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BRLN LOND ANMA ADDI BERN MADR ANEA ALGI BOWN PARI
MUNI BACH KHAR LISS COFE NASO BEIR LEOP MEXI PROB NEWD
DAMA RABA BOBI HAGU VIEN KANI TPLI SAGO HEID ATHE JIDD
THIS CYRU THEE CBRR OSLO CAIR MOGA PACY QIVA BOHE FRAN

FIELD

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(INFO IN SLANTS, REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO LIASOON.)

1. CYPRUS: //EXPLOSION OF A BOMB AT THE BASE OF A MONUMENT TO A GREEK CYPRIOT IN NICOSIA ON 3 DEC IS LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE TO A FURTHER DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES. THE INCIDENT FOLLOWS PRESIDENT MAKARIOS' DEMAND, BUT STILL UNPUBLISHED, PRESENTATION TO TURKISH CYPRIOT VICE PRESIDENT EUCHEU OF THE GREEKS' DEMANDS FOR REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION. REPORTS THAT A GREEK CYPRIOT GUERRILLARY GROUP RECENTLY HAS BEEN RECEIVING INTENSIVE TRAINING UNDER A GREEK ARMY OFFICER STATIONED ON CYPRUS ARE ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE INCREASINGLY TENSE ATMOSPHERE ON THE ISLAND. //

2. EGYPT - SAUDI ARABIA: CAIRO MAY BE PREPARING A MAJOR PRO-PACIFIST CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE U.S. AND SAUDI ARABIA IN ANTICIPATION OF A NEW CRISIS OVER THE YEMEN DISMEMBERMENT ISSUE. RECENT EGYPTIAN

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ORIG
UNIT
EXT
DATE

INDEX
NO INDEX
CN FILE NO.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
SECRET

ROUTING

4
5
6

TO
FROM DIRECTOR
CONT
INFO

DEFERRED
ROUTINE

TO INFO CITE OR 87621

-PAGE TWO-

RADIOBROADCASTS HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY CRITICAL OF THE US-SAUDI RELATIONSHIP. THIS WEEK BOTH THE VOICE OF THE ARAB AND THE CLASSIFIED VOICE OF THE ARAB VIOLENTLY ATTACKED THE US OIL COMPANY IN SAUDI ARABIA AND THE US USE OF DHAIRAN AIRFIELD THERE AS EVIDENCE OF US EXPLOITATION AND SUBVERSION. (CONF)

3. IRAQ: //ANTI-BAAHIST OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE BEGUN TO ELIMINATE BAAHIST INFLUENCE IN THE REGIME.//

//THE BAAHIST MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, A LEADER IN THE MODERATE FACTION OF THE PARTY, HAS BEEN BASED OUT OF OFFICE AND KILLED TO RESIST WITH SEVERAL ASSOCIATES. BAAHIST VICE PRESIDENT BAKR REPORTEDLY IS ALSO LEAVING THE COUNTRY. HANDEH FIERITI, A STRONG BAAHIST WHO HOLDS THE KEY DEFENSE MINISTER POST, HAS REQUESTED A BRITISH VISA.//

//PRESSURES FOR A MOVE AGAINST BAAHISTS STILL HOLDING POSITIONS OF POWER HAVE BEEN GROWING AMONG "ARAB NATIONALIST" ARMY OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DESIRING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH SAUDI. PRESIDENT ALF HAS APPARENTLY APPROVED IN THE ACTION AGAINST THE BAAHIST BUT HIS ROLE IN THE MOVE IS NOT YET CLEAR.//

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S E C R E T

-3-

CITE DIR

8 7621

//WHILE THE ANTI-BAAHIST FACTION NOW APPEARS TO HAVE THE UPPER HAND, THE FATE OF 4TH DIVISION COMMANDER HASSAT IS NOT CERTAIN. A DEDICATED BAAHIST, HE REPORTEDLY HAS SURROUNDED BAGHDAD IN THE EXPECTATION OF A SHOWDOWN. IF HE STILL RETAINS HIS COMMAND HE MAY ATTEMPT TO REDRESS THE PRESENT SITUATION.//

//THE DECAY OF THE BAAHIST POSITION IN IRAQ IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO FURTHER UNDERMINE THE POSITION OF THE PARTY IN THE SYRIA.

4. SOMALI: //A RASH OF RAIDS FROM THE NEIGHBORING SOMALI REPUBLICS INTO KENYA'S NORTHEASTERN REGION MAY BE THE START OF A GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE REGION'S SOMALI HABITANTS ARE DETERMINED TO SECEDE FROM KENYA.//

//IN NOV, GROUPS OF ARMED SOMALIS CONDUCTED AT LEAST TEN WELL-PLANNED RAIDS INTO KENYA FROM SAFE HAVENS ACROSS THE SOMALI BORDER. BRITISH POLICE ESTIMATE THAT OVER 300 SOMALIS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE INCURSIONS AND THEY FEEL THAT THE RAIDERS' RIFLES AND GRENADES PROBABLY CAME FROM SOMALI POLICE STOCKS. RADIO MOGADISCIO HAS LONG BEAMED VETRICLIC PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS INTO THE NORTHEASTERN REGION.//

//SOMALI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE CATEGORICALLY DENIED IMPLICATING THE ATTACKS OR TRAINING COMMANDOS FOR OPERATIONS IN KENYA. THERE IS NO HARD EVIDENCE TO ASSESS THESE DENIALS. THE MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

1	
2	

CITE OR 87621

-SECRET-
-PAGE FIVE-

7. PAKISTAN: THE DEATH OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER SURHAWARDY DEPRIVES OPPOSITION FORCES IN PAKISTAN OF THE ONE LEADER ABLE TO UNITE THEM AGAINST THE AYUB REGIME. THE OPPOSITION WAS ALREADY DISHEARTENED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S IMPRESSIVE SHOWING IN RECENT BY-ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH SOME OPPOSITION LEADERS MAY TRY TO USE THE NEWS OF SURHAWARDY'S DEATH TO FOCUS ANTI-REGIME SENTIMENT, THE BASIC EFFECT PROBABLY WILL BE TO DISCOURAGE THE OPPOSITION STILL FURTHER.
(CONF)

8. CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE): THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN BRAZZAVILLE REMAINS CONFUSED AND HIGHLY UNSTABLE AS THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT PREPARES FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM AND ELECTIONS.

BOTH THE NEW CONSTITUTION AND THE CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE, WHO RUN UNOPPOSED, WILL PROBABLY BE STRONGLY ENDORSED BY THE VOTERS ON 8 DEC.

THE SUPERIOR PRESTIGE OF MODERATE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT LEADER MASSAMBA-DEBAT MAY SECURE HIS ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY WHEN AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES THAT OPEN ON 19 DEC. HIS ELECTION, HOWEVER, IS NOT CERTAIN AND IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT POWER THE PRESIDENT

SECRET

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ROUTING

SECRET

INDEX
NO INDEX
FILE IN CS FILE NO

1	5
2	5
3	16

DEFERRED
ROUTING

INFO

CITE DIR

87621

-PAGE SIX-

WILL ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO WIELD.

A NUMBER OF LEFTIST UNIONISTS AND YOUTH LEADERS ARE AMONG THE 55 LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES. SOME OF THESE LEFTISTS MAY GET IMPORTANT MINISTERIAL POSTS WHEN THE CABINET IS FORMED LATE THIS MONTH. THEY PROBABLY WILL PRESS THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT A MORE RECEPTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SOVIET BLOC AND MAY CALL FOR THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE USSR.

THE LEFTISTS MAY ALSO SEEK TO EXPLOIT THE PRESENT SITUATION WHICH HAS RECENTLY DEVELOPED REGARDING NEIGHBORING CABINDA, WHERE PORTUGUESE POLICE PURSUING NATIONALIST INSURGENTS HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER INTO THE CONGO ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS. THERE HAVE BEEN CLASHES BETWEEN PORTUGUESE AND CONGO ARMY TROOPS. (CONF)

9. MIDDLE EAST OIL: MAJOR INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES AND SECRETARY GENERAL ROUHANI OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC) STILL HAVE NOT REACHED AGREEMENT IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING INCREASED OIL REVENUE FOR MIDDLE EASTERN PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

BECAUSE THE COMPANIES REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE OPEC AS A BARGAINING AGENT ROUHANI WANTS TO REVERSE THE POLICY OF INDIVIDUAL OPEC MEMBERS.

SECRET

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

-PAGE SEVEN-

CITE DIR 87621

HE IS NEGOTIATING, HOWEVER, ON THE BASIS OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT AN OPEC MEETING LAST YEAR.

THE WESTERN OIL CONSORTIUM OPERATING IN IRAN, ACTING AS LEAD MAN FOR THE MAJOR COMPANIES, HAS OFFERED A FORMULA WHICH WOULD INCREASE PAYMENTS TO THE MIDDLE EASTERN GOVERNMENTS BY ABOUT THREE AND A HALF CENTS PER BARREL, BUT ROUHANI UP TO NOW HAS BEEN HOLDING OUT FOR A MUCH LARGER RISE. THERE IS A DISAGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF POINTS RELATING TO THE METHOD OF CALCULATING THE GOVERNMENTS' SHARES. ON 4 DEC A MEETING OF OPEC REPRESENTATIVES IN BEIRUT ANNOUNCED REJECTION OF THE CONSORTIUM'S PROPOSALS.

ROUHANI'S POSITION IS SOMEWHAT WEAKENED BY AN APPARENT TENDENCY OF THREE LEADING OPEC MEMBERS--KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, AND IRAN--TO TAKE A MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE THAN ROUHANI SEEMS TO FAVOR.

THE OPEC MEMBERS (VENEZUELA, LIBYA, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR, IRAN, KUWAIT, INDONESIA) WILL DISCUSS POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION AT THEIR NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE, SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN SAUDI ARABIA 24 DEC AT RIYADH. (CONF)

10. MOROCCO: THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY IS RECONSIDERING A DECISION ABANDONING OR ALMOST TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH

SECRET

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COPY NO.

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG :
INFO :
EXT :
DATE :

INDEX
 NO INDEX
 FILE IN CS FILE NO.

SECRET

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

TO :
FROM :
INFO :

DEFERRED
ROUTINE

INFO

CITE DIR **87621**

-PAGE EIGHT-

CUBA IN RETALIATION FOR CUBA'S MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ALGERIA.

ON 2 DEC, THE ACTING MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVED A CUBAN "GOODWILL" DELEGATION DISPATCHED TO MESSAGE KING HASSAN II TO RESTORE BILATERAL RELATIONS. AN OFFICIAL IN THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN RABAT, WHO BELIEVES THAT THE RECEPTION OF THE DELEGATION PERSUADES OFFICIAL REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS, CLAIMS THAT SOVIET DIPLOMATS ARE USING THEIR INFLUENCE TO KEEP THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN MOROCCO.

DESPITE MOROCCO'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT RELATIONS WERE RESTORED WITH CUBA, THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR ^{LA} HAS CONTINUED TO ATTEND FUNCTIONS AND TO FLY THE CUBAN FLAG AT HIS CHANCERY IN RABAT, CREATING SOME EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. (CONF)

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