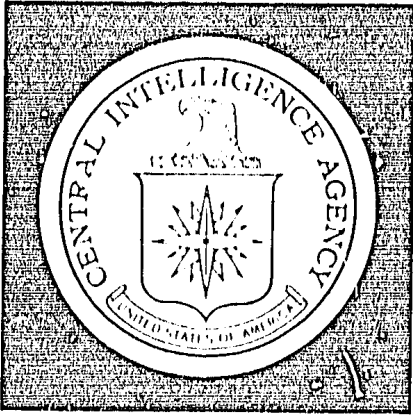


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IRAN: The two-week-long celebrations commemorating the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian monarchy will involve the most stringent security arrangements ever seen in Iran.

The festivities beginning Monday provide an unprecedented opportunity for enemies of the government to embarrass the regime through terrorist acts. The government is sparing no effort to thwart any planned terrorism.

Government security forces appear able to prevent large-scale disruptions. Terrorists, however, probably could stage some isolated incidents, possibly including the abduction or assassination of lower-ranking foreign visitors not under heavy security protection. (SECRET)

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EAST PAKISTAN: Port congestion is delaying emergency foodgrain deliveries.

The movement inland of foodgrains from the major port of Chittagong slowed 30 percent last week after some improvement during September. Shipments through Chalna have not increased since August. On 6 October, there were eight ships off Chittagong and 18 off Chalna awaiting unloading berths.

According to a UN assistant secretary general presently in Dacca, the government of East Pakistan is deliberately slowing foodgrain imports this month because movement up-country is being frustrated by the shortage of pilots and tugs, delayed arrivals of coasters from abroad, and disruptions in rail and road transport by guerrilla action. The government has planned to import 200,000 tons of foodgrains per month through December to meet anticipated shortages, and this cutback will reduce food availability in the critical period before the large December crop is harvested.

US officials in Dacca, however, believe the major cause of the slowdown is poor port management. No single official is responsible for all port activities and much time is lost awaiting administrative coordination while shipping lies idle. Unless immediate steps are taken, food will spoil at the ports while people up-country go hungry. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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TUNISIA: A major effort will be made during next week's congress of the Destourian Socialist Party, Tunisia's only political organization, to maintain party unity.

The more than 1,000 delegates will have little opportunity for debate in well-managed plenary sessions which will be used for routine presentations of reports and approval of resolutions adopted by the various commissions. Any real discussion will occur inside the closed sessions of the various commissions concerned with constitutional amendments, party structure and statutes, general and economic policy, national organizations, youth, and housing.

The most significant issues which might arouse acrimonious debate revolve around constitutional amendments on presidential succession and increased authority for the present rubber-stamp National Assembly. President Bourguiba had raised the succession issue but now, for the moment at least, seems satisfied with the present arrangement, which provides that the prime minister succeed in the event of the death or incapacitation of the president. He also is reported to have vetoed a proposal that the assembly be empowered to overturn the government with a motion of censure or vote of no confidence, although he approved some increased authority for the assembly.

Aware of the potential opposition he might face from the reformist faction, Bourguiba would not go through with the congress were he not assured that his strength and prestige are still strong enough to win on all the important issues. As extra insurance eight leading student dissidents have been expelled or suspended from party membership, reformist leader Ahmed Mestiri has been dismissed from his post as minister of interior, and labor leader Habib Achour has been publicly chastised. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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AUSTRIA: The electorate will not learn until next week at the earliest whether the new and enlarged parliament they are to elect Sunday will be confirmed by the courts.

Early this summer, the opposition People's Party in a suit filed with the Constitutional Court challenged the legality of any election based on the 1961 census figures. The 1971 census, released unofficially at the provincial level, reflects an east-to-west population shift, which would cost the Socialist bailiwick of Vienna about four seats. These should go to People's Party strongholds in more conservative western Austria. The official 1971 census results will be released by the Central Office of Statistics this weekend; the court is to rule on 14 October. Most legal experts do not expect the courts to invalidate the electoral results.

Few significant issues have emerged during the month-long campaign. Socialist Chancellor Kreisky remains confident that his party will acquire an absolute majority. The Socialists have boasted that Kreisky, despite his government's minority status, has enacted an electoral law fair to all parties, cut military service from nine to six months, and abolished a ten-percent surtax instituted by the previous conservative government. Kreisky, however, has had to take some pains to explain the current five-percent rate of inflation.

The highlight of the campaign was a TV debate last weekend between Kreisky and People's Party chairman Schleinzer. The latter improved his image and his party's unpromising electoral prospects by matching the formidable forensic skill of the ebullient chancellor.

Although Kreisky is known to favor a coalition with the small Freedom Party, if indeed a coalition becomes necessary, in the debate he also suggested the possibility of postelectoral cooperation with

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the People's Party

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[redacted] over-all voter preference for a grand coalition has declined from 33 to 25 percent. More important, only a third of the Socialist rank and file favor a coalition with either party, the Freedom Party being the least desirable partner by far. Freedom Party supporters, despite their conservative political views, favor an alliance with Kreisky by 4 1/2 to 1. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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DENMARK: Social Democratic Party leader Krag probably will announce formation of a minority government over the weekend. Because the Danish parliamentary election on 21 September was inconclusive, formation of a new government was delayed pending the balloting in the Faroe Islands earlier this week. In the 179-member parliament, Krag will have the backing of the 70 deputies of his own party, two of the four deputies from Greenland and the Faroes, and the support on certain issues of the left-wing Socialist People's Party's 17 deputies. Since 1945, Danish governments have had an average duration of 30 months, and all but two have been minority administrations. Krag's government is not expected to survive much beyond next year's referendum on Danish entry into the European Communities. (CONFIDENTIAL)

* * * *

BURMA - COMMUNIST CHINA: The resumption of Chinese aid to Burma substantially restores relations to the level that existed before the anti-Chinese riots in Rangoon in 1967. The two countries on 7 October formalized an agreement in principle reached during General Ne Win's visit to Peking in August. The \$60 million of credits unused at the time the aid program was broken off in 1967 will now be available again to the Burmese Government. The time limits both for utilization of the loans and for interest-free repayment have been extended. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board on 7 October 1971 approved the following national intelligence estimate:

NIE-70-71 "Troubles in East Africa"
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