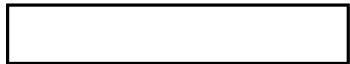


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20 June 1957

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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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2. LEBANESE ELECTION PROBLEMS

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Comment on:

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[Redacted]

The success of pro-Western premier Solh in bringing about the election of his candidates in the first half of the parliamentary elections has created a tense political situation in Lebanon. Two cabinet ministers recently appointed to hear from the opposition on election procedures resigned on 17 June, stating that while "the conduct of elections from an administrative point of view was correct, the general atmosphere prevalent during the elections does not encourage us to continue our mission." The election developments have apparently alienated the chief of staff, General Chehab, who feels that the opposition must be allowed to win sufficient seats in parliament to give them a voice in affairs.

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[Redacted]

An additional problem has been created by Premier Solh's reported threat to resign if President Chamoun and General Chehab, who is in direct charge of maintaining security during the elections, do not allow his son, Abdur Rahman, to run for parliament. [Redacted]

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3. INDONESIA AIR FORCE REPORTEDLY CONTRACTS FOR SOVIET AIRCRAFT

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[redacted]

The Indonesian air force has contracted with the Soviet Union for several jet fighters and twin-engine bombers, [redacted]

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[redacted] These aircraft, [redacted] will be accompanied by Soviet technicians and pilots who will remain in Indonesia for maintenance and instruction purposes. In addition, eight technicians are scheduled to arrive in Indonesia soon for permanent assignment to care for President Sukarno's IL-14.

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[redacted] all of the planes will be stationed at an airfield near Makassar, which has already been expanded and modernized to accommodate them.

[redacted]

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Comment

[redacted]

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The Mandai airfield near Makassar is one of the best military airfields in Indonesia and probably is the only airport other than the busy field near Djakarta capable of handling jets. The Indonesian air force is loyal to Djakarta.

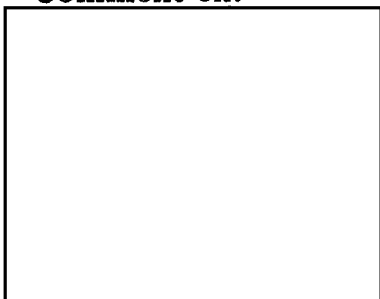
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[redacted]

4. LOCAL DJAKARTA ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR
22 JUNE

Comment on:

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Election for Djakarta's 45-seat city council will be held on 22 June, the first of a series of nationwide provincial elections scheduled for the remainder of 1957 and early 1958. The Communists have been working hard to improve their showing in Djakarta over the 1955 national elections when they finished a poor fourth behind the Masjumi, National Party and Nahdlatul Ulama. They reportedly have access to large sums of money, and their campaign undoubtedly has received additional impetus from President Sukarno's encouragement of extensive Communist activity in support of his concept of "guided democracy."

The outcome in Djakarta will probably influence later elections, particularly those in Central and East Java. [redacted]

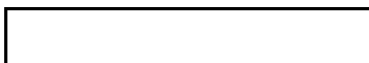
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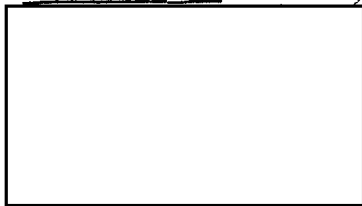
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**5. KHRUSHCHEV HINTS USSR MAY RETURN SOUTHERN
KURILS TO JAPAN**

Comment on:

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Soviet first secretary Khrushchev told a Japanese correspondent on 18 June that the Soviet Union may agree to return the southern Kuril islands of Etorufu and Kunashiri, depending on improvement in the international situation and the state of relations with Japan. Except for one informal feeler in February 1956 concerning return of Kunashiri "under certain conditions," Soviet officials flatly refused to consider return of either Kunashiri or Etorufu during the protracted treaty negotiations. Khrushchev's remarks are the first high-level hint of a possible change in the Soviet position. Eventual Soviet conditions for return of the islands would probably require American return of Okinawa and withdrawal from Japan.

This statement was obviously timed to coincide with Premier Kishi's visit to the United States. 

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