

TOP SECRET

SENSITIVE

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK171//
TO BREMER/GOMPERT FOR THE SECRETARY

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TOP SECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 86970 WH43161

TOHAK071

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

NOVEMBER 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION ITEMS

JORDANIAN AIRLINER HIJACKED: A JORDANIAN AIRLINER FLYING FROM AMMAN TO AGUAABA WAS HIJACKED THIS MORNING BY A GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE "FREE JORDANIAN OFFICERS." AFTER BEING DENIED PERMISSION TO LAND AT BEIRUT, THE AIRCRAFT WAS FLOWN TO BENGHAZI, LIBYA. NO AMERICANS WERE REPORTED AMONG THE PASSENGERS.

JORDANIAN PARLIAMENT SUMMONED TO AMEND CONSTITUTION: A ROYAL DECREE ISSUED YESTERDAY ORDERS THE SUMMON OF THE JORDANIAN CONSTITUTION. AMENDMENTS WOULD GIVE KING HUSAYN THE RIGHT TO DISSOLVE THE SENATE (HE ALREADY CAN DISSOLVE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES), AND WOULD LENGTHEN THE TIME PROSCRIBED FOR THE RECONVENING OF A DISSOLVED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOUR MONTHS CURRENTLY STIPULATED IN THE CONSTITUTION TO A PERIOD AS YET UNSPECIFIED.

ALL OF THE JORDANIAN DAILY NEWSPAPERS HAVE REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS ALREADY APPROVED DRAFTS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS. AMBASSADOR PICKERING NOTES THAT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WOULD BE THE FIRST STEPS TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES IN EAST BANK-WEST BANK COMPOSITION OF PARLIAMENT STEMMING FROM THE RABAT DECISIONS AND HINTED AT IN KING HUSAYN'S OCTOBER 31 SPEECH. THE SIXTY-MAN, POPULARLY-ELECTED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES) IS EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BANK REPRESENTATION. THE THIRTY-MAN SENATE (CHAMBER OF NOTABLES) IS APPOINTED BY THE KING AND CURRENTLY INCLUDES MEMBERS FROM BOTH BANKS.

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