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PRIORITY

FRP:
STAFF

[REDACTED]

89 2538775 ASP

PAGE 001

TOT: 190501Z APR 89

DIRECTOR 603630

BRIEF 190501Z DIRECTOR 603630
TO: PRIORITY EAST ASIA BRIEF.

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AFTAC PARTICK AFG/DOI; DEPT OF STATE FOR SECSTATE AID; USUN NEW YORK FOR POLAD; DIA FOR EAB; CINCEUR FOR POLAD; USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA FOR POLAD; AIR UNIVERSITY FOR STATE REP AND CIA REP; NAVY WAR COLLEGE FOR STATE DEPT REP; TREASURY DEPT ATTN MRS BECK DADS; COMUSARMY FT MEADE FOR SPECIAL RESEARCH DET; COMDT COASTGUARD FOR POLAD; HQ TAC FOR TACOPS/INOI; HQS DLA FOR GIS; BERGSTROM AFB TEX FOR 67 TRW/IN; NPIC FOR PB CABLES; CINCUSAFE FOR INOEN XPNN; MAC INTEL CENTER SCOTT AFB; CDUSAITAC WASHDC FOR GIPD; 24 COMP WING HOWARD AFB DOI; 8AF BARKSDALE AFB LA/INZE; 26AD LUKE AFB ARIZ/INZE; 92BMW FAIRCHILD AFB WA/IN; 12 TIS BERGSTROM AFB FOR INI; 9TH AFB SHAW SC//IN//COMUSARCENT FT MCPHERSON CA//COMUSNAVCENT PEARL HARBOR HI//N2//COMUSCENTAF SHAW AFB SC//IN//CG 1 MAF CAMP PENDLETON CA//G2//, FAA//ATTN ACS-400, HQ AFSPACECOM INTEL PETERSON AFB CO//IN, HQ USSPACECOM/CIA REP PETERSON AFB CO, FR/ST LOUIS.

SUBJECT: EAST ASIA BRIEF OCPAS EA [REDACTED] FOR 19 APRIL 1989

FROM: DDI/O/CPAS.

ITEMS

1. CHINA: STUDENT PROTESTS ESCALATE [REDACTED]

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THE STUDENT PROTESTS THAT FOLLOWED THE DEATH OF REFORM LEADER HU YAOBANG LAST SATURDAY PROBABLY WILL SHARPEN DISSENSION IN THE LEADERSHIP AND MAY FURTHER WEAKEN GENERAL SECRETARY ZHAO ZIYANG.
X [REDACTED]

PRESS REPORTS SAY SECURITY FORCES OVERNIGHT AND INTO TODAY HAVE REPULSED THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS TRYING TO FORCE THEIR WAY INTO THE BEIJING COMPOUND WHERE PARTY LEADERS LIVE, DEMANDING TO SPEAK WITH PREMIER LI PENG. THE STUDENTS EARLIER HAD POINTEDLY CRITICIZED THE LEADERSHIP; ONE POSTER SAID, "THOSE WHO SHOULD HAVE DIED STILL LIVE." STUDENT LEADERS ARE DEMANDING GREATER POLITICAL FREEDOM, INCLUDING GUARANTEES OF FREE SPEECH, FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY FROM THE LEADERS, A REASSESSMENT OF HU'S CAREER, MORE MONEY FOR EDUCATION, AND AN END TO THE BAN ON DEMONSTRATIONS. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: OFFICIAL REACTION TO THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND POSTERS.

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2001

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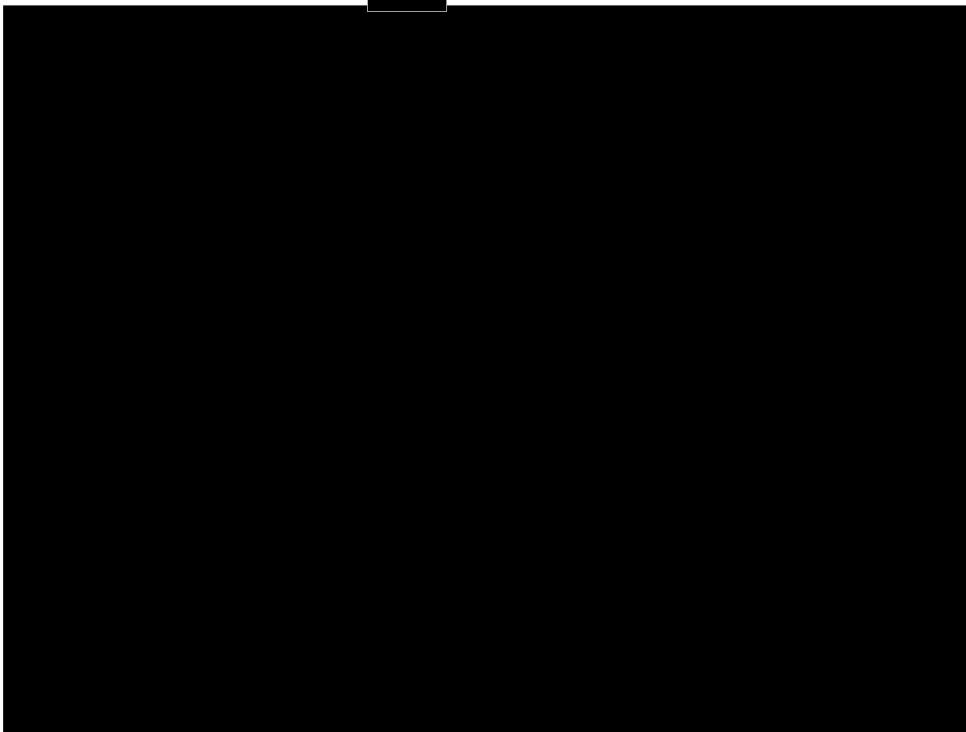
TOT: 190501Z APR 89

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APART FROM USING FORCE TO PROTECT THE LEADERSHIP COMPOUND, HAS BEEN SURPRISINGLY DISCIPLINED. POLICE ARE APPARENTLY UNDER ORDERS TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT, AND A WESTERN PRESS REPORT SAYS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES WERE EVEN ALLOWED INTO THE COMPOUND TO MEET WITH PARTY LEADERS. [REDACTED]

THE LEADERSHIP IS TRYING TO DISPLAY AS MUCH STABILITY AND SOLIDARITY AS POSSIBLE IN PREPARATION FOR THE SINO-SOVIET SUMMIT IN BEIJING NEXT MONTH AND MAY BE GAMBLING THAT RESTRAINT WILL DEFUSE TENSIONS. THE STUDENTS, HOWEVER, HAVE SEIZED ON HU'S DEATH AS A PRETEXT TO VENT LONGSTANDING GRIEVANCES AND TEST THE LIMITS OF OFFICIAL TOLERANCE. THEIR APPARENT RESOLVE SUGGESTS FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS ARE LIKELY, PARTICULARLY ON SATURDAY--THE DAY OF HU'S FUNERAL--AND ON 4 MAY, THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF A NATIONWIDE STUDENT MOVEMENT. IF SO, BEIJING WILL BE FORCED TO ABANDON ITS POLICY OF RESTRAINT. [REDACTED]

EVEN IF KEPT IN CHECK, THE PROTESTS PROBABLY WILL DEEPEN ALREADY SERIOUS DIVISIONS IN THE LEADERSHIP AS EACH SIDE TRIES TO BLAME THE OTHER FOR THE CURRENT PROBLEMS. BELEAGUERED GENERAL SECRETARY ZHAO, HU'S SUCCESSOR, IS BEING WHIPSAWED BETWEEN ANGERING RIVAL PARTY LEADERS IF HE ADVOCATES CONCILIATION AND ESTRANGING THE REFORMERS AND INTELLECTUALS, IMPORTANT SOURCES OF HIS SUPPORT, IF HE ENDORSES A CRACKDOWN. IN EITHER CASE, HARDLINERS IN THE LEADERSHIP WILL GAIN AT HIS EXPENSE. [REDACTED]



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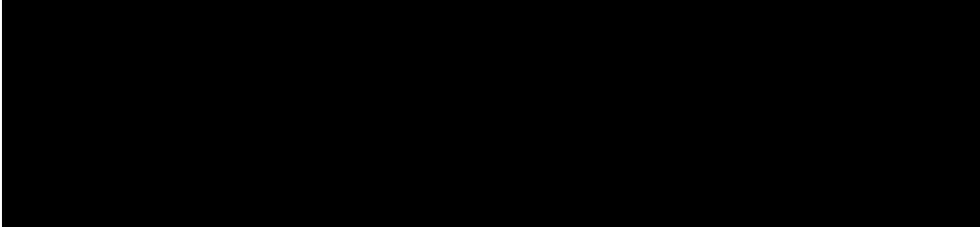
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