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HW CIB FOR 21 DECEMBER, 1967

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VIETNAM:

NORTH VIETNAM: HEAVY DAMAGE WAS DONE TO BOTH THE PAUL DOUMER AND THE CANAL DES RAPIDES BRIDGES DURING RAIDS THIS WEEK.

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] ON 18 DECEMBER INDICATES THAT THREE SPANS OF THE DOUMER BRIDGE, TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 840 FEET, WERE DROPPED AND THAT SERIOUS DAMAGE WAS DONE TO ANOTHER 350-FOOT SPAN. [redacted] THE CANAL DES RAPIDES BRIDGE ON 16 DECEMBER SHOWS TWO DROPPED SPANS, TOTALING ABOUT 214 FEET, AND A DAMAGED THIRD SPAN. REPLACEMENT OF THE DROPPED SPANS WILL PROBABLY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS. IN THE MEANTIME, TRAFFIC CROSSING THE RED RIVER AND CANAL DES RAPIDES WILL HAVE TO USE FERRIES OR PONTOON BRIDGES.

3.3(h)(2)

[ESC-NLJ-036 98 B/1 p.189]

3.3(h)(2)

[REDACTED]

THE CHINES MAY HAVE BEEN MOVING EQUIPMENT TO BOTH CHINESE AND NORTH VIETNAMESE UNITS. A CHINESE ANTI-AIRCRAFT DIVISION IS BELIEVED LOCATED NEAR THAI NGUYEN.

[REDACTED] INDICATE THAT CHINESE LOGISTIC, CONSTRUCTION, AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS ARE IN NORTH VIETNAM. [REDACTED] DO NOT SUGGEST THAT ANY ORGANIZED CHINESE GROUND COMBAT FORCES ARE THERE.

3.3(h)(2)

3.3(h)(2)

LAOS: TRUCK TRAFFIC IN THE LAOS PANHANDLE DURING THE PAST SIX WEEKS IS ABOUT THE SAME AS IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR, BUT OTHER INDICATIONS POINT TO A POSSIBLE OVER-ALL INCREASE DURING THE WINTER.

TRUCKS MOVING SOUTH NEAR THE MU GIA PASS AND ALONG ROUTES 23 AND 911 AVERAGED 13, 11, AND SIX A DAY, RESPECTIVELY, BETWEEN 1 NOVEMBER AND 14 DECEMBER. ROUTE 914 IN THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE HAD A DAILY AVERAGE OF FOUR, BUT LITTLE OR NO SOUTHWARD-BOUND TRAFFIC WAS REPORTED ON OTHER ROUTES IN THIS AREA. [REDACTED]

3.3(h)(2)

[SC-ND-030/98 BA p.289]

3.3(h)(2)

[REDACTED] THE SOUTHERN PANHANDLE, HOWEVER, SHOWS THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE PRESSING AHEAD WITH ROAD REPAIRS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS, SUGGESTING THAT THEY EXPECT TO MOVE MORE SUPPLIES THROUGH THE AREA DURING THIS DRY SEASON THAN THEY DID DURING THE LAST ONE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.5(c)

DAHOMY: THE FLEDGLING REGIME FACES A STRIKE BY LEFTIST LABOR ELEMENTS THAT COULD LEAD TO FURTHER DISRUPTIONS.

A NEWLY CREATED "INTERSYNDICAL COMMITTEE," EVIDENTLY DOMINATED BY LEFTIST UNION LEADERS, HAS CIRCULATED STRIDENT TRACTS CALLING ON THE REGIME TO RESCIND ALL AU-STERITY MEASURES AFFECTING WORKERS OR FACE A NEW STRIKE TODAY. THE TRACTS ALSO CALL FOR AN END TO FOREIGN "EX-PLOITATION" AND FOR A LESSENING OF FRENCH AND US INFLU-ENCE. THE LABOR ELEMENTS RESPONSIBLE, ENCOURAGED BY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LAST WEEK'S GENERAL STRIKE, EVIDENTLY HOPE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENT UNREST AND DISCORD WITHIN THE MILITARY.

IF THERE IS A NEW STRIKE, THE INEXPERIENCED YOUNG OFFICERS WHO DOMINATE THE REGIME MAY ATTEMPT TO SUP-PRESS IT WITH FORCE. THIS COULD LEAD TO BLOODSHED AND PERHAPS GENERAL CHAOS. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THEY GIVE IN TO

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LABOR'S DAMANDS, THE COUNTRY'S ALREADY BLEAK FINANCIAL STATUS WOULD WORSEN. THE FRENCH HAVE NOT YET ADVANCED THE FUNDS PROMISED TO SOGLO LAST MONTH. PARIS MAY NOW BE WILLING, HOWEVER, TO DEAL WITH THE KOUANDETE REGIME NOW THAT SOGLO HAS ESCAPED TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN COTONOU.

3.3(h)(2)

NIGERIA: FEDERAL FORCES HAVE KEPT THE UPPER HAND, BUT AN END TO THE CIVIL WAR IS NOT IN SIGHT.

FEDERAL TROOPS AT ENUGU AND BONNY HAVE BEATEN OFF A SERIES OF REBEL ATTACKS, BOTH SIDES SUSTAINING AIRLY HEAVY LOSSES. GENERAL GOWON, DISTURBED AT THE LACK OF PROGRESS OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS, HAS ORDERED RELUCTANT FIELD COMMANDERS TO STEP UP ACTIVITY. TROOPS IN ENUGU AND ASABA MAY NOW RENEW OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS, ESPECILLY IF FEDERAL REPORTS OF THE CAPTURE OF EMENE AND NKALAGU ARE CORRECT. THE FEDERAL AIR FORCE MAY

[ESC-NLS-034/98 B/A 0-489]

NOW BE ABLE TO USE ENUGHU AIRFIELD, BUT A FEDERAL ADVANCE SOUTH OF THE FORMER BIAFRAN CAPITAL IS STILL LIKELY TO BE SLOW AND COSTLY.

FEDERAL MIGS AND L-29S, OPERATING MAINLY FROM CALABAR, ARE BEING USED IN A TACTICAL SUPPORT ROLE. LAGOS CLAIMS THAT THEY HAVE OPERATED EFFECTIVELY AGAINST BIAFRAN REINFORCEMENTS AND RETREATING TROOPS IN THE BONNY AREA. BIAFRA'S FEW VINTAGE BOMBERS HAVE BEEN OUT OF ACTION FOR SOME TIME BECAUSE OF RAIDS ON PORT HARCOURT AIRFIELD, WHERE THE MIGS RECENTLY HIT A TRANSPORT PLANE THAT HAD JUST LANDED.

LAGOS IS ACQUIRING SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. THE UK'S RECENT DECISION TO SUPPLY MOST OF ITS NEEDS HAS RESULTED IN ORDERS FOR PLANES, ARMORED CARS, AND ARTILLERY. GOWON REPORTEDLY HAS APPROVED THE EXPENDITURE OF OVER \$26 MILLION TO MEET THESE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS. BIAFRA, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS GETTING ONLY A TRICKLE, MOSTLY SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

BIAFRA IS LOOKING FOR MERCENARY SUPPORT. SOME FRENCH MERCENARIES, WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SERVED IN THE CONGO OR YEMEN, HAVE ARRIVED IN BIAFRA, AND MORE MAY BE ON THE WAY.

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**ALL EFFORTS TO GET THE TWO SIDES TOGETHER FOR PEACE
TALKS HAVE FAILED, AND FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR TALKS ARE
DIM.** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

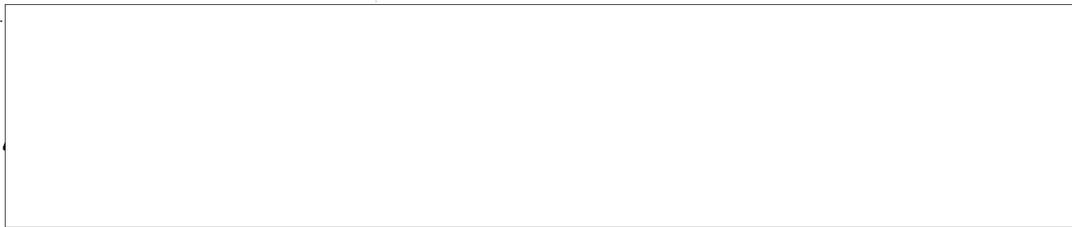
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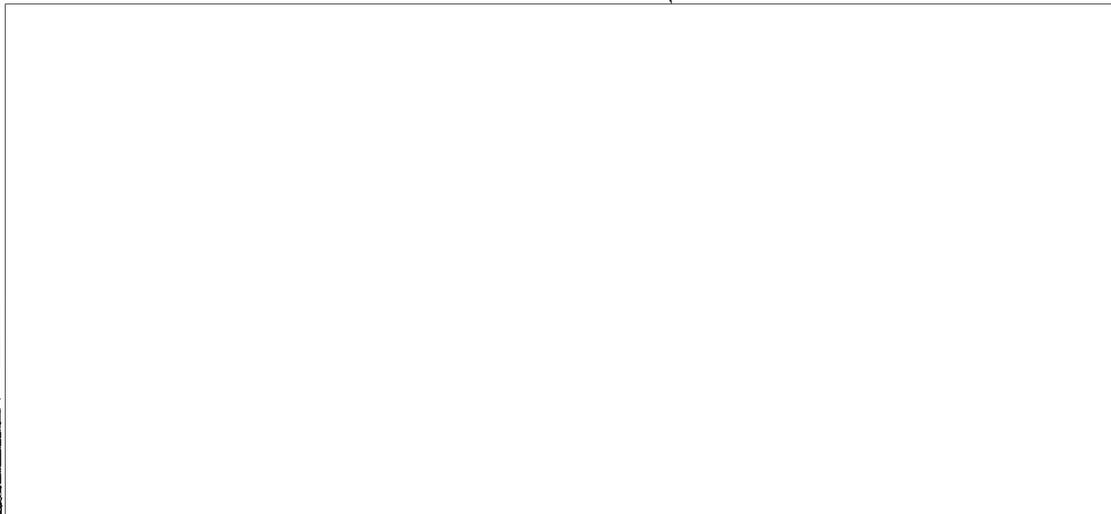
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[EX-NLS-036/98 19/ p. 6]

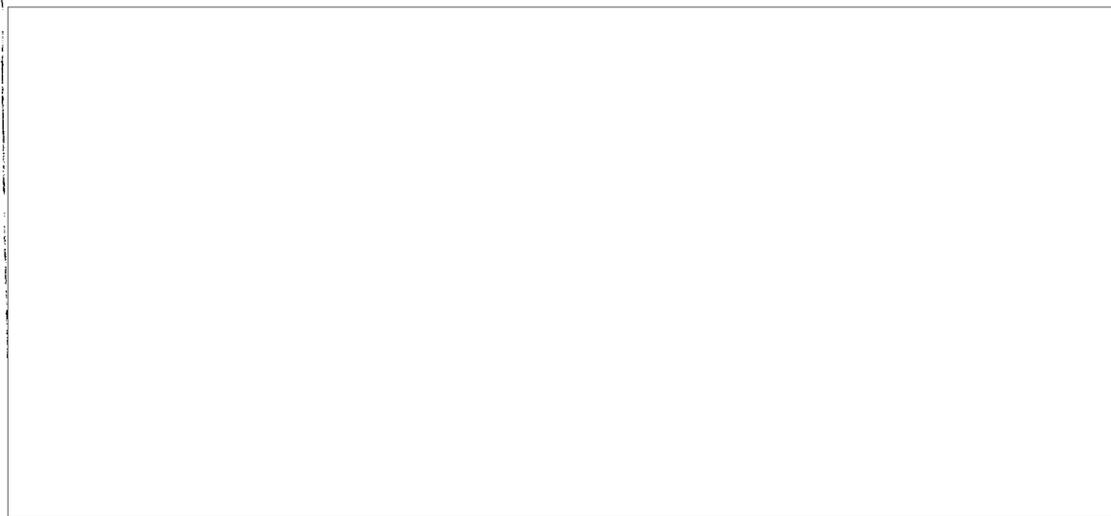
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[SC-MS-C-3015-8/1 0847]

THE COMMUNIST PRESS IN HONG KONG KEEPS AT ITS ANTI-BRITISH PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. THE MAIN THEMES, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN LONG-RANGE SOCIAL ANDECONOMIC PROBLEMS. BOMB INCIDENTS HAVE NOT BEEN PLAYED UP AND THERE HAS BEEN NO ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE ACTS OF VIOLENCE. SPORADIC TERRORIST ACTIVITY CONTINUES BUT AT A GREATLY REDUCED RATE. [REDACTED]

3.3(h)(2)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[SC-NL]-136/TS BA C-989]