



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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10 DECEMBER 1965

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1. Laos

There are indications that the Communists intend to accelerate the fighting in Laos.

On Wednesday, for instance, the Pathet Lao high command broadcast a "mobilization order" reminiscent of propaganda harangues put out by the Communists in the past before military activity increased.

In addition, government forces have reported an "unusual" enemy build-up in the Plaine des Jarres area. There is also [redacted] which points to Communist "liberation" activities somewhat farther south.

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2. Vietnam

Another round of world-wide protests against US policy in Vietnam may be in the offing. The Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions has called for organized demonstrations on 20 December to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the South Vietnamese Liberation Front.

3. Pakistan

President Ayub's visit to Washington has sharpened the division within his cabinet over the advisability of seeking improved relations with the US.

Finance Minister Shoaib, who favors closer US ties, described Ayub yesterday as now realizing that the divisions in the cabinet run too deep and that a number of changes will take place after Ayub's return from a "successful visit." He implied that representatives of both factions would be dropped.

Shoaib identified Foreign Minister Bhutto and the ministers of information and transport as the "three musketeers" who had tried to prevent the US visit and were against better relations with the US.

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4. Indonesia

Several Indonesians were killed today in the latest mob attack on the Chinese Communist Consulate in Medan, Sumatra. An Indonesian police detail fired into the crowd. Nearby army units took no part in defending the building.

The army continues to press its campaign against Communists within the large Chinese community. Many Indonesians have apparently interpreted this as a license to relieve long-standing antagonisms against the relatively well-off Chinese in their midst, by attacking and plundering.

Attention in Djakarta now seems to be focusing on economic matters. There are signs that both Sukarno and the army leaders feel that the course of the economic crisis may determine the outcome of the power struggle between them.

Army leaders apparently hope to saddle Sukarno with the blame for any further economic deterioration or for unpopular corrective measures.

5. Communist China

More Chinese intrusions have occurred along the border with India. [REDACTED]

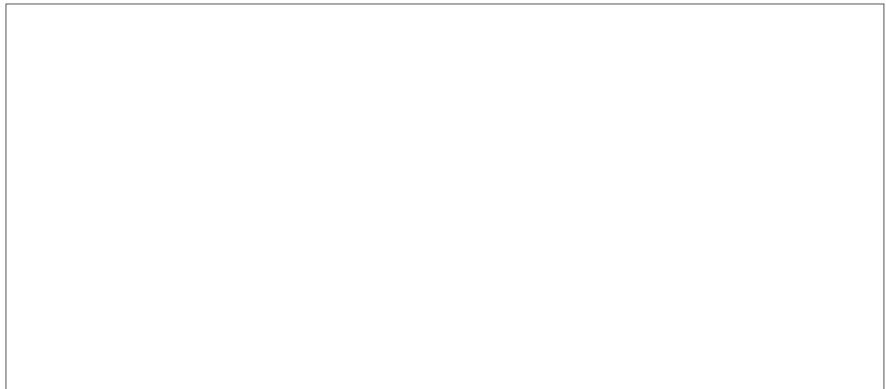
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There is no evidence that the Chinese are planning major operations against India. These relatively small incidents seem designed to remind New Delhi that Peking must be reckoned with in any military action India may be considering.

Peking may also hope in this way to underscore the similarity of Sino-Pakistani interests while President Ayub is visiting the US.

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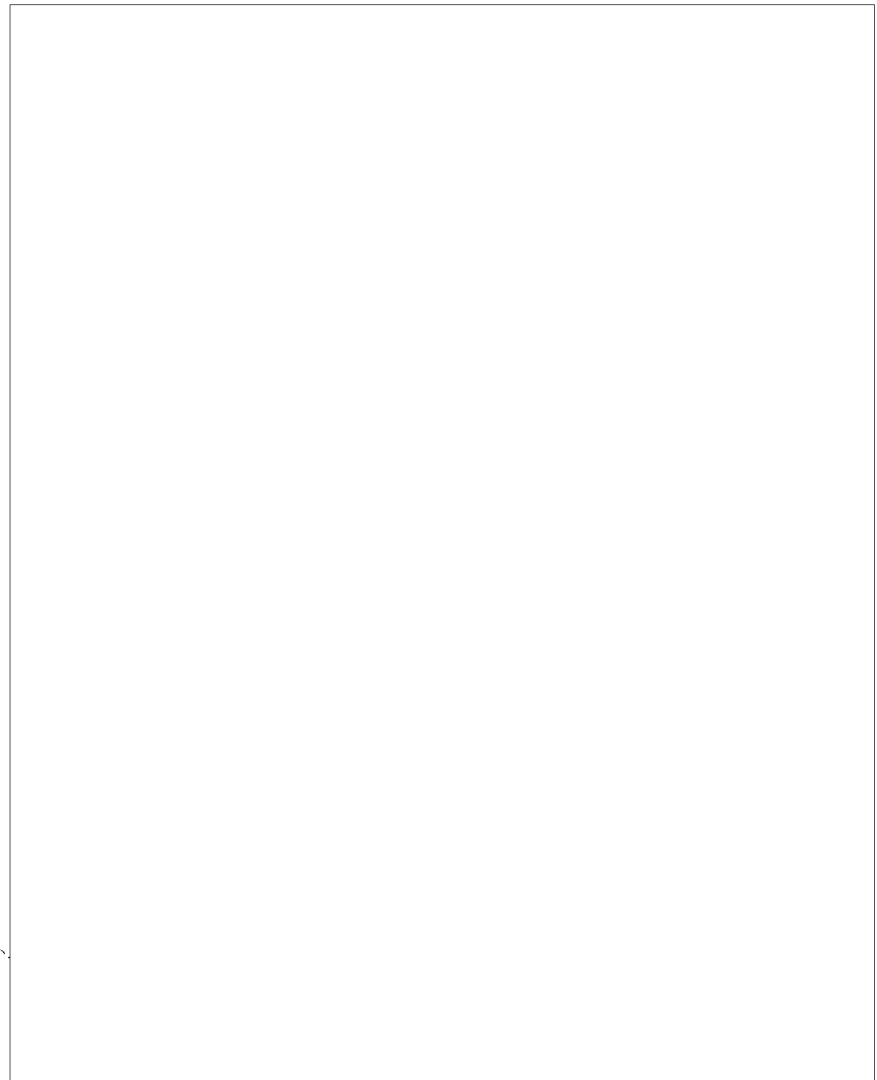
6. Singapore



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7. Rhodesia

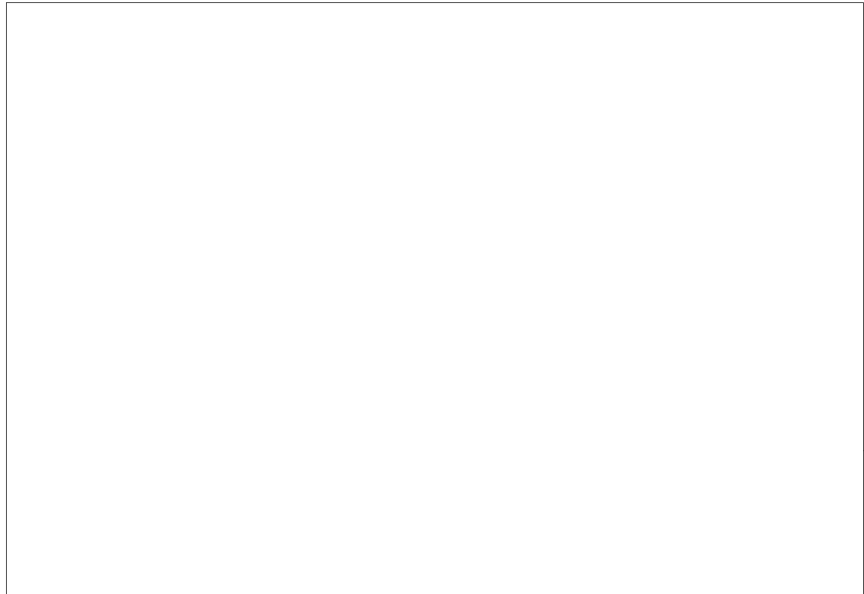
A growing number of African governments are seeking a way to avoid following through on their threat to break with Britain if the whites are still ruling in Rhodesia by 15 December.



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8. France



9. Guatemala

The threat of a military coup continues. The Peralta regime, aware of the plotting, is reassigning some of the officers it suspects. This is a slow process, however, and the plot leader, Colonel Ponciano, seems already to have formidable military support.

The continuing deterioration of the internal security situation contributes to the climate favoring a coup. There have been more terrorist acts recently, and the government has made no progress lately against those responsible.

The extremists this week netted another large sum, reportedly \$75,000, in ransom for another wealthy kidnap victim. So far, they have collected close to \$200,000 this way. The families of the victims furtively pay up, afraid to risk cooperation with the police.

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