

The President's Daily Brief

December 3, 1976

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Exempt from general
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exemption category 5B(1),(2),(3)
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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China: The standing committee of the National People's Congress yesterday announced the appointment of former Chinese ambassador to the United Nations Huang Hua to replace Chiao Kuan-hua as foreign minister. (Page 1)

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CHINA: *The standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's legislature, ended its three-day session yesterday with the announcement of only one major personnel change-- replacement of the foreign minister.*

Former Chinese ambassador to the United Nations Huang Hua, who was recalled to Peking a few days ago, has replaced Chiao Kuan-hua as foreign minister. Huang is one of China's most seasoned diplomats and played an important role in the early stages of China's opening to the US.

His appointment suggests that Peking does not plan any major departures from its current foreign policy line. In fact, the statement announcing the end of the session included a reference to continuation of Mao's revolutionary line on foreign affairs, a euphemism for the decision to institute a relationship with the US.

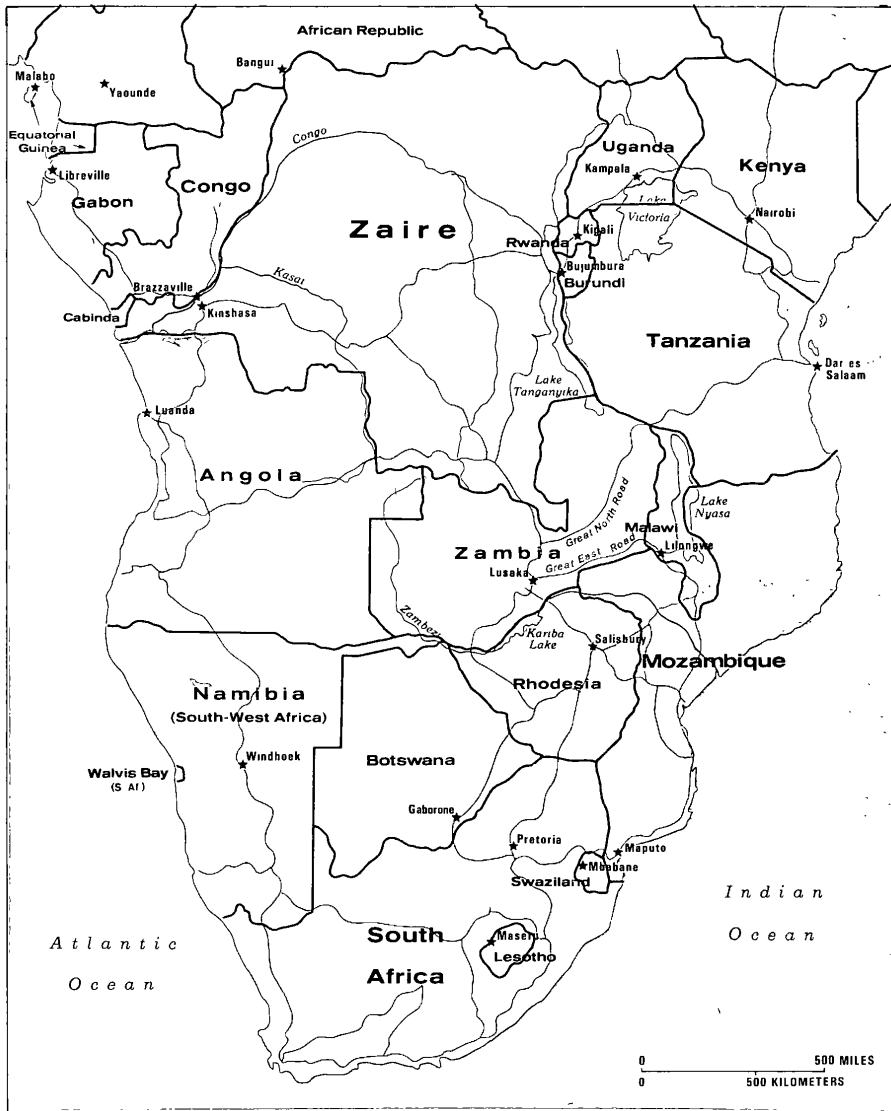
The removal of former foreign minister Chiao Kuan-hua was apparently based on his attitude on domestic affairs and not on his conduct of foreign policy.

An unusual feature of the NPC session was the pairing of party chairman Hua Kuo-feng and Defense Minister Yeh Chien-ying in several speeches and announcements.

Press treatment of the two as almost equals is an indication of Yeh's importance and suggests that Hua shares some power with him. Adulation of a top leader-- and reports of the meeting contained a good deal of this--was however, exclusively reserved for Hua.

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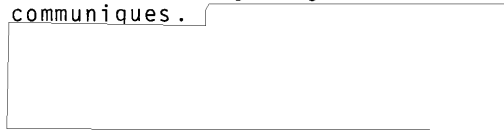
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RHODESIA: *Guerrilla activity in Rhodesia declined during November, even though the rainy season, which usually helps the insurgents and hampers the security forces, began early in the month.*

Cross-border strikes by Rhodesian security forces against rebel camps in Mozambique, which have continued intermittently since the end of October, are apparently paying at least short-term military dividends.

The raids have destroyed sizable quantities of munitions, demonstrated the vulnerability of both the guerrilla camps and their Mozambique defenders, and probably forced the insurgents to move farther back from the border. Security forces also have retaliated against Mozambican military units that initiated border actions; in at least one case, the Rhodesians used jet fighters.

Inside Rhodesia, the security forces killed nearly 250 guerrillas last month, according to government communiques. ^{25X1}



The insurgents will probably make a stronger showing in the weeks ahead. The heavy rains are beginning to provide improved vegetative cover for the guerrillas, and their ranks will be augmented by black Rhodesians recruited over the past year. Some of these recruits are currently being moved from Mozambique to more secure training camps in Tanzania, where Chinese instructors have long been stationed.

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PAKISTAN-FRANCE:

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NOTE

Relations between Thailand and its Indochinese neighbors have suffered since the military takeover in Bangkok on October 6.

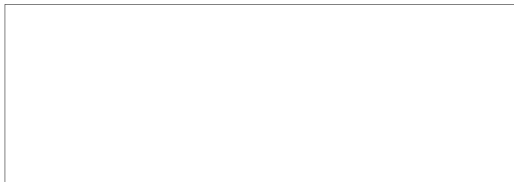
The anti-communist and specifically anti-Vietnamese rhetoric of the new Thai leaders sparked a vitriolic response from Hanoi that has continued unabated.

Despite its rhetoric, the Thai leadership has moved to halt the deterioration in relations.



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The Thai foreign minister has publicly endorsed Vietnam's application for UN membership and has explained Bangkok's resettlement of Vietnamese refugees in Thailand.



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Vietnam has so far discouraged all Thai overtures.

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