



Director of
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Intelligence

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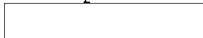
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COSTA RICA - US: President Monge's Visit

Costa Rican President Monge, who arrives in Washington today for a working visit, probably will use his keynote address at the Conference on Free Elections to continue his efforts both to promote democracy in Central America and to isolate Nicaragua. 


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The conference will be attended by over 100 private participants from around the world. The Costa Rican delegation, which includes Foreign Minister Volio, also will meet with senior US officials. Volio is the architect of San Jose's strong anti-Sandinista policies. 


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Comment: Monge and Volio are concerned over violations of Costa Rica's borders by Nicaraguan armed forces and Sandinista links with the local extreme left. Since his inauguration, Monge has led the effort in Central America to promote a broad alliance of democratic states against Nicaraguan adventurism. 

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The conference will enable Monge to reinforce the proposals made last month in San Jose at the Foreign Ministers' meeting, which included a regional peace initiative and plans for an electoral organization to assist democracies in the area. Monge also may try to arrange a followup meeting of regional leaders to coincide with President Reagan's scheduled visit to San Jose in December. 

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Monge is likely to use his meetings with US officials to lobby for additional aid and investment. He is particularly concerned that Costa Rica's economic problems, including triple-digit inflation and one of the world's highest foreign debts in relation to GNP, will cause leftist-inspired labor agitation. Although he supports the Caribbean Basin Initiative, he has criticized the \$70 million slated for San Jose as too little. 

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[REDACTED]

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JAMAICA-COLOMBIA: Opposition to Narcotics Control

//Domestic opposition will limit the extent to which Jamaica and Colombia--major sources of drugs for the US market--will cooperate with US antinarcotics efforts.// [REDACTED]

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//Growers of marijuana in Jamaica have delayed eradication efforts there by threatening reprisals against sugar-cane fields. Prime Minister Seaga recently told US officials he will not sign a public narcotics control agreement with the US because of the high political cost to his government.// [REDACTED]

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In Colombia, the US Embassy reports any crop eradication program will run into strong public opposition. President Betancur supports existing US-Colombian narcotics programs, but is delaying action on crop eradication because of domestic opposition and a belief the US can do more to control narcotics demand. Colombia supplies about 75 percent of the marijuana and methaqualone market in the US as well as increasing amounts of cocaine.

[REDACTED]

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Comment: *//This is not the first time Seaga has expressed reservations about crop eradication. The reaction of marijuana growers to this initial eradication effort is likely to increase his fears of losing rural votes, which in turn will increase his reluctance to cooperate. Jamaica probably will continue to serve as a source of supply for about 10 percent of the marijuana going to the US.//* [REDACTED]

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//Betancur's government has been preoccupied with more urgent domestic matters. Nonetheless, he probably will continue to cooperate in the areas of crop substitution, manual eradication, and interdiction.// [REDACTED]

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//Crop spraying with herbicides is the only way to make a rapid dent in the flow of marijuana. Bogota is unlikely to agree to herbicidal eradication, however, because of domestic opposition and Betancur's desire not to appear to be yielding to US pressure.// [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[Redacted]

IRAN-IRAQ: Renewed Offensive

//Iran's expected attack against Iraqi forces occupying a narrow strip of Iranian territory along the Doveyrich River west of Dezful began on Monday. [Redacted]

[Redacted] Iranian infantry and armored forces occupied a salient a few kilometers west of the river but were under fire by two Iraqi armored battalions occupying high ground. Another Iraqi armored unit is moving to block a possible Iranian advance from Eyn Gerzan farther north. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Comment: //Tehran is denying Iraqi claims that Iranian forces intend to cross the border in this sector and is insisting they seek only to liberate occupied territory. The two conflicting versions of the offensive's goals will permit both sides to claim victory. Iraqi forces in the area, which include at least two reinforced divisions, have an overwhelming advantage in armor and artillery over the five Iranian brigades opposing them. Any Iranian advance will be costly but Tehran probably is prepared to continue operations along this front for at least several more days.// [Redacted]

OAU: Summit Plans

The public announcement over the weekend by the Polisario Front that it will not attend a proposed OAU summit later this month in Tripoli clears the way for Libyan leader Qadhafi's accession to the chairmanship.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] This timing will give Qadhafi an opportunity to address the current session of the UN General Assembly as OAU chairman. [Redacted]

Comment: A majority of states that boycotted the aborted summit last August probably will attend the new meeting as long as the Polisario Front is not present. The Polisario Front's absence, however, will not end discussion of the Western Saharan issue or patch the split between OAU radicals and moderates. [Redacted]

[Redacted] a number of summit participants will push to have an internationally sponsored referendum in Western Sahara in a few months. [Redacted]

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CANADA: Economic Nationalism

//The recent decision of the state-owned Petro Canada Company to buy the marketing and refining facilities of British Petroleum in Canada indicates Ottawa is continuing to "Canadianize" its oil and gas industry. The acquisition, at a cost of US \$279 million, will increase the government's share of the domestic gasoline market from 6 to 12 percent, making it the fourth-largest distributor in Canada.//



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Comment: //The purchase indicates that the government of Prime Minister Trudeau remains committed to its National Economic Program despite the recent government overtures to US businessmen and hints of change in Canada's policy toward foreign investment. With Canada in a deep recession and the budget deficit at US \$18.4 billion, the action almost certainly will lead to criticism by Conservatives of the borrowing that will be necessary to buy British Petroleum.//



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