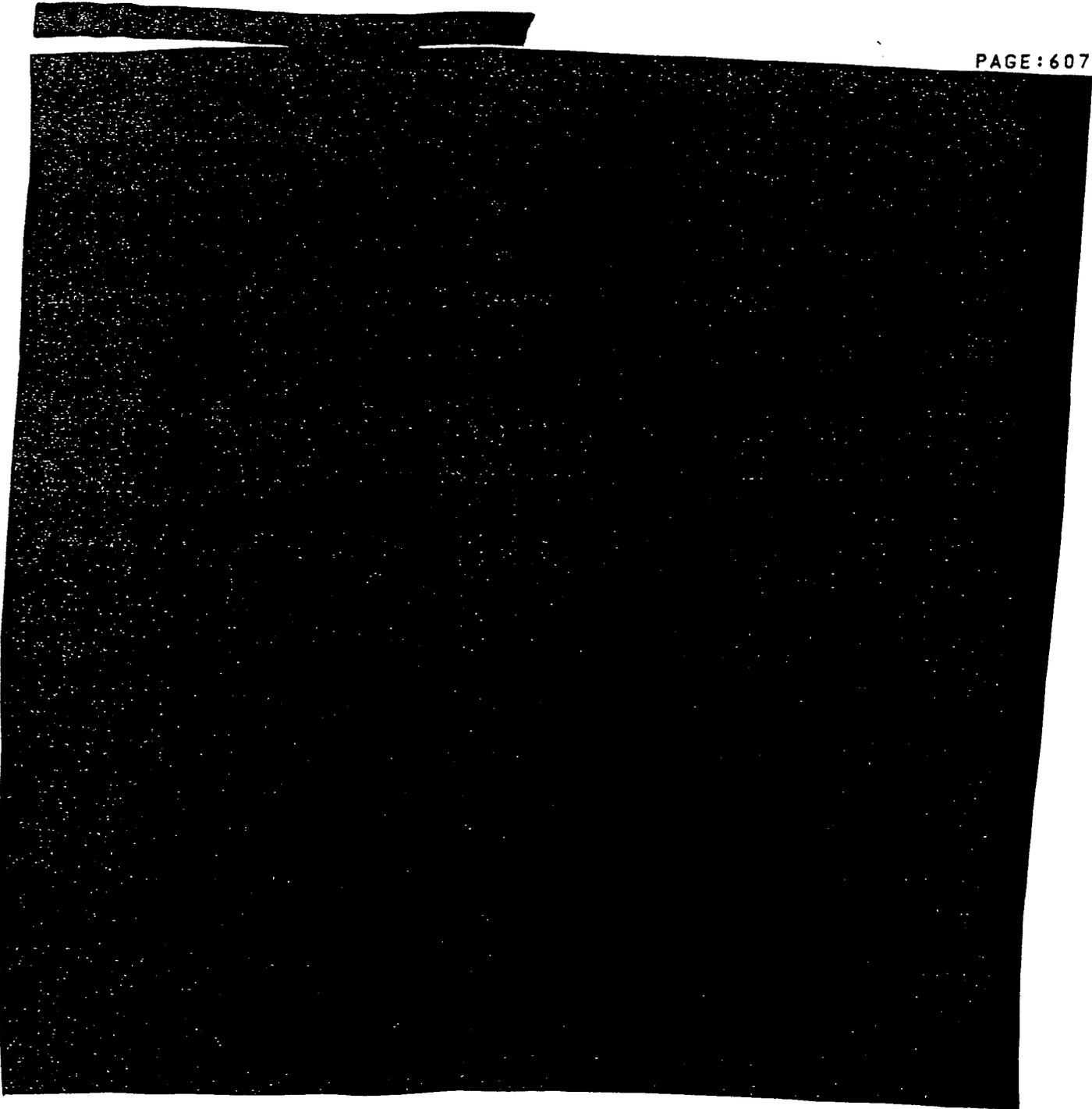


~~SECRET~~

3. HAITI: NEW SNAGS IN NEGOTIATIONS

~~SECRET~~



/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

PRESIDENT ARISTIDE TOLD A HAITIAN DELEGATION IN CARACAS EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT HE WOULD RELUCTANTLY ACCEPT LEFTIST RENE THEODORE AS PRIME MINISTER BUT APPARENTLY ADDED CONDITIONS THAT WILL BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MILITARY, THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND MOST OTHER POLITICAL ELITES. THE OUSTED PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY INSISTS THAT A FIRM DATE BE SET FOR HIS RETURN AND THAT ARMED FORCES COMMANDER

[REDACTED]

CEDRAS RESIGN. MEANWHILE, OPPOSITION TO THEODORE AS A COMPROMISE CANDIDATE HAS BEEN GROWING IN PORT-AU-PRINCE. [REDACTED] THE ENLISTED MEN ARE TROUBLED BY HIS COMMUNIST BACKGROUND, AND [REDACTED] SOME ARMY OFFICERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS NOW OPPOSE HIS NOMINATION BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE HE HAS STRUCK A SECRET DEAL WITH ARISTIDE. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: ARISTIDE'S PROPOSAL REPRESENTS LITTLE CHANGE IN HIS POSITION, BUT HE PRESUMABLY HOPES TO GAIN A PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVANTAGE IN THE TALKS BY APPEARING MORE FLEXIBLE. WITH CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE EMBARGO, HOWEVER, HE PROBABLY SEES LITTLE REASON TO BEND ON HIS OTHER CONDITIONS. AS A RESULT OF THE GROWING DISTRUST OF HIS CANDIDACY, THEODORE PROBABLY WOULD DECLINE THE PRIME-MINISTERSHIP UNLESS ARISTIDE RELENTS ON HIS PRECONDITIONS. EVEN SO, IF ENLISTED TROOPS CONCLUDE THEODORE IS ABOUT TO TAKE THE POST ON ARISTIDE'S TERMS, PROSPECTS FOR A COUP WOULD GREATLY INCREASE. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NNNN

[REDACTED]