



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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21 DECEMBER 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~

DAILY BRIEF
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1. Dominican Republic

At mid-afternoon the situation in Santo Domingo and Santiago was relatively quiet.

A general strike has not materialized, partly because Christmas bonus payments were in many cases being made today. Labor leaders are still holding the threat of such a strike over Garcia Godoy's head as a means of pressuring him to oust the military chiefs, long a prime leftist objective.

For their part, the chiefs are aroused. In their eyes the Santiago incident shows that Caamano's maintenance of what in effect is a private army is no longer tolerable.

The committee investigating the incident is to report back to Garcia Godoy by Thursday. The origins of the firing are still obscure, but it is plain that both sides were in fact spoiling for a fight.

An unsettling part of the whole affair was the rapidity with which the Communists and their sympathizers moved to cash in.

2. Pakistan

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3. Rhodesia

[Redacted]

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the atmosphere is "much more tense" in Zambia than in Rhodesia.

[Redacted]

Kaunda has apparently been talked out of the suicidal idea of responding to the new Rhodesian surtax on coal (some \$14 a ton) with a total trade embargo. He remains under strong pressures from black African extremists and still feels he must do something.

[Redacted]

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In Britain, the Tories have decided not to challenge Wilson's oil embargo, but have served notice that they will oppose further measures, particularly any resort to force.

4. Soviet Union

This morning the Soviets fired another intercontinental ballistic missile from one of their operational sites to Kamchatka. This was the second such firing in a week and the fourth we have detected so far.

[Redacted]

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5. South Vietnam

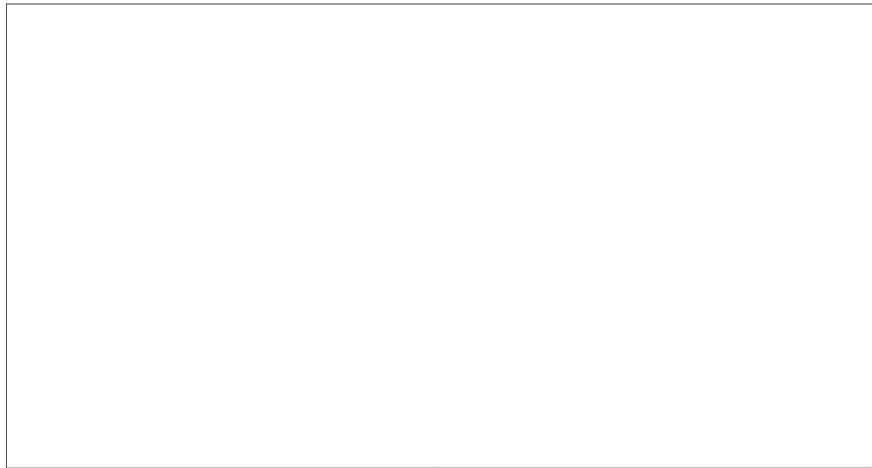
[redacted] Sai-
gon intends to hale leaders of the Montagnard dissidents before military tribunals and execute publicly those found guilty of taking part in the rising last week.

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The report supports other indications that the government intends to deal much more toughly with the Montagnards than it has in the past. This, combined with disillusionment over Saigon's failure to keep past promises to them, seems likely to open the Montagnards to greater Viet Cong influence.



6. North Vietnam



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Soviet officials in Moscow today signed a new economic agreement with North Vietnam. It provides, among other things, for additional "free economic aid" to the Vietnamese during 1966. This aspect of the agreement looks like an effort to outbid Peking, whose recent agreement with Hanoi's delegation provided only for loans.

7. Common Market

A French cabinet meeting tomorrow may give the first indication of whether the elections have brought any modifications in Paris' position on the Common Market. France's five Common Market partners met yesterday and decided they would stand firmly on existing treaties and understandings. They made it clear that, as they see it, the next move is up to France.

8. Spain

The Spanish say that land is not available to expand our space tracking stations in the Canary Islands and that in fact it will be necessary to move facilities already there. Madrid apparently ties an agreement on relocation to our providing more help for the fledgling Spanish space program.

9. Indonesia

A Polish Embassy official, an acute observer of the Indonesian scene, believes that Sukarno is finished as a political force.

While it may be too soon to count the wily Sukarno out completely, he has slipped badly in the past few weeks. He continues his frequent public speeches and exhortations, but no one seems to be listening any more. Last week the army began doctoring his remarks before printing them and this week has neglected to report several of his speeches at all.

Rumors of a major power readjustment just after the turn of the year continue to be heard in Djakarta.

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