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DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

WEEKLY SUMMARY

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SUKARNO RELINQUISHES AUTHORITY IN INDONESIA

President Sukarno's turnover of his remaining authority in Indonesia should considerably ease the pressures that have accompanied the nominal sharing of power with General Suharto during the past 11 months. His bowing is a personal triumph for Suharto, who has consistently maintained that the downgrading of Sukarno should be a gradual process.

As long as Sukarno remains as titular president, however, some of the old problem of executive duality may remain. His behavior in his new role probably will largely determine the extent of further measures against him. The most immediate test will come in the emergency session of Congress still sched-

uled to begin on 7 March to debate Sukarno's position.

General Suharto probably will try to persuade Congress not to bring Sukarno to trial for his alleged involvement in the abortive coup of October 1965. Suharto's remarks to service commanders on 23 February stressed that "justice" must be the guideline for congressional action with the rights of both Sukarno and his accusers taken into consideration.

Pro-Sukarno elements, including those in East Java where they are strongest, have not yet reacted to the announcement. The Indonesian Army has judged that there would be no trouble if Sukarno "voluntarily" stepped down, as he now has seemed to do.

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