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COUNTRY THREAT FILE CODEBOOK

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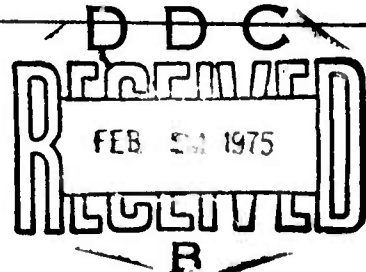
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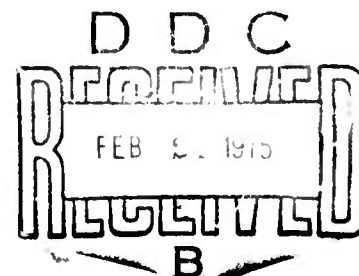
COUNTRY THREAT FILE CODEBOOK

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January, 1975

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COUNTRY THREAT FILE CODEBOOK

INTRODUCTION

The Country Threat File is a concise computerized data file designed to monitor each nation's domestic and international situation. The purpose of monitoring is to provide significant contextual information on a state's recent events and policy focus, major problems and active threats, and ongoing changes that may lead to major policy shifts and other such considerations for the international system. This type of data file is very informative and time-saving for analysts. For at their terminal fingertips are such nation specific data as active and latent threats, national resources and strengths available to withstand or carry out threats and major policy changes, national dependencies that restrict policy actions and make nations economically and politically vulnerable, and the group of nations and organizations that might support and come to the aid of a specific nation.

There are numerous types of data variables in the Country Threat File since there is a wide variety of information necessary to adequately monitor a nation. For example, there is a collection of situational attribute data such as population, gross national product, memberships in international organizations and military alliances, raw material resources, military size and expenditures. Secondly, there is transactional data such as economic and military aid, trade, and raw material flows. Another data type, event-interactions, includes quarterly accounts of domestic and international agreements and treaties, visits, support statements and actions, proposals, protests, demonstrations, warnings, verbal threats, police and military actions. Finally, there is a generalized categorization of threats to and from each nation which allows easy cross-nation comparisons for analysis.

This is the Country Threat File's first data collection effort. It is not intended as a final unchangeable dataset. Rather this first effort is to get initial data onto a retrievable computer file, to analyze the data, and to reformulate and refine the types of data needed for such a file. Therefore after initial analysis, new data items may be added and current items discarded.

DATA CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

The current data categories are:

1. Nation background information which includes:
 - a) nation identification: country name, 3 letter WEIS alpha code + 3 digit WEIS numeric code for that nation, month and year of update.
 - b) leadership: the titles and names of the nation's leaders, head of state(HST), foreign(FOR) defense(DEF) interior (INT) and finance(FIN) ministers. Titles such as President (PRS), Premier(PRM), Prime Minister(PM), and military rankings such as general(GEN) are included. The main source is the periodical CURRENT LEADERS. Changes in leadership are noted and clipped from the newspapers. These clippings and the latest CURRENT LEADERS provide the information for the Quarterly updates.
France EXAMPLE=HST:PRS Valery Giscard D'Estaing
FOR: M. Jobert INT: J. Chirac DEF: A. Bord
 - c) area, population(POP) and borders(BOR): originally taken from INFORMATION PLEASE ALMANAC and the WORLD ALMANAC 1974, because of the Almanacs' concise, up-to-date, and easy to read organization. For update data, check the 1975 editions.
France EXAMPLE=AREA:0,212,918 POP:051,915,000
BOR:BEL BOR:LUX BOR:GMW BOR:SWZ BOR:ITA BOR:SPN
 - d) gross national product(GNP): the latest figures obtainable are taken from MILITARY BALANCE 1973-1974.
France EXAMPLE=GNP:202,000,000,000
 - e) gross national product per capita(GNPPC): this standardization figure is calculated by dividing our latest GNP/POP, no dollar sign is necessary. Calculations are personally done by way of computer terminals using a CPS calculation program.
France EXAMPLE=GNPPC:3890

Complete nation background information example:

France FRN 220 1274
HST:PRS Valery Giscard D'Estaing;
FOR:M. Jobert; INT:J. Chirac; DEF:A. Bord;
AREA:0,212,918; POP:051,915,000;
GNP:0,202,000,000,000; GNPPC:3890;
BOR:BEL; BOR:LUX; BOR:GMW; BOR:SWZ; BOR:ITA; BOR:SPN; BOR:AND;

2. Affiliations is a category that attempts to show the nation's recent ties in terms of their organizational and alliance memberships, military commitments, and recent political commitments and agreements. It includes:

- a) organizations to which the nation currently belongs. Include all types of organizations especially security or military alliances. If the organization contains less than 7 members, include the 3 letter alpha code of the members in parentheses after the organization's name. A list of organizations and member states is in EUROPA YEARBOOK 1973 vol. 1, (VKC desk ref JN 1 E85). There will be a special computer file containing all organizations and member nations so that an analyst may see the specific nation links of organizational memberships. SOURCES: WORLD ALMANAC 1974 (inhouse), DUPUY'S ALMANAC OF WORLD MILITARY POWER 1972 (VKC desk ref Ua 15 D9 1972). Peru EXAMPLE=ORG:UHO; ORG:OAS; ORG:LAFTA; ORG:Andean Common Market(BOL CHL COL ECU VEN);
- b) Agreements: formal treaties, formal and informal agreements of any nature--political, economic, military, scientific and cultural. Include the nation(s) and/or organizations in the agreement and a short description of its type. These are intended to show the nation's current attention focus, therefore this category will be updated quarterly. For the first pass, agreements will begin with January 1, 1974 to the obtainable present. SOURCES: KEESING'S CONTEMPORARY ARCHIVES 1974 (inhouse) use nation index summary listings of agreements, and TOL WEISCANS for each nation. France EXAMPLE=AGREEMENTS:USR petro development, CAO CON GAB SEN cooperation, MOR compensation, SPM delimitation of continental shelf and territorial waters;
3. Dependencies is a category that attempts to show the nation's dependency links and possible vulnerabilities with other nations in trade, aid, and military affairs. It includes
- a) Trade: (1) list the import and export commodities that make up approximately 2/3's of that nation's total trade. And for each commodity, list its percentage of total trade type--import or export. For example, France's number one import is machinery and transport equipment which accounts for 25% of France's total imports. And France's number one export is machinery which accounts for 25% of France's total exports. Thus, France's EXAMPLE=+machinery transport equipment 26, -machinery 25; (2) list the major trading nations of each nation, major being 2/3's of the total trade amount. List the nation by its 3 letter alpha code and its associated percentage. For example, France's leading supplier is the EEC bloc which accounts for 50% of France's import origins. And France's leading customer is the EEC which accounts for 49% of France's export origins. Thus the French EXAMPLE=+EEC 50, -EEC 49;. It is not necessary to include the percentage signs in the computer file. And the convention

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has been adopted of using + signs to stand for items that enter a nation such as imports, and - signs to stand for items that leave a nation such as exports. This convention is also used in aid and military dependency categories. France EXAMPLE=TRADE:+machinery transport equipment 26, manufactures 21, non-electric machinery 14, EEC 50, USA 8, UNK 5, -machinery 25, motor vehicles 16, textiles 11, EEC 49 USA 5, SWZ 5;

SOURCES:export commodities, export and import nations were taken from INFORMATION PLEASE ALMANAC 1974(Doheny ref rm AY 64 155) since they are listed with their percentages already calculated. Other sources such as DIRECTION OF TRADE and EUROPA YEARBOOK 1973 also give this information but not in percentages, they list the amounts in local currency and one would have to calculate the percentages personally. Therefore the Almanac was used but check calculations were made to ensure validity and reliability between the sources. Import commodities and percentages are taken from EUROPA YEARBOOKS vol. 1&2 1973(VKC desk ref JN 1 E85) and the percentages must be personally calculated. Therefore coders must look at EUROPA trade tables by nation, determine the top 2/3's import commodities, write down their name and currency amount along with the import currency total. These figures are then calculated into percentages on the computer terminals by way of the CPS calculation programs.

- b) Economic Aid: this category includes official bilateral, capital developmental and technical assistance aid, export credits, and investments. The current problem is the sparse information available. Therefore, until better sources can be found, this category will vary greatly in terms of detail in nation suppliers and receivers, and amounts. Include the 3 letter alpha code for nations involved, the type of aid and amount when given. Again the convention of + signs for that which comes into a nation, and - signs for that which leaves a nation is used. And we use a first-letter indicator to label a currency amount, such as m=million, t=thousand.

Peru EXAMPLE=ECONOMIC-AID:+GNW export credits 5m, +NTH capital aid 10m, +SWZ development project and investments; France EXAMPLE=ECONOMIC-AID:-85% France zone former colonies -ALG 13%, -CAO IVO MOR TUN NIR GAB 33%; SOURCES:OECD RESOURCES FOR A DEVELOPING WORLD (VKC ref rm HG4517 07 1962-1968) now inhouse on code sheets.

- c) Military dependencies includes various types of information such as defense pacts, troop training, troops and bases, military aid and arm sales.
- (1) For defense pacts, list the name of the pact such as NATO or the 3 letter alpha code of the nations involved.
 - (2) For troops and bases, we are interested in whether that nation has its own troops and bases on foreign soil, and whether there are foreign troops and bases on that

nation's territory. Therefore use the + and - conventions to signify whether the nation receives(+) or sends(-) troops and /or bases, and the 3 letter alpha code for the nations involved.

(3) For troop training, again use the convention of + for a nation receiving training by another nation, and - for a nation sending training to another nation, and of course the 3 letter alpha code for the nations involved.

(4) For military aid, continue the convention of + signs for those receiving aid and - signs for those sending aid, and the 3 letter alpha codes. Include the amount when given. Thus if it is France's Country Threat File and France sends military aid to Ivory Coast worth 2 million dollars, the entry would be MILITARY-AID:-IVO2m; If it is Ivory Coast's Country Threat File, the entry would be MILITARY-AID:+FRN2m;

SOURCES: the above categories of data are found in the narrative portions of DUPUY'S WORLD ALMANAC OF MILITARY POWER 1972 (VKC desk ref Ua 15 D9 1972). DUPUY'S is organized by nations. Thus those military dependency items present are scattered throughout the narrative. The coders must copy the relevant information out of the narrative onto code sheets. And the detail of the information will vary for the different nations.

(5) Arm sales information is currently available for the USA on an inhouse zerox sheet, and for other nations if listed in KEESING'S CONTEMPORARY ARCHIVES 1974.

Again the important information is whether the arms are coming into the nation(+ for bought) or out of a nation (- for sales), the 3 letter nation alpha codes, and currency amounts or specific armament sold if available.

France EXAMPLE=DEFENSE-PACT:NATO, former colonies;
TROOPS+BASES:-GMW WDE GHA MAG SEN; MILITARY-AID:+USA;
ARM-SALES:+USA15m, -KUW SAU GRC;

Peru EXAMPLE=MILITARY-AID:+USA1.9m; ARM-SALES:+USA5m,
+USR tanks, +3 FRN supersonic jets;

4. Strengths and Resources is a category that attempts to indicate the strategic capabilities of a nation particularly when it is necessary to withstand or to carry out a threat. It includes:

- a) Resources: raw material and food production if the nation is one of the top 10 world producers of a specific resource. List the nation's rank in world production, the name of the resource, and that nation's percentage of world total production. For example, if Peru is the world's 7th ranked producer of copper and Peru's 1972 yearly production of copper amounts to 3% of world's total yearly production of copper, the entry would be
RESOURCES:7 copper 3%, the percentage sign is included here to clarify it from the ranking number.
The above information is based on a chart ranking the top 10 nations in numerous raw materials and foods,

which was zeroxed from the INFORMATION PLEASE ALMANAC 1974 and is now inhouse. To get the percentage calculations, the UN STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 1973 was used to get the nation and world totals. Percentages were then personally calculated on computer terminals using the CPS programs. Thus the 10 nations, their ranks and percentages for various raw materials and foodstuffs are now on an inhouse chart. Therefore coders need only consult this chart.

The second step of resources involves finding out to which nations the raw materials are exported and in what amount. For example, to whom does Peru export its copper and in what amount? This information is located in Seaver Science Library First Floor ref section 1971 MINERALS YEARBOOK vol. III, AREA REPORTS: INTERNATIONAL, TN 23 U612 vol:3. The book is organized by nations and contains tables on export minerals, amounts exported, and customer nations. The coder must find the specific nation tables, then the mineral entry and copy the total amount exported, the customer nations listed and their amounts. The percentages are then personally calculated on computer terminals using the CPS programs.

Peru EXAMPLE=RESOURCES:1 fishmeal, 7 copper 3%(JAP 82%, SPN 7%), 4 silver 13%;

Thus Peru produces 3% of the world's total copper product and of this 3%, 82% is exported to Japan and 7% is exported to Spain.

- b) Military strength includes indicators of the national resources devoted to the military sector. This includes:
- (1) Total armed forces(TAF) which is the total numeric listed in MILITARY BALANCE 1973-1974(VKC desk ref UA 15 L65 1973-1974). This information has already been put onto inhouse code sheets.
 - (2) Total armed forces as a percentage of pop(TAF%POP) which is the personally calculated division of TAF/POP. This is used as a standardization measure.
 - (3) Military expenditures(ME) is the total USA currency equivalents listed in MILITARY BALANCE 1973-1974, and is on inhouse code sheets.
 - (4) Military expenditures as a percentage of gnp(ME%GNP) is personally calculated by dividing ME/GNP. Again this is a standarization measure.
 - (5) The keyword nuclear will be listed only if that nation has nuclear capabilities.
- France EXAMPLE=TAF:0,503,600; TAF%POP:00.97;
ME:08,448,000,000; ME%GNP:04.20; NUCLEAR

5. Vital Concerns are brief keyword categories of a nation's salient threat situation, international and domestic. Vital concerns may contain strategic considerations, latent and active, and actual military conflict. If you ask the question, what kinds of things are the leaders and people of country X

concerned about, what do they worry about, why have they been taking their recent actions and policies, some of the answers will fall under the vital concerns listing. Of course we are interested in the concerns that have significance for other nations. For example, internal hostility between rulers and the populace may eventually bring down the rulers and institute another form of government to which foreign governments would then have to adjust and respond. Other examples include border disputes, 200 mile offshore fishing limits, agricultural failures, food and energy crises, nationalizations of foreign enterprises, deteriorating bilateral relations, guerrilla terrorism, civil disruptions or hostility due to minorities or foreign workers, raw material dependencies, economic competition, trade deficits, disputed territories, control of waterways, coup d'etats, breaking of diplomatic relations, withdrawal from organizations or alliances, war, famines, inflation, droughts, and so forth. We are not interested in specific sequences of events, but what these events are about--the why of the actions.

The priority ratings indicate the range of vital concerns from attention-absorbing and the most threatening, to ones that are latent and of no immediate concern. For this initial pass, the assignment of priority ratings is very subjective and secondary to developing the categories of vital concerns. After initial data entry, a real effort will be made to systemitize priority ratings.

Peru EXAMPLE=prio1:internal security problems, authoritarian military junta + workers students
 prio2:200 mile offshore territorial claim;
 prio3:agricultural failure, anchovies--economy base;
 prio4:nationalization USA oil company, refused compensation, USA loan credit cutoff;
 prio5:nationalization USA mining corporation;
 prio6:nationalization international fishmeal company;
 prio7:EQU border dispute, latent;

SOURCES:These concerns are not available in any one source. Coders should list the types of vital concerns mentioned as they go through all the information sources such as KEESING'S, DUPUY'S, TOL WEISCANS, EUROPA YEARBOOK, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE BACKGROUND NOTES, and any personal knowledge. The coder responsible for gathering the nation's data should develop a first list as comprehensive as possible. This list will be given to other coders, research analysts, and study team managers to add and refine the vital concern entries. For this is a group effort in developing initial and amendable categories of vital concerns, and eventually priority ratings.

6. The events category includes the extraordinary, nonregularized events per nation for the last quarter. However, the first data gathering will begin with January 1, 1974 to the obtainable present. The events are in the form who did what to whom about

what. The types of events may be internal or external, tension producing or tension reducing. For example, the types include coups, major strikes and protests, border conflicts, denunciations, protests, walkouts, visits, conferences, and so forth. Include the nations and/or organizations involved in the event in terms of their 3 letter alpha codes, the event type and what the event is about.

France EXAMPLE=EVENTS:AUL + NEW protest FRN Pacific
nuclear test,
FRN minister symbolic walkout EEC
agricultural meeting,
franc floating,
3 month suspension foreign workers entry
visas;

SOURCES:KEESING'S CONTEMPORARY ARCHIVES 1974 (inhouse),
refer to nation index, TOL WEISCANS for each nation.

EXAMPLE

Country Threat File: France

France FRN 220 1174
 HST:PRS Valery Giscard D'Estaing;
 FOR:M. Jobert; INT:J. Chirac; DEF:A. Bord;
 AREA:0,212,918; POP:051,915,000; GNP:0,202,000,000,000; GNPPC:3890;
 BOR:BEL; BOR:LUX; BOR:GMW; BOR:SWZ; BOR:ITA; BOR:SPN; BOR:AND;
 AFF=ORG:NATO; ORG:WEU; ORG:EEC; ORG:UNO; ORG:OECD; ORG:SEATO;
 AGREEMENTS:USR petro development, LBY development, ALG petro
 development, CAO CON GAB SEN cooperation, MOR compensation,
 SPN delimitation of continental shelf+territorial waters;
 DEP=TRADE:+machinery transport 26, manufactures 21, non-electric
 machinery 14, EEC 50, USA 8, UNK 5, -machinery 25, motor
 vehicles 16, textiles 11, EEC 49, USA 5, SWZ 5;
 ECONOMIC-AID:-85% France zone former colonies, -ALG 13% -CAO
 IVO MOR TUN NIR GAB 33%;
 DEFENSE-PACTS:NATO,not in military command structure, former
 colonies; TROOPS+BASES:-GMW WBE CHA MAG FRN Somaliland
 Afars+Issas SEN; MILITARY-AID:+USA; ARM-SALES:+USA15m, -KUW
 SAU GRC Abu Dhabi;
 S&R=RESOURCES:3 uranium 8%, 6 bauxite 5%(GMW 57%, UNK 28%, ITA 11%)
 7 iron ore (BEL-LUX 73%, GMW 27%);
 MILITARY:TAF:0,503,600; TAF%POP:00.97; NE:08,488,000,000;
 IE%GNP:04.20; NUCLEAR
 VITAL CONCERNS=priority1:internal political fragmentation +
 coalition maintenance;
 priority2:independent nuclear defense capability;
 priority3:nuclear tests Pacific Ocean;
 priority4:superpower dominance global politics;
 priority5:USA dominance European politics + military
 policies;
 priority6:West Europe economic+political leadership
 competition GMW;
 priority7:dependence on Arab oil;
 priority8:EEC cooperation + further integration;
 priority9:UNK role in EEC;
 priority10:relationship with former colonies,
 exploitation charges;
 priority11:foreign workers;
 priority12:Basque separatist guerrillas;
 priority13:FRN-GMW border;
 EVENTS:AUL+NEW protest FRN Pacific nuclear tests,
 FRN EEC minister symbolic walkout EEC agricultural meeting,
 FRN rejects ICJ rulings as binding,
 franc floating,
 3 month suspension foreign workers entry visas;

CONCLUSION

As of this writing, the Country Threat File is in the final stages of initial data collection. Thus no real data analysis has been possible. However it is possible to make a number of comments on improvements for future updates. The first problem has been scarcity of overall data for some of the smaller nations, and scarcity of economic aid and military data for most nations. Therefore the inherent search for sources will continue. Secondly, there are systemic threats that cannot be adequately handled in a nation file. Therefore we will investigate the feasibility of covering such topics as food, energy, sea resources, and atmospheric pollution by way of special topic files which focus on global flows and changes. A third problem has been the event recording of nations involved in active military action. For example, there was great duplication of effort and rather one-sided accounts on military actions in Cyprus and the Middle East. Therefore the event sequencing of future military encounters will be put into special separate files dealing with the interaction of all parties in the conflict. A reference statement will be included in a nation's file if it was involved in an international military encounter. For example, a simple reference statement such as "SEE CYPRUS1" could be placed in the country threat files of Cyprus, Greece, Turkey and England to direct the analyst to a complete interaction recount. Finally, another data category containing broad foreign policy statements and explanations is needed. This would provide a motivational and perceptual supplement to the events category. Possible sources include the opening statements of the United Nations General Assembly and State-of-the-Nation type speeches in addition to our usual news sources. We will investigate these proposed changes for the next quarterly update.

The first analysis of the Country Threat File will focus on pinpointing where the active "hot spots" are in the international system. Hot spots include issues involving actual military hostilities, issues that appear to be on the verge of breaking into military hostilities, or issues that are beginning to involve intense non-military pressures such as economic or organizational sanctions. In a way, this first analysis is to test whether the Country Threat File actually detects the active threats in the international system. Then analysis can proceed along many lines; for example, tracing the development of threats and their results, potential threat areas, types of threats common to types of nations, and the types of threats that increasingly and decreasingly appear domestically and internationally.