



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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16 JUNE 1966

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1. South Vietnam

For the fourth straight day, Buddhist monks continued to try to organize demonstrations in Saigon. Police are dealing with them firmly. Their tactics have irritated at least some people by causing monumental traffic jams.

In Hué, a battalion of airborne troops joined police in continuing the task of cleaning up the streets. There has apparently been little violence. Tri Quang continues his hunger strike in the hospital apparently under "informal" detention by the government.

There is now little doubt that Tri Quang's militant supporters are running the Buddhist Institute in Saigon, although the relatively moderate Tam Chau remains its titular chairman. At least one government minister has told the US Embassy that he thinks Tri Quang this time has gone "too far" and has set forces in motion--including anti-US sentiment--he can no longer control.

2. Netherlands

The riots in Amsterdam, which grew out of a construction workers strike, have been given a momentum of their own by young toughs and students. They have become a somewhat purposeless challenge to the city police and government.

Even the Communists, who at first aided the strikers, now seem to be trying to disassociate themselves from the violence. This leaves the small anti-NATO Pacifist Socialist Party the most active political backer of the rioters.

3. Indonesia

Tensions are growing again in Djakarta with the approach of the opening session of the Peoples' Consultative Assembly on Monday. This meeting has long been heralded as the instrument through which Indonesia's present leaders intend to deprive Sukarno of his lifetime claim to the presidency. They also hope to secure assembly endorsement of their "new path" in foreign relations.

The main problem now is the fragmentation of the once almost monolithic unity of the anti-Communist, anti-Sukarno movement. This is permitting pro-Sukarno forces to reassert themselves. This, in turn, makes Indonesia's leaders chary of pushing for the kind of clear-cut new policy directions they would like to see.

The upshot of the assembly meeting may well turn out to be another series of typically Indonesian half-way measures.

4. Pakistan

A high-level Pakistani military mission is now in Peking, probably to discuss additional Chinese military assistance.

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After the visit of a high-level Pakistani mission to Peking last October, China supplied Pakistan at least 41 medium tanks and 24 MIG-19 fighters.

5. Guatemala

New terrorist incidents hit Guatemala City this week.

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6. Uruguay

Leaders of the two traditional political parties have begun talks in an effort to come up with a bipartisan proposal for reforming Uruguay's unwieldy government. Rivalries between the parties and among the factions in each will make agreement hard to come by.

Most Uruguayans seem to want reform, but unless the two big parties can reach agreement this summer, the chance of a constitutional solution will be all but foreclosed.

7. Egypt

Nasir has ordered a broad shake-up in the army's command levels. [REDACTED]

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This is probably in part an effort to prevent anti-Nasir sentiment in the army from crystallizing. Nasir is presently embarked on a campaign against the "remnants of feudalism," a term evidently employed to cover a variety of real and imagined opponents of his rule.

Ambassador Battle feels this may foreshadow increased concentration on the home front.

8. Communist China

Chou En-lai arrived in Bucharest today after a much postponed visit. He will stop in Albania, and possibly Egypt, before returning to Peking. For the Rumanians his visit serves to demonstrate their independence. The Chinese, on the other hand, will try to use the visit to embarrass the Russians and to show that they have influence in Eastern Europe outside of Albania.

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