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State Dept. review completed

VIA VOYAGER CHANNEL

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July 16, 1973

WASHINGTON 18

TO: Ambassador Bruce, Peking

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger HK

1. I am aware that Ambassador Bruce is not available, but I seek the consolidated judgment of Jenkins and Holdridge on the timing of my upcoming visit.
2. In the event that the Chinese response to my queries on what of my visit outcome/we might expect with regard to Cambodia is unsatisfactory, I am thinking seriously that it might be wise to delay my trip until after the bombing halt on August 15, perhaps to early September. If I should visit Peking before the bombing halt, my visit will inevitably be seen in the context of a Cambodian settlement. Under these circumstances, a failure to come back with a solution on Cambodia could have a negative impact in the U.S., not only with respect to the Cambodian issue, but also with respect to our entire policy of rapprochement with the PRC.
3. We will not, in any case, make a decision until we have heard from the Chinese, but I solicit your views on the timing of my visit in the event we are not reassured by their comments regarding Cambodia.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

Warm regards.

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