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## National Intelligence Daily

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## BRIEFS AND COMMENTS

TURKEY: Status Report

One month after the coup, the chances are good that the military will move ahead on its stated <u>goals</u> of constitutional reforms and restoration of civilian rule.

They are now working on a provisional constitution that will spell out duties and powers for themselves and for the next civilian government. The generals will begin work later on a permanent constitution that will strengthen the presidency, create a stronger two-party system, impose limits on ethnic and religious associations, and provide for sweeping educational reforms.

The commanders this weekend demonstrated both their growing confidence and their commitment to existing legalities by freeing former Prime Ministers Demirel and Ecevit. They have also levied formal charges against National Salvation Party leader Erbakan and nine of his deputies and extreme rightist Turkes and 16 of his followers.

The new regime's first priority has been to control violence. Strengthened martial law powers allowed the military to round up more than 5,000 extremists so far, and the National Security Council--which serves as interim executive and legislative branches--has upheld the death sentences of four terrorists.

The commanders have honored their pledge to continue the previous government's austerity program. West Germany and other members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development as well as international institutions appear willing to continue their aid efforts despite reservations about the military regime.

The generals have pursued a pro-NATO and pro-Western foreign policy while seeking to maintain ties with their neighbors. They have favored the resumption and continuation of Cypriot intercommunal talks and seem somewhat flexible on the issue of Greek reintegration into NATO. In addition, they have sought to remain neutral in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

The military leaders know that prolonging their hold will diminish their popularity at home and the tolerance of governments abroad, on whom they depend for substantial aid.

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