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DE WTE #1825 1100949
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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK003//

TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SEC. KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD



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TOHAK003

APRIL 20, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

DIA, NSA review(s) completed.

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEMS

ISRAELI/SYRIAN MILITARY SITUATION: TENSIONS ON THE GOLAN FRONT APPEARED TO HAVE ESCALATED ANOTHER STEP YESTERDAY, WITH AIRCRAFT LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES ACCORDING TO THE ISRAELIS. THE MAIN FOCUS OF ACTIVITY CONTINUES TO BE THE MT. HERMON AREA WHERE THE ISRAELIS ARE DEFENDING THEIR POSITIONS ON THE PEAK AGAINST ENCROACHMENTS BY THE SYRIANS.

ON THURSDAY, SYRIAN AIRCRAFT SAW THEIR FIRST ACTION SINCE THE OCTOBER WAR AND SCORED A MODERATE VICTORY SINCE THE ISRAELIS, ACCORDING TO OUR DEFENSE ATTACHE, SCRAMBLED THEIR PLANES BUT WERE TOO LATE TO MAKE CONTACT. SOME 14 SYRIAN MIG-21S WERE SUCCESSFUL IN CONDUCTING A HIGH-SPEED, HIGH-ALTITUDE PAIR OF ATTACKS ON ISRAELI POSITIONS AROUND MT. HERMON AND THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE ISRAELI SALIENT WITHOUT BEING HIT. HEAVY ISRAELI AIR ACTION AND GROUND ACTIVITY CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THAT DAY.

MORI/CDF per C03346435

YESTERDAY, SYRIAN AIRCRAFT REPLAYED THAT SCENARIO WITH FEWER AIRCRAFT AND WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN THE FIRST AIR BATTLE WITH THE ISRAELIS SINCE THE OCTOBER WAR OVER MT. HERMON. THE ISRAELIS ANNOUNCED THEY LOST TWO AIRCRAFT AND DOWNED THREE ON THE SYRIAN SIDE IN BOTH SETS OF ENCOUNTERS. THE SYRIANS HAVE CLAIMED MUCH HEAVIER CASUALTIES ON THE ISRAELI SIDE; HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO OFFICIAL VERIFICATION.

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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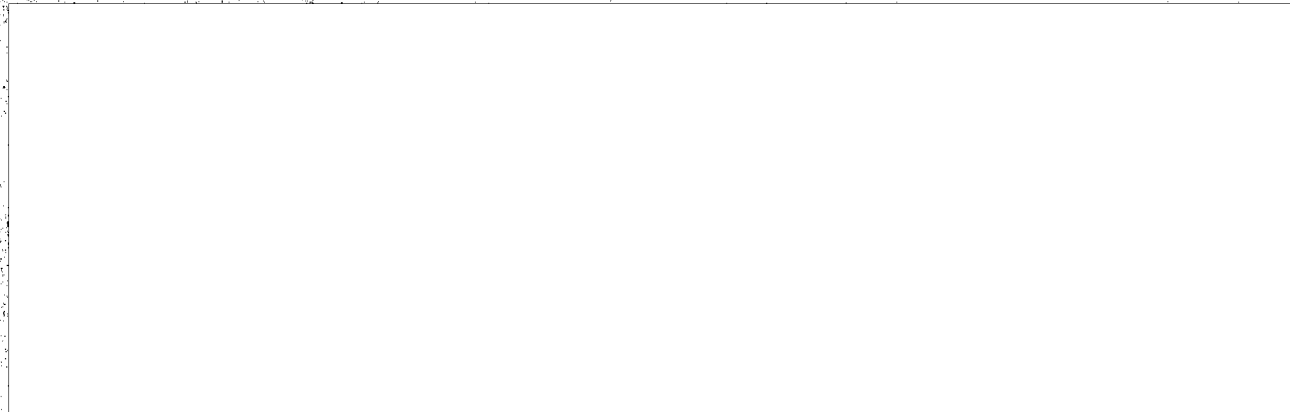


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THE SYRIANS REPORT THIS MORNING THAT BOTH SIDES EXCHANGED ARTILLERY FIRE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND HAS CONTINUED IN AREAS AROUND MOUNT HERMON AND ELSEWHERE ON THE GOLAN FRONT. (NIEHUS/SAUNDERS)

REACTIONS TO YOUR MEETINGS WITH INDIANS AND TURKS: THE INDIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN VERY PROMINENT AND FAVORABLE TREATMENT TO YOUR MONDAY MEETING IN NEW YORK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SINGH. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS IN INDIA GAVE AN OVERALL IMPRESSION OF AN UPBEAT AND EVENTFUL MEETING WHICH GREATLY INCREASED THE LIKELIHOOD OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, OTHER KINDS OF U.S.-INDIAN COOPERATION, AND A VISIT BY YOU TO INDIA IN JUNE.

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IN TURKEY, THE PRESS HAS BEGUN TO CLAIM THAT YOU WENT ALONG WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GUNES WHEN HE IMPLIED TO YOU MONDAY THAT TURKEY WOULD RESUME OPIUM PRODUCTION WITH CONTROLS. THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING PRESS GUIDANCE WHICH WILL HAVE THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAY, IF ASKED, THAT OUR POLICY ON THE TURKISH OPIUM BAN HAS NOT CHANGED. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, TRURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL WEDNESDAY TOLD OUR DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY CHIEF, JOHN BARTELS, THAT ANKARA'S FINAL DECISION ON RESUMING OPIUM PRODUCTION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE, AND THAT THE DECISION DEPENDS ON THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S OWN EVALUATION OF THE CONTROL PLANS IT IS NOW FORMULATING. ESENBEL LATER TOLD DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS PRIVATELY THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO DELAY THE TURKISH DECISION BY "PICKING HOLES" IN THE CONTROL PLAN. (APPELBAUM/SAUNDERS)

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BANGLADESH-PAKISTAN RELATIONS: DACCA AND ISLAMABAD ARE SHOWING INTEREST IN TAKING FURTHER STEPS TO RESOLVE ISSUES THAT STILL SEPARATE THEM.



PAKISTANI FOREIGN MINISTER AZIZ AHMED, LONG KNOWN AS A HARDLINER TOWARD BANGLADESH AND INDIA, MADE SOME VERY CONCILIATORY STATEMENTS REGARDING BOTH COUNTRIES ON PAKISTANI TELEVISION THIS WEEK. AHMED ALSO SAID PUBLICLY THAT HE BELIEVES PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS MAY BE ESTABLISHED "VERY SOON."

DESPITE THE APPARENTLY CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE OF BOTH PARTIES, THE REMAINING ISSUES ARE COMPLEX AND LIKELY TO INVOLVE HARD AND PROTRACTED BARGAINING. THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEMS ARE THE DIVISION OF PRE-WAR PAKISTAN'S ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND DACCA'S CONTINUING EFFORT TO GET PAKISTAN TO TAKE MORE THAN THE 140,000 "BIHARI" REFUGEES ISLAMABAD HAS ALREADY AGREED TO ACCEPT.

MEANWHILE, THE APRIL 9 TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF THE 195 ACCUSED PAKISTANI POWS REMOVED THE MAIN IMPEDIMENT TO CHINESE RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH AND ACQUIESCENCE IN ITS ENTRY INTO THE UN. SO FAR, HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY SIGNS OF AN IMMINENT CHINESE MOVE ON THESE ISSUES. THE CHINESE MAY BE WAITING UNTIL ALL THE PAKISTANI POWS HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN REPATRIATED, AND/OR FOR A GREEN LIGHT FROM BHUTTO, BEFORE EASING THEIR ANTI-BANGLADESH POSTURE OPENLY. (APPELBAUM/ SAUNDERS)

MALAYSIAN-CHINESE RECOGNITION: MALAYSIA AND CHINA HAVE COMPLETED THEIR EXTENDED DISCUSSIONS AT THE UN ON MUTUAL RECOGNITION. AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON RECOGNITION WILL BE MADE DURING PRIME MINISTER RAZAK'S PLANNED VISIT TO CHINA, NOW SCHEDULED FOR MAY 28-JUNE 2. BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO SETTLE UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS AFTER RELATIONS ARE ESTABLISHED. TWO MATTERS PENDING ARE PROCEDURES FOR PEKING'S PROVIDING DOCUMENTATION TO CHINESE RESIDENTS OF MALAYSIA WHO HAVE NOT ADOPTED MALAYSIAN CITIZENSHIP AND A MALAYSIAN DESIRE TO LIMIT THE SIZE OF THE CHINESE DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN KUALA LUMPUR.

MAURITIUS PRIME MINISTER ON DIEGO GARCIA: ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM CALLED ON MAURITIAN PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM IN NEW YORK RECENTLY. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON DIEGO GARCIA, RAMGOOLAM

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SAID IN CONFIDENCE THAT HIS UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UK AT THE TIME MAURITIUS BECAME INDEPENDENT WAS THAT CHAGOS ARCHIPILAGO WOULD REVERT TO MAURITIUS; IF AND WHEN THE UK NO LONGER HAD A DEFENSE NEED FOR IT, ACCORDING TO RAMGOOLAM, MAURITIUS WOULD RETAIN "BENEFICIAL RIGHTS"-- PRIMARILY MINERAL AND FISHING RIGHTS -- IN THE AREA. RAMGOOLAM SAID THESE POINTS WERE CONTAINED IN MINUTES OF NEGOTIATIONS AND NOT IN THE FORMAL AGREEMENT. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE IS NOT PERSONALLY DISTURBED BY OR OPPOSED TO PROPOSED EXPANSION OF U.S. NAVAL FACILITIES AT DIEGO GARCIA. HE DID INDICATED PRESSURES WERE BEING EXERCISED ON HIM BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA FOR A TOUGHER STANCE ON THE ISLAND. ALTHOUGH THIS IS CAUSING DIFFICULTIES FOR HIM, HE IS TRYING TO SAY AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE IN PUBLIC. (HOBAN)

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