

TOP SECRET

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK03//

TO GOMPERT/BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

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TOP SECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 86970 WH42871

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

DOS Review Completed.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

CONTAINS CODEWORD

OCTOBER 23, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS

GROWING POLITICAL TENSIONS IN PERU: A SERIES OF TERRORIST BOMBINGS IN LIMA DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS IS CREATING SOME POLITICAL TENSION. ADDED TO THIS IS CONCERN IN THE MILITARY OVER IMPENDING HIGH-LEVEL REASSIGNMENTS, THE PACE OF PRESIDENT VELASCO'S "RADICAL" POLICIES, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT STEP DOWN FROM THE PRESIDENCY IN THE COMING YEAR FOR HEALTH REASONS. THOUGH CONCERNED, MODERATE ARMY OFFICERS WOULD BE LIKELY TO SUPPORT A MOVE TO OUST VELASCO ONLY IF HE SERIOUSLY ABUSES THE MILITARY SENIORITY SYSTEM TO PROMOTE MORE RADICALLY ORIENTED OFFICERS OF HIS OWN LIKING, OR IF INCREASING CIVILIAN OPPOSITION SHOULD FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO INSTITUTE STRONG REPRESSIVE MEASURES.

A DISTURBING ELEMENT, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN A NUMBER OF REPORTS ALLEGING THE INVOLVEMENT OF SENIOR PERUVIAN OFFICERS FROM ALL THREE MILITARY SERVICES IN EFFORTS TO REMOVE PRESIDENT VELASCO AND LEFTIST ELEMENTS FROM POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT. IN ONE CASE, A U.S. ARMY OFFICER WAS INADVERTENTLY PRESENT WHEN NAVAL OFFICERS ASSEMBLED SEVERAL DYNAMITE BOMBS WHICH WERE INTENDED TO BE USED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE PLOTTERS ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE U.S. OFFICIALS KNOW ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES. OUR EMBASSY COMMENTS THAT THERE IS ENOUGH SUBSTANCE BEHIND SOME OF THE REPORTS TO INDICATE AN INCREASED LEVEL OF CONCERN AND SOME PLOTTING BY BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN ELEMENTS WHICH ARE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THE VELASCO GOVERNMENT IS MOVING. (LOW)

IDF RETENTION AGREEMENT SIGNED: AMBASSADOR IRVING AND ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON EXCHANGED NOTES YESTERDAY PROVIDING FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE ICELANDIC DEFENSE FORCE. THE ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS RELEASE SAID:

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"THE UNITED STATES AND ICELAND SIGNED AN AGREEMENT IN REYKJAVIK TODAY PROVIDING FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE NATO BASE AT KEFLAVIK. DETAILS OF THE UNDERSTANDING WERE GIVEN IN A JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED SEPTEMBER 26, 1974, FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE JOSEPH SISCO AND ICELAND'S FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTESSON. PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SIGNING WERE AMBASSADOR FREDERICK IRVING FOR THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON FOR ICELAND." (GATES)

CUBA SEEKING RESEARCH REACTOR FROM COMECON: ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] VICE PRIME MINISTER CAROLS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ CONFIRMED TO HIM THAT CUBA HAS MADE A SERIES OF "URGENT" REQUESTS TO THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES FOR INCREASED SUPPLIES OF ELECTRICAL POWER EQUIPMENT AND PETROLEUM, AS WELL AS FOR A RESEARCH REACTOR. THE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PETROLEUM AND BYPRODUCTS (ABOUT TWO MILLION TONS) WAS REPORTEDLY ACCOMPANIED BY A REQUEST FOR A GUARANTEED PRICE FOR CUBAN SUGAR THAT WOULD BE CLOSELY ALIGNED WITH THE CURRENT HIGH WORLD MARKET PRICE. THE REQUEST FOR THE REACTOR WAS MADE TO THE USSR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. (LOW)

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