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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



DATE May 20, 1976

TO: Ronald Nessen

FROM: WAYNE H. VALIS *Wayne*

For your information x

Per our conversation

Other:

*Another example
of "unauthorized",
uncoordinated help
for Reagan.*

May 19, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conservative Assistance for Ronald Reagan

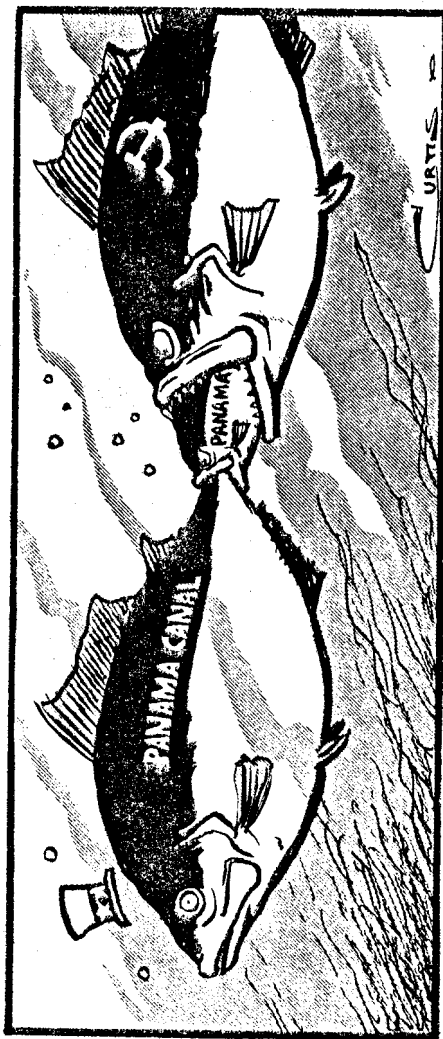
The United States Industrial Council, formerly the Southern States Industrial Council, has recently done a mailing to "inform" its members about the Panama Canal. Anthony Harrigan, a popular conservative hack writer, is the point man in this effort.

Enclosed are copies of the two articles that Harrigan and USIC sent in the mailing.



The 1903 Panama Canal treaty is as valid as the 1867 Treaty of Cession by which the U. S. acquired Alaska from Russia. No one is suggesting that the Alaska treaty is invalid simply because it was signed more than a century ago.

The U. S. public owes a debt of thanks to the senators who are sponsoring the Panama Canal resolution. These senators know that peace and good will in this hemisphere cannot be achieved by yielding a strategic national territory to the Marxist junta in power in Panama.



USIC Pamphlet

PANAMA CANAL SURRENDER

By
Anthony Harrigan



United States Industrial Council
PAUL A. BELKNAP, President
918 Stahlman Building
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Additional Copies Available
\$2.00 per 100; \$15.00 per 1000



PANAMA CANAL SURRENDER

By Anthony Harrigan

In proposing to surrender the Panama Canal to the strongman regime of Gen. Omar Torrijos, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is recommending that the United States abandon part of our country's territory. The treaty of 1903 gives the U. S. control over the Canal and Canal Zone in perpetuity.

The *Indianapolis News*, in a forthright editorial on the proposed giveaway of the Panama Canal, says: "It becomes increasingly difficult to be certain just whose side our diplomats are on." The same people who gave us the disastrous grain deal with the Soviet Union, which caused the rise in bread prices in the U. S., now favor turning over the Panama Canal to a regime that is hand-in-glove with the Libyan government that wants to punish the United States."

It is really incredible that Secretary of State Kissinger should approve a surrender of the Panama Canal. The Panamanians, once in control of the canal, undoubtedly would deny American ships access to the canal unless further political concessions were made.

The United States depends on rapid movement of ships between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. One of the first considerations for the State Dept. should be maintenance of control of the Canal Zone so as to assure secure movement between the two oceans. As Rep. Daniel J. Flood (D-Pa.) has pointed out, the Panama Canal is "the jugular vein of hemispheric defense."

John J. O'Malley, writing in *The San Diego Union*, has warned that "There is a massive campaign afoot to popularize a retreat from the Panama Canal by the United States." He pointed out that "the principal government officials in Panama are Marxists—every one—and that includes the chief of state. . . . Hatred and defamation of the United States is as much national policy as are close ties with the communist world, most particularly the Soviet Union and Cuba."

Mr. O'Malley further stated the important truth that without absolute control of the canal, the United States could not dare risk the hazard of one-ocean navy.

If the Panama Canal is not controlled by the United States, it won't provide security to the United States and friendly powers. When the Suez Canal fell under Egyptian influence, it became a political instrument for Col. Nasser of Egypt. C. L. Sulzberger of *The New York Times* has said that "what Torrijos hopes to accomplish in the Panama Canal Zone is somewhat the same as what Nasser accomplished vis-a-vis Britain in the Suez Canal Zone."

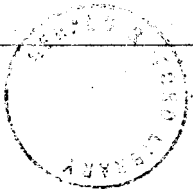
Fortunately, Sen. Strom Thurmond has introduced a resolution in the Senate upholding the sovereign rights of the United States over the Panama Canal Zone. It is an important statement of America's national authority and interest in a strategic region. Thirty six senators have joined in sponsoring this resolution, indicating the feeling in the Senate against relinquishing the Canal Zone to the revolutionary government in power in Panama.

For many months, as Sen. Thurmond has noted, U. S. diplomatic representatives have conducted negotiations with Panama "under a cloak of unwarranted secrecy." The senator rightly asserts that the "statement of principles" adopted by Secretary of State Kissinger and the Panamanian foreign minister, Feb. 7, 1974, "constitutes a clear and present danger to the hemispheric security and the successful operation of the canal by the United States."

The sponsors of the Panama Canal Resolution join in pointing out that the American interest is profound. For example, the resolution notes that "approximately 70 per cent of canal traffic either originates or terminates in United States ports, making the continued operation of the canal by the United States vital to its economy."

One of the contentions of the Panamanians is that the United States takes unfair economic advantage of the country in its operation of the canal. But Sen. Thurmond points out that the United States has made a total investment in the canal of over \$6.8 billion and that "compensation and correlated benefits have constituted a major portion of the economy of Panama, giving it the highest per capita income in all of Central America."

Time and again one hears from advocates of appeasement of Panama that Americans can't expect the Panamanians to accept U. S. control over a strip of land in their country. But the point well made by the sponsors of the Senate resolution is that the U. S. has ownership of the zone "in perpetuity" under a valid treaty.



For Release: May 6, 1976

No. 696

DESIGNS FOR DISASTER

That the defense and foreign policy strategies of the United States are being thoroughly exposed to public debate in the primary elections is a tremendously important development. Clearly, the policies in force in recent years have resulted in a serious deterioration of America's military and foreign policy position.

Since the late sixties, the United States has lost a war in Southeast Asia to a third rate military power. Strategic arms agreements negotiated at Helsinki have given the Soviet Union an opportunity to move toward military superiority. In Europe, the NATO alliance is in disarray. Most recently, the U.S. government failed to prevent a communist takeover of Angola in Africa by Cuban proxy forces of the Soviet Union.

Tragically, even more disasters lie ahead unless the American people insist on a fundamental change in foreign policy. Many of these disasters will take place on the African continent where the U.S. has a strategic stake in maintaining access to vital minerals, including Rhodesian chrome, and gold and uranium in South Africa.

The character of the disasters ahead can be discerned in the speech that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger delivered April 27 in Lusaka, in the South-Central African country of Zambia. Unfortunately, Dr. Kissinger's promises on that occasion have not been widely reported at home.

Among the most shocking of these promises was a vow to "assist Mozambique whose closing of its borders with Rhodesia to enforce sanctions has imposed upon it a great additional economic hardship." That's like saying East Germany should receive financial aid for applying economic pressure against West Berlin. In his address, Dr. Kissinger failed to note that Mozambique is the self-styled "People's Republic of Mozambique," a Maoist state that is negotiating for aid from the communist superpowers. He also promised to work closely with the Presidents of several revolutionary African states, including Tanzania, which has welcomed Chinese Communist military aid.

(MORE)



In a series of wide-ranging promises, Dr. Kissinger said the United States is ready to pour millions of dollars into programs to assist and reward those opposed to lawful authorities in Rhodesia and Southwest Africa. He also said that the Ford administration would urge Congress to repeal the Byrd Amendment, which permits the importation of strategic chrome ore into the United States.

A recent repeal attempt in the U.S. House of Representatives was a total failure. Increasing numbers of congressmen realize that Rhodesian chrome is vital to America's steel alloy industry and to American defense in general.

John Chamberlain, the syndicated columnist and economic historian, has said that chrome is "an absolute necessity for every country in the West that depends on high technology for its freedom." He added that if the Russians, with the Cubans behind them, achieve the overthrow of the existing government of Rhodesia, "we would be dependent on Moscow for every Trident submarine or B-1 bomber we intend to build."

Dr. Kissinger completely ignores this strategic reality. If his design for South-Central Africa is carried into effect, revolutionary regimes will extend their sway over the entire region. No amount of appeasement of Mozambique and Tanzania, for example, will make them any less sympathetic to communism.

Once again, therefore, the United States is being led in a foreign policy direction that can only weaken the U.S., deprive it of access to materials essential to its security and well-being, and give the Soviets an opportunity to dominate another region.

Thus Dr. Kissinger's design for South-Central Africa, revealed in his Lusaka speech, is of a piece with his arms negotiations, which have weakened America, and with his negotiations for a surrender of American sovereignty over the Panama Canal. Each of his separate diplomatic proposals results in a net loss for the United States, a diminution of American power.

It is terribly important that the details of these various proposals receive the widest publicity in the media, and that the American people understand the ways in which their country's power position is being eroded. Nineteen seventy-six is not only America's Bicentennial year but a year of fundamental decision-making for the nation. The U.S. public still has time to insist on a basic change of course: full protection of American sovereignty, diplomatic actions to ensure access to vital raw materials and energy, and a renewed drive to rebuild defense forces that make possible a peaceful and secure future for the American people.



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM:

WAYNE H. VALIS *Wayne H. Valis*

SUBJECT:

Ronald Reagan's Charges Concerning
Negotiations with the North Vietnamese

The President has been on record on the subject of our relations with Vietnam for some period. Reagan's charges that we are preparing to go hat-in-hand to the Vietnamese communists is absurd.

We have a letter the President sent to Mark Hatfield on March 12, well before Reagan began making his charges, which puts the President squarely on the record.

I would hope that this letter can be put on the public record in some form or other.

Enclosure: March 12 letter to Mark Hatfield from the President

cc: Ron Nessen ✓
Margita White
Jim Shuman
Jerry Jones
Jim Cavanaugh
Dave Gergen
Warren Hendriks
Dick Mastrangelo
Tim Austin



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 12, 1976

Dear Mark:

Thank you for your December 11 letter urging me to support legislation lifting our trade restrictions against the governments of North and South Vietnam. In the letter you stated you believed this action would assist in obtaining a full accounting for our men still missing in Southeast Asia.

I fully share your desire to end the frustration and anguish which so many American families have suffered because we have not yet been able to determine the fate of these men. The recent successes which the House Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia obtained have indeed provided some hope that we may make some progress on this problem.

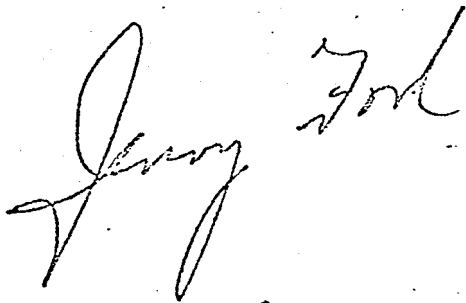
Last December, in a speech at Honolulu, I indicated that we would determine our policies toward the new regimes in Vietnam by their attitudes toward us and toward their neighbors. I further said that we are prepared to reciprocate gestures of goodwill -- particularly the return of the remains of Americans killed or missing in action. We have responded to North Vietnam's recent actions by approving the shipment, by private American organizations, of over \$2 million of humanitarian aid to Vietnam and expanding the categories of private assistance for which we will grant license.

We are of course prepared to reciprocate further Vietnamese gestures as appropriate. I do not believe, however, that North Vietnam's actions to date warrant our taking such a significant step as ending our trade embargo. I therefore do not believe that this legislation is in our best interests. Our trade controls enable us to monitor and gradually respond to evolving Vietnamese policies. To remove them now would be to take away a significant bargaining instrument prior to any really substantial move on their part to provide us with a full accounting for our missing men.



We both want to place behind us the antagonism which the Indochina conflict produced in our international relations and our domestic affairs, and we both wish to achieve a full resolution of our MIA problem. I look forward to working with you to attain these goals, as well as on the other important matters now facing the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name below.

The Honorable Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510



Reagan Criticizes U.S.-Vietnam Negotiations

While campaigning in Georgia Wednesday, Ronald Reagan criticized what he called the administration's willingness to negotiate with the North Vietnamese towards normalizing diplomatic relations.

Reagan said (on CBS/NBC film): "It was Hanoi, not the U.S. that tore up the Paris peace accords and, with the aid of the USSR, overran South Vietnam. Why should we now go hat-in-hand to give them a major political victory? If there is to be any recognition of Hanoi -- and I'm not so sure about that -- at least it should only come after they keep their pledge to give us full information about our Americans who are listed as missing in action."

"Reagan says that a report from Paris indicates that in return for a normalization of relations, the U.S. is expected to support Vietnamese membership in the UN next fall, to admit the U.S. war guilt in Vietnam, and to provide economic aid which would be labeled war reparations... There is no confirmation for the story, but it is a good story as far as Reagan is concerned, and he most likely will keep telling it," Kinley Jones (NBC) reported.

"Reagan has used the same basic speech since even before the New Hampshire primary. It's just that with the crucial Texas primary so close, his words are getting more attention now," Terry Drinkwater (CBS) reported. "Reagan is vague on specific solutions to the problems he talks about, but political challenges usually are vague." NBC, CBS -- (4/21/76)



given several times - verified w/ Kacy.

Viewpoint: An interview by Ronald Reagan
November 10, 1975
(Reprint of a Radio Program entitled "The Russian Wheat Deal")

The Russians want to buy American wheat and American farmers want to sell their wheat. Anti-Communist waterfront workers don't want to load the wheat on foreign ships to carry it to Russia.

American consumers, with the experience of the previous wheat sale and high food prices in mind, are alarmed.

Please don't think I'm leading up to a pat answer to all these questions. It just isn't that easy. If we believe in a free market, shouldn't our farmers be allowed to sell their produce anywhere in the world for the best price they can get? To not allow this is to subsidize, and make available to our own consumers, low-priced food at the expense of our own farmers.

Not inconsistent with that philosophy, however, is our own interest in the matter of national security. If we believe the Soviet Union is hostile to the free world...and we must or we wouldn't be maintaining a nuclear defense and continuing in NATO...then are we not adding to our own danger by helping the troubled Soviet economy? But, isn't there also a moral issue? Are we not helping the Godless tyranny maintain its hold on millions of helpless people? Wouldn't those helpless victims have a better chance of becoming free if their slave masters collapsed economically? One thing is certain, the threat of hunger to the Russian people is due to the Soviet obsession with military power.

Nothing proves the failure of Marxism more than the Soviet Union's inability to produce weapons for its military ambitions and at the same time provide for their people's everyday needs. It only takes about four percent of our labor force to grow food for 211 million Americans and provide 80% of all the food shipped to the world's underdeveloped nations.

Fully one-third of Russia's workers are in agriculture and still they'd starve without our wheat. And the failure is not Russian, it is Communist, for every other country that has collectivized its agriculture has gone downhill in farm production.

Can America, alone, force the change to peaceful pursuits on Russia by refusing to sell, or would we have to persuade the other free nations to do the same? Following such a course, what would we do then about our farmers and the surplus they'd have on their hands?

The wheat deal is beneficial to us economically. Right now, with economic troubles and imbalance of trade, maybe it benefits us enough to outweigh the strategic factor. In other words, it strengthens us more than we'd be benefited by weakening them. But the moral question, in the long run, won't go away. The Soviet Union is an aggressor and a threat to world peace. It can remain so only by denying its people freedom and the basic commodities that make life worth living, which we take for granted.

The Russians have told us over and over again their goal is to impose their incompetent and ridiculous system on the world. We invest in armaments to hold them off, but what do we envision as the eventual outcome? Either that they see the fallacy of their way and give up their goal, or their system will collapse or (and we don't let ourselves think of this) we'll have to use our weapons one day.

Maybe there is an answer...we simply do what's morally right. Stop doing business with them. Let their system collapse, but meantime buy our farmers' wheat ourselves and have it on hand to feed the Russian people when they finally become free.



Bob Willis
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REAGAN ON TROOPS TO RHODESIA

Remarks made at speech to Sacramento Press Club

June 2, 1976

Reagan said if he is elected President he might send American troops to Rhodesia "in the interest of peace and avoiding bloodshed" if the Rhodesian government asked for help.

He said he does not believe an actual commitment of American troops would be necessary to preserve the peace during a transition of power to the black majority in the white-ruled African nation.

He said a treaty or promise of U.S. help might be enough to restore peace in the African nation:

"Whether it would be enough to have simply a show of strength or whether you have to go in with occupation forces or not, I don't know."

But he said he would be willing to send American troops

"if the government there said that a token show is necessary."

Asked if he would go beyond sending a token force to Rhodesia, Reagan replied:

"I don't think you'd have to." But he added, "If we had made such an arrangement, such a pledge, I certainly would."

NOTE: Another account of the above quote is:

"Well, if we made such an arrangement that made such a pledge, I assume we would."

Reagan also said:

"I do not believe this would be out of line with the policy we followed in several other areas, and the policy that we followed in the Middle East. And certainly it never involved us in war in the Middle East, nor do I believe it would involve us in war there (Rhodesia)."

In speech in Visalia - June 2 :

He believes Americans should "offer our services to mediate and help arrive at a settlement...and see there's no bloodshed and violence



while the transition is made" to majority rule in Rhodesia.

Jim Lake (Reagan's Press Secretary) said the Visalia remarks referred only to diplomatic moves, not troops.

The Today Show this morning reported:

"Ronald Reagan said the statement he made yesterday should not be interpreted as meaning that he would go to war over Rhodesia. The original statement was that if he is elected President he might send troops to Rhodesia if the Rhodesians requested them to keep the peace.

An aide said Reagan feels it would be better to send a UN force instead of Americans."



R A

PM-POLITICS SKED 6-3

PICTURE

BY LEWIS LORD

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

JIMMY CARTER, WHO HAS PREDICTED A FIRST BALLOT VICTORY AT THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION, NOW SAYS A SECOND BALLOT WIN IS MORE PROBABLE.

"I FEEL MORE CONFIDENT OF A SECOND BALLOT VICTORY," THE DEMOCRATIC FRONTRUNNER SAID WEDNESDAY AS HE WRAPPED UP HIS CAMPAIGN FOR THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARY IN NEXT WEEK'S "SUPER TUESDAY."

CARTER SAID DELEGATES PLEDGED TO ALABAMA GOV. GEORGE WALLACE WILL SHIFT TO HIS COLUMN IF THERE IS A SECOND BALLOT, GIVING HIM THE NOMINATION.

TUESDAY'S FINAL THREE PRIMARIES OF THE YEAR -- IN CALIFORNIA, OHIO AND NEW JERSEY -- WILL BE CRUCIAL AND COULD DECIDE BOTH THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

FRANK CHURCH SUGGESTED MORRIS UDALL, WHO HAS PLACED SECOND IN EIGHT PRIMARIES BUT NEVER FIRST, DROP OUT OF THE OHIO RACE TO GIVE HIM A CLEAR SHOT AT CARTER.

"IF I COULDN'T WIN, I WOULD STOP RUNNING," SAID CHURCH, WHOSE VICTORY IN MONTANA THIS WEEK WAS HIS FOURTH IN FIVE PRIMARIES.

UDALL, WHO LAST WEEK URGED CHURCH TO STAY OUT OF OHIO, SAID HE HAS MORE DELEGATES THAN ANYONE BUT CARTER AND WON'T QUIT.

"I THINK THE RACE IN OHIO IS BETWEEN ME AND CARTER," UDALL SAID. "I'M IN IT ALL THE WAY."

CALIFORNIA GOV. EDMUND BROWN JR. CLAIMED HE FINISHED FIRST IN THIS WEEK'S RHODE ISLAND PRIMARY AS A RESULT OF AN UNCOMMITTED SLATE EMERGING ONE PERCENTAGE POINT AHEAD OF CARTER.

THE SEVEN UNCOMMITTED RHODE ISLAND DELEGATES ALL HAD EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR BROWN AND STATE DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN CHARLES REILLY SAID THEY ARE "MORALLY OBLIGATED" TO BACK THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR.

BROWN SAID THE RHODE ISLAND RESULTS DEMONSTRATED THAT "JIMMY CARTER HAS YET TO PROVE HIMSELF THE FRONTRUNNER."

CARTER, WHO WON THIS WEEK'S SOUTH DAKOTA PRIMARY AND FINISHED SECOND IN RHODE ISLAND AND MONTANA, DESCRIBED BROWN'S COMMENT AS "A LITTLE BIT ILLOGICAL."

"I'D SAY SOMEONE WHO HAS MORE THAN A THOUSAND DELEGATES IS AHEAD OF SOMEONE WHO HAS 25," CARTER SAID IN SAN FRANCISCO. "BUT THAT'S JUST MY TWISTED LOGIC. MAYBE THAT WOULDN'T STAND UP UNDER THE ZEN BUDDHIST ANALYSIS."

RONALD REAGAN, CONCENTRATING HIS EFFORTS ON CALIFORNIA'S WINNER-TAKE-ALL REPUBLICAN PRIMARY, SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND AMERICAN FORCES TO RHODESIA "IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND AVOIDING BLOODSHED."

REAGAN TOLD THE SACRAMENTO PRESS CLUB A TREATY OR PROMISE OF U.S. HELP MIGHT BE ENOUGH TO RESTORE PEACE IN THE AFRICAN NATION. ASKED IF MORE U.S. FORCES WOULD BE SENT IF A TOKEN FORCE WERE INADEQUATE, REAGAN SAID: "WELL, IF WE MADE SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT THAT MADE SUCH A PLEDGE, I ASSUME WE WOULD."

PRESIDENT FORD ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR HIS FINAL PRIMARY CAMPAIGN TRIP. HE WILL CAMPAIGN SUNDAY IN NEW JERSEY AND OHIO, THEN MAKE AN EIGHT-CITY OHIO MOTORCADE MONDAY.

UPI 06-03 03:11 AED



UP-017

(POLITICS)

(BY LEWIS LORD)

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IN THE RACE FOR THE GOP PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, RONALD REAGAN, ALSO CONCENTRATING HIS EFFORTS IN CALIFORNIA, SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND AMERICAN FORCES TO RHODESIA "IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND AVOIDING BLOODSHED."

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UPI 06-03 09:42 AED



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Remarks made at speech to Sacramento Press Club

June 2, 1976

Reagan said if he is elected President he might send American troops to Rhodesia "in the interest of peace and avoiding bloodshed" if the Rhodesian government asked for help.

He said he does not believe an actual commitment of American troops would be necessary to preserve the peace during a transition of power to the black majority in the white-ruled African nation.

He said a treaty or promise of U.S. help might be enough to restore peace in the African nation:

"Whether it would be enough to have simply a show of strength or whether you have to go in with occupation forces or not, I don't know."

But he said he would be willing to send American troops

"if the government there said that a token show is necessary."

Asked if he would go beyond sending a token force to Rhodesia, Reagan replied:

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while the transition is made" to majority rule in Rhodesia.

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An aide said Reagan feels it would be better to send a UN force instead of Americans."



R R

PM-REAGAN 6-3

BY ROBERT B. GUNNISON

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) -- RONALD REAGAN SAYS HE WANTS TO DISPEL ANY NOTION THAT HE WOULD GO TO WAR OVER RHODESIA.

CAMPAIGNING FOR THE JUNE 8 CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY, REAGAN WEDNESDAY TOLD A SACRAMENTO AUDIENCE HE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND U.S. TROOPS TO THE TROUBLED AFRICAN NATION "IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND AVOIDING BLOODSHED."

THE FORMER GOVERNOR SAID A TREATY, OR "THE PROMISE" OF AMERICAN HELP, MIGHT BE ENOUGH TO TRIGGER FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT COMPRISING BLACK NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS AND THE WHITE MINORITY.

REAGAN SAID, HOWEVER, HE MIGHT DISPATCH SOMETHING BEYOND A "TOKEN FORCE" IF NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN PEACE. HE COMPARED THE SITUATION TO THE PEACE-KEEPING FORCES SENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

MINUTES AFTER HE MADE THE REMARK, HE TOLD A STATE SENATOR THAT REPORTERS WOULD INTERPRET THE STATEMENT TO MEAN HE "HAD DECLARED WAR ON RHODESIA."

LATER, AT A FUND RAISING SUPPER IN CUPERTINO, REAGAN STARTED HIS BRIEF REMARKS TO ABOUT 200 PERSONS BY SAYING: "IT ISN'T TRUE. I'M NOT GOING TO DECLARE WAR ON RHODESIA.

"I MADE THE MISTAKE OF SPEAKING TO THE PRESS CLUB OVER IN SACRAMENTO. YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT YOU SAY."

DECLARING HE FAVORED DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, REAGAN TOLD THE PRESS CLUB THE CURRENT STRIFE WAS "NOT A RACIAL PROBLEM." HE SAID THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN TOGETHER SHOULD GUARANTEE PEACE DURING NEGOTIATIONS.

HE WAS ASKED HOW HE WOULD SUPPORT THE GUARANTEES -- WITH AN OCCUPATION FORCE, TROOPS OR OBSERVERS.

"YOU WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETELY INVOLVED WITH THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT AND FIND OUT WHETHER THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY," HE REPLIED. "IT MIGHT SIMPLY BE THAT THE PROMISE, THE TREATY OR AGREEMENT, WOULD PREVENT THE OTHER FROM HAPPENING ...

"BUT WHETHER IT WOULD BE ENOUGH TO HAVE SIMPLY THE SHOW OF STRENGTH -- THE PROMISE THAT WE WOULD -- OR WHETHER YOU'D HAVE TO GO IN WITH OCCUPATION FORCES, I DON'T KNOW."

ASKED IF HE MEANT HE WOULD CONSIDER DISPATCHING TROOPS TO AFRICA, REAGAN INDICATED HE WOULD, PROVIDED THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT BELIEVED A "TOKEN SHOW" WOULD HELP.

WOULD HE GO BEYOND A TOKEN SHOW?

"I DON'T THINK YOU'D HAVE TO."

BUT WHAT IF YOU HAD TO?

"WELL, IF WE MADE SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT THAT MADE SUCH A PLEDGE, I ASSUME WE WOULD."

UPI 06-03 10:18 RED



Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

Washington Star
June 3

Reagan Willing To Send Troops To Rhodesia

REAGAN

Continued From A-1

"Whether it would be enough to have simply a show of strength

made" to majority rule in Rhodesia.

But Reagan's press secretary, Jim Lake, said Reagan's Visalia remarks referred only to diplomatic moves.

Salerno
June 3, 1971

Reagan bares plan against busing

By BRUCE WINTERS
Sun Staff Correspondent

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UP-217

(POLITICS)

(BY LEWIS LORD)

WASHINGTON (UPI)--JIMMY CARTER, WHO HAS PREDICTED A FIRST BALLOT VICTORY AT THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION, NOW SAYS A SECOND BALLOT WIN IS MORE PROBABLE.

"I FEEL MORE CONFIDENT OF A SECOND BALLOT VICTORY," THE DEMOCRATIC FRONT-RUNNER SAID WEDNESDAY AS HE WRAPPED UP HIS CAMPAIGN FOR NEXT TUESDAY'S CALIFORNIA PRIMARY.

CARTER SAID DELEGATES PLEDGED TO GEORGE WALLACE WILL SHIFT TO HIS COLUMN IF THERE IS A SECOND BALLOT, GIVING HIM THE NOMINATION.

IN THE RACE FOR THE GOP PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, RONALD REAGAN, ALSO CONCENTRATING HIS EFFORTS IN CALIFORNIA, SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND AMERICAN FORCES TO RHODESIA "IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND AVOIDING BLOODSHED."

REAGAN TOLD THE SACRAMENTO PRESS CLUB A TREATY OR PROMISE OF U.S. HELP MIGHT BE ENOUGH TO RESTORE PEACE IN THE AFRICAN NATION. ASKED IF MORE U.S. FORCES WOULD BE SENT IF A TOKEN FORCE WERE INADEQUATE, REAGAN SAID: "WELL, IF WE MADE SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT THAT MADE SUCH A PLEDGE, I ASSUME WE WOULD."

PRESIDENT FORD ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR HIS FINAL PRIMARY CAMPAIGN TRIP. HE WILL CAMPAIGN SUNDAY IN NEW JERSEY AND OHIO, THEN MAKE AN EIGHT-CITY OHIO MOTORCADE MONDAY.

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PICTURE

BY LEWIS LORD

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

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"I FEEL MORE CONFIDENT OF A SECOND BALLOT VICTORY," THE DEMOCRATIC FRONTRUNNER SAID WEDNESDAY AS HE WRAPPED UP HIS CAMPAIGN FOR THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARY IN NEXT WEEK'S "SUPER TUESDAY."

CARTER SAID DELEGATES PLEDGED TO ALABAMA GOV. GEORGE WALLACE WILL SHIFT TO HIS COLUMN IF THERE IS A SECOND BALLOT, GIVING HIM THE NOMINATION.

TUESDAY'S FINAL THREE PRIMARIES OF THE YEAR -- IN CALIFORNIA, OHIO AND NEW JERSEY -- WILL BE CRUCIAL AND COULD DECIDE BOTH THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

FRANK CHURCH SUGGESTED MORRIS UDALL, WHO HAS PLACED SECOND IN EIGHT PRIMARIES BUT NEVER FIRST, DROP OUT OF THE OHIO RACE TO GIVE HIM A CLEAR SHOT AT CARTER.

"IF I COULDN'T WIN, I WOULD STOP RUNNING," SAID CHURCH, WHOSE VICTORY IN MONTANA THIS WEEK WAS HIS FOURTH IN FIVE PRIMARIES.

UDALL, WHO LAST WEEK URGED CHURCH TO STAY OUT OF OHIO, SAID HE HAS MORE DELEGATES THAN ANYONE BUT CARTER AND WON'T QUIT.

"I THINK THE RACE IN OHIO IS BETWEEN ME AND CARTER," UDALL SAID. "I'M IN IT ALL THE WAY."

CALIFORNIA GOV. EDMUND BROWN JR. CLAIMED HE FINISHED FIRST IN THIS WEEK'S RHODE ISLAND PRIMARY AS A RESULT OF AN UNCOMMITTED SLATE EMERGING ONE PERCENTAGE POINT AHEAD OF CARTER.

THE SEVEN UNCOMMITTED RHODE ISLAND DELEGATES ALL HAD EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR BROWN AND STATE DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN CHARLES REILLY SAID THEY ARE "MORALLY OBLIGATED" TO BACK THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR.

BROWN SAID THE RHODE ISLAND RESULTS DEMONSTRATED THAT "JIMMY CARTER HAS YET TO PROVE HIMSELF THE FRONTRUNNER."

CARTER, WHO WON THIS WEEK'S SOUTH DAKOTA PRIMARY AND FINISHED SECOND IN RHODE ISLAND AND MONTANA, DESCRIBED BROWN'S COMMENT AS "A LITTLE BIT ILLOGICAL."

"I'D SAY SOMEONE WHO HAS MORE THAN A THOUSAND DELEGATES IS AHEAD OF SOMEONE WHO HAS 25," CARTER SAID IN SAN FRANCISCO. "BUT THAT'S JUST MY TWISTED LOGIC. MAYBE THAT WOULDN'T STAND UP UNDER THE ZEN BUDDHIST ANALYSIS."

RONALD REAGAN, CONCENTRATING HIS EFFORTS ON CALIFORNIA'S WINNER-TAKE-ALL REPUBLICAN PRIMARY, SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND AMERICAN FORCES TO RHODESIA "IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND AVOIDING BLOODSHED."

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REBUTTAL TO REAGAN: ANGOLA

Statement:

We gave just enough support to one side in Angola to encourage it to fight and die but too little to give it a chance of winning.

The Facts

The U.S. objective in supporting the FNLA/UNITA forces in Angola was to assist them, and through them all of black Africa, to defend against a minority group armed by the Soviet Union, and Cuban intervention. Despite massive Soviet aid and the presence of Cuban troops, there was every possibility of an acceptable outcome until December 19 when Congress adopted the Tunney Amendment cutting off further U.S. aid to the FNLA and UNITA.



Q: Why is the presence of 12,000 Cuban troops in Angola any different from the presence of US troops in Vietnam?

A: Let us not confuse two very different things. In Vietnam a legally constituted government recognized by the majority of the nations of the world asked our help when it was attacked. In Angola, Cuban troops, with Soviet arms, imposed rule by one of three warring factions over the other two.

Q: What about Rhodesia where Cubans confront a white Rhodesian minority?

A: We have no confirmation of reports of Cuban troops in Rhodesia. Such an eventuality would be grave indeed, and we are encouraged by signs we see that others would share our concern should the Cubans meddle in the Rhodesian situation. We definitely support majority rule in Rhodesia and hope that a peaceful solution will be pursued quickly by both sides.



REAGAN REMARKS ON FOREIGN POLICY

Q: What is your reaction to Mr. Reagan's attacks on your foreign policy?

A: Mr. Reagan's remarks on foreign policy reveal an extraordinary ignorance of what this country has been saying and doing over the last few years, perhaps because he has been so far removed from the main stream of America and the public debate on these issues.

Our nation is not "in danger," but it is damaging to the interests of this country when a politician declares to our adversaries and our friends abroad -- completely falsely and ignoring public statements by the President -- that we are in second place. Such statements are both irresponsible and dangerous. They alarm our people and confuse our allies.

-- It is meaningless to say the Soviet Army may now be twice the size of the US Army! Considering that the Soviets have been compelled to deploy close to half of that Army on the Chinese border, that isn't all that surprising. I suppose that if we had to defend our borders and thus had to double our forces, Mr. Reagan would be happier. Simplistic rhetoric such as this reflects a disturbingly shallow grasp of what military balance is all about.



-- For example, Mr. Reagan conveniently neglects to point out that our strategic forces are superior to Soviet forces. Our missiles are far more accurate and survivable. We have over twice as many missile warheads and, after all, it is the warheads which actually reach the target. Our lead in this area has been increasing over the past several years. Mr. Reagan likewise ignores our vast superiority in strategic bombers.

In short, if Mr. Reagan wants to alarm with use of numbers he can; but it only portrays his superficial understanding of these matters and by inflaming opinion -- at home and abroad -- falsely, does not serve the public interest.

-- Let's look at actions as opposed to words. I am the one who reversed the trend of shrinking defense budgets. My last two defense budgets are the highest peacetime budgets in the nation's history. Mr. Reagan should speak to the Democratic Congress about its \$32 billion cuts in defense over the past six years.

Mr. Reagan's misstatements and misjudgments of our foreign policy show equal distortion or ignorance of the facts:

-- He has the facts completely reversed when he claims that Angola was not allowed to interfere with detente. We said and demonstrated exactly the opposite.



It was the Congress, not the Administration, that failed to provide enough support to the Angolan majority in its struggle against Cuban troops and Soviet arms.

-- The Helsinki Conference is clearly recognized as the biggest propaganda setback for the Kremlin in a decade. It is absurd to believe that after two years of hard bargaining, all the leaders of NATO and a representative of His Holiness the Pope went to Helsinki to be tricked into a sell-out of Eastern Europe. My statement in Helsinki, and my visits to Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia on the same trip, demonstrated that I was there to declare what we believed to be the standards of human rights and non-intervention that should govern East-West relations in Europe: Our policy in no sense accepts a Soviet "dominion" over Eastern Europe and I have said this repeatedly.



-- Mr. Reagan attacks our policy toward the Soviet Union and China. Is he opposed to efforts to resist firmly Soviet adventurism, to negotiate an end to the nuclear arms race, and to attempt to relax tensions and build a more constructive relationship? Does he think the American people want a return to the era of cold war confrontation?

-- He would handle the new Panama Canal Treaty by refusing to talk and simply dictating to the Panamanian Government. That is an especially good way to enhance our relations with all our Latin American neighbors who, without exception, support Panamanian aspirations with respect to the Canal. We want a satisfactory agreement that permits the Canal to operate efficiently and protects our national security interests, not a guerrilla war over what would be portrayed as US colonialism.

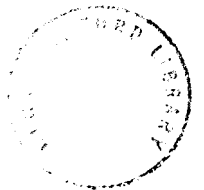
-- Mr. Reagan deliberately repeats totally false so-called quotes by Secretary Kissinger and ignores the Secretary's explicit denials that such statements were ever made.

-- Mr. Reagan apparently hopes to turn the clock back to 1918, to his childhood, to an era of greater freedom. But what he is actually proposing is a return to the Cold War, to saber rattling and cries of alarm. I regret that kind of defeatism. I say Americans do not want a jingoistic policy of rejection of our international obligations, international economic instability and a world, deprived of responsible



American leadership, that contains the seeds of nuclear conflict.

Instead, Americans want calm, firm thoughtful leadership which deals with international problems as they are; keeping America strong, and steering the steady, deliberate course the world expects of us.



HELSINKI

Statement:

Why did the President travel halfway 'round the world to sign the Helsinki Pact, putting our stamp of approval on Russia's enslavement of the captive nations?

We gave away the freedom of millions of people -- freedom that was not ours to give.

The Facts:

The President went to Helsinki along with the Chiefs of State or heads of government of all our Western allies, and, among others, a Papal Representative, to sign a document which contains Soviet commitments to greater respect for human rights, self determination of peoples, and expanded exchanges and communication throughout Europe. Basket three of the Act calls for a freer flow of people and ideas among all the European nations.

The Helsinki Act, for the first time, specifically provides for the possibility of peaceful change of borders. With regard to the particular case of the Baltic States, President Ford stated clearly on July 25 that "the United States has never recognized that Soviet incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and is not doing so now. Our official policy of non-recognition is not affected by the results of the European Security Conference." In fact, the Helsinki document itself states that no occupation or acquisition of territory by force will be recognized as legal.



SOVIET UNION

§ Statement:

Now we must ask if someone is giving away our own freedom. Dr. Kissinger is quoted as saying that he thinks of the U. S. as Athens and the Soviet Union as Sparta. "The day of the U.S. is past and today is the day of the Soviet Union." And he added, "...My job as Secretary of State is to negotiate the most acceptable second-best position available."



SOVIET UNION (Continued)

The Facts:

Governor Reagan's so-called quotes from Secretary Kissinger are a total and irresponsible fabrication. The Secretary has never said what the Governor attributes to him, or anything like it. In fact, at a March 23, 1976 press conference in Dallas Secretary Kissinger said: "I do not believe that the United States will be defeated. I do not believe that the United States is on the decline. I do not believe that the United States must get the best deal it can.

I believe that the United States is essential to preserve the security of the free world and for any progress in the world that exists.

In a period of great national difficulty, of the Viet-Nam war, of Watergate, of endless investigations, we have tried to preserve the role of the United States as that major factor. And I believe that to explain to the American people that the policy is complex, that our involvement is permanent, and that our problems are nevertheless soluble, is a sign of optimism and of confidence in the American people, rather than the opposite."



SONNENFELDT DOCTRINE

Statement:

Now we learn that another high official of the State Department, Helmut Sonnenfeldt, whom Dr. Kissinger refers to as his "Kissinger", has expressed the belief that, in effect, the captive nations should give up any claim of national sovereignty and simply become a part of the Soviet Union. He says, 'Their desire to break out of the Soviet straightjacket' threatens us with World War III. In other words, slaves should accept their fate."

The Facts:

It is wholly inaccurate, and a gross distortion of fact, to ascribe such views to Mr. Sonnenfeldt or to this Administration. Neither he nor anyone else in the Administration has ever expressed any such belief. The Administration view on this issue was expressed by Secretary Kissinger before the House International Relations Committee on March 29 as follows:

"As far as the U.S. is concerned, we do not accept a sphere of influence of any country, anywhere, and emphatically we reject a Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe.

"Two Presidents have visited in Eastern Europe; there have been two visits to Poland and Rumania and Yugoslavia, by Presidents. I have made



SONNENFELDT DOCTRINE (Continued)

repeated visits to Eastern Europe, on every trip to symbolize and to make clear to these countries that we are interested in working with them and that we do not accept or act upon the exclusive dominance of any one country in that area.

"At the same time, we do not want to give encouragement to an uprising that might lead to enormous suffering. But in terms of the basic position of the United States, we do not accept the dominance of any one country anywhere.

"Yugoslavia was mentioned, for example. We would emphatically consider it a very grave matter if outside forces were to attempt to intervene in the domestic affairs of Yugoslavia. We welcome Eastern European countries developing more in accordance with their national traditions, and we will cooperate with them. This is the policy of the United States, and there is no Sonnenfeldt doctrine."



SALT

Q: We understand that the Soviets have recently replied to a new US SALT proposal. On the basis of that reply, how do you see the prospects for a new SALT agreement this year?

A: We are continuing to work toward conclusion of a new SALT agreement. The recent exchange of views to which you referred provided further insight into the positions of both sides on the unresolved issues. I would prefer not to speculate on when the remaining issues will be resolved. I can assure you that we shall continue our efforts for a satisfactory agreement but we are not rushing to meet any deadline on a matter which is so important to our national security interests.



PANAMA CANAL

Statement:

The Canal Zone is not a colonial possession. It is not a long-term lease. It is sovereign U. S. territory every bit the same as Alaska and all the states that were carved from the Louisiana Purchase. We should end those negotiations (on the Panama Canal) and tell the General: We bought it, we paid for it, we built it and we intend to keep it.

The Facts:

Negotiations between the United States and Panama on the Canal have been pursued by three successive American Presidents. The purpose of these negotiations is to protect our national security, not diminish it. The issue is not between us and Torrijos. It is between us and all other Western Hemisphere nations -- without exception. No responsible American can ignore the voices of the Latin American states.

Governor Reagan's view that the Canal Zone is "sovereign U. S. territory every bit the same as Alaska and all the states that were carved from the Louisiana Purchase is totally wrong. The Canal Zone is not and never has been "sovereign U. S. territory." Legal scholars have been clear on this for three-quarters of a century. Unlike children born in the United States, for example, children born in the Canal Zone are not automatically citizens of the United States.



Montgomery Committee Activities

Q: Are you willing to hold talks with North Vietnam because of pressure the House Select MIA Committee has put on you to make gestures in response to Vietnam's release of American POW's and the remains of five military personnel?

A: We have consistently said our policy toward North Vietnam is a flexible one and that we would respond to concrete indications of a desire for better relations. My willingness to hold talks is a manifestation of that policy, not the result of any pressure brought upon me.

I have met with members of the Montgomery Committee to discuss possible approaches to the tragic problem of the Missing in Action. I commend that Committee for the vigorous efforts it has made on behalf of the MIA's during its brief existence. We both agree that it would be appropriate at this point to be prepared to have discussions with Vietnam.



CHINA

Statement:

In Asia our new relationship with mainland China can have practical benefits with both sides. But that doesn't mean it should include yielding to demands by them as the Administration has, to reduce our military presence on Taiwan where we have a long-time friend and ally, the Republic of China.

The Facts:

We have not in any way reduced our forces on Taiwan as a result of Peking's demands. Our reductions stem from our own assessment of U.S. political and security interests. We have drawn our forces down because the Vietnam conflict has ended and because the lessening of tension in the area brought about by our new relationship with the People's Republic of China has made it possible.



INDOCHINA

Statement:

And, it is also revealed now that we seek to establish friendly relations with Hanoi. To make it more palatable, we are told this might help us learn the fate of the men still listed as Missing in Action.

The Facts:

The Congress has urged the Administration to make a positive gesture toward Hanoi in an effort to obtain further information relating to our Missing in Action, and the return of the bodies of dead servicemen still held by Hanoi. The Administration, in response, has offered to discuss with Hanoi the significant outstanding issues between us. Our policy toward Hanoi was clearly set forth by the President last December in Hawaii and does not include to "seek to establish friendly relations with Hanoi." Such an assertion is totally false.



Taiwan

Q: Will the United States abrogate its Mutual Security Treaty with Taiwan when it normalizes relations with Peking?

A: We are committed to the goal of normalization of relations with the Peoples Republic of China, a nation of 800 million people. This process, I believe, is essential to peace and stability in the world. There has been no agreement, however, as to the timing and modalities. As we advance our relations with Peking, we will act with prudent regard for the interests of our allies, including the Republic of China on Taiwan.



CUBA

Statement:

In the last few days, Mr. Ford and Dr. Kissinger have taken us from hinting at invasion of Cuba to laughing it off a ridiculous idea. Except, that it was their ridiculous idea. No one else suggested it. Once again -- what is their policy? During this last year, they carried on a campaign to befriend Castro. They persuaded the Organization of American States to lift its trade embargo, lifted some U.S. trade restrictions, they engaged in cultural exchanges. And then on the eve of the Florida primary election, Mr. Ford went to Florida, called Castro an outlaw and said he'd never recognize him. But he hasn't asked our Latin American neighbors to reimpose a single sanction, nor has he taken any action himself. Meanwhile, Castro continues to export revolution to Puerto Rico, to Angola, and who knows where else?



CUBA (Continued)

The Facts:

We did not persuade the OAS to lift the sanctions against Cuba. At Quito in the fall of 1974 we did not support a motion in the OAS to do so. At San Jose last summer the U.S. voted in favor of an OAS resolution which left to each country freedom of action with regard to the sanctions. We did so because many of the OAS members had already unilaterally lifted their sanctions against Cuba, and because the resolution was supported by ^{2/3} a majority of the organization members. Since that resolution passed, no additional Latin American country has established relations with Cuba or lifted sanctions.

The U.S. has not lifted its own sanctions against Cuba, has not entered into any agreements with Cuba, and has not traded with Cuba. We have not engaged in cultural exchanges. We validated some passports for U.S. Congressmen and their staffs, for some scholars and for some religious leaders to visit Cuba. We issued a few select visas to Cubans to visit the United States. These minimal steps were taken to test whether there was a mutual interest in ending the hostile nature of our relations. This policy was consistent with the traditional American interest in supporting the free flow of ideas



CUBA (Continued)

and people. We have, since the Cuban adventure in Angola, concluded that the Cubans are not interested in changing their ways. We have resumed our highly restrictive policies toward Cuban travel. With regard to Cuban efforts to interfere in Puerto Rican affairs, we have made it emphatically clear in the UN and bilaterally to the Cubans and other nations that the United States will not tolerate any interference in its internal affairs.

We have not hinted at invasion of Cuba. What we have done is to warn Cuba that we would not tolerate further military adventures. We mean it.



CUBAN INTERVENTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Q: You and Secretary Kissinger have both said that we will not permit further Cuban intervention in situations such as Angola and that possible US actions are under consideration. What measures are you prepared to take to prevent such interventions from occurring and what would you do if there should be further interventions?

A: As I have said before, Cuban intervention in the internal affairs of other countries is simply unacceptable. Our response to any such situations would be tailored to the specific circumstances. I do not believe it would be wise to speculate on the specific character our actions might take other than to reiterate that we would respond firmly and promptly.

Q: Are you considering a military response?

A: I do not intend to speculate on the specific character of what actions we might take in hypothetical situations.

Q: Is the US considering going to the Organization of American States to request reimposition of multilateral economic and political sanctions against Cuba in light of Cuban involvement in Angola?

A: I have already said that it simply is not useful to speculate on hypothetical situations.



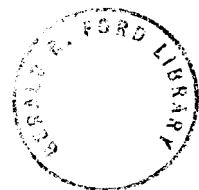
CYPRUS

Q: Mr. President, have you seen any movement toward a Cyprus settlement in recent months?

A: In my second report to the Congress on February 5 on Cyprus, I reviewed the most recent developments in the efforts by Greece, Turkey and the two Cypriot communities to work toward a Cyprus settlement.

In the talks on Cyprus, the gap between the parties' positions has narrowed in recent months. Central issues are now being discussed in a single framework. The mid-February talks between the representatives of the two Cypriot communities have been constructive and have resulted in procedural understandings which should permit a continuing dialogue and further work toward an agreement in principle. I can assure you the United States will continue to assist the parties involved -- Cyprus, Greece and Turkey -- to reach a just and long-term settlement of this tragic problem.

I will be forwarding a third report to the Congress on Cyprus on April 5.



March 31, 1976

US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Q: Mr. President, the new US-Turkish bilateral Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA) -- signed by Secretary of State Kissinger and Turkish Foreign Minister Caglayangil in Washington on March 26 -- must have Congressional approval before going into effect. The Turkish Foreign Minister reportedly has said that any amendment to the DCA by the Congress would amount to rejection of the accord and that US operations at the joint defense bases in Turkey would not be resumed. How do you view the prospects for favorable Congressional action on the agreement?

A: First, let me say it is a source of great satisfaction that the United States and Turkey have successfully concluded the negotiation of a new Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA). The new agreement reflects the very important defense interests we share with the Government of Turkey as NATO allies -- I reviewed these issues personally with the Turkish Foreign Minister in our meeting in Washington on March 24. The new agreement makes an important contribution to the national security interests of the United States and for this reason it is very welcome.

We will in the near future be sending the new US-Turkish defense accord to the Hill and look for early and favorable consideration by both Houses of the Congress. I believe that vital US and NATO security interests in the Eastern Mediterranean are at stake and that early acceptance of the agreement by the Congress will preserve and safeguard these interests.



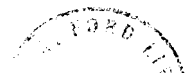
Q: Why does the United States undertake in the new DCA to provide considerable security assistance to Turkey, the nation which used US-supplied equipment in invading Cyprus in July 1974? Why doesn't the new US-Turkish agreement link progress on a Cyprus settlement with full resumption of military assistance to Turkey?

A: I believe we should be looking to the future and to the interests of the United States rather than debating events of 1974 -- events which are subject to different interpretation by each of the interested parties.

We cooperate with Turkey -- in terms of military assistance -- not as a favor but as a contribution to our common security. Events of the past year have shown that restrictions on military assistance to Turkey -- a NATO ally -- are counterproductive, impeding rather than facilitating progress on Cyprus and otherwise damaging our overall interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. . We want to be as even-handed as possible toward all the parties in the Greek-Turkish dispute over Cyprus. At a time when the United States is taking steps on a number of fronts to improve and strengthen relations with Greece, we should not be considering punitive legislation which would reimpose restrictions on aid to Turkey. This course would damage U.S. interests and offer the prospect of stalemate or worse on issues of importance to us in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The Administration is consulting with the Congress on security assistance legislation for countries in the Eastern Mediterranean, including Greece and Turkey.

In my meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Caglayanil on March 24, I firmly reiterated the importance my Administration attaches to Turkey's contributions to the NATO Alliance.



SUSPENSION OF US-GREEK BASES NEGOTIATIONS

Q: Mr. President, in apparent reaction to the conclusion of the new US-Turkish defense agreement last week, the Greek Government recently suspended the ongoing US-Greek bases negotiations by recalling the chief Greek negotiator from consultations in Washington. In view of this situation, do you believe that the defense agreement with Turkey favors that country over Greece?

A: Not at all. Greece and Turkey are valued friends and allies of the United States of longstanding. We share important security interests with each country, both bilaterally and in NATO. In our base negotiations with both Greece and Turkey, we have been and will continue to be as even-handed as possible. I hope that the US-Greek bases negotiations can resume in the near future. This would be in the best interests of both Greece and the United States, underscoring the mutual security interests we share in the defense of NATO's strategic southern flank.



BELGIAN MACHINE GUN

Q: Mr. President, the Army recently announced the decision to purchase Belgian machine guns to replace the present machine gun in U.S. tanks. Won't this decision result in a loss of U.S. jobs?

A: Our interest in purchasing the Belgian machine gun was to provide the best weapon possible for our tanks. I understand that the Defense Department made its decision only after thorough and careful analysis and competition between the Belgian weapon and the U.S. candidate. On difficult issues such as this, it is important that our decisions and those of our NATO allies be guided by our mutual interest in maintaining the most efficient, reliable and effective defense forces possible. I have made this point in my meetings with NATO leaders last May and in my many other consultations with leaders of the Alliance since then.



200-MILE FISHERIES LEGISLATION

Q: Mr. President, on March 30, the Congress sent you legislation which would unilaterally extend U.S. fisheries jurisdiction from the present 12 to 200 miles off our coasts. Would you comment on this legislation?

A: I will be giving this legislation careful attention in the next few days. My interest is to protect vital U.S. fisheries while at the same time seeking to safeguard, through the Law of the Sea negotiations, all the many interests the United States has in the oceans, including fishing rights. I continue to believe that overall United States interests in this vital area can best be preserved through the successful completion of an international convention on Law of the Sea and it is toward that goal that the U.S. delegation will be negotiating in the current session of the international Law of the Sea Conference.



C-130s FOR EGYPT

Q: Why must the US escalate an arms race in the Middle East by selling arms to Egypt and what guarantees are there that the initial sale of C-130s is not a prelude to a much broader military supply relationship with Egypt?

A: Our objective in supplying Egypt anything in the military field is the same as that in providing economic assistance -- to support Egypt in its moderate policies which have been so instrumental in helping the Middle East move closer to peace. This is particularly important at a time when Egypt has taken such a strong stand to resist Soviet pressures. However, we have no intention of becoming Egypt's major arms supplier and there is no question of our escalating an arms race between Egypt and Israel.

We have had full and frank consultations with Congress on this matter from the outset. The Egyptian Government has told us that it plans to make no further request for military equipment from the US this year. I think our approach is a sound one. Israel will continue to remain strong through the very substantial military and economic assistance we are providing and will continue to provide.



Q: What kind of training are we planning to provide the Egyptians?

A: We are talking about a modest program to train a few Egyptian officers in service staff schools in this country.



ISRAEL

Statement:

Mr. Ford's new Ambassador to the United Nations attacks our long time ally Israel.

The Facts

Governor Scranton not only did not attack Israel, his veto blocked ~~the~~ Security Council resolution critical of Israel -- a resolution that every other member of the Security Council voted for. In his March 23 speech in the United Nations Security Council Gov. Scranton was simply reiterating long-standing U. S. policy -- a policy articulated by every Administration since 1967 -- on Israel's obligations as an occupying power under international law with regard to the territories under its occupation.



TRANSITION QUARTER FUNDS FOR ISRAEL

Q: Why are you continuing to oppose TQ funds for Israel given Israel's needs? Is it true that Secretary Kissinger did not oppose additional TQ funds for Israel but that you overruled him?

A: The money I requested for the upcoming fiscal year, including the transition quarter, is judged to be adequate not only for Israel but for all governments to whom we are extending security assistance. This decision was most carefully considered by me and all agencies concerned with this issue. In the case of Israel, our aid has increased substantially over the past few years. We provided some \$3 billion in the year and a half between October 1973 and July 1975. I have requested \$2.3 billion alone for FY 76 and close to \$2 billion for FY 77. By all accounts, these are very substantial sums, reflecting the strength of my commitment and that of the Administration to Israel's security. They also reflect the need to maintain fiscal discipline in all areas at a time when we have many other pressing current needs and an overriding requirement for budget discipline.

My position on TQ funds is the Administration position and is shared by all agencies.



USG POLICY ON THE PLO -- LEBANON

Q: If a situation arose in which it would appear helpful for your representative, Ambassador Brown, to have contact with the PLO, would you authorize this?

A: The situation has not arisen. Ambassador Brown is in Lebanon to provide me with a first-hand assessment of the situation there and to be available to assist the various Lebanese parties, in any way which they might find of value.



US POLICY IN LEBANON -- MILITARY INTERVENTION?

Q: Why hasn't the US done more to help defuse tensions in Lebanon? Have you given any consideration to US military intervention should the situation become worse and would you consider this if the Lebanese Government asked?

A: Without getting into specific details, I can assure you that we have been actively involved in seeking a resolution to the present tragic conflict in Lebanon. We are pursuing those means we consider best calculated to achieve that end.

Let me state what our policy is:

-- We regard the situation in Lebanon as one to be resolved without outside military intervention. Such intervention would pose grave risks to stability in the area. Our views on this are known to all concerned.

-- From the earliest days of the internal strife we have encouraged efforts to bring about an agreement among the Lebanese on a basic political solution. We support a solution that gives adequate opportunity and security to all groups and communities and maintains Lebanon's independence, territorial integrity and national unity. In this regard, Syrian efforts to help promote a political compromise have been constructive.



US Policy In Lebanon - Military Intervention? (Continued)

-- We are prepared to assist in any way we can in efforts to obtain a ceasefire and promote such a political solution. I have sent Ambassador Brown to assess the situation and to be in closest touch with all parties involved.

-- We have also been providing emergency medical relief assistance throughout the period of fighting.

-- Finally, we made sure that all non-essential Americans left the country some time ago. And we are prepared for the evacuation of remaining Americans should continued fighting make that necessary.



April 1, 1976

JORDANIAN RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS

Q: Are you concerned that King Hussein might turn to the Soviets for an air defense system and did you caution the King against this?

A: I have full confidence in our relations with Jordan and the King and I had very good discussions during his visit on ways to strengthen our ties, including our on-going economic and military assistance programs. Our discussions with Jordan on an air defense system are continuing.

