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FOR KISSINGER AND KLEIN

USIA FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION REPORT NO. 7, FEBRUARY 14, 1973

MR. KISSINGER'S ASIAN TRIP

SUMMARY

DEVALUATION OF THE DOLLAR AND FLOATING OF THE YEN ECLIPSED OTHER FOREIGN NEWS IN MAJOR CAPITALS.

THE NORTH VIETNAMESE RADIO REPORTED THAT THE DRV HAD DECIDED "DURING DR. KISSINGER'S STAY IN HANOI" TO RELEASE AN ADDITIONAL 20 AMERICAN POWS "AHEAD OF SCHEDULE."

LONDON

A BY-LINER IN THE LIBERAL GUARDIAN SUGGESTED THAT "KISSINGER'S STRATEGY SO OBVIOUSLY EXPLOITS DIVISIONS BETWEEN MOSCOW AND PEKING THAT ONE MAY WONDER EXACTLY WHY THE CHINESE GO ALONG WITH IT. THEY CANNOT BE UNAWARE OF HIS METTERNICH-LIKE CALCULATION THAT THIS IS THE WAY TO DIVIDE AND RULE THE WORLD. BUT THE CHINESE THEMSELVES HAVE PROVIDED THE ANSWER...."

"IN THEORETICAL TERMS, THEY HAVE PINNED THE LABEL OF MOST DANGEROUS SUPERPOWER ONTO THE SOVIET UNION, THUS JUSTIFYING A RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE LESSER 'CONTRADICTION' (WASHINGTON) IN ORDER TO ISOLATE THE GREATER ONE (MOSCOW)."

AUSTRIA

REMARKED THAT "BY AGREEING TO A VISIT BY KISSINGER WHILE CASUALTIES FROM THE U.S. AIR RAIDS STILL LIE BURIED UNDER THE RUINS, HANOI HAS SHOWN HOW INTERESTED IT IS IN U.S. AID...."

"AND NOW KISSINGER IS TRAVELING TO PEKING. THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS ARE AS INTERESTED AS WASHINGTON IN INDOCHINA'S NOT BEING CONVERTED IN TO A NORTH VIETNAMESE BLOC, BUT RATHER BEING COMPOSED OF SEVERAL STATES. IN THIS AREA, PEKING PREFERS AMERICA'S PRESENCE TO A SOVIET-INFILTRATED VACUUM. IF KISSINGER'S POWERS OF PERSUASION HAVE NOT SUFFICED IN HANOI ON SOME POINTS, PEKING PRESUMABLY WILL BE GLAD TO HELP OUT."

SEOUL

PAPERS ON WEDNESDAY PLAYED SPECULATION ATTRIBUTED TO THE TIMES OF LONDON AND REUTERS THAT CHINA WAS SURE TO TAKE UP THE KOREAN
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QUESTION DURING THE PEKING VISIT, CALLING ATTENTION TO SEVERAL RECENT MEETINGS OF NORTH KOREA FOREIGN MINISTER HO DAM AND CHINESE LEADERS.

HO DAM REPORTEDLY ASKED CHINA TO CONVEY PYONGYANG'S POSITION ON THE KOREAN SITUATION TO MR. KISSINGER IN TWO TALKS WITH PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI AND THREE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHI PENG-FEI.

TOKYO

PUBLICLY FINANCED NHK TV ON WEDNESDAY CARRIED HONG KONG REPORT THAT MR. KISSINGER'S TRIP TO CHINA WAS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO CLOSER WASHINGTON-PEKING ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL TIES AS THE U.S. TOOK A POSITION OF GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL FROM TAIWAN. IT SAID THIS COULD OPEN THE WAY FOR NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-JAPANESE RELATIONS, "A PROCESS WHICH HAS REMAINED STAGNANT SINCE THE OPENING OF THE U.S. BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM JUST BEFORE THE "END OF THE WAR."

SANTIAGO

IN HANOI "WAS CORRECT IF NOT WARM, INDICATING FAVORABLE DISPOSITION ON THE PART OF PHAM VAN DONG'S GOVERNMENT." IT SAID MR. KISSINGER'S TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS WERE IN PART MEANT "TO EXERT NEW PRESSURES ON THE KREMLIN SINCE THE SOVIET DELEGATIONS AT VIENNA AND GENEVA HAVE BEEN EXHIBITING A NEGATIVE ATTITUDE."

HANOI

DOMESTIC RADIO BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING ITEM ON WEDNESDAY:

"DURING DR. KISSINGER'S STAY IN HANOI, THE DRV GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO RETURN AN ADDITIONAL 20 CAPTURED U.S. SERVICEMEN TO THE U.S. AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. THIS IS A SERIOUS ACT OF GOOD WILL BY THE DRV GOVERNMENT IN IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT."

PEKING, MOSCOW

NO MENTION REPORTED.

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