

***** S E C R E T *****

35

DATE 08/18/79

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 00

MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS:

NO MESSAGE ANNOTATIONS

MESSAGE:

PRIORITY

DE WTE #6793 2300456

P 180651Z AUG 79

FM THE SITUATION ROOM //BITTD 002//

TO SUSAN CLOUGH FOR THE PRESIDENT

S E C R E T SENSITIVE DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS WH91041

BITTD 002

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

AUGUST 17, 1979

FROM THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: DAILY REPORT

CONSULTATIONS ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH THE UK

IN TODAY'S DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS, THEY LEANED EVEN MORE STRONGLY TOWARD THE TRIDENT 2 (C-4) AS THEIR PREFERRED MODERNIZATION OPTION. DAVID AARON EMPHASIZED THAT WE HAVE MADE NO DECISION YET ON WHETHER WE WOULD BE WILLING TO TRANSFER MIRV. THEY SAID THAT THEY WERE ATTRACTED TO A \$ 500N FORCE WHICH WOULD TRANS. LATE TO ROUGHLY 200 WARHEADS ON-STATION -- A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER THEIR CURRENT LEVEL OF 50. WE HAVE AGREED, TO MEET AGAIN BEFORE THEY PUT THE DECISION BEFORE THE CABINET, SO THAT WE CAN GET A BETTER SENSE OF WHAT THEY MIGHT WANT AND THEY CAN GET A BETTER IDEA OF WHAT WE ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE, ESPECIALLY MIRV.

PRESIDENTIAL READING ITEM

TITO LETTER. WE HAVE RESPONDED BY MESSAGE TO A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TITO EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER PRESS REPORTS ABOUT THE CREATION OF THE RAPID REACTION FORCE AND THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO ALLAY TITO'S FEARS ABOUT OUR INTENTIONS WITHOUT DISCUSSING OUR CONTINGENCY PLANS IN DETAIL. IT POINTS OUT THAT THE REAL DANGER OF INTERVENTION-ISM COMES FROM THE SOVIET-CUBAN ACTIONS AND THAT WE ARE ONLY RESPONDING TO THIS IN AN EFFORT TO REASSURE GOVERNMENTS THAT FEEL THREATENED. THE MESSAGE ALSO EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR TITO'S EFFORTS TO PRE-

***** S E C R E T *****

NSC review(s) completed.

***** E C R E T*****

DATE 08/16/79

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 00

2

MESSAGE (CONTINUED):

VENT THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS FROM CIRCUMVENTING THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT.

PSNI 011711

TORI 230/04156Z

BTGI 180551Z AUG 79

***** E C R E T*****