

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

March 20, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *K*  
SUBJECT: Options for Possible [REDACTED] Action in Libya

[REDACTED]  
I requested [REDACTED] consideration of the [REDACTED] actions which might be undertaken in support of U.S. policies and interests in Libya.

[REDACTED] presented several options for consideration noting that an essential prerequisite to undertaking any of them is a reliable [REDACTED] picture of the policies and intentions of the Libyan government. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] unanimously favored [REDACTED] option labeled 1-A which is: Intensify efforts to influence the Libyan government to adopt policies consistent with U.S. objectives. Oppose Libyan leaders and policies inimical to U.S. interests.

The U.S. objectives to be furthered by these efforts would be as follows:

1. To maintain normal diplomatic and commercial relations with Libya. (Including U.S. oil interests.)
2. To influence Libya to maintain its independence, to develop its own resources primarily as a member of the Mediterranean region with strong ties to Western Europe and a balanced rapport with both the Maghreb and Libya's eastern Arab neighbors, including Egypt.
3. To deny the development of an intolerable level of Soviet or other communist presence and influence in Libya--including that exerted indirectly through radical Arab states.
4. To use the U.S. position in Libya to support the development of regional stability in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

[REDACTED]

[Page 2 not declassified]

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the [REDACTED] option to intensify efforts to influence the Libyan government to adopt policies consistent with the U.S. objectives listed above and oppose Libyan leaders and policies inimical to U.S. interests as outlined in the plan of action at Tab A.

Attachment  
Tab A

APPROVE                     

DISAPPROVE                     

OTHER