

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 75-188 8 DECEMBER 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP86T00608R000300010090-0

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 188-75.4

1. PORTUGUESE TIMOR: INDONESIAI ROOPS HAVE CAPTURED DILI, THE CAPITAL OF PORTUGUESE TIMOR.4

ON SUNDAY, INDONESIAIAN MARINES AND AIRBORNE TROOPS EQUIPPED WITH US WEAPONS MOUNTED A FULL-SCALE ATTACK AGAINST THE CITY FOLLOWING A NAVAL BOMBARDMENT. THE UNITS MET LITTLE FRETILIN RESISTANCE. FRETILIN LEADERS AND TROOPS FLED THE CITY BEFORE THE ATTACK.4

IN ANTICIPATION OF THE FALL OF THE CAPITAL, THE FRETILIN WEEKS AGO HAD BEGUN MOVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF SUPPLIES AND AMMUNITION INTO THE MOUNTAINS, FROM WHICH THEY PLAN TO WAGE GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST THE INDONESIAIANS.4

INDONESIA, MEANWHILE, IS ATTEMPTING TO PORTRAY ITS ACTIONS IN THE BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT. FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK, FOR EXAMPLE, TOLD REPORTERS ON SUNDAY THAT INDONESIAIAN "VOLUNTEERS" HAD INDEED LANDED IN TIMOR, BUT ONLY AFTER DILI HAD FALLEN TO INDIGENOUS ANTI-FRETILIN FORCES AND ONLY IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THESE FORCES FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESTORING SECURITY. HE DENIED THAT

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2 SET MARGIN FOR 80 CHARACTERS TO A LINE, INCLUDING SPACES. DO NOT EXCEED THIS LIMITATION.
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INDONESIAN FORCES WERE INVOLVED IN HEAVY FIGHTING, OR THAT THEY HAD SHELLED OR CARRIED OUT AIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE CAPITAL. 4

MALIK ALSO INDICATED THAT A DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE FOUR PRO-INDONESIAN PARTIES ON TIMOR WOULD SOON DEPART FOR THE UN TO LOBBY FOR APPROVAL OF THE INTEGRATION OF EAST TIMOR INTO INDONESIA. 4

LISBON HAS BROKEN RELATIONS WITH JAKARTA AND WILL ASK THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO ORDER INDONESIA TO CEASE MILITARY OPERATIONS. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 188-75.4

1. PORTUGAL: PORTUGAL'S CENTRIST POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS DROPPED ITS INFLEXIBLE STAND AGAINST COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT, AVERTING A SHOWDOWN OVER THE ISSUE.4

AT A NATIONAL CONGRESS HELD OVER THE WEEKEND, POPULAR DEMOCRATIC DELEGATES VOTED TO ALLOW THE PARTY TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE COMMUNISTS IN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS. MANY OF THE CONDITIONS EITHER HAVE ALREADY BEEN MET OR COULD BE MET BY THE GOVERNMENT WITHOUT EXTREME DIFFICULTY.4

POPULAR DEMOCRATIC LEADERS, AFTER EXTENSIVE DEBATE, BACKED AWAY FROM A CONFLICT WITH THE ANTUNES FACTION AND THE SOCIALISTS OVER THE COMMUNIST ISSUE. THE FINAL RESOLUTION MAY HAVE BEEN A COMPROMISE TO AVOID SPLITTING THE CONSERVATIVE AND LEFTIST WINGS OF THE PARTY. PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL FRANCISCO SA CARNEIRO HAD BEEN CALLING FOR THE OUSTER OF THE COMMUNISTS FOR WEEKS BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE THE GOVERNMENT.4

SUCH CALLS INTENSIFIED IN THE WAKE OF THE COUP ATTEMPT ON

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NOVEMBER 25-26, WHICH BOTH THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS AND THE SOCIALISTS
 BLAMED ON THE COMMUNISTS.4

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ALVARO CUNHAL, MEANWHILE, TOLD
 20,000 SUPPORTERS IN LISBON ON SUNDAY THAT THE PARTY HAD NOT
 WITHDRAWN FROM THE GOVERNMENT BECAUSE THAT WOULD ONLY STRENGTHEN
 THE RIGHT. HE SAID A NEW THREAT FROM THE RIGHT MUST NOW BE
 OVERCOME BY CHANGING THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIALISTS AND THE
 RULING FACTION IN THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT.4

CUNHAL TOLD THE COMMUNIST RALLY—THE FIRST SINCE THE
 COUP ATTEMPT—THAT THE REBELLION HAD BEEN "DISASTROUS," AND
 HE PLACED THE BLAME ON THE FAR LEFT. HE SAID A BLOODY ROUT OF THE
 WORKERS HAD BEEN NARROWLY AVOIDED WHEN THE COMMUNIST PARTY
 FAILED TO SUPPORT THE UPRISING. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. SPAIN: PRIME MINISTER ARIAS ON FRIDAY MOVED TO BEGIN
 REORGANIZING THE GOVERNMENT AFTER AGREEING TO KING JUAN CARLOS'
 REQUEST TO REMAIN IN OFFICE.4

25X1C ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] ARIAS AND MEMBERS OF
 HIS CABINET HAVE PREPARED A DECREE AUTHORIZING THE PRIME MINISTER

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TO CARRY OUT THE REORGANIZATION WITHOUT SEEKING APPROVAL OF THE RIGHTIST-DOMINATED PARLIAMENT. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DECREE APPARENTLY WILL BE HELD UP UNTIL ARIAS ANNOUNCES HIS CHOICES TO HEAD THE REORGANIZED MINISTRIES. THE DELAY SUGGESTS ARIAS IN MEETING RESISTANCE TO SOME OF HIS PLANS. Y

GOVERNMENT SOURCES TOLD THE PRESS ON FRIDAY THAT THE REORGANIZATION WILL BE EXTENSIVE. THE SEPARATE SERVICE PORTFOLIOS ARE TO BE MERGED INTO A MINISTRY OF DEFENSE; SUCH A MOVE WOULD FACILITATE MODERNIZATION OF THE ARMED FORCES. FRANCO HAD BLOCKED PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO CREATE A DEFENSE MINISTRY, AND IMPLEMENTING SUCH A CHANGE NOW WILL HELP GIVE THE ARIAS GOVERNMENT AN IMAGE OF BREAKING WITH THE PAST. Y

ANOTHER CHANGE UNDER CONSIDERATION IS THE ABOLITION OF THE CABINET-LEVEL SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT, THE ONLY LEGAL POLITICAL PARTY UNDER THE FRANCO REGIME. THIS CHANGE, WHICH WOULD ENRAGE ULTRARIGHTS, COULD BE DESIGNED TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LEGALIZATION OF OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES. Y

JUAN CARLOS IS SAID TO HAVE GIVEN ARIAS A FREE HAND TO

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NAME THE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET. THE PRIME MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO SELECT SOME MINISTERS WHO WILL APPEAL TO THOSE WANTING LIBERALIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT NOT WITHOUT SOME OBJECTIONS FROM THE RIGHT. {CONFIDENTIAL}

3. USSR: THE SOVIET UNION'S HARVEST DISASTER AND RELATED ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WILL COMPLICATE THE LEADERSHIP'S PROPAGANDA EFFORTS BEFORE THE PARTY CONGRESS MEETS IN FEBRUARY. POLITICS COULD ALSO BE AFFECTED.

THE REGIME'S DEFENSIVENESS IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE ATTEMPTS TO EVADE REPORTING HARVEST RESULTS AT THE SUPREME SOVIET SESSION THIS WEEK. EARLY IN HIS REPORT TO THE SESSION, PLANNING CHIEF BAYBAKOV CONTRASTED THE ALLEGED "ECONOMIC CRISIS" IN THE WEST TO WHAT HE CLAIMED WERE SOVIET ECONOMIC SUCCESSES. PROPAGANDISTS WILL PROBABLY BE MAKING INCREASING USE OF THIS DEVICE IN COMING MONTHS.

THE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN RESULTING FROM THE POOR HARVEST, HOWEVER, WILL UNDERMINE THE LEADERSHIP'S EFFORTS TO CLOTHE ITSELF IN THE MANTLE OF POLICY SUCCESS.

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ANOTHER REASON THE LEADERSHIP IS TREATING ECONOMIC SUBJECTS GINGERLY IS BECAUSE IT REALIZES THE POTENTIAL FOR RECRIMINATIONS AND POLICY DISPUTES. BY STRESSING THAT THE WEATHER WAS THE CAUSE OF THE POOR HARVEST, THE REGIME IS TRYING TO BLOCK ATTEMPTS TO BLAME INDIVIDUALS OR POLICIES. UKRAINIAN PARTY BOSS SHCHERBITSKY, A PROTEGE OF BREZHNEV, WARNED THIS FALL THAT A "CORRECT APPROACH" MUST BE TAKEN IN APPRAISING THE HARVEST, AND THAT THE WORK OF THE PARTY IN AGRICULTURE "MUST NOT BE BELITTLED."

AT THE MOMENT, THE LEADERSHIP SEEMS TO BE STICKING WITH ITS PAST POLICIES. BREZHNEV'S PROGRAM OF HEAVY INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE WILL APPARENTLY BE MAINTAINED. REFERENCES TO BREZHNEV'S SPEECH AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON DECEMBER 1 SUGGEST THAT HE OFFERED HACKNEYED PRESCRIPTIONS SUCH AS "SOCIALIST COMPETITION" RATHER THAN NEW APPROACHES TO ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

PRESSURES MAY NEVERTHE LESS BUILD BEHIND THE SCENES. THE ECONOMY'S POOR PERFORMANCE WILL REQUIRE PRELIMINARY GOALS FOR THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN PERIOD TO BE REVISED DOWNWARD. ADVOCATES OF LIMITED REFORM MEASURES AND SCHEMES TO REORGANIZE AGRICULTURE

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AND INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT COULD FIND THEIR CAUSE STRENGTHENED. IN THE END, IT MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPRESS RECRIMINATIONS ENTIRELY AND TO AVOID OFFERING UP A SCAPEGOAT OR TWO. {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. USSR: SOVIET CHIEF OF STATE PODGORNYY IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN KABUL DECEMBER 9 ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE ANNUAL EXCHANGE OF VISITS BY LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE FACT THAT PODGORNYY IS TAKING TIME TO GO TO KABUL DURING A BUSY PERIOD IN MOSCOW DEMONSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE SOVIETS ATTACH TO THEIR TIES TO AFGHANISTAN AND OTHER SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES. 4

ONE THING ON PODGORNYY'S MIND WILL BE DAUD'S RECENT PURGES OF LEFTIST OFFICIALS IN THAT GOVERNMENT. THE SOVIETS HAVE THUS FAR SAID LITTLE ABOUT THEM, BUT THE AFGHANS HAVE BEEN SENSITIVE TO THE LIKELIHOOD OF SOVIET MISGIVINGS AND HAVE MOVED TO ASSURE MOSCOW THAT THE PURGES DO NOT MEAN ANY SWING

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AWAY FROM THE USSR.4

PODGORNY PROBABLY WILL SEEK A STRONGER AFGHAN ENDORSEMENT OF MOSCOW'S ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IDEA. PRESIDENT DAUD GAVE A VERY CIRCUMSCRIBED ENDORSEMENT TO THE IDEA DURING HIS VISIT TO THE USSR LAST JUNE.4

PODGORNY'S VISIT WILL PROBABLY NOT CULMINATE IN ANY NEW LARGE-SCALE AID AGREEMENTS BECAUSE THE AFGHANS HAVE NOT YET USED THE SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS IN CREDITS MOSCOW EXTENDED IN PREVIOUS AGREEMENTS. THE TWO SIDES MAY, HOWEVER, ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS WITH THE MONEY ALREADY PLEDGED. MOSCOW SIGNED ^A ~~FOR ALMOST \$100 MILLION~~ ^{for almost \$100 million,} MILITARY AID AGREEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN IN MAY WHICH EXCEEDS PREVIOUS ARMS PACKAGES ^A BY A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT. THE SOVIETS ARE HELPING TO MODERNIZE THE AFGHAN ARMED FORCES WITH LATE-MODEL EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING AIRCRAFT, GROUND FORCES EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPORT MATERIAL. {SECRET}4

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5. POLAND: IN AN EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT STORES ARE WELL-STOCKED FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ON THURSDAY BANNED THE SALE BY PRODUCERS OF 30 CONSUMER ITEMS TO ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS, COOPERATIVES, AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE LIST OF PRODUCTS INCLUDES CARPETS, WOODEN FURNITURE, TELEVISION SETS, REFRIGERATORS, MEAT, AND PROCESSED MEAT.

THE BAN IS INTENDED TO ENSURE THAT CONSUMER GOODS IN HIGH DEMAND ACTUALLY REACH STORES FOR PURCHASE BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC. MANY SUCH ITEMS ARE NOW CHanneled INTO A "PRIVATE" DISTRIBUTION NETWORK INCLUDING FACTORY COMMISSARIES AND SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS.

WARSAW IS, IN EFFECT, ROBBING PETER TO PAY PAUL. THE MOVE WILL PLEASE THE AVERAGE POLISH CONSUMER WHO NOW CANNOT FIND CERTAIN ITEMS OR MUST STAND IN LONG LINES TO PURCHASE THEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WILL UPSET THOSE CONSUMERS--NOT AN INSIG-

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...NIFICANT NUMBER--WHO HAVE HAD ACCESS TO THE PRIVATE NETWORK.Y

THE BAN DOES, HOWEVER, CONTAIN A LOOPHOLE WHICH, IF WIDELY USED, COULD NEGATE THE ENTIRE EFFORT. PROVINCE GOVERNORS AND TOWN MAYORS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SET UP SPECIAL COMMITTEES TO ISSUE PERMITS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THESE ITEMS. THE COMMITTEES WILL UNDOUBTEDLY COME UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE TO CIRCUMVENT THE BAN. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 188-75.4

1. LEBANON: SECURITY IN BEIRUT DETERIORATED OVER THE WEEKEND, DESPITE EFFORTS BY LEADERS OF THE MAJOR COMBATANTS TO FORESTALL HEAVY FIGHTING.4

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY, WHICH HAD GRADUALLY BEEN INCREASING SINCE THE LATEST CEASE-FIRE, HAS HALTED AS A RESULT OF A NEW WAVE OF KIDNAPINGS AND GUNFIGHTS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA. MANY LEBANESE FEAR THAT THE END-OF-THE-MONTH "PAY DAY" TRUCE IS OVER AND THAT RADICAL ELEMENTS HAVE SUFFICIENTLY REARMED THEMSELVES FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF FIGHTING.4

THE FLARE-UP APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY RADICAL ELEMENTS OF BOTH CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM GROUPS SEEKING REVENGE ON ONE ANOTHER. ONE INCIDENT INVOLVING A KIDNAPING IN THE HOTEL DISTRICT LED TO THE WOUNDING OF TWO SOVIET DIPLOMATS. INTERIOR MINISTER SHAMUN, LEBANON'S MOST POWERFUL CHRISTIAN LEADER, HAS CONDEMNED BOTH SIDES AND IMPOSED WHAT AMOUNTS TO A 24-HOUR CURFEW ON THE CITY.4

PRIME MINISTER KARAMI'S RECENT ADMISSION THAT HE IS HAVING DIFFICULTY BROADENING HIS GOVERNMENT HAS SCOTCHED HOPES THAT A

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NEW CABINET SLATE WOULD BE ANNOUNCED BY THE END OF THE WEEK AND HAS GENERALLY DAMPENED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE THAT AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT CAN BE PUT TOGETHER AT ALL. CHRISTIAN POLITICIANS ARE APPARENTLY ARGUING THAT SECURITY MUST BE RESTORED BEFORE KARAMI CAN TAKE ANY NEW INITIATIVES, WHILE LEFTIST LEADERS ARE DEMANDING THAT THEIR REFORM PROPOSALS BE ACCEPTED PRIOR TO FORMATION OF A NEW CABINET.4

ALTHOUGH MUCH OF THIS TALK IS PART OF THE BARGAINING PROCESS, SHAMUN AND SOCIALIST LEADER JUMBLATT HAVE NOT GIVEN MUCH INDICATION OF SOFTENING THEIR POSITIONS. KARAMI WILL HAVE TO WORK OUT AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THESE TWO ADVERSARIES IF AN EXPANDED CABINET IS TO SUCCEED.4

TALKS BETWEEN PHALANGES LEADER JUMAYYIL AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD OVER THE WEEKEND MAY HAVE SMOOTHED THE WAY FOR GREATER COOPERATION FROM THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGISTS. JUMAYYIL HAS BEEN RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE IN RECENT WEEKS, AND IS THOUGHT TO BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER GRANTING LIMITED ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONCESSIONS TO THE MUSLIMS. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

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2. EGYPT-LIBYA: EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER SALIM SUCCEEDED IN SMOOTHING OUT EGYPT'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH LIBYA DURING A BRIEF VISIT TO TRIPOLI LAST WEEK. HE MADE NO ATTEMPT, HOWEVER, TO BRIDGE THE POLITICAL RIFT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

SALIM'S VISIT--THE FIRST BY A HIGH-LEVEL EGYPTIAN TO LIBYA SINCE MID-1973--WAS PART OF A TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES TO REPORT ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT TO THE US. SALIM APPARENTLY AVOIDED DISCUSSION OF SADAT'S TRIP IN TALKS WITH LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER JALLUD, HOWEVER, CONCENTRATING INSTEAD ON THE THEME THAT TRIPOLI AND CAIRO COULD IMPROVE THEIR COMMERCIAL TIES DESPITE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES.

PRIOR TO SALIM'S VISIT, LIBYA HAD TENTATIVELY AGREED TO RECEIVE EGYPT'S ECONOMIC MINISTER FOR TALKS ON LIBYAN INVESTMENT IN EGYPT. THE EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER, WHO KNOWS JALLUD WELL, REPORTEDLY FEELS HE HAS SMOOTHED THE WAY FOR THESE TALKS.

PRESIDENT QADHAFI'S STAFF WENT THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF TRYING TO SCHEDULE A MEETING BETWEEN QADHAFI AND SALIM, BUT FINALLY TOLD THE EGYPTIANS THE PRESIDENT COULD NOT BE REACHED. THE

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SNUB, ALTHOUGH NOT AS SERIOUS A SLIGHT IN THE LIBYAN CONTEXT AS IT MIGHT BE ELSEWHERE, SUGGESTS THAT A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES WILL BE LIMITED TO PRACTICAL MATTERS. THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL SUIT THE EGYPTIANS. THEY PREFER WORKING THROUGH JALLUD AND HAVE NO DESIRE TO TANGLE WITH QADHAFI OVER WHAT THEY SEE AS IRRECONCILABLE DISAGREEMENT ON ARAB POLITICAL STRATEGY. 4

CAIRO'S ONLY CONCERN NOW IS THAT QADHAFI CONTINUE TO HONOR A PROPAGANDA TRUCE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY IN AUGUST OF A PLOT TO OVERTHROW QADHAFI. THE LEADERS OF THE PLOT WERE TWO MEMBERS OF LIBYA'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL. FEARFUL OF PROVOKING EGYPTIAN IRE AT A TIME WHEN HE IS VULNERABLE AT HOME, AND POSSIBLY INDEBTED TO THE EGYPTIANS FOR WARNING HIM OF THE CONSPIRACY, QADHAFI HAS SAID VIRTUALLY NOTHING DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS ABOUT THE SECOND SINAI DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD. {CONFIDENTIAL} 4

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2. ISRAEL: THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, AFTER ALMOST THREE MONTHS OF DELAY, HAS APPROVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUR NEW SETTLEMENTS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. DEFENSE MINISTER PERES DESCRIBED THIS ACTION AS "ISRAEL'S ZIONIST REPLY TO THE ONSLAUGHT IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY" AND ANNOUNCED THAT PLANNING FOR FIVE ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENTS WAS UNDER WAY.4

THE FOUR NEW SETTLEMENTS WILL BE OF A PARAMILITARY NATURE AND WILL BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE TWO EXISTENT FORTIFIED SETTLEMENTS IN ORDER TO HELP CLOSE A "SECURITY GAP" THROUGH WHICH TWO BANDS OF FEDAYEEN INFILTRATORS RECENTLY ENTERED THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE NEW SETTLEMENTS MAY BE READY FOR OCCUPANCY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.4

THE APPROVAL OF THE NEW SETTLEMENTS IS ISRAEL'S ANSWER TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE UN DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE MANDATE AND THE INVITATION TO THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO TAKE PART IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST. MORE GENERALLY, IT RESPONDS TO WHAT TEL AVIV VIEWS AS A WAVE OF ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS IN THE UN.4

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THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENTS IS LIKELY TO HINDER EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE IN THE AREA. SYRIA WILL VIEW THE DECISION AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF ISRAEL'S INTENTION TO RETAIN CONTROL OF THE HEIGHTS, AND ISRAELI ORGANIZATIONS PUSHING FOR MORE SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO PRESS THEIR DEMANDS ALL THE HARDER. {SECRET}4

3. SYRIA-IRAQ: AFTER A PERIOD OF LESSENERED TENSIONS, BAGHDAD HAS AGAIN INCREASED ITS PROPAGANDA ATTACKS ON THE SYRIAN REGIME.4

FOLLOWING THE SYRIAN RENEWAL THIS WEEK OF THE MANDATE OF THE UN FORCE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, HOWEVER, AL-JUMHURIYAH, THE OFFICIAL IRAQI GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER, DESCRIBED THE SYRIAN DECISION AS "SURRENDERING TO CRIMINAL ZIONIST CHALLENGES" AND IMPLIED THAT THE SYRIAN ACTION HAD ENCOURAGED THE ISRAELI AIR STRIKES ON FEDAYEEN CAMPS IN LEBANON. THIS LATEST IRAQI BLAST IS LIKELY TO DRAW A RESPONSE IN KIND FROM DAMASCUS.4

HAVING AGREED TO THE EXTENSION OF THE UN MANDATE, DAMASCUS IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO REJECT IRAQ'S DEMAND THAT IN RETURN FOR

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ITS JOINING THE SO-CALLED "EASTERN" FRONT, SYRIA PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE ITS REJECTION OF UN RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. THE IRAQIS NEVERTHELESS WOULD CONTRIBUTE FORCES AGAIN IF WAR BROKE OUT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL.

IRAQ REPORTEDLY ALSO HAD STIPULATED THAT AS AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE EASTERN FRONT, DAMASCUS RELEASE ITS POLITICAL PRISONERS, SOME OF WHOM ARE IRAQI CITIZENS. SYRIA WILL PROBABLY REJECT THIS IRAQI DEMAND AS WELL.

OTHER ACTIVITIES BY THE TWO RIVAL BAATHIST REGIMES MAY ALSO BE CONTRIBUTING TO THE INCREASED HOSTILITY. IRAQ HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN ENCOURAGING TRIBAL ELEMENTS IN NORTHERN SYRIA TO PRESS FOR AN AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE. DAMASCUS, FOR ITS PART, IS SAID TO BE LENDING SOME SUPPORT TO AN IRAQI KURDISH DISSIDENT GROUP BASED IN SYRIA THAT IS BROADCASTING ATTACKS AGAINST THE IRAQI REGIME. BAGHDAD ALSO HAS BEEN ANGERED BY RECENT HARASSMENT OF IRAQIS LIVING IN SYRIA--INCLUDING IRAQI DIPLOMATS-- BY SYRIAN SECURITY AUTHORITIES. {CONFIDENTIAL}

4. BANGLADESH-INDIA: TENSIONS BETWEEN DACCA AND NEW DELHI

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APPEAR TO BE EASING, ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER GANDHI HAS WARNED THAT INDIA WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN BANGLADESH.4

GANDHI MADE THE COMMENT WHILE REPORTING TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEFENSE COMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 3. THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE PRESIDENT OF GANDHI'S CONGRESS PARTY, IN SPEAKING BEFORE AN "INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AGAINST FASCISM," BROADLY CONDEMNED CHINA FOR INTERFERING IN SOUTH ASIA. HE SPECIFICALLY DENOUNCED THE "FORCES OF DESTABILIZATION" OPERATING "IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD"--AN APPARENT REFERENCE TO RECENT EVENTS IN BANGLADESH.4

THE INDIAN PRESS, WHICH HAS TENDED TO REPORT EVENTS IN BANGLADESH IN BOTH EMOTIONAL AND PESSIMISTIC TERMS, HAS DESCRIBED AS "SUCCESSFUL" THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED INDIA-BANGLADESH BORDER SECURITY TALKS. IN A JOINT PRESS STATEMENT, THE PARTICIPATING INDIAN AND BANGLADESH BORDER SECURITY OFFICIALS TERMED THE TALKS HELPFUL IN CLEARING AWAY "MISGIVINGS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS" AND IN REINFORCING "MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE."4

THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THESE LARGELY TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

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MAY HAVE BEEN PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECISION BY THE REGIME IN DACCA TO SEND A DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI ON SUNDAY TO DISCUSS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL ISSUES. THIS DELEGATION HAD BEEN PROPOSED TO THE INDIANS BY PRESIDENT SAYEM OF BANGLADESH AS FAR BACK AS NOVEMBER 27. ITS DEPARTURE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY HELD UP, APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF DISAGREEMENTS IN DACCA OVER WHETHER SENDING THE MISSION WOULD BE REGARDED BY THE INDIANS AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS.

THE NEXT DANGER SPOT IN INDIA-BANGLADESH RELATIONS APPEARS TO BE A MASS MEETING SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN TANGAIL-PROVINCE, NORTH OF DACCA, ON DECEMBER 7. THE MEETING IS EXPECTED TO HAVE STRONG ANTI-INDIAN OVERTONES. THERE MAY ALSO BE TROUBLE FOR THE DACCA GOVERNMENT THE FOLLOWING WEEK IF OPPOSITION FORCES CARRY OUT REPORTED PLANS TO INSTIGATE ANTIGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 16, A NATIONAL HOLIDAY. GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER THE SECURITY FORCES APPARENTLY HAS IMPROVED IN RECENT DAYS, HOWEVER, AND THE AUTHORITIES IN DACCA, WARNED OF THESE PLANNED EVENTS, SHOULD BE ABLE TO MUSTER SUFFICIENT FORCE TO MAINTAIN

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1. ARGENTINA: THE ASSASSINATION OF A RETIRED GENERAL BY GUERRILLAS HAS MADE OFFICERS EVEN MORE DISENCHANTED WITH THE PERON ADMINISTRATION, BUT IT IS NOT LIKELY TO TRIGGER A MILITARY TAKE-OVER.4

THE PERONIST MONTONEROS CLAIMED CREDIT FOR THE KILLING OF GENERAL JORGE ESTEBAN CACERES MONIE, WHO HAD ONCE HEADED THE FEDERAL POLICE. THE GENERAL'S WIFE WAS ALSO KILLED AFTER BEING ABDUCTED BY THE TERRORISTS.4

THE KILLING OF CACERES MONIE APPEARS TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO PROVOKE THE MILITARY INTO RASH REPRESSIVE ACTION AS WELL AS RETALIATION AGAINST THE SHARP INCREASE IN COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS IN RECENT WEEKS. RANKING COMMANDERS REPORTEDLY RESPONDED TO THE MURDER BY DECLARING THAT THE DISSIDENTS WOULD BE CRUSHED, "NO MATTER WHAT THE COST IN HUMAN LIVES."4

THIS STRONG LANGUAGE NOTWITHSTANDING, THE INCIDENT IN ITSELF PROBABLY BRINGS THE ARMED FORCES NO CLOSER TO A TAKE-OVER OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE PERON ADMINISTRATION, IN SPITE OF ITS NUMEROUS FAILINGS, IS HARDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING; REPLACING THE

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GOVERNMENT FOR THAT REASON ALONE WOULD ACCOMPLISH NOTHING. INDEED, PERON RECENTLY ACCEDED TO A LONG-STANDING MILITARY WISH FOR A FREE HAND IN PURSUING THE GUERRILLAS. MOREOVER, THERE IS STILL NO SOLID INDICATION THAT ARMED FORCES UNITY ON THE IDEA OF A TAKE-OVER IS SUFFICIENT TO MAKE SUCH A MOVE PRACTICAL.4

GIVEN TIME TO REFLECT ON THE STATE OF ARGENTINE AFFAIRS, MANY OFFICERS WILL SURELY CONCLUDE AGAIN THAT BY ASSUMING CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT, THEY WILL ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL NATIONAL PROBLEMS--WITH NO BETTER PROSPECT FOR SOLVING THEM THAN UNDER CIVILIAN RULE--AND RUN THE VERY REAL RISK OF INCURRING WIDESPREAD POPULAR DISSATISFACTION, PRECISELY THE GOAL OF THEIR LEFTIST OPPONENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL)4

2. CUBA: HAVANA IS READYING ITSELF FOR THE FIRST CONGRESS OF THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY, TO BE HELD FROM DECEMBER 17 TO 22. FIDEL CASTRO MAY USE THE OCCASION TO DELIVER A VERBAL BLAST AT THE US AND TO TELL HIS PEOPLE OF CUBA'S MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR. MOSCOW WILL BE REPRESENTED BY SENIOR PARTY SECRETARY FOR IDEOLOGY AND POLITBURO MEMBER NIKHAIL A. SUSLOV.4

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RATHER THAN SERVE AS AN AREA FOR DEBATING MAJOR POLICY ISSUES, THE CONGRESS WILL DO LITTLE MORE THAN PLACE THE FORMAL STAMP OF APPROVAL ON DECISIONS MADE MONTHS AGO. THE NEW CONSTITUTION TO BE PRESENTED, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN BROAD PUBLIC EXPOSURE AND IS LIKELY TO UNDERGO ONLY MINOR REVISION BEFORE BEING ACCEPTED BY THE DELEGATES. ALSO EXPECTED TO RECEIVE PERFUNCTORY SCRUTINY ARE SEVERAL "THESES" OUTLINING DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY. IN ADDITION, THE CONGRESS WILL APPROVE A SET OF PARTY STATUTES THAT HAVE BEEN IN FORCE SINCE EARLY THIS YEAR.

THERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOME CHANGES IN THE PARTY STRUCTURE--THE POLITICAL BUREAU, THE SECRETARIAT, AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL PROBABLY BE EXPANDED--BUT THE TOP LEADERSHIP WILL BE UNCHANGED. CASTRO AND HIS FORMER COMRADES-IN-ARMS FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE REVOLUTION WILL MAINTAIN CONTROL, ALTHOUGH SOME VETERANS OF THE PRE-CASTRO COMMUNIST PARTY AND A FEW UP-AND-COMING TECHNOCRATS WILL BE GIVEN POSITIONS AT UPPER PARTY LEVELS. IN PARTY ELECTIONS HELD THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, FIDEL AND PARTY SECOND SECRETARY RAUL CASTRO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED "PRE-CANDIDATES" BY VIRTUALLY ALL

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CONSTITUENCIES, SIGNIFYING THEIR CONTINUATION IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS. THE SAME "HONOR" HAS ALSO BEEN AWARDED ALL MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU AND THE SECRETARIAT.

AT LEAST ONE "OLD" COMMUNIST, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, IS LIKELY TO JOIN CASTRO AND HIS GUERRILLA ELITE ON THE POLITICAL BUREAU, BUT THIS CONCESSION TO THE PRO-MOSCOW MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP MAY BE BALANCED BY THE ADDITION OF ONE OR MORE FORMER GUERRILLAS. ONE OF THESE REPORTEDLY IS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BELARMINO CASTILLA MAS, WHO WAS ONE OF RAUL CASTRO'S SIX GUERRILLA COLUMN CHIEFS DURING THE REVOLUTION IN 1958 AND HAS SINCE SERVED IN A VARIETY OF TOP MILITARY AND CIVILIAN POSTS.

THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAY BE BROADENED CONSIDERABLY. PARTY ELECTIONS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL HAVE RESULTED IN THE NOMINATION OF AS MANY AS 160 "PRE-CANDIDATES" FOR THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THEORETICALLY THE PARTY'S SUPREME DECISION-MAKING BODY, ASIDE FROM THE CONGRESS ITSELF. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRESENTLY HAS 90 MEMBERS, DOWN FROM THE ORIGINAL 100 OF OCTOBER 1965 AS A RESULT OF DEATHS AND PURGES. ALL BUT A FEW WILL PROBABLY KEEP THEIR

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MEMBERSHIP, AND THERE MAY BE 30 OR 40 ADDITIONS. A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE NEW MEMBERSHIP IS LIKELY TO CONSIST OF WOMEN, CORRECTING TO A SMALL DEGREE WHAT FIDEL SEES AS A SERIOUS POLITICAL WEAKNESS AT THE HIGHEST POLICY LEVEL. ~~SECRET~~ E-2 IMPDET.H

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