

\*\*\*\*\* T O P S E C R E T \*\*\*\*\*S COPY

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DE WTE #1764 1060933  
D 160535Z APR 74  
FM THE SITUATION ROOM //TOHAKO7//

TO JERRY BREMER FOR SEC. KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA BLACK PATCH WH40978

TOHAKO7

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE  
CONTAINS CODEWORD

APRIL 16, 1974

MORI/CDF per C03346423

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION: BY CONTRAST TO THE HEAVY GROUND AND AIR ACTIVITY ON THE ISRAELI/SYRIAN FRONT OVER THE WEEKEND, INCIDENTS ON THAT FRONT APPEAR TO HAVE TAPERED OFF YESTERDAY AND WERE CONFINED LARGELY TO GROUND ACTION, AGAIN MAINLY IN THE MOUNT HERMON AREA. IN ISRAEL, THE POLITICAL SITUATION REMAINS FLUID, WITH OUR EMBASSY SUGGESTING THAT DEVELOPMENTS POINT INCREASINGLY TOWARDS NEW ELECTIONS IN LATE OCTOBER. THE LABOR ALIGNMENT HAS REQUESTED MORE TIME -- UP TO TWO WEEKS -- TO DECIDE ON ITS POSITION ON THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT, WHILE RIGHTIST OPPOSITION PARTIES LIKUD AND THE NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTY CONTINUE URGING THE EARLY FORMATION OF A NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT. OUR EMBASSY HAS DESCRIBED THE CURRENT RANGE OF OPTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

State Dept., NSA reviews completed

- CONTINUATION OF THE PRESENT CARETAKER GOVERNMENT IF MRS. MEIR AGREES, WITH A POSSIBLE CABINET RESHUFFLE, AND THE HOLDING OF NEW ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER;
- THE FORMATION OF A NEW INTERIM GOVERNMENT ON THE BASIS OF THE PRESENT OR A NEW COALITION, WITH ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER; AND
- THE FORMATION OF A NEW PERMANENT GOVERNMENT NOW.

ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR KEATING, TALK IS CURRENTLY CENTERING ON

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

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SECFILE

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THE FIRST TWO OPTIONS, ESPECIALLY SINCE FINANCE MINISTER SAPIR HAS APPARENTLY REFUSED TO TRY TO LEAD A CABINET. (NIEHUSS/QUANDT)

NORTH KOREA TRIES ROMANIAN CHANNEL WITH LETTER TO CONGRESS: IN ADDITION TO TRYING TO DELIVER A LETTER FROM THEIR PARLIAMENT TO OUR CONGRESS THROUGH OUR UN MISSION, NORTH KOREA HAS ALSO ATTEMPTED TO TRANSMIT THE LETTER THROUGH THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT. (WE REJECTED THE NORTH KOREAN APPROACH IN NEW YORK.) STATE HAS INSTRUCTED OUR EMBASSY IN BUCHAREST TO INFORM THE ROMANIANS THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRANSMIT THE SEALED MESSAGE FROM THEIR EMBASSY HERE TO THE CONGRESS, JUST AS WE DID LAST YEAR. OUR EMBASSY WOULD ADD THAT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF BECOMING INVOLVED IN ANY COMMUNICATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA. WE SUGGESTED TO STATE (EA), WHICH WAS INCLINED TOWARD THIS COURSE IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE THE ROMANIANS, THAT OUR EMBASSY ALSO INFORM THE ROMANIANS THAT WE WERE DOING THIS AS A FAVOR TO THEM IN THIS INSTANCE, BUT THAT WE EXPECTED THEM NOT TO PUT US IN THIS POSITION AGAIN.

THE MESSAGE, YOU MAY RECALL, HOLDS THAT KOREAN UNIFICATION WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY WHEN U.S. INTERFERENCE IN KOREA IS ENDED, AND PROPOSES THAT WE NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH NORTH KOREA A PEACE TREATY TO REPLACE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. (FROEBE)

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OPPOSITION TO PAK GOVERNMENT CONTINUES: OFFICIALS OF THE SOUTH KOREAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES APPEAR RESOLVED TO CONTINUE THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE PAK CHONG-HUI GOVERNMENT DESPITE STERN WARNINGS BY THE AUTHORITIES. APPROXIMATELY 20 OFFICIALS OF THE COUNCIL

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MET ON APRIL 12 TO DRAFT A STATEMENT CRITICIZING THE PAK GOVERNMENT FOR "OPPRESSIVE RULE." THIS ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN STIMULATED IN PART BY THE FACT THAT THE BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN NEW YORK HAS ALSO PREPARED A STATEMENT TERMING THE PAK REGIME AS "INCREASINGLY TOTALITARIAN AND DICTATORIAL." THE NEW YORK STATEMENT ALSO APPEALS TO THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE CLEAR HIS DISPLEASURE WITH THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

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