MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

#36

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

September 26, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID AARON

FROM:

The Situation Room

SUBJECT:

Noon Notes

Reports of New Rhodesian Attacks into Mozambique: Mozambique press and radio reported yesterday that Rhodesian military units have been carrying out military operations in Mozambique's southern province of Gaza for the past six days. According to the reports Rhodesian paratroops, supported by jet fighters, launched an attack in an area between Chicualacula and Mapai on September 20. Mozambique troops have reportedly moved into the area and fighting is continuing. There have been no reports on casualties or the level of fighting. Embassy Maputo comments that the Chicualacuala/Mapai area has been the scene of numerous Rhodesian incursions. Zimbabwean insurgents use the area as a staging point to infiltrate troops into Rhodesia; and Rhodesian attacks into the area are designed to reduce the rate of infiltration, as well as weaken Mozambique's resolve to assist the Zimbabwean nationalists.

Egyptian Press on Unified Arab Delegation: Charge Matthews reports that today's Egyptian press prominently featured Israel's "acceptance" of the proposals "put forward by Carter" concerning a unified Arab delegation. There was no indication in the press that the proposal accepted by Israel might differ from the possible U.S. proposal. Matthews comments that the coverage implies that the unified delegation proposal is acceptable to Egypt, but there are indications that the announcement caught the Egyptians off guard:

--coverage indicates that the "new developments" are being studied, but no decision will be made until Fahmi returns;

--Ahram's representative in New York noted Arab "reservations" concerning the Israeli move.

NSA, STATE, DIA reviews completed

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Initial Brazilian Reaction to President's Trip Announcement: Ambassador Crimmins reports that the announcement of President Carter's visit to Brazil has received very extensive and uniformly positive press coverage and political commentary. Some initial commentary has characterized the announcement as a triumph of Brazilian diplomacy and a reflection of better U.S. understanding of the "Brazilian reality". Initial speculation about the announcement's domestic impact focused on its potential for encouraging acceleration of political reforms. One commentator held that Brazil's earlier denunciation of four agreements with the U.S. was timed so its impact would be neutralized by announcement of the President's visit.

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(Pretoria 5038)

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1. PRC Impatience with U.S. Policy: Columnist Carl Rowan informed Consul Hong Kong yesterday that PRC officials expressed exasperation during his recent visit over failure by the U.S. to complete normalization of re-

2. Smith Continues Up-beat on Anglo-American Plan: Embassy Pretoria reports that Ian Smith, in a BBC interview yesterday, continued to sound optimistic on the Anglo-American plan, and for the first time, publicly accepted the possibility of a "one-man, one-vote" solution.

lations. According to Rowan, a foreign ministry official who accompanied him throughout his tour had said that PRCLO chief Huang Chen would be "recalled" to show how Peking feels. (Hong Kong 11656 NODIS)