MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

March 20, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

FROM: The Situation Room NSA review completed

SUBJECT: Noon Notes

State Department review completed

King Hussein's Travel Abroad: During the meeting yesterday with Ambassador Veliotes to discuss postponement of his U.S. visit, King Hussein indicated that the Soviet ambassador had just extended an invitation for a state visit to Moscow preferably in the April-June time frame. Hussein said he had previously accepted an invitation "in principle," but if he decided to go in the time frame offered it would have to be later rather than sooner for the reasons he had already given Veliotes for postponing his U.S. trip. (C)

Ambassador Veliotes comments that in addition to the reasons Hussein offered for postponing his U.S. visit, Hussein is obviously "very skittish" about a visit to Washington in mid-April when the autonomy talks should be moving towards an "uncertain but highly publicized finish." (C)

British Ambassador's Luncheon with Soviet Ambassador in West Berlin: During a lengthy luncheon yesterday with British Ambassador Wright in West Berlin, Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov directly criticized U.S. and UK policy on Afghanistan. Abrasimov stated that neither U.S. nor UK countermeasures -- suspension of credits, breaking political contacts, boycott of the Olympics. grain sales -- would injure Moscow and added that neither the President nor Mrs. Thatcher have been able to clearly explain to their people what constituted the Soviet threat to which they so frequently referred. (C)

Although the Soviets handed over a list of alleged quadripartite agreement violations and demanded compensation, U.S. Mission Berlin adds that the Soviet ambassador strived to keep the luncheon friendly by stating that Moscow wants peace in and around Berlin to continue. (C)

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Visit of Cuban Foreign Minister to Afghanistan:

The Cuban foreign minister arrived at Kabul yesterday on a special Soviet flight reportedly to hold talks with his Afghan counterpart.