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5 November 1955



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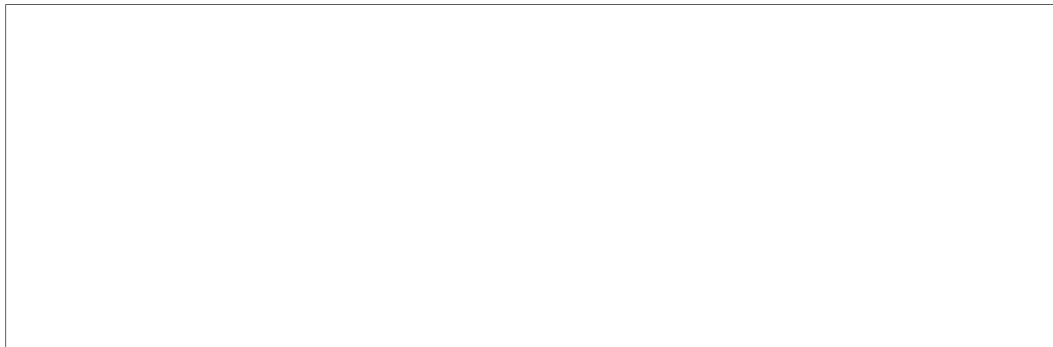
CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DOCUMENT NO. 56
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 16 JAN 1980 REVIEWER:

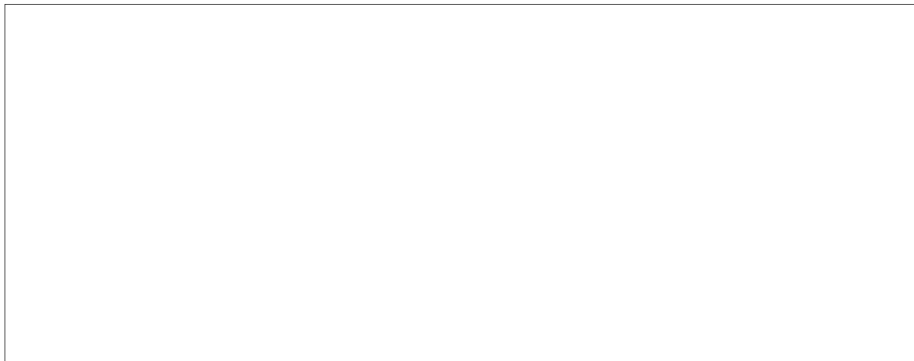


Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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Current Intelligence Bulletin

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**1. SOVIET WARSHIP PRODUCTION FACILITIES
EXPANDING IN LENINGRAD**

[redacted] Leningrad's four main naval ship-
building yards are operating two
shifts, six days a week, [redacted]

[redacted] Every effort was being made at that
time to put all possible building slips under cover, and
a great deal of yard modernization has been completed.

New assembly sheds which could be
used for production of long-range submarines [redacted]
[redacted] in two yards. The [redacted]
utilization of these sheds at full capacity would increase
total Soviet output of submarines by 20 percent. [redacted]

Comment

The large capital investment repre-
sented in these permanent installations
provides a strong indication of Soviet intent to continue
or expand the present large-scale warship production
program. Covered building slips would permit uninter-
rupted wintertime production.

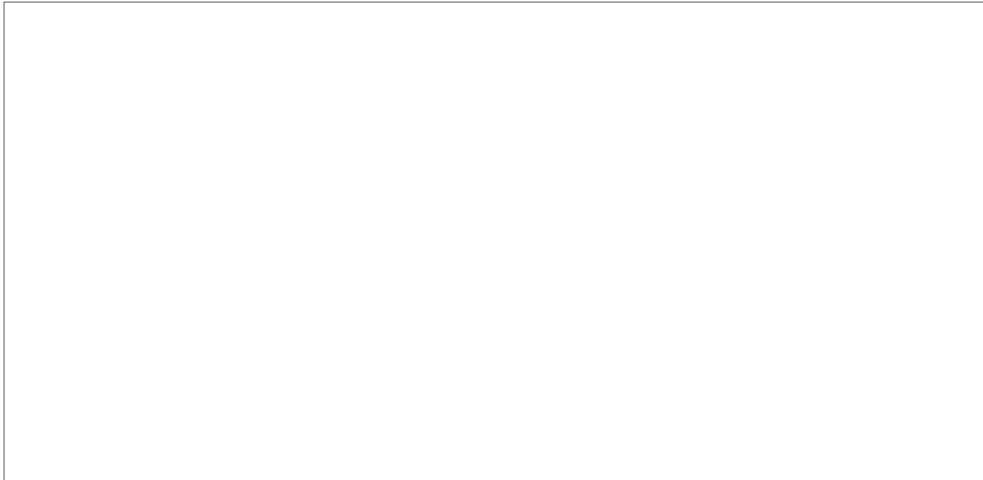
The Leningrad yards are believed to
have operated a single shift as late as October 1954. The
change to a two-shift workday should raise production
by about one third. (Concurred in by ORR)

2. SYRIAN AND SOVIET AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON
CONSULT ON MIDDLE EAST

[REDACTED] The Syrian ambassador in Washington informed Damascus on 28 October that he had protested to the Department of State any Western pact with Israel but believed the United States "had not repudiated their real policy and are merely making excuses to us." He said he had told the under secretary that the safe, practical way to settle the problem was to carry out the UN resolutions rather than "impose an American Zionist settlement."

The ambassador reported that in a talk with the Soviet ambassador he had explained Syrian policy and also "our analysis of American, British, and Israeli policy." The Soviet ambassador had assured him that Moscow's policy would continue unchanged if the Arabs remain firm in their policy. He added that the Soviet ambassador promised to wire these statements to Molotov and would inform him of Molotov's reply.

3. POLAND PARTICIPATING IN EGYPTIAN ARMS DEAL




Comment

[redacted] the first indication that Polish experts, in addition to Czechs and Russians, will be sent to Egypt under the terms of the recent arms deal.

The five Polish experts are probably to be sent to Alexandria to arrange for receipt and maintenance of the nine motor torpedo boats offered by the Czechs on 31 August.

[redacted] also suggests that arrangements are being made for Egyptian naval personnel to be trained in Poland just as Egyptian pilots are being trained in Czechoslovakia. (Prepared by ORR)

**4. RETURN OF BEN YOUSSEF TO MOROCCAN THRONE
EXPECTED BY 18 NOVEMBER**

 A French Foreign Ministry spokesman has told American embassy officials that Mohamed ben Youssef will probably be restored to the Moroccan

throne before 18 November, the anniversary of his accession to the throne in 1927.

The official assumed that Paris would simultaneously accept the resignation Resident General Boyer de Latour has tendered several times recently. Leon Marchal, secretary general of the Council of Europe, who resigned from the Foreign Ministry in 1953 in protest against Ben Youssef's removal, and General Marie Bethouart, who currently represents the French of Morocco in the French Council of the Republic, were mentioned as possible successors.

Comment

Pressure is being built up by the nationalists to keep Ben Youssef from making concessions before returning to Morocco, while Paris is believed to be trying to reach a favorable agreement with the former sultan before he returns. Current activities of the Moroccan nationalists in their demands for independence raise doubts that Ben Youssef's return will quiet the country.

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700 4 November)

[redacted] Military action, aside from a minor skirmish in the southern part of the Gaza area on the morning of 4 November and sporadic fighting in the El Auja area, appears to have ceased, [redacted]

The Israeli Foreign Ministry announced on 3 November: "The Israeli Defense Force operation was aimed at removing the Egyptian forces from Israeli area." This, according to Israeli spokesmen, has been accomplished.

[redacted]
[redacted] "Our forces have recaptured Sabha and have occupied it. Seram is in our hands. The Jews fled before our infantry and armor." With claims of victory by both sides, it is impossible to determine exactly what the situation is at this point. [redacted]

According to a UN observer, about 750 Israeli troops participated in the attack. This official also reported that on the evening of 3 November UN observers were again given freedom of movement on the Israeli side but not on the Egyptian side. Israeli statements and attitudes suggest that they are ready to consider this particular incident closed. [redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] the opinion that Israel will "probably carry out another attack at Gaza, Rafah, or Khan Yunis." The public reaction in Cairo, while indignant and violent,

gives no indication that this skirmish is viewed as more than another incident. [redacted]

Israel, continuing its drive to secure military equipment, has contacted a Belgian firm for immediate delivery of 300 rocket launchers with 20-30,000 3.5 rocket rounds. [redacted]

Syria, [redacted] moved 1,000 troops and some equipment toward the Israeli frontier on 3 November. Although Iraq on 31 August was trying to promote bilateral pacts with Lebanon and Syria aimed at countering Cairo's alignment with Damascus, the Iraqi press has called for a closing of ranks against Israeli aggressions. [redacted]

General Burns, chief of the UN truce organization, is expected back in Palestine on 6 November to impress both sides with the need to observe the truce. An Israeli spokesman, commenting on the anticipated arrival of Burns stated, "We shall co-operate fully with General Burns in any effort he makes to bring about a reduction of tension." (Press)

Soviet ambassador Abramov returned to Israel yesterday after six weeks in the USSR. [redacted]

Egypt, continuing its efforts to strengthen its military capabilities, is urgently trying to recruit 25 West German officers to augment the 25 German military advisers it already has under General Farmbacher. In pressing for action, Farmbacher reportedly said he believed that if Cairo were turned down, it would seek Soviet bloc officers. [redacted]

