



TOP SECRET 76-1075X

The overall exemptions for this document are (b)(1) and (b)(3)

TOP SECRET
NOFORN ORCON
RUFF ZARF UMBRA
CRS

The National Intelligence Daily

Published by the Director of Central Intelligence for Named Principals Only

Copy No. 155

THURSDAY MAY 6, 1976

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 107

TCS 532/76

In The Daily

PORTUGAL: Behind-the-scenes political maneuvering in the aftermath of the inconclusive legislative assembly election last month may be leading to agreement on Army Chief of Staff General Eanes as a consensus candidate for president.

he enjoys strong support among the three leading democratic political parties.

LEBANON:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Portugal: Progress Toward Candidate, Cabinet

Behind-the-scenes political maneuvering is continuing in Portugal in the aftermath of the inconclusive legislative assembly election last month. There are numerous signs, however, that agreement may be reached soon on a consensus presidential candidate, and the Socialists' plan to form a minority government seems to be gaining support.

It is increasingly likely that Army Chief of Staff General Ramalho Eanes will be the presidential candidate.

he also enjoys strong support among the three leading democratic political parties.

The somber, 41-year-old infantry officer was one of the organizers of the coup of April 1974. He also masterminded the military's successful handling of the leftist paratrooper rebellion last November.

Since his appointment in November to the army's top post, Eanes has worked to depoliticize the army and restore military discipline. The faction which Eanes heads in the Revolutionary Council apparently has broad support within the Portuguese armed forces.

Eanes' public position up to now has been that he would accept a presidential

nomination only if there were no other choice. Since the assembly election, however, he has been under strong pressure to run.

[REDACTED]

so far there has been no public announcement

[REDACTED]

Meanwhile, the Socialist Party's proposal to form a minority government after the presidential election on June 27 appears to be gaining acceptance both among the military leaders and the other parties.

Last week Revolutionary Council spokesman Captain Sousa e Castro endorsed the plan, arguing that it had sound constitutional grounds and was consistent with the assembly election results, which

gave the Socialists a plurality. Sousa e Castro said a Socialist government should receive the full support of the armed forces.

[REDACTED]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: SEP 2000

F(b)(1)
F(b)(3)
(S)

TOP SECRET

CW-2641-305-4





