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TOMAK 198

MAY 15, 1974

State Dept. review completed

TO: SECRETARY KISSINGER  
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

THE FOLLOWING IS FROM SONNENFELDT.

1. PIERRE SALINGER CALLED IN YOUR ABSENCE WHILE HE WAS BRIEFLY IN TOWN TO CONVEY A "MESSAGE". IT WAS FROM MICHEL ROCARD, FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PSU, LEFT WING SOCIALIST PARTY. ROCARD IS CURRENTLY MITTERAND'S CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISER AND GENERAL CONFIDANT, ACCORDING TO SALINGER. HIS MESSAGE WAS THAT IF MITTERAND SHOULD WIN, HE IS ANXIOUS THAT YOU SEND OVER A REPRESENTATIVE VERY PRIVATELY TO REVIEW THE WHOLE RANGE OF US-FRENCH RELATIONS BEFORE POSITIONS HARDEN WITH THE ENTRY OF COMMUNISTS INTO THE GOVERNMENT. ACCORDING TO SALINGER, ROCARD SAID MITTERAND WANTS TO AVOID FURTHER DETERIORATION IN US-FRENCH RELATIONS. SALINGER SAID ROCARD VISITED HIM JUST BEFORE THE FIRST TOUR OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TO PASS ON THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. SALINGER TOLD ME THAT HE THINKS THIS IS PROBABLY ALL ACADEMIC SINCE MITTERAND IS UNLIKELY TO MAKE IT IN THE RUNOFF. HE FEELS THAT THE GUILLAUME AFFAIR IN GERMANY HAS AROUSED WIDESPREAD FEARS OF THE COMMUNISTS IN FRANCE AND THIS, IN ADDITION TO MANY OTHER FACTORS, WILL HELP GISCARD. I TOLD SALINGER I APPRECIATED THE MESSAGE AND WOULD PASS IT ON TO YOU. SALINGER SAID IF MITTERAND SHOULD WIN HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH EARLY NEXT WEEK BUT HE CLAIMS TO HAVE NO DESIRE TO GET FURTHER INVOLVED IN ANY CONTACT HE MIGHT CHOOSE TO MAKE WITH MITTERAND ALONG THE LINES PROPOSED BY ROCARD. CLEARLY, THERE IS NOTHING THAT NEEDS OR SHOULD BE DONE AT THIS TIME. SHOULD MITTERAND WIN, YOU WILL HAVE TIME TO EVALUATE THIS APPROACH AND WHAT I ASSUME WILL BE OTHERS ALONG SIMILAR LINES. I SUPPOSE THERE MAY BE SOME RISK THAT PIERRE WILL WRITE SOMETHING IN EXPRESS ABOUT THIS, WHATEVER WE ELECT TO DO.

2. RUINA CALLED TO SAY THAT ON HIS LAST VISIT TO THE USSR HE HAD FOUND SERIOUS MISINFORMATION AMONG HIS FRIENDS IN THE ACADEMY AND THE INSTITUTES ON SUCH MATTERS AS BOMBER PAYLOAD,

ON-FILE NSC  
RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

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PSN:042363

PAGE 01

TOR:135/17:50Z

DTG:151858Z MAY 74

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THROWWEIGHT ETC. HE AND RATHJENS HAD HAD AN INVITATION FOR ANOTHER VISIT IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS BUT HAD HAD TO CANCEL. STILL, HE WANTED TO KNOW IF HE FELT THERE MIGHT BE ANY UTILITY IN HIS GOING OVER THERE WITH RATHJENS TO DO SOME EDUCATIONAL WORK ON THESE TECHNICAL MATTERS. I TOLD HIM THAT IT WOULD NOT BE A GOOD IDEA AT THIS TIME, WHEN NEGOTIATIONS ON SALT WERE IN A DELICATE PHASE. HE ACCEPTED THIS READILY. IT MAY AMUSE YOU THAT HE TOLD ME BOTH ON THE PHONE AND EARLIER IN THE WEEK WHEN I GAVE A TALK AT THE HARVARD-MIT SEMINAR THAT HE FELT HE WERE FAR TOO MUCH CONCERNED WITH MIRVS AND SHOULD SEEK A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT WITH REDUCTIONS. THIS IS A WIDESPREAD VIEW AMONG THE LIBERAL ACADEMICS IN THE ARMS CONTROL COMMUNITY. THE BEDFELLOWS ARE ONCE AGAIN CROWDING THE SALT BED.  
WARM REGARDS.

511

PSN:042363

PAGE 02

DF 02

TOR:135/17:50Z

DTG:151858Z MAY 74

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