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1. CAIRO DELAYING CLEARANCE OF SUEZ CANAL

Comment on:	
	work on the sunken tug Edgar Bonnet is still being delayed because Egyptian authorities say it contains explosives which they must remove. The alleged explosives are not being removed, the consul stated, although two weeks have passed since this phase of the work was to have started.

Salvage experts estimate it will take 10 to 15 days to pull the tug out of the channel after they are permitted to begin work.

On 22 January, Nasr reportedly ordered a "slowdown" on clearance of the canal pending Israeli with-drawal from Gaza and the Gulf of Aqaba. On 30 January, UN secretary general Hammarskjold complained to Nasr of "political delays" threatening to hold up clearance.

UN officials have estimated that limited transit (10,000 tons or 25-foot draft) will be possible by early March. The three remaining obstacles to limited transit are the tug Edgar Bonnet, the LST Akka, now being prepared for lifting, and the frigate Abukir--which also allegedly contains explosives.

In Ismailia, General Wheeler announced on 13 February that his UN clearance force might be unable to meet the conservative target date of early March he had publicly set for limited passage, and indicated that even the early May date for full operation might be postponed. The press reported Wheeler "in so many words" accused the Egyptians of delaying operations.

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2. EGYPT REPORTEDLY PLANS GUERRILLA WARFARE IN GAZA

	Egypt is planning limited guerrilla war- fare against Israeli forces in Gaza if they do not withdraw from the area,
	ficers with 72 men are said to have been asate the Gaza area and start harassing Israeli

Comment

Fedayeen activity against Israeli forces in the Gaza strip would support Israel's contention that Gaza should not be returned to Egyptian control. Cairo will therefore probably await the outcome of diplomatic efforts to obtain further UN action before acting in Gaza. Nevertheless, Egypt may eventually feel impelled to resume fedayeen activity there in order to prove to the Egyptian public that the government is resisting continued Israeli occupation.

Most Egyptian fedayeen escaped across Israel to Jordan during hostilities in Sinai. They are now being returned to Egypt.

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3. DANGER OF ANTI-GREEK RIOTS IN TURKEY

	trouble could break at any
	moment" because of the Cyprus situation.
	precautions are being
taken to forest	
	all any incident or demonstration which might in Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir.
	all any incident or demonstration which might in Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir. There have been numerous indications of
result in riots Comment	all any incident or demonstration which might in Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir.

Recent anti-Turkish demonstrations in Greece were quickly dispersed. The security forces, which reportedly have been alerted in both countries, can probably prevent widespread rioting.

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SUMMARY

9 January - 13 February 1957

THE TAIWAN STRAIT

Report of the IAC Current Intelligence Group for the Taiwan Strait Problem

1. There were no significant combat operations in the area during the period.
2. The first through freight shipment on the Yingtan-Amoy Railroad reached Amoy in early January, according to a Chinese Communist broadcast. The line is scheduled to be officially opened to traffic after reinforcement of a section of the roadbed near Amoy. In the meantime, track-laying is under way on the Nanping-Foochow spur and may be completed before the middle of this year.
3. Radio Peiping on 7 February denounced the United States in connection with a press report that guided missile sites are to be established on Taiwan. Peiping charged that such sites would constitute a "bellicose move" against the mainland.

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