



# The President's Daily Brief

*September 13, 1976*



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GREECE-TURKEY: *The decision Saturday by the International Court of Justice may encourage the Greeks to negotiate seriously in the bilateral talks with the Turks scheduled for later this month.*

The Court rejected the Greek appeal for a temporary ban on Turkish oil exploration in disputed Aegean waters. It also turned down the Turkish request to drop the case altogether.

The Greek government is trying to put the best face on the Court's verdict. It is likely to be concerned, however, that its policy of countering Turkish moves by diplomatic and other peaceful means will face mounting criticism from parts of the opposition, the military, and the public. Prime Minister Caramanlis reportedly is determined not to let such criticism change his course. He undoubtedly hopes that the Turks will not be emboldened by the Court's decision to test Greek resolve further.



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The Turks probably now have more leverage than ever before to convince the Greeks to consider seriously their proposals, such as joint exploration. Opposition pressure or the prospect of political gain, however, could tempt the weak Demirel government to take a hard line, thereby clouding the outlook for progress in the talks.

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LEBANON: *Syrian officials continue to hold discussions with Lebanese and other Arab emissaries to facilitate the transfer of power to Lebanese president-elect Sarkis and to prepare for the Arab summit on Lebanon.*

Lebanese Prime Minister Karami went to Damascus yesterday, presumably to learn Syria's view of his role once Sarkis is inaugurated. Right-wing Christian leaders, such as President Franjyah and Interior Minister Shamun, would oppose strongly Karami's retention.

The Syrians probably would prefer that he stay on, but they may not want to risk undermining Sarkis' efforts to secure the cooperation of the more extreme Christian leaders.

Arab envoys in Damascus this weekend to discuss preparations for the forthcoming Arab summit on Lebanon in late October included Tunisian Foreign Minister Chatti and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud. <sup>25X1</sup>

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*Fighting remained at a low level throughout Lebanon this weekend.*

Sporadic shelling occurred in Beirut and its suburbs and in central and northern Lebanon. [redacted] do not confirm press reports of heavy fighting. 25X1

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*ANGOLA: President Neto appears to have made gains in his power struggle with radical groups within the Popular Movement.*

Portuguese Socialist Party officials who recently visited Luanda-- at Neto's invitation--came away with the impression that Neto's political and personal self-confidence are growing. During recent months, Neto has given many speeches and interviews in which he has stressed multiracialism, denounced party disunity, and supported nonalignment. In the months immediately following the Popular Movement's victory, black radicals within the party's military hierarchy supported by the Soviets and Cubans had restricted his efforts to establish national policies.

[redacted] Neto favors a reconciliation with the two rival nationalist groups that would allow their members, but not their top leaders, to participate in the government. 25X1

*Within the past two weeks, Neto has moved to broaden Angola's foreign ties.*

He has accepted an ambassador from Sweden and is pushing to resume relations with Portugal. He apparently hopes that ties with Portugal will help to build bridges with other West European countries and ease Angola's admission to the UN. In late August, he sent a letter to Washington expressing a

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desire to establish normal relations with the US. Angola's economy needs Western technology and markets if it is to be revived quickly.

Since the end of the civil war, Angola has become almost totally dependent on Cuban and Soviet assistance. Efforts by Neto to put some distance between his government and the Soviets and the Cubans will not go unchallenged by the military radicals of the Popular Movement, who owe their strength to communist assistance.

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NOTES

*Attendance at official Chinese mourning ceremonies for Mao Tse-tung on Saturday revealed no changes thus far in the political ranking.*

All active members of the Politburo, including those based in the provinces, simply were listed in order of their political positions. Fifteen provincial leaders, including several who have been linked to the ousted Teng Hsiao-ping and have appeared infrequently, were present at the ceremonies. Three government officials tied to Teng, however, did not attend.

Despite her general lack of political popularity, Mao's wife, Chiang Ching, apparently will be accorded all the honors due the widow of the chairman--at least during the mourning period.

Military units remain in a state of heightened readiness, in part as a precaution against possible domestic unrest.

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*The Pinochet government in Chile, which observed its third anniversary on Saturday, shows no signs of moderating its tough internal security practices or offering any substantial concessions in the area of human rights.*

Pinochet's speech marking the occasion reiterated the regime's harsh views and indicated that new decrees further restricting political activity soon would be issued. The crackdown clearly is aimed at the Christian Democrats and the church--the regime's principal domestic critics.

The Interior Ministry announced that more than 200 political prisoners were being released, but the state of siege has been extended for another six months.

The expansive guarantees of human rights promised by Pinochet at the OAS meeting in Santiago last June are still largely ignored by the security forces.



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