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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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November 21, 1978

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI ZB

SUBJECT: Talking Points with Prime Minister Begin

-- We appreciate the constructive action taken by the Israeli cabinet in approving the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as it was proposed by us last week. The treaty represents a fair and balanced agreement.

-- We have urged President Sadat also to accept the treaty text without change. We have particularly told him that Article 6 of the treaty on the Priority of Obligations cannot be re-opened.

-- There is still one outstanding issue that needs to be resolved--the commitment by the parties to negotiate on the West Bank and Gaza issues. Our proposed letter had set a general target date, not a rigid time table. The Egyptians came close to accepting this concept of a target date, but they are not prepared, according to what we understand, to sign the treaty without some written commitment to implement the West Bank/Gaza provisions of the Camp David agreements.

-- We will be in touch with President Sadat to get his most recent views, but it is our strong feeling that this is not a closed issue.

-- We hope that the Israeli cabinet will authorize Dayan and Weizman to return to Washington in order to conclude the negotiations on the side-letter. This remains an important point and the prospects for agreement on the treaty itself depend upon finding a satisfactory resolution of this issue.

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