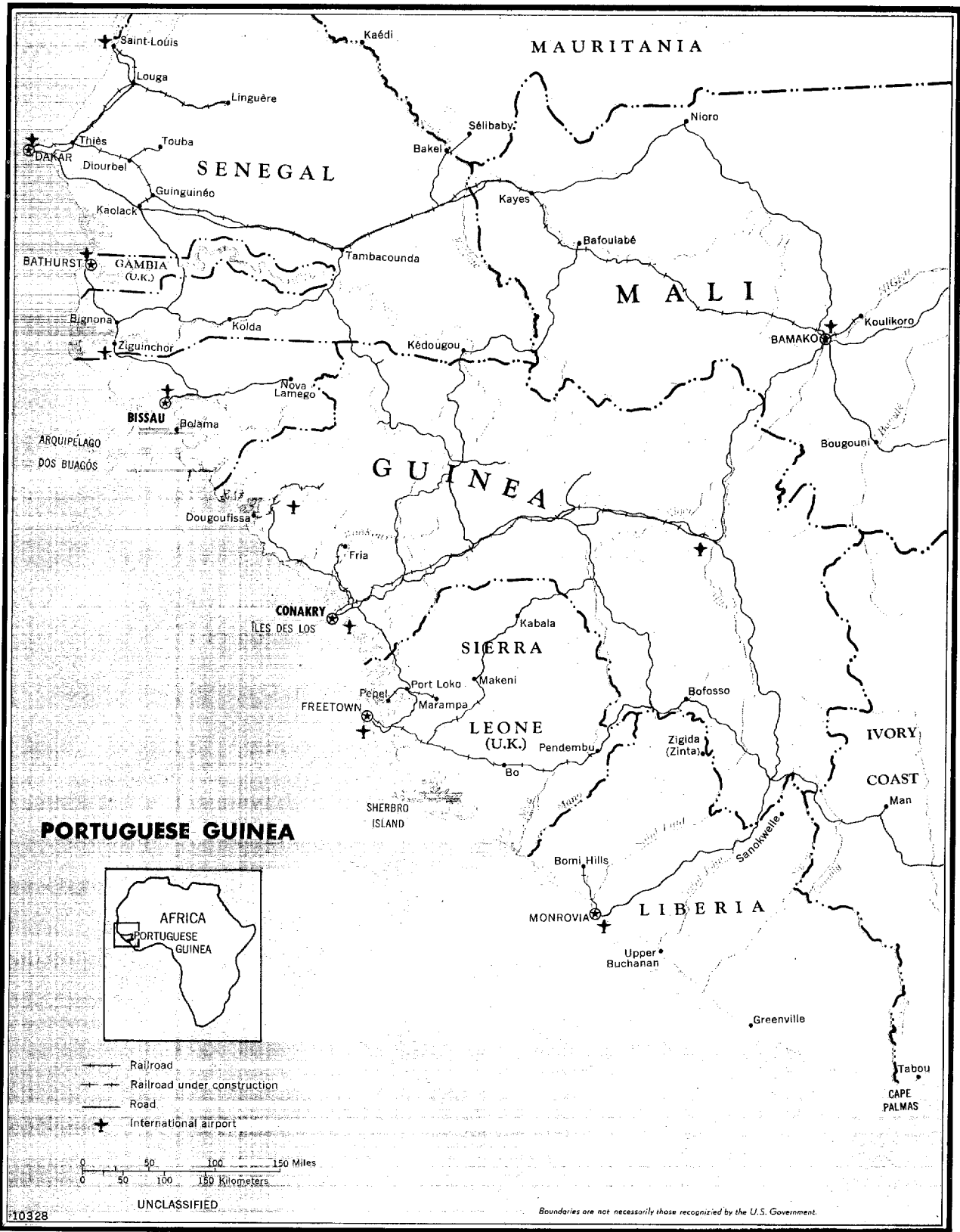
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Laos: [The military situation in Laos remains essentially unchanged. Political actions of the Boun Oum government are being held in abeyance pending the outcome of current East-West deliberations on the Laotian crisis.]

Peiping press commentary of 27 March describes the military situation in Laos as "more and more unfavorable" to the US and warns against any plot to "extend intervention and play with the fire of war." The Chinese continue to insist that a Laotian settlement can be achieved "only by calling an enlarged Geneva Conference." There is no mention of ICC reactivation. The Pathet Lao--even more explicit in its aversion to the ICC--in a broadcast on 27 March stated that it would "serve US perfidious schemes" to reinstitute the commission before holding an international conference. North Korea has also attacked President Kennedy's press conference statement of 23 March and depicts the US as "driven to the corner." [redacted] (Map)

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Congo: Prime Minister Nehru has implied that the continued movement of Indian troops to the Congo may be delayed unless UN control of the key port city of Matadi is assured. Speaking to the Indian Parliament, he urged that the port be re-occupied by UN troops as soon as possible--by force if necessary. About 2,300 Indian troops are tentatively scheduled to leave Bombay on 29 March by sea for Matadi, where they could arrive about 16 April. OK

Liberian President Tubman has rebuffed Tshombé's efforts to visit Monrovia, alleging that Liberian bitterness over Lumumba's death makes the visit inadvisable from a security standpoint. Tubman apparently fears that a meeting with Tshombé would leave him open to international criticism as a servant of "imperialist" interests.

Portuguese Guinea: Communist-supported African nationalist elements, based primarily in the Republic of Guinea, seem to be stepping up their drive against the colonial regime in neighboring Portuguese Guinea. Inflammatory broadcasts beamed to Portuguese Guinea by Radio Conakry--a primary instrument in this campaign--have recently increased in volume and intensity, no

There also are unconfirmed reports that natives from Portuguese Guinea are receiving training in Guinea for a terrorist offensive to be launched in their homeland soon. OK

(Backup, Page 2) (Map) expanded
NO

*Iraq: A strike of Baghdad taxi and bus operators, protesting a new gasoline tax, is being exploited by anti-Qasim nationalists as well as Communist elements to develop a general demonstration of popular hostility against the regime. Security forces have taken no action against the strikers in the absence of Qasim, who left the city on 26 March for a visit to Basra. Qasim would appear to have been placed in a situation where he must either back down or use force in an unpopular cause.

28 Mar 61

DAILY BRIEF

ii

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The Situation in Laos

[Laotian army leaders, despite the respite in enemy pressure along Route 13, remain fearful that an attempt may be mounted against the royal capital of Luang Prabang. General Phoumi believes the enemy has as its objective the complete domination of northern Laos, with Luang Prabang as an immediate target. On a man-for-man basis, the current strength of the Kong Le - Pathet Lao forces north of the Phou Khoun road junction would appear to rule out a successful attack against the numerically superior government defenders, but the Laotian army's poor state of morale could be an overriding factor. The government has recently attempted to alleviate this problem, but General Ouane, chief of the general staff, admits that the morale of the army is "at an all-time low."]

[On 24 March, the Laotian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a telegram to all chiefs of Laotian diplomatic missions informing them the Boun Oum government has decided not to take any political position while awaiting the results of the "exchange of view among the great powers."]

[Soviet transports continue to be scheduled for airlift flights into Laos. Confirmed flights through 26 March continued at about the average level]

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[REDACTED]

African Nationalist Pressure on Portuguese Guinea

{The American ambassador to Senegal, who visited Portuguese Guinea briefly earlier this month, has reported that he saw no signs of overt discontent, antagonism to Portuguese rule, or longing for change on the part of the approximately 550,000 African tribesmen who make up all but a minute percentage of the population. This indigenous population, consisting of 17 different ethnic groups among which the Moslem Fulahs are the most numerous and vigorous, is largely in the bow-and-arrow stage of development.}

{However, the ambassador reported undercurrents of unrest. To a large extent, this unrest is being directly stimulated by Sekou Touré's regime in the Republic of Guinea, which has made little effort to disguise its hope of ultimately incorporating the Portuguese territory. In addition to its anticolonial broadcasts in both Portuguese and native dialects--the most recent of which reportedly have encouraged the natives to emulate the recent terrorist attacks in Angola--Conakry is believed to be exploiting traditional tribal migrations between the two areas to infiltrate subversive elements.}

{These activities are being undertaken in collaboration with several Conakry-based "liberation" movements, among which the most prominent is the African Revolutionary Front for the National Independence of Portuguese Colonies (FRAIN). Besides receiving direct support from Guinea--they reportedly operate under the immediate supervision of Touré's extremist half-brother--most of the leaders of these groups have apparently long enjoyed Sino-Soviet bloc patronage. Some, such as Lucio Lara, who is reputed to head FRAIN, reportedly are or have been members of the Portuguese or other Communist parties.}

{Portugal, which is particularly fearful that Touré may pass some of the small arms he has received from the bloc to activists of these groups, has reacted by vigorous suppression of suspected adherents and an intensified effort to convince the natives they are better off under continued Portuguese rule.}

[REDACTED]

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[redacted]
[redacted] security police had recently arrested 12 such suspects and implied that more arrests would follow "in stages." [redacted] "the liberation movement" was estimated to consist of more than 100 persons, including natives of Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde. Lisbon has strengthened its military force in the territory to about 1,400 men, of whom some 400 are white Portuguese troops.) [redacted]

[redacted]

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The Vice President

Executive Offices of the White House

The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

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 Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant to Secretary of Defense (Special Operations)

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

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The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

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