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NSC review completed.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 14, 1983

TOP SECRET/EYES ONLYMEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE S. EAGLEBURGER
Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.SUBJECT: CPPG Meeting: Soviet Activities in Near East
and South West Asia (S)

The Soviet Union may have embarked on a more adventurous and activist course in the Near East and South West Asia. The deployment of an integrated air defense system in Syria, including SA-5s, can be seen in this light. At the same time, there are indications of increased Soviet presence in Libya, increased Soviet support for Iraq, heightened activity in Afghanistan and the ever present possibility of a move toward Iran. (TS)

These activities have serious implications for U.S. interests in the region. Our response to Soviet behavior will be viewed by neutrals, allies and adversaries as an important sign of U.S. willingness to oppose Soviet expansion in the region, and could affect their willingness to support our other objectives. These developments require that we prepare a counterstrategy and contingency plans to cope with possible near-term Soviet moves. Our planning should include a full spectrum of measures to deter and improve our readiness. (TS)

The CPPG will address this issue at a meeting in the White House Situation Room, tentatively set for Thursday, January 20. In preparation for the meeting, would you convene on a "close hold" basis an Interdepartmental Group (IG) comprised of representatives at the Assistant Secretary (or equivalent) level from the office of the Vice President, the Department of Defense, the JCS, DCI and NSC Staff to develop a paper on this issue. (S)

It is requested that the format at Tab A be used, as appropriate, in preparing the paper, and that the paper specifically address the issues indicated at Tab B. Copies should be delivered to CPPG principals by noon Wednesday, January 19, 1983. CPPG principals will be contacted by Oliver North, NSC Staff, regarding a specific time for the meeting to discuss/decide the paper prepared by the IG. (C)



Robert C. McFarlane
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Attachment

- Tab A - Format for CPPG Issue Paper
- Tab B - CPPG Issues

cc: Donald P. Gregg, V.P. Office
Fred C. Ikle, DoD
✓ Robert M. Gates, DCI

Paul Gorman, OJCS
Geoffrey Kemp, NSC
Phillip Dur, NSC
Oliver L. North, NSC

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TAB A

CPPG ISSUE PAPER (SECRET)

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- SITUATION - (Nature of Potential Crisis)
 - Parties involved.
 - International and Domestic political concerns.

- INTERESTS
 - U.S. Interests
 - .. International
 - .. Domestic
 - Soviet Interests
 - .. Known
 - .. Surmised
 - Key Third Party Interests
 - .. Allied
 - .. Adversaries
 - .. Neutral/Non-Aligned

- Current U.S. Objectives and Policy/Plans
 - Political
 - Economic
 - Military
 - International Agreements
 - Domestic/Legal Constraints
 - Informational/Media Policy and Plans

- Spectrum of U.S. Options
 - Intelligence Assets Available
 - Political/Diplomatic; Economic; Military Options Available

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Review on 5/21/2002

Classified and Extended by W. B. Clark

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- .. Potential Impact (Domestic/International)
- .. Likely Effect On
 - ... Local Situation
 - ... Soviets
 - ... Adversaries
 - ... Allies
 - ... Non-Aligned/Neutrals

-- Resources/Assets Available

- .. Political Instruments
- .. Economic Measures
- .. Military Forces
 - ... U.S.
 - ... Allied
- .. Covert Action
 - ... DCI/Military/Third Party
- .. Informational Capabilities (VOA, ICA, etc.)

● For A Recommended Course of Action:

-- Timing Considerations

-- Coordination Requirements

- .. National
- .. International

-- Implications of Decision

- .. Degredation of Operational Capabilities (Military, Intel, Political) Elsewhere
- .. Political Impact
 - ... International
 - ... Domestic
- .. Economic Impact
 - ... Trade
 - ... Cash Flow
- .. Media Asset Coordination
 - ... Black
 - ... White
- .. Security, Requirements
 - ... International
 - ... Domestic
 - ... Coordination
- .. Legislative Coordination Requirements
 - ... Senate Sel. Committee on Intel (SSCI)
 - ... House Perm. Sel. Comm. on Intel (HPSCI)
 - ... Other?

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TAB B

TOP SECRETSYSTEM II
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- o Do we have adequate collection assets in place to provide adequate warning of Soviet moves in the region? If not, what needs to be done?
- o What are the strategic consequences of the growing Soviet presence in Syria (similar to what we saw in Egypt during the War of Attrition)?
- o What would the most telling strategic warning indicators of impending Soviet military action against the Northern provinces of Iran? How much unambiguous warning would we have of such an attack?
- o What preparatory diplomatic/military measures would we want to consider in response to tenuous indication of Soviet preparation for military action against Iran?
- o What military staging areas do we presently have access to in order to reduce response time in the event of unambiguous warning of Soviet action in northern Iran?

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