

National Intelligence Daily (Cable)

7 April 1979

Top Secret

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	SUDAN: Increased Pressure on Numayri	
25X1	//Sudanese officials are very concerned over rising domestic discontent and the country's isolation in the Arab world as a result of President Numayri's support for President Sadat. According to one report, posters	
	supporting the Numayri government recently have been de- faced.//	
	//The growing gap between the cost of living and wages, and a marked shortage of commodities have contributed to the increasing opposition to the government.	
25X1	Fuel supplies are low and Iraq, Sudan's major supplier of crude oil, has delayed deliveries in retaliation for	
	Sudan's support of Egypt.	
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	there is no doubt Numayri's problems are grow-	
	ing. The attitude of the military toward the President's increasing vulnerability is uncertain. If civilian discontent spreads to the armed forces and Numayri is unable to reverse some of the negative trends, he could face a challenge by some elements within the army.	
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PAKISTAN: Demonstrations

Violent protests against the execution of former Prime Minister Bhutto flared in several parts of Pakistan yesterday. Many of the incidents occurred in rural areas of Bhutto's home province from which he drew his greatest political support. There also were incidents in several major cities, but so far crowds have been far smaller than in the disorders of 1977 that culminated in Bhutto's ouster by the present military regime. So far, the police appear to be in control; in 1977 demonstrations escalated slowly and did not seriously threaten the government until a month after they began.

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	NETHERLANDS ANTILLES: Early Election
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MAURITANIA: Palace Coup

Government changes announced yesterday in Mauritania add up to a palace coup that relegated President Saleck to a figurehead role. Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Bouceif now appears to be the preeminent political figure in the country, which has been plagued by instability since the military took power last July; Bouceif was named to the new position of Prime Minister—thereby displacing Saleck as head of government. Bouceif has been identified with the pro-Moroccan group within the Mauritanian military that has opposed the policy of seeking a unilateral peace in the Western Sahara war. It is uncertain, however, whether Bouceif intends to have Mauritania resume an active role in the conflict alongside Morocco.

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