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NLF-NSC_ILCC-5-2-4-3

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~
CONTAINS CODEWORD

January 18, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

DECLASSIFIED w/portions exempted

FROM: The Situation Room

AUTHORITY RAE NLF-WH-N-7-34-1-7
BY WJ nsc/stalguidelines 9/21/05
NARA DATE 8/24/10

SUBJECT: Noon Notes

Elections in India: Embassy New Delhi reports that an announcement is expected today by the government on the decision to hold elections on March 16. In another development, Prime Minister Gandhi today freed opposition party leaders Desai and Advani, both of whom have been imprisoned for 19 months. The embassy comments that it still is not clear whether these actions indicate that the state of emergency measures will be relaxed.

Demonstrations in Alexandria and Cairo: Embassy Cairo reports that a small group of protesters gathered in front of the Peoples Assembly in Cairo this morning complaining against the commodity price rises which were announced in the morning papers. The demonstrators in Cairo subsequently dispersed. Our consulate in Alexandria reports thousands of demonstrators there marching throughout the city with no obvious goals. The embassy reports that the only other trouble spot is Helwan; however, the MENA chairman alleges that the Helwan problems, while no doubt related to price rises, have been generated by a separate issue -- demands for wage increases by the munition factory workers.



Presidential Library Review of NSC and ~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~ Required DIA, NSA reviews completed
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Benin Sitrep: Embassy Cotonou reports that gunfire broke out early this morning in the residential area of the capitol and near the airfield; however, it subsequently quieted down. Beninese armed guards have been stationed in front of the U.S. chancery and will not permit the staff to leave. The charge reports that all official Americans have been accounted for but there are still some non-official Americans still not accounted for.

Summit in Khartoum: A Sudanese newspaper reported today that the presidents of Egypt, Syria, and Sudan will hold a summit conference in Khartoum next month, according to Reuter.

Soviets Ask for Resident Mission in Fiji: The USSR is seeking to establish a resident embassy in Fiji. If successful, Moscow would gain its first resident mission in the tropical south Pacific. According to DIA, Moscow's move is probably an attempt to counter recent Chinese political movement in the area. Peking recently established a mission in Fiji and is expected to appoint an ambassador soon.

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