

072 DEC 12 PM 6 17

0 121038Z DEC 72 ZYH ZFF1 ZFF4

FM THE WHITE HOUSE TOHAK 162

[REDACTED] PARIS

25X1

ZEM

UNCLAS WH29879 TOHAK 162 [REDACTED]

25X1

TOHAK 162

FM: THE SITUATION ROOM

TO: WINSTON LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER

DECEMBER 12, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

THE WASHINGTON POST

PRESIDENT THIEU, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PROPOSED A CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY TRUCE DURING WHICH NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE VIET CONG WOULD BEGIN SEPARATE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. EMPH- ASIS WAS PUT ON THE FOLLOWING PHRASE: "THIS TRUCE CAN BE EXTENDED FOR A FURTHER DURATION AS AGREED BY ALL PARTIES," IF THE CONSULTA- TIONS "PROGRESS IN AN ENCOURAGING WAY."

WESTERN DIPLOMATS AND JOURNALISTS TO AN EFFORT TO "VIETNAMIZE THE PEACE TALKS" AND FORESTALL ANY AGREEMENT IN PARIS TO WHICH HE WOULD BE FORCED TO CAPITULATE. NEITHER THE WHITE HOUSE NOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD ANY IMMEDIATE COMMENT. WHILE MAKING NO DIRECT MENTION OF THE PARIS TALKS, THIEU REITERATED SOUTH VIETNAM'S UNCOMPROMISING STAND IT HAS FOUND OBJECTIONABLE IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT. THIEU CONFIRMED THAT SOUTH VIETNAM WOULD REDUCE THE SIZE OF ITS ARMED FORCES BY THE SAME NUMBER OF TROOPS THAT NORTH VIETNAM WITHDRAWS FROM THE SOUTH, BUT HE SAID NOTHING THAT WOULD INDICATE ANY FLEXIBILITY IN HIS PRINCIPAL OBJECTIONS TO THE AGREEMENT. HE INSISTED THERE CAN BE NO PEACE WITHOUT A TOTAL PULLOUT OF NVA FORCES, AND REJECTED THE POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS AND ELECTIONS AFTER A CEASE-FIRE. TO "STOW ITS UTMOST GOOD WILL," THIEU SAID SOUTH VIETNAM "WILL UNILATERALLY RELEASE FIRST AND WITHOUT ANY CONDITIONS 1,015 COMMUNIST NORTH VIETNAMESE DISABLED AND HEALTHY PRISONERS OF WAR ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE TRUCE." HE FURTHER APPEALED TO THE LEADERS OF SOUTH VIETNAM'S FRACTIOUS POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS TO JOIN IN ACHIEVING "NATIONAL SOLIDARITY ON THE BASIS OF DETERMINATION TO SAVE OUR LAND." HE SAID THEY SHOULD MAKE AN "ACTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO POLITICAL LIFE THROUGH POLITICAL PROCESS THAT YOU AND I WILL DISCUSS AND AGREE TO IMPLEMENT." ACCORDING TO THE STORY, THIS APPEARS TO MEAN THAT HE IS PLANNING TO TAKE SOME MEMBERS OF THE NON-COMMUNIST OPPOSITION INTO HIS CABINET, AS GOVERNMENT SOURCES INDICATED LAST WEEK. (A-1)

RELIABLE VIETNAM SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE THIEU GOVERNMENT WANTS THE MOUNTAIN RESORT CITY OF DALAT TO BE THE SITE OF MEETINGS FOR THE PROPOSED NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD. (A-20)

-2-

A REPORT ON THE RESUMPTION OF YOUR MEETINGS IN PARIS TODAY AP-  
PEARS ON PAGE A-18.

DUSKO DODER WRITES THAT THE U. S. AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE SEEKING  
BETTER RELATIONS. OFFICIALS OF BOTH COUNTRIES SAY THAT FORMAL  
TALKS ON A NEW CONSULAR CONVENTION ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN "VERY  
SOON," TO BE FOLLOWED BY NEGOTIATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL  
EXCHANGES AS WELL AS EFFORTS TO RESOLVE A GAMUT OF OUTSTANDING  
FINANCIAL ISSUES. (A-1)

IN MIAMI YESTERDAY, A GROUP OF 85 CUBAN REFUGEES DEPARTED ABOARD  
THE FIRST "FREEDOM FLIGHT" SINCE LAST MAY. (A-3)

U. S. MILITARY SOURCES HERE SAY THE SOVIET UNION HAS OFFERED THE  
GOVERNMENT OF CHILE \$50 MILLION IN LOW-INTEREST CREDITS TO BUY  
SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT. (A-3)

IN LOS ANGELES, A MISTRIAL WAS DECLARED IN THE TRIAL OF DANIEL  
ELLSBERG. A NEW JURY WAS DIRECTED TO BE IMPANELED. (A-6)

IN TOKYO, PRIME MINISTER TANAKA AND HIS LIBERAL DEMOCRATS WON  
A NEW TERM. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST PARTY GAINS WERE HEADLINED IN  
~~THE NEWSPAPERS.~~  
THE NEWSPAPERS. THE COMMUNIST PARTY JUMPED FROM FIFTY-RANKING  
WITH 14 SEATS IN THE DIET TO THIRD-RANKING WITH 38 SEATS. (A-16)

THE NEW YORK TIMES

THE UNGA LEGAL COMMITTEE APPROVED A RESOLUTION TO EXPLORE THE CAUSES OF ACTS OF TERRORISM RATHER THAN DRAWING UP INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION AIMED AT STEMMING THE ACTS OF TERRORISM THEMSELVES. MANY OF THE NATIONS SEEKING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST HIJACKING SAID THEY WOULD NOW BY-PASS THE UN IN THEIR EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM. (A-1)

INDIA AND PAKISTAN COMPLETED DEMARCATION OF A NEW TRUCE LINE IN KASHMIR YESTERDAY. FINAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL IS EXPECTED TO BE A FORMALITY, AND TROOP WITHDRAWALS <sup>ADJUSTMENT OF TROOP POSITION IN KASHMIR</sup> ~~238-~~, 8.75-, 397) 6 285# 5#3 ~~8.75.3, 5 91 5499 898589, 8, (-7.84.~~ TROOP WITHDRAWALS ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 10 DAYS. (A-5)

HENRY PAOLUCAI WRITES AN ARTICLE DEBATING YOUR BEING A "DISRAELI CONSERVATIVE" SINCE COMING TO THE WHITE HOUSE. HE DISCUSSES YOUR IMPACT UPON THE PRESIDENT IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, QUOTING BOTH YOU AND THE PRESIDENT, AND PROJECTING HIS CONCEPTION OF WHAT THE NEXT 4 YEARS WILL BRING. (A-47)

THE BALTIMORE SUN

JOSEPH KRAFT DISCUSSES SADAT'S SHAKY POLITICAL STANDING IN EGYPT. SADAT HAS LOST PERSONAL PRESTIGE OVER HIS CONCERN WITH THE PROBLEM OF ISRAELI-OCCUPIED LAND. POLITICALLY, SADAT HAS DESTROYED

-3-

THE EGYPTIAN LEFT-WING WHICH NASSER HAD USED AS A BALANCE AGAINST THE ARMY. RIGHT-WING OPPOSITION FROM THE ARMY HAS ENJOYED FREE PLAY FOR ITS GRIEVANCES AND RIVALRIES. AS A RESULT, COUP RUMORS ARE PROMINENT, BUT KRAFT FEELS THAT SADAT WILL MANAGE TO MUDDLE THROUGH. (A-19)