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7 July 1965

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Office of Current Intelligence

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REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
7 July 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems

1. Congo (Leopoldville)

Following renewed rebel activity last week in the eastern Congo, there have been few significant changes in positions, and the government generally still holds the initiative.

Rebel bands based in the Fizi area continue to threaten Congo Army positions north of Albertville and at Uvira at the head of Lake Tanganyika. Evidence of active foreign involvement in the fighting is mounting. Papers taken from two bodies of four "foreigners" killed near Bendera--60 miles north of Albertville--indicate they were Cubans. [redacted] Cubans [redacted]

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[redacted] have been reported at Congolese rebel training camps in Tanzania, and some have been sighted crossing Lake Tanganyika to the Congo side. Bendera now is reportedly surrounded, but is still held by the government.

To the north of Fizi, the army garrison at Uvira continues to be subjected to heavy rebel attacks. [redacted]

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[redacted] Farther west, army units on 3 July occupied Kalole, gateway from Bukavu to the Kindu area. Successful air strikes by T-28s based in Albertville have also prevented rebel advances.

A resurgence of activity between Beni--225 miles north of Uvira--and the Ugandan border has now been curtailed. Ugandan authorities had

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recently begun to expel Congolese refugees and rebels, who, as they re-entered the Congo, provoked local inhabitants and army units in the area. Sizable groups of poorly armed rebels remain in the area, but the situation appears to be under control. The Goma area has also been the scene of disturbances. Most of this trouble was apparently aimed at provincial administrators by Rwanda refugees who live in the area, and is not connected with the rebellion.

On 5 July mercenary-led government units captured Aketi, an important road and rail junction 60 miles west of Buta. (Map)

2. Laos

The past week has been relatively quiet, with ground action limited to skirmishes in the northwest portion of the country and near Dong Hene in the panhandle.

There have been some rumblings, however, among dissatisfied rightist military and political leaders. Several of the commanders outside of Vientiane are unhappy over what they feel to be a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of General Kouprasith and the Sananikone family, with which he has been closely allied. Although this discontent to date remains generalized and appears to pose no immediate threat to the Vientiane regime, future developments--e.g., efforts by the Sananikones to win a disproportionate number of seats in the forthcoming elections, or attempts by Kouprasith to increase his influence within the military structure--could serve to unite the opposition and signal another period of internal strife within the rightist camp.

3. British Guiana

Cheddi Jagan, leader of the pro-Communist People's Progressive Party (PPP), has disclaimed all knowledge of the 24 June bombing of the US Consulate. He says that he has nothing to gain from it and that it would win support for Premier Forbes Burnham.

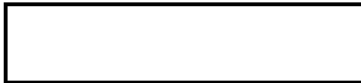
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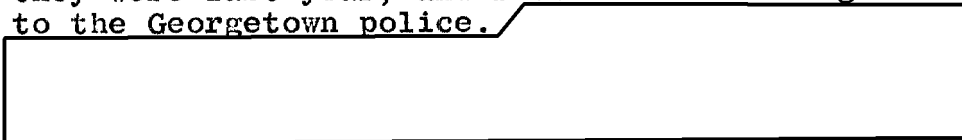
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The government is taking steps to improve the effectiveness of its security forces. A recruitment drive will be launched to bring the volunteer force--an auxiliary quasi-military group-- up to its authorized strength of 600. Shotguns will not be legally available to the populace as they were last year, and revolvers are being issued to the Georgetown police.

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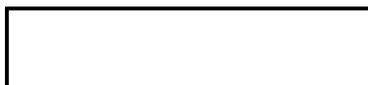
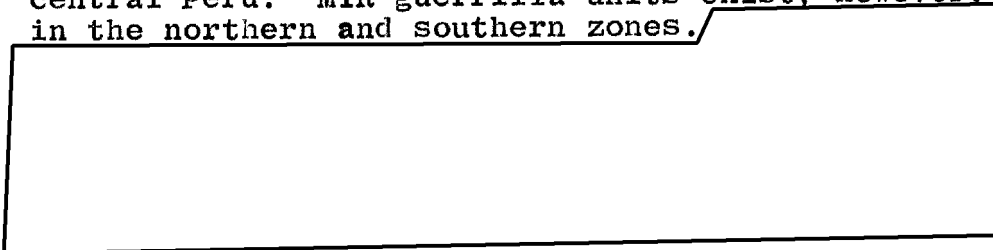
4. Peru

The guerrilla ambush and decimation of a police unit in central Peru last week and two terrorist bombings in Lima have heightened government alarm over the insurgent threat. On 4 July the government ordered a 30-day suspension of constitutional guarantees and a police roundup of leftist extremists.

Command of counterinsurgency operations against the guerrillas has been assumed by the army. A command post is being established in Huancayo, capital of Junin Department, where the guerrillas are based. No army units are in action as yet but 100 rangers have been sent to the area for eventual commitment against the guerrillas.

Guerrilla activities, directed by the pro-Cuban Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), have thus far been limited to two departments in central Peru. MIR guerrilla units exist, however, in the northern and southern zones.

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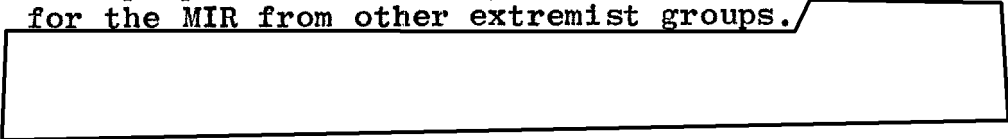
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The MIR is receiving widespread publicity in the Peruvian press and through its own clandestinely distributed communiqués. Combined with guerrilla successes and police ineffectiveness, this propaganda is beginning to create support for the MIR from other extremist groups.

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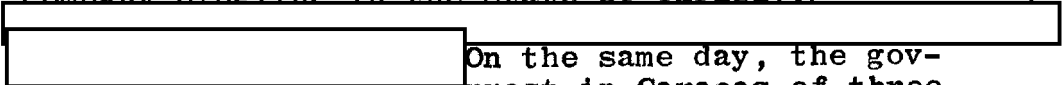
In the past, extreme fragmentation of the Peruvian far left has severely handicapped its capabilities. A general police crackdown on leftists along with the MIR's newly demonstrated leadership now could draw it closer together.

5. Venezuela

Both guerrilla activity and government antiguerrilla operations continue in eastern and western Venezuela, according to press reports. The government has announced the arrest of peasant collaborators in eastern Venezuela, where a guerrilla group ambushed a government patrol on 17 June, killing one policeman and wounding two soldiers. In the west, according to a 29 June report, at least five men were killed and several wounded in a clash between an army patrol and guerrillas near the border between Trujillo and Portuguesa states, where a guerrilla camp was discovered by government forces. On the same date it was reported that the army had occupied two guerrilla camps in Falcon State and captured two guerrillas.

On 29 June, terrorists blew up a Mobile Company pipeline in the state of Yaracuy.

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On the same day, the government announced the arrest in Caracas of three FALN guerrilla leaders and the capture of important FALN files.

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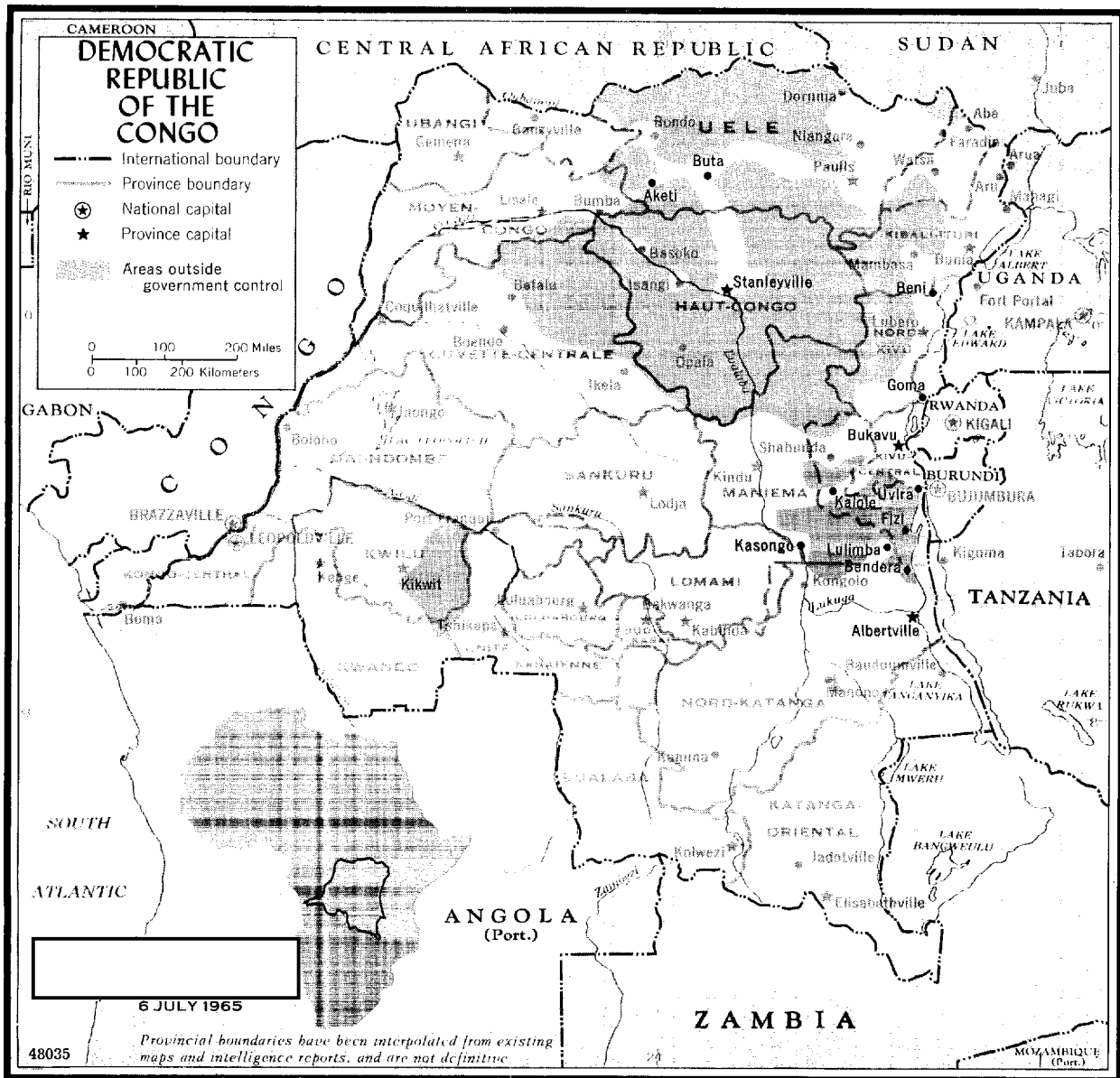


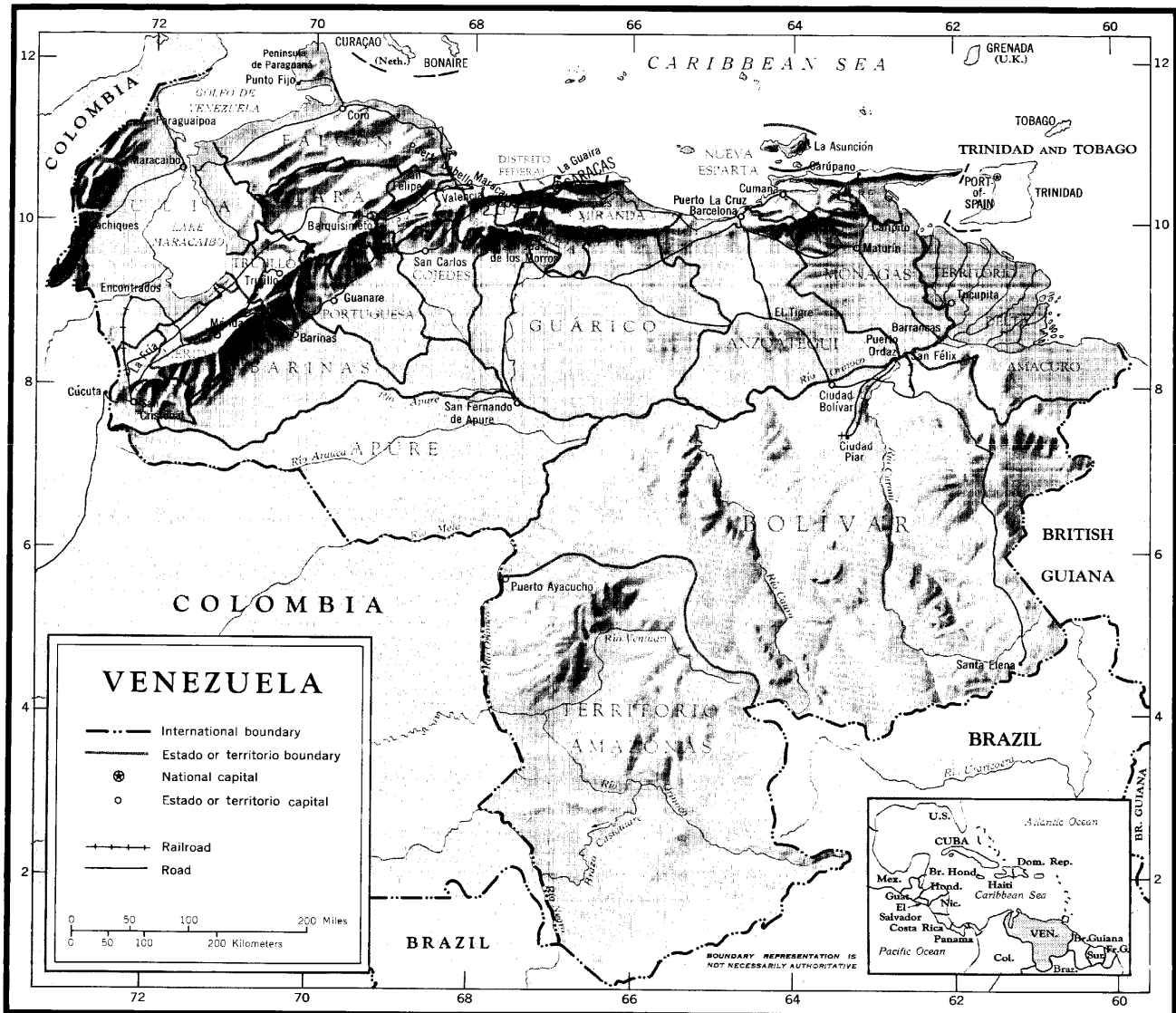
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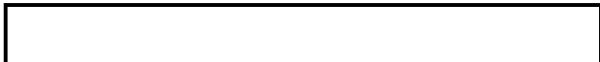
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