



The President's Daily Brief

October 1, 1975

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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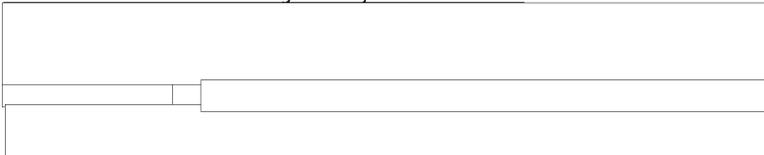
LEBANON

An attack yesterday on a bus traveling through a Christian suburb and the brief skirmishing that followed could trigger a resumption of heavy fighting in Beirut. The eight persons killed in the bus incident reportedly belonged to the Druze sect whose members have tended to side with the Shia Muslims.

Other parts of the capital reportedly have been quiet. More stores and banks reopened yesterday, and most newspapers were on the streets. Lebanese security authorities said that some shooting was still going on near Tripoli, but they were hopeful the army would be able to bring that situation under control.

Both sides almost certainly have been using the lull in the fighting to rearm their forces.

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The national reconciliation committee met again yesterday. The session, which focused on economic matters, went smoothly.

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GREECE-TURKEY

Both sides are awaiting a Congressional decision on the lifting of the US arms embargo against Turkey. Protests will come from one side or the other, whatever Congress decides.

Should the embargo be sustained, the Turks probably would request an immediate reduction in US military personnel in Turkey. They would likely restrict remaining US personnel, and might evict the US altogether from those installations where operations already have been suspended. Initially, Turkey would maintain its NATO ties, but if the alliance failed to support Ankara militarily and politically in the longer term, the Turks might begin to withdraw from the NATO military structure and look elsewhere for weapons.

Domestically, retention of the embargo would become an immediate liability for Prime Minister Demirel in the election campaign now under way. It could also lead to a deepening of anti-American sentiment and possibly to serious civil disturbances.

A partial lifting of the embargo probably would be sufficient to avoid any further dismantling of US operations in Turkey. Ankara would still insist, however, on renegotiating its defense agreement with the US. Frustration and ill feelings that have accumulated since last February probably would lead to some criticism as well as tough bargaining. Ankara probably would insist on greater control over joint military activities, more money for use of the facilities, and access to US arms and supplies as a hedge against another embargo.

Meanwhile, we can expect anti-American demonstrations in Greece and Cyprus should the embargo be lifted. Greek officials, in fact, have begun to prepare the populace for an announcement that the embargo is being eased. Greek police probably have been ordered to protect US facilities.

On Cyprus, passions are at a higher pitch, and the government's capability and determination to prevent violence is less certain. Greek Cypriot officials are urging moderation, but demonstrations in Nicosia could become violent.

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PORTUGAL

Prime Minister Azevedo announced early this morning that military occupation of radio and television stations in Lisbon will end today. He said his goal of curbing irresponsible broadcasting has been achieved.

The Prime Minister made it clear that he will not hesitate to use similar emergency measures if needed in the future. He intends to keep a close eye on the media and has prohibited the broadcast of any political communiqués that have not been cleared through the information ministry.

The church-owned radio station that had been taken over by extreme leftists several months ago will remain for now under government control. Workers at the station apparently refused to submit to the occupation and the station was taken off the air yesterday by army commandos.

The government's control of the stations has been uncertain since it ordered the occupation on Monday. The government could not depend on all the security troops, some of whom sided with the leftist radio workers. Another problem was the half-hearted support of the head of the security forces, General Otelo de Carvalho, who was apparently trying to play both sides on the issue.

The test will now be whether the stations follow Azevedo's guidelines.

The anti-Communist political parties showed during this affair that they can attract more popular support to Azevedo than the extreme left can muster against him. About 12,000 Socialist and Popular Democratic demonstrators marched in Lisbon yesterday, shouting their support for Azevedo and demanding restoration of discipline in the armed forces.

Leftist protests against the occupation on Monday were minor.

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SPAIN

Protests over the execution of five Spanish terrorists continue to sweep across Europe, but Spain itself remains relatively calm.

The executions have loosed deeply felt, long pent-up emotions among a wide variety of Europeans who see the Franco regime as the last remnant of fascism on the continent. East and West Europeans have voiced their outrage through official statements, withdrawal of ambassadors, mass demonstrations, and violence.

The governments of Western Europe for the most part have not led the protest, but rather have reacted to rapidly building popular pressure. These governments will try to limit the damage to their long-term relations with Spain, but any effort to establish closer relations with the Franco regime is out. One of the first casualties on the diplomatic front probably will be the negotiations scheduled to begin this month between Spain and the EC to establish closer economic and commercial ties.

Spain, meanwhile, has rejected all of this foreign criticism and, so far, has faced little protest at home. Only in the Basque provinces has there been a significant effort to stir up mass protests, and even there a general strike apparently has fallen short of its organizers' expectations.

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ARAB STATES

Jordan [redacted] 25X1
 reached agreement with the Saudis. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] on a joint pro- 25X1
 posal to narrow the deep rift be- 25X1
 tween Egypt and Suria. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] the [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] proposal would involve 25X1
 first persuading the Egyptians and 25X1
 the Syrians to stop their propa- 25X1
 ganda war and later encouraging a 25X1
 dialogue between them.

The Jordanians and the Saudis [redacted] believe 25X1
 there is no point in attempting to force the Egyp-
 tians to renounce the disengagement accord, as Syria
 has urged, and that a search should be made for areas
 of agreement on which the two countries could hold
 discussions. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

It is questionable whether either Syria or
 Egypt will be amenable to the suggested reconcilia-
 tion. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

Sadat is not likely to cave in first. He would
 listen to a [redacted] approach, but he is unlikely to
 heed [redacted] appeals for calm and an end to propa-
 ganda [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

Sadat [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] takes the position that other Arab gov-
 ernments must cease the propaganda warfare they ini-
 tiated before he will make a move toward reconcilia-
 tion.

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NOTES

West German
Portugal

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The Ethiopian military council yesterday declared a state of emergency in Addis Ababa in an attempt to halt spreading strikes.

The walkouts may be the beginning of a general strike instigated by labor leaders as part of an organized protest against the military rulers. Workers and teachers have become bolder recently in their criticism of the council. They have called for a prompt return to civilian rule and a restoration of democratic liberties, as well as redress of specific grievances. A long strike could pose serious problems for Addis Ababa, which already faces shortages of fuel and food staples. The council's stern measures may coerce the strikers to resume work before the shortages become critical, but at the price of further eroding the government's support among influential segments of the population.

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