



Response to NSSM No. 188

A Review of Major International Developments During 1973

November 1973

CONTENTS

Area Issues and Developments

I. Europe	
	NR Record

NR	Record
	NR

	NR Record

	NR Record

NF	R Record

	NR Record
Greece. The prominence of the military in Greek political affairs was raised another notch in late November when a group of military officers ousted the regime of President George Papadopoulos. These officers, led by the chief of the military police General Ioannidis, saw their revolution being betrayed by Papadopoulos' personal ambitions, his declaration of a republic, and the decision to hold "rigged" elections under Prime Minister Markezinis. The immediate cause of the move appeared to be Ioannidis' view that Papdopoulos had mishandled the November student riots by acting too late to prevent bloodshed.	
The regime showed its hand when it announced that it was scrapping the planned elections and stressed the need to return to the goals of the April 1967 revolution to create the prerequisites for restoring a healthy parliamentary life. The prospects for even a "guided" democracy within the foreseeable future thus appeared dim at the end of 1973.	
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- 39 -

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- 40 -

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NR Record

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- 46 -

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