



Director of
Central
Intelligence

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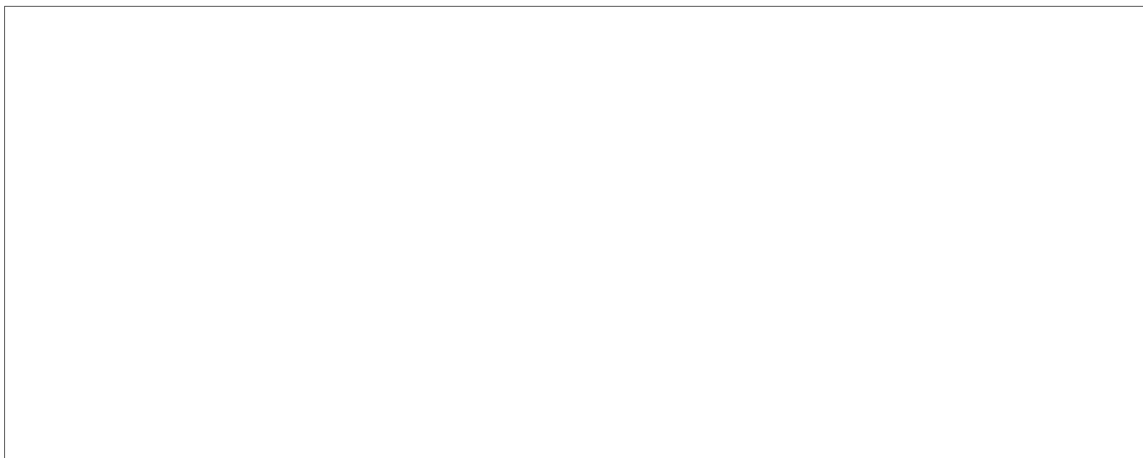
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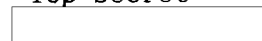
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SOUTH AFRICA - ANGOLA: Continuing Dialogue

Press reports stating that South Africa and Angola have reached agreement on the outline of a limited disengagement in southern Angola are overdrawn, although senior officials of the two countries may meet again during the next few weeks to try to work out such an agreement. [redacted]

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The two sides reportedly will continue talks begun at their meeting in Cape Verde last December on a cease-fire and mutual pullback of forces. The proposal under discussion calls for a withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and a shift of Angolan, Cuban, and SWAPO forces north from the Angola-Namibia border region. [redacted]

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Comment: The Angolans, who face an intensifying UNITA insurgency and remain fearful of new South African incursions, would be likely to welcome an agreement that provided some pause in South African attacks. [redacted]

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A limited accord probably would be acceptable to both the hardline and moderate factions in Luanda. The Soviets and the Cubans also might go along with it, provided that South Africa did not demand prior agreement on a Cuban troop withdrawal. [redacted]

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The South Africans almost certainly distrust the Angolans and might back away from concluding an agreement. Nevertheless, a disengagement agreement requiring Angola to abandon militarily some of its territory could be portrayed domestically by Pretoria as a major accomplishment. (S NF)

Such an agreement, however, could easily break down. The Angolans could prove unable to keep SWAPO forces from moving back into the border region and provoking a South African military response. [redacted]

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The South Africans, moreover, probably will continue to provide aid to UNITA. This could lead Luanda to renounce a disengagement pact, particularly if the insurgents moved into the area vacated by the South Africans. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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CHINA-USSR-VIETNAM: Beijing's Hard Line

The Chinese are maintaining their tough stand on Soviet involvement in Indochina and Afghanistan as they prepare to resume talks in Moscow next month. [Redacted]

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A commentary last week in *People's Daily* criticized Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kapitsa for defending Vietnam's presence in Kampuchea and for endorsing Vietnamese proposals for regional talks previously rejected by ASEAN. The article also rebuked the Soviets for increasing their military presence in Indochina, particularly at Cam Ranh Bay, Da Nang, and Kampong Sam. In addition, the Chinese media continue to criticize the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and to highlight the activities of resistance forces there. [Redacted]

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China also is rebuffing Hanoi's overtures to improve relations. Beijing has rejected another Vietnamese proposal for a cease-fire on the border during the lunar new year and has accused the Vietnamese--for the first time in months--of firing into Chinese territory. Moreover, during a visit to Bangkok last month, the Chief of Staff of China's armed forces renewed his country's support for Thailand's security and hinted at retaliation if the Vietnamese increase their military activity along the Thai-Kampuchean border. [Redacted]

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Comment: The Chinese are emphasizing that the USSR's support for Vietnam remains the main obstacle to major improvements in Sino-Soviet relations. When Secretary of State Shultz visited Beijing, the Chinese cited the similarity of views on Kampuchea and Afghanistan as one of the positive elements in Sino-US relations. [Redacted]

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ZIMBABWE: Government Confronts the Opposition

The government has embarked on a high-risk campaign against opposition leader Joshua Nkomo and his followers in the Army. [Redacted]

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The regime has been actively considering a purge from Army enlisted ranks of former Zimbabwe African People's Union guerrillas for alleged disloyalty. The purge is still a matter of some debate in the government, but many former ZAPU soldiers returning from leave reportedly have been advised that they have already been discharged. [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Block]

Comment: If the government follows through with the purge, many of the remaining former ZAPU officers and soldiers probably will decide to quit the Army. Rather than return to their homes in Matabeleland, many would be likely to join dissident bands in rural areas or flee to Botswana and Zambia. [Redacted]

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[Redacted Block]

The overall decision to get tough with ZAPU probably was made by the ZANU Central Committee, which Mugabe heads but has never fully controlled. Mugabe has long acted as a brake on hotheads in the party, but he usually acts in accordance with the Central Committee's decisions, which are reached by consensus. The Prime Minister will remain a moderating influence, but it is uncertain how successful he will be. [Redacted]

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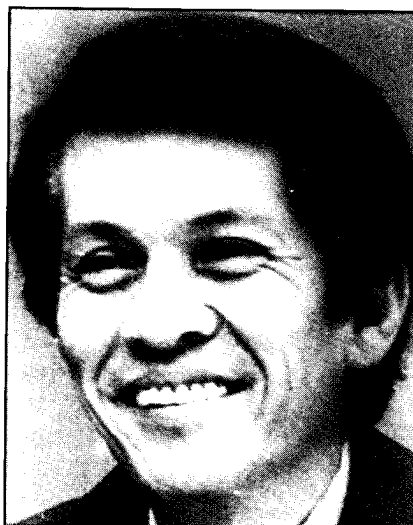
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Juan Ponce Enrile



Defense Minister since 1972 . . . confidant
of Marcos, believed architect of martial law
(1972-81)

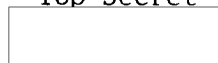
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59 years old.

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PHILIPPINES-US: Defense Minister's Visit

Defense Minister Enrile will use meetings with US officials in Washington next week to set the stage for the review of the Military Bases Agreement that is scheduled to begin in Manila in April.



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Enrile's most important objective is to pave the way for eventual acceptance of a Philippine proposal to store US war reserve materiel at the bases for Philippine use. Manila links this issue to compensation for US use of the bases and to progress in modernizing the Philippine armed forces--the key items on the base review agenda.



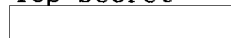
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Comment: Enrile, who is close to President Marcos, will play a major role in the bases review. He believes that the talks this year give Manila an excellent chance to "correct" a security relationship he views as heavily weighted in Washington's favor. The Defense Minister's visit also offers a chance to settle the war reserve materiel proposal and other issues before the review actually begins.



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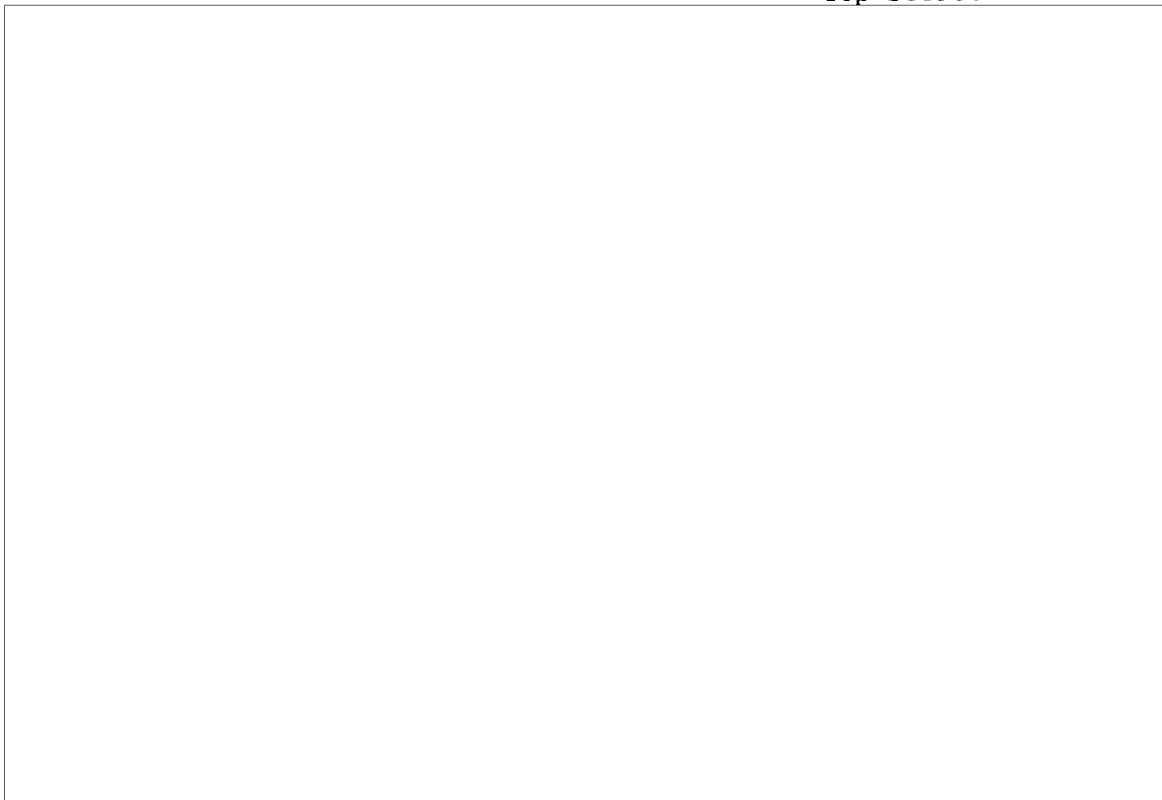


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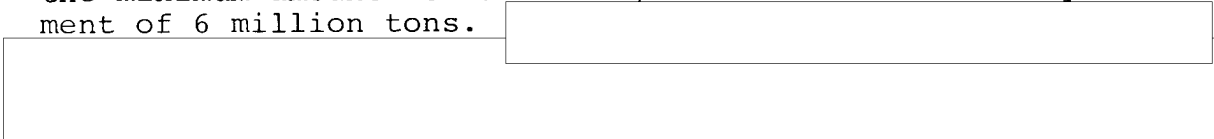
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USSR-US: Interest in New Grain Agreement

The director of the Soviet grain purchasing agency said publicly last week that Moscow is ready to negotiate a new long-term grain trade agreement with the US. He stated, however, that the USSR is unwilling to increase the minimum amount it has to buy above the current requirement of 6 million tons.



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Comment:



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The Soviets want to maintain an agreement because the US is the world's most stable producer and largest exporter of grain. Nevertheless, Moscow continues to view the US as an unreliable supplier. Since the US embargo in 1980, the Soviets have diversified their sources of grain imports by entering into long-term agreements with other countries.



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PERSIAN GULF: Foreign Ministers Meet

The Foreign Ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council--composed of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman--will discuss the war between Iran and Iraq as well as other regional issues at their quarterly meeting tomorrow in Riyadh. Specific topics reportedly will include Saudi Arabia's efforts--unsuccessful thus far--to mediate between Syria and Iraq and the declaration of support by Syria and Libya last month for Iran. [redacted]

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Comment: The ministers probably will criticize Tehran obliquely in their communique for not agreeing to peace negotiations. Syria's reaffirmation of support for Iran may prompt the ministers to consider--as they did last year--the possibility of cutting off financial aid to Damascus, but they are not likely to follow through. The Council members, particularly Saudi Arabia, fear retaliation by Syrian-sponsored terrorists. The Saudis also worry that cutting off aid would make the Syrians even less cooperative in Middle East peace efforts. [redacted]

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