

SENSITIVE

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SITUATION(S) MESSAGE(S) LISTING

DATE 09/23/73//266

SITUATION: HAK TRIP
SUBJECT CATEGORY: TOHAK

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

IMMEDIATE

O 211538Z OCT 73

FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK55

TO MR. EAGLEBURGER FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY

TOHAK 55

OCTOBER 21, 1973

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

REF: HAK TO 6

DELIVER IN SEALED ENVELOPE TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER, RETAIN NO FILE COPIES.

1. TO PUT THE ACTIVITIES OF YESTERDAY MORNING, REFERRED TO IN HAK TO 6, IN PERSPECTIVE, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS DEMONSTRATING HIS LEADERSHIP IN THE CRISIS. ALL THE ACTIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE WERE DESIGNED TO ILLUSTRATE THAT HE WAS PERSONALLY IN CHARGE. I AM SURE THAT YOU ARE FULLY AWARE OF ALL THE MOTIVATIONS BEHIND THIS ACTIVITY AND WE DISCUSSED SOME OF THEM BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE.

2. THE TAPE ISSUE AND THE RICHARDSON/RUCKELSHAUS/COX AFFAIR IS NOW DOMINATING THE NEWS AND ACTIVITIES HERE. INITIAL MEDIA REACTION HAS APPEARED QUITE NEGATIVE. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS DOMESTIC CRISIS GAVE ADDITIONAL IMPETUS TO EFFORTS SATURDAY TO SHOW THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ABILITY TO GOVERN WAS UNAFFECTED BY THE WATERGATE RELATED TURMOIL. IN THAT REGARD, I SHOULD POINT OUT THAT THERE WAS NO SPECIAL PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED YESTERDAY, THE "STATEMENT"

TO WHICH YOU REFER CAME OUT AS A PART OF JERRY'S NORMAL BRIEFING, AS I HAVE REPORTED, THE SPECIFICS OF THAT STATEMENT WERE ADDED AT THE LAST MINUTE AND OBVIOUSLY FOR THE REASONS JUST MENTIONED.

3. I HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED THE LETTER TO BREZHNEV. IT AND THE INSTRUCTIONS TO YOU I SHOWED AND DISCUSSED WITH HAIG. I WAS NOT SURPRISED BY YOUR REACTION TO THE MESSAGE OF INSTRUCTIONS BUT, AS YOU HAVE FREQUENTLY SAID, YOU NEED TO KNOW THE PRESIDENT'S

***** WHSR COMMENTS *****

SECFL

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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MOOD AND WHAT HE IS THINKING, THAT MESSAGE OF INSTRUCTIONS
CONVEYED FAR BETTER THAN ANY DESCRIPTION I COULD HAVE GIVEN HIS
MOOD OF THE MOMENT, AS I TRIED TO INDICATE IN THE INTRODUCTORY
PARAGRAPH WITH WHICH I FORWARDED THE INSTRUCTIONS, HAD I
SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED THE INSTRUCTIONS, THAT WHOLE FLAVOR WOULD
HAVE BEEN LOST, NO ONE, REPEAT NO ONE, HAS A COPY AND ONLY HAIG
HAS SEEN THEM,

4. BELIEVE ME, WE ARE DOING OUR BEST,
WARM REGARDS,

450

BT

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