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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 10//

TO BREMER/BARBAN/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY  
VIA BLACK PATCH WMS1975

TOHAK 10

OCTOBER 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER  
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM  
SUBJECT: SUNDAY CABLE SUMMARY

25X1

ALGERIA-USSR-LIBYA ARMS AGREEMENT: THE SOVIET UNION HAS  
ARRANGED FOR SOVIET ARMS AND MUNITIONS IN LIBYA TO BE  
TRANSFERRED TO ALGERIA.

25X1

THE ARMS AND AMMUNITION TAKEN BY THE ALGERIANS  
WILL BE REPLACED LATER BY THE SOVIETS. THE ACTION WAS RE-  
PORTEDLY TAKEN BECAUSE OF MOSCOW'S INABILITY TO PROVIDE  
ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO ALGERIA AS RAPIDLY AS ALGERIA DE-  
SIRES. IN EARLY OCTOBER, TWO ALGERIAN SHIPS LOADED AM-  
MUNITION IN BENGHAZI AND AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF T-52 TANKS  
AND ARMED VEHICLES IN TRIPOLI.

25X1

PANAMANIAN NATIONAL GUARD VISIT TO CUBA: THE VISIT TO CUBA  
OF A HIGH-LEVEL PANAMANIAN NATIONAL GUARD DELEGATION, PUR-  
PORTEDLY TO EXAMINE CUBAN ARMS AND EQUIPMENT, IS PROBABLY  
AIMED MAINLY AT CATCHING THE U.S. EYE IN CONNECTION WITH  
CANAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. THE CHIEF OF THE DELEGATION  
TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE CUBAN EMBASSY THAT HIS  
GROUP PLANNED TO MEET PRIME MINISTER CASTRO AND TO INSPECT  
MILITARY ARMAMENT. THE PANAMANIAN PRESS HAS SO FAR CAST  
THE VISIT IN TERMS OF AN EXCHANGE OF REVOLUTIONARY RAPPORT  
AND AS A WAY TO IMPROVE THE NATIONAL GUARD'S DEFENSE CAP-  
ABILITIES TO ENABLE IT TO ASSUME A LARGER ROLE IN CANAL

NSA, DIA reviews  
completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY

State Dept. review completed

PSN:044963

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DEFENSE. WHILE THE PANAMANIAN CONTINGENT MAY INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASING SOVIET ARMS AND EQUIPMENT, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT PANAMA WILL SERIOUSLY PURSUE SUCH A DEAL. THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THE POLITICAL PITFALLS INVOLVED IN A DEAL WITH CUBA OR THE USSR. GENERAL TORRIJOS IS AWARE OF THE NEGATIVE IMPACT SUCH AN ARMS DEAL WOULD HAVE ON HIS CHANCES OF GETTING A FUTURE CANAL TREATY RATIFIED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS. TORRIJOS COULD BE HOPING, HOWEVER, THAT THE REVIEW OF CUBAN WEAPONS WILL CAUSE THE U.S. TO CHANGE WHAT HE VIEWS AS ITS RELUCTANCE TO SELL PANAMA ARMS.

25X1

SYRIA--RAISING THE PRESSURE: A LOCAL NEWS SERVICE STRINGER IN DAMASCUS TOLD AN OFFICER OF THE U.S. EMBASSY ON OCTOBER 17 THAT ISRAELI ALLEGATIONS THAT SYRIA IS EVACUATING CIVILIANS FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS ARE ACCURATE. THE LOCAL CORRESPONDENT CLAIMS TO HAVE LEARNED THAT SYRIA INTENDS TO CONDUCT A 48-HOUR OPERATION INTO THE GOLAN TO OCCUPY A FURTHER PIECE OF ISRAELI-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. YOU WOULD THEN BE OBLIGED TO RETURN TO SYRIA AND NEGOTIATE A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT. ANOTHER LOCAL NEWS SERVICE STRINGER TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT SYRIA WAS ENGAGED IN AN ATTEMPT TO BUILD UP POLITICAL-MILITARY PRESSURE IN THE PERIOD LEADING TO THE NOVEMBER 30 UNDOF MANDATE RENEWAL DEADLINE. THIS REPORTER

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STATED, "IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, IT WILL BE A QUICK TWO-DAY ACTION AFTER WHICH SYRIA WOULD STOP OPERATIONS AND THE U.S. WOULD CONTROL ISRAEL (TO PREVENT IT FROM UNDERTAKING A SERIOUS RESPONSE). AMBASSADOR MURPHY COMMENTS THAT WHILE THE SCENARIO OF A QUICK THRUST INTO THE GOLAN WITH AN ASSIGNED ROLE FOR THE U.S. IN THE AFTER MATH MAY NOT REPRESENT SYRIAN OPERATIONAL STRATEGY, THE TWO CORRESPONDENTS MAY HAVE TURNED UP AN OPTION UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

CHINA: NEW ANTI-SOVIET TWIST: A JOINT EDITORIAL WHICH WILL APPEAR IN THE PEOPLE'S DAILY AND THE LIBERATION ARMY DAILY TODAY SEEMS TO TAKE A SLAP AT CERTAIN ELEMENTS WITHIN THE MILITARY WHO ARE SUSPECTED OF SEEKING SOME MEASURE OF ACCOMMODATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE EDITORIAL COMMEMORATES THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LONG MARCH AND DISCUSSES AT SOME LENGTH "CAPITULATIONIST" AND "REVISIONIST" FACTIONS WITHIN THE MILITARY DURING THE MARCH. IT GOES ON TO ARGUE THAT THE LONG MARCH WAS SUCCESSFUL ONLY BECAUSE THESE FACTIONS WERE DEFEATED BY MAO'S REVOLUTIONARY LINE AND URGES PERSISTENT OPPOSITION TO CAPITULATIONISTS TODAY. THIS HAS BEEN A MAJOR THEME IN THE RECENT CAMPAIGN TO STUDY THE NOVEL 'WATER MARGIN'. AT THE SAME TIME THE JOINT EDITORIAL CONTINUES TO STRESS THE FAMILIAR THEMES OF UNITY AND STABILITY IN THE INTEREST OF ECONOMIC GROWTH.

25X1

THE CHINESE OFFICIAL SAID THAT PEKING WILL INITIATE A MAJOR PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO "OPPOSE REVISIONISM" DURING YOUR VISIT TO CHINA. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE NEW CAMPAIGN WOULD FOCUS ON THE LONG MARCH AND BE ON THE SCALE OF LAST YEAR'S ANTI-CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN. WHILE CHINA'S ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA, IN ITS VARIOUS FORMS, HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY BRILLIANT DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, THIS LATEST TWIST WILL PROBABLY FALL FAR SHORT OF THE ANTI-CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN. MORE LIKELY, PEKING HAS DECIDED THAT THE LONG MARCH ANNIVERSARY PROVIDES A CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERSCORE A THEME ALREADY CURRENT IN THE CHINESE PRESS. IN ANY EVENT, SUCH PROPAGANDA DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD NOT AFFECT YOUR VISIT.

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