

~~SECRET~~
CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

DDI-3091-69

31 October 1969

Executive Registry

69-5518

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence *PK*

SUBJECT : The Two Power Talks

1. The US policy toward negotiating with the Soviets on a peace settlement between the Arabs and Israel appears to be an unreal one.

2. We are negotiating in a nineteenth century manner--a la Congress of Vienna--while paying almost no attention to the rapidly changing situation in the area. While we fence with the Soviets in a desultory fashion over fine diplomatic points--and never get down to the nitty gritty of the problems--the US position in the Arab world and that of the moderate regimes (and there is one less of these since last August--Libya) is being eroded at an accelerating pace. Today Lebanon is on the ropes and Jordan may well be next. Saudi Arabia would then have to follow sooner or later.

3. It is about time that our approach to this problem of negotiations begins to relate to the situation in the area and to what the essential US interests there are.

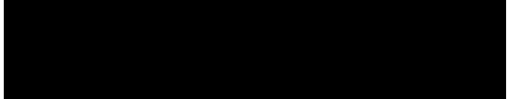
4. We have not even begun two and a half years after the war to carry out discussions on the problem of Jordan and Israel. Another incredible aspect of the US attitude is that when we do turn to discuss Jordanian interests in a Four Power context we expect to begin with the question of Jerusalem, a sure stopper for any discussion of the other aspects of the Jordan-Israel problem. Jerusalem should be the last subject discussed. It seems to me that Joe Sisco is so intrigued with the idea of continuing negotiations with the Russians that he is unable to relate these talks to the realities of the situation.

5. It appears inescapable that the United States must soon choose consciously between accepting the inevitable erosion of its remaining presence in the Arab world--diplomatic, commercial, economic, and cultural--and adoption of a policy, traditionally considered

~~SECRET~~
CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

impossible and unthinkable in domestic terms, directed at forcing the Israelis to budge. The longer we follow the present policy, the more rapid the erosion in the US position, the more frozen the Israeli position and the more rapid the descent of the region into a form of chaos. Otherwise, we will see the area become more and more engulfed in hostilities, with the Israelis seizing more territory and the Soviets increasing their influence until it spans from Iran to the Atlantic.

25X1A9A


Chief, Arab States-Israel
Branch, MEAD, OCI

~~SECRET~~

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SECRET
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	D/OCI		EDg
2	DDI		RJS
3	DCI		mt
4	DD/I		mt
5	File-OCI		
6			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	DISPATCH
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	FILE
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	PREPARE REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	RETURN
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	SIGNATURE
Remarks:			
<p>view of present US policy toward ME settlement -- triggered by the constant and depressing drumbeat we hear of Arab attitudes toward the US. Hard to fault it.</p> <p>Interesting tidbit</p> <p>2-3: Use general RJS EDg</p> <p>Director for sent to Kissinger</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
MEAD			10/31/69
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SECRET

FORM NO. 1-67 **237** Use previous editions

(40)

25X1A

25X1A