

[TS-4K-51466]

OP IMMED  
DE WTE #3279 1791558  
O 281631Z JUN 75  
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 09//

TO ADAMS FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY CONTAINS CODEWORD

VIA BLACK PATCH WH51091

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TOHAK 09

JUNE 28, 1975

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

25X1

SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA: THE SOVIETS AND THE SOMALIS HAVE MADE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE TO NEWS MEDIA THAT BERBERA IS NOT A SOVIET BASE; A CBS TEAM THAT VISITED BERBERA ON WEDNESDAY FOUND FEW VISIBLE TRACES OF THE SOVIETS. THE ONLY SOVIET SHIP IN PORT -- A BARRACKS AND REPAIR SHIP -- WAS FLYING THE SOMALI FLAG AND SOMALI PERSONNEL WERE ON DECK. THE TOWN WAS ALMOST DESERTED; ONE SOMALI FAMILY WAS SHOWN LIVING IN A COMPOUND [REDACTED] AS HOUSING SOVIET PERSONNEL.

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OTHER NEWSMEN ARE SCHEDULED TO VISIT BERBERA THIS WEEKEND AND NEXT WEEK. AS RECENTLY AS MONDAY, A SOVIET KRIVAK-CLASS DESTROYER WAS IDENTIFIED IN THE PORT OF BERBERA [REDACTED] OTHER SOVIET SHIPS THAT HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED IN PORT A FEW DAYS EARLIER ARE NOW LOCATED AT THE SOVIET ANCHORAGE OFF CAPE GUARDAFUI, ALONG WITH OTHER SHIPS FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN CONTINGENT. THE SOVIETS WERE OPERATING THE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY OUTSIDE BERBERA AS RECENTLY AS YESTERDAY. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] SOVIET PERSONNEL WERE PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE PORT AND TOWN AREA. [REDACTED] MANY SOVIETS, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, LIVING IN APARTMENT BUILDINGS IN A FENCED-IN COMPOUND. [REDACTED] SOVIETS ON BOARD THE

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\*\*\*\*\* WHSR COMMENT \*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\* TOP SECRET \*\*\*\*\* COPY

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BARRACKS SHIPS, WHICH FLEW THE SOVIET FLAG, [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] SOVIET COMBAT SHIPS TIED UP ALONGSIDE THE BARRACKS SHIP  
 ON MANY OCCASIONS. SOVIET SHIPS FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN CON-  
 TINGENT MADE NUMEROUS VISITS TO BERBERA DURING THIS PERIOD,  
 [REDACTED] THE AIRFIELD UNDER CONSTRUCTION  
 WEST OF THE PORT WILL, WHEN COMPLETED, BE ABLE TO HANDLE  
 ANY SOVIET AIRCRAFT AND WILL BE FAR BETTER THAN THE SMALL  
 SOMALI NATIONAL AIR LINE OR AIR FORCE NEED. [REDACTED]

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