

PRIORITY

#0509 0641758

P 051757Z MAR 74

FM RABAT

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TO WHITE HOUSE 25X1

S E C R E T 051644Z MAR 74

FM AMBASSADOR NEUMANN RABAT 505

TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR BRIGADIER GENERAL SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: KING HASSAN'S VISIT

WHEN I TRANSMITTED TODAY A MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER TO KING DEALING WITH OTHER MATTERS, FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA INFORMED ME AS FOLLOWS:

1. KING WOULD PROBABLY LEAVE MOROCCO ON OR ABOUT MAY 15 ON ITALIAN LINER RAFFAELLO TO ARRIVE NEW YORK MAY 20. FOR RETURN TRIP ONLY SHIP AVAILABLE WOULD RETURN KING TO MOROCCO ABOUT JUNE 7, WHICH UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES FAR TOO LONG AN ABSENCE.

2. FONMIN AND MINISTER OF ROYAL HOUSEHOLD GENERAL MOULAY HAFID EL ALAQUI WONDER WHETHER UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES ONE OF PRESIDENT'S PLANES MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TRIP. THE TWO MINISTERS STATED "KING KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THIS" (WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE) BUT ASKED ME TO MAKE VERY DISCREET INQUIRY THROUGH MOST RELIABLE CHANNEL, SAYING KING WOULD FEEL SAFER ON PRESIDENT'S PLANE THAN ANY OTHER TYPE AIRCRAFT.

3. MINISTERS REMARKED THEY AWARE ONE OF PRESIDENTIAL PLANES AVAILABLE FOR KING'S TRAVELS WITHIN CONUS AND THUS IMPLIED THEY AWARE OF GENERAL POLICY NOT TO USE SUCH PLANES FOR TRANSATLANTIC VISITORS, ALTHOUGH THEY MENTIONED LATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY HAD DONE SO.

4. I REFRAINED FROM ANY COMMENT.

REQUEST GUIDANCE. WARM REGARDS

NEUMANN

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\*\*\*\*\* \*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

HAK, SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN, SAUNDERS

RECALLED

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PAGE 01

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