CRISIS IN EGYPT
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critical times for Egypt and one hopes that the country will remain calm.

The clash between the military junta that in effect rules Egypt and the popular but powerless President of the republic, General Naguib, is one of those events that have an air of inevitability once they occur. Friction between President Naguib and Premier Nasser, head of the Revolution Command Council, goes back almost to the first days of the overthrow of King Farouk in July, 1952. What brought matters to a head was the allegation this past week that General Naguib was at least tacitly involved in the plot of the extremist Moslem Brotherhood to assassinate Lieutenant Colonel Nasser and other members of the junta.

It is the background that makes the present crisis understandable. General Naguib was not even a member of the original military group that overthrew King Farouk. On the fateful night he was simply asked to stay in his quarters and probably did not even know what was going to happen. However, he was highly respected by the officers and had considerable personal popularity. The revolutionary group therefore made him the popular symbol and hero of the coup d'état.

From the young officers' viewpoint, General Naguib proved something of a Frankenstein's monster. He refused to be a mere figurehead, although Colonel Nasser was the real power behind the facade. The two men clashed openly last February when Colonel Nasser ousted Naguib as President and Premier. However, the General's popularity was such that he made a brief comeback. Since April he has, indeed, been a figurehead.

The present conflict might have come sooner if it were not for the fact that Egypt is trying to induce the Sudanese to opt for union with her. General Naguib was born in the Sudan and is very popular there. However, if it is true that the President was in any way involved with the fanatical, xenophobic Moslem Brotherhood, the military group under Colonel Nasser had no choice. These are

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