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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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APRIL 21, 1972

NSA review
completed

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: DAVE MCMANIS

MORI/CDF
C03353024

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS



ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY AN EDITORIAL IN THE PARTY DAILY TOOK A NEW AND MORE EXPLICIT LINE ON THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF SOVIET AID. THE EDITORIAL DEALT WITH THE NOTES EXCHANGED BY MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON OVER THE BOMBING OF HAIPHONG LAST WEEKEND, BUT IT WAS PITCHED SO AS TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF SOVIET MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CURRENT OFFENSIVE. IT QUOTES VERBATIM THE U.S. ASSERTION THAT MOSCOW AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES MUST "SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY" WITH HANOI FOR THE RECENT ATTACKS IN SOUTH VIETNAM, AND IT STRONGLY IMPLIES THAT SUCH COMPLICITY IS TO BE EXPECTED FROM HANOI'S COMRADES IN MOSCOW AND ELSEWHERE.

THE EDITORIAL ALSO CONTAINS NORTH VIETNAM'S clearest admission since the offensive got under way that Soviet material aid was figured prominently in the action. "THE GREAT VICTORIES OF THE VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE," IT SAYS, "ARE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXTREMELY VALUABLE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND CIVILIZED MANKIND."

SO FAR THE EDITORIAL HAS APPEARED ONLY IN LOCAL NORTH VIETNAMESE MEDIA, DOUBTLESS OUT OF DEFERENCE TO MOSCOW'S CURRENT SENSITIVITY ON THE AID ISSUE. THE EDITORIAL NOTIFIES MOSCOW, HOWEVER, THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE, WHO CLEARLY REMAIN WORRIED ABOUT U.S. SUMMIT DIPLOMACY, ARE NOT GOING TO PULL THEIR PUNCHES IN ORDER TO PROTECT SOVIET INTERESTS IN OTHER SPHERES. (MCMANIS)

PRC VOCS MAURITIUS: FOLLOWING MAURITIUS PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM'S RECENT VISIT TO PEKING, THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE EXCHANGING AMBASSADORS AND THE PRC HAS DECIDED TO SEND

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MAURITIUS \$35 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS, INTEREST FREE. THUS, THE CHINESE BECAME THE LARGEST AID DONOR TO THIS TINY ISLAND EAST OF MADAGASCAR WHOSE HARBOR AND AIRPORT FACILITIES HAVE BEEN FREELY USED BY OURSELVES AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, BY THE USSR. A DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN MAURITIUS COULD HELP THE PRC MONITOR U.S. AND USSR ACTIVITY IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN AND MAY BE OF VALUE TO THEM SHOULD THEY USE THE INDIAN OCEAN TO TEST ICMS. THIS INITIATIVE CONTINUES THE PRC EMPHASIS ON THE STATES OF THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN. (LEVINE)

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CUBANS PUT SEIZED VESSEL TO USE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE CUBANS MAY BE USING THE "JOHNNY EXPRESS," A PANAMANIAN-FLAG SHIP SEIZED LAST DECEMBER, FOR COASTAL SHIPPING. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE "LAYLA EXPRESS," ANOTHER PANAMANIAN-FLAG SHIP SEIZED BY THE CUBANS, WILL BE PUT INTO USE, OPERATING OUT OF CIENFUEGOS. THE "JOHNNY EXPRESS" IS OPERATING OUT OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA. (JORDEN)

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