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DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# WEEKLY SUMMARY

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5 September 1969  
No. 0386/69

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- KOFI BUSIA TO LEAD GHANA'S NEW CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT 19  
 A landslide victory by Busia's Progress Party in last week's elections should ease the transition to civilian rule, but the long-term prospects for stability are less certain.
- ZAMBIA'S PRESIDENT MOVES TO CONTROL TRIBALISM 20  
 Presidential action has averted an open break in the national leadership, but the long-term reconstruction of national unity faces uncertain prospects.
- MILITARY JUNTA SEIZES CONTROL IN LIBYA 21  
 The new military regime is consolidating its position, but its leadership and its political ideology remain unknown. US oil interests do not seem to be immediately threatened, but the future of Wheelus Air Base is not clear.
- SUDAN'S "ARAB" REVOLUTION  
 The small, obscure group of army officers that overthrew Sudan's elected government in May will probably survive for the foreseeable future primarily because there now is no opposition force capable of ousting it. The new regime has committed itself to major "socialistic" economic reforms and firm adherence to the Arab cause in the dispute with Israel. (Published separately as Special Report No. 0386/69A)

Western Hemisphere

- THE WEEK IN PERSPECTIVE 23
- MILITARY TRIUMVIRATE TAKES OVER IN BRAZIL 24  
 Military opposition to the triumvirate that took over last week following Costa e Silva's severe stroke is already threatening military unity and will probably undercut the triumvirate's ability to govern effectively for more than a short period.
- DISSENSION SURFACES ON CHILEAN LEFT 26  
 The Socialist Party has nominated Salvador Allende as its candidate in the presidential election next year, but he will have trouble uniting his party behind him and forging a broad leftist electoral coalition.

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## MILITARY JUNTA SEIZES CONTROL IN LIBYA

Following the pattern of military take-over that has become traditional in the Arab world, junior officers of the Libyan Army moved early on the morning of 1 September to topple the monarchy of King Idris and establish the Libyan Arab Republic.

To forestall any possible opposition as it consolidates its power, the new regime imposed a curfew, suspended a number of newspapers, and dissolved all constitutional bodies. Power will be exercised through a military-dominated Revolutionary Command Council. The membership of this group--aside from its head, Saad ad Din Abu Shuwayrib--is unknown at this time. Abu Shuwayrib, a lieutenant colonel who retired from the army two years ago, may be serving as a figurehead, much as General Naguib did in the early days of Nasir's revolution, until the actual coup leaders feel confident enough to step forward.

The success of the coup resulted in large measure from the almost immediate collapse of the civilian security forces--a development arising from the nature of Libya's government. In a cultural milieu that emphasizes strong patriarchal leadership, King Idris had concentrated all political power and decision-making in his own hands. When the coup occurred, Idris was vacationing in Turkey, having been away from Libya since June.

It appears that the civilian security forces, whose manpower is almost twice that of the army, were either unable or unwilling to act unless given direct orders. The timing of the coup was undoubtedly intended to take advantage of the King's absence, for had he been on the scene it is likely that he would have taken personal command of the security forces and put down the coup.

The political coloration of the new regime is unknown at this time. But the use of characteristic slogans and the labeling of the new republic as "socialist" indicates the new government will probably not follow the conservative policies of its predecessor. It is likely, for example, to adopt a much more militant stance in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The secrecy surrounding the membership of the Revolutionary Command Council may result from a jockeying for control among various factions representing a wide spectrum of political ideologies.

The chances that King Idris will regain his throne are slimmer with each passing day, and he does not appear to be seriously considering an immediate return. Crown Prince Hasan al-Rida, around whom Idris' supporters might conceivably have gathered, quickly renounced all rights to the throne. Idris' own tribes and the members of the religious brotherhood he heads do not seem

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to have the arms necessary to challenge the army seriously, although a few isolated pockets of resistance may appear.

The junta has promised to honor all existing treaties and agreements. US oil interests, therefore, are apparently in no danger for the immediate future.

Reports indicate that, except for a few momentary stoppages, oil operations have continued as usual. The new regime seems likely to be as interested in continuing oil revenues as was its predecessor. Wheelus Air Base is another matter, however, and it is doubtful that the junta will long agree to a continued US presence at the base. ~~(SECRET)~~

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