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DELIVER TO GEN HAIG FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER AT AMBASSADOR  
WATSON'S RESIDENCE.

OCTOBER 9, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

THE WASHINGTON POST

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THE PRESENCE OF GENERAL HAIG WITH YOU IN PARIS HAS SPECULATED THAT  
THE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE CENTERED ON THE FUTURE OF PRESIDENT THIEU.  
GENERAL HAIG'S INCLUSION FOLLOWS A REPORT IN THE TIMES OF LONDON  
ON FRIDAY THAT THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH VIETNAM HAD AGREED ON  
A PLAN WHEREBY THIEU WOULD RESIGN TO MAKE WAY FOR A COALITION  
GOVERNMENT. THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMENT ON THE OUTCOME OF YOUR  
TALKS WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE NEGOTIATORS YESTERDAY. RONALD  
ZIEGLER'S ANNOUNCEMENT MADE NO INDICATION ON THE SUBSTANCE OF  
THE TALKS, BUT DID SAY THE TALKS MIGHT CONTINUE "POSSIBLY A THIRD  
DAY" ON TUESDAY. (A-1)

A NEWS ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM  
FOCUSES ON THE OPPONENTS OF PRESIDENT THIEU. SILENCED BY MARTIAL  
LAW, ARRESTS, AND A MUZZLED PRESS, THE NATIONALIST OPPOSITION POLI-  
TICIANS WAIT FORLORNLY FOR THE UNITED STATES TO CALL ON THEM TO  
SALVAGE THE BEST POSSIBLE PEACE TERMS. THE OPPOSITION, NONETHELESS,  
AGREES THAT THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL DO  
ANYTHING TO ROCK PRESIDENT THIEU'S BOAT UNTIL AFTER NOVEMBER 7.  
THESE POLITICIANS FEEL THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL DROP THIEU ONLY  
WHEN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ESPECIALLY THE MILITARY SITUATION  
HAVE ALL BUT COLLAPSED. (A-1)

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B-52 BOMBERS POUNDED TARGETS ONLY 15 MILES FROM SAIGON SUNDAY,  
THE CLOSEST SINCE THE 1968 TET OFFENSIVE. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE  
MOUNTED 100 OR MORE ATTACKS ACROSS SOUTH VIETNAM FOR THE PAST  
THREE DAYS. NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG FORCES ARE REPORTED  
TO HAVE CAPTURED 3 HAMLETS ONLY 20 MILES FROM SAIGON AFTER GOV-  
ERNMENT MILITIAMEN FAILED TO DRIVE THE ENEMY OUT. A TASK FORCE  
OF INFANTRY REINFORCEMENTS WAS SENT TO THE AREA SUNDAY. (A-8)

JACK ANDERSON REPORTS THAT SECRET DISPATCHES FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY  
IN MOSCOW SUGGEST THAT BREZHNEV HAS SUCCESSFULLY FOUGHT OFF A  
CHALLENGE TO HIS LEADERSHIP BY THE POLITBURO FOR HIS RECENT MID  
EAST POLICY AND THE NEED FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO PUT GOLD FOR  
GRAIN. THREE MEMBERS OF THE POLITBURO TRIED TO FORCE A MEETING  
TO DEBATE THESE POLICIES, BUT BREZHNEV WAS ABLE TO BLOCK THE  
MEETING, ACCORDING TO THE DISPATCHES. (D-15)

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CHARLES CORDDRY WRITES THAT U.S. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES REGARD THE  
RUSSIAN MILITARY BUILDUP ALONG THE CHINESE BORDER AS CHIEFLY DE-  
FENSIVE -- NOT A SIGN OF ANY IMMINENT MILITARY ACTION. (A-2)

MICHAEL PARIS REPORTS FROM MOSCOW THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IS  
ASSURING ITS PEOPLE THAT DESPITE THIS YEAR'S WORST-IN-A-CENTURY  
WEATHER, THE VITAL GRAIN HARVEST WILL BE ONLY 7 PERCENT LESS  
THAN LAST YEAR'S. (A-2)

BT

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**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

**TAD SZULC RELATES MAJOR GENERAL JOHN PAULY'S SECRET TESTIMONY BEFORE A CLOSED DOOR SESSION OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON REFUGEES ON SEPTEMBER 28. GENERAL PAULY REITERATED THE PENTAGON'S CONTENTION THAT ONLY MILITARY TARGETS WERE STRUCK IN BOMBING RAIDS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM AND THAT IN MANY CASES, LUCRATIVE TARGETS ARE OFTEN REJECTED IF EXAMINATION SHOWS THAT CIVILIAN DAMAGE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL. HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO WHETHER REPORTS ON CIVILIAN DAMAGE AND CASUALTIES WERE SUBMITTED TO THE "TOP LEVEL" IN WASHINGTON, THE GENERAL SAID THERE WAS NO REGULAR PROCEDURE FOR OBSERVING AND MONITORING THE DAMAGE BEING DONE TO CIVILIAN POPULATION AREAS. (A-14)**

**AN EDITORIAL OBSERVES THAT THE HEARINGS BY THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE IN THE CASE OF GENERAL LAVELLE HAVE LEFT THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE CONTROVERSY IN TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY SUSPENSION. IT FURTHER ASSERTS THAT THE CENSURE OF THE GENERAL, TOGETHER WITH A VIRTUALLY BLANKET CLEARING OF ALL OTHER PERSONS AND ESCHELONS, HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF A COVERUP. (A-30)**