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NLF-NSC\_ILCC-5-2-4-3

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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September 13, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT

HENRY A. KISSINGER *B*

Information Items

Simas Kudirka: At a dinner on September 11 in Moscow, our charge asked a senior Soviet official whether Kudirka was making any progress on his request for exit permission. The Soviet replied that Kudirka "should have had his exit permit by now." According to the official, Kudirka's mother is opposing his wish to take his wife to the U.S. with him because of her alleged infidelity during Kudirka's incarceration. The official said he was hopeful that the "family squabble" would be worked out and that matters could then take their natural course. He gave no hint as to when he thought exit permission might actually be granted.

Ethiopian Situation: Embassy Addis Ababa reports that the provinces are still quiet. The deposition of the Emperor is being generally well received in Addis. The rural response seems passive to favorable. Fourth Division officers have informed their MAAG counterparts that the Emperor is expected to remain in detention at Fourth Division headquarters for several days. Troops, tanks, armored cars, and machine gun- and recoilless rifle-mounting jeeps continue to be deployed around Addis and are patrolling the road to the international airport, which remains closed. The head of the Crown Prince's household has informed the embassy that he has no word from the Crown Prince but doubts that Asfa Wossen is prepared to return to Ethiopia. For reasons which are still unclear, a crowd gathered before the USIS downtown center yesterday.

General Aman assured our DCM that the safety of foreigners would be protected in the coming days. He also wished to make clear that the armed forces want to maintain a strong and friendly relationship with the U.S. He commented that the Emperor is currently "in good health."

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Southeast Asia Military Situation: Communist pressure continues strong against Vietnamese government positions along Route 1 south of Hue. North Vietnamese troops pushed territorial units out of an outpost near the highway and have harassed traffic along the key roadway. Government units reportedly are moving into the area and are trying to push the communist units back into the highlands but have had little success. In the southern provinces, a government operation to retake a communist base area in Ben Cat District, Binh Duong Province, was canceled after the South Vietnamese units took heavy casualties. The government's regional commander, General Thuan, reportedly has asked Saigon for additional troops, artillery and air support.

In Cambodia, the major government operation southeast of Phnom Penh has now stalled completely in the face of rising flood waters and moderate Khmer communist resistance. Although the insurgents in this sector have been pushed out of rocket range of the capital, the operation has failed to receive the favorable publicity that government leaders had hoped would help their cause at the UN. Fighting in the countryside remains at a relatively low level except on Route 4 in the southwest where government units are pushing down the highway toward the besieged garrison at Das Kanchor. Communist gunners on the Mekong River sank three navy vessels in a convoy bound for the provincial capital of Kompong Cham on September 10.

Jewish Emigration from the USSR: Jewish emigration from the USSR to Israel during the first eight months of 1974 totaled 13,700, a drop of 32 percent from the same period in 1973, when 20,287 received permission to leave. According to the Dutch embassy, which represents Israeli interests in Moscow, the departure rate has remained at about 1,500 monthly since May of this year.

The Dutch believe that the downturn is not attributable to any increase in the rate of Soviet rejections of exit applications; as in the past, such refusals are running about ten percent of the total applications. They see the continuing decline as the cumulative effect of constraints, including the financial hardships experienced by Jews who make application to leave the USSR and the uncertainty of conditions



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in Israel.

Some 145,000 Soviet Jews reportedly have formal invitations from Israel. Rather than applying immediately for permission to leave, many of them are holding open their options, possibly in the hope that Western efforts to negotiate a reduction of the costs and risks of emigration will succeed.



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## MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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September 13, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: The Situation Room

NSA review completed

SUBJECT: Additional Information Items

Japan-South Korea: Back in the Caldron Again: President Park has rejected Prime Minister Tanaka's letter to him which was to have resolved the crisis between them. Park insists the Japanese must accept explicitly some degree of moral responsibility for the shooting incident, rather than merely expressing regret that it occurred. Secondly, Park wanted something stronger on Chosen Soren (the North Korean organization in Japan that may have been involved in the incident) than Tanaka's expressed intent to do his utmost to control "terrorist activities" in general. Seoul has indicated it will step up pressures against Tokyo; it may start with the recall of its ambassador.

Embassy Seoul believes that Park's rejection:

- Is not aimed solely or primarily at handling his present touchy domestic political situation.
  - May well involve a larger objective -- which is unclear at this point, but which would risk South Korea's almost vital economic relations with Japan.
- [redacted] Park may be trying to foreclose any major Japanese expansion of relations with North Korea. However, Foreign Minister Kimura has specifically disavowed any such intent to Ambassador Hodgson.

Embassy Seoul recommends that we apply quiet but steady pressure to Seoul in order to stiffen the spines of Park's advisors and to curb any further ROK excesses. (Froebe)

Soviet Naval Vessels/Cuba: Two Kresta II-class guided-missile light cruisers which left the Mediterranean Monday may be en route to Cuba. This would be the twelfth such Soviet naval deployment since 1969 and would be consistent with

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the recent pattern of two visits of Soviet naval units to Cuba each year. An N-class nuclear attack submarine now east of Newfoundland may possibly join the group for Caribbean operations. (Low)

Cuba Proposes Sugar Producers Group: Our embassy in Guyana reports that on a recent visit, Cuba's trade commissioner and head of Cuba's national sugar company proposed to Guyana's officials the formation of an international sugar producers group. The press reports that Trinidad is supporting the idea. Our embassy comments that this may be an attempt by Cuba to assert a leadership role in the Caribbean and that in Guyana, at least, the proposal found a receptive audience. An informal producers group including Brazil, Cuba, and Australia has been in operation for some years. (Low)

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Guatemalan Concern Over Belize: Guatemalan President Laugerud has told our ambassador he continues to be concerned that Prime Minister Price of Belize may be contemplating some early move toward independence. Guatemala maintains a claim to a large portion of Belize's territory and has declared its intention to reclaim that territory by force should Belize become independent of the UK without first reaching an understanding with Guatemala. Coming on the heels of a similar approach by the foreign minister, the President's comments carried the implication of a warning to the U.S. of possible Guatemalan action against Belize.

Prime Minister Price, on the other hand, in a national day speech Wednesday stressed Belize's desire for early independence, but his comments appeared to recognize that

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any move toward independence is not possible without a British security guarantee. The UK is unwilling to provide a guarantee, and earlier talks between the parties were unsuccessful in resolving the issue and were broken off. (Low)

Soviet Jewish Emigration Through Austria: The Austrian government has privately expressed concern that any substantial increase in the 25,000 Soviet Jews annually transiting Vienna would place undue political and administrative burdens on Austria. Responding to press reports of an imminent understanding between the U.S. and USSR on expanded Soviet emigration, the Austrian government on Tuesday approached the U.S. embassy with a request that any such agreement provide for processing additional emigrants in other Western nations. Chancellor Kreisky's emissary specifically mentioned the possibility of alternative transit sites in the Netherlands or Italy or even direct flights from Moscow to Israel. Austria is willing to protect and process the present flow of emigres, but fear of Arab pressure -- including possible repetition of terrorist action against the transit site -- has generated significant domestic opposition to Austria's conspicuous role in facilitating the emigration of Soviet Jews.

Key Members in Ethiopian Government Announced: The Ethiopian Armed Forces Coordinating Committee (AFCC) made the following appointments yesterday:

- Lieutenant General Mikael Aman will retain his post as defense minister and become chairman of the AFCC and prime minister.
- Lij Mikael Imru is appointed minister of information, vacating the post of prime minister.
- Dejazmatch Zewde Gebre-Selassie remains foreign minister, without holding the additional post of deputy prime minister.

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U.S. Soldier Held by Soviets in East Berlin: A U.S. soldier is being detained by Soviet authorities in East Berlin following his apprehension by East German border guards at Checkpoint Charlie Tuesday evening. The soldier is accused of committing "serious crimes" against East Germany; U.S. personnel at Checkpoint Charlie observed a woman being removed from the vicinity of the soldier's automobile. U.S. officials have been denied access and have lodged a protest with the Soviets over his detention and demanded his immediate release. The Soviets claim they need more time to investigate the case and that we would have to wait another day or two before hearing anything further. The Soviet embassy officials involved in the discussions added that the affair should be regarded as a local incident unrelated to overall U.S.-Soviet relations, which are on a favorable course.



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