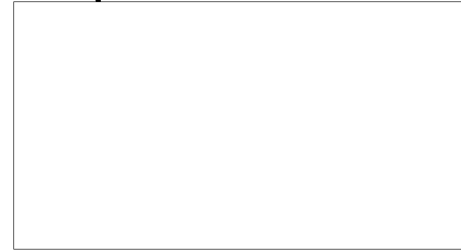




Director of
Central
Intelligence

~~Top Secret~~



25X1

OCPAS/CIG
CY# 285

25X1

National Intelligence Daily

Friday
16 December 1983

~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NO 83-2001X

16 December 1983

Copy 285

25X1

Page Denied

Top Secret



25X1

Contents

USSR-US-Syria: Soviet Warning ... 1

USSR: Reassurances on Arms Control ... 2



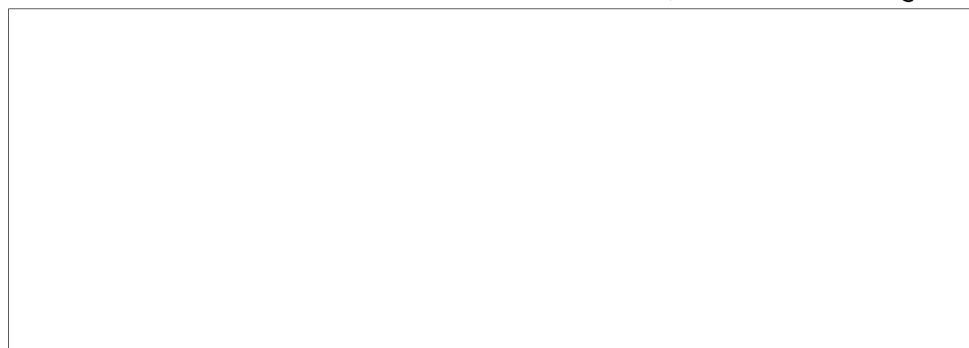
25X1

Angola-South Africa-UN: Security Council Debate ... 5

China-UK-Hong Kong: New Developments in Talks ... 6

Poland: Problems in the Army ... 7

Bolivia: Political Unrest ... 8



25X1

Kampuchea-China: Coalition Leaders Visit ... 12

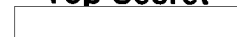
Africa: Portuguese-Speaking Summit ... 13



25X1

25X1

Top Secret



25X1

16 December 1983




Top Secret



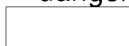
25X1

USSR-US-SYRIA: Soviet Warning

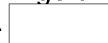
The Soviets are issuing ambiguous warnings that the USSR will respond to a US attack on Syria while proposing US-Soviet cooperation in reducing current tensions in the Middle East. 

25X1


US participants at two recently concluded US-Soviet conferences in Moscow say Soviet Middle East specialists expressed concern about a possible US-Soviet clash in the Middle East. The remarks—made before the US retaliatory raids against Syrian positions in Lebanon—did not specify the nature of the response. Foreign Minister Gromyko, echoing these warnings, yesterday cautioned the US Ambassador that the US Government should be aware of the danger to peace in the Middle East posed by US and Israeli actions.




25X1

Oriental Institute chief Primakov proposed a bilateral effort to impose a peace agreement on the Arabs and the Israelis. The Soviet participants intimated Moscow would like to help the US arrange a peace settlement on Lebanon, but they offered no specifics. 


25X1

Meanwhile, a US participant at one of the conferences reported that Soviet officials referred to a memorandum sent about two months ago from General Secretary Andropov to the Central Committee's International Department. According to the Soviets, Andropov stated that Soviet policy in the Middle East had been too reactive and that Moscow should take more initiative in the region. 


25X1

Comment: This recent Soviet approach is consistent with other indications of Moscow's concern that a US-Syrian conflict over Lebanon could escalate and compel the USSR to offer direct military support to Syria or lose its credibility in the Arab world. Moscow's most authoritative public responses to US military action against Syrian positions in Lebanon, however, have avoided specific commitments. Moscow has offered no political or military indication that would encourage Damascus to believe the USSR would protect Syria's interests there. 

25X1

Primakov's proposal suggests that Moscow remains eager for a dialogue with the US on the Middle East, but it almost certainly does not expect a favorable US response. Soviet participants at the conferences conceded that Moscow has little inclination to contribute to a Middle East peace by urging Damascus to change its position. 

25X1

The unusual recent trips by Soviet officials to Algeria and Oman may reflect new efforts in response to Andropov's call for a more assertive Soviet policy in the Middle East. 

25X1

25X1

Top Secret



25X1



Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

USSR: Reassurances on Arms Control

The regime has delivered two authoritative statements in an effort to rationalize its suspension of arms control talks with the West and to assuage domestic concerns over its actions. [Redacted]

25X1

A *Pravda* editorial today and a speech by Defense Minister Ustinov to a military audience on Wednesday accused the US of seeking to upset the nuclear military balance in Europe but portrayed the USSR's INF counterdeployments as an "adequate" response. *Pravda* sought to justify Soviet actions by placing responsibility on the US for "wrecking" the arms talks, but asserted that there was "no shortage of good will" in Moscow on reaching "broad and radical" arms accords. It claimed that the USSR was not interested in generating hostility toward the US. [Redacted]

25X1

Ustinov claimed that the US is stepping up confrontation with the USSR but reassured his audience of military veterans that the West is "far from omnipotent" and that "we of the older generation have experienced times which have been much harder than the present." The *Pravda* article warned, however, that for Western Europe "the risk of retribution increases . . . particularly for the FRG" because of the deployment of Pershing II missiles on its territory. [Redacted]

25X1

Comment: The tone of both statements was calm and reasoned. The Soviet leadership apparently felt compelled to dispel concerns among the populace that its suspension of arms control talks and its recent rhetoric signal a possible confrontation with the West. Ustinov's speech was noticeably more calming in both tone and substance than a similar speech late last month, although that speech also had described Moscow's countermeasures as adequate. [Redacted]

25X1

Ustinov's address continues to give him public prominence as the main spokesman during Andropov's four-month absence, further attesting to his key role as a trusted ally of the ailing General Secretary. [Redacted]

25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

Page Denied


Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret




25X1

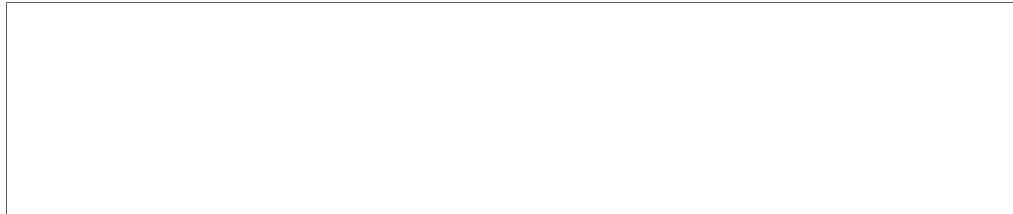
ANGOLA-SOUTH AFRICA-UN: Security Council Debate

The US Mission to the UN reports that debate probably will begin today on Angola's request that the Security Council address the presence of South African troops on Angolan territory. 

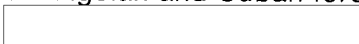
25X1

Luanda's appeal follows a recent series of harsh denunciations by black African states of the US and South Africa for their efforts to link carrying out the UN plan for Namibian independence to a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola. The Angolans have said privately, however, that they want only a short and generally noncontentious debate. 

25X1

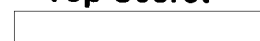


25X1

Comment: Frustration among black African states over South Africa's insistence that Cuban troops leave Angola in connection with a Namibian settlement has been mounting since the middle of last year, when negotiations had been completed on all major Namibian-related issues. Debate on the South African buffer zone in southern Angola—which Pretoria has maintained since September 1981—may become strongly anti-US, particularly if the current South African operation should result in a clash with Angolan and Cuban forces stationed along their defensive line. 

25X1

Top Secret



25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

CHINA-UK-HONG KONG: New Developments in Talks

China and the UK made some progress in talks last week on Hong Kong's future. [Redacted]

25X1

British officials indicate that for the first time the Chinese responded to the UK's suggestions on how Hong Kong could operate under Chinese sovereignty. The Chinese agreed to discuss how Hong Kong's independent economic status and judiciary can be maintained. [Redacted]

25X1

The British attribute this progress to their efforts to overcome China's distrust of Prime Minister Thatcher. In October Thatcher moved to break the stalemate by dropping her insistence on a formal British presence after 1997 and by agreeing to negotiate on the basis of China's plan for administering Hong Kong. [Redacted]

25X1

Shortly afterward, however, Thatcher publicly reiterated London's interest in maintaining a link to Hong Kong after 1997. This prompted Beijing to take a tough stand at the talks in November on its right to sovereignty and administrative control. [Redacted]

25X1

London says it then sought to reassure the Chinese that it understands their opposition to a British constitutional link to Hong Kong and a formal British administrative role there after 1997. Although the British have indicated privately that they still want such a role, they do not intend to press the issue at this time. [Redacted]

25X1

The British say the only unwelcome development at the latest talks was a Chinese proposal to station a symbolic contingent of troops in Hong Kong after 1997. London objected strongly and hopes Beijing will not pursue the issue. [Redacted]

25X1

Comment: The talks could make progress in the next few months on less controversial issues such as Hong Kong's future currency and tax structure. The British are anxious to keep negotiations going to maintain public confidence in the colony. [Redacted]

25X1

The talks are likely to bog down again, however, on more fundamental issues such as Hong Kong's future administrative structure and autonomy guarantees. The British are still under pressure from Hong Kong's business community not to give in to Chinese demands. [Redacted]

25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

Top Secret



25X1

POLAND: Problems in the Army

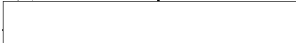
The ferment from the Solidarity era has caused persisting morale and recruitment problems for the Army.



25X1

25X1

Desertions are on the rise, and some soldiers still harbor strong sympathies for Solidarity. The military reportedly failed this year to retain the planned number of career soldiers. There were fewer applicants for officer training and more requests by junior officers to leave the service.



25X1

The regime has tried to counter such trends by intensifying political indoctrination of the troops. It is portraying the armed forces as the savior of the Polish nation.



25X1

Comment: Other Warsaw Pact armed forces have encountered recruitment and retention problems. Those in Poland, however, appear more serious.



25X1

The failure to meet recruitment and retention goals provides another indication that the military's standing has been damaged by martial law. The discipline and morale problems do not seem serious enough to prevent the Army from fulfilling its domestic security duties, but the regime is probably anxious to prevent the difficulties from becoming worse. It is likely to resort to even more rigorous political education as a solution, but such attempts may only provoke a more negative reaction.



25X1

Top Secret



25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

BOLIVIA: Political Unrest

Growing congressional and labor opposition will add to President Siles's political difficulties but probably will not force him from power any time soon. [Redacted]

25X1

The economic adjustment measures announced last month led to a two-day general strike early this week. A subsequent congressional censure of Siles's cabinet prompted the ministers to resign en masse on Wednesday. The Foreign Minister announced that the resignations would allow Siles to form a new cabinet and negotiate a truce with opposition parties. [Redacted]

25X1

The US Embassy believes that Siles is unlikely to be ousted during the next two months. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

Comment: Siles already has survived two cabinet crises in the past year. Opposition political leaders are still maneuvering to force him to resign, but his persistence, the coming holiday season, [Redacted]

[Redacted] probably will buy him some time. [Redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

Even if he finishes the year, however, economic problems, labor discontent, and military unrest over links between terrorist groups and administration advisers will ensure that the threat to the President's position will resurface early next year. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

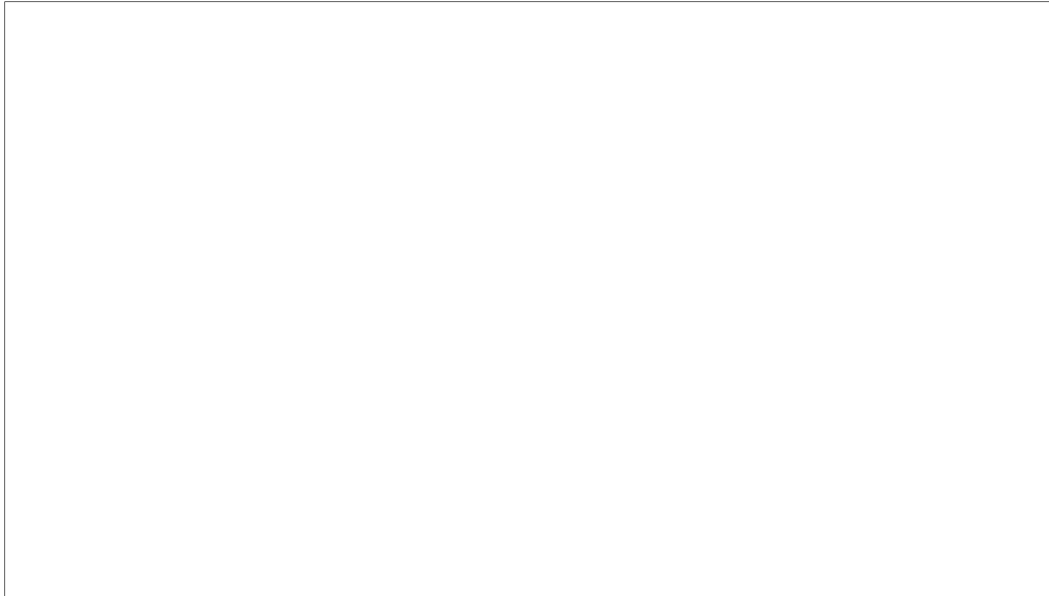
Page Denied

Next 5 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1



25X1

KAMPUCHEA-CHINA: Coalition Leaders Visit

Leaders of the three factions in the Kampuchean resistance coalition are in Beijing to confer with the Chinese on the current military situation in Kampuchea. It is the first time the three leaders have met since the formation of the coalition in June 1982. [Redacted]

25X1

Comment: China probably will use the meeting to encourage unity among the groups and indicate its strong backing for the coalition, as Vietnam continues to prepare for major operations against key resistance bases. Although non-Communist resistance leaders Son Sann and Prince Sihanouk are likely to appeal for additional military aid, Beijing probably will refuse [Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted] The Communist Democratic Kampuchean forces receive Chinese supplies on a regular basis. [Redacted]

25X1

25X1

Top Secret

[Redacted]

25X1

Top Secret
[Redacted]

25X1

AFRICA: Portuguese-Speaking Summit

The fourth summit meeting of Africa's five Portuguese-speaking countries, scheduled to begin tomorrow in Guinea-Bissau, will continue efforts among Lisbon's former colonies to improve relations and strengthen economic ties. Embassy reporting in recent months suggests that some of the five Marxist-led governments are considering moderating their foreign policy positions in return for much-needed Western economic assistance. A senior Cape Verdean official says his country and Mozambique will strongly urge Angola to resume talks with the US on a possible Cuban troop withdrawal.

[Redacted]

25X1

Comment: As in previous years, the summit probably will focus heavily on political and economic instability in southern Africa and on the effects on Angola and Mozambique. The participants may temper their customary anti-Western attacks and condemnations of Pretoria in an attempt to persuade the West that they are willing to hew less closely to their customary pro-Soviet line. In addition, Mozambique may fear that any censure of South Africa could disrupt still-fragile efforts to establish a constructive dialogue between Pretoria and Maputo.

[Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

Top Secret
[Redacted]

25X1

Page Denied

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret

25X1

Top Secret