CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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13 JULY 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam   The cabinet changes--finally an-
nounced today after repeated delays--
are not spectacular.

Defense Minister Co retains all his
functions, suggesting that Ky and Chief
of State Thieu decided not to risk con-
troversy over any downgrading of Co.

Two Buddhists, both endorsed by the
Buddhist Institute, were dropped in the
reshuffle, whereas another Buddhist not
affiliated with the institute was made
deputy premier for cultural and social
matters.

No reaction to the changes has been
reported from government functionaries
or from the remnants of the Buddhist In-
stitute.

2. Communist World   The press in Czechoslovakia--follow-
ing the lead of Soviet newspapers--is
now commenting directly on "the great
cultural revolution" in Communist China.
Last Saturday, for example, Prague's
leading party daily noted that philoso-
phy in China is now liberated from sci-
entific research and that "even simple
men without theoretical knowledge, but
armed with Mao's ideas, are able to solve
complicated philosophical problems."

To illustrate this point, the Czech
paper cited an article by a Chinese ping-
pong champion dealing with "the dialec-
tics of table tennis"; and another ar-
ticle by a Chinese hairdresser, which
utilized the "results of several years
of study of Mao's works to discover the
general laws of hairdressing."

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3. Congo

Former premier Tshombé and the South   50X1
African mercenaries in the eastern Congo
are said to be involved in a plot against
the Mobutu government.

4. Syria

the political and economic   50X1
situation throughout his country is still
deteriorating badly. On the political
side, [   ] continuing disagreements   50X1
among the military leaders and covert
machinations by the Nasirists. On the
economic, there is a day-by-day increase
in unemployment and an agricultural cri-
sis caused by the lack of rain.

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