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NLRR M453/2 #55742

BY CW NARA DATE 2/5/16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

August 19, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : William P. Clark, Acting *wpc*

1. Libya. Our State Department task force closely monitored events surrounding the Libyan incident all day. We contacted American companies known to have American citizens employed in Libya. Company representatives were generally calm and reported no unusual activity in Libya. The British Embassy in Tripoli describes the American community as "jittery, but not in panic." Several American companies have requested that British air lines schedule additional flights into Tripoli, and one such request is pending with the Libyan Government. The British have agreed to assist us should it become necessary to communicate with or aid U.S. citizens in Libya. We are pursuing Belgian assistance as well.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Constable, General Gast, and Admiral Foley briefed members of Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees. Reaction was sympathetic.

The British tell us that the second-ranking Libyan official summoned the ambassadors of Western powers and the Soviet Union to protest what he alleged to be an American attack against Libyan aircraft on routine patrol. He further alleged that there was an American plan to attack Libya itself and referred to an Egyptian military build-up. He said Libya reserved the right to convene the UN Security Council.

Initial reaction from U.S. friends around the world has been one of understanding of the U.S. position. Domestically, there is some innuendo among the press corps and Congressional staffers suggesting that U.S. aircraft may have fired first, but this has not yet surfaced openly.

2. Medfly. Japan has agreed to continue for the time being to permit imports of California fruits and vegetables under existing procedures, provided that the area of origin is not found to be infested by the medfly while the produce is in transit. A USDA team of specialists is departing for Japan to attempt to persuade the Japanese Agriculture Ministry to modify the sweeping restrictions proposed for produce to be imported from California.

3. Puerto Rico. The UN Special Committee on Decolonization (Committee of 24) will vote at its next meeting, tomorrow morning, August 20, on a resolution sponsored by Cuba, Afghanistan, and Syria to inscribe Puerto Rico on the agenda of the 1982 General Assembly. Inscription would open the way for a full-scale debate on Puerto Rico which would inevitably be harshly critical of the U.S. We have registered our strong objections to the resolution in Committee of 24 capitals and with their missions in New York. Several friendly members intend to vote against the offensive paragraphs of the resolution--we are working to add to that list, which now includes Australia, Denmark, Chile, Venezuela, and possibly the Ivory Coast and Tunisia. We still face an uphill battle, however, since the predilection of most of the moderate members is to abstain. Venezuela is playing a helpful role by calling for paragraph-by-paragraph voting, which would allow the moderates to vote against inscription and later simply abstain on a less troublesome resolution. We are approaching capitals again tonight to make a final appeal to the moderates to follow that strategy.

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RDS 2/3 8/19/01 (CLARK, William P.)

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

August 20, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Acting Secretary Clark's Evening Report

Attached is Acting Secretary Clark's Evening Report for August 19, 1981.

cc: The Vice President  
Ed Meese  
James Baker  
Michael Deaver

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Received August 19, 1981 - 10:00 p.m.

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1. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. THE PRESIDENT

Rec'd 200343 E OWA 7  
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2. EDWIN MEESE III - LOS ANGELES

3.     

4.     

INFORMATION ADDRESSEES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. RICHARD DARMAN - LOS ANGELES

2.     36

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

PLEASE DELIVER THE PRESIDENT'S COPY TO MR. DARMAN

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