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14 September 1963



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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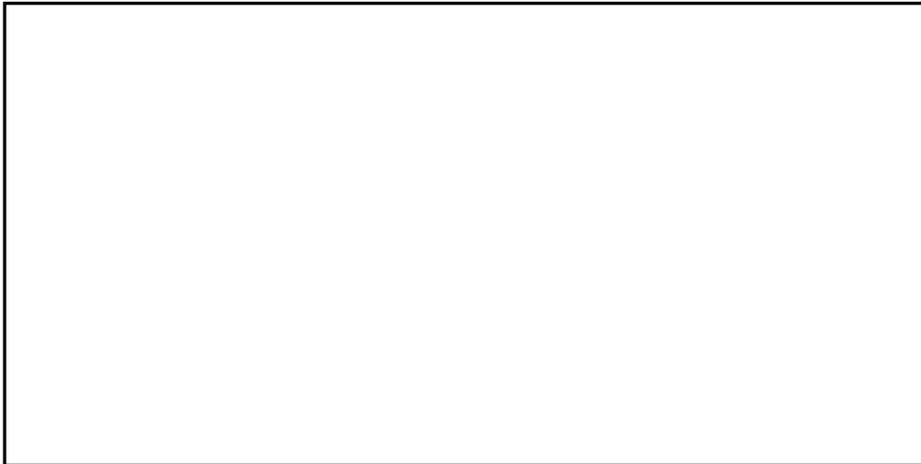
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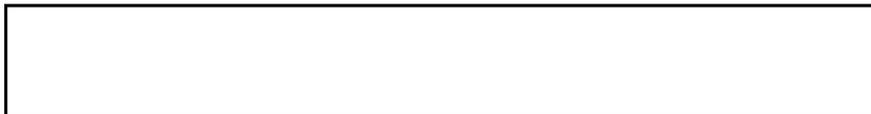
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Dominican Republic: (President Bosch's opponents may try to take advantage of his 14-17 September visit to Mexico to promote plans for ousting him.)

(The chance of an early move against Bosch by the military may have increased. Armed Forces Minister General Victor Elby Vinas Roman--a supporter of constitutional government--seems to be losing his restraining influence on military leaders hostile to the President. According to the US Embassy at Santo Domingo, Commodore Rib Santamaria, Dominican navy commander, asked the US naval attaché on 11 September "what the US attitude was going to be toward a military junta." Mounting evidence that Rib, air force commander General Atila Luna Perez, and other officers have been using their positions for personal gain has heightened existing tension between them and the government.)

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(On the political front, opposition "anti-Communists" demanded in a full-page newspaper broadside on 12 September that Bosch promise before his trip that he would take measures to "eradicate Communism." Failure by Bosch to reply before his departure, the advertisement continued, would be taken by the signatories as a refusal to act, which would oblige them to take "appropriate, efficient, and definitive measures.")

(Much of the agitation about Communism has been generated by politicians favoring a coup. Some genuine concern exists, however, on the part of disinterested Dominicans. This concern is shared by Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt, a long-time friend of Bosch. Betancourt said recently he has received "disturbing reports" of Bosch's tolerance toward Communism and is seriously concerned about the Dominican situation.)

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DAILY BRIEF

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Egypt: Egypt appears to be approaching its most severe economic crisis in recent years.

The fall months preceding the time when foreign payments for the cotton crop are received are normally difficult for Egypt. Some \$112.5 million made available last year under an International Monetary Fund stabilization program have been exhausted without remedying the recurring balance of payments crisis. USAID in Cairo believes that the Nasir regime will again need extraordinary foreign assistance.

Cairo's policies have lowered the confidence of the international financial community to an unprecedented low. While continuing its nationalization of foreign property and business, the regime has indicated that it may make even less effort to pay reasonable compensation than in the past. It has frequently been tardy in paying its short-term debts.

At the same time that Egypt has rejected foreign advice to cut back on its overambitious economic development program, it has been engaged in the costly war in Yemen, has continued its other expensive activities elsewhere in the Middle East, and has further strained its resources by building up its missile and jet aircraft programs.

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DAILY BRIEF

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