

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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August 10, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*

SUBJECT:

Information Items

Situation in Cyprus: The atmosphere at the Geneva peace talks was improved somewhat yesterday by the negotiations in Nicosia of a partial accord on truce lines. The remaining truce lines were referred to Geneva for further negotiations. The British believe final agreement on the truce line will be reached, but may take some hard bargaining. The full delegations in Geneva today plan to review the working level committee's work on unresolved matters from the first Geneva declaration and to discuss the question of opening Nicosia airport. They were also planning to begin discussion of constitutional issues.

No significant fighting by Turkish Army forces in Cyprus occurred yesterday, but Turkish Cypriots reported a six-hour clash with Greek Cypriots at Vrecha.

Rocket Attack on Air Base in South Vietnam: In Military Region 3, Bien Hoa Air base was hit by 16 122-mm rocket rounds yesterday, resulting in two military and three civilians killed and three civilians wounded. No significant damage was reported to the air base. To the north, the enemy's campaign to attrite ARVN forces and extend his areas of control continues. In Military Region 1, the enemy is maintaining pressure in the Duc Duc area by small ground attacks and minor attacks by fire. Further south in Military Region 2, communist forces continued to shell government troops in the Plei Me area on Thursday, and an ARVN sweep operation supported by air resulted in 70 communists killed yesterday.

Middle East Situation: Israeli aircraft bombed fedayeen targets in southeastern Lebanon yesterday for the third consecutive day, apparently in the same general areas as other recent raids. The Israeli action probably is related to operations

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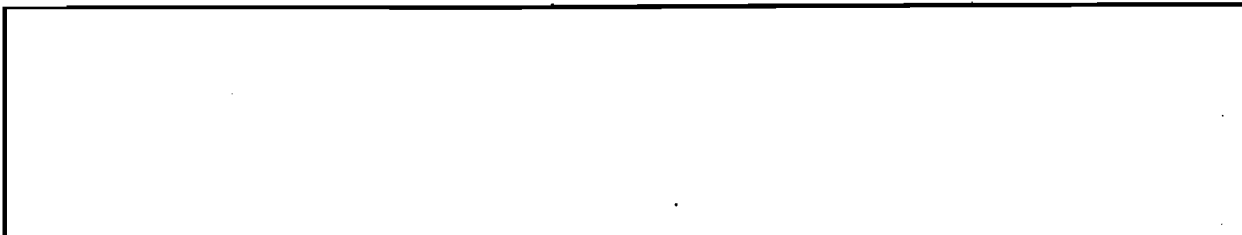
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that the Israelis have mounted in retaliation for the abduction of several Israeli Arab villagers by fedayeen earlier in the week. Syrian anti-aircraft fire downed a UN transport yesterday killing nine Canadians, apparently during the time Syrian air defense units were active against the Israeli aircraft that were bombing Lebanon. Although the Syrians have acknowledged responsibility for the incident, the Israelis deny any of their aircraft were in action at the time the UN plane crashed. 25X1



Ethiopian Government Remains: Prime Minister Mikael has averted a confrontation with the Armed Forces Coordinating Committee by agreeing to dismiss four cabinet ministers accused of corruption by the military. The military had threatened to take over the government if the ministers, who were appointed on August 3, were kept in office. The four reportedly will be arrested shortly.

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