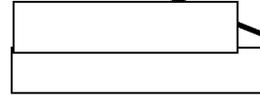




Director of
Central
Intelligence

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CTA/CPAS NIDC 85-055C

National Intelligence Daily

Friday
8 March 1985

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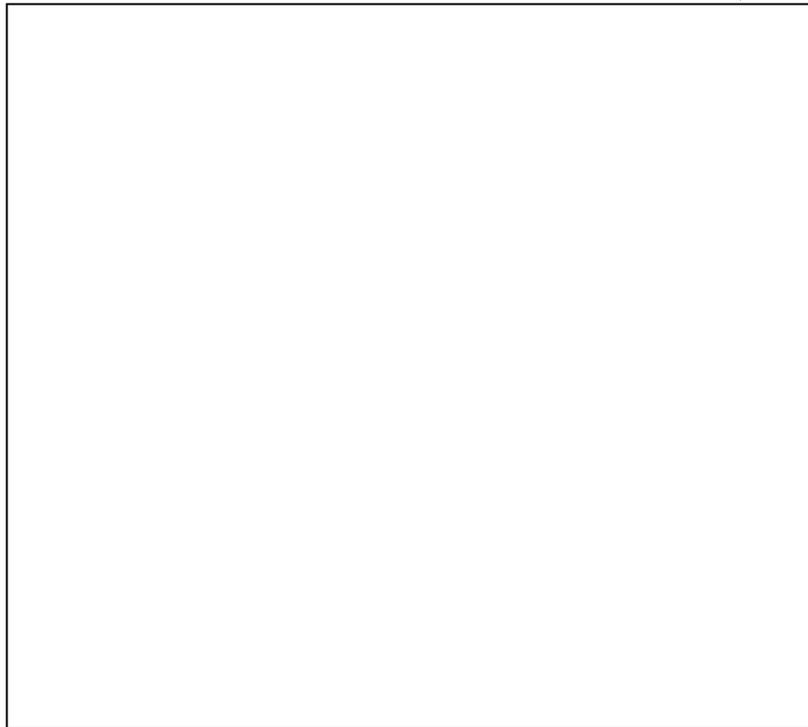
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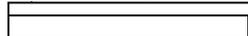
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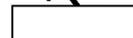
ETHIOPIA-US: Threat To Break Relations

[redacted] reports that Ethiopia's Foreign Minister yesterday told several western ambassadors Ethiopia would break relations with the US if Washington provides massive famine relief to northern rebels. He charged that the US is preparing to send thousands of trucks and aircraft into northern Ethiopia from Sudan and alleged the US has threatened to use military force if Ethiopia opposes the operation. [redacted] the demarche is aimed at dividing donor nations on the issue of food deliveries to insurgent-held areas and at generating Western pressure on the US to abandon assistance through Sudan. [redacted]

Comment: The Ethiopians have repeatedly claimed cross-border supply operations are a ploy to provide direct support to the insurgents. Addis Ababa has threatened to break relations with Washington several times in recent years, each time to underline strong opposition to specific US programs. The Ethiopians are unlikely to carry out the threat because of their dependence on Western economic and humanitarian aid. Addis Ababa might, however, expel some Embassy officials to indicate its displeasure.



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