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Executive Registry

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17 November 1976

MEMORANDUM FC	R:	Director of Central Intelligence
FROM	:	Chief, Near East and South Asia Division
VIA	:	Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT	:	Briefing President-elect Carter

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1. Further to our discussion of last week and your request to be reminded, I believe it most important that you use your forthcoming briefing of President-elect Carter to stress to him the importance of the Middle East as a major international issue confronting his incoming administration and the desirability of his acting sooner rather than later to focus his attentions in that direction.

3. The Middle East specializes in self-fulfilling prophecies; and with the Soviets standing alertly in the wings to exploit whatever period of inattention to the area we may now be entering, the opportunities for misinterpretation on all sides seem considerable.

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Mr. Carter has publicly asserted his understandable wish not to preempt any of the authorities of the outgoing administration prior to officially assuming office.

4. Attached for your bedside reading is a Brookings Institution Middle East study group report of mid-1975 entitled, "Toward Peace in the Middle East." The study group included Zbigniew Brzezinski and to the extent that Brookings affiliates may have been associated with the preparation of foreign policy materials for Mr. Carter, the contents of this report may reflect what has reached him so far on this subject. The report does stress urgency of attention to the Arab-Israeli dispute and, to that extent at least, is supportive of our current concern.



cc: DDCI

CONCUR:

William W. Wells

17 NOV 1976

Deputy Director for Operations

Date

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Toward Peace in the Middle East

REPORT OF & STUDY GROUP

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Executive Registry

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

11 November 1976

NOTE TO: DDO/PCS/CM&IR

STAT FROM : A/DDCI

SUBJECT: Support for 22 November Briefing of President-Elect

1. Would you add to your list of papers being prepared the following:

a. Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism;

b. Narcotics.

2. Please include number of people involved and dollar costs of our activities. A DDI contribution, for example: in area of finished intelligence, would enhance.

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10 November 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation With Stuart Eizenstat

1. Eizenstat called me today to make arrangements for the DCI's briefing of the President-elect.

2. He asked that we come down to Plains on Monday, 22 November, at 1300 hours for a session of "several hours." He asked that we cover at least the following topics: OPEC price increases; "warming of relations" between the Soviet Union and China; dismantling; Rhodesia and South Africa; and the Lebanese situation.

3. I agreed to this list noting that we had already planned to touch on all of them. I said that Mr. Bush wanted a few minutes privately with the President-elect, and that after that we planned to bring them up to date on these substantive topics. In addition, the Director wanted to bring down Mr. Knoche and ______ to introduce them and to discuss some important non-substantive issues. I asked Eizenstat to let me know if this was not satisfactory. He said it sounded fine to him.

4. He then raised the question of current intelligence support. He said that Carter was glad to have this but that he did not want to feel obligated to have a briefing every day. He asked how long the briefings for President Ford usually took. I explained the way that we had presented the PDB to the President, and went on to lay out what we would like to do in relation to the President-elect. In essence we would begin by providing the PDB to Governor

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Carter by wire, having it delivered to him by our briefing officer. The briefing officer would be there both to respond to questions and to develop the best system for supporting Governor Carter after his inauguration. We would experiment until we had found something the President-elect was comfortable with and would then continue that system through the inauguration period. Eizenstat seemed enthusiastic about this approach.

5. I told him that it probably would be desirable for me to bring a team down to Plains next week to make arrangements for this service. We would not need, obviously, to see the President-elect but would need to deal with matters of security, communications, and logistics. He asked that if we do this we contact Gregg Schneiders, Carter's personal assistant in Plains, beforehand.

6. Finally, I told him that our interpretation of the guidelines given to the departments and agencies by Watson yesterday was that our existing link with the Presidentelect through him would be maintained regardless of what we did with the transition liaison officer. He confirmed this and said also that we should continue to deal with the Vice President-elect through David Aaron.

7. Eizenstat called me back later in the afternoon to say that they felt that Senator Mondale should also be present for the Director's private conversation with Carter. I said I understood their reasons for this, but I did not have the authority to commit the DCI. If the DCI objected I would call him back.

> Richard Lehman Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

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SUBJECT: Conversation With Stuart Eizenstat

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

For Hank Knoche DDCI and Dick Lehman

You may have noticed in the papers Carters comment (Sunday Post) that he will see Pres. Ford by end of November but BEFORE that he will receive a briefing from me. This undoubtedly relates to my phone call to him. We should start preparing a sources and methods briefing- not too much technical detail- but certaunly some on our various technical collection sysytems including also on how our human intel works- also on how he will be served as President- PDB's etc. In my view both of you should attentd such a breifing... I want him to get to know you, HANK, and I believe as ongoing contact point Dick L should attend also..... I think we should try to limit number of briefers for this first meeting. I have no idea yet where or when such a meeting will take place. I will keep you advised if I hear before you both do.

GB 11-7

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A community briefing should follow with Dan present- or all at once depending on sked

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