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By ROBERT C. DOTYSpecial to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
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By ROBERT C. DOTY
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CAIRO, Jan. 13—Egypt's military regime smashed the Moslem Brotherhood today. The Brotherhood, fanatical religious group with a record of terrorist activities, was the only remaining overt organization capable of challenging the Government.

Beginning at dawn, troops and police surrounded the offices of the Brotherhood and began a round-up that netted seventy-eight leaders, including the Supreme Guide, Hassan El Hodeiby.

The organization was ordered to be dissolved on the ground that it had engaged in political activities in violation of an arrangement whereby the regime permitted it to continue only as a social and religious group. Similar action was taken against the Brotherhood's branches in Alexandria and Port Said.

The decision to move against

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EGYPTIAN LEADERS BAN BROTHERHOOD

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the Brotherhood was taken by the eleven-man Revolution Command Council, headed by Maj. Gen. Mohammed Naguib, Egypt's President and Premier, at a meeting last night. It followed close on the outbreak of fighting yesterday between Brotherhood adherents and members of the army group's own Liberation Rally among the students of Cairo University. At least a score of students were injured, four of them seriously, in exchanges of blows and pistol shots. A Liberation Rally sound truck was burned.

The Brotherhod is the Egyptian version of the movement existing throughout the Middle East that seeks a return to a strict interpretation of the tenets of Islam and resistance to the infiltration of Western social, political and cultural ideas. Drawing its rank-and-file membership largely from among the ill-educated, underprivileged classes, it has sought to impose its will frequently by assassination and mob violence.

One of the chief merits of the military regime, recognized even by its enemies, is that it has kept a firm hand on such extremist elements and maintained public order at a level unknown to Egypt for a generation.

A communiqué formally announcing the Government's action was promised for tomorrow by the office of Lieut. Col. Gamal Abdul Nasser, Deputy Premier and dominant figure of the regime. Meanwhile a source close to the Revolution Command Council gave the following explanation of the action:

¶When the military junta dissolved Egypt's political parties after its seizure of power in July, 1952, the Brotherhood was permitted to continue its social and religious activities. It was not long however, before its leaders began to issue statements on political matters, its rank and file to circulate accusations against the regime.

¶The Brotherhood, which provided many of the ill-trained, ill-armed and undisciplined irregulars who carried out the ill-fated attacks on the British forces in the Suez Canal zone area in 1951-52, sought to force the military regime to adopt similar tactics. When General Naguib and his colleagues chose to try to obtain control of the canal zone by negotiation with the British instead of violence, the Moslem Brotherhood spread the rumor that they were tools of the British and the purchased lackeys of the United States.

¶Rumors—so oft repeated that they had gained the status of accepted fact—that at least one or two members of the Revolution Command Council were members of the Moslem Brotherhood were categorically denied by Capt. Amin Chaker, aide de camp to Colonel Nasser.

He added, however, that members of the revolutionary officers' group during their period of underground activity had been assigned to keep in touch with the activities of all groups in Egyptian political life—the Wafd and Saadist parties, the palace clique, the Socialists and the Brotherhood—and that the regime had many adherents among the Brotherhood membership.

Founded twenty-seven years ago, the Brotherhod reached its peak strength of about 2,000,000 adherents in the late Nineteen Forties. Its present strength is unknown, but it is substantially lower than it was five years ago.

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