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SECURITY INFORMATION

16 September 1952

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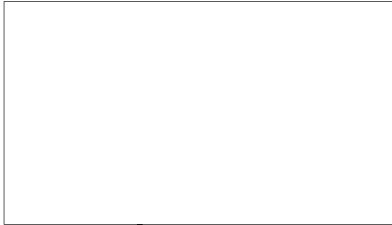


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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

1. Iran plans military reorganization:

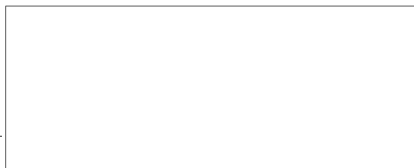
General Kiani, secretary of Prime Minister Mossadeq's military advisory board, states that the board is considering a reorganization of the army and the gendarmerie. ^{3.3(h)(2)}

The board plans to increase the strength of the gendarmerie to 40,000 and make it responsible for internal and border security. The army is to be reduced by several thousand men and to be concentrated in northern Iran rather than dispersed throughout the country.

General Kiani states that these proposals are in line with the thinking of the American Army Mission now in Iran.

Comment: The American Army Mission has urged that the army be made more compact, but not that it be concentrated in northern Iran. The army cannot now control the Soviet-Iranian frontier and the gendarmerie is not likely to be any more effective. Concentration of the army in the north would give the powerful Qashqai tribe in southwestern Iran an opportunity for greater autonomy.

The National Front may be expected to try progressively to strengthen its control of the security forces. The present army strength is about 129,000 as compared to 20,000 for the gendarmerie.

2. Libyan Premier criticizes Western policy on North Africa:

Libyan Prime Minister Muntasser has told the American Minister that France's North African policy is a "path of folly," which might force the inhabitants of that

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area to turn to Communism.

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The Prime Minister strongly criticized the United States for its implied support of France in Tunisia and its failure to oppose French colonialism. He warned that Libyan confidence in the United States was being undermined because of the American efforts to avoid UN debate on Tunisia.

Comment:

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Tunisian nationalists are using Tripolitania as a refuge and possible base for terrorist operations. France also suspects the existence of an arms traffic between Libya and Tunisia.

EASTERN EUROPE

3. Comment on Premier Hoxha's tour of northern Albania:

Premier Hoxha's extensive speaking campaign in northern Albania during the past week tends to support reports that there is considerable disaffection and unrest in the area. His appeals for vigilance against agents of Marshal Tito indicate that he fears the effects of Yugoslav attempts to exploit the situation.

Three Albanian regiments were reportedly moved into the Yugoslav border area in early August to reinforce the division already stationed there.

WESTERN EUROPE

4. Yugoslav Government replies to tripartite note on Trieste:

Ambassador Allen describes as "completely^{3.3(h)(2)} negative" the Yugoslav reply to the American-British-French note recommending settlement of the Trieste question.

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Comment: Recent Yugoslav actions have not been calculated to improve prospects for negotiations with Italy on Trieste. New decrees were issued in late August which further integrated Zone B with Yugoslavia. In recent speeches Marshal Tito has stated that Yugoslavia cannot change its attitude toward the Trieste issue and has warned of the possibility of attacks by Italy.

5. Schuman expects no French action on EDC ratification this year:

[redacted] Foreign Minister Schuman told Chancellor Adenauer that committee work in the French National Assembly on the Bonn and Paris treaties could not be expected before January, and that there would be further delay if a government crisis occurred.

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[redacted] Adenauer considers such a crisis not unlikely and predicts that Italy will not ratify before France.

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Comment: The French Foreign Ministry estimates that Assembly support for EDC ratification is now at the lowest point in several months, and that ratification may be achieved only because of the French conviction that otherwise the United States will push German rearmament without French concurrence. Assembly discussion had heretofore been expected in November.

Adenauer is confident that the Federal Republic will ratify by mid-October at the latest. Dutch parliamentary consideration is not expected until December, and Belgium, which may start debate on the EDC in November, may decide that ratification requires a constitutional amendment. Luxembourg and Italy will probably await French action.

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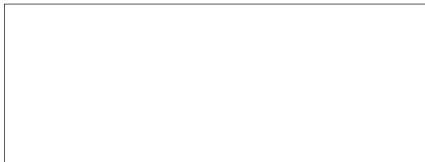
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6. West German agitation for release of war criminals increasing:

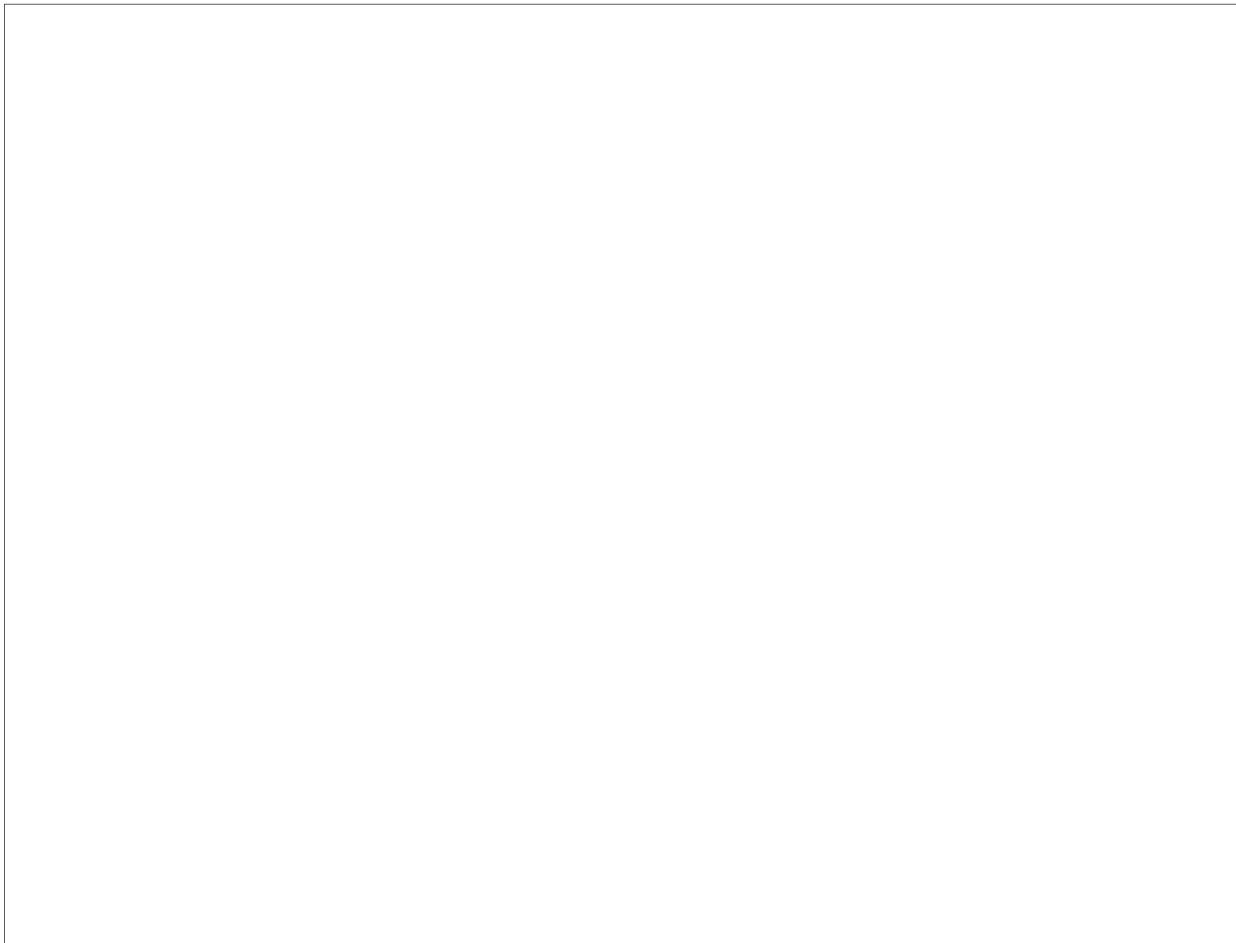


American officials in Germany predict that the growing agitation in West Germany for the release of war criminals will increase in the coming months, and may cause Chancellor Adenauer difficulty in securing ratification of the Bonn and Paris treaties. His majority may be cut enough to "cast doubt on the validity and finality" of the ratification vote and unless a solution is found, the problem will affect the "wholeheartedness of the German defense effort."

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Comment: The Bundestag is scheduled on 17 September to debate a motion, originally presented in June, designed to exert pressure on the government to work for a satisfactory solution. Because of the increasing criticism from members of all parties, coalition leaders fear its effect on the coming treaty debate.

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