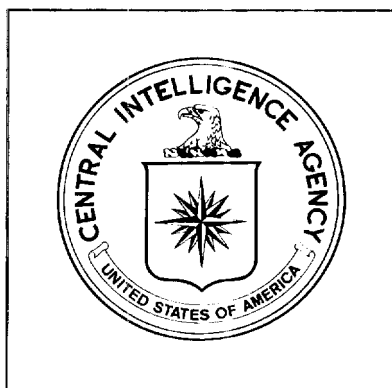


Secret

25X1



STAFF NOTES:

Western Europe Canada International Organizations

State Dept. review completed

Secret

No. 0272-75
September 18, 1975

Page Denied

SECRET

WESTERN EUROPE – CANADA – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Western Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

CONTENTS

Greece May Be Stalling Talks on
Resuming NATO Ties 1

Nationwide Steel Strike Looms in Britain 3

Spanish Justice Deals with Terrorism 5

West European Socialists Support
Spanish Party 9

ANNEX: Prospects for the 30th UN
General Assembly 11

25X6

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET



25X1

Greece May Be Stalling Talks on Resuming NATO Ties

Greece apparently intends to stall substantive negotiations on its relationship with NATO in order to prod the Alliance into taking a more active role in resolving bilateral issues between Athens and Ankara.

Prior to the North Atlantic Council meeting on September 17, NATO representatives were cautiously optimistic that Athens was prepared to discuss concrete proposals for reintegrating Greece into the military side of NATO. Greek Ambassador Theodoropoulos instead emphasized that "progress in the negotiations will be a function of the overall political situation within the alliance."

The Allies, and the Turks in particular, were disappointed by the Greek stand. Turkey hoped to keep the question of Greece's role in NATO separate from the bilateral political issues involving Greece, Cyprus and Turkey.

The Turks also have been urging NATO to act quickly to define Greece's relationship with the alliance, particularly in those areas which most directly affect Turkey--communications, overflights, air defense and command and control in the eastern Mediterranean. Ankara fears that Athens' attempts to delay the talks will serve only further to isolate Turkey from its NATO allies.



25X1

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

25X1



Greece has agreed to continue discussions at
a meeting of the defense planning committee Friday.

25X1



September 18, 1975

-2-

SECRET

SECRET



25X1

Nationwide Steel Strike Looms in Britain

A labor dispute at one British Steel Corporation plant threatens to shut down most of the industry by Sunday.

Earlier this week, blast furnace workers refused management's order to place a new, ultra-modern furnace into operation at one of British Steel's Welsh facilities. The furnace has been idle since its completion eight months ago because of a dispute over wages and manning requirements.

Union officials have declared that if a settlement is not reached by Sunday they will call a nationwide strike immediately. Blast furnace workers at some other plants have already begun to walk off their jobs.

The workers' monetary demands pose no direct danger to the Wilson government's policy of wage restraints. The jobs involved are new and fall outside the government's guidelines. The ultimate settlement, however, is sure to exceed those limits, and will probably spark a new round of demands from other British Steel employees.

The general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, as well as officials of other steel industry unions, have warned the furnacemen of the crippling effects of a nationwide strike. Officials of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service have also intervened, but they too have failed to resolve the conflict.

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

The effects of a prolonged steel strike could be devastating on an economy that is already beset by rising unemployment and inflation. Steel stocks are at a high level, but these could disappear quickly, leaving British manufacturers to face the prospect of importing steel or cutting production.



25X1

September 18, 1975

-4-

SECRET

SECRET



25X1

Spanish Justice Deals With Terrorism

The prospect of a storm of protests at home and abroad has put heavy pressure on Franco to commute the latest death sentences handed down to five terrorists, but the Spanish government would face a strong reaction from police and rightist forces should he show leniency.

Two young pregnant women and three men were sentenced to death yesterday by a military court for the killing of a police officer on August 16. The verdict was the first handed down under the new anti-terrorism law which makes the death penalty mandatory for killing a policeman as an act of terrorism.

The fact that civilian defense lawyers were expelled from the court for persistently interrupting the prosecution and were replaced by army officers with no judicial experience, will give opponents of this example of Spanish justice an added sense of outrage.

The accused admitted membership in the outlawed Revolutionary Anti-Fascist Patriotic Front, whose members have been convicted of other police killings, but they denied any part in the murder and claimed confessions they made during detention had been obtained under torture. A sixth defendant who claimed he was a sympathizer but not a member of the group received a 20-year sentence.

The new anti-terrorist law bars the usual appeal to the Supreme Military Tribunal, but General Franco can grant clemency. He

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

and the cabinet at their regular meeting today will "take note" of the death sentences. Death by garrote or firing squad will follow within 12 hours unless Franco commutes the sentences.

In the famous Burgos trial of six Basque terrorists in 1970, Franco commuted the death sentences. The wave of terrorism is more pronounced this year, however, and Franco is more likely to heed the demands for punishment. He may decide to commute the sentences of the two women to life imprisonment. No women have been executed in Spain during Franco's 36-year reign.

25X1

September 18, 1975

-6-

SECRET

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

SECRET

25X1

West European Socialists Support Spanish
Party

The West European Socialists, despite the Franco regime's opposition, are attempting to bolster ties to the illegal Spanish Socialist Workers' Party.

The visit to Madrid last week by Ludwig Fellermaier, the West German head of the socialist faction in the EC's European parliament in Strasbourg, was clearly intended to be a gesture of support to democratic opposition forces in Spain.

At a hard-hitting press conference, Fellermaier said that the West European parties are counting on the Spanish Socialists to restore democracy in Spain. He described the national associations--the embryonic political parties being organized under regime auspices--as a farce and labeled Spain's new anti-terrorist law an instrument to repress democratic forces. He added that the West German Social Democrats would continue to maintain close ties to the Spanish Socialists, a policy publicly confirmed by Party Chairman Willy Brandt earlier this week.

Fellermaier's visit follows up a meeting last June in Strasbourg between his faction and several Spanish Socialists. At this meeting, the Spanish leaders publicized the formation of the "Democratic Convergence"--a front organization of sixteen outlawed parties.

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

The closer ties that have developed with the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party evolved in part from an incident last spring in which the Spanish government withdrew the passports of Spanish opposition figures--largely communists--after they met in Strasbourg with seven EC Commissioners. This incident reminded the West European Socialists of the need to distinguish more closely between the communist and socialist opposition in Spain. They have subsequently invited the leader of the Spanish Socialists, Felipe Gonzalez, to attend th next session of the European Parliament as an observer.

The Franco government is suspicious of any contacts between the illegal parties and foreign groups. It confiscated Gonzalez' passport when he criticized the government earlier this year.

25X1

September 18, 1975

-10-

SECRET



ANNEX

Prospects for the 30th UN General Assembly

The 30th UN General Assembly opened Tuesday in an atmosphere markedly different from that which has prevailed at most recent Assembly sessions. The successful conclusion of the Special Session on economic issues--which adjourned that morning--clearly demonstrated that cooperation and compromise can reap results favorable to both the major UN interest groups: the developed and developing states. Equally important as this reaffirmation of the UN's basic purpose as an internationally effective negotiating forum, however, has been the recognition by many UN members that the major powers are still committed to making the world body work.

The Special Session successfully avoided confrontation--although there remain serious differences between developed and developing countries on such issues as the status of economic declarations issued by the developing states and aid targets--primarily because of US efforts to respond comprehensively to the grievances of the developing nations. For their part, the moderate faction within the caucus of developing countries finally succeeded in overturning what has until now been the radicals' virtually unchallenged domination of economic policy formulation and negotiation.

The goodwill generated by the outcome of the Special Session will undoubtedly influence the regular Assembly's deliberations on many issues. In addition, the Assembly this year will be presided over by Luxembourg Prime Minister

September 18, 1975

SECRET

Thorn who--in contrast to his predecessor, Algerian Foreign Minister Bouteflika--views his role as one of promoting conciliation and moderation. The recent conclusion of a new Sinai disengagement agreement will also contribute to the general feeling of cooperation.

Political Issues

On some issues, however, the old East-West political alignments that dominated UN debates during the organization's earlier period will determine the outcome of many votes. Events in Indochina during the past year have eliminated some of the perennial Asian-related issues--Cambodian representation, for example--that the Assembly had debated. UN involvement in Korea continues, however, and on this issue in particular the old East-West lines are likely to hold and the votes will probably be close.

The US and South Korea have proposed the dissolution on January 1, 1976 of the UN Command--the body responsible for preserving peace and security in the Korean peninsula--conditional only upon agreement by the North Koreans and their supporters to maintain the armistice agreement. The North Koreans and their supporters, however, have resubmitted their usual proposal calling for the withdrawal of all forces from Korea and the conclusion of a peace treaty between the US and North Koreans, which would exclude Seoul as a treaty party.

Cyprus and the Middle East situation remain the other major political topics likely to be raised at this session. To a large extent, however, both issues depend on negotiations and events outside the Assembly forum and the Assembly is likely to become involved only if such efforts fail.

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

The issue of financing UN peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, nevertheless, may be reopened, with probably harmful consequences. The developing countries want the developed countries and permanent Security Council members to pay more of the force's costs. The Soviets, on the other hand, may use the issue to underline their dissatisfaction at their exclusion from the recent successful disengagement negotiations. One Soviet diplomat has argued that the new agreement serves as a peace treaty and the Egyptians and Israelis no longer need a military force between them.

Non-Proliferation Problems

Disarmament and non-proliferation issues are likely to play a major role in the work of this year's session. The Soviets have already indicated that they expect to give disarmament top priority. Likewise the nonaligned nations at their ministerial meeting last month in Lima discussed a number of topics related to disarmament and stated their resolve to call a special session on this issue if progress in convening a World Disarmament Conference continues to be stalled in New York.

The General Assembly will also be called upon to review the activities of two major non-Proliferation/disarmament meetings of the past year: the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in May and an unusually productive session of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament--the major multilateral forum for disarmament negotiations.

The Soviets have already started their annual disarmament offensive by presenting a draft treaty for "full and universal prohibition of nuclear weapons tests". The Soviets are undoubtedly aware that many of the provisions of the draft treaty are unacceptable to the other nuclear

September 18, 1975

SECRET

powers; the major stumbling block in most current disarmament negotiations is the procedure for verifying compliance, and the Soviets continue to press for only national and not international verification systems. While the proposal has no chance of being accepted under this Soviet guise or under its more traditional rubric-- a comprehensive test ban treaty--the Soviets apparently hope to gain some propaganda points by emphasizing the refusal of other countries, notably China, to discuss the draft seriously.

Although Assembly review of the implementation of the NPT Review Conference's recommendations is not formally scheduled until next year's session, some nonaligned nations may raise the topic this year to underscore their dissatisfaction. These states feel that the conference's final document merely papered over significant differences between the nuclear and nonnuclear states regarding the success of the Treaty's implementation. These states argue that the nuclear states have not fulfilled their obligations to provide nuclear development assistance to the non-nuclear states, while the latter have fulfilled their part of the bargain by refraining from developing nuclear explosives.

The annual report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament as well as its special study on nuclear free zones are also likely to spark debate between nuclear haves and have-nots. Mexico, in particular, feels the nuclear states prevented consensus regarding the nuclear zone study and has stated that it will ask the General Assembly to draw up its own internationally valid definition of nuclear weapon free zones.

In any case, nuclear-free zones, however defined, remain excellent propaganda vehicles: Pakistan will continue to needle India by repeating its call for a South Asia nuclear-free zone,

September 18, 1975

SECRET

while proposals for study of a Middle East nuclear free zone may also be resurrected. New Zealand and Fiji have submitted a resolution calling for Assembly approval of a South Pacific nuclear free-zone which would apply the nuclear free zone concept to large areas of the high seas.

Colonial Issues

The extent of UN involvement in colonial issues has been drastically reduced because of events in recent years:

- Portugal has granted or is in the process of granting independence to its former colonies;
- Papua-New Guinea received its independence Tuesday, leaving the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands--administered by the US--the only remaining UN trusteeship. South Africa does not recognize UN trusteeship of Namibia.

Three decolonization-related issues, however, may be raised at this session:

- Representatives from the British crown colony of Belize--located in Central America--may attempt to gain UNGA endorsement of their demands for independence. Britain is willing to grant the colony independence but fears Guatemalan territorial claims on the colony would lead to its incorporation into Guatemala by military force.
- Spain's attempts to extricate itself from the African territory of Spanish Sahara have led to renewed UN involvement in this issue also. The UN sent a visiting mission to determine the political aspirations of the territory's inhabitants--Algeria, Mauritania and Morocco all claim

September 18, 1975

SECRET

SECRET

historical ties with the area--and the mission's report will be discussed by this Assembly. The International Court of Justice is also involved in ruling on the issue.

--Although the UN is not yet involved in the situation in Portuguese Timor, renewed fighting or further deterioration of the situation could lead to calls for UN peacekeeping or refugee resettlement assistance.

Prospective Administrative Hurdles

The generally routine administrative matters of any UN meeting may not be as easily disposed of this year. The Assembly has refused every year since 1970 to accept the credentials of South Africa's delegation--a strictly technical procedure--in order to register UN objections to Pretoria's apartheid and Namibia policies. This year, however, Pretoria may not try to take part in the session but the refusal of credentials may be extended to additional UN members.

Actions at the July meeting in Kampala of the Organization of African Unity and the August nonaligned ministerial conference may have defused a campaign led by the Palestine Liberation Organization and Syria to suspend or expel Israel from the UN. A continued stalemate in negotiations on the Golan front, however, may lead to renewed attempts to use the credentials process to curtail Israel's participation at the UN. There has also been some indication that Cuba may challenge Chile's representation at the session, arguing that Chile's last-minute refusal to allow a UN Human Rights group to study Chilean conditions illustrates Chile's disdain for the world body.

September 18, 1975

SECRET

UN membership will this year increase to at least 141 with the admission of Sao Tome-Principe, Mozambique and the Cape Verde Islands early in the session and with the possible admission of Surinam, Angola and Papua-New Guinea before the session ends in December. Despite earlier Security Council vetoes of their applications for UN admission, both the Vietnams have resubmitted applications. There is little prospect for favorable action at this session, even if the Assembly--as expected--passes a resolution urging their admission.

Possibly in an effort to concentrate its diplomatic capital on its major UN battle, the Seoul government will not press for reconsideration of its membership application until next year.

In its final housekeeping chore--elections to the many UN organs and committees--the Assembly may be faced with one of its nastiest battles. Most UN positions are allocated on a regional basis and each geographic group is usually able to resolve its intra-regional disputes before the matter reaches the full Assembly. This year, however, both the African and Asian groups have competing candidates for one Security Council seat allocated to each region and the full Assembly will be required to decide the election. The Asian contest in particular--between India, Pakistan and the Philippines--may lead to splits in the nonaligned grouping and the Group of 77, with possible implications for cooperation in other areas.

25X1

September 18, 1975

SECRET

Secret

Secret