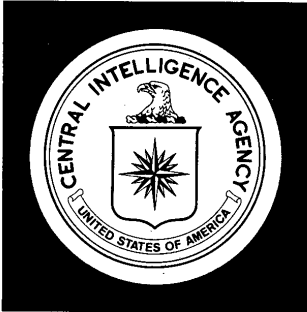


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The President's Daily Brief

August 9, 1975

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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PORTUGAL

The new Portuguese cabinet headed by Prime Minister Vasco Goncalves is dominated by radical military officers and by front men and sympathizers of the Portuguese Communist Party. The composition of the cabinet is almost certain to alienate further large segments of Portugal's already aroused populace. The most immediate threat to the new government, however, comes from the strong dissident group within the Armed Forces Movement itself which on Thursday publicly attacked the program of the present leadership.

Now that a group of non-radical officers has publicized its irreconcilable differences with Goncalves' regime, the two camps would appear to be on a collision course. The dissidents include a large number of the original leaders of the April 25 revolution and the commanders of two of the four Portuguese military regions. Assuming that wide-scale arrests or purges may be imminent, the dissidents are actively canvassing additional support throughout the military.

A key factor in the success or failure of the dissidents will be the stand taken by General Otelo de Carvalho, head of the security forces. Carvalho is an opportunist, and if he is convinced of the success of the opposition move, he will support it.

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The document issued by the dissidents on Thursday provides a rallying point for non-radical elements outside the military, including the democratic parties. Socialist leader Mario Soares, who yesterday called the new government "crypto-communist," reportedly has given the document his enthusiastic support. It is also likely to have broad appeal to the clergy and to the militant anti-communists who have participated in recent incidents of violence in the north.

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USSR

Since Helsinki, Soviet news commentators are saying that the summit has created a climate conducive to ongoing disarmament negotiations, including SALT. The Soviets already show signs of using the Helsinki document for their own purposes.

The Politburo communiqué blessing CSCE refers to the humanitarian exchanges within the "observance of the law and traditions of each country"-- wording specifically rejected by the West during the negotiations and not included in the final document.

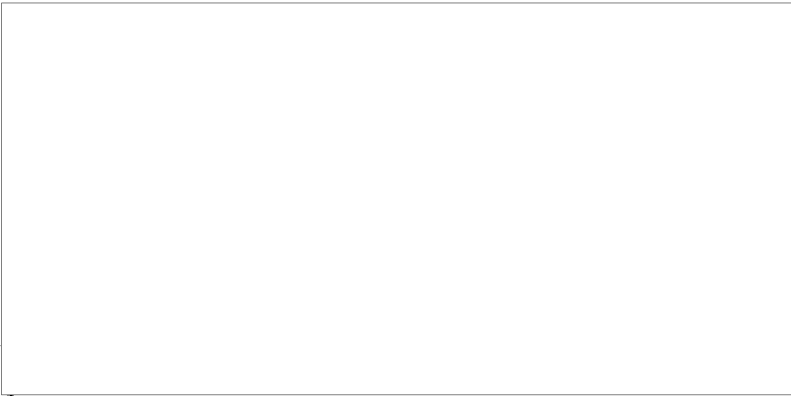
The Soviets used the non-interference clause of the CSCE document in Pravda on August 7 to excoriate the EC for what Moscow argues is the West's interference in the internal affairs of Portugal. This approach is clearly intended to be pre-emptive. Moscow has already shown its sensitivity to charges that it is materially supporting the Portuguese Communists and the radical elements of the Armed Forces Movement. The USSR presumably anticipates that the West will sooner or later claim that the Soviets are violating the Helsinki agreements.

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SYRIA-ISRAEL



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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

The San Jose conference to amend the Rio Treaty and the subsequent consultations on ending the Cuban sanctions provide a perspective on the state of US - Latin American relations.

Despite the long-standing "natural" alliance between the US and the rest of the hemisphere, Latin American countries seem to find their interests at odds with those of the US. This ambivalence is evident in the frequent contrast between a country's style in dealing directly with Washington and its confrontational tactics in multilateral forums.

Latin American countries, which in concert have regularly deplored US influence and involvement in their affairs, have now in effect acknowledged that their basic security is naturally and inevitably linked with that of the US. After critically reviewing the Rio Treaty for two years, the Latin governments wanted only small alterations of the 28-year-old document, and endorsed the pact essentially as it is.

One change in the treaty addressed a political flaw magnified by the Cuban issue--the requirement that sanctions imposed by a two-thirds vote can be removed only by the same procedure. For the last two years this requirement has been ignored by over half the signatories in their relations with Cuba. Efforts to bring the treaty's dictum in line with reality were repeatedly stymied by a vote of one-third-plus-one. The two-thirds rule technically remains in force until the San Jose amendments are ratified by two thirds of the member governments. As an interim expedient, a "freedom of action" resolution was adopted at the subsequent meeting that leaves each members' relationship with Cuba a purely bilateral affair.

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The Turkish government has informed the US embassy of further restrictions at US bases including the closing of base exchanges and commissaries.

A Foreign Ministry official has explained that these restrictions are provisional and possibly can be changed when negotiations for new defense arrangements are undertaken. US C-130 aircraft landing at Diyarbakir and Cigli air bases yesterday were assessed landing fees, and Erhac and Samsun bases have informed us that fees will be required there. The landing fees have varied at each base. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Caglayangil yesterday publicly rejected any possibility of reactivating the bases under NATO. His hard line is probably an effort to cope with continuing opposition criticism that the government has been indecisive on the bases issue.

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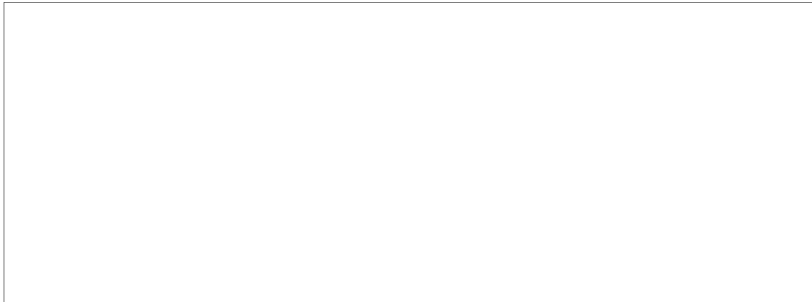
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Jordan's King Husayn is trying to portray the Hawk air defense sale as a test of US support for the more moderate Arab states.

Husayn originally said he would turn to another Western state if the Hawk deal fell through, but on Thursday he told several US correspondents that he would have to go to the Soviet Union because he did not think any of the European states could meet Jordan's air defense requirements. Husayn said he did not want Soviet technicians in Jordan, but that Jordanians might be sent to the Soviet Union or Syria for training if Soviet equipment were bought. Husayn does not want Soviet missiles and is probably trying to pressure Congress to approve the original Hawk package.

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