

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

50X1

4 JANUARY 1965
TOP SECRET

DAILY BRIEF 4 JANUARY 1965

1. South Vietnam

Premier Huong told Ambassador Taylor that he intends to "have it out" with General Khanh. He intends to issue a proclamation on the government's position tonight or tomorrow. He is going to demand the release of the High National Council members arrested last month, the withdrawal of the military from politics, and the military's adherence to the provisional constitution. He says he wants to make it clear that he and Chief of State Suu can be put out of office only by force. The Buddhists seem still to be waiting to see how the Huong-Khanh struggle comes out before mounting a big offensive. Press reports exaggerated today's demonstrations.

2. Congo

Southern Sudan dissidents are in Leopoldville seeking Tshombé's support for their campaign against the Khartoum government. In return they will try to cut off aid flowing to the Congolese rebels through the southern Sudan. The rebels are already losing increasing numbers of arms through engagements with Tshombé's mercenaries. Radical African suppliers may soon be faced with choosing between stopping deliveries or sending in "volunteers" to protect their investment. So far, the presence of volunteers has not been confirmed, despite reports of their presence there.

3. USSR

The Soviets have asked UK Prime Minister Wilson to come to Moscow before Premier Kosygin fulfills his promised visit to London. No dates have been set. Our embassy in Moscow believes the new Soviet regime hopes its prestige will be boosted by a Wilson visit. Also, Party leader Brezhnev, who has no plans to go to London, may want to take a hand in first talks with a leading Western official.

4. UAR

Previous reports that Nasir might oust Premier Ali Sabri are strengthened by a government announcement today indicating that Sabri will not head the UAR's delegation to the meeting of Arab premiers on 9 January. A semiofficial Cairo newspaper has also announced that a new cabinet will be formed in March, which could be the occasion for formally removing Sabri from the premiership.