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Director of Central Intelligence

# NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY

Tuesday, 15 December 1992



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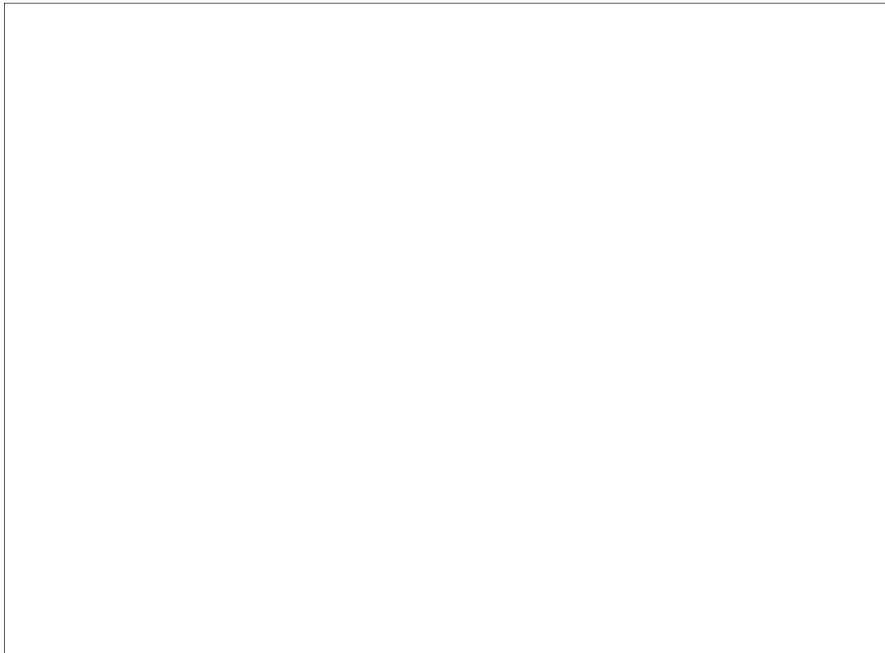
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NR Record

**SOUTH KOREA: Presidential Race Tightens**

With the election only three days off, support for frontrunning Democratic Liberal Party candidate Kim Young Sam remains soft in key areas.

Kim Dae Jung, the candidate of the main opposition Democratic Party, could win

Kim Young Sam has renewed allegations that Kim Dae Jung is a Communist sympathizer. The third major candidate, Chung Ju Yung of the United People's Party, has announced his party's merger with the small New Korea Party.

**Comment:** The race appears much closer than expected. Kim Young Sam's hardball rhetoric, coupled with an ongoing government investigation of Chung's funding, could backfire, bringing to voters' minds tactics of past authoritarian regimes. The merger of the two smaller parties in itself probably will not gain Chung many votes, but it will provide a psychological boost and help maintain the momentum his campaign has recently gained. The tight contest means the outcome probably will hinge on the youth vote—28 percent of voters are under age 30—and the undecided, widely estimated at more than 30 percent, most of whom are in the Seoul metropolitan area.

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