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USSR:

Party Congress Quiet on First Day

Gorbachev's opening remarks to the CPSU's 28th congress yesterday suggest he will try to defuse the controversy that dogged its preparations and may make tactical adjustments to mollify traditionalists.

In a nationally televised speech, Gorbachev starkly and in nonideological terms rejected claims *perestroika* had caused the disintegration of the economy and national cohesion. He insisted the congress would not degenerate into a "summary trial" of the leadership. Laying the lion's share of blame for current problems on past leaders, he nonetheless admitted mistakes in economic and nationalities policies had occurred during his tenure. As remedies, he plugged limited marketization and called for a "real union of sovereign states."

Gorbachev vehemently rejected criticism of his foreign policy course, claiming "new thinking" had raised Soviet prestige and on some issues had even brought the US and the USSR into "partnership." Turning to internal party issues, he called on the congress to prohibit formal factions in the party, endorsed the continued existence of party cells in the armed forces, but pressed the party to adapt to multiparty conditions. Gorbachev's remarks met with only tepid applause.

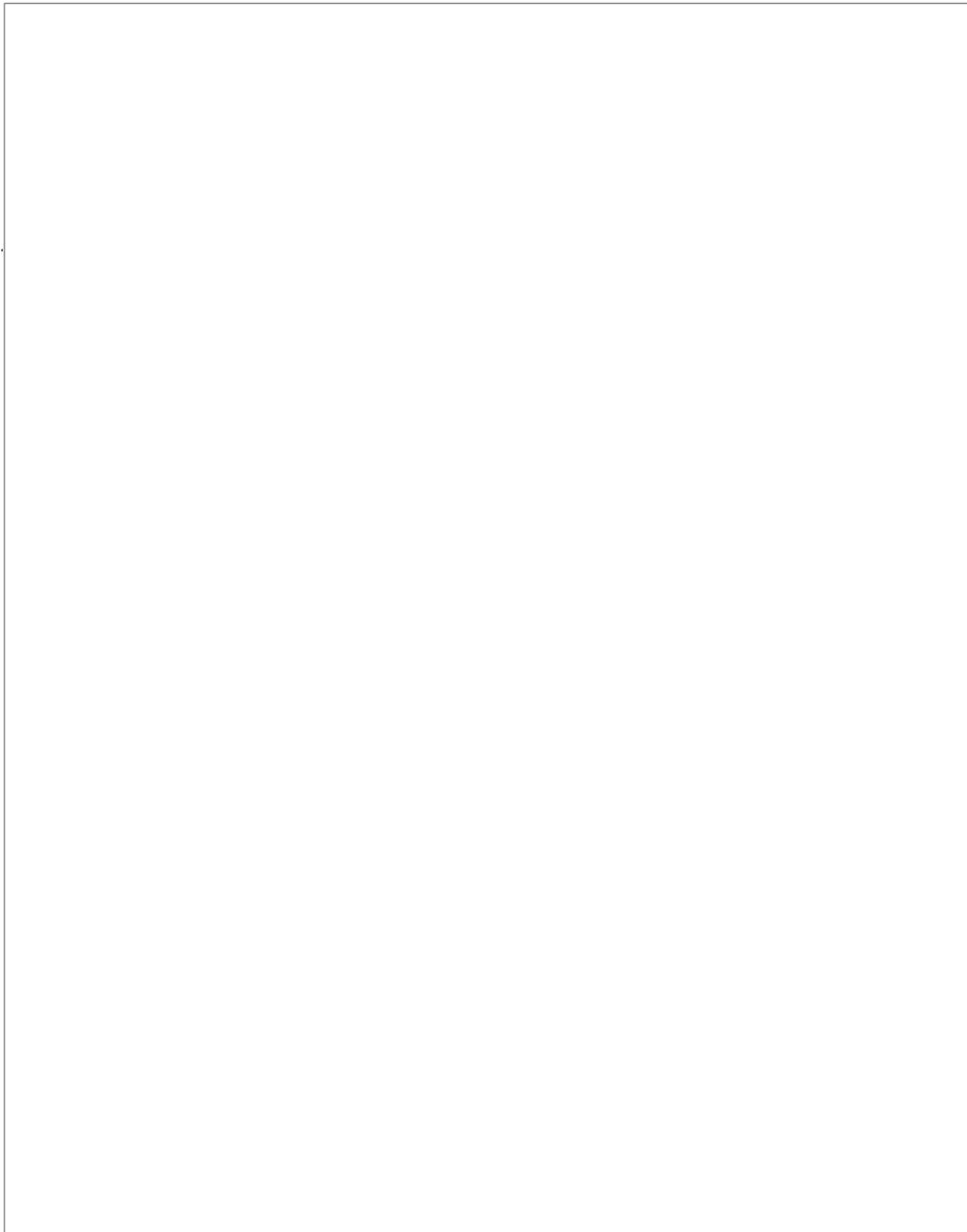
Gorbachev waved aside a lone call for the leadership to resign. He said that many delegates oppose the draft platform's blueprint to create a presidium with chairman and deputy plus a first secretary to preside over the secretariat, preferring the continued prominence of the Politburo and General Secretary, aided by a new deputy. Politburo members Yakovlev, Ryzhkov, and Medvedev struck similarly noncontroversial themes in their statements to the congress.

Comment: Gorbachev and other Politburo speakers appeared anxious to play down differences and demonstrate their continued control of events, while not antagonizing the many traditionalists at the congress. Gorbachev hewed largely to the compromise formulations laid out in the official draft platform and rules but invited revisions by the congress. Resistance to plans to restructure the party's executive bodies suggests the traditionalists want to maintain a system of collective leadership decisionmaking as a means to limit the party leader's power. The congress is likely to become more controversial today as the delegates begin to debate the Politburo members' reports.

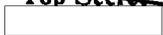
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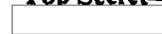


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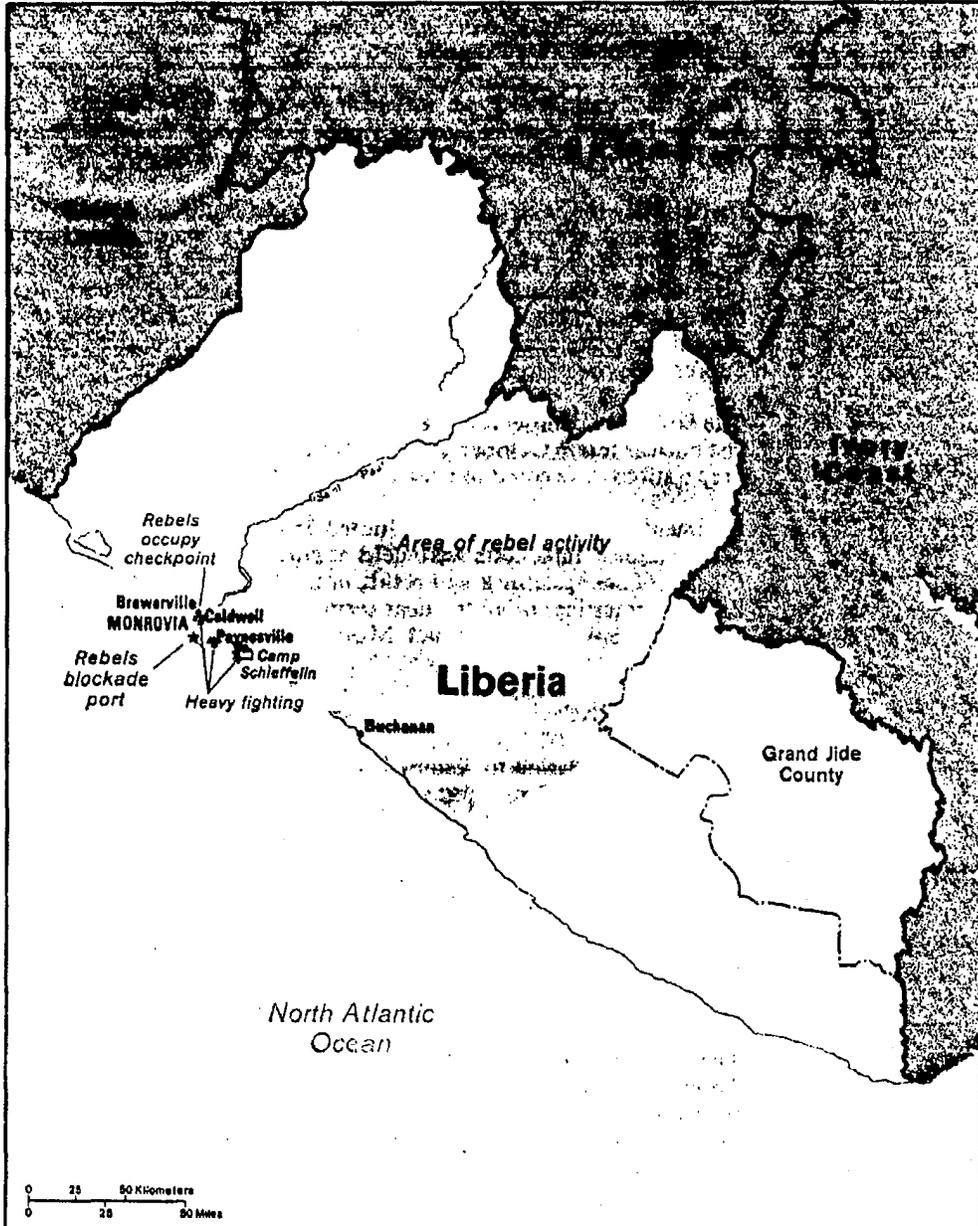
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Military Situation, 2 July 1990



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~~Top Secret~~**LIBERIA:****Beginning of the End**

The rebels apparently have abandoned attempts to gain President Doe's departure through peace talks and are advancing on Monrovia to help speed him on his way. [redacted]

The rebels have attacked a number of towns on the outskirts of Monrovia, including Camp Schieffelin, Paynesville, and Caldwell, [redacted] Rebel troops reportedly were executing Krahn and Mandingo civilians in the Paynesville area. The rebels now occupy the Brewerville military checkpoint on the road leading to Sierra Leone. They also have blockaded the port of Monrovia with armed trawlers, convincing the Liberian Coast Guard it would not be in its interests to offer resistance. [redacted]

Army Chief of Staff Dubar already has left Liberia. [redacted] and Executive Mansion Guard Commander Julue and most other high-ranking Krahn officers also have made plans to leave as soon as possible. The capital remains without water or electricity, and [redacted] army soldiers continue their nocturnal activities of looting, stealing, and random shooting. [redacted]

Comment: Rebel leader Charles Taylor probably hopes that by surrounding the capital he can convince Doe it is time to go. The dire situation in Monrovia caused by the lack of electricity and water and the imminent departure of Doe's most loyal officers almost certainly have persuaded him to consider leaving. [redacted]

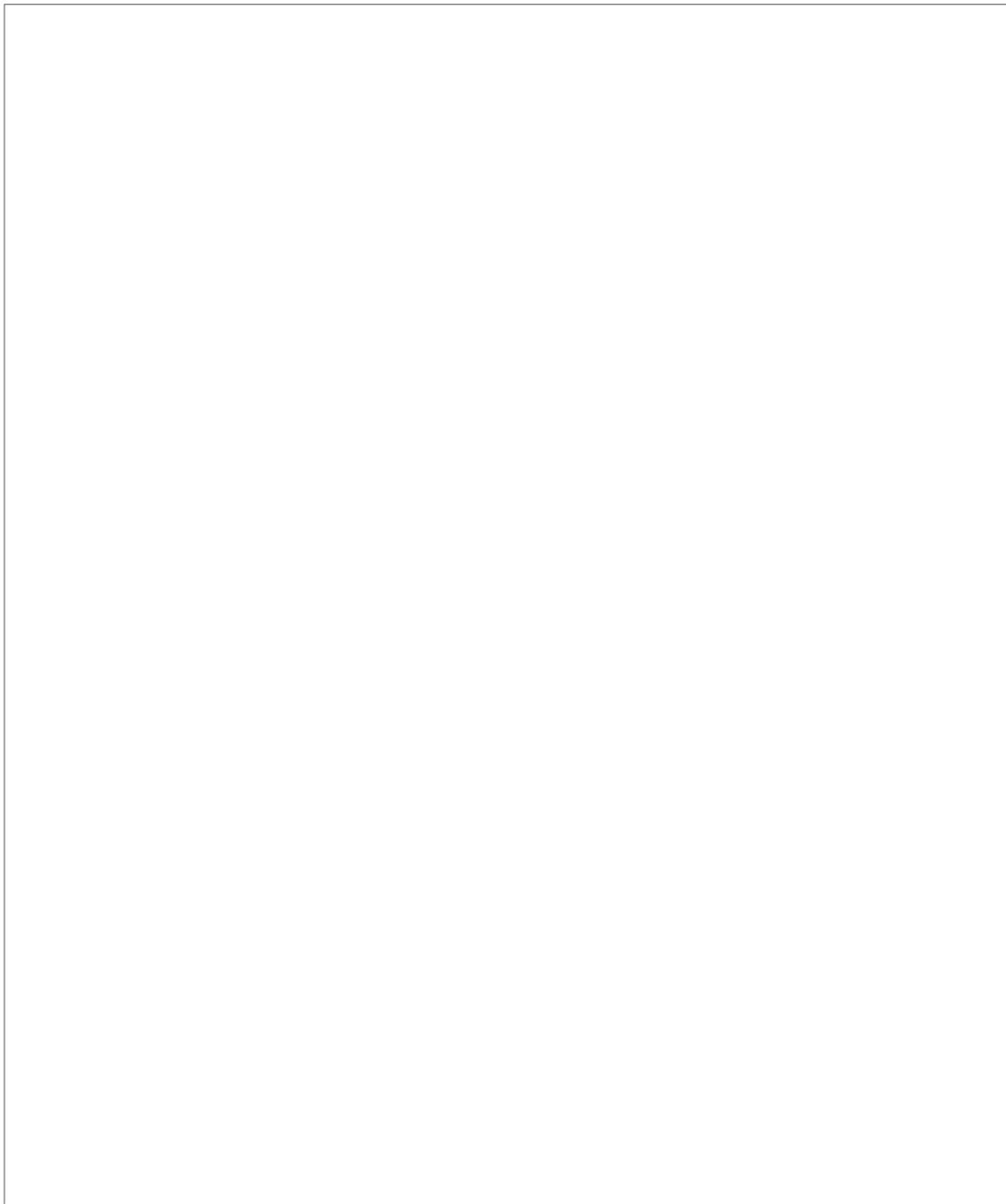
Even if Doe resigns, bloodshed is likely in the capital. Taylor is likely to have little control over his troops, which probably will continue to engage in atrocities against Krahns and Mandingos as well as random killing and looting. If the rebels do not leave the road to Sierra Leone open to allow remaining Krahns to leave as the rebels enter Monrovia, the magnitude of the massacre is likely to increase substantially. [redacted]

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~~Top Secret~~**YUGOSLAVIA: Kosovo Declares Independence From Serbia**

Conflict between ethnic Albanians and Serbs appears imminent. Albanian legislators in Kosovo yesterday declared the province independent of Serbia and said they would seek republic status within Yugoslavia. Serbian delegates were not present at the rump assembly session, which the legislators convened outside the assembly building after they were locked out. Meanwhile, a republicwide referendum on a new Serbian constitution that eliminates autonomy for Serbia's two provinces—Kosovo and Vojvodina—is on its way to passage.

Comment: Serbia probably will proclaim the declaration illegal, dissolve the Kosovo assembly, arrest some of the Albanian delegates, and deploy additional security forces. Kosovo's leaders are likely to try to internationalize the issue by appealing to the UN, the EC, the CSCE, and foreign capitals. Although Albanian leaders are counseling nonviolence, it will be difficult to restrain Albanian youths in the likely event of Serbian repression. Prime Minister Markovic and the federal government will try to discourage a Serbian crackdown but are impotent to stop it. The federal Army will attempt to avoid involvement but, if there is major bloodshed, may be called in to separate the Serbs and Albanians.

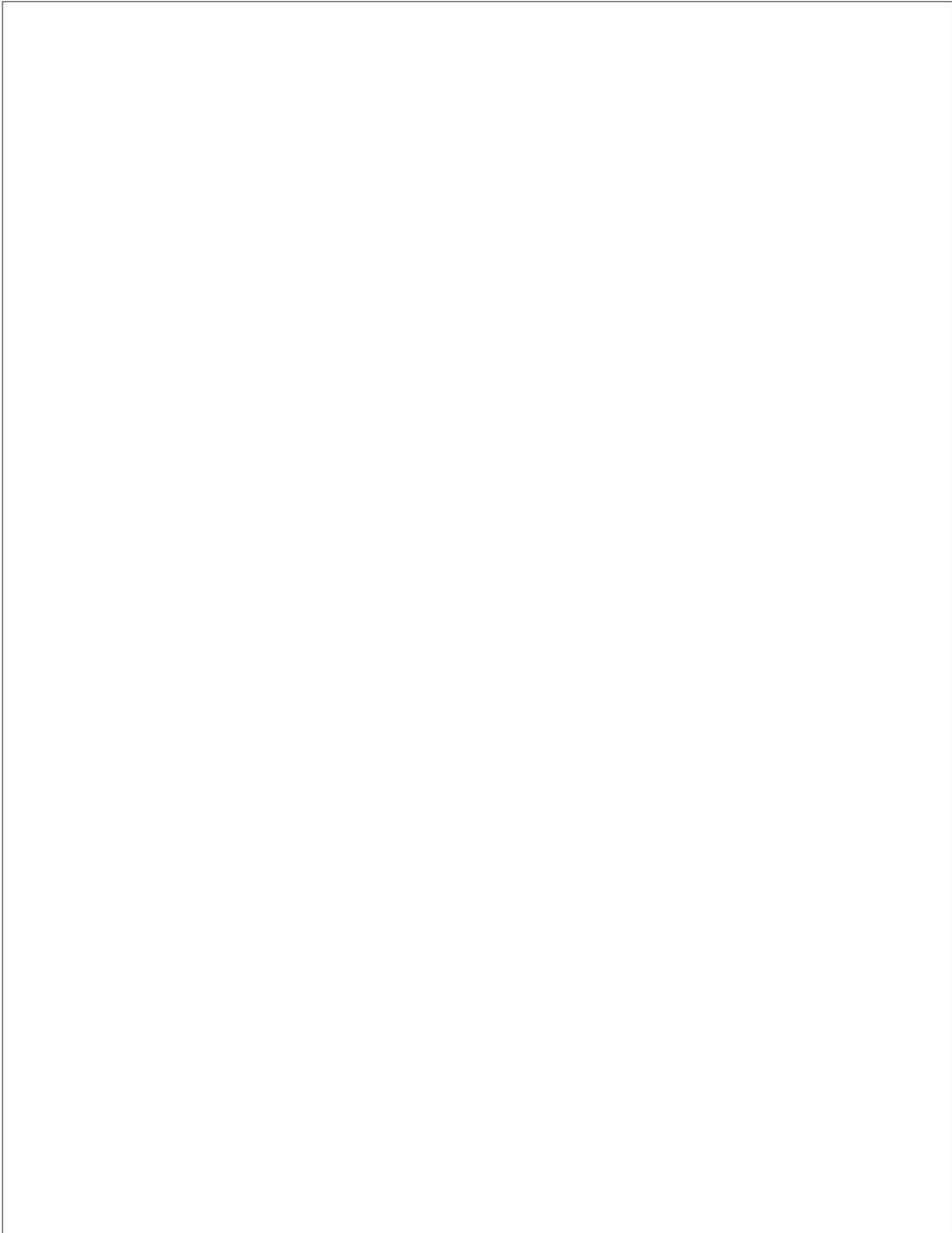
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~~Top Secret~~**USSR: Armenians Fighting Each Other**

Armenia's nationalistic factions are increasingly fighting over strategy and tactics with respect to Moscow, autonomy, and the conflict with Azerbaijan. On Saturday one person died when armed rival factions clashed. Security forces are on a heightened state of alert. Members of the Azeri People's Front are demanding fortifications on the border with Armenia where Azeri leaders last week declared a state of emergency.

Comment: A lack of leadership from either Moscow or republic-level officials has allowed the republic to slide toward Lebanon-style anarchy. Some republic officials may be linked to militia factions, but no group is currently strong enough to prevail. Continued warfare between these groups, coupled with such actions as kidnapping, might compel Moscow to impose a state of emergency in Yerevan, the republic capital, possibly with the concurrence of the Armenian leadership.

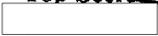
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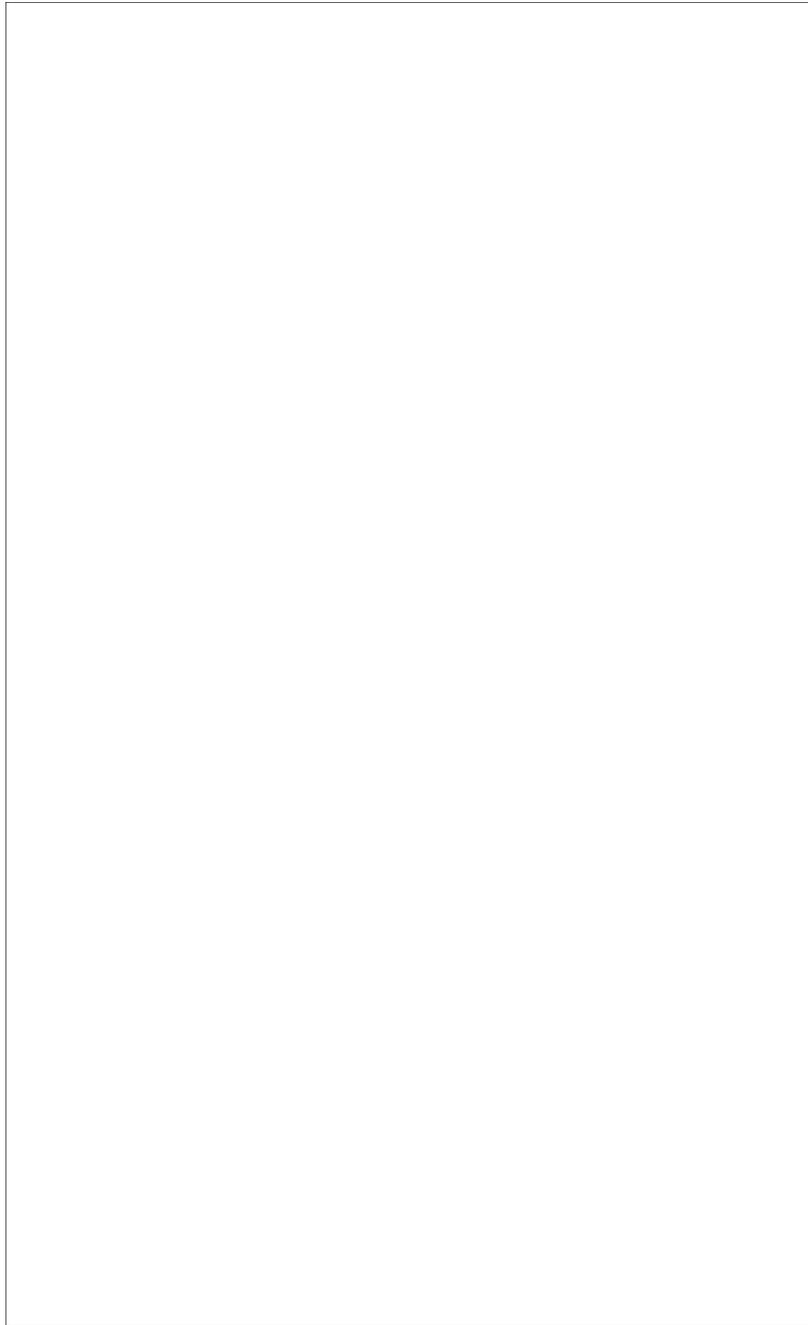
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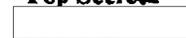
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Spurred by a sharp increase in violent crime, Beijing has mounted a nationwide crackdown to gain standing with the people and to impress potential malcontents. The official press claims crime in Shanghai has almost doubled since last year, and officials elsewhere report increased sabotage and bombings as well. At least five cities have staged public executions since the Minister of Public Security announced the campaign last month. In a similar crackdown ordered by Deng Xiaoping in 1983, authorities reportedly executed as many as 1,000 criminals.

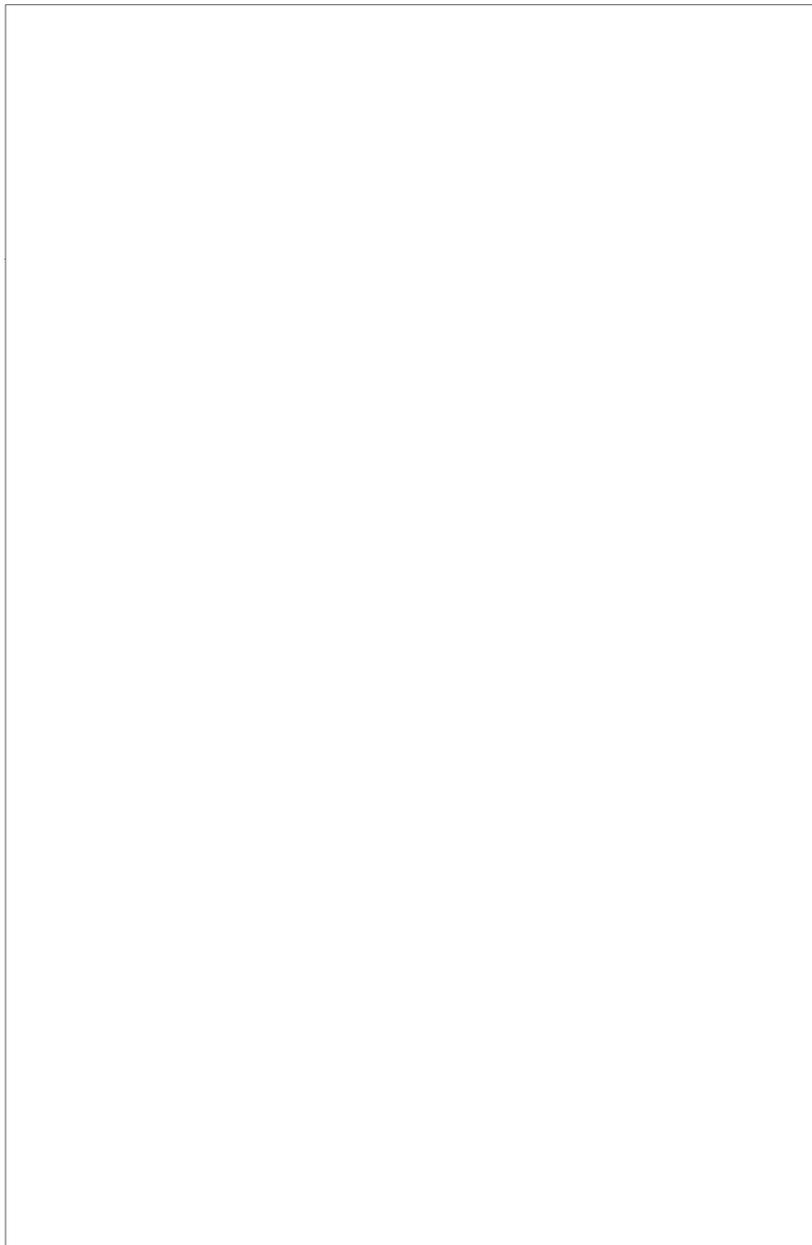
Comment: Chinese leaders have been alarmed about antipathy to the regime since the Tiananmen brutality last year and hope to play to widespread concern about rising crime rates. The public has greeted recent government campaigns—including a drive against official corruption—with cynicism. Public executions and harsh sentences probably will also intimidate urban workers and migrant laborers from the countryside, whom the regime fears as sources of instability.

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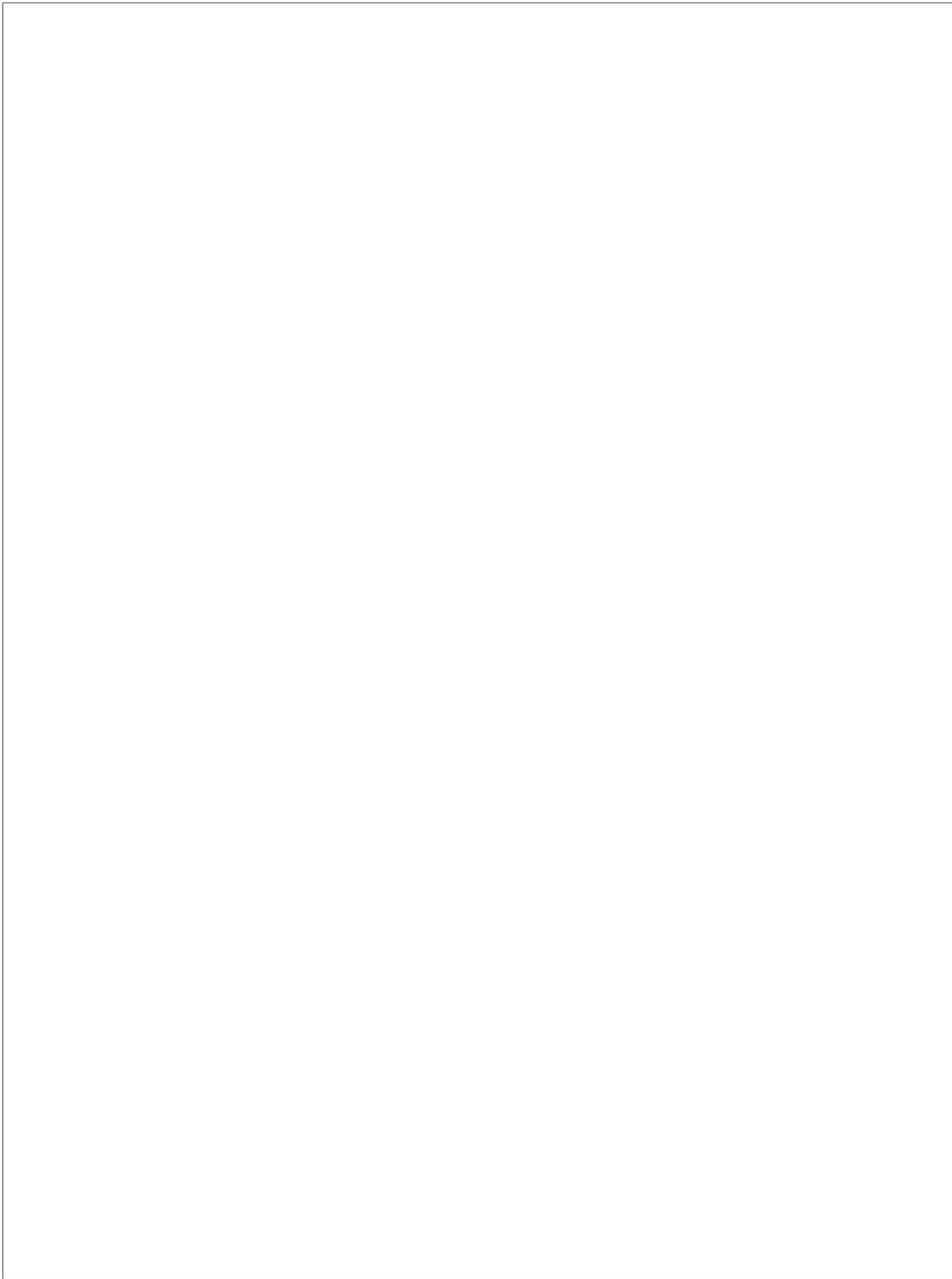


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In Brief



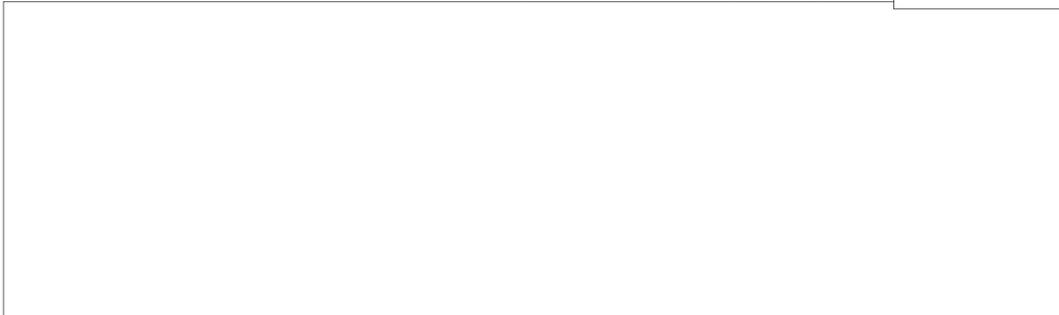
Europe

— Slovenian legislature yesterday adopted declaration of sovereignty for republic within "confederal" Yugoslavia . . . Slovenian laws to supersede federal, independent military to be set up . . . Belgrade will denounce move, probably not intervene for now. 

— French Communists, Socialists on Saturday pushed through law outlawing racist, anti-Semitic acts . . . imposes fines, excludes from political office . . . aimed at extreme-right leader Le Pen, move likely to hit less discreet followers. 



— Seven Mongolian Politburo members reportedly expelled from Communist party . . . criticized as symbols of Stalinist past . . . regime pushing to improve image before 29 July multiparty election, which may end party's monopoly on power. 



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[Redacted]



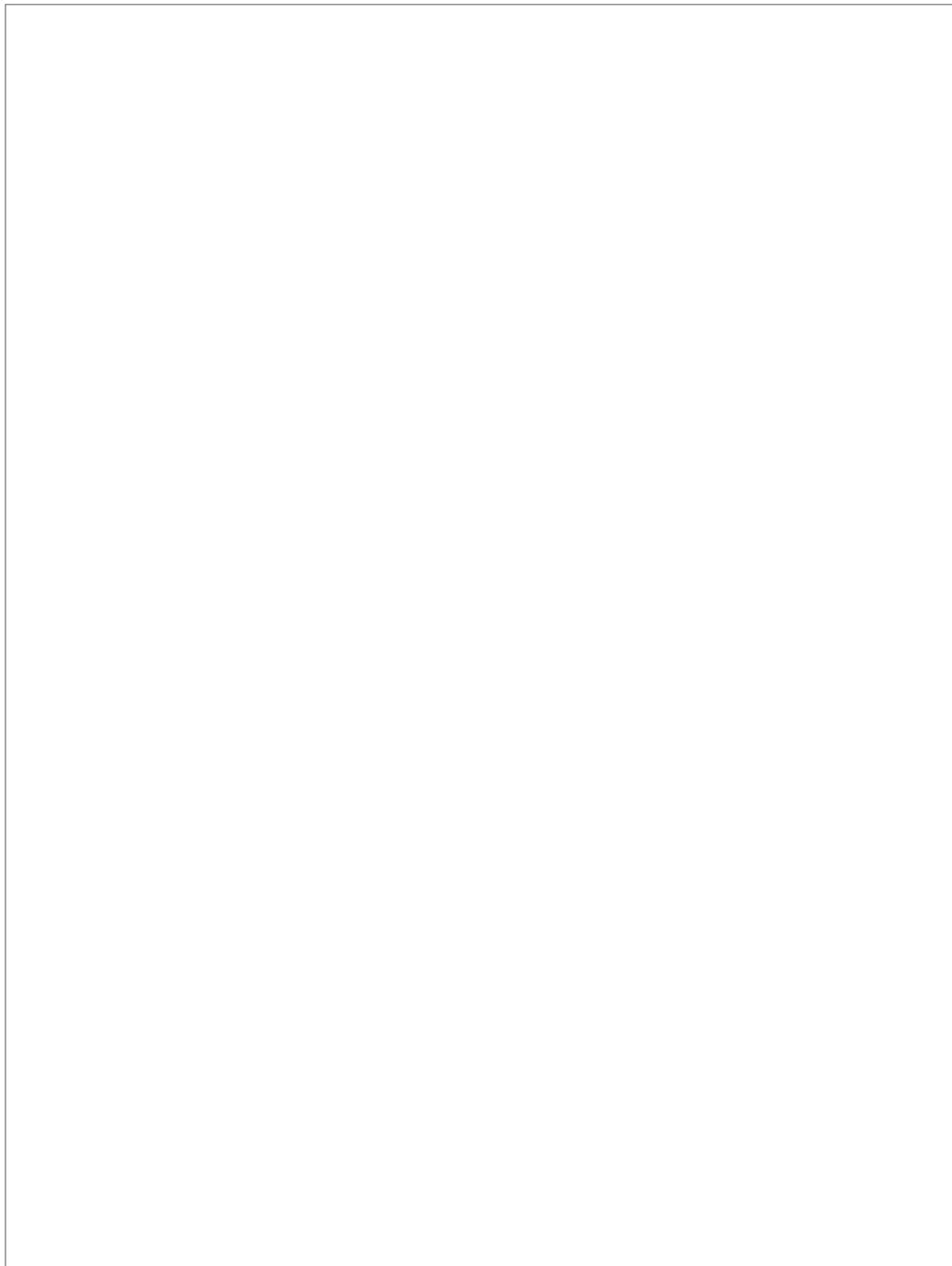
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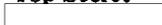
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