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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

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DATE 17 October 1977

SUBJECT: INFCR, South Africa, Horn of Africa, Rhodesia
No. III of IV

PARTICIPANTS:

US

USSR

The Secretary
Marshall D. Shulman

Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin

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Dobrynin came in Monday afternoon, October 17, 1977, at the Secretary's request. The meeting lasted approximately two hours.

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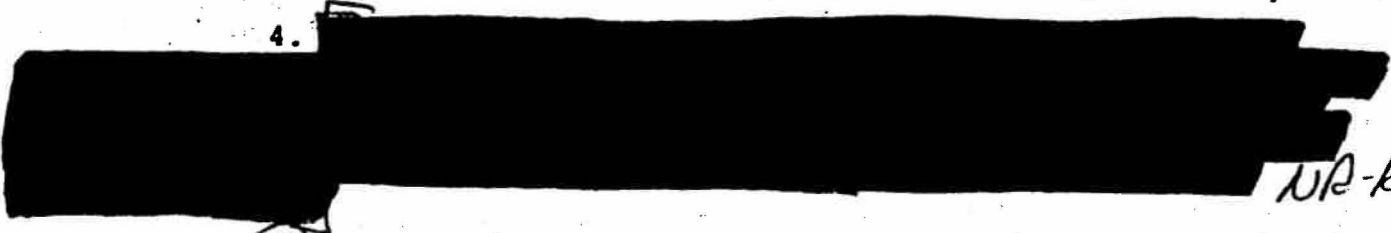
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3. Horn of Africa - The Secretary inquired how the Soviet Union saw the problems in the Horn of Africa developing. Dobrynin said, "We are more eager to end the fighting there than you are," but he indicated a reluctance to shut off supplies to the Ethiopians, which had not yet reached the level previously supplied to the Somalis. The Secretary raised the question of the OAU's seeking to mediate and whether there was anything that anyone could do with Ethiopia that would be helpful. He also raised the question of how the Nigerians could be helpful in working out a ceasefire acceptable to both sides. Dobrynin did not think that any outside intervention would be useful. He said that although an autonomous solution for the Ogaden was a reasonable basis for a settlement, the Somalis want to remain in place and the Ethiopians' position was that Somalia should first withdraw. The Secretary asked about the possibility of greater restraint on what is furnished to the Ethiopians. Dobrynin replied that the level of supplies had not reached the level formerly supplied to the Somalis. He said that the problem was that the Ethiopians did not have enough trained people to use the material they had received. Dobrynin made it clear that, in his opinion at least, it would be shortsighted for the Soviet Union to send technicians or military advisers. He cited the experience of the Soviet Union and Egypt as a case in point.

4.



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