

2315

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

COLLECT
 CHANGE TO

FROM
USINT DAMASCUS

CLASSIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:

ACTION:

INFO:

N/A
OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
Press Guidance: Accident on Secretary's Aircraft

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

Amembassy CAIRO

DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

SECTO 48

DAMASCUS 2315

1. Following statement has been given to travelling press:

QUOTE: At 9:30 a.m. this morning in Cairo, Secret Service Agent Walter Bothe, of Alexandria, Virginia, received superficial flesh wounds in the head and on his right arm just prior to the take-off of Secretary Kissinger's aircraft for Damascus. This was caused by a weapon which was stored in its case in the rear of the aircraft, and discharged accidentally while the aircraft was taxiing for take-off. Tests will be conducted to determine if safety mechanisms of this weapon malfunctioned. Mr. Bothe

DRAFTED BY: Randerson:kk
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

DRAFTING DATE
10/11/74

TEL. EXT.

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY
S:LFBrem *[Signature]*

CLEARANCES:
S/S *[Signature]*

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11-73

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DAMASCUS

MRN

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is in very good condition and is completely ambulatory.

2. At the time Secretary was chatting with newsmen in aisle of aircraft, but was in no danger from the discharge. Bullets pierced ceiling of aircraft. Small hole repaired immediately and aircraft took off after twenty minute delay.



KISSINGER

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4-68

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