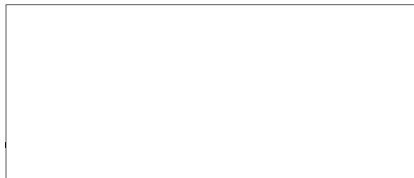


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11 August 1957



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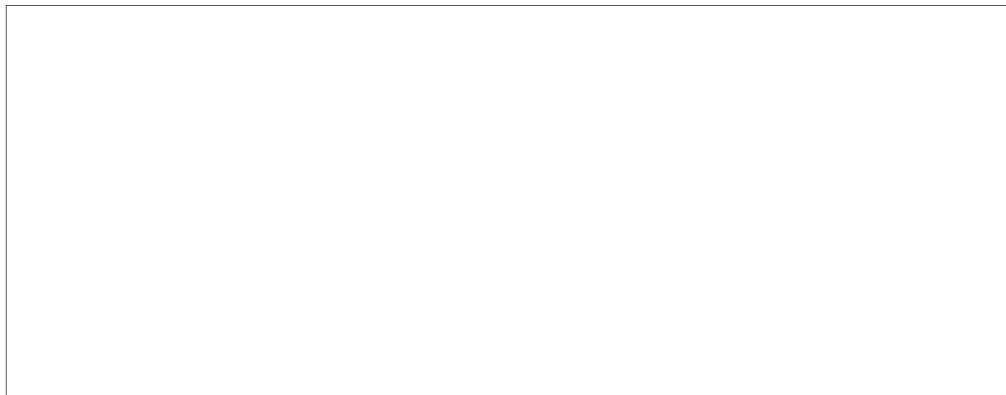
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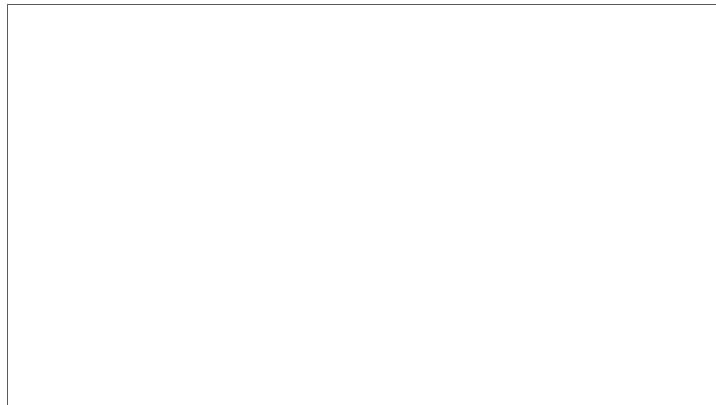
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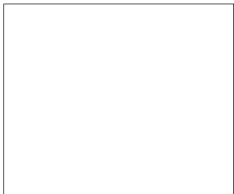
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1. SAUDIS MAY BE CONSIDERING NEW ARMS SUPPORT FOR OMANI REBELS

Comment on:

[Redacted]

[Redacted] the Saudi government may be considering new arms support for the Omani rebels who were housed, armed, and trained in eastern Saudi Arabia during 1956 and the first half of 1957, before they infiltrated interior Oman to set off the rebellion.

[Redacted]
[Redacted] the Egyptian government had indicated willingness to supply the Omani rebels with arms, but wished Omani requests for aid to be channeled through the Saudi government. [Redacted]
[Redacted] the Saudi governor of the Eastern Province, Saud ibn Jiluwi, who is apparently responsible for relations with the Omanis, had issued a directive "to this effect." [Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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2. TREND TOWARD BONN GOVERNMENT PARTIES REPORTEDLY CONTINUES

Comment on:



The American embassy in Bonn reports a continuation of the trend it noted in March toward increased popular support for the present coalition partners, Chancellor Adenauer's Christian Democratic Party (CDU) and the German Party (DP).

The embassy points out, however, that the outcome of the elections is likely to be decided by the ability of the opposition parties to convince the undecided voters--some 15 to 30 percent of those registered--that a change of government is more important than the risks involved. The embassy finds no evidence that they will succeed, believing that Adenauer's admonitions against "political experiments" will prove highly persuasive. On the assumption that a heavy turnout will improve its chances of winning, the CDU plans to send a letter from Adenauer to every household in the country in the last campaign week.

The government's favorable prospects have apparently shaken the hopes of the opposition Free Democratic Party (FDP) that it might be able to form a winning coalition with the Social Democrats (SPD). The FDP is making increasingly sharp attacks on the SPD, which, however, seems likely to prove stronger this year than in 1953.

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3. PEIPING ORDERS NEW MASS CAMPAIGN FOR PEASANT COOPERATION

Comment on:



Orders from the central committee of the Chinese Communist Party for a mass effort in "socialist education" among China's 500,000,000 peasants indicate Peiping's growing concern over possible failure of the Communist program in rural areas. A directive issued on 8 August calls for immediate action at all levels of the party to push on with discussions which will give the peasants a "true appreciation" of the superiority of cooperatives, the necessity for government purchasing and marketing of farm products, the relations between urban workers and peasants, and the importance of suppressing counterrevolution.

The meetings, which will be held in all villages and cooperative farms, will concentrate first on the grain delivery question, which is to be dealt with "before the autumn harvest" due to begin within the next month. The people are to be warned that unless the problem is solved many will face "starvation and ruin." Other matters will be taken up in "good time."

This emphasis reflects Peiping's concern because state procurement of grain, on which the entire economic development program depends, is lagging badly. Peiping has complained that many cooperatives are falsifying production figures in order to withhold grain for more lucrative sales on the open market. The demoralizing prospect of a poor crop for the second straight year will probably accentuate this trend.

While the emphasis of the directive is on persuasion, reactionaries and counterrevolutionary elements are to be silenced at once and the masses encouraged to demand "necessary control." Mass meetings perhaps similar to those used to enforce the bloody land reform campaign which ended in 1953 are to be held "when necessary." (CONFIDENTIAL)