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14 October 1956


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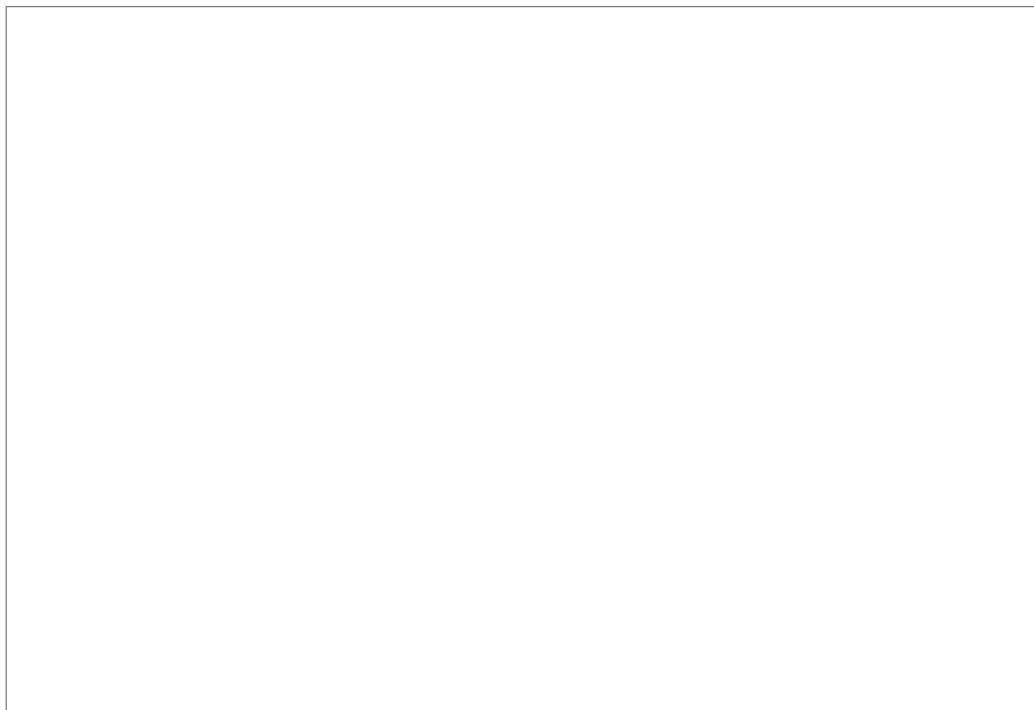
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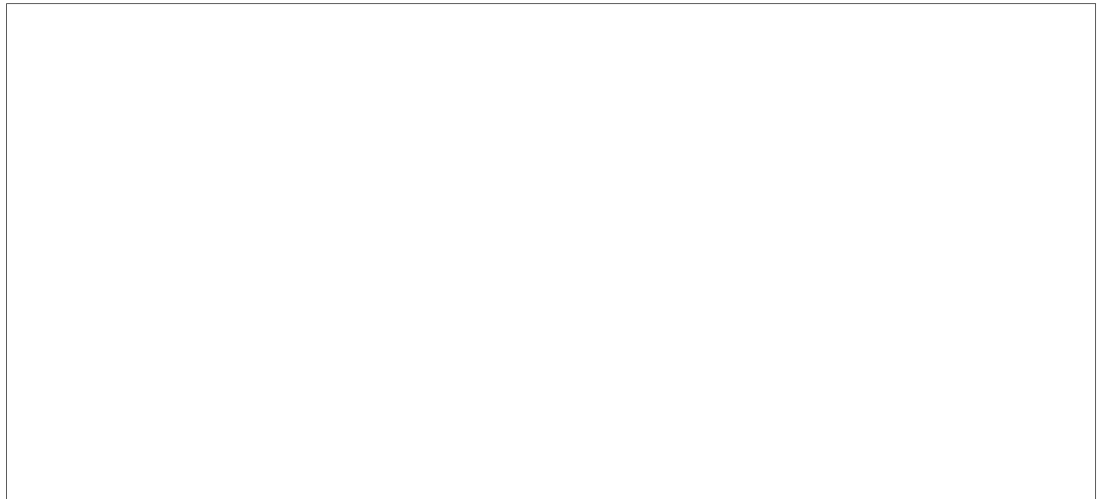
CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DOCUMENT NO. 57
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2009
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 21 Dec 79 REVIEWER: 

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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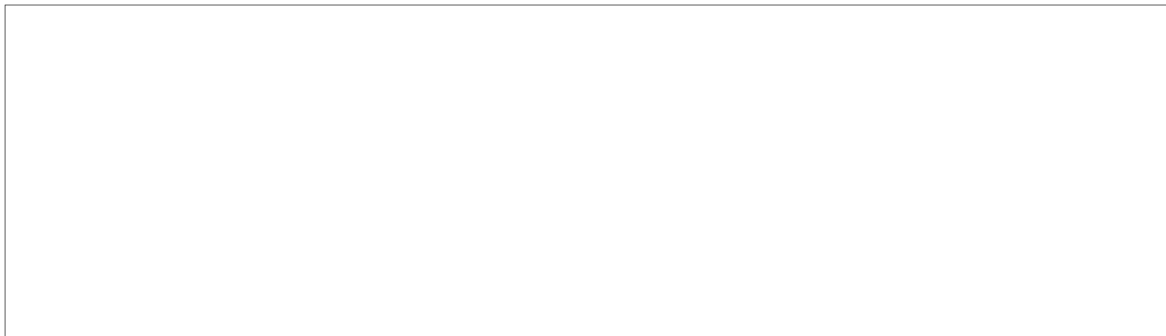
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1. SOVIET ARMS MAY HAVE ARRIVED IN YEMEN





Comment This shipment may be an initial consignment of the arms Yemen has been attempting to obtain from the USSR since March.

Yemeni contacts with the Soviet bloc have been encouraged by Cairo in order to undermine the British position in the Aden protectorate. Soviet co-operation was illustrated by the reception of the Yemeni crown prince in Moscow in June when the Russians offered agricultural, and well-drilling equipment and assistance in constructing port facilities.

According to the Cairo press, the Yemeni minister met separately on 12 October with the Soviet and Czech ambassadors, who "will leave shortly" for Yemen to present their credentials to the king, as ministers to Yemen in addition to their Cairo posts.

2. DUTCH OPPOSE ADENAUER'S PLAN TO EXPAND WEU FUNCTIONS

 The Dutch Foreign Ministry informed Ambassador Matthews on 11 October that the Netherlands opposes Chancellor Adenauer's proposal of 1 October to use the Western European Union (WEU) as  a vehicle for European integration. Netherlands diplomatic missions abroad have been instructed to "play down" the WEU development idea.

Using WEU as the focus for European integration, the Dutch feel, would be "sham integration" since WEU lacks supranational features, was not intended for this purpose, would compete with NATO and thus alienate the Scandinavian countries, Greece, Turkey, Canada, and the United States.

Comment

Dutch foreign policy continues to be based on NATO through which the Netherlands hopes to retain American interest and co-operation in Western Europe.

Chancellor Adenauer, who called for increased co-ordination of the policies of the European nations in a speech in Brussels on 25 September, has since concentrated on achieving this through an expansion of the functions of WEU. He thus hopes to encourage British participation. The chancellor stated on 12 October that his Brussels appeal "has a certain connection with the bitterness and disappointment" felt by certain European nations over American policy.

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 14 October)

Israeli foreign minister Meir, in a letter to Ambassador Lawson in Tel Aviv on 12 October, stated that Israel had not received adequate assurances regarding the entry of Iraqi troops into Jordan and was "strongly opposed" to the move. Mrs. Meir asked the United States' urgent intervention to prevent the Iraqi entry. The letter stated that Israel considered the move a "grave infringement of the status quo in the area and a serious threat." Mrs. Meir had earlier expressed strong resentment at the implied "threat" in the British chargé's statement of 12 October that Britain would be forced to aid Jordan under the terms of the Anglo-Jordanian defense treaty, should Israel take action against Jordan over the entry of the Iraqi troops.