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AUGUST 31, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

CEAUSCESCU MEETING WITH JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER III: THE MAJOR POINT OF JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER'S CONVERSATION ON AUGUST 27 WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSCESCU WAS ROCKEFELLER'S DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW UNIFIED AND VIBRANT MOOD IN THE UNITED STATES THAT HAS COME WITH THE ADVENT OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION, WHICH PROMISES ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND POSITIVE PERIODS IN AMERICAN HISTORY IN BOTH INTERNAL AND FOREIGN SPHERES. CEAUSCESCU NOTED HE HIMSELF HAD BEEN VERY PLEASED WITH THE CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE HE HAD RECEIVED FROM YOU. HE WENT ON TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT HIS CONVERSATIONS THIS PAST WEEKEND WITH FOREIGNS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS HAD SHOWN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF SKEPTICISM REGARDING THE REASONS FOR THE CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION. HE SAID SOME OF THESE LEADERS HAD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IN ADDITION TO THE REASONS STATED PUBLICLY, PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION HAD BEEN PROMPTED BY CONGRESSIONAL AND OTHER LEADING ELEMENTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY WHO HAD BEEN OPPOSED TO THE NIXON POLICY OF DETENTE AND COOPERATION WITH VARIOUS SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. CEAUSCESCU ASKED JOHN ROCKEFELLER TO CONVEY HIS CONGRATULATIONS TO NELSON ROCKEFELLER ON THE LATTER'S NOMINATION FOR THE VICE PRESIDENCY AS WELL AS AN INVITATION FOR NELSON ROCKEFELLER TO VISIT ROMANIA.

VENEZUELAN MISSION TO USSR: VENEZUELAN VICE FOREIGN MINISTER RAPHAEL IS HEADING A HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO MOSCOW. THE DELEGATION REPORTEDLY IS WORKING TO INTENSIFY THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, IMPROVE COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL RELATIONS, AND INCREASE UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. OUR EMBASSY BELIEVES THE FOCAL POINT OF CONVERSATIONS IS LIKELY TO BE CUBA. VENEZUELA MAY BE LAYING THE GROUND FOR ADVANTAGEOUS COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH CUBA IN THE EXPECTATION OF A CHANGE OF GAS SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. THE SOVIETS, FOR THEIR PART, REPORTEDLY ARE INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING THEM-

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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SELVES IN THE VENEZUELAN COMMERCIAL MARKET. THEY WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO WORK OUT A DEAL FOR DELIVERY OF VENEZUELAN OIL DIRECTLY TO CUBA OR FOR A REGULAR SCHEDULE OF DELIVERIES OF VENEZUELAN OIL TO EUROPE BY SOVIET SHIPS. CUBA IS ALMOST TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON OIL SHIPPED FROM THE USSR. SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD AT THE VERY LEAST ENABLE SOVIET SHIPS TAKING OIL TO CUBA NOT TO HAVE TO MAKE THE RETURN TRIP WITHOUT CARGO.

CHILEAN DECLARATION OF A FREE PORT: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CHILEAN PRESIDENT PINOCHET IS PLANNING TO DECLARE ARICA, A CITY NEAR THE PERUVIAN BORDER, A FREE PORT. PERU, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY, AND BOLIVIA WOULD BE INVITED TO USE THE FACILITIES. SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD GO PART WAY TOWARDS GIVING BOLIVIA ITS LONG-DESIRED OUTLET TO THE SEA AND COULD LEAD TO RESUMPTION OF CHILEAN-BOLIVIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE PERUVIANS, HOWEVER, ARE LIKELY TO OBJECT TO THE PLAN. PERU LOST TERRITORY, INCLUDING ARICA, TO CHILE IN A WAR AT THE END OF THE LAST CENTURY AND PROCLAIMS ITS INTENTION TO REGAIN THE LOST AREAS. ACCORDING TO THE PEACE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1929, ANY DISPUTE ARISING FROM THE SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. FOR ARBITRATION. CHILE REPORTEDLY PLANS TO MOVE AHEAD DESPITE PERUVIAN OBJECTIONS, BELIEVING A FREE PORT WOULD PROVIDE A BUFFER AGAINST A POSSIBLE PERUVIAN ATTACK ON CHILE. ANY SUCH ACTION BY CHILE COULD EXACERBATE ALREADY TENSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

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