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16 December 1961

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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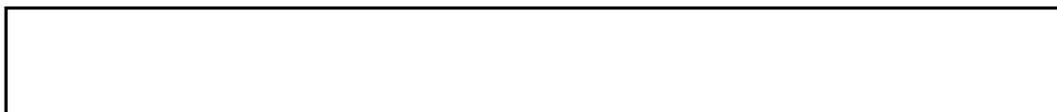
3. Dominican Republic: Advance agreement on early successor to Balaguer promises to end political impasse. (*Page ii*)

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5. Thailand: Dissidents in northeast battle police units attempting roundup of pro-Communist separatists. (*Page iii*)

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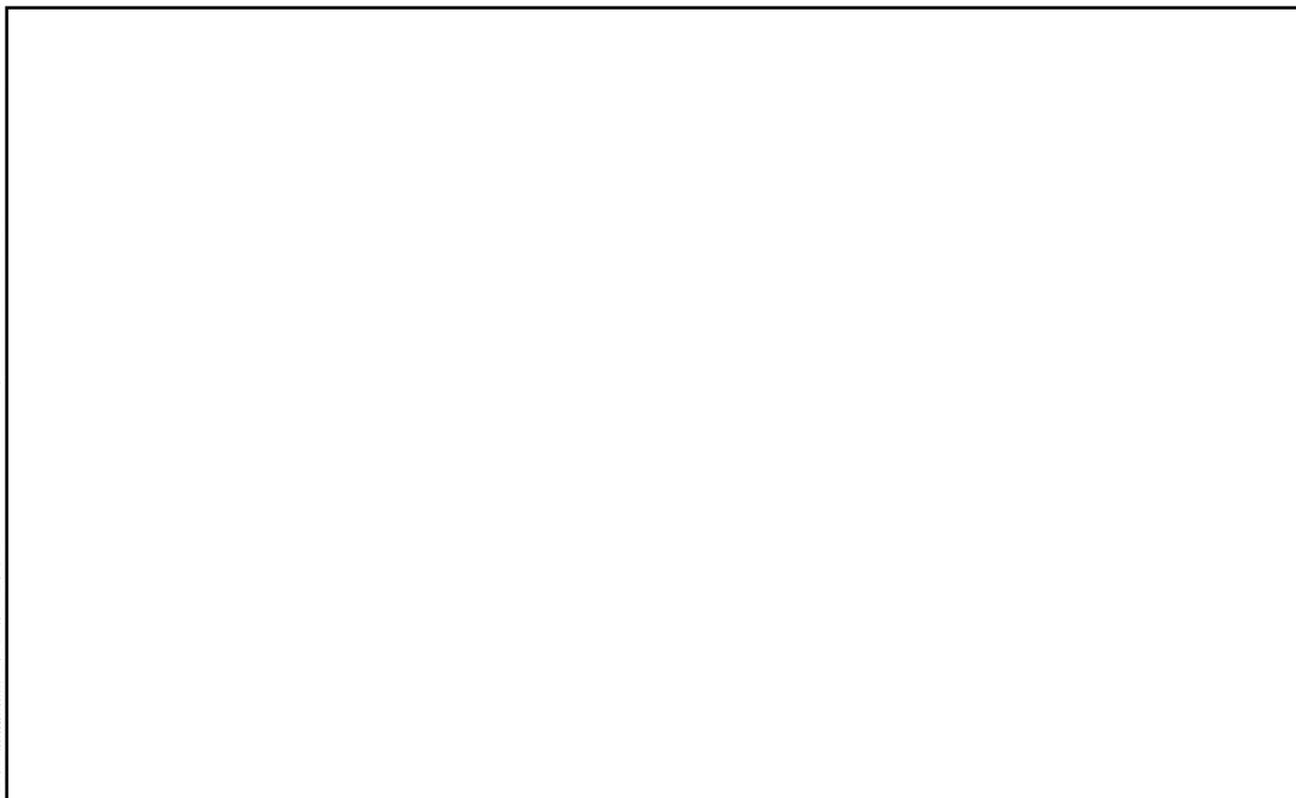
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## DAILY BRIEF

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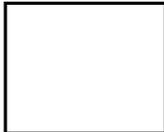
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Dominican Republic: A new formula for ending the political impasse has won at least preliminary acceptance from General Rodriguez and the three armed forces chiefs of staff as well as from President Balaguer and key leaders of the National Civic Union (UCN), the largest opposition group. Balaguer told the

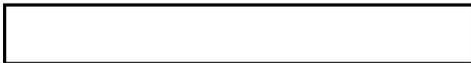


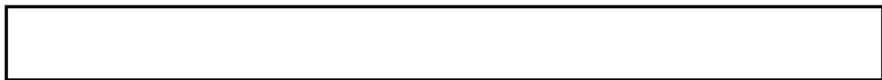
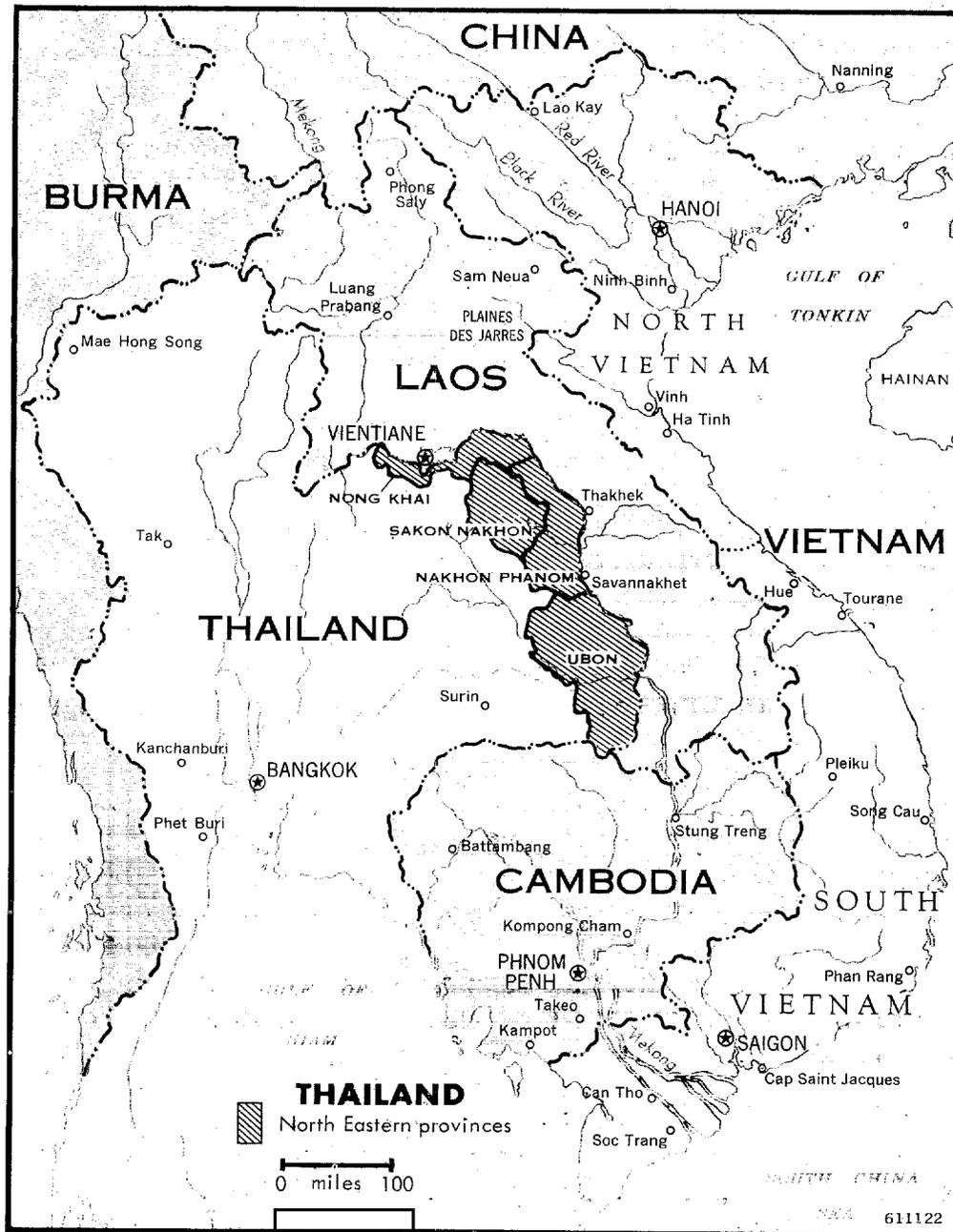
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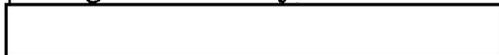
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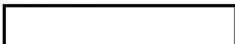
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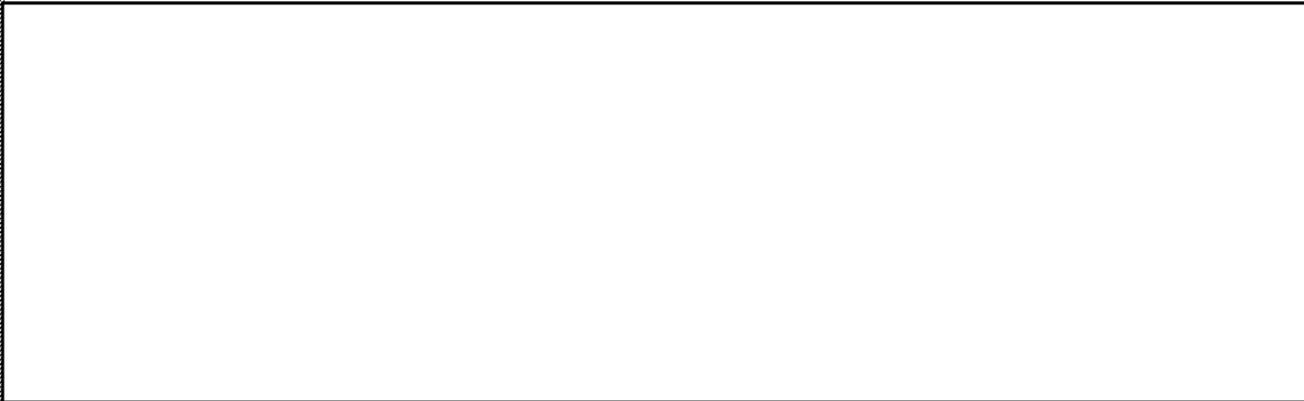
American consul general on 14 December that he sees no obstacle to an accord based on the new formula. The new plan calls for the creation of a seven-man Council of State to govern until after next year's elections. Balaguer, who would initially preside over the council, would resign--probably next month--and be succeeded by Jose Cabral, a nonpartisan with moderate views who is one of the men proposed for membership on the council. Agreement on a successor to Balaguer who is acceptable to General Rodriguez removes the cause for the general's rejection of the previous plan.



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Thailand: Fighting reportedly has broken out between Thai police units and dissidents in Northeast Thailand in the course of a roundup of separatist pro-Communist elements. Police reinforcements have been flown to the area, and Thai authorities say they expect all resistance to be crushed in short order. More than 100 suspects had been arrested by 15 December. The present security roundup, which underscores Bangkok's concern with developments in the northeast, has been planned for some time as a follow-up to other arrests made in May and June. At that time two prominent leaders from the northeastern provinces were accused of being Communists and summarily executed. The northeastern provinces of Thailand, an area of economic depression, are centers of chronic discontent. The population of the area identifies itself more with other ethnic

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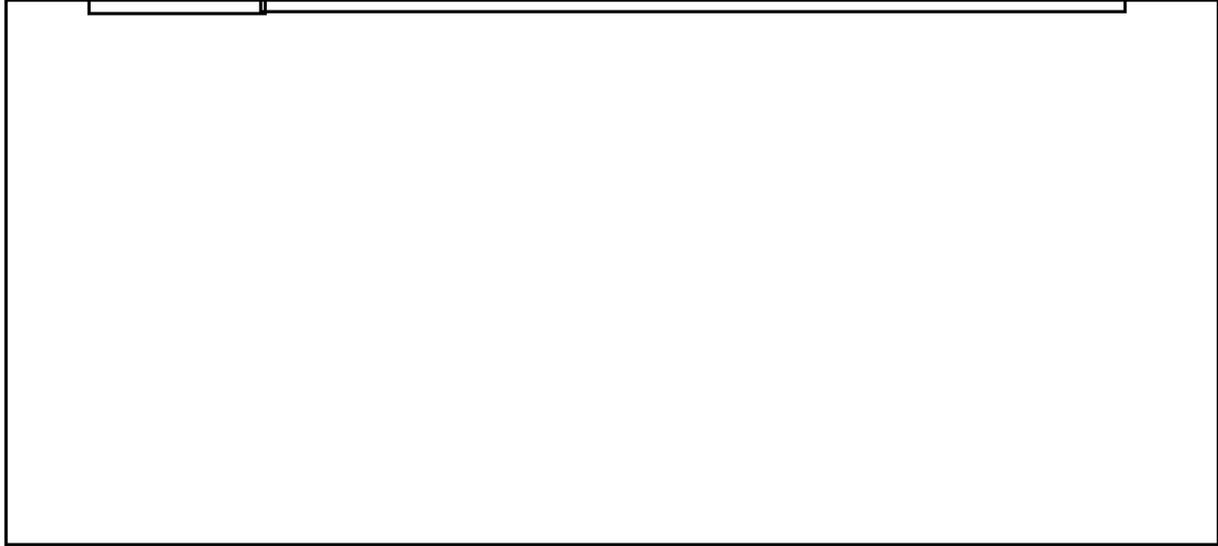
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groups in the Thai-Lao border area than with Bangkok. It is especially vulnerable to the increasing Communist propaganda and subversive efforts coming from Laos in recent months.

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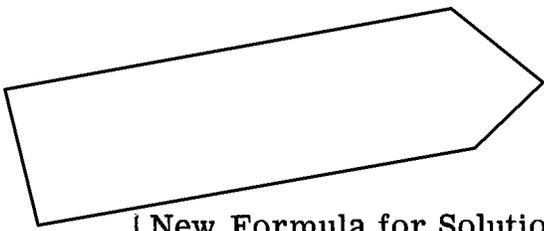
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New Formula for Solution of Dominican Impasse

The new formula is only a slight modification of the one under discussion prior to the collapse of negotiations on 10 December, when General Rodriguez vetoed the plan that had already been accepted in principle by Balaguer and the UCN. The chief difference is that Balaguer's proposed successor is named and is a man General Rodriguez apparently believes will, as interim president, protect the military's interests. The military's chief concern is that the regime not be led by men who would take reprisals against military officers for acts committed under orders during the dictatorship. An interim government established under the new formula could be free of military domination, but the prevailing mutual suspicion between the military and the chief opposition leaders suggests that, even if the new formula becomes the basis for a viable regime, there will be continuing difficulties.

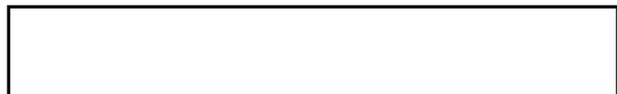
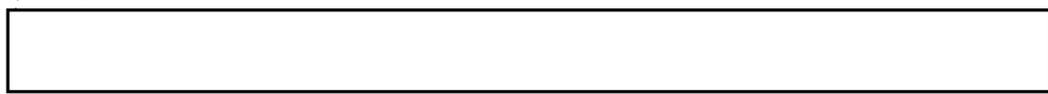
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The members of the proposed Council of State are moderate in political orientation and include second-echelon representatives of the major opposition groups as well as respected nonpartisans. Jose Maria Cabral, the proposed council member who would succeed Balaguer, is a lawyer who, as a former member of the board of directors of the Central Reserve Bank, has had experience in national finance. This experience would be of particular value since, when the political crisis ends, the government will be forced to face a seriously deteriorating economic and financial situation.

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The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

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The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

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