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9 July 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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C O N T E N T S

- [REDACTED]
2. Rhodesia: Moderates and militants in ruling party at odds over concessions to UK. (Page 3)

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- [REDACTED]
4. Burundi: Prince moves to assume authority in King's absence. (Page 6)
 5. Notes: Iraq; Iran; Spain-US; Argentina; UN. (Page 7)

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Rhodesia: [Moderates and militants within Rhodesia's ruling party are reported to be at odds over concessions to the UK.]

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[In contrast, rebel "Governor" Dupont told the American consul in Salisbury that the Smith government is willing to consider concessions on nearly all of British Prime Minister Wilson's terms. However, Smith apparently still insists that the tribal chiefs should be the major spokesmen in determining the Rhodesian Africans' acceptance of a negotiated settlement. The UK presumably wants to include a wider sampling of African opinion than that represented by the traditional chiefs.]



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[Redacted] Smith is said to be more popular than ever within the country. He probably could survive minor concessions to Britain so long as white Rhodesians retain political control. Even Smith, however, is said to believe that Britain is under more pressure to make concessions at this time than is Rhodesia.]

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[Redacted] Rhodesian African nationalist groups exiled in Zambia are trying to increase their meager efforts at organized violence within Rhodesia. The Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) has been responsible for several isolated incidents recently, and it is reportedly trying to organize guerrilla teams in different sectors of the country. ZANU's rival Zimbabwe African Peoples Union allegedly will try to initiate similar activities in mid-July.]

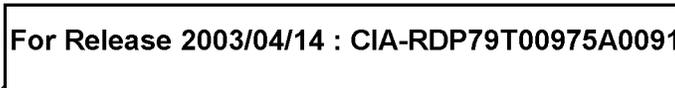
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[Rhodesian security forces are capable of dealing effectively with any attempted action by the nationalists in the foreseeable future.]

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*Burundi: Prince Charles, son of the Burundi King, has moved to assume the authority of his long-absent father.

Charles yesterday suspended the constitution, dismissed Premier Biha's government, and announced that he would rule by decree. These moves should help alleviate the governmental paralysis in Bujumbura caused by the King's nine-month sojourn in Europe and by his refusal to delegate authority to anyone inside the country.

The 19-year-old prince's chances of establishing himself as an effective force will depend largely on his ability to keep his freedom of maneuver in the atmosphere of tribal tension and factional intriguing which has plagued Burundi since before independence.

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[Redacted]

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The prince's pronouncements in Bujumbura, however, seem to indicate that he is bypassing moderates such as Biha and instead is relying on individuals in the army and elsewhere who had been identified as Tutsi extremists. Secretary of State for National Defense Micombero, who Charles announced would run the country for the time being, has already moved to establish his control over the ex-ministers and the provincial governors.

Charles' choice of a new premier, reportedly to be announced in a day or so, may give a better indication of his intentions.

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[Redacted]

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NOTES

Iraq: Security forces in Baghdad remain on the alert in the wake of last week's abortive pro-Nasirist coup attempt. Although the regime publicly maintains that the situation has returned to normal, rumors that other groups are plotting against the government are being widely circulated.

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Iran: The Shah has affirmed to US Ambassador Meyer his intention to obtain a limited amount of military equipment from the USSR and has indicated that preliminary discussions have already been held with Soviet representatives. He told the ambassador on 7 July that his problem was one of foreign exchange caused primarily by the Western oil consortium's failure to meet his demands for increased revenue from oil sales. These demands have been somewhat unrealistic in view of the world petroleum situation. The Shah said further that if the US reacted by holding up its planned supply of military equipment, Iran would procure it elsewhere.

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Spain-US: The chief of the Spanish High General Staff has informed US officials in Madrid that the US request for resumption of nuclear overflights is still under consideration, and that he could not say when a decision would be reached. The US Embassy considers it highly likely that the delay is linked to Madrid's efforts to get US support for its foreign policy objectives, particularly the Gibraltar issue on which Spanish-UK talks resume next week.

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Argentina: Interior Minister Enrique Martinez stated to the press on 7 July that the Ongania regime has set no deadline for a return to civilian rule, and that the government is not worried about elections for the moment. This is the first public statement by a high official of the new government which tends to confirm recent reports that Argentina's rulers do not intend to relinquish power until they have thoroughly revamped the country's political and economic institutions. The government also published a decree on 7 July that gives the police sweeping powers for 30 days to arrest, detain, and search when investigating alleged abuses committed during the tenure of Arturo Illia.

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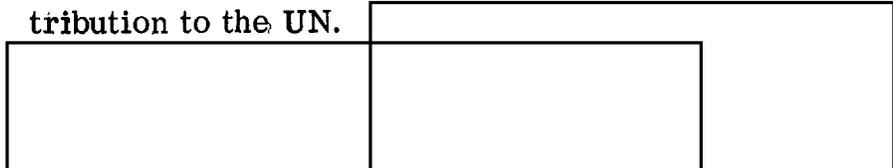
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UN: De Gaulle and the Soviet leaders reportedly agreed during their recent talks to support U Thant's re-election as secretary general. Thant has dropped further hints, however, that he does not want a second term. He has recently mentioned in this connection his distress over the US bombing of North Vietnam and at the failure of the USSR to make a financial contribution to the UN.

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