

SENSITIVE

PAGE 9 SITUATION(S) MESSAGE(S) LISTING

DATE 11/16/73//320

SITUATION: HAK TRIP
SUBJECT CATEGORY: HAKTO

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:
IMMEDIATE

0 061615Z NOV 73
FM HENRY A. KISSINGER HAKTO 7

TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE

HAKTO 07

0)

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING REPORT TO PRESIDENT ON MY FIRST DAY'S MEETING WITH KING HASSAN IN RABAT. I MET PRIVATELY WITH KING HASSAN IN HIS PRIVATE OFFICE AT 11:00 PM MONDAY EVENING NOV 5, FOR AN HOUR AND 15 MINUTES. WE HAD A GENERAL PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION OF THE ARAB ISRAELI CONFLICT. HE EXPRESSED HIS DEEP APPRECIATION THAT YOU WERE SHOWING SUCH CONSIDERATION TOWARDS MOROCCO BY SENDING ME TO RABAT FIRST. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THIS WAS AN UNFORGETTABLE GESTURE. HE EXPRESSED GREAT PERSONAL ADMIRATION FOR YOU. HE PLEDGED THAT HIS SMALL COUNTRY WOULD DO ALL NOULD TO FACILITATE YOUR TASK IN RESOLVING THE PRESENT CRISIS. HE TOLD ME AT THE END THAT HE WOULD CABLE PRESIDENT SADAT AFTER HIS MEETINGS WITH ME AND TELL SADAT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ESPECIALLY YOU WERE HONORABLE AND COULD BE TRUSTED. HE WOULD TELL SADAT FURTHER THAT WE WERE EXACT AND PRECISE, NOT ROMANTIC, AND THAT CONFIDENCE HAD TO BE BUILT AND SECRECY HAD TO BE PRESERVED. HE WILL ALSO WRITE TO FAISAL. I THANKED THE KING AND TOLD HIM THIS WOULD HELP TREMENDOUSLY. MOST OF OUR CONVERSATION WAS TAKEN WITH THE KING'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND OF THE MOTIVATIONS OF THE ARAB LEADERS.

--THERE WERE THREE CATEGORIES OF LEADERS: THOSE WHO WANTED PEACE AND HAD THE COURAGE TO SAY SO (AMONG WHOM HE INCLUDED MOROCCO, TUNISIA, JORDAN, EGYPT AND SYRIA) ; THOSE WHO WANTED PEACE BUT

***** WHSR COMMENTS *****

SCOWCROFT, HOWE, SECFL

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COULD ONLY FOLLOW OTHERS (SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT AND ALGERIA); AND THOSE FOR WHOM PEACE IS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR DOMESTIC REASONS (IRAQ AND ISRAEL).

-- THE PALESTINIANS, THE KING SAID, WERE THE JOKER IN THE DECK. THIS ISSUE WAS AN APHRODISIAC FOR THE ARABS; NO ONE WOULD DARE DO ANYTHING AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS. THE KING THOUGHT THE PALESTINIANS WERE INTERESTED IN CONTACT WITH THE US, AND THAT IF THE US COULD WIN THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PALESTINIANS, THEN NO ARAB NATION WOULD FAIL TO FOLLOW.

--THE KING BELIEVED THAT EGYPT AND SYRIA WERE BOTH FIRMLY RESISTING SOVIET INFLUENCE. THE SYRIAN HE SAID, HAD WITHSTOOD TWO YEARS OF SOVIET PRESSURE TO SIGN A FRIENDSHIP TREATY. THE US PROBLEM WAS TO MAKE UP FOR TIME WE HAD LOST AND TO PRESENT SOME EVIDENCE OF US GOODWILL. THE GAP BETWEEN THE US AND THESE COUNTRIES WAS WIDE, BUT IT WAS A " SENTIMENTAL GAP," NOT AN IDEOLOGICAL GAP.

--IT WAS THE KING'S JUDGMENT THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED WITH ISRAEL WHEN IT HAD LEADERS WHO BELONGED TO THE NEW GENERATION. THE NEW GENERATION ON BOTH SIDES COULD TALK TO EACH OTHER; THE ELDERS WERE THE OBTSACLE.

I TOLD THE KING THAT WE NEEDED ABOUT ONE MONTH TO ORGANIZE OUR STRATEGY IN THE US AND PREPARE OUR DOMESTIC SITUATION. WE NEEDED A STRATEGY FIRST, BEFORE COMING UP WITH ANY SPECIFIC PLAN. THEN WE WOULD MOVE DECISIVELY. I HOPED WE COULD BEGIN THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS IN DECEMBER AND BEGIN TO SHOW PROGRESS IN JANUARY.

IN THE MEANTINE WE NEEDED FROM THE ARABS SOME PATIENCE AND SOME WILLINGNESS NOT TO MAKE US WASTE OUR ENERGIES IN EPIC STRUGGLES OVER TRIVIA. THE OIL BOYCOTT, I ALSO POINTED OUT, WORKED AGAINST ARAB INTERESTS BECAUSE IT WOULD AROSE PUBLIC OPINION IN AMERICA AGAINST THE ARABS. THE KING SAID HE WOULD USE HIS INFLUENSE IN THIS SENSE.

ENDALL
GRNC

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