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Cairo Presidency Title Not Involved—Top Islamic Body Denounces Terrorists

Special to The New York Times.

CAIRO, Nov. 17—Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser, strong man of Egypt's ruling military junta, assumed tonight the functions but not the title of President Mohammed Naguib. Major General Naguib was ousted last Sunday and placed under house arrest.

Lieutenant Colonel Nasser added the responsibilities of Chief of State to his position of Chief of Government a few hours after his regime received tacit endorsement of the highest Moslem religious authorities in his drive to smash the fanatical Moslem Brotherhood terrorist conspiracy.

The responsibilities of the office of President, vacant for three days, was first conferred on the Cabinet by the Revolution Command Council, official designation of the ten-man junta. The Cabinet, composed of eight civilians in addition to the ten junta members, then met and delegated Premier Nasser to act for it with regard to Presidential duties.

Meanwhile, the Council of Ulema of Al Azhar University, the highest religious authority in all Islam, officially denounced the terrorists of the Moslem Brotherhood, charging that they distorted the teachings of the Koran in a violent pursuit of their own ambitions.

The council's statement comes in the midst of an intensive Government campaign to break the power of the Moslem Brotherhood following the attempt by one of its members to assassinate Premier Nasser on Oct. 26.

The Council's denunciation was apparently directed only against the terrorist special section and not at the general membership of the Brotherhood which at one time conducted extensive welfare, health and industrial operations.

The special terrorist section, which the Government authorities number in hundreds out of a general membership of many thousands, is charged with having plotted with the full knowledge of President Naguib to assassinate all the junta members except General Naguib whom it planned to place in the Premiership.

Most of the leaders, including Hassan el Hodeiby, Supreme Guide of the Brotherhood, and Youssef Talaat, chief of the terrorist section, have been arrested.

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