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# The President's Daily Brief

*August 13, 1975*

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PORTUGAL

*Dissident officers in the Armed Forces Movement apparently presented to President Costa Gomes their demands for the removal from office of Prime Minister Goncalves at a meeting yesterday of the Revolutionary Council.*

Navy Commander Crespo--one of the nine dissident leaders and a rumored possible replacement for Goncalves--told Western diplomats yesterday that if the President did not respond to the dissidents' demands, "just wait a week." This is the first indication that the dissidents might be considering the use of force--which their spokesmen have repeatedly said they are determined to avoid.

Crespo remarked that he resents being called a "moderate," for he believes most enterprises should be owned by the state and that it is inappropriate for Portugal to remain an active member of NATO. He said his views on NATO did not extend to bilateral military arrangements with individual NATO members, such as the US presence at Lajes air base in the Azores.

He also noted that security chief Otelo de Carvalho, who will have a major voice in directing the best disciplined troops in Portugal, supports the dissidents. He claimed the group has the backing of at least 80 percent of the military.

[redacted] sentiment in the armed forces is running heavily in favor of the dissidents' manifesto.

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Troops were placed on alert last night in the southern town of Evora, where the Socialists and the Communists staged simultaneous demonstrations. Military police prevented the outbreak of violence.

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SAUDI ARABIA - NORTH YEMEN

*The North Yemeni Prime Minister received a promise from Saudi Arabia last week of a \$600-million loan for project aid and budget support. As much as \$300 million in Saudi military assistance may also materialize.*

The aid to North Yemen may promote a further decline in Soviet influence in Sana--a prime objective of the Saudis and the current Yemeni leadership. Sana, however, is not above threatening to accept a new Soviet military assistance package to goad the Saudis to move on long-stalled negotiations to modernize the North Yemeni armed forces. Sana's deputy commander in chief is scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia later this month for talks about military aid to be financed by Riyadh.

The volume of the new Saudi commitments to Sana reflects Riyadh's recognition of the role North Yemen plays both in Saudi development and in regional politics. Yemeni laborers are the major source of unskilled manpower in labor-starved Saudi Arabia, and treatment of these workers is a sore point between Riyadh and Sana. The promised Saudi assistance may also increase internal Yemeni support for the present regime's gradual shift to the Saudis and the West in foreign policy.

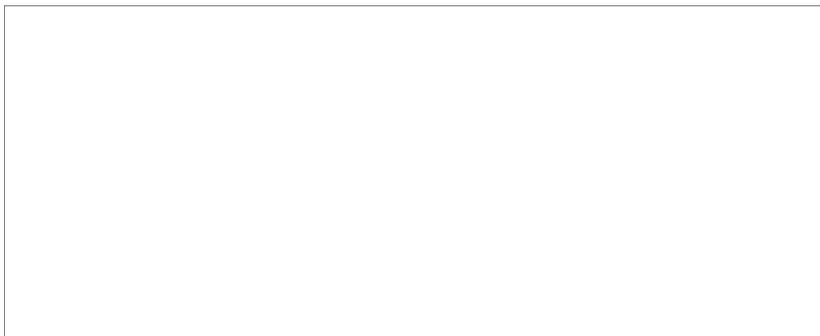
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NOTE

*President Suharto of Indonesia apparently has resisted demands [redacted] for an immediate invasion of Portuguese Timor.*

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