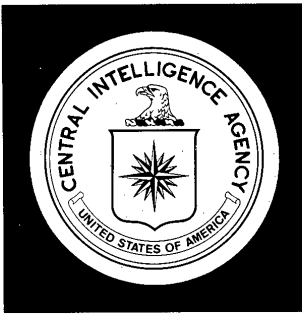


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The President's Daily Brief

September 16, 1974

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USSR-EGYPT

General Secretary Brezhnev wants to schedule a summit meeting with Egyptian President Sadat [redacted]

[redacted] before Sadat makes his trip to Washington this fall. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] a site for the summit--one of the matters that has hitherto delayed plans for talks. Sadat has insisted that Brezhnev come to Cairo, but Brezhnev has been unwilling. Sadat's new emphasis on increasing Egypt's influence in South Yemen and in the Gulf region at Moscow's expense is another issue that could further aggravate Soviet-Egyptian relations before talks can be arranged. Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi presumably will discuss these problems when he goes to Moscow next month.

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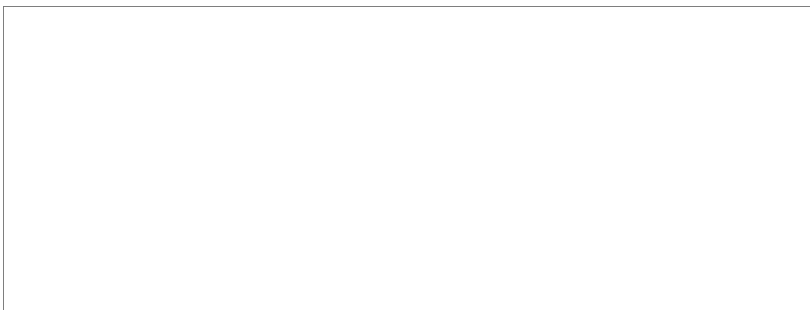
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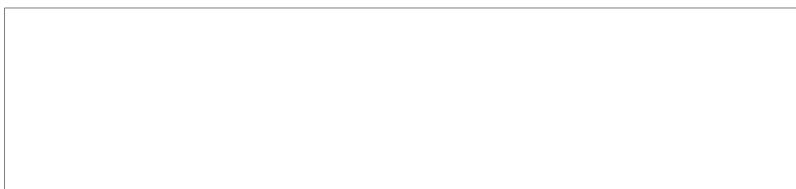
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ARAB STATES - ISRAEL



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Israeli aircraft attacked fedayeen concentrations in southern Lebanon yesterday for the first time in over a month. According to Israeli authorities, the attacks were limited to targets in the Mount Hermon area. Earlier in the day, Israeli artillery shelled targets in southern Lebanon.

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SOUTH KOREA - JAPAN

Seoul and Tokyo pulled back over the weekend to avoid a showdown between the two countries. The government radio in Seoul announced yesterday that progress had been made toward settling the dispute, and that US mediation had helped greatly.

The South Koreans have agreed to accept a letter from Prime Minister Tanaka, which expresses regret over last month's assassination in Seoul, but Tokyo must provide in the letter further assurances of its promise to curb plotting in Japan against Korean President Pak. The Japanese have agreed.

Although tensions have eased, difficult negotiations are still likely over the form and content of the additional Japanese assurances. Seoul continues to press for an explicit Japanese commitment to crack down on Chosen Soren, the pro-Pyongyang association of Korean residents in Japan that Seoul holds responsible for the death of President Pak's wife. Tokyo may find it difficult, however, to come up with a clearcut pledge without violating Japanese laws which protect the freedom of organizations such as Chosen Soren.

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TURKEY

The rift in Turkey's governing coalition deepened over the weekend as Deputy Prime Minister Erbakan, leader of the junior party in the coalition--the National Salvation Party--directly challenged Prime Minister Ecevit. Ecevit, who has been finding the Salvationists increasingly troublesome partners, will decide today whether or not he will resign.

Erbakan and seven other cabinet ministers refused to sign a decree authorizing Ecevit to make a trip this week to Scandinavia as the official representative of the Turkish government. Erbakan said Ecevit could travel as a representative of his own Republican People's Party or as a "resigned prime minister." Erbakan is miffed that he was not designated to act as prime minister during Ecevit's absence. Ecevit appointed instead a member of his own party.

Ecevit's difficulties with his right-wing partner go back to last May, when 20 Salvationists broke party ranks to vote against the government on a crucial bill. Ecevit has been further annoyed by Erbakan's political maneuvering and unhelpful statements on Cyprus; he has been avoiding appearances with Erbakan in public.

A government crisis now--coinciding with sensitive negotiations over Cyprus--would be ill-timed. Even if the government does not collapse, the functioning of the cabinet as a unit has been seriously impaired by the rift between Ecevit and Erbakan.

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NOTES

Cyprus: Acting Cypriot President Clerides announced Saturday that Archbishop Makarios, as President of Cyprus, will address the next session of the UN. He affirmed that a "common line" exists between himself and Makarios on handling the Cyprus problem. The US embassy in Nicosia notes, however, that Clerides recognizes Makarios' potential--and probable intention--to undermine both Clerides' own position and the ongoing negotiations between Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders.

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France:

[Redacted]

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Israel: The ruling body of Israel's National Religious Party voted yesterday to rejoin Prime Minister Rabin's coalition government, a move which should broaden the coalition's narrow base of 61 seats in the 120-member Knesset. The leadership of Rabin's Labor Party previously approved his formula for compromising differences with the Religious Party. Rabin's next step will be to seek the consent of the other three parties in the governing coalition. If they react as expected, the net result will be seven additional seats. Although the small Citizens Rights Movement has threatened to leave the coalition if the Religious Party joins, leaders of the remaining two parties have indicated that they can go along with Rabin's compromise formula.

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