

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority E.O. 12958  
By TD NARA Date 10/24/01

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10/24/73*

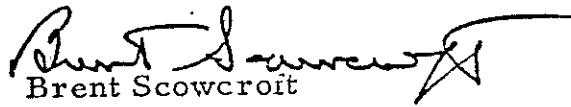
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1973

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Dr. Kissinger would appreciate it if you would dispatch the attached message from the President to the General Secretary. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Brent Scowcroft  
Major General, USAF  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

*This is the message  
Henry promised you  
when he passed the  
bulk of it to you  
by phone.  
B.*

His Excellency  
Anatoliy F. Dobrynin  
Ambassador of the Union of  
Soviet Socialist Republics  
1125 - 16th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

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Dear Mr. General Secretary:

The U. S. Government wishes to inform the Soviet Government of the urgent steps which it has taken to stop the renewed outbreak of fighting in the Middle East:

(1) The Israeli Government was informed that any further offensive operations would lead to a severe deterioration of relations between the Israeli and the U. S. Governments.

(2) The United States requested that its own military attache personnel from the U. S. Embassy in Tel Aviv personally observe Israeli military activity in the area of renewed fighting to insure that no offensive action was taken by Israeli forces.

(3) I personally intervened with the Prime Minister of Israel to halt the fighting.

The United States has since received the following formal assurances:

- The U. S. military attache has been invited to the front.
- At no place since the beginning of the ceasefire at 7:00 a. m. today have the Israelis tried to advance. They will not try to do so.
- At 7:00 a. m. local time today the Israelis asked the UN observers to move into place on all roads leading from the Canal westward so that they would ascertain that there were no troop movements.

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- 2 -

-- The Israelis have no intention of moving their force on the West Bank across to the East Bank to attack Egyptian forces on that side of the Canal. The Israelis are trying to "absorb fire without answer." There has been no activity on the northern sector of the Egyptian front, nor on the Syrian front.

-- Those observers stationed in Cairo have not yet arrived at the front, probably because the Egyptians are detaining them. Any influence which could be exerted on Cairo to permit them to come to the front would be appreciated.

At the same time, the United States Government wishes to point out to the Soviet Government the following information which it has received:

-- The Israelis are in possession of a message from the Egyptian Minister of War issued during the height of the fighting which:

- (1) calls on the forces to continue fighting;
- (2) promises air support;
- (3) says that 250 tanks are being sent from Cairo to break through Israeli forces on the West Bank.

-- The Israelis know there is movement in the armored division stationed near Cairo but they do not know whether the division is moving toward the West Bank nor do they know how many tanks the division has.

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- 3 -

In light of these assurances and actions on the part of the U. S. Government, it is requested that the Soviet Government guarantee that the Egyptian side is also scrupulously observing the ceasefire agreement.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

His Excellency  
Leonid I. Brezhnev  
General Secretary of the Central Committee  
of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union  
The Kremlin  
Moscow