

Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

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SCOWCROFT

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SAUNDERS

ACTION CCO-00

INFO OCT-01 PASS-00 /001 /

S E C R E T / NODIS / CHEROKEE

023745

Z 171740Z DEC 73
FM HENRY A. KISSINGER
TO USINT CAIRO
INFO SEC STATE WASH DC
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY LISBON

SECTO 172

E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: PFOR, OVIP SUBJECT MESSAGE TO PRISIDENT SADAT YOU SHOULD PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO SADAT THROUGH FAHMI AS QUICKLY AS REASONABLY POSSIBLE: 'DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I HAVE JUST COMPLETED MY TALKS IN ISRAEL AND WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I HAD VERY GOOD DISCUSSIONS ON EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT ALONG THE LINES OF MY DISCUSSION WITH YOU. I AM CONFIDENT THAT A SERIOUS AND SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION IS POSSIBLE WHEN THE WORKING GROUP STARTS ITS TALKS IN GENEVA IN EARLY JANUARY AND THAT IT CAN BE COMPLETED DURING JANUARY, I SHALL SPEAK FURTHER TO YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER ABOUT THIS WHEN WE MEET IN GENEVA. " THE IMPORTANT ISSUE NOW REMAINS TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION. THE ISRAELIS HAVE TOLD ME THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN DISCUSSION OF AN ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT PROMPTLY AND TO ALLOW THE 15,000 OR SO SYRIAN VILLAGERS DISPLACED IN THE RECENT WAR TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. BEFORE ANY OF THIS IS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, SYRIA MUST PROVIDE A LIST OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR THEY HOLD AND MUST ALLOW RED CROSS VISITS TO THOSE PRISDERS. I BELIEVE I CAN BE HELPFUL IN A SERIOUS DISENGAGEMENT EFFORT ON THIS FRONT AS ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT BUT ONLY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONFERENCE, INDEED, I CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT ISRAEL EILL STAY AT THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE IF SYRIA IS PRESENT AND HAS NOT PROVIDED A PRISONER LIST BEFORE THE CONFERENCE, I HOPE THAT YOU CAN



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USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO PERSUADE SYRIA TO CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR THE PROGRESS WHICH IS NOW SO ATTAINABLE. "AS I LEAVE THE MIDDLE EAST, MR. PRESIDENT, I WANT NOT ONLY TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY BUT ALSO TO TELL YOU AGAIN HOW MUCH I CONTINUE TO ADMIRE THE STATESMANSHIP WITH WHICH YOU ARE PROCEEDING. "WARM PERSONAL REGARDS. "HENRY A. KISSINGER". SECRET /NODIS/CHEROKEE

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