

ICONIC MOMENTS IN FOREIGN POLICY: HORN OF AFRICA CRISIS

The Horn of Africa Crisis refers to the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia in the late 1970s (also known as the 1977-1978 Ogaden War or the Ethiopian-Somali Conflict). Somalia invaded Ethiopia in 1977 in an effort to capture the disputed Ogaden region. The resulting crisis is discussed in this collection, as well as the later Eritrean Liberation Movement. Later documents cover Soviet policy toward the region, Ethiopian relations with the Eritreans, the role of the US in Africa, and US Operation Torch.

N.V. PODGORNYY'S VISIT TO AFRICA

March 31, 1977 - Report from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Addresses the results of N.K. Podgorny's Visit to Africa (excerpts) discussing the growing enmity between Ethiopia and Somalia and concerns from African nations over this tension.. View the report [here](#).



LETTER FROM BRITISH EMBASSY IN ADDIS ABABA

May 10, 1977 - Information obtained by the British from an Ethiopian officer who defected to West Germany. His report shows the strong influence of the Soviet Union in the Derg (Provisional Military Government of Ethiopia) at the time. Read the report [here](#).

A CONVERSATION WITH ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN SECRETARY

Sept. 29, 1977 - Memorandum on US Operation "Fakel" [Torch], which the United States was supposedly planning in order to destabilize the Ethiopian regime. It involved the arming of internal opposition groups with US weapons. This report was attached to the memorandum of conversation with Ethiopian Foreign Secretary Dawit Wolde Giorgis. View the report [here](#).



ERITREAN LIBERATION AND WAR

May 2, 1986 - Ambassador Langer discusses with Vice-President Carlos Rodriguez of the Communist Party Cuba Politburo on the current situation in Ethiopia, focusing on the Eritrean liberation movement and the ongoing war with Somalia. They also discuss levels of assistance by various outside powers to the region. View the report [here](#).



CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD PRODUCTS

March 3, 1978 - Memorandum of Conversation of SED Comrade Lamberz with Cuban Ambassador to Ethiopia, Comrade Pepe which focuses on outside support of the situation in the Horn of Africa. Specifically Soviet, Cuban, and US support for the various countries and groups. Read the memo [here](#).



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