20 February 1962

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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North-South Vietnam: Hanoi on 18 February issued a declaration assailing the recently established US military command in Saigon and formally charging that this "most serious act of military aggression" is a direct threat to the security of North Vietnam. This statement is apparently designed to stir international apprehension in hopes this will have some restraining influence on the US, or, failing this objective, to justify some Communist countermove. In December 1960, the North Vietnamese preceded the moves of a few artillerymen into Laos with such charges. At that time, however, they also pointedly told foreign representatives in Hanoi that North Vietnam had decided "not to remain inactive." No such specific threat appears in the 18 February declaration.

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Communist China - Australia: Members of the Australian Wheat Board report that Communist China wants to buy additional grain on the same credit terms as in previous sales--10 percent cash, 40 percent in six months, and the balance at the end of one year. The Australians expect to send a representative to Hong Kong to conclude negotiations for at least 500,000 tons of wheat. Since the Chinese have been meeting the payment terms of current contracts, now approaching completion, and are expected to make further purchases later in the year, the chairman of the Wheat Board thinks it unlikely the board would insist on cash and forego sales on credit. Australian concern over keeping the door open to the Chinese market is further influenced by an anticipated "unmanageable" surplus in the next wheat crop. China has already contracted for 1962 delivery of at least 1,500,000 tons of grain from Canada and France, and further purchases are expected. (

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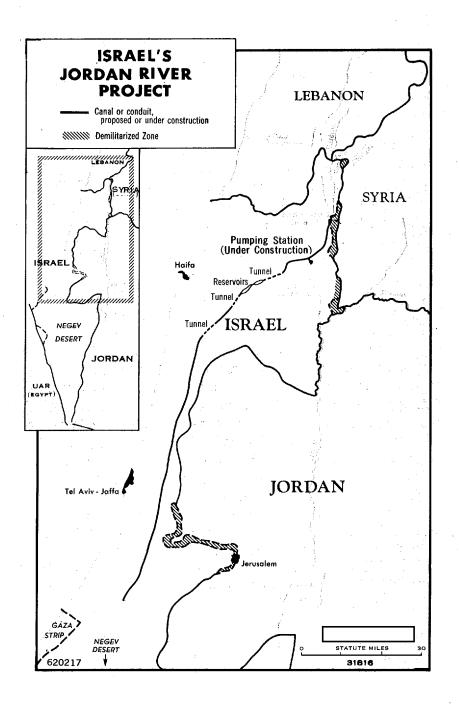
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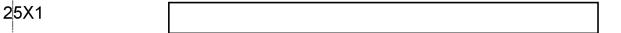
Arab States - Israel: The Syrian and Jordanian governments are taking steps to demonstrate their determined opposition to Israel's preparations for diverting water from the

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Map Page

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	Contrary to the rumors circulating in the Arab world, implementation of even the first stage of the Israeli project is not imminent. The American Embassy in Tel Aviv estimates that the first stage—the scheme for pumping water out of Lake Tiberias into the national water system—is not likely to be operational before the end of 1963.	25X
	cussed possible Arab countermoves with officials in Amman. He will hold similar talks in Damascus and Beirut. The Arab League Council will take up the matter in March.	: : .
	portedly are reluctant to have a border crisis at this time. An exchange of fire nevertheless took place along the Israeli- Syrian border on 16 February. Meanwhile, the secretary general of the Arab League, at Jordan's invitation, has dis-	
	ing Syria's determination to retaliate against any Israeli move to divert Jordan River water were made because of the pressure from Cairo. There has been no deployment of Syrian forces for action against the Israelis, and the Syrians re-	B
25X1	tian propaganda accusations that they have been remiss in not effectively opposing the Israeli scheme. recent pronouncements concern-	25>

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1	that civilian element military coup. He with abuse of pregovernment. The late February, me party opponents of	In a new enort to placate 18 February radio speech, a lents accept the legitimacy of le charged some politicians as and personal freedoms to e lower house budget debate, hay create new frictions by prof the military an opportunity ith their party's present role	gain insisted I the May 1960 Ind intellectuals I undermine his I scheduled for I roviding Justice I to voice their	2
		ain: (The Finnish Governmen	l l	
1	acquire short-ranthe USSR has agrinissiles. Britai a "reinterpretati natories - Commo clared war upon	I the 1947 peace treaty to per nge guided missiles. Accord eed to this change and will al n, however, is reluctant to c ion" and feels Finland should onwealth countries and other Finland during World War II, ain a proper legal waiver of c	ling to the Finns, lso supply the consent to such l approach all sig- states which de- , at the behest of	
	by labor leaders	na: Although the ending of the has removed the immediate tent, an extended period of ins	threat to Premier	
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*Ecuador: The US Army Attaché in Quito reported "extraordinary military activity" in the Quito area on 19 February. All units in the area were put on full alert, weapons reportedly were emplaced and loaded, and the commanding officer of the army was reported to be making anti-Communist speeches to all Quito area personnel. According to the attaché, the purpose of the alert is not yet clear but may be related to rumors, which have been officially denied, of an impending cabinet shake-up. The army commander, Lt. Col. Carlos Arregui, was previously reported to be a member of the group which had planned in late January to issue an ultimatum to President Carlos Arosemena demanding that he cease placating his leftist supporters. Because of disunity within the group, however, and Arosemena's recent anti-Communist statements to the press, the ultimatum was never delivered. President Arosemena, who was aware of the plans to deliver an ultimatum, has since strengthened his position, but the basic problems of ineffective national leadership will continue to produce tensions and a critical situation could develop at any time.

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Arab Reaction to Israeli Diversion Project

The UAR, which no longer has responsibility for developments affecting the Israeli-Syrian border, on 15 February leveled one of its most pointed propaganda attacks on other Arab governments for their inaction regarding Israel's Jordan River plans. An Egyptian press article, quoted by Cairo radio, criticized Syria and Lebanon for not having implemented plans for preventing water from reaching Israel through tributaries originating in those countries and accused the Jordanian Government of failing to carry out its threats to oppose the Israeli "plot." "Where were King Saud, King Husayn, and Abd al-Karim Qasim when the Jews were building, digging, and constructing," the article asked. The ineffectiveness of the "consultations" by the Arab League on the subject was also criticized.

The Syrian army commander in chief's televised speech last week, in which he said the Syrian Army is determined to use "every means" to prevent Israel from diverting the Jordan River, apparently was designed mainly to rebut such Egyptian accusations.

The pumping plant the Israelis are building on the northwest shore of Lake Tiberias is still far from finished. An American Embassy officer, who visited the site last week, reported that there was no pumping equipment there, that some excavation was still going on, and that construction of the intake facility was only commencing. Much work also remains on the network of canals, conduits, and tunnels which are scheduled to begin conveying water from Lake Tiberias to Israel's southern wasteland in the winter of 1963-64, completing the first stage of the project. The Israelis hope by 1969 to be able to implement their long-range plan for diverting part of the Jordan River in the demilitarized zone above Lake Tiberias.

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Rising Panamanian Pressure for New Canal Zone Treaty	25X1
Panamanians claim that the United States has always been slow in responding to Panama's complaints and requests for treaty adjustments and in implementing treaty revisions. They are now determined to obtain a new treaty which would acknowledge Panamanian sovereignty over the Zone and include a terminal date in place of the perpetuity clause of the basic 1903 treaty. At the same time, they probably prefer that the US retain management control over the existing canal or a new one in order to ensure the efficient operation, protection, and financial return which most Panamanians admit they could not themselves provide.	
Foreign Minister Solis told the press on his return from Punta del Este that Secretary Rusk had said he was "deeply interested in conversations for a new canal treaty which would be on a basis quite different from the antiquated basis of the present treaty." Panamanian news media have played this heavily and emphasized that negotiations were imminent. When Ambassador Farland told Solis the latter had misinterpreted Secretary Rusk's statement, the foreign minister promised to "clarify" the situation, but he apparently has done nothing further. On 8 February a newspaper run by leaders of one party of the government coalition mentioned the selection of a committee to study a new treaty and praised the inclusion of rabid nationalist Aquilino Boyd, head of the legislature's foreign affairs committee and former foreign minister.	
Panama may resort to the pressure tactics that the vice foreign minister and others have said they consider effective in dealing with the US. the Chiari administration plans to award oil exploration rights in the Canal Zone to a Texas firm in order to demonstrate Panama's claimed sovereignty there. In 1958 a member of Chiari's Liberal party—then in opposition—petitioned for exploration rights in a move?	25X1

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to embarrass the De la Guardia government but evidently was persuaded to drop the issue. Panamanian officials from time to time talk of asking the International Court of Justice to rule on the validity of the treaty—particularly its perpetuity clause.

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THE PRESIDENT The Vice President Executive Offices of the White House Special Counsel to the President Military Representative of the President The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs The Scientific Adviser to the President The Director of the Budget The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration The Department of State The Secretary of State The Under Secretary of State The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council The Director of Intelligence and Research The Treasury Department The Secretary of the Treasury The Under Secretary of the Treasury The Department of Defense The Secretary of Defense The Deputy Secretary of Defense The Secretary of the Army The Secretary of the Navy The Secretary of the Air Force The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs) The Assistant Secretary of Defense The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy Chief of Staff, United States Air Force Chief of Staff, United States Army Commandant, United States Marine Corps U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe Commander in Chief, Pacific The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency The Director, The Joint Staff The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force The Department of Justice The Attorney General The Federal Bureau of Investigation The Director The Atomic Energy Commission The Chairman

The National Security Agency

The Director

The United States Information Agency

The Director

The National Indications Center

The Director

