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PORTUGAL -- ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT STILL IN CONTROL

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1		4		7		10
2		3		6		11
3		2		5		12

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

[redacted]

~~WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED~~

ITEM NO: 04

DATE: 28 SEPTEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: PORTUGAL--ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT STILL IN CONTROL

REF : [redacted]

VARIOUS PRESS;

[redacted]

[redacted]

DETAILS ON THE SITUATION IN LISBON TODAY REMAIN SKETCHY, BUT IT APPEARS THAT THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT HAS MOVED FIRMLY TO TAKE CHARGE. EARLY THIS MORNING THE MOVEMENT ANNOUNCED THAT A NUMBER OF ARRESTS HAD BEEN MADE AND APPEALED FOR CALM. ITS ACTIONS GENERALLY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN AIMED AT PUTTING DOWN A THREAT FROM THE RIGHT RATHER THAN FROM THE LEFT.

FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES, IN STRASBOURG TO ADDRESS THE EUROPEAN

DATE: [redacted]
ORIG: [redacted]
UNIT: [redacted]
EXT: [redacted]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: SEP 2000

- F(b)(1)
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PARLIAMENT, SAID AFTER TELEPHONING LISBON THIS MORNING THAT THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT REMAINED IN FULL CONTROL.

REPORTS ARE CIRCULATING IN LISBON THAT A "RIGHTIST COUP" HAS BEEN ABORTED. IT IS NOT CLEAR HOWEVER, WHETHER SUCH REPORTS REFER TO AN ATTEMPT BY PRESIDENT SPINOLA OR BY FAR RIGHTIST FORCES OPERATING INDEPENDENTLY OF SPINOLA. IN ANY CASE, THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT MAY HAVE MOVED AGAINST WHAT ITS LEADERS CONSIDERED A THREAT OF A FAR RIGHTIST COUP. THE MOVEMENT MAY ALSO HAVE USED THE POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE--LINKED TO THE PRO-SPINOLA DEMONSTRATION THAT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TODAY--AS A PRETEXT TO MOVE AGAINST THE FAR RIGHT.

SPINOLA'S ROLE IN THESE EVENTS IS NOT CLEAR. HE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN EARLY THIS MORNING, SUCH AS THE SUSPENSION OF THE PRESS AND RADIO. A VARIETY OF REPORTS INDICATE THAT SOME TIME AFTER THAT, HOWEVER, THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT TOOK CHARGE. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, SPINOLA AND PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES ARE NOW DISCUSSING THE SITUATION.

E-2 IMPDET.H

DATE: 28 SEPT 74
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 EXT: [REDACTED]

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