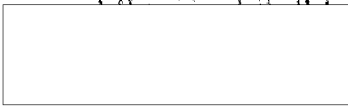


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PASS TO BREMER/GOMPERT FOR THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

NOVEMBER 1, 1974

ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF MURDERED: THE HEAD OF THE ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE, ALBERTO VILLAR, HIS WIFE, AND BODY-GUARDS WERE MURDERED TODAY ABOARD A YACHT AT A MARINA JUST OUTSIDE BUENOS AIRES. THE BOMB EXPLOSION THAT KILLED THEM WAS PRESUMABLY THE WORK OF LEFTIST TERRORISTS WHO CONSIDERED VILLAR A PRIME TARGET. VILLAR WAS A PROTEGE OF INFLUENTIAL PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER LOPEZ REGA -- THE NUMBER ONE TARGET OF ALL LEFT-WING GUERRILLAS. VILLAR WAS ALSO BELIEVED TO BE A KEY FIGURE IN THE ACTIVATION OF DEATH SQUADS OPERATING UNDER QUASI-OFFICIAL SPONSORSHIP. JUAN PERON BROUGHT HIM OUT OF RETIREMENT TO LEAD THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE GUERRILLAS, BUT HE HAD ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS IN BOLSTERING POLICE EFFECTIVENESS. VILLAR'S DEATH WILL PROBABLY DEAL A FURTHER BLOW TO POLICE MORALE. CIA BELIEVES THE VILLAR ASSASSINATION SEEMS CERTAIN TO SET OFF MORE DRASTIC COUNTERMEASURES AGAINST TERRORISM. THE GOVERNMENT MAY DECIDE TO IMPLEMENT SOME SORT OF STATE OF EMERGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONTINGENCY PLANS REPORTEDLY DRAWN UP RECENTLY. WEAKENING OF THE FEDERAL POLICE MAY ALSO SPUR THE MILITARY TO TAKE ON ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN COMBATING ARGENTINA'S UBIQUITOUS TERRORISTS.

INDOCHINA SITUATION: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES NEAR THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF SVAY RIENG IN SOUTHEASTERN CAMBODIA. GOVERNMENT FORCES YESTERDAY KILLED 37 KHMER COMMUNISTS DURING OPERATIONS TO CLEAR INSURGENTS FROM TRENCH-LINES ALONG THE CITY'S DEFENSIVE PERIMETER. FOR THEIR PART, THE COMMUNISTS SHELLED SVAY RIENG CITY WITH 107-MM ROCKETS, INFLECTING A FEW CASUALTIES. IN OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTION, CAMBODIAN ARMY TROOPS YESTERDAY CLEARED A STRETCH OF ROUTE 5 SOME 9 MILES NORTHWEST OF KOMPONG CHHNANG THAT HAD BEEN UNDER INSURGENT INTERDICTION. THE STRATEGIC HIGHWAY IS STILL CUT IN AN AREA 28 MILES EAST OF PURSAT, ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT FORCES ARE MAKING SOME PROGRESS IN REDUCING THE EXTENT OF INTERDICTION.

IN SOUTH VIETNAM, SOME 80 LARGE-CALIBER ROCKETS WERE FIRED AT THE BIEN HOA AIRBASE ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY. A FEW AIRCRAFT WERE DESTROYED AND DAMAGED BUT THERE WERE FEW CASUALTIES. THE MOST INTENSE GROUND FIGHTING CONTINUES SOUTH OF HUE WHERE SOUTH VIETNAMESE UNITS HAVE STILL NOT RECAPTURED MO TAU AND BONG MOUNTAINS. THE REGIONAL COMMANDER HAS ORDERED THESE HIGHGROUND POSITIONS TAKEN BEFORE THE COMING HEAVY RAINS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE.

NORTH KOREAN AIR STAND DOWN ENDS: AIRCRAFT FROM AT LEAST TWO OF NO No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/03/02 : LOC-HAK-550-2-68-4 YESTERDAY ENDING THE STAND DOWN OF TACTICAL AIRCRAFT THAT HAS BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE MONDAY. EARLIER, TWO BOMBERS HAD ALSO FLOWN. FOR SIX OF THE LAST EIGHT YEARS SUCH A STAND DOWN HAS TAKEN PLACE IN LATE OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER, BUT THE REASON FOR THESE OCCURRENCES IS STILL UNCLEAR.

NEW SOVIET TACTICAL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE: THE SOVIETS ARE DEVELOPING A NEW TACTICAL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE WHICH WILL REPLACE THE SCUD AND POSSIBLY FROG MISSILE SYSTEMS. THE NEW MISSILE WILL HAVE AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM RANGE OF ABOUT 150 NAUTICAL MILES AND SHOULD HAVE IMPROVED ACCURACY. THE MISSILE IS EXPECTED TO REACH INITIAL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY BEFORE 1975. THE SCUD SYSTEM HAS BEEN IN THE INVENTORY FOR OVER 17 YEARS; IT HAS A LIMITED CAPABILITY IN TERMS OF ACCURACY AND REACTION TIME. THE FROG MISSILE -- WHICH WAS DEPLOYED IN 1969 -- IS A GOOD SYSTEM, BUT BECAUSE IT IS AN UNGUIDED ROCKET IT HAS A LIMITED ACCURACY.

MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IN CUBA: REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF CUBA COLOMBIA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, AND URUGUAY MET IN HAVANA IN LATE SEPTEMBER AND AGREED TO CONVOKE A CONFERENCE OF ALL LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IN MAY OR JUNE 1975, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A SECRET PREPARATORY MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 18 REGIONAL PARTIES WILL BE HELD IN HAVANA ON DECEMBER 10 TO PLAN THE AGENDA FOR THE CONFERENCE, WHICH, BAT FIDEL CASTRO'S URGING WILL HAVE AS ITS THEME "LATIN AMERICA AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM." ALTHOUGH THOSE AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AGREED THAT THEIR IMMEDIATE TASK IS TO ORGANIZE ALL THEIR FORCES TO COMBAT U. S. INFLUENCE, THERE WAS SOME DIVERGENCE OF OPINION ON WHO SHOULD BE INVITED TO THE CONFERENCE NEXT YEAR. THE CUBANS INSISTED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO OTHER LEFTIST, NON-COMMUNIST GROUPS BUT THE OTHER REPRESENTATIVES AT THE MEETING PLAN TO INVITE ONLY COMMUNIST PARTIES.

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