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Authority NLE 2012-46 #2By MMK NLDDE Date 7/22/14~~TOP SECRET~~

15 August 1958

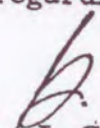
Synopsis - Intelligence and State Department Items Reported to the President

August 8 - Soviet military and naval exercises in Trans-Caucasus and Turkistan were terminated on 7 August. Thompson believes Khrushchev's switch of position on a Summit meeting was the result of pressure by the Chinese. Chehab, according to Murphy, will not want our forces to be removed for some time to come. Germans express great concern lest we alienate the Arabs completely and force them into the hands of the Russians. Our Ambassador and Commander in Lebanon believe that a small withdrawal of our forces should be made -- Chamoun and Chehab agree. In Morocco, the positions of the King and particularly of the Prime Minister have been weakened by events in the Middle East. Danger of a coup is rising. In Tunisia, danger of coup is increasing, particularly from Algerian rebels. General Amer of the UAR has held meetings with King Saud -- with no announced result but with indication of rapprochement. In Kuwait, preparations are believed under way to overthrow the dynasty. In Iran, discontent is growing and loyalty of Army would be doubtful in case of a coup attempt. Chinese Communists may be preparing to occupy another airfield in Taiwan Strait area, opposite Taiwan.

August 12 - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] it was postponed because of troop movements and other precautions taken by Hussein. Hussein and Rafai continue determined to oppose any revolt by force; Rafai has planned to abandon West Jordan to Israel if attack occurs. Haile Selassie is deeply concerned over UAR threat to the Sudan.

August 13 - Cairo orders Damascus to withdraw UAR military-type personnel from Lebanon. No progress although some easing of tension of Cyprus dispute following Macmillan's discussions in Athens and Ankara. Our Ambassador in Taipei recommends a public statement to give reassurance to the Chinese regarding Communist threats.


A. J. Goodpaster
Brigadier General, USA

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