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TELCON
Secretary Kissinger/Gen. Haig
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K: ..he has no excuse--I explained the strategy to him in great detail.
But he's afraid of Clements.

H: Yeh, his first comment to me was that they have spent a long meeting
tonight with the military attache and there was no mention of ammunition
at all except--

K: Dinitz told me they had Clements, Noyes and all the enemies in there
and their afraid it will get to the Arabs.

H: Ah huh.

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K:

[Redacted]

H: Yeh. Another thing is Jim told me that because of this odd _____ mission,
it is suddenly it's critical--take ten planes a day. He's ready to move
M~~16~~ aircraft. ~~The S (?) aircraft~~ in there immediately. I think that would
be foolish.

K: That would be a disaster, Al. How can he can he ^{fuck} ~~cancel~~ everything up for
week, he can't now recoup it the day the diplomacy is supposed to start.

H: He said they have no permission yet to transfer from the Azores. And,

K: We both have been in this business a long time. Do you believe that the
Defense department couldn't get civilian charters --that Clements could
get on the phone and say listen you sons-of-bitches, if you ever want
to get Defenset Dept. business again, you better charter.

H: I find that hard to believe. Pretty hard to believe because these charters
live on Defense contracts.

K: All right. You know goddamn well they didn't try.

H: I don't think it 's good for me to call Clements -I've had a piece of Jim's
ass for about as heavy as it can be. I told him to get on the phone and call
you right now. To have his man call the Israeli man and said for God
sake don't put on one of these characters who had been handpicked four
years ago to be anti-Israel. And get the goddamn facts military to
military. Keep the civilians out of it, find out what the hell they need.

31

K: Because you know yourself that if they failed and we carry the can for it what political penalties ^{we} they are going to pay and what foreign policy penalties. We have to have our nose clean and the hell of it is this whole operation was going to work.

H: Well, he said the stuff is there in the Azores, he felt that's what was to be done.

K: But Al, you know, we've been through a lot of this stuff before.

H: Yeh, I know.

K: They always do the one thing that doesn't get to Israel. You know they'll dump it in the Azores, they'll take it to the North Pole, they'll get it to Greenland, Antarctica, any place. When the President says get it to the Azores, that was one of the options. He is the Secretary of Defense.

H: Yeh. That's right, I haven't any problem with that. But when you have a situation like this, there are people over there that aren't communicating. And if intention is sanitizing, the only way to hang their ass is to sit down and go through the options with them and just ram it down their throat. Right now, there are about three things that can be done. One is they should order these charters to do this.

K: Have you told them that?

H: Yes.

K: Should I get back to him?

H: Yeh. The second thing, Henry, that they should do is to move these 10 aircraft.

K: That I've already told them.

H: I told it to them and he said he's moving them. But I'm not even sure he knows where he's moving them or whether or not he can have the pilots in the Azores to pick them up or whether we should send the pilots right on in with them.

K: Now do --the easiest would be to get the pilots to the Azores, because by the time we get them there, these pilots could be in the Azores. But if worse comes to worse, let us bring them in.

H: Sure. And that's the question that requires immediate discussion with the Israelis--can they have 10 pilots there or ten crews and send the planes immediately. Now they won't get in there till tomorrow night at earliest.

H: Then the next thing is we do have the option of sending some American planes in there. I think that's a high risk for us--

K I think it's stupid.

H: Yeh. So then they have the regular lift into the Azores with the Israeli--

K: And they'll have some _____ going.

H: Right and the next thing on the charter is you order them. So you've got three things--you've got the 10 aircraft on immediate release basis

K: And of course the whole goddamn strategy will now be out of whack because what will now happen is that the stuff will arrive just in time when you want them to strip at that moment they will have to send it for attack.

H: This is something that represents the authority to do something. That they were asked to do. None of the Israelis have asked them up to now for equipment. The aircraft deliveries--they'll have a + case or miss the first two, they've got two in today. Agreed to have 10 in by Sunday--four moving Sunday and two everyday in between. Hell I think you ought to send them all. Move them right now--giving this crap about well three planes instead of two on the deliveries, you've got that kind of problem. And they feel they're not going to be able to do the job, I'd take some risks on that--tell them to move 5 today and 5 tomorrow. He is going to do the damn minimum that he'll be told to do.

K: But you see the trouble now is, Al, if they had gone _____ this week, then the Israelis would be rolling now, then we could stop them while they are rolling. As it is now they didn't achieve what they wanted, therefore they will hoard the stuff we are getting in, drive out the negotiations and then strike. So that now the diplomacy will fail and -- you see what I mean? -- and we'll have yielded.

H: Oh sure, that can happen.

K: Okay, I'll get him right away.

H: I tell you he's ready to do it, and I told him if he doesn't do it, goddamn we'll make some changes over there tonight, if we have to.

K: Good. Thank you. I think that announcement will --went well tonight. Don't you?

K:

H: Yeh. He is good. And I think he is a right choice.

H: I'm here if you need any --I told him the President is out after him.

K: Thank you..

33

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