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5 December 1956

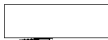


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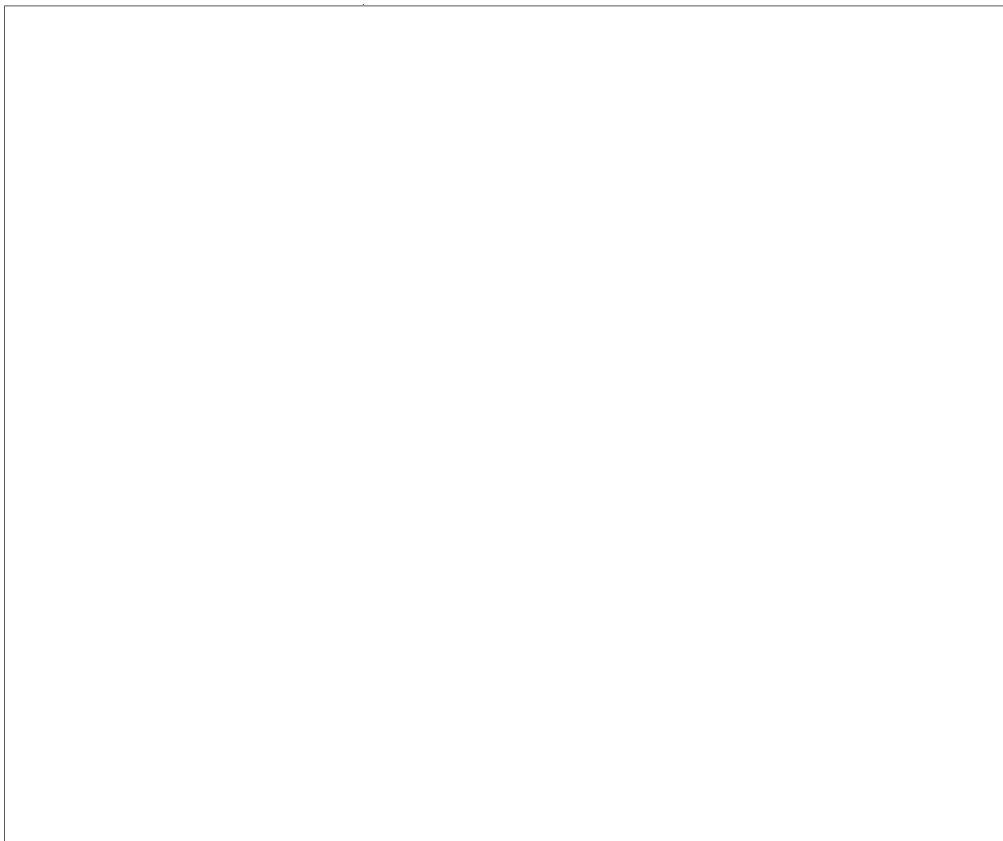
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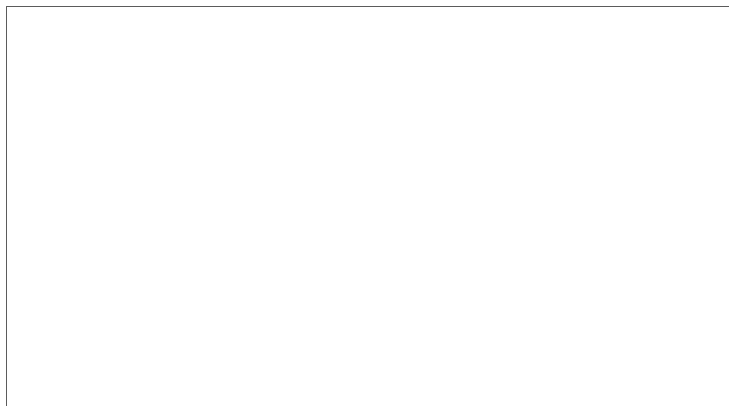
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1. NEHRU'S PLANS FOR WASHINGTON TALKS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the Indian prime minister in his discussions in Washington will stress his desire to build a close partnership with the United States, at the same time reiterating that India will not change its policy of friendship toward the USSR and Communist China.

Nehru reportedly wants to discuss the Middle East, with emphasis on the future roles there of the United States and India; Communist China; and military pacts, especially Baghdad and SEATO. He will express his concern over the rapid Pakistani build-up with American aid.

Although Nehru reportedly will not ask for long-range economic aid, he hopes the desired "partnership" would assure major American assistance for Indian development projects. [REDACTED]

Comment

Nehru's concern over Hungary may result in some discussion of Soviet tactics and ambitions. He is also deeply interested in promoting international controls over nuclear weapons.

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2. EGYPT FORESEES NEW WESTERN PLAN TO CREATE A MOSLEM BLOC

[redacted] Egypt suspects that the United States is the prime mover in a plan to create a Moslem bloc, [redacted]

[redacted] an Egyptian analysis apparently made by Ali Sabri, Nasr's adviser, said the United States assumes British leadership in the Middle East is damaged beyond repair and that it feels it is the only country which can take up Britain's role.

The instruments of American policy are said to be Pakistan and Lebanon, and King Saud of Saudi Arabia is described as the "crucial figure" who is being tempted by the "baits" of leadership of the bloc and of a favorable Buraimi settlement. Nasr has written Saud warning him of the "intrigue afoot," and the Egyptians hope and expect that Saud will remain steadfastly with Egypt and thus frustrate the Western plan. [redacted]

Comment

This report, indicating continuing Egyptian suspicion of the United States as a member of the Western alliance, is probably a more accurate reflection of the attitude of the Nasr regime than are reports that Nasr intends to move closer to the US.

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~~TOP SECRET~~**3. DAMASCUS REQUESTS SOVIET STATEMENT ON SYRIA**[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] Soviet Union to

issue a statement on "the serious situation resulting from the concentrated attack on Syria and from the aggressive intentions of Britain, France, Israel, and the Baghdad pact nations!" The ministry suggested that such a statement at that time would be especially opportune since the foreign ministers of France, Britain, and Turkey were in London, and since the United States had issued a statement warning against any aggression on the Baghdad pact nations.

Comment[redacted]
[redacted] Syrian leftists

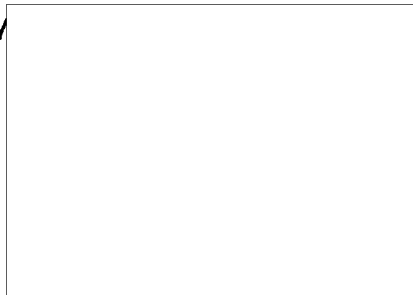
were urging the government to conclude a mutual assistance treaty with the USSR. This Syrian appeal testifies further to the genuineness of Syrian fears of foreign intervention.

Moscow is continuing to encourage the Syrians both privately and publicly to stand firm against the West and the Baghdad pact powers. Foreign Minister Shepilov referred in Copenhagen on 28 November to the threat to Syria and other Middle East states, and Moscow is maintaining a continuous propaganda barrage on Syria's behalf.

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4. SOVIET-RUMANIAN COMMUNIQUE



The Soviet-Rumanian communiqué issued in Moscow on 3 December pays lip service to Rumania's "national sovereignty," but places greater emphasis on the need to strengthen the "unity" of the Sino-Soviet bloc. It states Soviet troops in Rumania will remain temporarily, in view of the aggressive tactics of Western imperialists, although mention was made of later consultations between Warsaw pact nations concerning the ultimate disposition of these forces.

This communiqué amounts to the first public declaration since the suppression of the Hungarian revolution of the policy the USSR hopes to apply generally to the European Satellites. It does not contradict the Soviet-Polish communiqué of 18 November, but variations in emphasis and specific content reveal the totally different nature of Polish and Rumanian relations with the USSR.

Poland, in addition to gaining promises for significant and long-term economic aid from the USSR--including the cancellation of old debts, was given a voice in the control of Soviet troop movements within Poland and was able to avoid any public declaration of support for the Soviet intervention in Hungary. Rumania, on the other hand, received only a relatively minor commitment for much-needed economic aid, including postponement but not cancellation of certain debt payments. It secured no agreement concerning Soviet military units within Rumania and specifically endorsed the Soviet line toward Hungary, including the Soviet contention that it was the USSR's international "duty" to use force against the "fascist counter-revolutionaries!" (CONFIDENTIAL)

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