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TOMAK 93

TO JON HOWE FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

NOVEMBER 10, 1973

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

1. CLEMENTS HAS WRITTEN HAIG A MEMO ABOUT A REQUEST HE HAS RECEIVED FROM SYMINGTON FOR ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THAT SOUTHEAST ASIA WHITE PAPER MESS OF LAST AUGUST. SYMINGTON HAS ASKED FOR FOUR POLICY DOCUMENTS AND SOME INTELLIGENCE SUMMARIES PREPARED IN THE FIELD. THE DOCUMENTS ARE: A) AUTHORITIES FOR ENTRY INTO LAOS DURING THE DEWEY CANYON OPERATION; B) RECOMMENDATION BY GENERAL ABRAMS FOR B-52 ATTACKS IN CAMBODIA (9 FEBRUARY 1969); C) JCS MESSAGE AUTHORIZING THE FIRST MENU STRIKE; D) LETTER FROM LAIRD TO THE CHAIRMAN ASKING FOR EVALUATION OF MENU OPERATION. THE INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION WOULD BE THE WEEKLY AIR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARIES.

2. CLEMENTS PROPOSES THAT THESE DOCUMENTS BE GIVEN TO SYMINGTON BUT THAT THEY NOT BE DECLASSIFIED AS WERE THE ONES HE GAVE THE COMMITTEE LAST AUGUST. I DO NOT AGREE WITH CLEMENTS RECOMMENDATION. MY PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO GIVE SYMINGTON NOTHING, BUT AT THIS POINT IN THIS SAD AFFAIR, THAT IS PROBABLY NOT A FEASIBLE OPTION. I WOULD PROPOSE, INSTEAD, THAT WE ALLOW CLEMENTS TO OFFER TO SHOW SYMINGTON THE DOCUMENTS BUT NOT TO GIVE THEM UP. IF SYMINGTON WOULD NOT AGREE TO SUCH A PROCEDURE, WE MIGHT THEN SHOW THE DOCUMENTS TO FRIENDLY COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE ARE NOT TRYING TO COVER UP, AND THEN INVOKE EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE.

3. REQUEST YOUR CONCURRENCE IN THIS APPROACH OR ALTERNATIVE GUIDANCE.

WARM REGARDS:

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