

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON**SECRET** #9

August 13, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Cyrus Vance *CV*

1. Mrs. Shcharanskiy - I called Mrs. Shcharanskiy yesterday on returning to the United States but could not reach her. I called again early this morning and told her that I had received her message delivered to me through Marshall Shulman and that we were raising the issue of her husband's health with the Soviets. I told her we would let her know as soon as we received a response. She expressed appreciation for our help in this matter.

This afternoon Marshall raised the subject with the Soviet Chargé, Vasev, expressing our concern and asking whether something could be done, in the first instance to ameliorate Shcharanskiy's health conditions and then to seek his early release. Vasev said he would report this to Moscow.

2. IAF Withdrawal from Shaba Province - USAF C-141 aircraft arrived in Lubumbashi on August 10 to begin evacuating the remaining men and materiel of the Inter-African Peacekeeping Force (IAF). The operations should be complete by August 22-24. The Moroccan IAF Commander has expressed King Hassan's gratitude for the speed and efficiency with which the withdrawal is now being carried out.

3. Nicaragua - Embassy Managua reports that local TV and radio have been acknowledging United States humanitarian assistance more frequently since Ed Zorinsky's visit. For example, the Education Minister spoke on radio of the \$7 million in the AID pipeline being used for school rehabilitation. Ambassador Pezzullo continues to press all sectors of the GON to avoid careless statements on assistance that will undermine our efforts, and to give public credit to us where it is due.

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4. Vietnam - Vietnam has done a clever job of exploiting the recent visits by two CODELS to Hanoi to convey flexibility and gain sympathy. However, there is as yet no evidence that Hanoi intends to make the fundamental policy changes which would be required to overcome our reasons for not normalizing. The Vietnamese tailored their pitch, stressing flexibility on refugee issues with CODEL Rosenthal and implying new cooperation in accounting for MIAs with CODEL Wolff. They implied that US-SRV normalization would bring further cooperation from Hanoi on these issues, as well as family reunification. The USG position on normalization was variously portrayed as having unjustly attached new conditions (e.g., withdrawal from Kampuchea) or meeting secretly with Hanoi in order to conclude an early agreement. We have briefed selected correspondents on the facts and pointed out that the "secret" talks had been discussed in my open hearings last month before Congress. We have talked to both Rosenthal and Wolff, who seem to appreciate the complexity of the entangled political, military and humanitarian issues.

5. Situation in Yemens - We have instructed Ambassador West to convey to Prince Sultan our concern about recent events in the Yemens. We are disturbed by the continued weakness of the North Yemen Government and by the possibility that the current power struggle in South Yemen could result in greater pressure against the North. West will inform the Saudis that we believe it is in our mutual interest to provide the North Yemen Government with clear and unambiguous support during this sensitive period.

6. Grenada - When he presented his credentials to you this afternoon, Ambassador Radix of Grenada raised his Government's concern over the fate of Chester Humphrey and James Wardally. Humphrey, a Grenadian national, and Wardally, a naturalized US citizen, were arrested in February on charges that they allegedly conspired to ship arms to the New Jewel movement. Grenada has made several requests for clemency for the pair, and we have discussed with Justice the foreign policy considerations in this case. The Department of Justice feels that it has a strong case against them and has declined to drop the charges. However, Justice has advised Grenada that the interest of the United States in the good will of the Government of Grenada could appropriately be weighed in recommending a sentence to the court. The US Attorney's Office is continuing to plea bargain with defense counsel.

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