



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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10 FEBRUARY 1966

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1. North Vietnam

The most detailed and far-ranging account yet given by a North Vietnamese leader of the problems encountered during the past year is contained in a long article by politburo member Le Duc Tho.

Reviews of the preceding year such as this are annual affairs. This year's is the harshest attack yet on the party cadre for their failure properly to implement central committee programs.

In a radical departure from Hanoi's past practice, Tho conceded that there is a small hard core of party members who are dissatisfied with North Vietnam's war policy. Some, he implied, were even attracted by US peace offers. According to Tho, these "comrades" have displayed "a reluctance for protracted resistance" and fail to recognize "the deceptive peace negotiation plot of the enemy."

Tho also scorned those who would rely on "outside" advice in deciding Hanoi's course.

2. Costa Rica

The razor-thin margin of Trejos' victory in Sunday's election--less than half a percentage point--has sparked political tensions. Members of the losing party have charged fraud and have launched a legal effort to overturn the results.

Others are said to be considering armed action. One of these is ex-President Figueres who insists he will do what is needed to prevent the armed forces from coming under the control of his old political enemy, Calderon Guardia.

Trejos has asked Ambassador Telles to intercede and has hinted that "extraordinary measures" may be needed.

3. Dominican Republic

Sporadic gunfire and further killings kept the atmosphere highly charged in downtown Santo Domingo.

The general strike called for today by extreme leftists was not a ringing success. The country's principal labor leaders and leftist political parties failed to give full support to the strike call.

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During the day Garcia Godoy appointed a new chief of police [Redacted]

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By making the move now, the president probably offended Defense Minister Rivera Caminero and reduced the already slim chance that he might leave voluntarily and soon.

4. Albania

In recent weeks the Albanians have been showing an uncharacteristic interest in mending their political fences with a number of nearby states, both Communist and non-Communist.

The leaders in Tirana have recently responded warmly to overtures from Rumania and Poland and have made friendly approaches to the Hungarians. They have also taken steps to improve relations with Turkey, France, and Italy on the other side of the curtain.

The most likely explanation of this unusual behavior is a growing Albanian dissatisfaction with the scope and timeliness of the economic support they have been getting from their ideological cohorts, the Chinese. Tirana still parrots without let up all the vitriol from Peking, but these latest maneuvers may signal a desire eventually to loosen ties with China.

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5. Malaysia

Diplomatic relations are about to be established between Malaysia and the Philippines. Manila has delayed granting recognition in the past largely as a result of Indonesian pressure, and recognition now will be a blow to Djakarta's confrontation policy toward Malaysia. A second blow may follow since Pakistan is seriously considering re-establishing formal relations in the near future.

6. Indonesia

The political paralysis at the top continues, and it is breeding something very close to chaos in the country's finances.

Part of the problem is that Sukarno, the generals, and civilian ministers are locked in a bitter competition for operating funds. General Suharto's latest scheme is to have foreign oil firms pay Indonesia's share of their earnings into special accounts abroad instead of funneling it into the Bank of Indonesia which is controlled by Sukarno.

Nothing is likely to come of this particular plan, but the minister of plantations has been exporting rubber and withholding the income from the palace. A number of regional commanders are condoning smuggling as a source of revenue for their commands.

All of this has reduced Indonesia's already questionable international credit rating to practically zero.

7. France-Germany

Participants on both sides report that the Erhard - De Gaulle talks early this week proceeded in a much warmer atmosphere than anticipated. Nonetheless, the talks failed, as expected, to make progress toward solving the basic issues between the two countries.

8. France

The expected French launch of a new and more sophisticated satellite has been set for 3:00 EST tomorrow morning.

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If successful, it will be the second satellite sent into orbit on a French booster, the first coming just before the presidential election last December.

9. Soviet Union

Another photographic reconnaissance satellite was launched today from Tyuratam. It was the fifth such satellite orbited since November, making this the highest wintertime firing rate in the Soviet program so far.

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