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TOHAK 001

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reviews completed.

DECEMBER 20, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER  
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM  
SUBJECT: EVENING NOTES

ETHIOPIA ADOPTS SOCIALIST PHILOSOPHY: ACCORDING TO THE U.S. EMBASSY, ADDIS ABABA RADIO ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT "SOCIALISM" WILL BE ADOPTED AS THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION. THE TEXT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOT YET AVAILABLE. THE RULING MILITARY COUNCIL, IN PAST DISCUSSIONS OF SOCIALISM, HAS SHOWN UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE MEANING OF THE TERM. THE COUNCIL APPARENTLY ENVISIONS GREATER GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF THE ECONOMY AND THE EXPANSION OF GOVERNMENT SOCIAL SERVICES. THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK OF NATIONALIZING PRIVATE BUSINESSES, BUT THE BASIC AIM SEEMS TO BE TO IMPROVE THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE. THE COUNCIL'S ADOPTION OF A SOCIALIST PHILOSOPHY IS TO SOME EXTENT AN ATTEMPT TO FIND A SUITABLE SLOGAN THAT WILL GIVE AT LEAST THE APPEARANCE OF AN IDEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION FOR THE CHANGES THE COUNCIL IS PROMOTING IN ETHIOPIAN SOCIETY. THE ADOPTION OF SOCIALISM DOES NOT APPEAR TO PRESAGE ANY SUDDEN SHIFTS IN FOREIGN POLICY. THE COUNCIL SEEMS TO CONTINUE TO BE RELUCTANT TO JEOPARDIZE RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON BECAUSE OF THE VALUE IT SEES IN U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. THE SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF MILITARY AID IS CONTINUING, HOWEVER, AND SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS ADVOCATE TURNING TO THE SOVIET UNION.

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**THE WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS**

ROBERTA HORNIG REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT FORD IS BEING URGED BY HIS SERIOUS ENERGY AND ECONOMIC ADVISERS TO ADOPT A STRINGENT CONSERVATION PROGRAM THAT WOULD FORCE AMERICANS TO CONSERVE ENERGY TO CUT U.S. RELIANCE ON HIGH-COST FOREIGN AID.

JEREMIAH O'LEARY REPORTS THAT NEW DELHI MAY BE THE MOST ACTION-PACKED DIPLOMATIC CAPITAL IN THE WORLD NEXT MONTH AFTER WILLIAM SAXBE, THE OUTSPOKEN COUNTRY BOY FROM MECHANICSBURG, OHIO, ARRIVES AS U.S. AMBASSADOR.

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