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FM THE SITUATION ROOM

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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TOHAK 172

PLEASE DELIVER TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

MAY 13, 1974

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT
TO: PETER RODMAN FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE OF TIME CARRIES FOUR FULL PAGES OF EX-
CERPTS FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSCRIPTS ARRANGED BY VARIOUS
TOPICS AND SUBJECT MATTER. ONE SUB-HEAD IS ENTITLED QUOTE,
KEEPING HENRY CURRENT, UNQUOTE. FULL TEXT OF SUB-HEAD FOLLOWS
BELOW.

BEGIN TEXT:

VI: KEEPING HENRY CURRENT

THE NAME HENRY KISSINGER SURFACED ONLY RARELY AND OBLIQUELY
DURING THE ENTIRE WATERGATE AFFAIR. YET KISSINGER DID NOT
OPERATE IN ISOLATION FROM THE REST OF OF THE WHITE HOUSE. ON
APRIL 16, 1973, THERE IS THIS EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND HALDEMAN:

MORI/CDF
C03345617

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

P: HAVE YOU FILLED HENRY IN, BOB?

H: NOPE.

P: YOU HAVEN'T? HE'S GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS IN LAOS. I
HAVEN'T. SOMEBODY ELSE--HE SEEMS TO KNOW OF IT.

H: WELL, GARMENT (THEN WHITE HOUSE SPECIAL CONSULTANT
LEONARD GARMENT) TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO GO MEET WITH HENRY
AND AL HAIG (THEN KISSINGER'S ASSISTANT, LATER HALDEMAN'S
SUCCESSOR AS WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF) TO DISCUSS HIS
(GARMENT'S) CONCERN ABOUT THE HOLE SITUATION, APPARENTLY.

*****WHHR COMMENT*****

SFC FILE

PSN:040175

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TOR:133/18:50Z

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P: WHAT THE HELL DID HE DO THAT FOR?
H: ON THE BASIS THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WAS A REAL DANGER
AND THREAT TO THE PRESIDENCY.

AWARE THAT THE WATERGATE SCANDAL WAS BECOMING A THREAT TO
THE PRESIDENCY ITSELF AS WELL AS TO NIXON, GARMENT SOUGHT THE
SUPPORT OF HAIG AND KISSINGER IN HIS ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE THE
PRESIDENT THAT HALDEMAN AND EHRlichMAN WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THE
ADMINISTRATION TO SAVE THE PRESIDENT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER
KISSINGER SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL. HIS GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE AND HIS
CONCERN THAT A WEAKENED PRESIDENT WOULD LEAD TO INTERNATIONAL
DIFFICULTIES, HOWEVER, LED HIM TO AGREE WITH GARMENT ON ANOTHER
MATTER:

H: I THINK LEN'S VIEW IS THAT WHAT YOU NEED IS A BOLD,
NEW, YOU KNOW, REALLY SOME KIND OF A DRAMATIC MOVE.
HENRY FEELS THAT, BUT HENRY FEELS THAT YOU SHOULD GO ON
TELEVISION.

P: I KNOW, 9 O'CLOCK.

H: WHICH IS HIS SOLUTION TO ANY PROBLEM.

P: DO YOU BELIEVE I SHOULD DO THE 9 O'CLOCK NEWS?

H: ON THIS, NO.

P: I DON'T THINK SO EITHER.

H: I SAID, WE ARE ALL STEEPED IN THIS, BUT LOOK AT THE
NEWSPAPER. WHERE IS WATERGATE TODAY?

P: WELL IN THE COUNTRY IT IS NOT THAT BIG.

END TEXT.
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