

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/EYES ONLY

January 19, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: JON HOWE
SUBJECT: Greek/Spanish Relations

Attached is a package which should dispose of the backchannel message from Tasca concerning a possible visit by him to Spain. There is an outside chance that HAK may have seen Sanchez at some social function and therefore he should probably personally approve the backchannel message.

As a result of the President's last visit to Spain, Ambassador Tasca was given the task of promoting Spanish/Greek cooperation particularly with regard to the Mediterranean. Tasca did in fact go to Spain in December 1970 and there have been some subsequent contacts between Greek and Spanish officials. We have not, however, received anything from Tasca on this subject since March 1972.

To the best of my knowledge, our staff officers responsible for this area (Saunders/Sonnenfeldt) are not familiar with this operation. A file of Tasca messages is obtained in Campbell's safe.

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

MORI C05140555

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January 19, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: GENERAL SCOWCROFT
SUBJECT: Greek/Spanish Relations

Attached at Tab B is a backchannel message from Ambassador Tasca reporting information from a reliable source concerning a meeting you allegedly had with the Spanish Minister of Information and Tourism, Alfredo Sanchez Bella. Supposedly, during his last trip to Washington, Sanchez expressed the hope to you that Ambassador Tasca would make another visit to Spain to discuss Mediterranean related issues, including how Spain could strengthen its relations with Morocco. Tasca wants to know whether this matter did in fact come up and whether you have any interest in such a venture.

As far as I can ascertain you have not met with Sanchez Bella unless it was on some social occasion. Accordingly there is at Tab A a brief backchannel reply to Ambassador Tasca indicating that you have expressed no particular desire for Tasca to make a visit to Spain at this time but would be glad to consider a recommendation from Tasca if he felt a visit would be beneficial in promoting Greek/Spanish relations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the backchannel message Tab A.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

SECRET/EYES ONLY

SECRET

[Redacted]

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January 19, 1973

TO: AMBASSADOR TASCA
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
REF: Athens 719

Believe your source is misinformed. I do not recall meeting Alfredo Sanchez Bella and certainly did not raise this matter with him. We have no desire for you to make a visit to Spain at this time. However, in the future if you desire to do so as part of your efforts to stimulate improved Spanish/Greek relations, I would be glad to consider such a recommendation.

Warm regards.

SECRET

S E C R E T *****

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ROUTINE

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R 190958Z JAN 73

FM ATHENS

TO THE WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T 190958Z JAN 73 [REDACTED]

25X1

FROM AMBASSADOR TASCA ATHENS 719

TO: THE WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED, THROUGH WHAT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST A RELIABLE SOURCE, THAT ALFREDO SANCHEZ BELLA, SPANISH MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM, DURING HIS LAST VISIT TO WASHINGTON, EXPRESSED TO YOU THE HOPE THAT I WOULD MAKE A SECOND VISIT TO SPAIN TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST INVOLVING THE MEDITERRANEAN, INCLUDING VIEWS ON HOW THEY COULD STRENGTHEN THEIR RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO. I WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING FROM YOU WHETHER IN FACT THIS MATTER DID COME UP DURING SANCHEZ BELLA'S VISIT AND, SECONDLY, WHETHER YOU WOULD WISH ME TO ARRANGE TO MAKE, UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH A VISIT.

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***** * * * * * WHSK COMMENT * * * * *

HAK, SCOWCROFT, LORD, HOWE, KENNEDY/

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