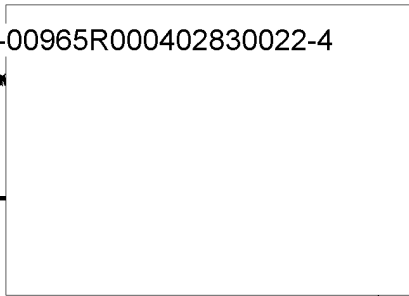


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THE WASHINGTON POST  
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Magazines

# *Sugar & Spies & Princess Di*

Blown Covers

Atlantic's cover plugs its second excerpt from Seymour Hersh's forthcoming book, "The Price of Power: Kissinger in Nixon's White House," centering on 1970 and U.S. efforts to prevent the election of Salvador Allende in Chile. Hersh spends much time reviewing the climate of U.S.-Chilean relations, private corporate actions to sway the election and American backing of a military coup. These make useful, if often stiff, reading. But his principal thesis is that Richard Nixon "specifically" ordered the CIA to get rid of Allende, that Kissinger acquiesced in the decision, and that then-CIA head Richard Helms had "no doubt in his mind at the time what Nixon meant"—assassination. The case is not convincingly made. The closest Hersh comes to a "smoking gun" is a former National Security Council aide who says he saw a White House options paper that proposed the killing, and the bulk of the remaining evidence consists of "blind" quotes about Helms and circumstantial inference from previous U.S. actions against Castro, Lumumba, et al. It just isn't enough.

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