

*****TOP SECRET*****

DATE 04/05/74

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 001

MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

NO MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS

MESSAGE:

IMMEDIATE

DE WTE #1641 0951728

O 051728Z APR 74

FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOSCO 002//

TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH40896

TOSCO

NSA review completed

APRIL 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

DIA review completed

MORE EGYPTIANS TO SYRIA??

25X1

AN EGYPTIAN ARMORED BRIGADE AND AN EGYPTIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE HAVE RECENTLY LANDED AT THE PORT OF LATAKIA. THIS REPORT,

MORI/CDF per C03346286

25X1

25X1

IS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF REPORTS ABOUT THE TRANSFER OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL TO SYRIA. THIS IS THE FIRST REPORT INVOLVING MAJOR COMBAT UNITS. IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY BY OUR MILITARY ATTACHE IN CAIRO CONCERNING THE RUMORS LAST WEEKEND THAT EGYPTIAN AIR DEFENSE SPECIALISTS, MILITARY ADVISORY PERSONNEL AND COMMANDO UNITS HAD BEEN SENT TO SYRIA, AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL SAID THAT SUCH REPORTS WERE UNTRUE. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO CONFIRM OR DENY THESE REPORTS. (TOHAK 43 GIVES FULL TEXT

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

25X1

FRENCH ELECTIONS: THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THERE WILL BE AN ELECTION MAY 5 TO CHOOSE A PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSOR TO PRESIDENT POMPIDOU. IF NO CANDIDATE WINS A MAJORITY IN THE FIRST ROUND, A SECOND ROUND WILL BE HELD MAY 19TH.

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MESSAGE (CONTINUED):



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WESTERN EUROPE AIRCRAFT TROUBLE: THE JOINT BRITISH, WEST GER-
MAN, AND ITALIAN PROJECT TO DEVELOP A EUROPEAN MULTIROLE COMBAT
AIRCRAFT (MRCA) CONTINUES TO ENCOUNTER DELAYS, RISING COSTS, AND
TECHNOLOGICAL DIFFICULTIES. THE PROJECT IS ABOUT SIX MONTHS BE-
HIND SCHEDULE, AND SOME OF THE MORE PESSIMISTIC EUROPEAN EXPERTS
ON THE PROJECT SPECULATE THAT THE PLANE WILL NEVER GET BEYOND THE
PROTOTYPE STAGE. SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE MRCA'S ENGINES HAVE
TWICE DELAYED PLANS FOR ITS FIRST FLIGHT NOW EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE
IN MAY OR JUNE. IN FEBRUARY, BRITISH EXPERTS REPORTED THAT MOST
OF THE PROBLEMS HAD BEEN SOLVED, BUT

25X1

THE ENGINE TROUBLES ARE ALMOST INSURMOUNTABLE
AND THAT A MAJOR REDESIGN EFFORT WILL BE NECESSARY. THE WEST GER-
MANS AND THE ITALIANS ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING WITHDRAWING FROM
THE PROJECT AND HAVE BEGUN SEEKING AIRCRAFT ELSEWHERE. THE UK
DOES NOT WANT TO CANCEL THE PROJECT, BUT BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS MAY
FORCE LONDON TO RESTRICT ITS PARTICIPATION AND REDUCE THE NUMBER
OF PLANES IT MIGHT PURCHASE. 25X1

NORTHERN IRELAND PROGRESS STALLS: PROSPECTS FOR THE CREATION
OF A COUNCIL OF IRELAND, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES
FROM BOTH ULSTER AND THE REPUBLIC, HAVE DECLINED IN RECENT WEEKS.
THE PROTESTANTS IN ULSTER HAVE NEVER BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC, AND THE
ELECTIONS IN FEBRUARY, IN WHICH LOYALIST CANDIDATES WON 11 OF
THE 12 ULSTER SEATS IN WESTMINSTER, HAVE BEEN INTERPRETED AS A
STRONG MANDATE AGAINST PROCEEDING WITH THE COUNCIL. UNLESS DUBLIN
IS WILLING AND ABLE TO MAKE SPECIFIC CONCESSIONS, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY

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MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

THAT A NORTH-SOUTH POWER-SHARING BODY WITH REAL AUTHORITY WILL BE FORMED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KATHLEEN TELTSCH REPORTS CHINA IS SENDING A HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION HEADED BY DEPUTY PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING TO THE SPECIAL UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT WEEK. THE MOVE IS SEEN AS A BID FOR LEADERSHIP OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD. (2)

DREW MIDDLETON QUOTES AUTHORITATIVE MILITARY PLANNERS IN WESTERN EUROPE AS SAYING DEMANDS FOR BUDGET CUTS FOR NATO FORCES WILL BE MET BY A NEW GENERATION OF WEAPONS REQUIRING LESS MANPOWER. (3)

AN EDITORIAL SAYS DAYAN CANNOT SHIRK ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LAST FALL'S ACKNOWLEDGED POLICY ERRORS WHICH COST ISRAEL SO DEARLY. (34)

JAMES RESTON SAYS YOUR MARRIAGE AND HENRY AARON'S HOME RUN HAVE RENEWED THE SPIRIT OF WASHINGTON, A SENSE OF HISTORY AND A SENSE OF HUMOR. PEOPLE HAVE BEGUN TO BELIEVE AGAIN IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HEROES AND INSTITUTIONS. MORAL: IF YOU HAVE A NEW KID, NAME HIM HENRY. (35)
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PSN: 001452

TOR: 095/17:25Z

DTG: 051728Z APR 74

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