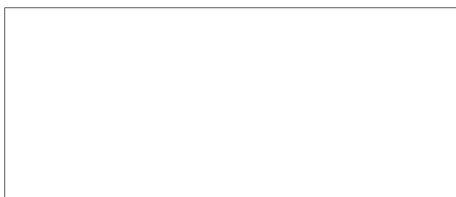


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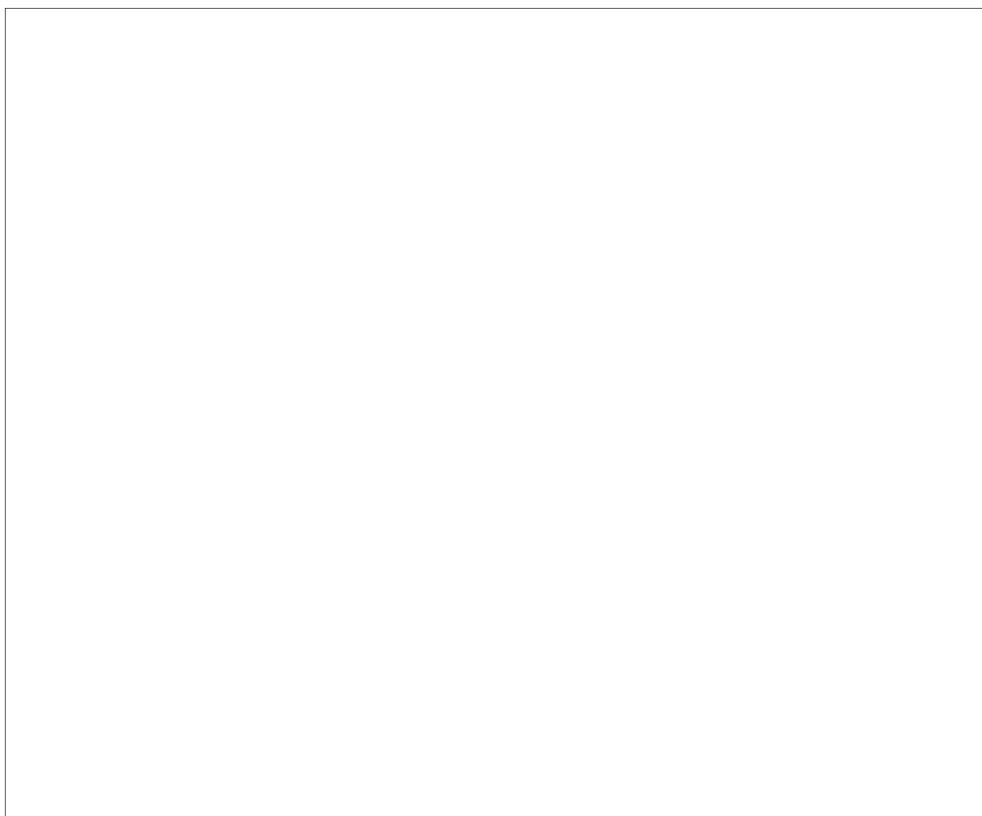
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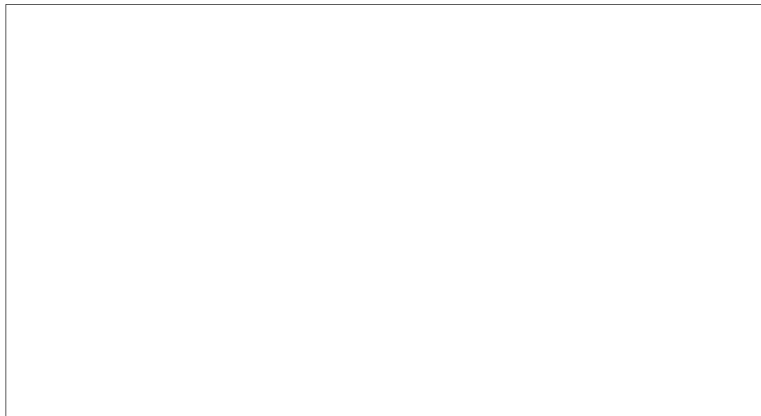
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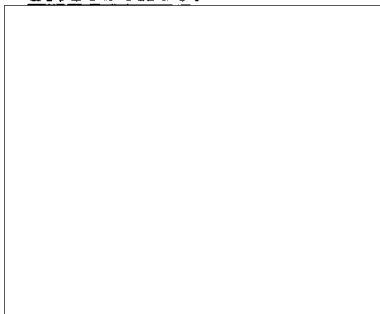
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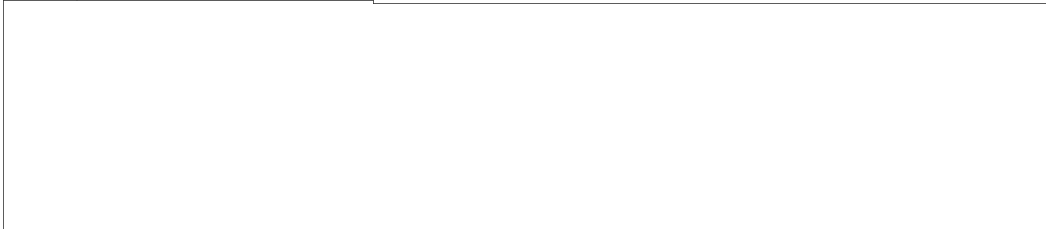
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1. BRITISH FEAR POSSIBLE MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES BY MISCALCULATION

Reference:



Top British officials believe the Soviet Union does not want the Syrian-Turkish tension to lead to hostilities, but seriously fear that a miscalculation might bring that result.



In discussing the Syrian crisis, NATO Secretary General Spaak, whose official visit to the United States begins on 24 October, told American Ambassador Burgess in Paris that all NATO members must be informed of the plans of any one of them which, if carried out, would involve others. He said he could not understand why Turkey, which has been threatened by the USSR and which has in effect appealed for NATO support, should now be opposed to the issuance of a statement that NATO would do everything in its power to find peaceful solutions to outstanding issues. He added that there seemed to be grounds for suspicion that "another Suez might be brewing!" 

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2, SYRIAN COMPLAINT IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Comment on:

The Arab states strongly favor limiting UN General Assembly discussion of the Syrian complaint. They want to discuss only the situation on the Syrian-Turkish border and not broaden the debate to include investigation of indirect aggression and Soviet activities. The duties of the investigation commission should also be limited to the Syrian-Turkish border. Friendly Arabs believe this course of action is the only way to avoid close public Arab-Soviet alignment. The Canadian and Norwegian UN delegations also believe such limitation will avoid putting the Arabs and the USSR "in the same boat."

The Arabs believe the composition of the investigation commission should be limited to about three "neutral" members. The Iraqi UN delegate pointed out that no Arab could serve on this commission, and suggested it consist of a Latin American, an Asian, and a Swede. This coincides with the Canadian view that the commission be composed of three individuals, rather than states, namely Mexican Foreign Minister Nervo, an Indian, and a Swede. These views contrast with an idea advanced earlier by the United States and Britain to name the six nonpermanent members of the Security Council to the commission. Syria considers it desirable that neither the USSR nor the United States be a member and approached the Greek ambassador in Damascus on 15 October stressing the desirability of Greek membership on an international commission.

Syria's UN delegate told Ambassador Lodge that Damascus expects the investigation to be conducted on "both sides of the Syrian-Turkish border." However, the Turkish UN delegation has expressed uncertainty about Ankara's willingness to agree to an investigation on its own soil.

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3. HARDING TO BE REPLACED AS GOVERNOR OF CYPRUS

Comment on:

Press reports from Kingston, Jamaica, state that 50-year-old Sir Hugh Foot, a career Colonial Office official and governor of Jamaica since 1951, will succeed Field Marshal Sir John Harding as governor of Cyprus. Harding's replacement would remove the symbol of Britain's military response to the Cyprus problem. Foot's assignments have included the post of colonial secretary of Cyprus from 1943 to 1945. During 1944 he was acting governor of Cyprus.

London presumably hopes that the return of a civilian as governor after Harding's two years would be taken as a conciliatory gesture by Greece and the Cypriots. Britain probably anticipates also that the shift would be a demonstration of its confidence that the EOKA underground can be contained by present policies.

Athens and EOKA would probably react favorably to Harding's departure as a possible sign of an easing of Britain's stand, while Ankara conversely would view it with some foreboding. Neither government would be influenced, however, to alter its objectives regarding Cyprus.

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4. SAUDI GROUP PRESSING FOR JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN OIL DEVELOPMENT

Comment on:

[REDACTED] A government-backed Japanese oil group is apparently successfully negotiating with the Saudi Arabian government for rights to develop the offshore area of the Saudi-Kuwait Neutral Zone. Saudi negotiators have reached agreement with the Japanese group "on terms more favorable than those of the American companies."

[REDACTED] The Saudi negotiators urged the crown prince to support the agreement with the Japanese, since "introduction of a non-American element into this question is to the advantage of the government!" [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Earlier, on 10 August, the crown prince's intercession was sought to ensure that the agreement was concluded with the Japanese and not left to competitive bidding. The crown prince was advised at that time that "everyone" was in favor of the agreement with the Japanese. The crown prince is reportedly close to Saudi Petroleum Director Tariki, who favors award of the concession to the Japanese. The crown prince's influence will presumably be brought to bear on King Saud, who will make the final decision.

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5. SOVIET GUIDED MISSILE EXPECTED TO BE EXHIBITED IN 40TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE




American officials in Moscow are convinced that the USSR's 40th anniversary parade on 7 November will be a tremendous display of force designed to emphasize Soviet antiaircraft and tactical atomic missile capability. Observation of the following items during the first large-scale rehearsal on 17 October supports this belief:

1. Two canvas-covered trailers 60-70 feet long, believed to be for guided missiles.
2. Eight tracked, amphibious rocket-launchers, with a chassis similar to an amphibious tank, appearing to mount Honest John-type rockets.
3. Six 122-mm. assault gun-type chassis with canvas-covered tubes, which could be rocket-launchers or heavy guns.
4. Three similar type chassis mounting rocket-launchers, electronic gear, and apparently a hydraulic elevating mechanism.
5. Sixteen armored, amphibious, full-tracked assault vehicles mounting heavy, air-cooled machine guns.

Comment

Other recently observed ground equipment which may be displayed in the parade include a new heavy tank and a new full-tracked amphibious armored personnel carrier. Recent Soviet development of ground weapons and tactics has concentrated on cross-country maneuverability and increased firepower.

The 40th anniversary parade is also expected to be the occasion for a spectacular military display of air and naval weapons and equipment. 

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6. HUNGARIAN REGIME TAKES PRECAUTIONS AGAINST DEMONSTRATIONS ON ANNIVERSARY OF UPRISING

Comment on:

The Hungarian regime is taking drastic steps to prevent any demonstrations of popular hostility or display of national mourning on the anniversary of last year's national uprising on 23 October. Top-level functionaries have repeatedly warned the public against any demonstrations of any kind. Reliable party officials reportedly have been placed on the alert. The workers militia has been ordered to be ready to cooperate with the armed forces.


Students have been a target for special warnings. Minister of State Marosan on 16 October urged University of Budapest students to "deal" with any fellow students who wear black arm bands on 23 October. He threatened to expel any student who cuts classes that day and declared he would personally check on compliance with his orders. The regime's extreme fear of student disturbances has reportedly been intensified by the recent riots in Warsaw.

According to the American legation in Budapest, minor party officials from each Budapest apartment were recently assembled and given instructions for the anniversary period. They were told to turn all Hungarian or black flags over to the police, to compile new lists of all residents in their buildings, and to report immediately all gatherings of more than two or three persons. All flags or placards displayed on 23 October are to be reported at once. The police have reportedly collected all black ties and crepe arm bands from stores.

In view of these extreme precautions and the continued presence of six mechanized divisions of Soviet troops in Hungary, any serious disturbances are unlikely during the anniversary period.

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7. POLISH REGIME CRACKING DOWN ON JOURNALISTS

 According to the American embassy in Warsaw, the Polish regime, sparked by Gomulka's distrust of a free press, is attempting to force journalists to be more amenable to official controls and to intimidate some of them who maintain close contacts with Western correspondents. Under pressure of the regime, cuts are being made in the staffs of three of the most outspoken liberal publications, according to reports received by the embassy.

Gomulka is particularly annoyed over leaks by Polish reporters to Western correspondents. One Polish journalist who maintained close contacts with an American correspondent has been arrested, and there are rumors in Warsaw that five others with such contacts have also been arrested.

Comment

The Polish government has been very sensitive to the reporting of its domestic affairs in the West. If the regime fails in its effort to control Western correspondents' sources of information, it is possible it may ask some of them to leave Poland. In the past year the regime has ousted one Western correspondent, warned several others, and temporarily withheld the visa of still another. Only last week, the Polish Foreign Ministry vigorously criticized the publication of a recent interview granted by Premier Cyrankiewicz to a New York Times writer, claiming a distortion of content as well as asserting that the material was not for release in the first place.