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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

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DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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Jordan-Israel: King Husayn and other Jordanian officials are frustrated and bitter in the wake of Jordan's military defeat by Israel on 13 November.

The Israeli attack is causing a fundamental reappraisal in Amman of Jordan's political and military position. Husayn told Ambassador Burns on 14 November that he was deeply disillusioned with his effort "to live with Israel." He said he had concluded that Israel's motives were to cripple Jordan and to obtain a Big Power guarantee of Israeli security.

The Jordanians say that the Israeli attack resulted in at least 25 of their soldiers and at least 30 civilians being killed, with about the same number of each wounded. The US Defense Attache in Amman reports that discontent is growing among junior army officers who blame their superiors and the king for the debacle. There also is an undercurrent of bitterness at all levels toward the US for its "failure" to restrain Israel and to provide Jordan with adequate arms to repel the attack. Chief of Staff Khammash indicated clearly that new demands for US military aid would be made.

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Ecuador: Public disorders may accompany the opening of the constituent assembly in Quito on 16 November.

One of the assembly's tasks will be to decide how the country's next president will be elected. Former president Camilo Ponce is the leading candidate at this point.

Clashes between contending civilian elements could give the military a pretext for taking power once more.

Rumors of a military coup have been generated by a letter sent to interim President Yerovi by the military high command. The military leaders complain that provisions of the proposed new constitution go too far in curtailing the role of the armed forces. The US Embassy, however, reports that the letter does not appear to presage a coup attempt in the immediate future.

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