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DE WTE #6034 2962135  
O 230332Z OCT 75  
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 055//

TO BREMER/BARBAN/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA BLACK PATCH WH52040

TOHAK 055

OCTOBER 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

25X1

THE WASHINGTON STAR

LEE COHN REPORTS THAT YOU, AMONG YOUR OTHER DISTINCTIONS, HAVE A LOT OF CLOUT AS A LOBBYIST FOR TAX BENEFITS. THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, YIELDING TO HEAVY PRESSURE FROM YOU, REVERSED ITSELF YESTERDAY AND VOTED TO PRESERVE AN \$84 MILLION TAX BREAK FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WHO WORK

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

SECFL E

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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NSA review completed

ABROAD. (A-1)

BERNARD GWERTZMAN REPORTS THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED TO BREAK WITH PRECEDENT AND SUBMIT FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL THE NEW MILITARY, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN THAT IS CLOSE TO COMPLETION, HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAY. THIS WILL PROBABLY LEAD TO WIDE-RANGING DEBATE ON CAPITOL HILL ON THE OVERALL STATE OF SPANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. (A-3)

TONY AVIRGAN REPORTS THAT CHINA'S SHOWCASE PROJECT IN AFRICA, A 1,200-MILE RAILROAD GIVING LAND-LOCKED ZAMBIA ACCESS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN, WAS INAUGURATED TODAY. APPROXIMATELY 15,000 CHINESE TECHNICIANS WORKED SIDE BY SIDE WITH ZAMBIAN AND TANZANIAN WORKERS FOR YEARS TO PUNCH THE LINE THROUGH SOME OF AFRICA'S ROUGHEST TERRAIN. (A-4)

THEODORA LURIE REPORTS THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ENRICO BERLINGUER IS THE MOST POPULAR AND MOST TRUSTED POLITICIAN IN ITALY NOW, ACCORDING TO A RECENT NATIONWIDE OPINION POLL. ITALIANS ALSO SEE THE COMMUNIST PARTY AS HAVING DONE THE MOST FOR THE CAUSE OF CIVIL RIGHTS. (A-4)

JEREMIAH O'LEARY REPORTS THAT YOUR CHOICE TO RUN YOUR AFRICAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IS A CAREER DIPLOMAT WHO IS EXPECTED TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE AFRICAN NATIONS WITHOUT BEING TOO RESPONSIVE TO THE PRESSURES OFTEN APPLIED BY THE MORE THAN 40 AFRICAN NATIONS OR THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS. HE IS WILLIAM E. SCHAUFLE JR., NOW INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE. (A-7)

THE LEAD EDITORIAL SAYS THAT IT IS ODD TO FIND MR. WILLIAM KHUFUSS, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, ATTACKING THE NEW GRAIN PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION AS "A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT... FURTHER INTERFERENCE WITH THE MARKET SYSTEM IN WORLD MARKETS." IN AN IDEAL WORLD WHERE THERE WERE NO SPECULATORS AND NO INSIDERS, AND WHERE SOVIET GRAIN PRODUCTION WERE NOT RENDERED UNCERTAIN BY CLIMATE AND THE LACK OF PRIVATE INCENTIVE, IT WOULD NO DOUBT BE BETTER TO LEAVE GRAIN TRADING TO THE WILLING SELLER-WILLING BUYER PRINCIPLE. BUT AS THE RECENT SUCCESS OF THE OIL CARTEL INDICATES, WE ARE WELL INTO AN ERA OF INCREASING INTERFERENCE, POLITICALLY AND NATIONALISTICALLY MOTIVATED, IN ALL COMMODITY MARKETS. THE U.S.-SOVIET DEAL REFLECTS THAT TREND IN ONE OF ITS Milder, MORE CONSTRUCTIVE FORMS. (A-20)

CROSBY NOYES SAYS THAT THE TIME IS OUT OF JOINT FOR SUMMIT MEETINGS. YOU, HE SUSPECTS, WOULD DO YOUR BOSS A FAVOR IF ON YOUR RETURN TO WASHINGTON, YOU TOLD PRESIDENT FORD TO FORGET ABOUT HIS PROJECTED TRIP TO CHINA. SIMILARLY, THE TIMING

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AND THE PROSPECTS FOR LEONID BREZHNEV'S LONG-PLANNED VISIT TO WASHINGTON BECOME MORE DOUBTFUL AS TIME GOES BY. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THIS SUMMIT -- ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR LAST SUMMER -- WILL BE POSTPONED INDEFINITELY. THE CONTINUED DEVOTION TO DETENTE BY THE ADMINISTRATION RULES OUT ANY MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN AMERICAN-CHINESE RELATIONS AT THIS POINT. BOTH CHINESE AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS ARE PREDICTING THAT NOTHING DRAMATIC CAN BE EXPECTED FROM A NEW SUMMIT MEETING IN PEKING. IN THE MEANTIME, THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF A REAL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, SINCE THE COMMUNIST CHINESE WILL NOT MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION UNTIL U.S. TIES WITH THE NATIONALISTS ARE BROKEN. IN SHORT, IT IS A PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY WHICH, ACCORDING TO CONVENTIONAL WISDOM, IS THE WRONG TIME FOR SUMMIT MEETINGS. THE ONLY CALCULATION TO BE MADE AT THIS POINT IS WHETHER FORD STANDS TO GAIN MORE THAN HE LOSES FROM WHAT MUST BE RATED AS A SINGULARLY POINTLESS PILGRIMAGE TO PEKING. (A-21)

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS THAT PANAMA, LOCKED IN A DISPUTE WITH THE U.S. OVER FUTURE DEFENSE OF THE PANAMA CANAL, IS REPORTED SHOPPING FOR NEW ARMS SOURCES. U.S. INTELLIGENCE REPORTS SAY PANAMA ALREADY HAS TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO BUY RIFLES, MORTARS, AND PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES FROM ISRAEL FOR THE PANAMANIAN NATIONAL GUARD, NOW EQUIPPED WITH U.S.-SUPPLIED WEAPONS. (F-8)

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