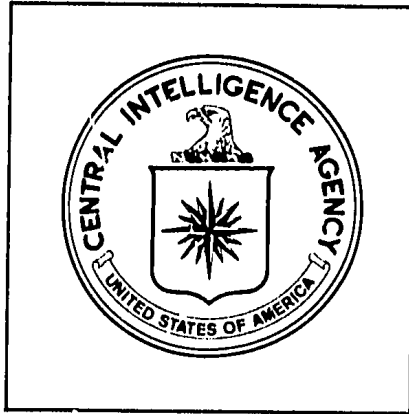


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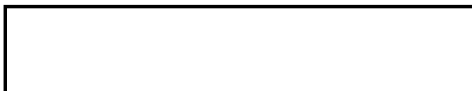
STAFF NOTES:

Middle East Africa South Asia

State Department review completed

NSA review completed

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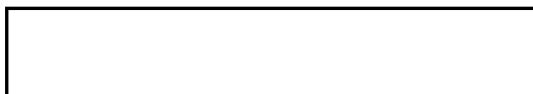


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Israel*Emigration Arouses Concern*

Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics recently estimated that 15,000 to 20,000 Israelis emigrated last year. This is roughly double the estimated average rate of the last seven years. The highest previous total, about 11,000, occurred in 1966, when unemployment reached 10 percent, and in 1973.

Approximately 32,000 new immigrants arrived in Israel last year, 46 percent fewer than in 1973. The drop in new arrivals coupled with increased emigration resulted in a net migrant growth of only 12,000 to 17,000. This is well below what the government considers necessary for the Jewish population to keep pace with the growth in the number of Arabs in Israel. Net immigration accounted for 39 percent of Jewish population growth in Israel in the 12 months ending last August.

The Bureau's estimate has aroused intense concern in Israel. Even before the latest figures were announced, Jewish Agency Chairman Pinhas Sapir warned that the emigration problem is particularly serious because it involves not only recent arrivals but also first, second, and third generation Israelis. Sapir is directing a major campaign to attract more Jewish immigrants, particularly from western countries.

Citing the Bureau's figures, one of Israel's leading press commentators noted last week that Israelis are now openly discussing emigration. He claimed that more young, better educated Israelis are leaving. He attributed the high emigration to anxieties about Israel's security, as well as to social and economic discontent. Another Bureau report, for instance, indicates that Israel's consumer price index rose 56.2 percent last year, more than double the 1973 figure. Food prices alone jumped 82.6 percent. Wage adjustments only partially offset these increases.

The US embassy in Tel Aviv comments that despite difficulties in making reliable estimates on the

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number of Jews permanently leaving Israel, the magnitude of the 1974 estimate is likely further to erode public morale and will be read as a clear set-back to Israel's efforts to attract more immigrants from the West and the Soviet Union.

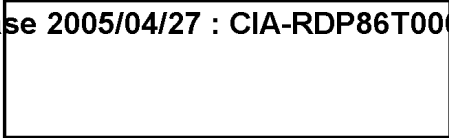
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Angola*Reactions to Decolonization Accord*

According to the US consul general in Luanda, the local reaction to the accord signed in Portugal last week establishing a transitional government for Angola is mixed. Angola appears calm with both blacks and whites relieved that the Portuguese and the nationalists have finally taken a meaningful step toward independence. Nevertheless, both races have some serious reservations about the future.

As might be expected, Angola's blacks look forward eagerly to independence, and they expect an orderly transition period. Politically aware blacks, however, are concerned that the liberation groups will not be able to compromise their longstanding rivalries after independence is achieved.

The vast majority of the 500,000 whites, whose futures are invested in Angola, appear at this time determined to remain. They are apprehensive about black rule, however, and will be looking to the transitional government to prove it intends to honor the guarantees to their lives and property extended in the accord. If the government fails to do this and white interests are harmed in the months ahead, the government is likely to face a mass exodus of whites that will deprive it of sorely needed skills and knowledge.

The provision of the accord that most concerns the whites is the planned withdrawal of Portuguese troops. Although Portugal is obliged to withdraw almost half its troops by April, 24,000 troops are to remain in the territory throughout the transition period. Total Portuguese withdrawal is not scheduled to be accomplished until February 1976.

The territory's religious leaders believe the liberation groups will cooperate during the transition, but are alarmed over the Marxist ideology expressed

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by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. The religious leaders intend to use their influence to counteract that ideology.

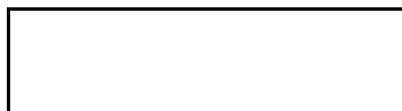
The Portuguese military appears pleased that it has seen the territory through a difficult time. The accord should be a much-needed boost to its morale.



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Pakistan

Islamabad Emphasizes Ties with PLO

Pakistan is trying to demonstrate, particularly to its Arab friends, that its support for the Palestine Liberation Organization has been greater than that provided by neighboring India.

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Both Pakistan and India are anxious to please the Arabs by demonstrating adherence to the Arab position on the PLO. The maintenance of strong ties with the Arab world has been a major foreign policy objective of the Bhutto government, which has obtained substantial Arab financial help.

India, for its part, is insisting that it has recognized the PLO "all along." New Delhi wants to keep the Arab states from strongly backing Muslim Pakistan in its disputes with India. It also wants to increase economic ties with the Arabs.

The Indians, however, have not been willing to go as far as the Pakistanis in siding with the Arabs; they believe this would be inconsistent with India's status as a major regional power. New Delhi, for example, has not acceded to Arab requests that it close the Israeli consulate in Bombay. The India government has also told the US embassy that the PLO mission in New Delhi will be granted only partial diplomatic privileges.

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