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STAFF NOTES:

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# MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA - SOUTH ASIA

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### CONTENTS

NR Record

June 28, 1974

SECRET

# SECRET

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Government Believes EOKA-B No Longer a Threat

the recent crackdown on EOKA-B, the terrorist organization that favors the union of Cyprus and Greece, has seriously undermined its effectiveness and morale. EOKA-B is still capable of violent actions, they no longer consider the terrorists a threat to the government.

The resurgence of EOKA-B activity in mid-June, initiated in part to retaliate against continued government harassment, has apparently caused a complete break between the extremist faction led by Kikis Konstantinou, which favors the continuation of violence against the government, and the moderates led by Stavros Zakos, who favor political activity. Zakos has publicly denounced the actions of the Konstantinou wing and declared that he and his followers were withdrawing from EOKA-B. The split is sure further to weaken EOKA-B, but it will also remove any remaining restraints on the hardliners who may resort to more desperate acts including political assassinations.

rent strength of EOKA-B to be down to about 380 hard-core cadres in addition to the several thousand Greek Cypriots who favor the organization's goal.

The Nicosia government has also announced its intention to purge the supporters of EOKA-B in the bureaucracy and hinted at possible actions against pro-EOKA-B political organizations and newspapers; it has thus far moved cautiously, however, in an effort to generate public support and to prevent a confrontation with Athens. Relations between Athens and Nicosia are already tense as a result of Makarios' attempt to gain greater control over the Greek-officered national guard.

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