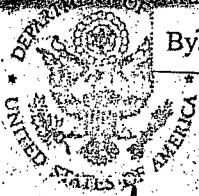


DECLASSIFIED

Authority E.O. 12958

By AB NARA Date 8/26/03



Department of State

TELEGRAM

W.H. W...

SECRET

Z 141826Z OCT 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA FLASH 2987
BT
SECRET STATE 203672

CONTROL: 3755
RECD: 14 OCT 73Z 19 05

NODIS

NAC -> Faisal

E.O. 11652 - XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, SA
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO THE KING FROM THE SECRETARY
FOR THE CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY

(on US airtel)

Faisal copy of this

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO KING FAISAL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR MAJESTY:

I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU AS A FRIEND, AND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE CLOSE AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP THAT EXISTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA, OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AS WE SEE IT.

THE BLOODSHED CONTINUES WITH SUBSTANTIAL LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES- I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IN THE LAST THREE DAYS I HAVE MADE A MAJOR DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT AN END TO THE HOSTILITIES ON THE BASIS OF THE PRESENT DISPOSITION OF FORCES. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A DESIRE ON EITHER SIDE TO STOP THE BLOODSHED AT PRESENT, AND OUR EFFORTS HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED. IN THIS CONNECTION, A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR HAS BEEN THE FAILURE OF THE SOVIET UNION TO COOPERATE AS MUCH AS WE ALL WOULD HAVE DESIRED IN THE EFFORT TO TERMINATE THE HOSTILITIES.

IN ADDITION, YOUR MAJESTY, THE SOVIETS HAVE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE IN LAUNCHING A MASSIVE AIRLIFT OF ARMS. THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY SEEKING TO EXPLOIT THE SITUATION TO THEIR OWN ADVANTAGE IN THE ARAB WORLD. OUR INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS IN THEIR AIRLIFT HAS REACHED 200 AS OF THE MOMENT. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES,

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-2-STATE 203672, OCT 14

WE HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BEGIN OUR OWN AIRLIFT. IT IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT IT WAS ONLY AFTER THE SOVIET SUPPLY EFFORT HAD REACHED MASSIVE PROPORTIONS THAT OURS BEGAN.

I HOPE, YOUR MAJESTY, YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT OUR AIRLIFT IS NOT INTENDED AS ANTI-ARAB. IT BECAME INEVITABLE WHEN THE SOVIETS MOVED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION INSTEAD OF USING THEIR INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR A CEASEFIRE WHICH WOULD END THE FIGHTING AND IT BECAME NECESSARY IF WE ARE TO REMAIN IN A POSITION TO USE OUR INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE.

I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT AS SOON AS AN EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, WE ARE PREPARED TO STOP OUR AIRLIFT PROMPTLY PROVIDED THE SOVIETS DO THE SAME.

I HOPE, YOUR MAJESTY, THAT IN OUR COMMON INTERESTS, YOU WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SHARE WITH YOUR ARAB BROTHERS THIS EXPLANATION OF OUR PRESENT ACTIONS.

SINCERELY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

END TEXT.

3. CHARGE SHOULD DELIVER THE MESSAGE AT THE OPENING OF BUSINESS LOCAL TIME MONDAY, OCTOBER 15. EARLIER DELIVERY IS NOT REQUIRED OR DESIRED. PLEASE INFORM WHEN DELIVERY COMPLETED. KISSINGER

BT

#3672

DRAFTED BY: NEA:JJSISCO
APPROVED BY: THE SECRETARY

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