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ID 785825

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DF ~~14 Nov 78~~

DATE: 14 NOV 78

FOR ACTION: JIM MCINTYRE

to be done in conf budget presentation

Filo

INFO ONLY: ZBIG BRZEZINSKI

SUBJECT: JOHN GILLIGAN MEMO RE FY 1980 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET LEVELS

RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052)
BY: 1200 PM THURSDAY 16 NOV 78

ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

11/14/78

TO: Rick Hutcheson

For Your Information: _____

For Appropriate Handling: ✓

_____

_____

_____

Robert D. Linder

✓	FOR STAFFING
	FOR INFORMATION
	FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
	IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
	NO DEADLINE
	LAST DAY FOR ACTION -

	ADMIN CONFID
	CONFIDENTIAL
	SECRET
	EYES ONLY

ACTION	FYI	
		VICE PRESIDENT
		EIZENSTAT
		JORDAN
		KRAFT
		LIPSHUTZ
		MOORE
		POWELL
		WATSON
		WEXLER
	✓	BRZEZINSKI
✓		MCINTYRE
		SCHULTZE

		ADAMS
		ANDRUS
		BELL
		BERGLAND
		BLUMENTHAL
		BROWN
		CALIFANO
		HARRIS
		KREPS
		MARSHALL
		SCHLESINGER
		STRAUSS
		VANCE

		ARAGON
		BOURNE
		BUTLER
		H. CARTER
		CLOUGH
		COSTANZA
		CRUIKSHANK
		FALLOWS
		FIRST LADY
		GAMMILL
		HARDEN
		HUTCHESON
		JAGODA
		LINDER
		MITCHELL
		MOE
		PETERSON
		PETTIGREW
		PRESS
		RAFSHOON
		SCHNEIDERS
		VOORDE
		WARREN
		WISE

1978 NOV 13 PM 12 43

RECEP. AND SECURITY UNIT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON

November 9, 1978

THE ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: FY 1980 Foreign Assistance Budget Levels

As we approach the time for your decision on aid levels for FY 1980, I want to reaffirm the recommendation I made to you in the Annual Aid Policy Statement submitted last month, namely, that we should seek to meet the goals you set last Fall.

I am, of course, aware of the need to restrain growth in the federal budget, but am concerned that OMB's proposed ceiling on aid for FY 1980 would significantly reduce our ability to achieve your goals and meet important commitments in the international community. As you know, our aid levels have declined dramatically in recent years--to the point where the United States is now 13 out of 17 of the OECD countries in percentage of GNP contributed to economic assistance.

OMB's proposed ceiling for aid in FY 1980 would, even if fully funded by Congress, which is of course unlikely, allow a continuation of the downward trend of ODA--.27 of 1% of GNP for 1980 commitments, compared to .29 of 1% for 1979, and approximately .30 of 1% in 1978.

The growth path which you supported last Fall would maintain a .29 of 1% position for 1980 and move us up to .30 in FY 1981, and .33 in FY 1982. The difference between this path and OMB's FY 1980 planning ceiling is slightly over $400 million, the equivalent of less than 7/100 of 1 percent of estimated overall budget; it is the difference between a steady decline in the U.S. aid position or a path of improved performance.

Based on the U.S. commitment to higher aid levels at the London Summit and elsewhere, the relatively small amounts of money involved which could make a big difference in perceptions abroad, and the importance of higher aid levels in our efforts to assist developing nations meet basic human needs, I respectfully urge that you will find it possible to reaffirm earlier funding decisions.

John J. Gilligan