

30 JUN 73 23 19z

*Ambassador informed  
Will read 0830  
2 July.*

20629 *MT*

P 301944Z JUN 73 ZFF-1 ZFF-4

FM THE WHITE HOUSE

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

ZEM

~~S E C R E T~~ SENSITIVE EYES ONLY  WH31815

TO AMBASSADOR HELMS, EYES ONLY

FROM HENRY KISSINGER, WHITE HOUSE

REF TEHRAN

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE CALLING ATTENTION TO
2. WE ARE GIVING ACTIVE ATTENTION NOW TO THE WHOLE RANGE OF PROBLEMS AROUND THE ARABIAN PENINSULA. I NOTICED A COUPLE OF DAYS AFTER RECEIVING YOUR MESSAGE, JIDDA'S TELEGRAM 2573 NOTING THAT THE SAUDIS HAD DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH THEIR EMERGENCY ARMS SHIPMENT TO YEMEN. THIS ILLUSTRATES ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE. ON THE ONE HAND, WE HAVE AN INTEREST IN HOLDING BACK A LITTLE BIT IN ORDER TO GET THE SAUDIS INTO THE HABIT OF ASSUMING MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY ON THEIR PERIMETER. ON THE OTHER HAND, IN BOTH OMAN AND YEMEN WE HAVE WITNESSED SAUDI SLOWNESS AND INEFFICIENCY. THE ISSUE FOR US RIGHT NOW IS TO AVOID JUMPING IN SO SOON THAT THE

SAUDIS WILL NOT FEEL OBLIGED TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS.

3. IN ANY CASE, I CONTINUE TO BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR KEEPING A WATCHFULL EYE ON ALL OF THESE MATTERS. WE WILL DO THE SAME. I HOPE THAT AS FAR AS YEMEN IS CONCERNED THE SAUDI DECISION WILL PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD. IF YOU FEEL MORE SHOULD BE DONE, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH ME IMMEDIATELY.

4. I ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM WITH GROMYKO. I WILL TALK TO YOU WHEN YOU RETURN WITH THE SHAH.

WARM REGARDS.

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