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SECTION ONE OF TWO

TOHAK 66

NOVEMBER 23, 1972

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

TO : GEN. HAIG FOR DR. KISSINGER

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

MORI PER C05098349

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

OBSERVATION ON PRESS PLAY

WITH RESPECT TO THURSDAY MORNING PRESS PLAY HERE, LITTLE OF THE NEGATIVE TONE OF LAST EVENINGS STAR AND MARVIN KALB REPORTING RADIO SAIGONS BLAST AT HENRY IS AT ALL EVIDENT. THE POST AND TIMES DO NOT PICK UP ONE LINE OF THE KALB AND BRADSHER LINES. THE B-52 SHOOT DOWN RECEIVES FRONT PAGE BUT NON SENSATIONAL TREATMENT. THE LIFTING OF THE SHIP-AIRCRAFT TRAVEL BAN TO THE PRC IS SECOND MAJOR PAGE ONE STORY IN BOTH POST AND TIMES WITH EXTENSIVE AND STRAIGHT FORWARD REPORTS.

THE POST GIVES VIETNAM TALKS ONLY A BRIEF, ONE COLUMN STORY BY RANDAL LEADING WITH SHORT WEDNESDAY MEETING AND THE GLUM FACES OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE DELEGATION. THE TIMES CARRIES PAGE THREE FLORA LEWIS REPORT QUOTING SOURCES CLOSE TO THE TALKS AS SAYING THE TALKS WERE PROCEEDING SLOWLY COVERING A MASS OF DETAIL. SHE ALSO NOTES SAIGON SOURCES SAYING MR DUC WOULD CONTINUE ON TO WASHINGTON AND TRY TO SEE THE PRESIDENT. (BALTIMORE SUN ALSO GIVES PROMINENT NOTE TO POSSIBILITY OF DUC TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON.)

ON THE PROBLEMS OF SETTING UP THE FOUR POWER CONTROL COMMISSION, OBVIOUSLY WELL BRIEFED BY STATE OFFICIALS, HE NOTES FAILURE OF POWERS TO CONTRIBUTE FULL CONTINGENT OF PERSONNEL AND THEIR RELUCTANCE TO PUT MEN IN PLACE BEFORE ACTUAL CEASEFIRE OCCURS.

IN TOTAL NEWS CONTEXT TODAY, PRESS PLAY ON VIETNAM IS FAIRLY LOW KEY AND BALANCED.

THE WASHINGTON POST

HEADLINED IS REPORT THAT THE PRESIDENT LIFTED THE BAN ON TRAVEL BY AMERICAN AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS TO CHINA. THIS IS VIEWED AS THE LATEST OVERTURE OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE BY THE US IN A SERIES THAT GAINED MOMENTUM WITH THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PEKING.

THE US AND THE SOVIET UNION REACHED AGREEMENT ON A COMPLICATED RATE FORMULA THAT WILL PERMIT AMERICAN VESSELS TO START CARRYING SOME OF THE 17 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN PURCHASED BY MOSCOW. AMERICAN SHIPS WILL RECEIVE BETWEEN \$10.34 AND \$9.90 A TON. THE RATES REPRESENT A CONCESSION BY THE SOVIETS TO US DEMANDS TO PAY A PREMIUM FOR SHIPPING GRAIN PURCHASED AT BARGAIN PRICES.

CORRESPONDENT JONATHAN RANDAT SPECULATES THAT YOUR TALKS HAD RUN INTO TROUBLE SINCE THERE WAS NOT A HINT OF A NEW SESSION SCHEDULED FOR TODAY. BUT THERE WAS FINALLY A WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT A MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE. ALSO NOTED WAS THE GLUM LOOK OF LE DUC THO AND XUAN THUY AS THEY EMERGED FROM THE MEETING. YOU WERE SEEN SMILING AND WAVING. ON YOUR TRIP TO BRUSSELS, INFORMED SOURCES SAID THAT YOUR VISIT WAS TO ENLIST SUHARTO'S SUPPORT IN PERSUADING THIEU TO ACCEPT THE REZORKED DRAFT ACCORD.

IN OTHER ACTIVITY, SOURCES SAID THAT THE GVN HAD DROPPED NONE OF THEIR OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAFT ACCORD. "TAKEN AT FACE VALUE, THAT LINE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE CURRENT TALKS HAVE NOT MADE MUCH PROGRESS IN RESOLVING PROBLEMS RAISED BY SAIGON."

THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL SAID IN A REPORT THAT THE US SHOULD
REMAIN "DECISIVELY INVOLVED" IN EUROPE TO PROVIDE STABILITY AND
COHESION AS THE CONTINENT TENTATIVELY ENTERS A NEW AGE OF NEGOTIATION
AND CHANGE IN THE OLD WAR ALLIANCES AND HOSTILITIES. THE COUNCIL
SAID THAT THE WEST SHOULD NOT GO INTO NEGOTIATIONS PREPARED TO
REDUCE ITS OWN FORCES NO MATTER WHAT THE SOVIET BLOC OFFERS ES
CONCESSIONS.

SENATOR FULBRIGHT SAID IN AN INTERVIEW YESTERDAY THAT ANY AGREEMENT
TO END THE VIETNAM WAR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE FOR
APPROVAL. HE SAID HIS PROPOSAL WAS PROMPTED BY REPORTS THE AGREEMENT
WOULD OBLIGATE THE US TO SPEND HUGE SUMS IN ECONOMIC AID FOR
THE NATIONS OF INDOCHINA. FULBRIGHT SAID THE SENATE, WHEN IT
PASSED THE NATIONAL COMMITMENTS RESOLUTION IN 1969, "TRIED TO
LAY DOWN THE GUIDELINES THAT WHERE TROOPS OR LARGE SUMS OF MONEY
ARE INVOLVED THERE SHOULD BE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL."

MAXINE CHESHIRE COMMENTS THAT YOUR MEMOIRS ARE WORTH MORE THAN
THE PRESIDENTS. THE LONDON SUNDAY TIMES (HENRY BRANDON) SAID THAT
YOU HAVE A OFFER OF \$2 MILLION FROM A PUBLISHER.

BALTIMORE SUN

JOHN WOODRUFF REPORTS THAT PRES. THIEU HAS SENT NGUYEN PHU DUC
TO PARIS TO "TAKE SOME ROLE" IN THE CURRENT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.
DUC MAY ALSO GO TO WASHINGTON TO PRESENT THE PRESIDENT WITH
SOUTH VIETNAM'S OBJECTIONS TO THE TERMS SAIGON BELIEVES THE U.S.
IS ABOUT TO ACCEPT. "SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY MISSION WOULD STRONGLY
SUGGEST A COMPLETE BREAKDOWN IN MR. THIEU'S PERSONAL CONFIDENCE
IN DR. KISSINGER AND HIS DEPUTY, GEN. HAIG. WELL INFORMED SOUTH
VIETNAMESE GENERALLY AGREED LAST NIGHT THAT SUCH A BREAKDOWN HAS
TAKEN PLACE." (THIS FEELING IS REFLECTED IN A REUTER'S REPORT
FROM YESTERDAY STATING THAT "THIEU WAS NOT CONFIDENT THAT PRE-
SIDENTIAL ADVISOR HENRY KISSINGER WAS LOOKING AFTER SOUTH VIETNAM'S
INTERESTS AT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS AND THAT THIEU POSITIVELY
DISLIKED GEN. ALEXANDER HAIG.")

WOODRUFF REPORTS THAT THIEU'S MAJOR CONCERN IS WITH THE PRESENCE
OF SAIGON'S ESTIMATE OF 300,000 NORTH VIETNAMESE REGULAR TROOPS
IN SOUTH VIETNAM, AND THE FEAR THAT THE U.S. IS NOT MAKING THIS A
MAJOR ISSUE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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TOHAK 66

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FROM: THE SITUATION
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TO : GEN. HAIG FOR DR. KISSINGER

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER
FROM, THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. GANDHI APPEAR TO BE MAKING AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, BASED ON MRS. GANDHI'S REBAELECTION MESSAGE SENT TO MR. NIXON AND MR. NIXON'S BIRTHDAY MESSAGE SENT TO MRS. GANDHI. THE FULL TEXT OF BOTH MESSAGES ARE INCLUDED.

NICK THIMMESCH OFFERS SOME OPINIONS CONCERNING YOUR INTERVIEW WITH ORIANI FALLACI. HE QUESTIONS WHETHER U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IS "A ONE MAN SHOW NAMED KISSINGER." AFTER LISTING VARIOUS QUOTES OF YOURS EXEMPLIFYING YOUR "EGO VENTING", THIMMESCH CONCLUDES THAT THESE QUOTES, AND THE INTERVIEW THAT THEY CAME FROM, ARE TYPICALLY YOURS AND PROBABLY ACCURATE.

JOSEPH KRAFT'S COLUMN DISCUSSES THE ROLES WHICH MIGHT BE PLAYED BY THE PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR BRANDT IN IMPROVING US RELATIONS WITH EUROPE. HE FEELS THAT WE ARE MISSING A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE BRANDT IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF U.S. GOALS IN AREAS SUCH AS MBFR AND THE COMMON MARKET. KRAFT NOTES THAT THREE DEMOCRATIC SENATORS, INCLUDING EDWARD KENNEDY, WERE INVITED TO BRANDT'S RESIDENCE IN BONN ALONG WITH A COUPLE OF HUNDRED PEOPLE, TO JOIN A POST ELECTION PARTY. SINCE NO REPUBLICANS WERE THERE, IT SHOWS HOW LITTLE THE WEST GERMANS HAVE PREPARED FOR THE RE-KNITTING OF TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND WESTERN EUROPE.

FLORA LEWIS REPORTS THAT YOUR MEETING YESTERDAY WAS THE SHORTEST SO FAR. SOURCES CLOSE TO THE MEETINGS GAVE THE IMPRESSIONS THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE PROCEEDING SLOWLY, ON A MASS OF DETAILED QUESTIONS. THESE SOURCES SAY ITS STILL TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GET THE "CLARIFICATION" SOUGHT BY THE UNITED STATES ON SOME POINTS OF MAJOR SUBSTANCE. THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT THIEU IS SENDING NGUYEN PHU DUC TO PARIS AND PROBABLY ACCOMPANY YOU BACK TO WASHINGTON TO SEE THE PRESIDENT, IS SAID TO BE EVIDENT THAT SAIGON DOES NOT CONSIDER THE DRAFT AGREEMENT A COMPROMISE AT ALL. PRESIDENT THIEU REGARDS THE AGREEMENT PERMITTING HIM TO REMAIN IN POWER UNTIL SAIGON AND THE MIETCONG HAVE AGREED ON ELECTIONS AS AN INSULT. PRESIDENT PARK'S OPPOSITION TO THE DRAFT ACCORD ON NORTH VIETNAM'S TROOP WITHDRAWAL IS ALSO NOTED. PARK SAID IF THE NVA TROOPS ARE NOT PULLED OUT THE SAME TIME AS ALLIED TROOPS, KOREA FORCES SENT TO AID A FRIENDLY COUNTRY WOULD BE BRANDED AS AGGRESSORS.

BERNARD GWERTZMAN SAY THE UNITED STATES IS RUNNING INTO SOME SNAGS ON THE PEACE KEEPING FORCE. ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE CHANCES SEEMED REMOTE THAT MORE THAN A TOKEN FORCE WOULD BE IN OPERATION AT THE TIME OF THE CEASE FIRE IN MIETNAM.

RESULTS OF THE INTERVIEWS BETWEEN SECRETARY ROGERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE FOUR PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN ENNOURAGING. WHILE ALL FOUR AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO PARTICIPATE, ALL HAD QUALMS AND NONE HAS SO FAR PLEDGED TO CONTRIBUTE ANY SIGNIFICANT MANPOWER OR RESOURCES TO THE UNDERTAKING. YOUR BID TO HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL TRUCE GROUP ON SITE AS SOON AS THE CEASE FIRE WENT INTO EFFECT IS NOTED. AN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL POINTED OUT THAT THE NINE POINT DRAFT AGREEMENT DID NOT RESTRICT THE SUPERVISION TO THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP. THE ACCORD CALLS FOR THE CREATION OF A FOUR-PARTY MILITARY COMMITTEE MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE U.S., NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE VIETCONG, AND A TWO PARTY COMMITTEE MADE UP OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE VIETCONG. THIS GROUP WOULD BE REPORTING ON THE SITUATION UNTIL THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP WAS FUNCTIONING.

OFFICIALS SAY THE CEASE-FIRE MECHANISM NOW ENVISIONED IS EXTREMELY COMPLICATED, AND PROVIDES NO IRON-CLAD INSURANCE AGAINST VIOLATIONS. DETAILS MUST WAIT UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE PEACE TALKS IN PARIS. ANOTHER SNAG NOTED IS THAT ONLY THE UNITED STATES HAS PUBLICLY MENTIONED THE FOUR NATIONS CHOSEN FOR THE PEACE KEEPING FORCE. THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN SLOW TO ENDORSE ANY OF THE COUNTRIES TO THE CONTROL BODY.

HANOI HAS ORDERED ALL COMMUNIST FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM TO OBSERVE A CEASE-FIRE SCRUPULOUSLY FOR THE FIRST 60 DAYS AFTER IT GOES INTO EFFECT. ACCORDING TO AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS IN SAIGON, THE DIRECTIVE DOES NOT SAY WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER 60 DAYS. BUT HANOI PREDICTS WIDESPREAD VIOLATIONS BY SOUTH VIETNAM WHICH WOULD GIVE NORTH VIETNAM INTERNATIONAL SANCTION TO RESTART THE WAR.

THE STAR NEWS

IN A FOLLOW-UP TO YESTERDAY'S ARTICLE, HENRY BRADSHER IN SAIGON, SAID THAT ACCORDING TO REPORTS, THIEU NO LONGER TRUSTS YOU OR GENERAL HAIG, TO PROTECT SOUTH VIETNAM'S INTERESTS IN NEGOTIATIONS. THE NEWSPAPER TIN SONG, MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF THIEU WANTING TO SEE PRESIDENT NIXON. TIN SONG SAID NOTHING ABOUT THIEU'S DISTRUSTING YOU AND GENERAL HAIG. THAT REPORT WAS CIRCULATING INSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, INFORMED SOURCES SAID. TIN SONG OFTEN SERVES AS A MOUTHPIECE FOR THIEU'S PALACE. BRADSHER'S ARTICLE WAS PRINTED ON PAGE SEVEN.

HEADLINED IS THE REPORT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE GONE INTO THE 4TH DAY. ALSO FEATURED ON THE FRONT PAGE IS A REPORT FROM SAIGON THAT AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS ARE SAYING THAT HANOI HAS ORDERED VIET CONG AND NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM TO OBSERVE A CEASE-FIRE SCRUPULOUSLY FOR THE FIRST 60 DAYS AFTER IT GOES INTO EFFECT.

(BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAY, THE STAR-NEWS PUBLISHED ONLY AN EARLY EDITION AND IS BASICALLY A REPEAT OF THE MORNING NEWSPAPERS.)

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