The CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN is produced by the Director of Central Intelligence to meet his responsibilities for providing current intelligence bearing on issues of national security to the President, the National Security Council, and other senior government officials. It is produced in consultation with the Departments of State and Defense. When, because of the time factor, adequate consultation with the department of primary concern is not feasible, items or portions thereof are produced by CIA and marked with an asterisk.

Interpretations of intelligence information in this publication represent immediate and preliminary views which are subject to modification in the light of further information and more complete analysis.

Certain intelligence items in this publication may be designated specifically for no further dissemination. Other intelligence items may be disseminated further, but only on a need-to-know basis.

WARNING

---

TOP SECRET

---
19 September 1964

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

2. Communist China: Soviets believe Chinese Communists could detonate nuclear device at any time. (Page 4)
Communist China: 

Moscow believes the Chinese Communists could detonate a nuclear device at any time.

The present US estimate--

is that the weight of available evidence indicates the Chinese will not have enough fissionable material for a test device until after 1964. Because another undiscovered reactor may exist, however, the possibility of an earlier detonation cannot be completely discounted.

Moscow had detailed information about the Chinese nuclear program until 1960. The Soviets themselves have stated, however, that they have not been able to keep well informed since then.

Khrushchev's references this week to "monstrous" and "terrible" weapons may have been motivated at least in part by concern over the impact a Chinese nuclear detonation could have at this time.