

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~  
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January 24, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

SUBJECT:

Information Items

25X1

editorial in an English-language Saudi paper describes Secretary Vance's planned Middle East trip as evidence of the new administration's serious regard of prospects for a final settlement. Inclusion of Saudi Arabia in the itinerary, the editorial states, reflects U.S. appreciation of Jidda's stand on oil prices and readiness for a tradeoff of reasonable energy prices for U.S. pressure on Israel.

Stands Softening on Sino-Soviet Border Dispute: Our consulate general in Hong Kong believes prospects for progress in the Sino-Soviet border dispute may have improved recently. According to information gathered by Japanese diplomats in Peking, the Russians have offered proposals for a mutual troop withdrawal from the border areas and improved cross-border communications. The Chinese reportedly have ceased rejecting these proposals out of hand and are responding with carefully worded replies. The consulate general notes that no reflection of a change in attitude is to be found, however, in the PRC media or official statements.

NSA, STATE reviews completed

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