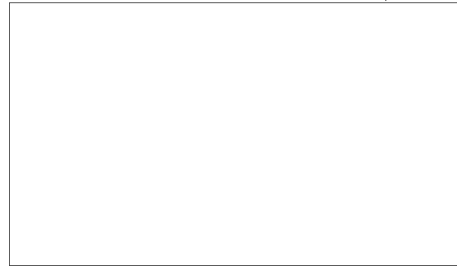




**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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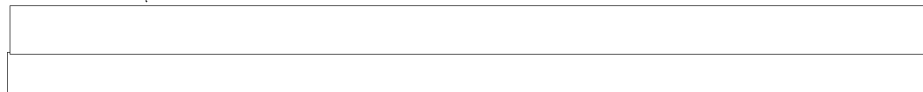
Contents



25X1

PLO: Pressure on Arafat Increasing 3

China: Results of National People's Congress 4



25X1

25X6

Chile: Pinochet Confronts Labor 7



25X1

USSR: Grain Crop Prospects 9

Czechoslovakia: High-Level Personnel Changes 9



25X6



25X1

Mauritius: Elections Scheduled 12



25X6



25X1

25X1

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25X1

22 June 1983

Page Denied

Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret



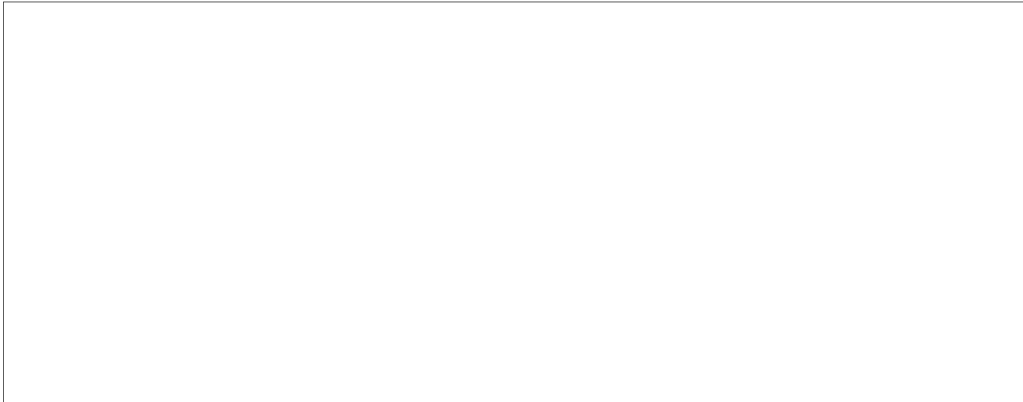
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PLO: Pressure on Arafat Increasing

The armed intervention of a pro-Syrian PLO guerrilla group on the side of Fatah rebels in recent days and PLO chief Arafat's public accusation of Syrian involvement in the clashes have narrowed the chances of an early political solution to the rebellion.



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Arafat yesterday publicly accused Syria of using its tanks on the side of the dissidents. The Palestinian news agency said he had sent messages to Arab heads of state asking them to restrain the Syrians.



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Other Fatah leaders, after two days of meetings in Damascus, also are taking a tough line against direct negotiations with the rebels. At the same time, however, they have not ruled out meeting some of their demands. Fatah military commander Khalil Wazir said yesterday that mediation efforts were deadlocked but that Fatah had appointed several committees to consider reforms.



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Comment:



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Syria and the Fatah rebels have delivered a warning to Arafat that he has to bargain seriously with the dissidents or risk wider fighting. Arafat's public challenge to President Assad, however, suggests he is willing to take that chance. He probably hopes that Arab pressure on the Syrians to cease their support of the dissidents will allow him to preserve his position without making major concessions.



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[Redacted]

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CHINA: Results of National People's Congress

The first annual session of the Sixth National People's Congress closed yesterday after ratifying party-mandated personnel moves and establishing a new Ministry for State Security. [Redacted]

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The congress produced no surprises and adjourned on schedule. China's new President and the congress's Standing Committee chairman both delivered closing addresses, repeating the themes of progress, stability, and moderation that characterized the session. [Redacted]

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The conclave named two additional vice premiers and replaced six ministers, including the economic planning chief. In addition, the members of the government's new nine-man Central Ministry Commission were named. [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Block]

Comment: The two new vice premiers symbolize the intention of Deng Xiaoping and his reformist allies to rejuvenate the bureaucracy. They have strong economic backgrounds and are unusually young—both are in their midfifties—for such high office. [Redacted]

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Most of the members of the Central Military Commission are associated with military reforms that have been opposed by conservative elements in the party and Army. Deng, who heads the new Commission, may see it as a tool for circumventing this opposition and improving the execution of his policies. [Redacted]

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CHILE: Pinochet Confronts Labor

The opposition's call for a national strike tomorrow—the first in 10 years—resulted in numerous arrests yesterday of organizers. Concurrently, President Pinochet made a concession by allowing several prominent political figures to return to Chile, which had been demanded by the National Workers' Command. The principal organizer of the strike is charged with attempting to overthrow the government.



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Comment: Pinochet believes that divisions in the labor movement can be intensified by severely punishing strikers while rewarding potential supporters by following through on the political concessions he announced last Friday.



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Areas Hardest Hit by Hot Dry Winds



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USSR: Grain Crop Prospects

[Redacted] grain prospects in the USSR have deteriorated in recent weeks. Areas that produce about 15 percent of the grain crop were hit intermittently with hot, dry winds during late May and early June, reducing potential yields of both winter and spring grains. In addition, the Central Statistical Administration reports that spring planting in the regions east of the Ural Mountains lagged seven to 10 days behind the average of recent years. [Redacted]

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Comment: Crop losses caused by the adverse weather conditions may total about 10 million tons. An additional 2-3 million tons probably have been lost because planting delays have reduced the areas sown. Despite these setbacks, however, an above-average crop of 205-210 million tons is still possible if the weather is excellent throughout the remainder of the season. Although a crop of this size would fall far short of the target of 238 million tons for this year, it would be well above the estimated annual output of 185 million tons over the last five years. [Redacted]

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA: High-Level Personnel Changes

Ministerial changes made after the Central Committee plenum last week portend no radical policy shifts but could have implications for future changes in the leadership. Interior Minister Obzina, rumored in recent months to be in line to succeed ailing Premier Strougal, has been appointed Deputy Premier and also will be the new Minister of Technical and Investment Development. Vratislav Vajnar, director of party leader Husak's secretariat, replaces Obzina as Minister of Interior. The Ministers of Agriculture and Labor also have been replaced. [Redacted]

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Comment: The choice of Obzina to oversee the government's expanded effort to introduce technological innovation into the economy, the major subject of the plenum, reflects the importance the leadership attaches to this program. The increased exposure he is likely to acquire could improve his prospects for eventual promotion.

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MAURITIUS: Elections Scheduled

Prime Minister Jugnauth has dissolved parliament and set new elections for 21 August. To contest the elections, Jugnauth has forged a fragile coalition built around his own leftist party and that of centrist former Prime Minister Ramgoolam. The coalition will be opposed by the leftist Mauritian Militant Movement. The group is led by former Finance Minister Berenger, whose resignation from the government last March forced the new elections. [Redacted]

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Comment: Ethnic and personality factors will outweigh ideological considerations in the election, which promises to be extremely close. [Redacted]

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied

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