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TO ROUTINE: INFO 99 CITE DIR 76218

	MXI

PERIOD

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF ²⁴ (SOPHON IN SLANTS)

1. CONGO: //CURRENT POLITICAL MANEUVERING WITHIN THE CONGO-
LESE GOVERNMENT MAY BE AIMED AT THE REPLACEMENT OF PREMIER ADOULA.

SOME OF ADOULA'S MINISTERS AND FORMER CLOSEST SUPPORTERS HAVE
DRAFTED A DOCUMENT MAKING A FIVE-MEMBER "COMMITTEE OF EXCEPTION"
TO REPLACE THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, ACCORDING TO CLAUDETINE SOURCES.
THE COMMITTEE IS TO BE HEADED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE JEROME
ARANT, AND INCLUDES JUSTICE MINISTER BOMBOKO, SURTE CHIEF NENDAKA,
AND INTERIOR MINISTER NADOTI. THE MINISTERS PLAN TO SUBMIT THE
DOCUMENT TO PRESIDENT KASAVUBU FOR A SIGNATURE TODAY.

THIS ^{GROUP} GROUP, WHICH IS GENERALLY WESTERN-ORIENTED, IS WORRIED
BY THE STEPPED-UP ACTIVITIES OF THE EXTREME LEFTIST NATIONALISTS,
AS WELL AS BY LABOR GROUP AGITATION FOR A NEW GOVERNMENT. THEY

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HAVE ALSO LONG BEEN CONCERNED WITH THE LACKLUSTER LEADERSHIP AND INDECISIVENESS OF ADOULA.

ARMY CHIEF GENERAL MORUTU MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE GROUP OR AT LEAST MAY TACITLY SUPPORT ITS AIMS. MORUTU HAS RECENTLY BECOME SHARPLY CRITICAL OF ADOULA. //

2. MOROCCO-ALGERIA: ALGERIA HAS ANNOUNCED THE "MOBILIZATION OF ALL FORMER FIGHTING MEN" AS SKIRMISHES ALONG THE UNDEFINED BORDER AREA CONTINUE.

PRESS STORIES THAT THE AREA OF FIGHTING HAS ENLARGED BEYOND THE TWO X OUTPOSTS OF X HASSI BEIDA AND TINJOUR AND THAT 2,500 MOROCCAN TROOPS ARE ENGAGED ARE STILL UNCONFIRMED. ALGERIAN AIR STRIKE SOME 150 MILES TO NORTHEAST REPORTED IN PRESS ON 18 OCT.

THE KING AND HIS OPERATIONAL STAFF HAVE ESTABLISHED THEIR HEADQUARTERS AT MARRAKECH. TAGOUNITE, 35 MILES NORTH OF TINJOUR, KNE APPARENTLY IS BEING USED AS THE FORWARD MOROCCAN BASE.

IN ADDITION, AN ALERT IS BEING MAINTAINED ALONG THE EASTERN MOROCCAN BORDER. ~~THE IS CONSIDERED IN GRAM CONSIDERED THAT~~ THE ALGERIAN ARMY HAS BEEN REINFORCING ITS BORDER UNITS IN THE MARRIA-TLECKEN

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BEN BEALA'S ENVOYS ARRIVED IN MARRAKECH 15 OCT FOR TALKS WITH MOROCCAN OFFICIALS, WHICH REPORTEDLY DID NOT GO WELL.

3. TURKEY: THE INONU GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED THAT IT WILL EXTEND MARTIAL LAW FOR TWO ADDITIONAL MONTHS, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF CONTINUING UNSETTLED POLITICAL CONDITIONS. THIS WILL BE THE THIRD EXTENSION SINCE THE ABORTIVE MILITARY COUP OF LAST MAY. REGIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 17 NOVEMBER MAY NOW BE POSTPONED. (CONF)

4. FRANCE-IRAN: PRIME MINISTER ALAM EXPECTS DE GAULLE TO OFFER IRAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PRIMARILY CREDITS FOR THE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AND ELECTRIFICATION, DURING A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO IRAN WHICH BEGINS TODAY. ALAM DID NOT SPECIFY THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT. FRENCH SOURCES DESCRIBE THE VISIT AS LARGELY CEREMONIAL, ALTHOUGH DE GAULLE WILL MAKE A MAJOR ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE IRANIAN PARLIAMENT TOMORROW. (CONF)

END OF MESSAGE

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