MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

November 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

MORI/CDF C02444033

BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT:

Information Items

A Soviet View of Soviet-U.S. Relations: The FBI reports it has received information that the leadership of the Communist Party of the U.S. recently received a report concerning the current Soviet attitudes toward Soviet-American relations. The report reflected the observations of an experienced observer of Soviet affairs and, in addition, purported to reflect the views of highly placed Soviet officials. The most important concern of the Soviet leadership is foreign relations, and in particular relations between the USSR and the U.S. officials have reiterated in the most authorative fashion that not only do they want to further the agreements developed with the U.S. up to now, but also additional agreements must be achieved. Detente in general must be followed by military detente, which it is believed will make the process of detente irreversible. This goal is coupled with a revival of the Soviet suspicion of a military understanding between the U.S. and China aimed against the Soviet Union. However, there is great pessimism concerning the status of the arms limitation talks being held in Geneva. When the Soviet delegation to the talks in Geneva returned recently to Moscow, they reported that no conclusions had been reached and the prospects for agreement are very bad. Soviet delegates to Geneva reported a stalemate in these negotiations, and, therefore, the Soviet Union is beginning to "draw fateful conclusions." Soviet leaders can not fathom the reasons behind the American position and now are wondering whether the U.S. is going to keep its agreements or not. In view of this situation, the proposed visit to the U.S. by CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev is not yet decided. Soviet leadership believes that some concrete agreements or understandings must first be achieved, particularly on arms limitations and on nondiscrimatory trade, before Brezhnev will decide whether or not to take a trip to the U.S. and set a date.

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