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SENIOR EXECUTIVE INTELLIGENCE BRIEF
22 January 2001
PASS SEIB 01-017CHX

Key Current Warning Issues

The DCI Strategic Warning Committee considers the following the most critical warning issues over the next few weeks. [redacted]

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Democratic Republic of the Congo (DROC): The assassination of President Kabila has thrown the future of the DROC and its leadership into a period of great uncertainty and potential violence. Kabila's son, Army Maj. Gen. Joseph Kabila, has been appointed to run the government, but, with no clear line of succession to provide legitimacy, it is difficult to assess who will emerge as the country's permanent leader. A new leader may emerge quickly, supported by the DROC's influential Angolan and Zimbabwean allies--one ready to support their goal of a negotiated settlement to the conflict in order to consolidate his new position. Conversely, a new leader may be as hard line as Kabila and continue to seek the military defeat of the rebels. Lastly, Kabila's departure may usher in a long period of jockeying for political power in Kinshasa, resulting in a leadership vacuum that the rebels and their foreign allies can take advantage of on the battlefield. [redacted]

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Yugoslavia: Belgrade has reinforced security elements in the Presevo Valley in southern Serbia and seems poised to move against the insurgents in the safety zone separating Kosovo from Serbia. A move to clear the zone of insurgents, however, is likely to be deferred as long as the situation remains relatively calm and a negotiated settlement appears possible. The Serbs are also hoping that KFOR will be able to suppress the ethnic Albanian insurgents now operating in the safety zone. An upsurge in attacks by the insurgents would strain Belgrade's patience and may lead to a Serbian military reaction. [redacted]

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The DCI Strategic Warning Committee, chaired by the National Intelligence Officer for Warning, comprises representatives from the Directors of the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the National Imagery and Mapping Agency; the Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research; and the Deputy Director for Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency.

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