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30 December 1958

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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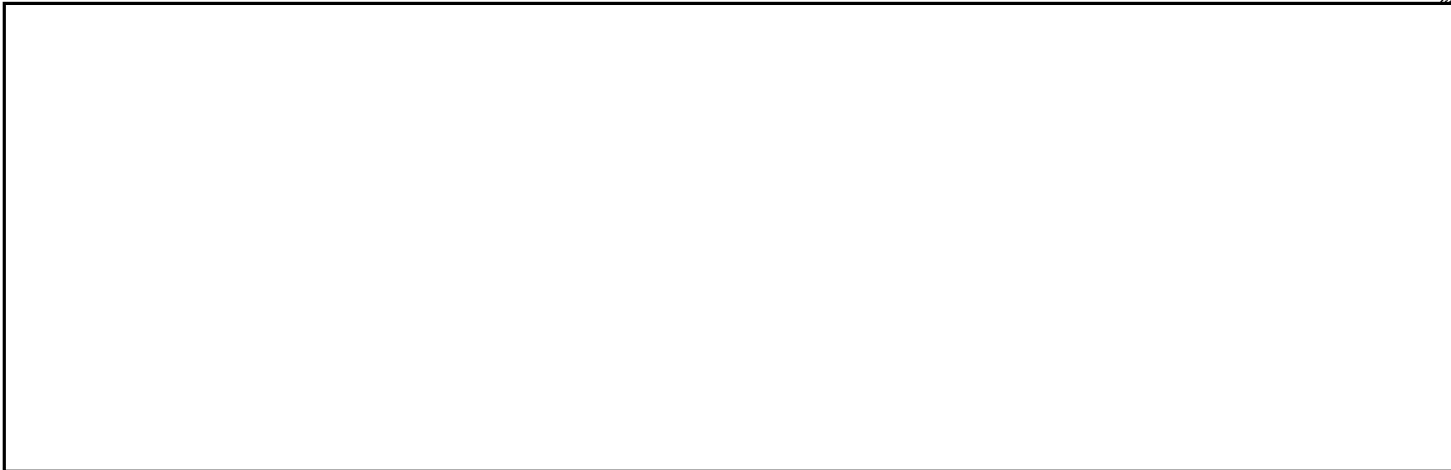
DAILY BRIEF




I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

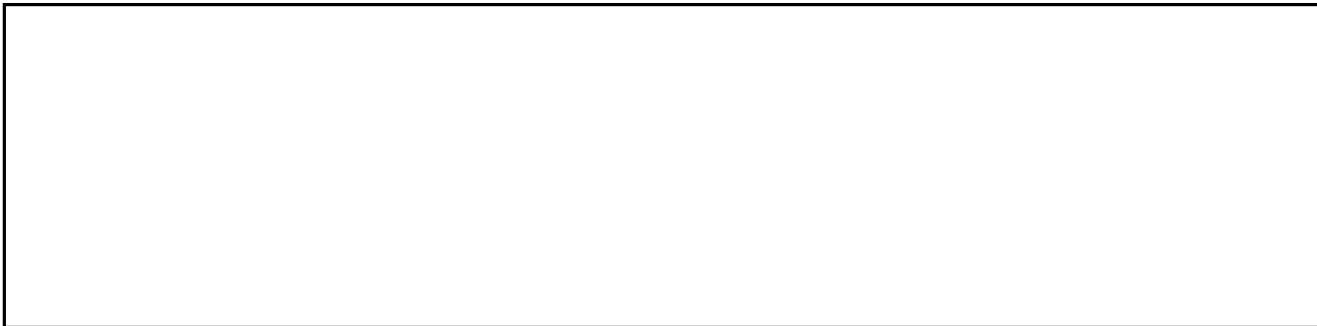
II. ASIA-AFRICA

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no Afghanistan-USSR: Foreign Minister Naim's forthcoming visit to Moscow may lead to the signing of a new military aid agreement with the USSR. Since the advent of the Ayub regime in Karachi, Afghanistan has felt that its relations with Pakistan have deteriorated. 

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC
(No Back-up Material)

II. ASIA-AFRICA

New Afghan-Soviet Military Assistance Agreement May Be Concluded

Afghan-Foreign Minister Naim, who left on 29 December for Moscow, apparently intends to conclude a new agreement to expand the Soviet military assistance program in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government may regard such a move as a calculated risk necessary to strengthen its position against what it regards as an increasingly unfavorable Western attitude toward Afghanistan.

Afghanistan has been slow in training its troops to use Soviet weapons which have already been delivered. Any new military assistance agreement will therefore probably include an expanded training program, involving the use of additional Soviet military instructors. It would also provide for additional Soviet weapons, including heavy arms and more modern aircraft,

The new agreement for a reported [redacted] would probably be financed by a long-term Soviet loan, ending the year-old Afghan policy of refusing to accept further loans in favor of grant aid. Because of discount prices, Afghanistan has apparently received bloc arms worth about [redacted] under the [redacted] Soviet arms-assistance agreement signed in 1956 and the [redacted] Czech arms agreement of 1954.

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Kabul has expressed strong concern over what it considers the deterioration of relations with Pakistan since the new military regime was established there on 7 October. The Afghan royal family apparently feels it now must deal with a tougher

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Pakistani Government indifferent to Afghanistan's support of autonomy for "Pushtoonistan." On 2 December, Afghan Prime Minister Daud attacked the United States' bilateral negotiations with Pakistan and Iran as upsetting the local balance of power and thereby imposing economic burdens on other countries which must build up their own armed forces as a result.

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