

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 10//
TO JERRY BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY
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T O P S E C R E T CONTAINS CODEWORD SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY
VIA BLACK PATCH WH42628

TOHAK 10

SEPTEMBER 24, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:
FROM:
SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT
HENRY A. KISSINGER
INFORMATION ITEMS

HONDURAN DISASTER COUNT: THE LATEST OFFICIAL HONDURAN ESTIMATES PUT AT 7,000 TO 8,000 THE NUMBER OF PERSONS KILLED IN THE FLOODING WHICH HAS FOLLOWED IN THE WAKE OF HURRICANE FIFI. ALL BUT EIGHT OF THE U.S. PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS WORKING IN HONDURAS HAVE NOW BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR. THE LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRIES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INABILITY TO CONFIRM THAT THE OTHERS ALSO ARE OKAY.

POLISH MEDIA BUILDUP FOR GIEREK VISIT TO U.S.: WARSAW HAS ORDERED POLISH MEDIA TO BEGIN INTENSIVE COVERAGE OF THE U.S. IN PREPARATION FOR PARTY CHIEF GIEREK'S VISIT, WHICH BEGINS OCTOBER 8. THE FOREIGN EDITOR OF ONE OF POLAND'S MAJOR DAILIES RECENTLY TOLD A U.S. EMBASSY OFFICER THAT "THERE WILL SOON BE SO MUCH COVERAGE THAT THE U.S. WILL LOOK LIKE ONE OF OUR SOCIALIST BROTHERS." THESE EFFORTS UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE THAT GIEREK ATTACHES TO HIS VISIT. HE REALIZES THAT MOST POLES HARBOR FRIENDLY FEELINGS TOWARD THE U.S. AND HOPES TO ENHANCE HIS STANDING AT HOME BY THE TRIP AND THE ACCOMPANYING WIDESPREAD PUBLICITY. IN RECENT MONTHS THE POLISH PRESS HAS ACCORDED RELATIVELY FAVORABLE TREATMENT TO THE U.S. IN ITS COVERAGE OF EVEN SUCH CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AS VIETNAM OR CHILE, WARSAW HAS CONSCIOUSLY AVOIDED POLEMICS. IN ADDITION, THERE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE AND POSITIVE COMMENTARY ON THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION AND FAVORABLE TREATMENT OF THE RECENT SESSION IN WASHINGTON OF THE U.S.-POLISH TRADE COMMISSION.

INDOCHINA SITUATION: THE COMMUNISTS ARE CONTINUING THEIR HARASSMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE MARINE POSITIONS TO THE NORTHWEST OF HUE BUT MILITARY ACTION IN THE REMAINDER OF THE REGION HAS BEEN GENERALLY LIMITED TO COMMUNIST SHELLINGS OF GOVERNMENT FORCES. MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINES TO FALL OFF THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE REST OF SOUTH VIETNAM ESPECIALLY IN THE DELTA WHERE FLOOD WATERS ARE INHIBITING BOTH SIDES. RECENT AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY REVEALS THE EXISTANCE OF A POSSIBLE NEW NORTH VIETNAMESE SA-2 SITE WEST OF DAK TO IN THE HIGH-

DOS, ARMY reviews completed.

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LAND PROVINCE OF KONTUM. IF THIS SITE IS COMPLETED AND ACTIVATED, IT WILL REPRESENT THE FARTHEST SOUTHERN DEPLOYMENT OF THE SA-2 TO DATE AND WILL BE THE FIRST SITE IN SOUTH VIETNAM'S MILITARY REGION 2.

IN CAMBODIA, THE KHMER COMMUNISTS ARE KEEPING PRESSURE ON WIDELY SEPARATED GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. INSURGENT ATTACKS OVER THE WEEKEND FORCED GOVERNMENT DEFENDERS TO WITHDRAW FROM SEVERAL OUTPOSTS NEAR THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF KOMPONG CHHNANG, SOME

50 MILES NORTH OF PHNOM PENH. IN THE SOUTHWEST, THE INSURGENTS RE-NEWED ATTACKS AGAINST TWO ISOLATED GARRISON TOWNS ON ROUTE 4 AND HEAVILY DAMAGED GOVERNMENT ARTILLERY POSITION NEAR THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF KOMPONG SPEU. A MEKONG RIVER RESUPPLY CONVOY CARRYING AMMUNITION, FUEL, AND RICE REACHED PHNOM PENH ON SEPTEMBER 22; ANOTHER CONVOY CARRYING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MADE THE RUN DOWN THE TONLE SAP RIVER TO THE CAPITAL LATE LAST WEEK.

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