

18 September 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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Venezuela: The Communist-dominated Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN) are ready to open their predicted campaign of violence and may already have done so.

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Disturbances occurred on 15 September in the El Silencio area of Caracas for the first time in months. The same day a Caracas uniform factory was robbed of police uniforms and, in Yaracuy State, an armed band attacked an electricity company.

The atmosphere in Caracas remains generally calm. Although FALN terrorism may reach a high pitch, it is not expected to be beyond the capabilities of government security forces to control.

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NOTES

Cyprus: [The question of Turkish troop rotation is coming forward again. Contrary to recent assurances from officials in Athens, the Greek Cypriots appear to be as adamant as ever in insisting that Turkey's mid-August air attacks have canceled any right Ankara may have had to maintain troops on the island. The Turks assert that the postponed rotation "must and will take place."] [redacted]

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United Nations: The UN is headed for further difficulties on financing if countries contributing to the UN peace-keeping operation on Cyprus fail to meet its costs over the next three months. Secretary General Thant maintains he will call on the General Assembly this fall to make up any deficit. The US delegation at the UN believes that if such action is taken it may complicate the delicate negotiations to revamp the UN's financial procedures on peace-keeping operations and damage the US position on Soviet payment of arrears. [redacted]

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Iraq-Egypt: Iraq and Egypt have announced the forthcoming "merger" of their respective internal political organizations. This is further evidence of the close rapport between the two governments, but does not indicate that real union is any closer. The announcement is likely, however, to make anti-Egyptian elements in Iraq more apprehensive. [redacted]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Western Europe: The attempt to strengthen European community institutions by amalgamating the EEC, EURATOM, and Coal-Steel Community (CSC) executives may again be snagged on Luxembourg's objections to loss of the CSC headquarters to Brussels. According to Luxembourg's deputy foreign minister, his government feels it has "no choice" but to veto merger of the executives if a final decision on this question is proposed at the EEC Council meeting opening today. Luxembourg has demanded transfer of the European Parliament from Strasbourg to Luxembourg as "political compensation" for the loss of the CSC, but there has been no clear indication that the French will permit this.

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Belgium: Belgium may not hold the line on limiting credits to the USSR to five years. Foreign Minister Spaak has told Ambassador MacArthur that pressure on the Belgian Government from commercial interests was great as a result of the recent 15-year British credit. He implied that it might become irresistible if the French followed the British.

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East - West Germany: The deliberate slowdown of truck traffic to Berlin at the Babelsberg checkpoint, although linked to a much publicized escape of refugees, probably reflects the Ulbricht regime's pique over the impasse in East - West German negotiations. Other interzonal traffic, including that outbound from Berlin, has not been affected. The East Germans have expressed their willingness to conclude a Berlin pass agreement, but if Bonn persists in its refusal to do so Pankow can extend the slowdown or apply other forms of pressure.

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