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Approved For Release 2007/03/07 : CIA-RDP79T00975A028200



National Intelligence Bulletin

October 1, 1975

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PORTUGAL

Portuguese Prime Minister Azevedo announced early this morning that military occupation of radio and television stations in Lisbon will end today.

In a communique, Azevedo said his goal of curbing irresponsible broadcasting has been achieved. The troops are scheduled to withdraw, but police will continue to guard the stations.

Radio Renasenca, a church-owned station taken over by extreme leftists several months ago, will continue 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.

Azevedo made it clear that he will not hesitate to resort to similar "emergency measures" to prevent any group from "consciously or unconsciously serving counterrevolution." He intends to keep a close eye on the media and has ordered all political groups to clear their communiques through the Information Ministry.

The government's control over the stations for the past two days has been uncertain. Azevedo ran into difficulties because he could not depend on all his security troops, some of whom sided with 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 of the issue. The true test of Azevedo's move will be whether the stations follow his guidelines.

For now, the situation has cooled; the military alert has been relaxed despite minor clashes last night between far-leftists and a group of Socialist and Popular Democratic demonstrators. About 12,000 anti-Communist demonstrators marched through the streets of Lisbon, shouting slogans supporting Azevedo and his efforts to restore discipline in the armed forces. They were addressed by Azevedo at the presidential palace, then headed for the national radio station.

The democratic parties showed once again that they can attract more popular support to Azevedo than the extreme left has been able to muster against him.

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TURKEY-GREECE

Turks and Greeks alike are waiting for the US Congress to decide whether to lift the US arms embargo on Turkey; the outcome is bound to disappoint one side or the other.

If the embargo is sustained, the Turks will probably request an immediate reduction in US military personnel in Turkey and tighten restrictions on remaining US personnel; they might evict the US altogether from those installations where operations have already been suspended.

Initially, Turkey will probably maintain its ties, but if NATO fails to support Turkey militarily and politically in the longer term, the Turks may begin to withdraw gradually from the NATO military structure and to intensify their search for weapons from non-NATO countries.

In Turkey, retention of the embargo would become a liability for Prime Minister Demirel in the election campaign now under way. Continuation of the embargo could lead to a deepening of anti-American sentiment, which in the past has led to serious civil disturbances.

A partial lifting of the embargo will probably be sufficient to avoid further disturbances of US operations in Turkey. Ankara, however, will insist on renegotiating a new defense agreement with the US.

The bargaining will be tough, given the frustration and ill-feeling that have accumulated in Turkey since the embargo was imposed last February. Ankara may well insist on greater Turkish control over joint military activities, on some form of payment for the use of facilities in Turkey, and on linking continued US use of bases in Turkey with assured Turkish access to US arms supplies.

If the embargo is eased, violent anti-American demonstrations are likely in Greece and on Cyprus.

In Athens, Greek officials have sought to prepare the public for an easing of the embargo. Several newspapers recently called the embargo an internal US matter and said its lifting should not be construed as a Greek defeat. This will not prevent Greeks, stimulated by leftists, from taking to the streets. Greek police doubtless will be under strict orders to protect US facilities.

On Cyprus, passions are at a far higher pitch. If the embargo is eased, the Greek Cypriot reaction will be strong, and the Makarios government's capability and

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determination to prevent violence are far from certain. Greek Cypriot officials reportedly are urging moderation, but demonstrations in Nicosia could easily and swiftly turn violent. US facilities would doubtless be a target.

ETHIOPIA

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

The emergency proclamation is the most sweeping security measure taken by the council. It threatens the arrest of all strikers who do not return to work and gives security forces the right to detain individuals for an unlimited period without being charged.

The work stoppages began Tuesday morning, following a week of increasing labor unrest. Factories, banks, insurance companies, and petroleum distribution firms are among the businesses affected. 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 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. On September 25, at least seven workers were killed and 19 wounded at the Addis Ababa airport in a clash with security forces who were attempting to arrest airline employees for distributing anti-regime pamphlets.

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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LEBANON

More fighting in Beirut could follow yesterday's attack on a bus traveling through a Christian suburb; eight Druze passengers were killed. The Druze sect has in the past tended to side with the Shia Muslims. The attack may have been in retaliation for an incident in the same area in which a Christian was killed several hours earlier.

Other parts of the capital were reported to be relatively quiet. Most stores and banks were open yesterday, and most newspapers were on the streets for the first time since the latest round of fighting began.

Outside Beirut, Lebanese security authorities reported that some shooting was still occurring in the Zagharta area near Tripoli, but were hopeful that the army would be able to bring the violence there under control. Zahlah and the Bekaa Valley were reported quiet.

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The US ambassador believes the Lebanese do not yet realize the magnitude of the physical and economic damage to property inflicted so far during the Christian-Muslim fighting. The middle class, made up of the shopkeepers and other self-employed businessmen, has been particularly hard hit. About a fourth of this group is on the verge of destitution. The embassy estimates that more than 500 Lebanese have died in the latest round of fighting.

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SPAIN

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

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

The governments of Western Europe are trying to limit the damage to their long-term relations with Spain, but moves to establish closer relations with the Franco regime are precluded for now. One of the first casualties will be the negotiations, scheduled to begin this month, to establish closer economic ties between Spain and the EC.

French President Giscard has come under sharp criticism for his government's allegedly weak efforts on behalf of the Spanish terrorists. The French Communist Party, seizing the opportunity to pose as a defender of liberty after a long embarrassment over Portugal, has been extremely vitriolic and will do what it can to keep the issue alive for as long as possible. The Socialists have also protested vociferously, and even the center and right have been critical, although less inclined to blame Giscard personally.

In the UK, leading government spokesmen have defended London's effort to obtain clemency for the five terrorists. Union leader Jack Jones has called for a labor boycott of Spanish ships, aircraft, and trucks.

Anti-Spanish sentiment has also surfaced at the UN. Mexican President Echeverria has asked the Security Council to consider suspending Spanish membership. The Council has yet to act on the Mexican request, and the issue of how to handle terrorists may strike too close to home for many governments.

The US mission at the UN notes that many Arab states are not inclined to go along with Echeverria because they feel the Europeans have given them little support on such issues as South Africa and Israel. The Soviets, Chinese, and the nonaligned also have shown some discomfort.

The Spanish government is standing firm in the face of this widespread criticism. In a nationwide speech last night, Prime Minister Arias defended the crackdown on terrorism and attacked Western nations for "hypocritical and intolerable" interference in Spanish affairs. He appealed to Spaniards to remain cool.

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Approved For Release 2007/03/07⁶: CIA-RDP79T00975A028200010047-7

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CAMBODIA

Cambodia is moving closer to allowing the resumption of diplomatic activity in Phnom Penh.

Diplomatic sources in Peking claim Cambodia will permit ten countries to open embassies in Phnom Penh by the end of the year. In addition to the People's Republic of China and North Vietnam-which already have envoys stationed in Phnom Penh-others include Yugoslavia, Egypt, North Korea, Algeria, Albania, Romania, Mauritania, and Laos.

The Cambodian embassy in Peking has begun to acknowledge earlier recognition of the new Phnom Penh regime by several non-communist countries. Letters have been sent thanking the governments of Burma, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. France, anxious to re-establish its presence, is awaiting a formal reply from Phnom Penh. Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs leng Sary's statement that Paris could play an important role in Cambodia suggests Phnom Penh's forthcoming approval. Mexico recently announced the establishment of diplomatic relations with Cambodia, and there may be progress toward opening diplomatic relations with neighboring Thailand following ministerial talks in Bangkok later this month. It will probably be some time, however, before ambassadors from these countries arrive in Phnom Penh.

These initiatives are in line with Sary's recent statement in Paris that Cambodia cannot isolate itself from Southeast Asia or from the international community of nations. An address by Prince Sihanouk to the UN General Assembly scheduled for October 6 will probably be designed to promote further Phnom Penh's position and

to consolidate international support.



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ARGENTINA

Hector Campora's recent return to Argentina may serve to rally disenchanted leftists and could culminate in a leftist bid for power in the general election in 1977.

In March 1973, Campora was elected as a stand-in president for Juan Peron. His resignation six weeks later brought Peron to power. Campora has been in self-imposed exile in Mexico since last December because of threats on his life by right-wing terrorist elements.

Campora's brief administration tended to favor the left-wing of Peronism, and the Authentic Peronist Party—the alleged legal party front for the leftist Montoneros—reportedly has been trying for some time to persuade him to be its leader. Leftists may see him as a unifying force that could bring them back into the government, but he is not considered a strong leader and would be susceptible to manipulation if in power.

Campora's return adds a new and somewhat unpredictable element to Argentine politics. Although his presence could further divide the already fractured ranks of the Peronist Movement, he cannot be ruled out as a leftist coalition candidate in the presidential election in 1977.

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