



**ARMY COUP IN SIERRA LEONE:** A group of army officers seized power in Freetown on March 24. The coup benefited from disputes earlier in the week between the two political parties: when the general election results were in, Mr Siaka Stevens (above, right), former Opposition leader, was invited to form a government; he and the Governor-General were then placed under arrest on March 21 on what Mr Stevens claimed were the orders of Sir Albert Margai (above, left), the former prime minister. Mr Stevens's party held 31 seats, while Sir Albert had allied with five Independents to gain an overall total of 32. Riots and disturbances (bottom) which had marked the election period ended as the military banned all political parties, set up road blocks, and patrolled the streets (below). On Monday, Lt-Col Ambrose Genda (left, centre), 40, left his post with his country's delegation to the UN to become leader of the National Reformation Council. He was joined at Gatwick by Lt-Col Andrew Juxon-Smith (in hat), 34, but while they were in the air the Council announced that Col Juxon-Smith was to be their leader. Sierra Leone, independent since 1961, is the ninth African state in two years to be taken over by soldiers.



**UN MISSION TO ADEN:** Dr Manuel Perez-Guerrero, Venezuelan chairman of the three-man mission appointed by the United Nations to examine the Aden crisis, arrived in Cairo from London on March 26. Mr Mahmoud Riad, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, told the mission that they should negotiate South Arabian independence direct with FLOSY, the Cairo-backed terrorist organisation. Most FLOSY leaders are in the Yemen, but Mr Abdul Qawee Mackawee, their Secretary-General, arrived in Cairo recently after his three sons had been killed in a bomb explosion. He said that if the mission did not recognise his organisation's authority to speak for all South Arabians he would order strikes when it arrives in Aden for a three-week visit on April 2.



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