



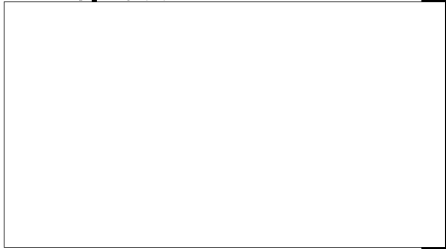
Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Wednesday
2 March 1983

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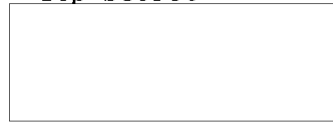
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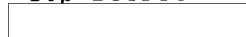
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SURINAME: New Civilian Government

The new cabinet announced on Monday by Army Commander Bouterse is likely to make the government more radical. (S)

Members of Prime Minister Alibux's Progressive Workers' and Farmers' Union, a small leftist party of socialist intellectuals, dominate the cabinet and occupy most of the technical ministries. Two members of the pro-Cuban Revolutionary People's Party received the politically important ministries that oversee education and popular mobilization. Only one of the 12 appointees is from the military. [redacted]

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Comment: Bouterse apparently hopes to create an impression of responsible government by installing a predominantly civilian cabinet that includes a labor leader, but he will continue to have final approval of government policies. Bouterse has no political program of his own, however, and lacks a broad base of support. He probably will be swept along with the leftist-nationalist proposals that are likely to emanate from the cabinet. [redacted]

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With Alibux's party controlling the technical posts, economic policies are likely to be socialist. Many observers expect banks and insurance companies to be nationalized soon. [redacted]

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The Revolutionary People's Party probably will concentrate on indoctrinating the population through local organizations and the educational system. Bouterse already has appointed several party members to the steering board of the university to change its conservative outlook. [redacted]

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The omission of Foreign Minister Naarendorp and former Ambassador to The Hague Herrenberg from the cabinet list seems to narrow the field of Bouterse's personal advisers to Cuban Ambassador Cardenas. Alibux's assumption of the Foreign Affairs portfolio suggests that Naarendorp was replaced at the last minute, possibly at his own request. Herrenberg, however, probably was dropped from consideration following his unauthorized decision to close down Suriname's Embassy and Consulate in the Netherlands. [redacted]

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JAPAN: Nakasone in Trouble

Prime Minister Nakasone's bold approach to foreign affairs and defense issues is causing him political difficulties at home.
[redacted]

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The opposition parties in recent weeks have been attacking Nakasone in the Diet for his decisions to share defense technology with the US and to support a greater Japanese defense role. Proceedings in the Diet have stalled several times, and negotiations are under way to end the latest impasse. [redacted]

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The media have published numerous articles on what they represent as evidence of Japan's entanglement in US military strategy. Public opinion polls show a substantial drop in popular support for the cabinet, with many respondents expressing concern that the Prime Minister is involving Japan too deeply in military affairs. [redacted]

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Members of the Liberal Democratic Party are joining in criticizing the Prime Minister's provocative statements on defense. Party members are particularly concerned about the effect on their prospects in coming local and national elections. As a result, Nakasone has promised to put less emphasis on controversial defense and foreign policy issues and to concentrate on more popular domestic concerns, including economic recovery, a tax cut, and fiscal reform. [redacted]

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Comment: Nakasone's political troubles are partly the result of his response to US concerns on defense. He has made clear that he will not reverse decisions already made, but in the face of growing opposition he is unlikely to urge other initiatives. Decisions on implementing his agreement to transfer military technology to the US probably will be delayed. [redacted]

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Nakasone's major goal for now will be to get proceedings in the Diet back to normal and to pass the annual budget by early next week. He is likely to focus on improving his party's standing before local elections in April and to drop any plans for calling early elections for the lower house. [redacted]

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POLAND: Concern About Resistance

Concern [Redacted] about increased antigovernment activity may help push the regime into taking harsher measures [Redacted]

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Meanwhile, the party's cultural department announced on Saturday that the writers' union would be purged of all but officially sanctioned authors before being revived. Premier Jaruzelski in a speech on Saturday also warned that educators will be subject to "administrative measures" if they use their positions to advocate anti-Communism.

[Redacted]

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Comment: Resistance activity was low in January, largely because activists were still recovering from defeats late last year and were evaluating the possibilities for renewed action with the easing of martial law restrictions. The increase in February indicates that Solidarity supporters can cause trouble for the regime but cannot seriously threaten its control. Such activities are likely to aid party hardliners and the security services during the debate on policy options. [Redacted]

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Most Poles will view the hard line against intellectuals as additional evidence that the authorities are not interested in reaching an accommodation. Jaruzelski's tough statement probably also is intended to strengthen his position at the next Central Committee plenum that is scheduled to debate ideological questions. [Redacted]

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MOROCCO-ALGERIA: Summit Meeting

King Hassan and President Bendjedid discussed normalizing relations when they met at the border last Saturday. Diplomatic ties were cut in 1976 over the Western Sahara conflict. A senior official of the Moroccan Foreign Ministry says that the two leaders agreed to increase economic ties gradually as a first step toward possible reestablishment of diplomatic relations. They largely passed over the controversial Saharan problem by referring it to a lower level.

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Comment: Both leaders would like to resolve the conflict. Each has come to recognize that regional stability serves his country's long-term economic and political interests and that such stability is threatened by the Saharan dispute and the machinations of Libyan leader Qadhafi. In addition, Algeria probably believes that efforts to improve ties with Morocco will help foster better relations with the US. The strongly held and incompatible views of the two sides on the Saharan issue, however, will continue to constrain improvement in bilateral relations.

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GREECE: Coup Rumors

An announcement by the Greek Government yesterday that 15 senior military officers are being retired--combined with the unexpected alert by military and police units in Athens on Sunday--has stirred coup rumors. The government says its decision to retire the officers while retaining the current armed forces chiefs stems from its annual officer review. Press reports describe the officers being retired as disgruntled, rightwing conspirators assigned to Army units in the north. [redacted]

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Comment: The alert on Sunday suggests that the government may have believed a coup attempt was imminent. It is not yet clear, however, whether the alert and the retirements are related. In any case, Prime Minister Papandreou's retention of the armed forces chiefs will strengthen his relations with the military leadership at a time when public concern about coup rumors suggests that the government and the military need to present a united front. [redacted]

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TURKEY: Strait Transit Fees To Drop

An official of the Central Bank says that Turkey soon will lower substantially the high fees established in November for merchant ships passing through the Bosphorus. A government official confirms that a new fee schedule is to be published within a few days. [redacted]

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Comment: These statements tend to substantiate recent press reports that Turkey will bow to growing diplomatic pressure from many of the signatories of the Montreux Convention and ease the tenfold increase in transit fees. [redacted]

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A significantly lower fee schedule would be likely to reduce tension to a point where the USSR would resume paying for ship transits and would negotiate a settlement with Turkey for the ships that previously passed through without paying. Ankara probably now believes that its right to obtain adequate compensation for its services has been recognized, thus helping it to forestall new calls for revision of the Convention. [redacted]

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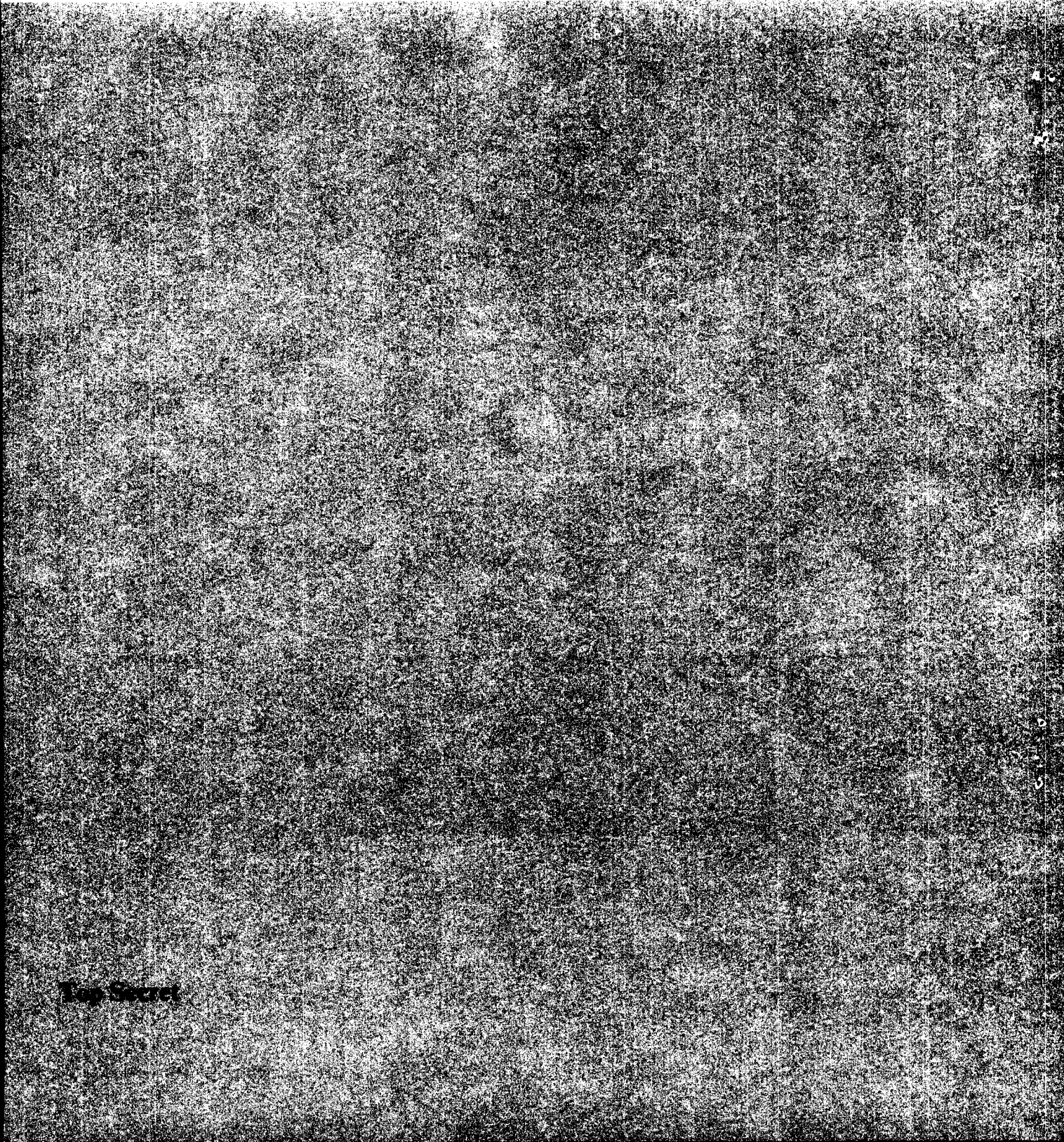
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