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NARA Date 10/27/01



SECRET

Department of State

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TO USINT CAIRO NIACY IMMEDIATE 5616
BT
SECRET STATE 252353

NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS
TAGS: PFOR, EG
SUBJ: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO SADAT RE SYRIAN
INTENTIONS

FOR CHARGE FROM SECRETARY

1. PLEASE ARRANGE TO HAVE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME TO SADAT DELIVERED TO HIM AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.
2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I AM WRITING TO SHARE WITH YOU MY PUZZLEMENT AND CONCERN ABOUT REPORTS REACHING ME OF POSSIBLE-IMMINENT SYRIAN MILITARY ACTION. I DO NOT PRETEND TO KNOW WHAT SYRIAN INTENTIONS MAY BE AND DO NOT WANT TO APPEAR ALARMIST. IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THESE REPORTS ARE IN ERROR. AT THE SAME TIME, BECAUSE OF THE RISK THAT ANY BREAKDOWN OF THE CEASEFIRE WOULD POSE TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE WORK WE HAVE ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER AND TO OUR HOPES AND PLANS FOR GREATER PROGRESS IN THE FUTURE, I THOUGHT I SHOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU AND SEEK ANY VIEWS ABOUT THE SITUATION WHICH YOU MAY CARE TO SHARE WITH ME.
3. IT WOULD OF COURSE BE A MAJOR TRAGEDY IF THE MILITARY SITUATION WERE TO DETERIORATE AND THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS SO RECENTLY LAUNCHED IN GENEVA WERE TO BE SET BACK, JUST WHEN WE ARE ON THE THRESHOLD OF THE FIRST REAL AND TANGIBLE PROGRESS TOWARD A JUST SETTLEMENT IN OVER SIX YEARS.

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NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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By Date 10/27/71

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4. I WANT TO REAFFIRM TO YOU MY COMMITMENT TO THE PROGRAM FOR DISENGAGEMENT WHICH WE HAVE DISCUSSED AND MY COMMITMENT TO WORK FOR A SERIOUS DISENGAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL AS WELL. THIS CAN ONLY BE DONE IN THE CONTEXT OF PROGRESS AT GENEVA AND WOULD BE PLACED IN SERIOUS JEOPARDY IF THERE WERE A RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES, CERTAINLY RENEWED FIGHTING WOULD UNDERMINE THE ABILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO PLAY THE ROLE WE HAVE SET OUT FOR OURSELVES IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS. IF YOU THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL, YOU MAY CONVEY MY FOREGOING COMMITMENT TO PRESIDENT ASAD. SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.

KISSINGER

NEA:ALATHERTON:KM
12/29/73
THE SECRETARY
S/S-0: W. NEULIN

SECRET