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TO THE WHITE HOUSE

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

[ ]

IMMEDIATE 25X1  
FEBRUARY 6, 1974  
TO: SECRETARY KISSINGER  
FROM: AMBASSADOR EILTS, CAIRO 109 25X1

1. WHEN MEETING WITH FAHMY TONIGHT, HE ASKED ME TO PASS FOLLOWING ON TO YOU URGENTLY IN HIS OPINI

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

JN THE SYRIAN PTW LIST IS NOT THE MAIN ISSUE IN THE CURRENT DISENGAGEMENT IMPASSE. BASED ON WHAT HE CALLED, HIS "FACTS AND CORRELATION OF FACTS," HE SUSPECTS A MORE SINISTER DESIGN. HE VIEWS PRESENT SITUATION AS AN "OUTSIDE" (READ USSR) STRATEGY TO PREVENT ASSAD OR SYRIA FROM ACHIEVING DISENGAGEMENT. HIS CONCLUSIONS ARE BASED PARTLY ON WHAT YOU INDICATED GROMYKO SAID ABOUT HENCEFORTH HANDLING EVERYTHING JOINTLY AND IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. THE SOVIETS, HE RECALLED, HAD WARNED THAT FAILURE TO DO SO WOULD PROMPT THEM TO TAKE THEIR OWN DIPLOMATIC MOVES.

State Dept. review completed

2. FAHMY NOTED THAT THE IRAQIS HAD YESTERDAY OR THE DAY BEFORE MOVED TWELVE THOUSAND TROOPS INTO SYRIA. ASSAD HAD IN THE PAST WEEK SECRETLY BEEN IN BAGHDAD. THERE IS AGAIN TALK OF A SYRIAN-IRAQI MERGER AND LIBYA IS COVERTLY HELPING TO EFFECT THIS. THE IRAQIS, IN FAHMY'S VIEW, WOULD BE UNABLE TO TAKE ANY SUCH ACTIONS UNLESS THEY ARE SOVIET INSPIRED. HE RECALLED IRAQI PRESSURE ON SYRIA DURING AND AFTER THE OCTOBER HOSTILITIES. THEY HAD EVEN INSISTED ON TRANSIT FEES ON BADLY NEEDED PETROLEUM EXPORTED FROM KUWAIT TO SYRIA. NOW SUDDENLY, ACCORDING TO "BRITISH" SOURCES, THE IRAQI ATTITUDE SEEMS TO BE CHANGING. THE SAUDIS HAVE ALSO NOTICED THIS AND ARE CONCERNED.

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3. FAHMY RECALLED THAT YOU HAD ONCE TOLD SADAT AND HIM THAT IN THE EVENT OF DIFFICULTY WITH IRAQ, YOU WOULD QUICKLY BE ABLE

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HAK, SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN

RECALLED  
PSN:000041 PAGE 01 TOR:037/21:05Z DTG:061954Z FEB 74

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TO ARRANGE IRANIAN COUNTER PRESSURE. THIS IS THE TIME TO DO SO, HE URGED, IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE IRAQIS FROM PRESSING SYRIA AND TO "CLIP THE SOVIET WINGS." THE IRANIANS SHOULD MOVE FAST AND IN A CONTROLLED FASHION. THERE SHOULD BE ADEQUATE NEWS COVERAGE OF IRANIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS ALONG THE IRAQI BORDER SO THAT THE IRAQIS FEEL COMPELLED TO WITHDRAW THEIR ARMY. ONLY IF THE SYRIANS ARE NOT BACKED BY THE IRAQIS, FAHMY INSISTED, IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF ASSAD BECOMING MORE FLEXIBLE. HE HOPED YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO MOVE FAST ON THIS.

4. FAHMY WAS CONCERNED THAT NO ONE BUT YOU KNOW ABOUT ABOVE RECOMMENDATION. HE EVEN TOOK PAINS TO CONCEAL IT FROM HIS TRUSTED AIDE, OMAR SIRRI.

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PAGE 02 OF 02

TOR:037/21:05Z

DTG:061954Z FEB 74

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