

UNCLASSIFIED

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TO USDCI ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE 2096
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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), PFOR
SUBJECT: REPORTAGE OF TRAVELING PRESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 1
FOR ANDERSON FROM HARESUMMARY: ALL PAPERS, EXCEPT CAN, CARRY TRAVELING REPORTERS
ARTICLES ON TRIP, ALTHOUGH NEWS DOMINATED BY WHITE HOUSE
RELEASE OF TRANSCRIPTS. FOCUS IS WARMTH OF RECEPTION IN
EGYPT AND NAX'S "INCREASED HOPE" FOR DISENGAGEMENT FOLLOW-
ING GENEVA AND ALSHARA. WIDE COVERAGE FAIR TO MODERATE.
LEAD IS SADAT'S "FULL CONFIDENCE" IN SECRETARY; SADAT'S
SPEECH; AND POSSIBILITY THAT ARMS RELATIONSHIP MIGHT BE
DISCUSSED.

1. SWERTZMAN (NYT) PAGE 1 ABOVE FOLD STORY "KISSINGER MEET-
ING SADAT ON SYRIA DISENGAGEMENT" CHARACTERIZES FRIENDLY
MOOD OF NAX-SADAT MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA WITH SADAT'S WORDS
TO MRS. KISSINGER: "YOU'RE AMONG HENRY'S FAMILY." KISSIN-
GER QUOTED IN ALIGNED ENTREPRENEUR "INCREASED HOPE" FOR
SUCCESSFUL DISENGAGEMENT AS RESULT OF "UNDERSTANDING AND
SUPPORT" GIVEN BY SOMMEDIENE. ON SCENARIO FOR DISENGAGE-
MENT, AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAY BOTH SIDES REJECTED PLANS
SUBMITTED BY OTHER. SOME OFFICIALS REPORTED FAVORING
ISRAELI PULLBACK TO EL MONEITHA, WITH SYRIA DROPPING IN-
SISTENCE ON MAJOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM 400 SQUARE MILES
OCCUPIED IN 1967. AMERICAN OFFICIALS ALSO SEEN IN FAVOR
OF PRISONER EXCHANGE IN EARLY PHASE OF DISENGAGEMENT ALONG
WITH SIGNIFICANT UN PRESENCE IN BUFFER ZONE. ON AID TO
EGYPT, OFFICIALS ON KISSINGER PLANE INSIST NO REQUEST RE-
CEIVED FROM EGYPT FOR US ARMS AND ISSUE NOT A MAJOR TOPIC
DURING PRESENT VISIT. SWERTZMAN HAS OFFICIALS ACKNOW-
LEDGING DECISION TO STOP AID FOR EGYPT MOTIVATED BY DESIRE
TO ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT EGYPTIAN COURSE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS

2. BERGER STORY ON PAGE 15 OF POST: "HOPEFUL KISSINGER
SEES SADAT," WITH PIX OF BEAMING NAX AND SOMMEDIENE SHAK-
ING HANDS. BERGER QUOTES NAX'S "INCREASED HOPE" COMMENT ON
MID-EAST PROSPECTS. REPORTERS TRAVELING WITH NAX TOLD

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BOTH SIDES MUST COMPROMISE, BUT APPARENTLY ISRAEL MUST MAKE FIRST MOVE. SENIOR OFFICIAL ON PLANE RECOGNIZES RISKS FOR ISRAEL IN WITHDRAWAL, BUT SAYS DEADLOCK RISKIER. SENIOR CHARACTERIZED OPTIMISTIC MOOD OF ALEXANDRIA WHERE DISENGAGEMENT REPORTEDLY SEEN AS FAIT ACCOMPLI, IN CONTRAST TO NAX'S EMPHASIS ON COMPLEXITIES OF DISENGAGEMENT. ALSO, SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL TRAVELING WITH KISSINGER REVEALS NAX MET WITH JEWISH LEADERS LAST THURSDAY TO ASSURE THEM OF HIS INTENTION.

3. JHARVALA IN GLOBE ARTICLE PAGE 15 (PIX OF SADAT GREETING NAX AND MR. KISSINGER IN ALEXANDRIA) STRESSES OPTIMISTIC MOOD, UNPRECEDENTED WARMTH OF SADAT RECEPTION. IN JHARVALA'S WORDS, "THE (NAX) WAS RECEIVED WITH HARMONY THAT HAS NOT BEEN DISPLAYED IN PUBLIC BY ANY EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL IN OVER TWO DECADES." REPORTS NAX ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE SOVIETS AND STATES THAT ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IS CONTINUED TENSION AND CONFLICT.

4. O'LEARY STORY PAGE 4 UNDER HEAD "KISSINGER SLEIGHT-OF-HAND: SYRIA-ISRAEL DEAL APPEARS IN SIGHT," WITH PIX OF SADAT GREETING NAX AND MR. KISSINGER. HAS NAX INCREASINGLY CERTAIN DISENGAGEMENT ATTAINABLE. SAYS SOME KISSINGER-WATCHERS FEEL NEXT STEPS ORCHESTRATED IN ADVANCE, AS IN PREVIOUS CASES OF SYRIAN POW LIST AND DATE FOR END OF OIL EMBARGO. DEDUCES NAX CAN SELL ISRAELIS ON FIRST-PHASE WITHDRAWAL IF PRISONER RELEASE ASCERTAINED. REPORTS HE WILL PRESS FOR INTERPOSITION OF UN FORCES RATHER THAN OBSERVERS.

5. CSM CARRIES NO REPORT FROM SAIKOWSKI. PAGE 1 ARTICLE BY JOHN COOLEY DATED LINED ALEXANDRIA.

6. AP - SCHWEID LEADS WITH SADAT'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE SECRETARY AND FACT HE IS FULLY CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL WORK OUT DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. ACCORDING EGYPTIAN SOURCES, ONLY TWO OBSTACLES ARE LINKS TO FURTHER STEPS TOWARD PEACE AND CONTROL OF THREE VANTAGE POINTS WEST OF MT.

HERNON. AMERICAN SOURCES CAUTION, HOWEVER, NO DEAL IN OFFING AND PREDICT PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS. SCHWEID ALSO HAS SADAT SAYING US ARMS SUPPLIES MIGHT BE DISCUSSED.

UPI - (NO BYLINE) COVERS SAME GROUND AS AP. LEAD IS ALSO SADAT'S "FULL CONFIDENCE" IN SECRETARY. ALSO, AMERICAN SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED SECRETARY'S RETURN TO ALEXANDRIA AROUND NOON SATURDAY WITHOUT EXPLANATION EXCEPT THAT "THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS IT WORTHWHILE TO RETURN HERE."

RUSH