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TOSEC 95**

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 1713  
BT  
UNCLAS STATE 224717

Oct 11 17 02 '74

TOSEC 95

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)  
SUBJECT:TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE: RADIO/TV 10/11/74

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

1. ALL MORNING RADIO NETWORK PROGRAMS OCT. 11 REPORT ON ACCIDENT IN PLANE USING FOLLOWING VOICE COMMENT FROM SECRETARY:

"I WAS STANDING IN THE REAR COMPARTMENT TALKING TO SOME PEOPLE WHEN I HEARD WHAT SOUNDED TO ME LIKE A TRAY FALLING DOWN AND MINUTES LATER SOMEBODY CALLED FOR A DOCTOR. I WENT TO MY FORWARD COMPARTMENT BECAUSE I THOUGHT THE PLANE WAS TAKING OFF AND SOME SECURITY PEOPLE CAME IN AND PULLED DOWN THE SHADES SAYING THE SOMEBODY HAD BEEN WOUNDED AND IT TURNED OUT TO BE WALTER BOTHE. AS IT APPEARED, HE WAS WOUNDED BY ONE OF HIS OWN GUNS THAT HAD FALLED OFF THE RACK DURING TAKEOFF. I KNEW HE WOULD TAKE DRASTIC STEPS TO GET OFF MY DETAIL BUT HE HAS GONE TO EXTREMES TO DO THIS."

2. OTHER COVERAGE GENERALLY SCANT. FOLLOWING TWO KALB REPORTS ALSO MONITORED:

A. CBS - RADIO FROM CAIRO: IT IS BELIEVED KISSINGER

CONVEYED ISRAEL'S LATEST THINKING TO THE EGYPTIAN LEADERS AND THAT SADAT AND FAHMI EMPHASIZED THEIR INTERESTS IN PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN ANOTHER GENEVA CONFERENCE. KISSINGER IS NOT ECSTATIC ABOUT SUCH A MEETING NOW -- FIRST, BECAUSE THE ISRAELIS WILL OBJECT TO A SEPARATE PALESTINIAN DELEGATION AND, SECOND, BECAUSE HE, KISSINGER, FEELS THE CONFERENCE IS USEFUL ONLY TO RATIFY THE RESULTS OF A PRIOR NEGOTIATION. OTHERWISE IT MIGHT EASILY DETERIORATE INTO A PROPAGANDA SHOUTING MATCH. THEREFORE, KISSINGER WANTS TO SET UP A NEGOTIATION FIRST AND THE CONFERENCE LATER. SOME ARABS DISAGREE. IF KISSINGER CAN PERSUADE SADAT TO GO HIS WAY THEN HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL OFF ANOTHER COUP.

B. CBS TV-RADIO FROM DAMASCUS: KISSINGER FLEW INTO DAMASCUS HOPING TO COUNSEL PATIENCE HERE BUT KNOWING THAT IMPATIENCE HAS BEEN FUELED IN SYRIA BY FRESH AND CONTINUING INFUSIONS OF SOVIET ARMS. HE COMPLETED THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PEACE-MAKING EFFORT LAST MIDNIGHT,

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THREE HOURS OF PRIVATE TALKS WITH SADAT. PROGRESS WAS CITED BUT DETAILS WERE SCARCE. WHAT KISSINGER IS SEEKING IS AN UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE TIMING, THE ISSUES, THE PLACE AND THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE NEXT PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATION. KISSINGER AND SADAT CHECKED OUT MAPS OF THE SINAI DURING THEIR TALKS. APPARENTLY NOTHING WILL BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL AFTER THE ARABS HOLD THEIR SUMMIT MEETING IN MOROCCO ON OCTOBER 26TH.

THERE WAS A FLARE UP OF CONCERN IN FLIGHT ON KISSING'S PLANE AS IT WAS TAXING FOR TAKEOFF FR M CAIRO. SECRET SERVICE AGENT WALTER BOTHE, 33, FROM ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA, SUFFERED WOUNDS IN HIS RIGHT ARM AND ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE HEAD WHEN A GUN IN ITS CASE FELL OFF A RACK IN THE REAR OF THE BOEING 707 AND ONE ROUND WENT OFF ACCIDENTALLY. THE AGENT WHO HAS BEEN PROTECTING THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TWO YEARS IS IN GOOD CONDITION.

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