



Director of
Central
Intelligence



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National Intelligence Daily

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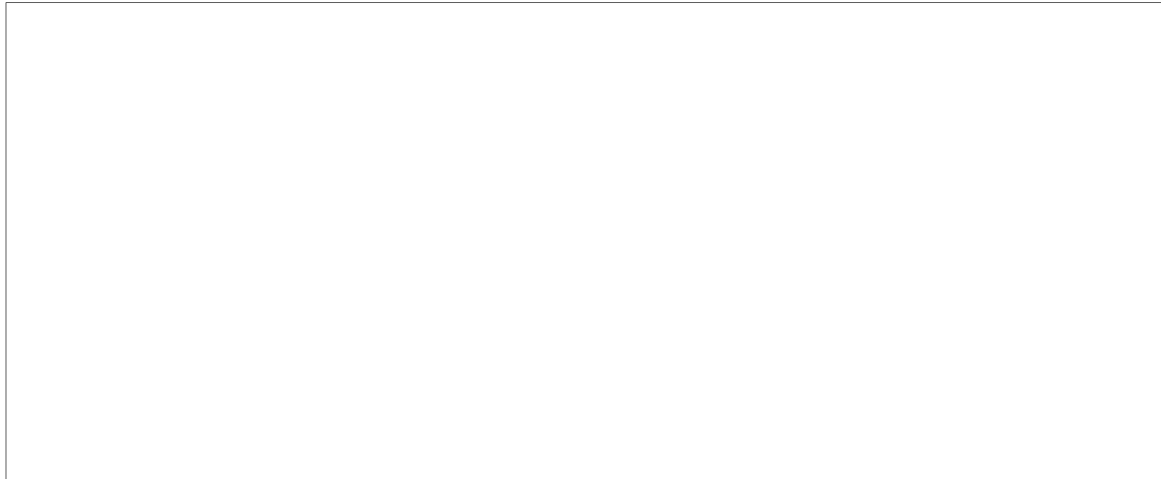
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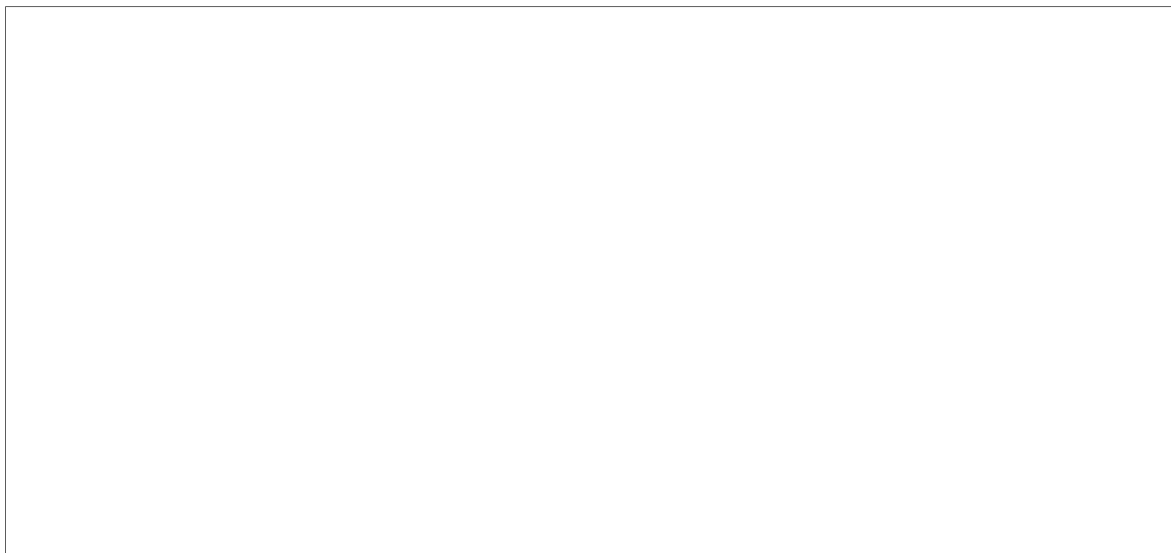


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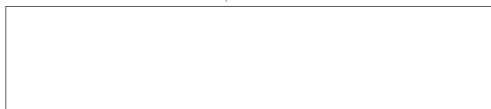
NR Record



Jamaica: *Alleged Rightist Coup Plot*. 8



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JAMAICA: Alleged Rightist Coup Plot

Publicity following the arrest last Sunday of 27 alleged rightist coup plotters will provoke some local sympathy for Prime Minister Manley, but it is unlikely to improve his poor chances for reelection or to provide a pretext for increased security measures against the moderate opposition.

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Manley apparently has refused to join local radicals in exploiting the incident as part of an alleged US "destabilization" campaign.

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Seaga has compounded local rumors by charging that the ruling party either fabricated or exaggerated the conspiracy to justify a state of emergency. These rumors could have some basis in fact as additional security measures would increase Manley's leverage against the opposition.

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On the other hand, the largely anti-Manley Army evidently took the lead in the investigation of an incipient and seemingly foredoomed conspiracy mainly concentrated within its own ranks. The accused include three junior Army officers and 23 noncommissioned officers led by a virtually unknown political rightist. Whatever its origins, however, the coup scare is having little impact on the growing fortunes of an opposition party strongly favored to defeat Manley this fall.

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