

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

50X1

3 JANUARY 1966
TOP SECRET

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1. North Vietnam

Hanoi has blasted away again at what it terms the "deceitful and hypocritical" US peace campaign.

A commentary in the North Vietnamese party daily today charged that the dispatch of senior US officials to various foreign capitals was nothing but a hoax. "The US aggressors' campaign to seek peace is but a trick aimed at screening their plans of war intensification and expansion." The article went on to rehash old charges that instead of "unconditional discussions," the US is actually insisting that its troops remain in South Vietnam indefinitely.

The commentary continues to follow the line of not mentioning the cessation of US air strikes against the north. Hanoi probably feels that to admit a halt has taken place would put it even more on the defensive in the eyes of world opinion.

The North Vietnamese regime undoubtedly wants to keep the cessation in effect as long as possible. It probably believes that a negative comment at this time might only provoke a resumption of the strikes.

2. Indonesia

There are more reports that Sukarno plans to leave shortly.

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Sukarno will be going to Switzerland for his long-postponed kidney operation and that he will be gone for several months.

3. Communist China	

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4. Cambodia

Dissidents

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have apparently launched their campaign to secure a foothold inside Cambodia. Late last week some 200 to 300 dissidents attacked a 50-man Cambodian border post in what amounted to the largest and most sustained attack since the resumption of dissident activity some 18 months ago.

5. India-Pakistan

Shastri and Ayub have arrived in Tashkent for the confrontation which neither really expects to result in significant progress toward a settlement. The most they expect is some form of understanding which would permit them to keep the dialogue open.

6. Central African Republic

The situation has quieted in the wake of the New Year's Eve military coup in this extremely underdeveloped and isolated former French colony. The provinces have not yet reacted, however, and could pose problems. Colonel Bokassa, the new strong man, is likely to seek French and US aid to shore up his position.

7. Upper Volta

Serious trouble developed today in another former French African colony. After hours of mob demonstrations and a completely successful general strike in the capital city, the government radio went off the air. Whether President Yameogo remains in power is in doubt.

8. Rhodesia

Following up its weekend offer, the Smith regime announced tonight that it has suspended the heavy surtax it had imposed last month on coal and coke exported to Zambia. This was done despite President Kaunda's rejection yesterday of the Smith offer to ease pressures on Zambia by suspending the surtax as well as by sending refined oil products to Zambia.

The surtax was a unilateral Rhodesia decision, but the oil refining and transit offer would require the delivery of crude oil to Rhodesia and acceptable Zambian payment arrangements.

9. Dominican Republic

Garcia Godoy plans to go on radio and television tonight to announce his decisions aimed at reducing the danger of new incidents like last month's outbreak in Santiago. He told Ambassador Bunker yesterday that he intends to blame neither side for the Santiago affair, but will announce foreign assignments for some military officers of both 50X1 factions.

This may well set off a new wave of strikes and violence by extremists among the former rebels.

Fidel Castro seemed deliberately out to embarrass the Chinese Communists in his annual anniversary speech yesterday. He took the occasion to announce that because of a "misunderstanding" with Peking, Cubans would suffer a crucial rice shortage this year. The Chinese, he said, interpret last year's sugarrice exchange agreement as being for only one year and refuse to extend it.

Coming on the eve of the "Tri-Continent Conference" and in the presence of delegates representing the extremist and revolutionary forces of some 100 countries, his revelations probably presage a concerted anti-Peking drive at the conference.

Most of the speech was devoted to Cuba's continuing economic problems. He did, however, seize the opportunity to answer those "slanderers" who were suggesting that an accommodation with the US was in the wind. "It must be said with assurance, honesty, and firmness," he shouted, "that this is the last nation to want to make peace with imperialism."

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