The original documents are located in Box 122, folder "Chad" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

4/14/75

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FYI ONLY: -- Kissinger Visit to Latin America

The State Department will announce Sec. Kissinger's upcoming visit to Latin America April 23-27. (Refer to State).

Chad Coup

The coup in Chad and the assassination of Tombalbaye appears to have been a purely internal matter without external assistance. (Refer to State for details).

Q: Would you care to comment on the coup d'etat in Chad and the apparent death of its President, Ngarta Tombalbaye?

A: I would refer you to the State Department for details. We are, of course, in contact with our Embassy in N'Djamena, and we have confirmation that the events have taken place pretty much as described in the press. There are approximately 160 Americans in Chad, which includes 40 Embassy employees and dependents. The other 120 are made up largely of Peace Corps volunteers and of missionaries. Apparently all Americans in Chad are safe. Otherwise this would appear to be an internal Chadian matter.

Q: Do we recognize the new regime in Chad?

A: It is too early to address that question. In any case, I suggest you ask the State Department about that.