



The President's Daily Brief

8 October 1970

49



Top Secret

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

8 October 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

General Torres' takeover as president of Bolivia is discussed on *Page 1*.

[Redacted]

50X1

Jordan. (*Page 2*)

Egypt [Redacted] *Page 3*.

50X1

Infiltration to southern South Vietnam and adjacent Cambodian areas is being resumed. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BOLIVIA

General Juan Jose Torres is rapidly consolidating his control after declaring himself president yesterday. His forces occupied government installations in La Paz with little resistance from the forces of General Miranda that had engineered President Ovando's resignation. Miranda's forces backed down in the face of Torres' considerable strength in the air force and army as well as among students, workers, and peasants.

50X1

The key to the successful seizure of power by Torres was the backing he received from radical leftist student and labor leaders. This support was conditioned upon his acceptance of at least some of their demands for participation in the government, university autonomy, wage increases, and free elections within six months.

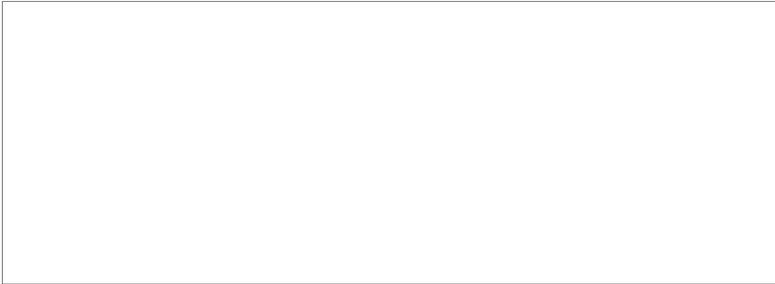
During the time that Torres actively participated in the Ovando government, he demonstrated a proclivity for demagoguery. He has remained close to the leftists whom Ovando originally appointed to his cabinet and was apparently one of the prime movers in the expropriation of the US-owned Bolivian Gulf Oil Company.

There were student-led raids yesterday on several US installations in La Paz as well as on the homes of some pro-Miranda officers. At least two newspapers were also seized. A new list of demands has also been presented to Torres by a group of leftist leaders, including some from the pro-Moscow and pro-Peking Communist parties. Among these demands are the removal of foreign military missions and other "imperialist" agencies, abrogation of the compensation agreement with Gulf, nationalization of foreign banks and the US-owned Matilde Mines, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with "all socialist countries."

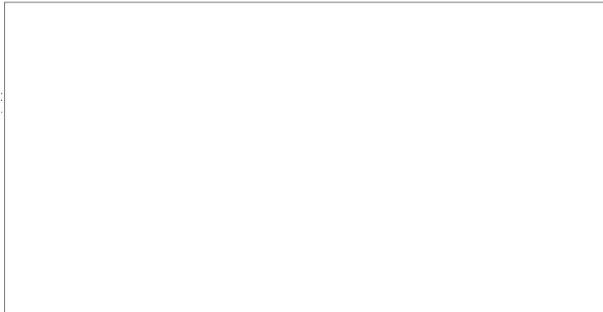
Torres had declared at his swearing-in ceremony that his government would include civilians from the groups supporting him. Apparently he will need to grant the leftists' new demands to ensure continued cooperation by all of these groups.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN



50X1



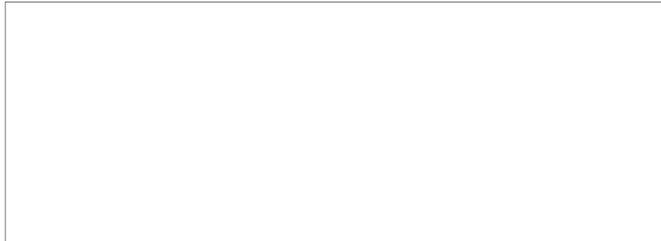
50X1

50X1

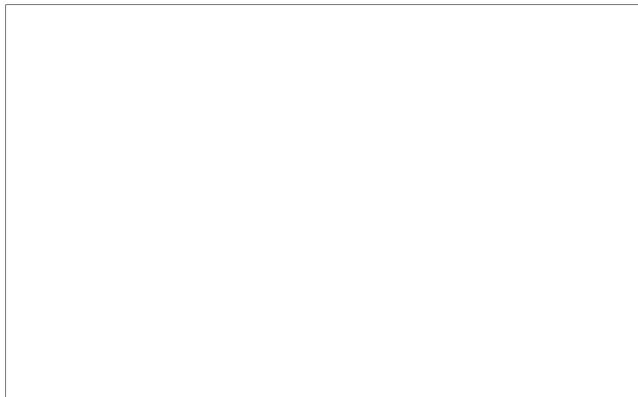


FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR



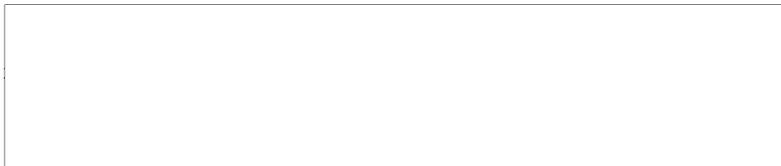
50X1



50X1



50X1



50X1



50X1

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Four new infiltration groups, with a total strength of about 1,700 troops, were detected in intercepted North Vietnamese messages on 4 and 5 October. The numerical designations of these groups indicate that they will come under the authority of the Central Office for South Vietnam (COSVN), and are destined to operate in southern South Vietnam or adjacent parts of Cambodia.

This is the first time since last April that any infiltration groups of battalion size have been noted heading for the COSVN area. Gaps in the sequence of numbers assigned to these new groups suggest that as many as 8,000 troops are possibly scheduled to head southward within the next several weeks. The Communist resumption of large-scale infiltration bound for South Vietnam has occurred about a month earlier than last year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Chile: Confidence in the economy is ebbing within the business community. Sales are down sharply and Chile's largest port, Valparaiso, is badly congested because importers are not claiming their merchandise. In addition, a strike at Chile's largest copper mine has cut back exports. Strict controls have hampered the heavy demand for foreign currency exchange, and official foreign monetary reserves continue at a record high.

Top Secret