



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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9 FEBRUARY 1966

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1. Vietnam

Judging by its [redacted] statements, Hanoi has concluded that the Honolulu meeting will in the short run lead to intensified bombings in the north and expanded operations in the south.

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Hanoi apparently continues to entertain doubts about US staying power over the longer haul, however. [redacted] Hanoi representatives [redacted] are still talking in terms of a gradual softening in the US position. They seem to think that, given enough time, the US will open the door of retreat "wide enough to be able to get through it."

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Commenting today on the meeting, Peking declared that it had produced nothing but the "old trick of dual tactics of war expansion and peace hoax" and was doomed to failure.

2. South Vietnam

[redacted]

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The Buddhists in the northern part of the country are said to be planning antigovernment demonstrations later this month. Organizers think they have a commitment from the influential Tri Quang not to oppose the demonstrations which will ostensibly be directed against inflation and the postponement of elections.

Dissatisfaction with the Ky government is also increasing in some Catholic circles, though there are no reports that these elements are planning anti-Ky activity at the present time.

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[Redacted]

3. Pakistan

President Ayub's domestic problems are likely to grow after completion this month of troop withdrawals from the India border. Finance Minister Shoaib warned Ambassador McConaughy recently that feeling is running very high against the Tashkent accord among the younger officers and soldiers who are returning home.

Shoaib apparently does not fear a military mutiny as much as he does the effect of the returned soldiers on the civil population, where the post-Tashkent feeling of let down goes much deeper, he feels, than is evident on the surface.

4. Rhodesia

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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5. Uganda

The situation continued tense today. Government officials are taking steps to protect themselves against the coup attempt [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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6. Belgium

The Catholic-Socialist coalition government seems unlikely to survive the parliamentary debate that begins tomorrow on the national medical care system. The Socialists continue adamant against Catholic premier Harmel's position that patients should pay at least part of medical costs.

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Socialist Foreign Minister Spaak, however, is working hard to keep the government together. He has cancelled his Moscow trip that was to begin tomorrow.

7. Latin America

A conference of Latin American pro-Chinese Communist groups is planned for late this month in the Chilean capital,

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the purpose is to coordinate the action and strategy of the participating groups.

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Pro-Peking factions now dominate Communist parties in Peru and Ecuador and are active as well in Chile, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic. If all or most of these groups are represented at the planned meeting, it would be the first significant gathering of Peking's supporters to take place in Latin America.

8. Cuba

The people are being mobilized throughout the country to echo Fidel Castro's condemnation of Communist China last Sunday. Cuban propaganda media are at full throttle and party organizations are mounting demonstrations to condemn China's "treasonous" actions against the Cuban people.

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9. Dominican Republic

The situation worsened suddenly again this morning when police fired on a crowd of Communist-led students demonstrating outside the presidential palace. At least two students were killed and several wounded. At last word, Communist and leftist groups were attempting to mobilize a general strike for this afternoon in the capital city.

Preliminary evidence points to a provocative effort by the Communists to ignite violence. There are reports that some of the demonstrators were armed. As usual, however, the police appear to have overreacted.

The violence has doubtless again stalled the effort to arrange Rivera Caminero's voluntary departure. It will be used as an argument against any such changes by the military and other conservative forces.

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