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18 February 1958

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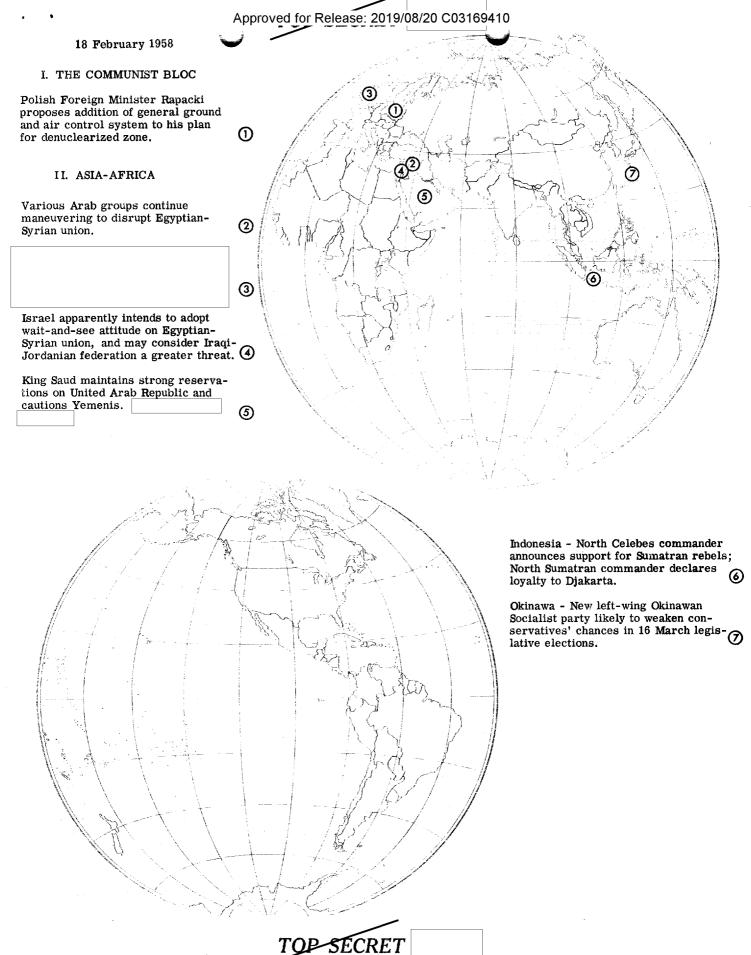
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

18 February 1958

DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Poland amends Rapacki plan: Polish Foreign Minister Rapacki has added a proposal for a general ground and air control system with "adequate" control posts to his plan for a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe. He also suggests that the nations concerned might assume their obligations under the plan by making unilateral declarations—a measure designed to meet West German objections to dealing with East Germany. These amendments appear to be part of an effort to make the plan more palatable for discussion by Western governments.

(Page 1)

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Arab countermoves to Egyptian-Syrian union: Reports of imminent actions and coups aimed at disrupting Syrian union with Egypt continue to circulate in the Arab states. A group of Syrian army officers with some Iraqi support may be trying to enlist King Saud's support for a last-minute effort. Lack of effective planning and coordination as well as extensive Egyptian and Syrian security precautions make it unlikely that a successful coup will develop.

(Page 2) (Map)

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Iraqi Prime Minister-designate Nuri Said is in London					
seeking support for the Iraqi-Jordanian federation. Nuri					
may ask the British for military assistance in the form of					
a number of fighter aircraft, in which case the British will probably turn to the United States for urgent consul-					
tation. (Page 3)					
(1 450 0)					
Israeli views of Arab federations: Israeli officials					
apparently do not believe that the merger of Egypt and					
Syria significantly alters the security position of Israel.					
Until some new element is introduced into the situation,					
they intend to adopt a "wait-and-see" attitude. Israel may					
be inclined to view the Iraqi-Jordanian federation as a potentially more dangerous move because of long-standing					
Iraqi hostility and the increased military capability to be					
located on Israel's eastern frontier. (Page 4)					
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King Saud's reservations toward the UAR: King Saud					
maintains strong reservations toward the United Arab					
Republic.					
(Page 5)					

Indonesia: The military commander in North Celebes has declared full support for the rebel Indonesian government and has announced that his area would sever relations with Djakarta. Although the distance between the two rebel groups is too great for effective cooperation, the defection of North Celebes may encourage other wavering areas, such as Borneo, to take similar action. The military commander in North Sumatra, however, has declared his continuing loyalty to the central government, Djakarta has called for the arrest of six rebel civilian leaders in Sumatra. There

18 Feb 58

DAILY BRIEF

ii

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is insufficient evidence on which to conclude whether the central government has decided to take military action against the dissidents in the immediate future.

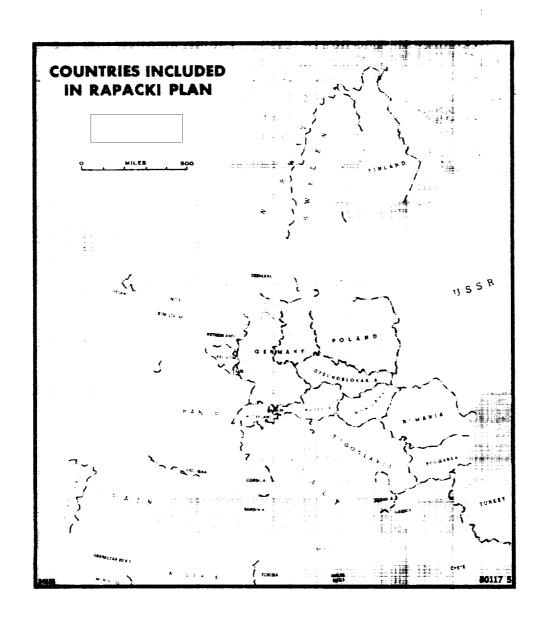
(Map)

Okinawa: The newly formed Okinawan Socialist party, headed by leftist Naha mayor Saichi Kaneshi, aims to attract members from the extreme left and from middle-of-the-road political elements. The new party is likely to enjoy considerable success and will further weaken the conservatives chances in legislative elections on 16 March.

18 Feb 58

DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

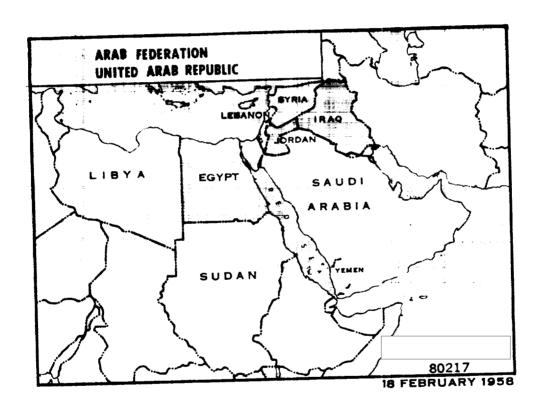
The Polish Inspection Proposal

In a memorandum on 14 February to the governments of the US, Britain, France, and the USSR, Polish Foreign Minister Rapacki elaborated on his previous proposals for a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe. In an effort to force more serious consideration of his plan by the Western powers, he made modifications designed to answer certain of the Western objections. He added proposals for a general ground and air control system with "adequate" control posts, and in order to overcome West German objections to dealing with East Germany, he suggested that an agreement could be in the form of unilateral declarations "bearing the character of an international obligation."

Rapacki's memorandum pointed out, furthermore, that agreement on a system of control for the "denuclearized zone could provide useful experiences for the realization of a broader disarament agreement," Specific obligations of the four great powers were spelled out in terms similar to earlier Polish proposals. Nuclear weapons should not be manufactured nor stockpiled in Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, or West Germany. Equipment or installations designed for the servicing of nuclear weapons should not be located in the zone. The use or possession of nuclear weapons by any power in this area or against it should be prohibited.

The Poles suggested that following agreement on the obligations that the four powers would undertake, the procedure of the establishment, operation, and reporting of the control organs could be the subject of further mutual stipulations.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Arab Countermoves to Egyptian-Syrian Union

Reports of immediate action aimed at thwarting implementation of Egyptian-Syrian union circulating in the Arab states may stem from unconfirmed evidence of planning by anti-union Syrian army officers. These officers, apparently led by Assistant Chief of Staff, General Nafuri are said to have approached Iraq for support, which may be forthcoming. Other emissaries, apparently from the same group, have asked King Saud for armed intervention by Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabi should the action run into difficulties. Saud replied that he could not commit his army, but he indicated that he would act as circumstances dictated at the time.

The imminence of final action confirming Egyptian domination over Syria has hastened plans by opponents of union, within and without Syria, to engage in hurried efforts aimed at striking a last blow at the present Syrian regime. The apparent lack of planning and coordination, as well as the extensive Egyptian and Syrian security precautions, makes a successful coup unlikely.

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Said du	ring his current mber of fighter	London visit.	In case Nur	i should ask
turn to	the United State	s for urgent of	consultation.	, p. 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
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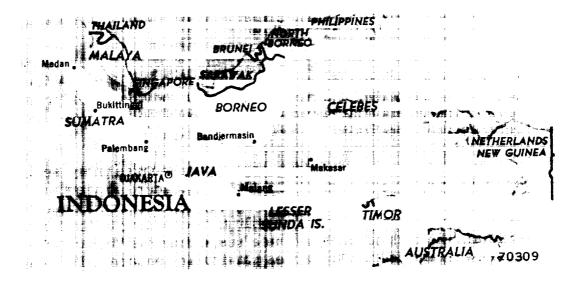
Israel's Reactions to Arab Mergers

The Israeli Government does not consider the union of Egypt and Syria as substantially affecting Israel's security since the two Arab states for the past year and a half have had a unified military command without any noticeable change in Israel's border relations. An Israeli Foreign Ministry official has stated that, until some "new element" is introduced into the situation, the Israelis intend to observe quietly the union's development. He contrasted his government's present attitude with its stronger reaction to the Egyptian arms deal with Czechoslovakia in 1955.

The Israelis believe the merger may result in an increase of Soviet training and technical assistance in the United Arab Republic. They do not concur with a view they consider prevalent in the West--that Egypt's leadership in the republic will retard Soviet penetration of Syria.

Jordan's merger with Iraq apparently is taken more seriously by Israeli government and military leaders in view of the absence of even an armistice agreement between Iraq and Israel, and Iraq's persistent hostility. According to the Israeli official, the lack of any guarantee respecting the "behavior" of the new Arab federation causes particular concern. This expression of concern probably presages a renewed Israeli effort to obtain defense guarantees from Western powers.

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King Saud Sees Nasir's New State Threatening Arab Monarchies

King Saud's hostility toward Nasir's United Arab Re-
oublic (UAR) was made clear
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Former Saudi influence over Yemeni
foreign policy has deteriorated sharply in recent years.
Despite Saud's warning, the Imam is nearing completion
Despite Saud's warming, the illiam is hearing completion
of negotiations for limited Yemeni adherence to Nasir's
new state.
Saud has been reluctant to make public his opposition
to the UAR, out of fear of challenging Nasir and alienating
Arab popular opinion. The UAR is also believed to enjoy
the support of many of Saud's personal advisers.
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Israeli views of Arab federations: Israeli officials apparently do not believe that the merger of Egypt and Syria significantly alters the security position of Israel. Until some new element is introduced into the situation, they intend to adopt a "wait-and-see" attitude. Israel may be inclined to view the Iraqi-Jordanian federation as a potentially more dangerous move because of long-standing Iraqi hostility and the increased military capability to be located on Israel's eastern frontier. (Page 4)

King Saud's reservations toward the UAR: King Saud maintains strong reservations toward the United Arab Republic.

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