

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 150-75
26 SEPTEMBER 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP96T00608R000300010052-2

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 150-75-4

1.//BOLIVIA: BOLIVIA'S PRESIDENT HOGO BANZER IS STEPPING UP THE DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE ON CHILE IN HOPES OF REGAINING HIS COUNTRY'S ACCESS TO THE SEA, LOST NEARLY A CENTURY AGO.//4

//BOLIVIA HAS REPORTEDLY PROPOSED THAT IT BE GIVEN SOVEREIGNTY OVER AN 8-8-MILE CORRIDOR THROUGH CHILEAN TERRITORY CLOSE TO THE PERUVIAN BORDER. LA PAZ WOULD CONTINUE TO USE THE CHILEAN PORT OF ARICA UNTIL IT CAN BUILD A PORT OF ITS OWN. AS COMPENSATION FOR THE TERRITORY, BANZER IS SAID TO HAVE OFFERED TO PROVIDE CHILE WITH OIL, GAS, AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.//4

//DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND BOLIVIA WERE RE-ESTABLISHED EARLY THIS YEAR AFTER A 13-YEAR BREAK, AND BANZER HAS BEEN PRESSING CHILE TO NEGOTIATE ON THIS SUBJECT. ACCORDING TO A RECENT REPORT, BANZER MAY TAKE HIS COUNTRY'S CASE TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF AN AGREEMENT IS NOT REACHED BY THE END OF NEXT WEEK//4

//CHILE WILL NOT CEDE ANY TERRITORY TO BOLIVIA, BUT IT APPARENTLY DOES WANT SOME SORT OF A RESOLUTION SOON. PRESIDENT PINOCHET COULD BEGIN BY LEASING TO BOLIVIA THE RAILROAD AND OIL PIPELINE THAT RUN

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BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND THE PORT OF ARICA; THIS WOULD PROBABLY NOT PRODUCE MAJOR OPPOSITION FROM CHILEAN NATIONALISTS OR FROM NEIGHBORING PERU. LATER, HE MIGHT EVEN CONSIDER A LONG-TERM LEASE OF A STRIP OF TERRITORY.//Y

//THE 1829 TREATY BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE THAT SETTLED THE WAR OF THE PACIFIC (1879-1883) PROHIBITS EITHER COUNTRY FROM CEDING ANY OF THE TERRITORY THAT CHANGED HANDS DURING THE WAR WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE OTHER. PERU WOULD PROBABLY NOT AGREE TO THE CESSION OF FORMER PERUVIAN TERRITORY TO BOLIVIA. NEITHER THE CHILEAN NOR THE PERUVIAN PRESIDENT, HOWEVER, WANTS TO UNDERCUT BANZER'S INITIATIVE, SINCE BOTH VIEW IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO KEEP HIM IN POWER. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)//Y

2.//OAS: THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL HAS RECONVENED ANXIOUS TO NURTURE THE CURRENT FLEXIBILITY IT DISCERNS IN US PROPOSALS TO THE UN, THE RESUMPTION OF THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE LIFTING OF THE SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. THE DELEGATES ARE TRYING TO CLEAR THE OAS REFORM BACKLOG, MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO BUILD ON RECENT SUCCESS IN AMENDING THE RIO TREATY, BY THE RENEWED COMMITMENT TO THE OAS ON

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THE PART OF CRITICAL GOVERNMENTS LIKE MEXICO, AND BY THE ANTICIPATION OF UNSCHEDULED WORK AHEAD. THEY SEE AN ARRAY OF PROBLEMS THREATENING THE CURRENT SPIRIT OF GOOD WILL: THE TRADE REFORM ACT' DISCRIMINATORY PROVISIONS; THE POSSIBILITY OF A GUATEMALAN MILITARY RESPONSE TO INDEPENDENCE MOVES BY BELIZE; THE FRAGILITY OF THE CANAL TALKS; AND BORDER TENSIONS IN THE ANDES AND IN CENTRAL AMERICA.//Y

//PERU IS PRESSING FOR A SEPARATE INTER-AMERICAN TREATY THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST "ECONOMIC AGGRESSION" AND HAS PROPOSED AMENDING THE OAS CHARTER TO INCLUDE THE GOAL OF "COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY." THIS AND OTHER ISSUES THAT DIVIDE THE LATIN AMERICANS AND THE US SEEM BOUND TO RENEW INTER-AMERICAN FRICTIONS.//Y

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 150-75.4

1. CHINA: THE HEALTH OF PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI HAS APPARENTLY TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE. THIS MAY BE TEMPORARY, BUT REPETITION OF THE CONDITION CAN BE EXPECTED IN THE FUTURE.4

CHOU FAILED TO MEET NORTH VIETNAMESE PARTY CHIEF LE DUAN AND FORMER BRITISH PRIME MINISTER HEATH DURING THEIR VISITS TO CHINA THIS MONTH. BOTH VISITORS MET CHAIRMAN MAO AND WOULD NORMALLY HAVE TALKED WITH CHOU. HEATH WAS INFORMED THAT THE PREMIER WANTED TO MEET HIM BUT WAS PREVENTED FROM DOING SO BY HIS DOCTORS.4

THE CHINESE PRESS IS NOT KEEPING THE PREMIER'S FRAGILE HEALTH A SECRET FROM THE POPULACE. IT PUBLISHED THE REMARKS OF CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER KHIEU SAMPHAN LAST MONTH THAT CHOU WAS "NOT IN THE BEST OF HEALTH." {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. KOREA: NORTH KOREA HAS REACTED NEGATIVELY TO THE RECENT US - SOUTH KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE AIMED AT EASING TENSIONS IN KOREA.4

A FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT YESTERDAY WAS MILD IN TONE BY NORTH KOREAN STANDARDS, BUT IT CONTAINED A POINT-BY-POINT REJECTION

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OF THE US - SOUTH KOREAN RECOMMENDATIONS. PYONGYANG SAID:

--THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT CANNOT BE PRESERVED, AS THE US URGES, BUT MUST BE REPLACED BY A US - NORTH KOREAN PEACE TREATY.Y

--SOUTH KOREA, NOT A SIGNATORY TO THE ARMISTICE, CANNOT BE MADE A PARTY TO ANY NEW ARMISTICE ARRANGEMENTS.Y

--RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION-OF NORTH KOREA BY THE US AND OF SOUTH KOREA BY PYONGYANG'S ALLIES--AND DUAL UN MEMBERSHIP FOR THE TWO KOREAS ARE UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE THEY WOULD PERPETUATE THE DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY.Y

THE NORTH KOREANS REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE US - SOUTH KOREAN PROPOSAL CONTAINS A MAJOR NEW ELEMENT--THE CALL FOR A CONFERENCE ON KOREA, TO BE ATTENDED INITIALLY BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE ARMISTICE {THE US, NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA, AND CHINA}. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT PYONGYANG IS OPPOSED TO SUCH A CONFERENCE NOW. THE NORTH KOREANS MAY WELL HAVE AVOIDED A CATEGORICAL REJECTION OF THE PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE CHARGES THAT IT IS UNWILLING TO ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE, A CONSIDERATION

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OF SOME IMPORTANCE NOW AS THE VOTE AT THE UN ON COMPETING KOREAN RESOLUTIONS NEARS. THE NORTH KOREANS ARE PROBABLY CONCERNED THAT THE US INITIATIVE COULD BENEFIT THE US AND SOUTH KOREA TACTICALLY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE CHINESE HAVE NOT YET COMMENTED ON THE US - SOUTH KOREAN PROPOSAL. A HIGH-LEVEL CHINESE DELEGATION LED BY POLITBURO MEMBER CHANG CHUN-CHIAO ARRIVED IN PYONGYANG ON SUNDAY AND THE PROPOSAL, AS WELL AS STRATEGY FOR THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON THE KOREA QUESTION, IS UNDOUBTEDLY UNDER DISCUSSION. NEITHER SIDE HAS RELEASED ANY DETAILS ON THE TALKS.

IN COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE NEW PROPOSAL, THE CHINESE WILL HAVE TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THEIR DEVELOPING TIES WITH THE US AND THEIR KEEN INTEREST IN AVOIDING INCREASED TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. AT A WELCOMING BANQUET SUNDAY NIGHT, HOWEVER, CHANG REITERATED STANDARD EXPRESSIONS OF CHINESE SUPPORT FOR PYONGYANG, SUGGESTING THAT WHEN PEKING'S RESPONSE IS VOICED—PERHAPS IN FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA'S SCHEDULED SPEECH AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY—IT WILL FIRMLY SUPPORT PYONGYANG'S POSITION.

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LIKE PYONGYANG, PEKING'S RESPONSE WILL PROBABLY BE AIMED
 PRIMARILY AT BLUNTING ANY POSSIBLE TACTICAL BENEFITS SEOUL MIGHT
 GAIN AT THE UN FROM THE US PROPOSAL.

THERE HAS BEEN NO SOVIET REACTION TO THE KOREAN PROPOSAL.

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EUROPEAN BRIEF 150-75/4

1. PORTUGAL: SEVERAL THOUSAND PORTUGUESE MILITARY ENLISTED PERSONNEL LED AN ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION IN LISBON LAST NIGHT, OPENLY CHALLENGING A PLEDGE BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE PUBLIC ORDER AND ENFORCE MILITARY DISCIPLINE.4

AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION ENDED, THE PARTICIPANTS, REINFORCED BY THOUSANDS OF LEFTIST CIVILIANS, WENT TO A MILITARY PRISON IN THE SUBURBS OF LISBON AND DEMANDED THE RELEASE OF TWO OF THEIR COMRADES WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED EARLIER. AN UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORT SAID THE TWO PRISONERS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FREED, BUT THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN DETERMINED WHO AUTHORIZED THEIR RELEASE.4

THE MILITARY POLICE FIGURED IN ANOTHER DISTURBANCE IN LISBON ON WEDNESDAY, WHEN THEY CLASHED WITH HUNDREDS OF JOBLESS ANGOLAN REFUGEES. BECAUSE OF THEIR WELL-PUBLICIZED LEFTIST LEANINGS AND THEIR REFUSAL TO EMBARK FOR ANGOLA, THE MILITARY POLICE ARE SPECIAL TARGETS FOR THE WRATH OF THE RETURNEES.4

ACCORDING TO LOCAL OBSERVERS, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF FABIAO MET WITH MILITARY REGION COMMANDERS AND OTHER KEY OFFICERS ON

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WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS DETERIORATING DISCIPLINE. THE SUBJECT
 REPORTEDLY WAS ALSO TAKEN UP THURSDAY IN A MEETING OF THE
 REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, WHICH CONTINUED LATE INTO THE NIGHT. 4

BEFORE IT CAN HOPE TO DISCIPLINE THE ENLISTED PERSONNEL, THE
 COUNCIL, IT SEEMS, WILL HAVE TO PLACE SOME RESTRAINTS UPON TWO OF
 ITS OWN MEMBERS, ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO AND GENERAL CARVALHO, BOTH
 LEADERS OF THE EXTREME LEFT NATIONALIST FACTION. UPON THEIR RETURN
 THURSDAY FROM SWEDEN AT THE HEAD OF AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION, THE
 TWO OFFICERS MADE STATEMENTS WHICH CAN ONLY PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT
 TO THOSE ELEMENTS THAT HAVE DECIDED TO DEFY THE GOVERNMENT AND
 TEST ITS METTLE. 4

ROSA COUTINHO DESCRIBED BOTH LAST NIGHT'S DEMONSTRATION AND
 THE COMMUNIST-BACKED STEELWORKERS' STRIKE ON WEDNESDAY, WHICH WAS
 AN OPEN CHALLENGE TO THE NEW ANTI-COMMUNIST LABOR MINISTER, AS
 "JUSTIFIED WARNINGS." NOT TO BE OUTDONE, THE OUTSPOKEN CARVALHO
 SAID HE WAS NOT WORRIED THAT ARMS HAD BEEN HANDED OVER BY ONE OF
 HIS OWN SECURITY OFFICERS TO LEFTIST FORCES. HE WOULD BE WORRIED,
 CARVALHO SAID, IF THE WEAPONS IN QUESTION HAD GONE TO THE RIGHTISTS.

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BUT THAT NOW THEY WERE "IN GOOD HANDS." {SECRET}Y

2. ITALY: ITALY'S CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND SOCIALISTS HAVE EACH HELD PARTY LEADERSHIP MEETINGS RECENTLY TO GRAPPLE WITH POLITICAL PROBLEMS BROUGHT ON BY THE COMMUNISTS' STRONG SHOWING IN THE NATIONWIDE LOCAL ELECTIONS LAST JUNE. THE TWO PARTIES' DIFFERING VIEWS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE COMMUNISTS REMAIN A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO RENEWAL OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THEM THAT HAS BEEN THE BASIS FOR MOST ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS SINCE 1963.Y

BOTH PARTIES SAID THEY STILL SEE PRIME MINISTER MORO'S FRAGILE GOVERNMENT—IN WHICH ONLY THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THE REPUBLICANS HOLD CABINET POSTS—AS THE ONLY VIABLE POSSIBILITY UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. THE SOCIALISTS, HOWEVER, SEEMED TO CONDITION THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIVENESS TO ORGANIZED LABOR'S DEMANDS IN MAJOR CONTRACT TALKS THAT GET UNDER WAY THIS WEEK.Y

AT THEIR GATHERING, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TOOK A STEP TOWARD THE SOCIALISTS BUT DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH TO BRIDGE THE GAP ON THE COMMUNIST ISSUE. IN A COMPROMISE REFLECTING THE SHARP DIVISIONS

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BETWEEN THE PARTY'S LEFT AND RIGHT WINGS, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS VOTED TO MAINTAIN THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE COMMUNISTS BUT TO OPEN A "COMPETITIVE DIALOGUE" WITH THEM—PROVIDED SUCH AN EXCHANGE DOES NOT BLUR THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MAJORITY AND OPPOSITION.4

PARTY LEADER ZACCAGNINI AND PRIME MINISTER MORO ARE THE MAJOR ADVOCATES OF THE "DIALOGUE" PROPOSAL, BUT THEY FACE AN UPHILL FIGHT IN TRYING TO MAKE THIS VAGUE FORMULATION SPECIFIC ENOUGH TO SATISFY THE SOCIALISTS AND STILL OBTAIN AGREEMENT WITHIN THEIR OWN PARTY. CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS HAVE WARNED THAT DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNISTS IS A LOSING PROPOSITION UNLESS THEIR PARTY FIRST DEVELOPS ITS OWN CLEAR LINE ON MAJOR POLICY QUESTIONS.4

THE SOCIALIST MEETING, MEANWHILE, UNDERLINED THE GROWING FEAR AMONG PARTY LEADERS THAT THEIR POST-ELECTION MANEUVERS HAVE HURT THE PARTY BY IDENTIFYING IT TOO CLOSELY WITH THE BETTER ORGANIZED AND STRONGER COMMUNISTS.4

SINCE JUNE, THE SOCIALISTS HAVE SHARPLY INCREASED COLLABORATION WITH THE COMMUNISTS BY FORMING GOVERNMENTS WITH THEM IN MOST MAJOR ITALIAN CITIES, 5 OF THE 20 REGIONS, AND ABOUT A THIRD OF THE 94

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PROVINCES, AND THEY HAVE REFUSED TO FORM ANOTHER NATIONAL COALITION WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WITHOUT A FORMAL PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING COMMUNIST VIEWS ON POLICY OPTIONS.4

MOST SOCIALISTS ARE CONVINCED THAT THEY SUFFERED IN THE LAST ELECTION AS A RESULT OF COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND BELIEVE THEY CANNOT COMPETE WITH THE COMMUNISTS FOR VOTER SUPPORT UNLESS THE COMMUNISTS' OPPOSITION STATUS IS DILUTED. EMPHASIS AT THE LEADERSHIP MEETING WAS ON ESTABLISHING AN "AUTONOMOUS" LINE OF ACTION TO SET THE SOCIALISTS APART FROM BOTH THE COMMUNISTS AND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS—NO SMALL TASK.4

COMMUNIST CHIEF BERLINGUER IS STAYING OUT OF THE SOCIALIST - CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT DISPUTE OVER HIS PARTY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEXT NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, THE SOCIALISTS ARE CONCERNED OVER HIS INSISTENCE THAT COMMUNIST STRATEGY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL HAS NOT CHANGED. BERLINGUER IS STILL AIMING FOR AN EVENTUAL "HISTORIC COMPROMISE" AGREEMENT WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WHICH, IF ACCOMPLISHED, WOULD MAKE SOCIALIST SUPPORT SUPERFLUOUS.4

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THE COMMUNISTS ARE NOT OVERLY JUBILANT THEMSELVES, HOWEVER, AND ARE BEING CAUTIOUS IN THOSE LOCALITIES WHERE THEY NOW HOLD POWER FOR THE FIRST TIME. THEY FEAR THAT PUBLIC REACTION TO THEIR INITIATIVES COULD SEND PROTEST VOTERS BACK TO THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS OR TO THE FAR RIGHT IN THE NEXT ELECTION. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2

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MEA BRIEF 150-75.4

1. RHODESIA: THE RHODESIAN AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL—THE UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FORMED BY FOUR BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS LAST DECEMBER—IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD ITS FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS IN SALISBURY THIS WEEKEND. THE MEETING WILL FOCUS NEW ATTENTION ON THE BITTER LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE AMONG THE NATIONALISTS THAT IS THE MOST IMMEDIATE BARRIER TO A RESUMPTION OF SETTLEMENT TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH.4

THE CONGRESS IS A TACTICAL VICTORY FOR JOSHUA NKOMO, A FORMER LEADER OF ONE OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUENT GROUPS, WHO NOW APPARENTLY CONTROLS A MAJORITY OF THE COUNCIL'S BRANCHES INSIDE RHODESIA. NKOMO'S EXPECTED BID FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COUNCIL MAY RUN INTO TROUBLE, HOWEVER, AND THE MEETING COULD END IN RIOTING BETWEEN HIS FOLLOWERS AND SALISBURY-BASED ADHERENTS OF EXILED NATIONALIST LEADERS WHO WANT TO SCRAP SETTLEMENT TALKS AND GET FOREIGN BACKING FOR A GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE.4

TWO WEEKS AGO BISHOP MUZOREWA, THE FIGUREHEAD CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL WHO HAS BEEN TRAVELING EXTENSIVELY OUTSIDE RHODESIA,

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EXPELLED NKOMO FOR ENGINEERING THE CALL FOR THE CONGRESS OVER MUZOREWA'S OBJECTIONS. ALTHOUGH MUZOREWA HAS ADVOCATED A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH SMITH, HIS BREACH WITH NKOMO HAS SEALED HIS DEPENDENCE ON NDABANINGI SITHOLE AND OTHER MILITANT EXILES.4

SHORTLY AFTER MUZOREWA EXPELLED NKOMO, ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND THE PRESIDENTS OF TANZANIA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND BOTSWANA MET WITH THE RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS IN LUSAKA BUT FAILED TO RESOLVE THE SCHISM. THE FOUR PRESIDENTS WARNED THAT THEY WOULD WITHHOLD FURTHER SUPPORT UNTIL THE COMPETING LEADERS—MUZOREWA, NKOMO, AND SITHOLE—AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. BANGLADESH: LOCAL OBSERVERS REPORT THAT AFTER ALMOST SIX WEEKS IN POWER, THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN BANGLADESH HAS DONE LITTLE TO DISTINGUISH ITSELF FROM THE OUSTED REGIME OF THE LATE PRESIDENT MUJIB. THE NEW LEADERS HAVE REAFFIRMED THE FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES OF BANGLADESH'S CONSTITUTION—NATIONALISM, SECULARISM, SOCIALISM, AND DEMOCRACY— BUT HAVE MADE VIRTUALLY NO OTHER MAJOR POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS.4

DOMESTICALLY, PRESIDENT MUSHTAQUE'S REGIME HAS IMPOSED SECURITY

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MEASURES THAT APPEAR ALMOST AS AUTHORITARIAN AS THOSE OF ITS
 PREDECESSOR. THE COUNTRY'S ILLS HAVE BEEN BLAMED ON MUJIB'S ABUSES
 OF POWER, BUT NO SWEEPING CHANGES IN HIS POLICIES HAVE BEEN
 INSTITUTED. THE FEW ECONOMIC MOVES MADE BY THE NEW LEADERS HAVE
 BEEN POLITICALLY MOTIVATED, AND SOME HAVE BEEN IN LINE WITH
 PRE-COUP POLICIES.4

IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, OBSERVERS SEE THE IMPROVED PROSPECT
 FOR TIES WITH PAKISTAN AND CHINA AS A REAFFIRMATION OF MUJIB'S
 POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL. MUJIB HIMSELF HAD SOUGHT, ALBEIT
 UNSUCCESSFULLY, TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND CHINA
 TO BALANCE THE INFLUENCE IN BANGLADESH OF INDIA AND THE SOVIET
 UNION. THE NEW GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT ITS TIES TO ISLAMABAD
 AND PEKING TO GROW TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY SOUR BANGLADESH'S
 GOOD RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND IT HAS MADE
 EFFORTS TO REASSURE THESE COUNTRIES.4

THE GOVERNMENT'S SLOW PACE MAY BE A RESULT OF ITS
 PREOCCUPATION WITH POLITICAL CONCERNS, SUCH AS SORTING OUT
 LEADERSHIP ROLES AMONG CIVILIAN AND MILITARY FIGURES IN THE

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HIERARCHY AND PROTECTING ITSELF AGAINST SECURITY THREATS. THE POST-COUP LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE MAJORS WHO LED THE COUP AND SOME SENIOR OFFICERS HAS SUBSIDED, BUT THE YOUNGER OFFICERS HAVE STILL NOT RETURNED TO THEIR UNITS. THEY ARE ADVISING MUSHTAQUE AND IN ONE CASE ARE REPORTED TO HAVE OVERRIDDEN HIS DECISION. MUSHTAQUE IS AWARE OF HIS UNCERTAIN POSITION WITH THE MILITARY AND IS PAYING CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THEIR CONCERNS.4

INTERNAL SECURITY SEEMS TO BE THE GOVERNMENT'S BIGGEST CONCERN. IN ADDITION TO IMPOSING TOUGH MARTIAL LAW REGULATIONS, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ROUNDED UP SOME ASSOCIATES OF MUJIB, SUSPENDED POLITICAL ACTIVITY, LAUNCHED A NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN TO CONFISCATE ILLEGALLY HELD ARMS, AND ABSORBED INTO THE ARMY THE RAKKHI BAHINI, A PARAMILITARY GROUP SET UP BY MUJIB AND BELIEVED LOYAL TO HIM. THE GOVERNMENT'S FEARS MAY HAVE BEEN COMPOUNDED BY PERSISTENT RUMORS THAT SOME OF MUJIB'S SUPPORTERS ARE SEEKING REVENGE FOR THE COUP.4

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GOVERNMENT MUST SET ITS HOUSE IN ORDER. THEY APPEAR WILLING TO ACQUIESCE IN THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF RIGHTS AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY FOR THE TIME BEING.

WE BELIEVE DISENCHANTMENT IS INEVITABLE BEFORE LONG. ANY GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CONSOLIDATE ITS CONTROL OVER POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY TROUBLED BANGLADESH. THE MUSHTAQUE REGIME, WITH ITS INTERNAL DIVISIONS AND LITTLE OF THE MASSIVE POPULAR APPEAL ENJOYED BY MUJIB IN HIS EARLY DAYS, WILL HAVE AN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT TIME. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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