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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN
1 MARCH 1972

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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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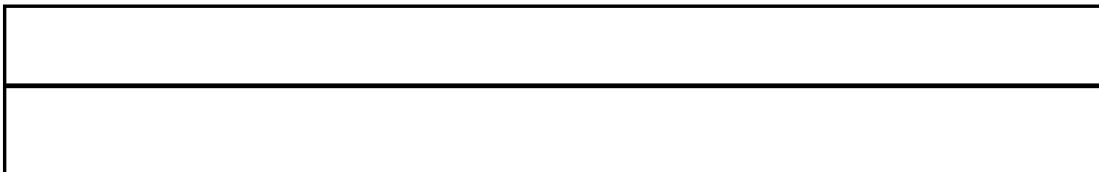
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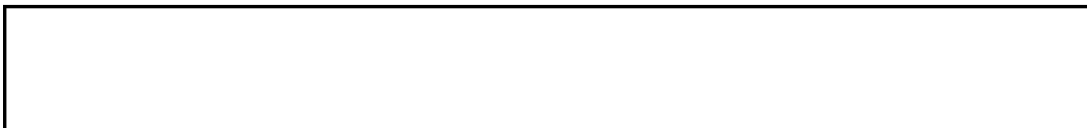
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*CHINA-US: Peking's leaders have underlined for the Chinese people their endorsement of President Nixon's visit.

A crowd of 5,000 people was on hand at Peking airport to greet Chou En-lai on his return from Shanghai--a highly unusual turnout for such an occasion. The official account of this greeting sets the scene firmly in an atmosphere of unity: virtually all active members of the politburo resident in Peking were on hand, and the account stressed the point that "commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army" were present. The account also made the unusual point that all members of the politburo--including Mao's wife and ideologist Yao Wen-yuan, who were deeply involved in Red Guard excesses during the Cultural Revolution--"warmly" shook hands with Chou and his party.

The account additionally stressed that all present "expressed warm support for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs and their resolve to carry it out" and quoted slogans to this effect, as well as others singling out Chou for special welcome. It notes that, when the premier appeared, the airport "became a scene of jubilation," with people beating drums and gongs and waving bouquets.

Such unusual treatment of what would normally be a routine domestic flight on the part of the premier back to the capital after seeing off a foreign dignitary in Shanghai serves several purposes: to make it clear that the Chinese leaders are generally pleased with the presidential visit as a whole, to endorse the terms of the joint communiqué, and to add obliquely the approval of the military establishment and of Mao himself to that of the government officials who were involved in the actual negotiations, and to underline the strong position of Chou En-lai

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in the present structure of power in Peking. Indeed, it is quite possible that Chou's hand has been strengthened by the generally favorable atmosphere produced by the President's visit. (CONFIDENTIAL)

*Because of the shortage of time for preparation of this item, the analytic interpretation presented here has been produced by the Central Intelligence Agency without the participation of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

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USSR-BANGLADESH: Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman's visit to Moscow is likely to result in the first Soviet aid agreements with Bangladesh.

A ten-man Soviet economic delegation has been in Dacca since 15 February exploring the possibility of assistance in development, reconstruction, and water control. The Soviets are interested in resuming work on aid projects interrupted by the recent Indo-Pakistani war. Prior to independence, they had allocated an estimated \$70 million for projects in East Pakistan. Most of these projects still are unfinished.

Another Soviet delegation has been exploring the feasibility of assistance to Bangladesh's fledgling national airline, hence it is possible that a civil aviation agreement also will be announced during Mujib's visit. In early February, the two sides signed a short-term barter agreement for the exchange of about \$14 million worth of goods.

The Soviets have been working hard to capitalize on their favorable position in Bangladesh. New Delhi's displeasure with the degree to which the Soviets have cultivated Dacca reportedly lies behind Indian policy planning chief Dhar's current visit to Moscow. Dhar is attempting to secure better Soviet-Indian coordination of relations with Bangladesh. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

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USSR: Soviet industrial production got off to a weak start in January because of severe winter weather, the aftereffects of last year's disappointing harvest, and continuing problems in the management of investment programs.

Moscow announced that industrial output grew by six percent last month compared with January 1971, the lowest January results since monthly data were first released in the mid-1960s. By Western calculations, civilian industrial production actually rose by only 4.3 percent, compared with 5.5 percent in January 1971 and 6.1 percent in January 1970.

Some of the coldest weather in years curbed production in the extractive industries. The oil, gas, timber and wood processing, construction materials and fishing ministries failed even to meet their January plan targets. The growth in the output of processed foods was small as a result of a poor harvest of sugar beets and sunflower seeds last fall and a decline in the production of whole milk products. The official report claimed that the failure to bring new capacity into operation on schedule had caused some plan underfulfillment, notably in the output of several consumer goods. Industrial support for agriculture also faltered in comparison with recent years.

In a few areas, however, the January record was good. The production of civilian machinery increased by 8.4 percent, and electric power rose by 11 percent.

Soviet industrial ministries are holding inquiries to determine the reasons for the poor January showing, and the press warned that corrective measures must be carried out quickly. In 1969 industrial production got off to a poor start in icy weather and finished the year with one of the lowest rates of growth since World War II. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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TURKEY: Military leaders are continuing their investigation of leftist influence in the armed forces.

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Thus far army officers have not been implicated, but the leftist organizations seem to have had some success in influencing young naval officers.

Security measures have been tightened around the Ministry of Defense and at top military headquarters in the Ankara area in the wake of the officers' arrest. There are also indications that Air Force Commander General Batur may be removed from his command because of leftist penetration of the air force. Any immediate move in this direction, however, may be held in abeyance in order to maintain the semblance of unanimity among the top military leadership, at least until the full extent of leftist influence can be determined.

Despite the arrests and the resultant security measures, there has been no suggestion that a widespread purge of the armed forces is imminent or that any specific plot has been uncovered. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

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HONDURAS: An outbreak of violence in connection with the land reform program has prompted a resurgence of interest in replacing President Cruz.

In a conversation with the US ambassador, Chief of the Armed Forces General Lopez blamed Cruz' incompetence and mismanagement for recent violence in the remote department of Olancho where six peasants and one police sergeant were killed. The violence resulted from police and army efforts to expel some 100 peasants who had settled on private land. Lopez considers Cruz ultimately at fault for placing an incompetent official in charge of the National Agrarian Institute. His opinion is in part substantiated by Colonel Melgar, the new chief of police, who is personally investigating the killings. Melgar says the peasants were innocent, having settled on land they had paid for in good faith.

Lopez cited other examples of Cruz' inability to govern, including his alienation of the business sector by mismanagement of tax and import concession matters, his inability to control student disturbances, and his lack of influence even within his own party. Unsettled conditions in the country have had the rumor mill buzzing for months, and this latest violence has apparently placed Lopez under great pressure to act. Lopez still professes that he has no desire to resume the presidency but admits that he might have to do so for a "short period."

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URUGUAY: The Tupamaros may try to disrupt the inauguration of President-elect Juan Bordaberry today.

[REDACTED] they may even attempt to assassinate Bordaberry. The Tupamaros probably have the capability to make a well-planned and coordinated attempt on the President-elect or otherwise to disrupt the ceremonies. The prospect of severe retribution by the security services and the fact that a terrorist leader presumably involved in the operation has been arrested, however, may cause them to reconsider. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

* * * *

IRAN: Terrorists yesterday disrupted a government-directed mass rally in Tehran with three explosions which killed one person and injured five others. The rally was part of a countrywide day of demonstrations held to protest an alleged campaign of sabotage and terrorism by "domestic and foreign" enemies of Iran, particularly Iraq. The major explosion, apparently from a home-made bomb, went off among demonstrators in Tehran's main square. The government, concerned over increased terrorist activity, had intended to use these demonstrations as a warning to dissidents that they cannot count on public sympathy for anti-regime activities. As a result of yesterday's incident, the Shah will no doubt redouble his efforts to weed out and control anti-government elements. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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GRENADA: The ruling Grenada United Labor Party (GULP) led by Premier Eric Gairy was swept back into office for another five-year term. The GULP, which has held office for a total of 12 years since 1951, won 13 of the 15 seats in the House of Assembly. Gairy's wife was one of three women to capture house seats. Gairy will view his landslide victory as a mandate to carry out his pre-election promise to ask the British to grant the island independence at the earliest opportunity. (CONFIDENTIAL NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

* * * *

SWEDEN: Housewives in a number of Swedish communities demonstrated against food prices last week. Prime Minister Palme accepted a petition on 28 February but failed to dampen the protest movement. Milk strikes, meat boycotts, and other types of protests are scheduled for this week. The demonstrations, which appeared spontaneous, may develop a political orientation if the government fails to assuage consumer complaints. Food price increases scheduled to go into effect today will exacerbate the problem. (CONFIDENTIAL)

* * * *

JAMAICA: The opposition People's National Party (PNP), led by Michael Manley, won the right to form the next government after defeating the incumbent Jamaica Labor Party in the 29 February general election. The PNP won 27 of the 53 House of Representatives seats in the early returns for a majority and was leading in nine other constituencies. Although minor violence has grown at a steady rate since general elections were announced on 31 January, the campaign has been notable for the overall prevalence of law and order. Post-election violence by disgruntled losers is likely, but, as a former British colony, Jamaica has a long tradition of respect for law and order, and any disorders are likely to be short-lived. Local security forces should be capable of maintaining control. It is unlikely that the Manley government will alter significantly the domestic and foreign policies of the country. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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