

Arias Quits Panama Embassy

Peak 10/24/68

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United Press International
Dr. Arnulfo Arias, the deposed President of Panama, abandoned his occupation of the Panamanian Embassy yesterday saying that "the battle is won."

While Arias spent the night in a suite at the Watergate Hotel, supporters of the military junta that overthrew him Oct. 11 slipped into the Embassy and changed all the door locks which Arias himself had changed when he seized possession of the building Tuesday morning.

Arias insisted the change of locks had nothing to do with his decision to make the hotel his new command post for an attempt to return to power. "I made my point and there was no reason to go any further," he said, adding that the Embassy takeover was a "purely symbolic" gesture.

The ousted leader's aim is to persuade the Organization of American States, and possibly the United Nations, to take action against Panama's military rulers, who forced him to flee to the U.S.-controlled Canal Zone 11 days after he was inaugurated.

But the OAS found itself caught in the middle yesterday when it received telegrams from both Panamanian factions seeking accreditation of their ambassadors to the Pan-American organization. Arias nominated Humberto Calamari, who arrived with him from the Canal Zone Tuesday morning. The junta,

headed by Col. Jose Pinilla, named Narciso Garay, who arrived last Friday, as its representative.

The OAS Council was expected to approve one of the nominees during the next few days.

Whatever the OAS decision, the United States—which suspended diplomatic relations with Panama after the bloodless coup—made clear it was staying out of the fight.

Chessmen Fail to Bar Players From Bloc

Reuters

LUGGANO, Switzerland, Oct. 23—A move to bar the five Warsaw Pact powers that occupied Czechoslovakia from future international chess Olympiads, failed, it was learned here today.

The call for the ban on Russia, East Germany, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria was made by Norway at the Congress of the International Chess Federation yesterday, but it was kept off the congress agenda.

