

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~ RGDS(1)ACTION

March 22, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*

SUBJECT:

Return of US Ambassador to Uganda

Secretary Rogers has sent the memorandum at Tab A asking that you reconsider your decision (as shown at Tab B) not to send Ambassador Melady back to Uganda. The Secretary argues that withdrawal of our Ambassador might set off Amin against our 570 Americans and make it difficult for us to quietly reduce our presence there. Rogers states that he understands why you do not want Melady back, but in a scribed note says that Amin "is crazy and we have to recognize it."

We held up action on the Rogers reclama because of a subsequent cable from Kampala on the security situation in Uganda. Our Charge feared that Amin, who has glorified the Palestinian guerrillas, would not deter the Black September movement from acting against our personnel in Kampala. The Palestinian threat now appears to have been exaggerated, however, although the internal security situation in Uganda remains as precarious as ever.

While I concurred with State's earlier recommendation that Melady return because he could coordinate our phase-down better, and possibly deflect Amin's attention from our activities, I no longer agree. Melady's absence has not resulted in harm to our personnel, nor hampered our phase-out activities in any apparent way. Melady left Uganda on February 9.

RECOMMENDATION

That you disapprove Secretary Rogers' reclama that you reconsider your decision not to send Ambassador Melady back to Uganda.

Agree  Disagree , Melady may return for a few months.

## Attachments:

Tab A - Memo from Secretary Rogers to President, March 9

Tab B - President's previous decision (Kissinger-President memo, March 6)

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