



**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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CIA LATE ITEMS

TURKEY: Military Takeover

The Turkish military took control of the government early today out of exasperation with the growing anarchy and political stagnation in the country. Preliminary indications are that the military will stay in power long enough to make some fundamental political and constitutional changes while keeping Turkey on a solid pro-Western course. [redacted]

A National Security Council, composed of principal military commanders and headed by Chief of Staff Kenan Evren, has assumed power. The Council has abolished the civilian government, canceled parliamentary immunity, and suspended the constitution. Martial law has been extended throughout the country and a curfew imposed. A military communique issued shortly after the coup singles out the politicians' constant bickering and failure to come together to stem terrorism as justification for the takeover. [redacted]

The military's move apparently occurred after General Evren met with service commanders under the pretext of discussions concerning NATO exercises in western Turkey. The takeover was accomplished with no violence, however, and the curfew appears to be effective. According to press reports Prime Minister Demirel and opposition leader Ecevit have been temporarily placed under house arrest. [redacted]

The Intervention

The timing of the intervention was connected more to the worsening internal security situation and the continuing failure of the parties to agree on a president than to the economic situation. There were more than 600 deaths in July and August and these included prominent political and trade union leaders as well as military officers and policemen. [redacted]

The last straw for the military appears to have been the efforts by the opposition Republicans and Demirel's erstwhile partner, the Islamic-oriented National Salvation Party, to bring down the Demirel government. The commanders apparently concluded that the politics as usual

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~~Top Secret~~[redacted]
12 September 1980

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approach by civilian leaders would continue indefinitely while the country headed toward civil war and remained without a president. [redacted]

Outlook

The generals appear intent on instituting fundamental changes before they return power to the politicians. Initially, they are likely to try to break the back of terrorist groups, particularly on the left, by imposing a harsh martial law regime that could include arrests of leftist and religious-oriented politicians. The generals' economic policy will probably adhere to the main lines of the conservative, market-oriented stabilization program Demirel introduced, mainly because it is beginning to produce results and will help ensure the flow of external assistance. [redacted]

In the foreign policy area, the new military government clearly is inclined to pursue a pro-NATO and pro-US course. Almost all the leaders have had some training in the US and they are known to value Turkey's membership in the Alliance. At the same time, however, their specific policies will be conditioned by the US and West European response to their takeover. They will be looking for a measure of understanding and support for their efforts to restore order. Barring that, they may be as difficult to deal with as were the series of weak civilian governments that ruled the country throughout the 1970s. [redacted]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Dissidents Reported Released

Emigre circles in Vienna this morning claimed that 11 Czech dissidents arrested Tuesday have been released. (For an earlier report, see page 3.) [redacted]

~~Top Secret~~

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