

***** T O P S E C R E T *****S COPY

SWEEP OPERATION IS UNDER WAY.

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION QUIET: NO MAJOR INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED ON EITHER THE SYRIAN OR EGYPTIAN FRONT YESTERDAY.



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EC COUNCIL POSITION FOR NEXT WEEK'S ENERGY CONFERENCE: THE EC COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 5 APPROVED A POSITION PAPER DESIGNED TO PERMIT A COOPERATIVE STANCE BY THE COMMUNITY AT THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK, DESPITE BASIC RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE AND DIFFERENCES AMONG THE EC MEMBERS. THE PRINCIPAL POINTS OF THE PAPER, WHICH WAS RELEASED TO THE PRESS IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE EC'S BARGAINING POSITION ARE:

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- THE NEED TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN OIL IMPORTING AND PRODUCING COUNTRIES;
- THE DESIRABILITY OF INCLUDING ALL OIL IMPORTING AND PRODUCING NATIONS IN FUTURE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS, WITH A VIEW TOWARD STARTING THOSE BROADER TALKS BEFORE APRIL 1;
- THE NECESSITY OF PREVENTING THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE -- "ESPECIALLY IN ITS PRESENT COMPOSITION" -- FROM BEING TRANSFORMED INTO A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.



RAUL CASTRO TO MOSCOW: RAUL CASTRO, FIDEL'S BROTHER AND CUBA'S FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, HAS ARRIVED IN MOSCOW FOR AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT. TASS REPORTS HE WAS INVITED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY. NO REASON FOR THE VISIT WAS GIVEN.

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ODUBER DECLARED WINNER: DANIEL ODUBER, CANDIDATE OF THE RULING NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY, HAS BEEN DECLARED THE WINNER IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION HELD FEBRUARY 3 IN COSTA RICA. ODUBER CAPTURED MORE THAN THE REQUIRED 40 PERCENT OF THE POPULAR VOTE, THUS ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR A RUNOFF ELECTION. DESPITE ODUBER'S VICTORY, HIS PARTY APPARENTLY HAS LOST ITS TRADITIONAL MAJORITY IN THE LEGISLATURE. THAT WILL FORCE THE LEADING PARTY TO SEEK STRONGER COOPERATION FROM OPPOSITIONISTS.



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