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CONTROLS

SERIAL: DODID 10-12A

TEXT

SUBJ: CHINA: SECURITY. (U)
DOI: 10 JAN 92 (AS OF 1705 EST)
TEXT: 1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CHINESE AUTHORITIES REMAIN DETERMINED TO SUPPRESS

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ORGANIZED DISSENT.

2. HIGH-LEVEL SECURITY OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY CONCLUDED AT A RECENT MEETING THAT SUPPRESSION OF DISSENT SHOULD SUPERSEDE A CRACKDOWN ON CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. THE GROUP RESOLVED TO FOCUS EFFORTS ON SPECIFIC ELEMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

- RINGLEADERS OF ILLEGAL (POLITICAL) ORGANIZATIONS
- "STUBBORN BOURGEOIS-LIBERAL ACTIVISTS"
- ANTIGOVERNMENT ACTIVISTS FROM OUTSIDE CHINA-
- "NATIONAL SEPARATISTS" (ETHNIC MINORITIES)
- "COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES OF THE RELIGIOUS CIRCLE" (MAINLY LEADERS OF NON-STATE-SPONSORED CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS AND CERTAIN MUSLIM GROUPS)

3. THE REGIME'S HARD-LINE ATTITUDE ON DISSENT IS ALSO EVIDENT IN ITS HEAVYHANDED HANDLING OF TWO RECENT, RELATED INCIDENTS. SECURITY AUTHORITIES IN BEIJING FORCED FRIENDS OF A RECENTLY DECEASED LEADER OF THE 1989 PRODEMOCRACY MOVEMENT, WEN JIE, TO ABANDON PLANS TO USE WEN'S FUNERAL TO MAKE A PROTEST STATEMENT. ONE OF THE FUNERAL ORGANIZERS HAS APPARENTLY BEEN DETAINED AND IS BEING HELD INCOMMUNICADO. LATER' THREE CANADIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE FORCIBLY EXPELLED FROM CHINA AFTER MEETING WITH RELATIVES OF JAILED DISSIDENT LEADERS, WANG JUNTAO AND CHEN ZIMING. THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HAD ALSO PLANNED TO LAY FLOWERS ON WEN JIE'S GRAVE. MEANWHILE, HUNDREDS, POSSIBLY THOUSANDS, OF PEOPLE WHO WERE ACCUSED OR SUSPECTED OF HAVING A ROLE IN 1989'S PRODEMOCRACY MOVEMENT REMAIN INCARCERATED IN JAILS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. MANY HAVE APPARENTLY NEVER HAD FORMAL CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST THEM.

4. COMMENT: REPRESSIVE MEASURES IMPOSED AFTER THE TIANANMEN SQUARE INCIDENT IN 1989 HAVE EFFECTIVELY SUBDUED MOST OVERT MANIFESTATIONS OF POLITICAL DISSENT. SPORADIC ANTIREGIME EVENTS, MOST INVOLVING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE PAST TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS, BUT NO LARGE, SUSTAINED PROTESTS HAVE OCCURRED. HOWEVER, SEVERAL RECENT INCIDENTS SIGNAL THAT WIDESPREAD DISSATISFACTION PERSISTS, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE INTELLECTUAL ELITE. THE INCIDENTS ALSO SUGGEST THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THE POLITICALLY DISAFFECTED BELIEVE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON CHINA REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS HAS GIVEN THEM THE BEST OPPORTUNITY SINCE TIANANMEN TO MANIFEST THEIR DISPLEASURE WITH RELATIVE IMPUNITY. THESE DISSIDENTS MAY NOW BE EMBOLDENED TO TEST THE LIMITS OF REGIME INTOLERANCE.

5. (U) COMING SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARIES.

- 11 JAN: LIFTING OF MARTIAL LAW IN BEIJING (1990)
- 4 FEB: SPRING FESTIVAL (CHINESE/LUNAR NEW YEAR)
- 5 MAR: ANNIVERSARY OF VIOLENCE IN TIBET (1988)
- 7 MAR: MARTIAL LAW IMPOSED IN TIBET (1989)
- 13 MAR: BEGINNING OF TIBETAN REBELLION (1959)
- 28 MAR: DALAI LAMA DEPOSED BY BEIJING (1959)
- 29 MAR: ARREST OF DISSIDENT WEI JINGSHEN (1979)
- 5 APR: ANTIGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN TIANANMEN SQUARE (1989)
- 15 APR: DEATH OF HU YAOBANG (1989) (SPARKED PRO-DEMOCRACY DEMONSTRATIONS IN TIANANMEN SQUARE)
- 4 MAY: STUDENT UPRISING IN BEIJING (1919) (SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT AND EMOTIONALLY CHARGED)
- 20 MAY: DECLARATION OF MARTIAL LAW IN BEIJING AND DEPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY TROOPS IN THE CAPITAL (1989)
- 23 MAY: DECLARATION OF CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER TIBET (1951)
- 4 JUN: THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF TIANANMEN SQUARE INCIDENT

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6. [REDACTED] A SERIES OF SENSITIVE ANNIVERSARIES COMING UP THROUGH THE SPRING MAY PROVIDE SYMBOLIC PRETEXTS FOR RELEASING THE PENT-UP FRUSTRATIONS OF THE ALIENATED AND THE DISAFFECTED. HOWEVER, THE DISSIDENTS ARE LIKELY TO FIND THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERSHIP IS AS COMMITTED AS EVER TO MAINTAINING THE APPEARANCE OF INTERNAL STABILITY. THEREFORE, IT IS WILLING TO USE WHATEVER FORCE IS NECESSARY TO CONTROL DISSENT.

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ADMIN

PREP: [REDACTED]

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END OF MESSAGE

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