

## MEMORANDUM


THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ACTION  
Outside System

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN... 

~~SECRET/NODIS~~

February 17, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER   
SUBJECT: Message on King Constantine

Sir Alec Douglas-Home has sent you the attached personal note asking that it not be regarded in any way as British intercession and that it be kept in very restricted channels.

The letter itself recalls your conversation in Bermuda on King Constantine's future and reports a conversation Sir Alec had with the King in London at the beginning of this month.

Sir Alec reports his impression that the King is "gradually and very reluctantly giving up hope that the Colonels will ask him back." Sir Alec told the King that he shared that view and felt that the Greek government did not seem to be under any public pressure to restore the monarchy.

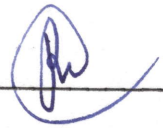
The King then asked Sir Alec whether he would inquire from you whether you could influence events in his favor and ascertain privately whether you would feel able to do so. Sir Alec said he expected you would find this extremely difficult. If you felt able to say anything in answer, he would hand it on in confidence to the King.

You may recall that King Constantine when he met Vice President Agnew in Persepolis last summer urged the Vice President to probe the willingness of the Greek government to have him back. The Vice President found Prime Minister Papadopoulos flatly uninterested. Having tested the water at that high level, I see little more that can be done.

RECOMMENDATION: That I be authorized to send back this message to Sir Alec through Lord Cromer: "Thank you for your delicate handling of the approach from King Constantine. He raised the subject with Vice President Agnew last summer. As a result of our subsequent

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probes, we believe that you are right in your judgment that the atmosphere for the King's return to Greece is not likely to become more receptive soon. There seems little that we can do in this regard. I would suggest therefore that if you feel you need to say anything more you indicate your feeling, without direct attribution, that there seems little more that the US can do. *at this time*

Approve 

Other \_\_\_\_\_