

384/3/24

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE
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MEMORANDUM FOR DAVE MCMANIS

FROM : Dave Clark

SUBJECT: Morning Cable Summary for 11 December 1969

Korean Airliner Hijacked: A South Korean commercial airliner was forced to land at an airbase in North Korea early today after being intercepted by MIGs as it flew north along the eastern Korean coastline. The apparently hijacked aircraft was on a domestic flight from Kang-nung on the northeastern coast of South Korea to Seoul with 51 persons, including the crew, on board. Two men, one posing as a brigadier general, are believed to be the hijackers. No American nationals are believed to be among the passengers. (Various) The South Korean cabinet has been called into emergency session.

Libyan Coup Attempt: The Revolutionary Command Council last night revealed that a coup d'etat attempt by pro-Western military officers led by the Defense and Interior ministers had been quashed. The chairman of the council accused the British "bases" of supporting the plotters and commented that the visits of the US ambassador to the defense ministry, ostensibly regarding contract negotiations with an American firm, occurred with such frequency as to cause wonderment. (FBIS-10)

Shooting of Filipino: A Filipino national involved in the theft of a television set at Clark airbase in the Philippines was wounded today by a shot fired during a scuffle with an American base security policeman. (L3thAF Pinnacle)

Israeli Reaction to Rogers Speech: The Israeli cabinet met in special session last night to discuss ForMin Eban's trip to the US today in light of Secretary Rogers' recent remarks. The resultant statement regretted Rogers' failure to recognize the principle that only states in the area, by mutual agreement on conditions, are authorized to make peace. The statement reiterated that the four-power talks have encouraged Arab belligerency and reaffirmed that direct negotiations without preconditions is the only acceptable solution. Eban remarked, as he embarked for the US, that the meeting hadn't set policy directives, but rather had asked him to explain the Israeli position to US officials. (Various Press)

South Vietnam: Overall ground action in South Vietnam appears to have been relatively light, but two major American bases came under enemy shellfire today along with a heavy attack on a town in III Corps. Long Binh Army Headquarters took a ten-rocket attack but suffered only light casualties and damage. Four 140 mm rockets hit the Danang Airbase, but only lightly damaged runways and cut off the base power supply temporarily. At Phan Ly Cham in Binh Thuanh Province, on the coast northeast of Saigon, a heavy mortar attack killed five civilians and two soldiers, wounding another 14 civilians. (Press)

Israeli Aircraft Attack Syria: An initial press report just in from Damascus quotes a Syrian military spokesman as saying that large numbers of Israeli aircraft struck Syrian military positions and airports today. (Reuters)