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SYSTEM II

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MEMORANDUM

CHRON FILE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

RCM HAS SEEN

October 23, 1983

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ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. McFARLANE

FROM: OLIVER NORTH
CONSTANTINE MENGES *con*

SUBJECT: Grenada Input for NSPG

The State Department memo at Tab A forwards a time-phased implementation plan for operations to secure Grenada. This reflects the input from yesterday's SSG and today's briefings for Ambassador McNeil. At the 12:00 restricted IG, modifications were to accommodate all concerned.

At this point, Ambassador Frank McNeil and Marine Major General George Crist are enroute to Barbados to work with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) on contingency planning. McNeil will tell their representatives that we are in Bridgetown to discuss their proposal. Crist will develop plans for their forces as though we had not yet made up our mind to go. McNeil will return here tomorrow evening (Monday) with Prime Minister Eugenia Charles of Dominica, who is the President of the OECS.

FOIA(b) (1)
FOIA(b) (3)

The JCS have completed military planning for the operation. The plan involves the use of Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) assets which will be inserted by para-drop and/or helicopter between 0200 and 0300 in the morning. Marine amphibious and heloborne forces from the amphibious task force will be inserted immediately thereafter.

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Declassify on: OADR

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DECLASSIFIED IN PART
NLS F07-023 #34066
By LOJ, NARA, Date 3/17/08

The mission for the JSOC element is to secure the Governor General, prisons and air fields. The Marines will replace them on site prior to first-light. JSOC personnel will be clandestinely removed, hopefully before attention can be brought to their presence. As indicated on page 5 of the time-line at Tab A, plans are to have the first element of allied forces on the ground by first-light (approximately 1 1/2 - 2 hours after the Marines land).

The implementation plan also provides a step-by-step guide to the other political, diplomatic, legislative and public affairs matters which must be accomplished. You will note that there are several which call for direct Presidential involvement as follows:

Monday 5:00 p.m. -- President meets with Ambassador McNeil. - TENTATIVE - MAY NOT BEING BACK.

CABLES
3:00 PM / Late p.m. -- Presidential call to Prime Minister Thatcher to inform of our decision to take action.

6:00 PM FINAL CHECK

10:00 p.m. -- President consults with 4 Congressional leaders and offers full briefing at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday.

Tuesday 7:30 a.m. -- Presidential bilateral with Mrs. Charles.

8:00 a.m. -- President meets with Congressional leadership.

9:00 a.m. -- President and Mrs. Charles, joint public statement. President reassures American public; Mrs. Charles cites reason for OECS request, and expresses gratitude for U.S. action to support democracy and protect lives.

10:00 a.m. -- President briefs Cabinet

Late p.m. -- Presidential statement in press room after situation is pacified?

At the NSPG, we should also seek to point out that last night's events in Lebanon increase the need to take action. Not only has last night's tragic event eased our OPSEC problem, it has made the second two objectives of the NSDD (Tab B) more meaningful. We ought not to shirk from these in public statements after the operation has commenced.

State Department should also address the corollary issue of what we do now in Suriname. As the cable at Tab C indicates, there is a strong possibility that the assassination of Bishop and our subsequent response could totally change the picture in Paramaribo.

Regarding the issue of how long our forces will be on the ground, we should probably anticipate that it will take more than a week, but less than sixty days.

We should ensure that the following items are provided for clearance as soon as possible:

- Presidential address for Tuesday morning.
- War Powers Report.
- OAS resolution and UN language.
- Draft cables to NATO and other allies.
- Draft language for use with Soviets and Cubans in Moscow, Havana and here in Washington (we should not use the MOLINK for this communication).
- Legislative and public affairs guidance.

-- *Finding*

RECOMMENDATION

That you use the points above during this afternoon's NSPG.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachments

- Tab A - Time-line/Schedule
- Tab B - NSDD
- Tab C - Parimaribo 2413 Cable