

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM



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TO ADAMS/BARBIAN/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY  
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TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE  
CONTAINS CODEWORD -

SEPTEMBER 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR  
FROM:  
SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT  
HENRY A. KISSINGER  
INFORMATION ITEMS

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HANOI SELLS U.S. PLANES TO LIBYA---: LIBYA HAS PURCHASED SIX  
TO EIGHT U.S. C-130 CARGO AIRCRAFT FROM HANOI

[Redacted]

FLIGHT CREWS FROM PAKISTAN AND

LIBYA ARE TO FLY THE AIRCRAFT FROM VIETNAM TO LIBYA WITHIN  
SIX WEEKS. AT LEAST 10 SERVICEABLE C-130 TRANSPORTS WERE  
LEFT IN THE SOUTH WHEN SAIGON FELL LAST APRIL. THE LIBYAN'S  
HAVE A NEED FOR HEAVY-DUTY TRANSPORTS SUCH AS THE C-130, AND  
IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT HANOI INCLUDED SPARE PARTS AS PART  
OF THE PACKAGE DEAL. THIS IS THE FIRST EVIDENCE THAT HANOI  
HAS TAKEN STEPS TO DISPOSE OF CAPTURED U.S. EQUIPMENT SURPLUS  
TO ITS MILITARY NEEDS. 9QUINN/STEARMAN)

25X1

State Dept. review  
completed

THREATENED CLOSURE OF ASMARA COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY--: GEN-  
ERAL TEFERI BENTI, PRESIDENT OF ETHIOPIA'S MILITARY COUNCIL,  
SAID AT A SUNDAY PRESS CONFERENCE THAT OUR COMMUNICATIONS  
FACILITIES AT ASMARA, DAMAGED BY ERITREAN INSURGENTS OVER  
THE WEEKEND, WOULD BE CLOSED BY THE END OF THE YEAR. AL-  
THOUGH IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER TEFERI MEANT THE FACILITY  
WOULD CEASE TO OPERATE OR MERELY OPERATE ON A MORE RESTRICTED  
BASIS, HIS REMARK WAS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT  
AT THE UN LAST YEAR THAT THE INSTALLATION WOULD BE CLOSED.  
THE AGREEMENT WITH ETHIOPIA GOVERNING OPERATION OF THE ASMARA  
FACILITY CANNOT BE TERMINATED LEGALLY BEFORE MAY, 1979.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

AUSTRIAN ELECTIONS--: THE MAJOR ISSUES IN THE AUSTRIAN ELECTO-  
RIAL CAMPAIGN REMAIN ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, JOB SECURITY, AND  
THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN AS  
THE THREE MAJOR CONTENDING PARTIES ENTER THE FINAL WEEKS OF  
CAMPAIGNING BEFORE THE OCTOBER 5 ELECTIONS. THE CONSENSUS IN  
AUSTRIA AT THIS POINT IS THAT THE SOCIALISTS, THANKS LARGELY  
TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY, WILL WIN A COMFORTABLE PLURALITY OF  
SEATS BUT THAT THEY WILL BE UNLIKELY TO REPEAT THEIR 1971  
FEAT OF WINNING AN ABSOLUTE PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY. THE

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PEOPLE'S PARTY WILL REMAIN SECOND STRONGEST AND THE SMALL FREEDOM PARTY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO FORM A COALITION WITH THE SOCIALISTS. EXCELLENT U.S. RELATIONS WITH ALL THREE PARTIES WOULD SEEM TO ASSURE CONTINUED CLOSE U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS WHATEVER THE ELECTION OUTCOME.

INDICATIONS THAT CUBA IS RELAXING ITS TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS---: THE CZECH EMBASSY, WHICH REPRESENTS CUBAN INTERESTS HERE, HAS INFORMED US THAT THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING TO RELAX SOME OF ITS TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. NEW GUIDANCES RECEIVED FROM CUBA BY THE CZECHS PERMITS THE ISSUING OF VISAS TO TOURISTS AND PRESS WITHOUT PRIOR CLEARANCE FROM HAVANA. FURTHERMORE, CUBAN RELATIVES HERE MAY NOW INVITE THEIR CUBAN FAMILY MEMBERS TO VISIT THE U.S. AND EXPECT THAT PERMISSION WILL BE GRANTED MORE EASILY. LASTLY, ACCORDING TO A PRESS REPORT, DEFENSE MINISTER RAUL CASTRO STATED DURING A VISIT TO MEXICO THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING GRANTING PERMISSION TO CUBAN EXILES NOW IN THE U.S. TO VISIT RELATIVES IN CUBA. SUCH PERMISSION WOULD BE A SHARP DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS CUBAN POLICY WHICH HAD BEEN OPPOSED TO PERMITTING ANY CUBAN WHO HAD LEFT FOR THE U.S. TO RETURN. IF THIS RELAXATION IN CUBAN RESTRICTIONS MATERIALIZES, IT WILL INCREASE PRESSURE ON US TO RECIPROCATE. IT WILL ALSO CREATE PRESSURES ON OUR RESTRICTIONS ON CURRENCY TRANSFER TO CUBA TO FACILITATE THE NEW TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS.

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