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***** T O P S E C R E T *****S C O P Y

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY WH37315

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TO: AMBASSADOR KEATING
FROM: GEN. SCORCROFT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE SENT TO PRIME MINISTER MEIR
FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MADAME PRIME MINISTER:

WITH THE PUBLICATION TODAY OF THE SIX POINT AGREEMENT
ON THE CEASEFIRE AND PRISONER OF WAR EXCHANGE, THE GOVERNMENTS
OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT HAVE TAKEN AN IMPORTANT STEP IN CLEARING
THE WAY FOR NEGOTIATIONS. THIS AGREEMENT IS ALSO IMPORTANT
IN ANOTHER RESPECT. WE HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT A SEPARATION
BETWEEN THE EGYPTIAN AND SOVIET POSITIONS, SINCE AS YOU KNOW
THE USSR HAD SOUGHT A RETURN TO THE OCTOBER 22 LINES.

I HAVE JUST READ AMBASSADOR KEATING'S REPORT OF HIS
CONVERSATION WITH YOU. THERE WAS NO INTENTION OF EXTENDING
AN ULTIMATUM, MADAME PRIME MINISTER, IN TRANSMITTING TO YOU
THE ESSENCE OF AN EGYPTIAN MESSAGE AND ON WHICH WE TOOK NO
POSITION. IN OUR REPLY TO THE EGYPTIANS WE POINTED OUT THAT
THE DETAILS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SIX POINTS WOULD
HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BY THE RESPECTIVE MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES.

THE POINT THAT WE TRIED TO MAKE AND I AM MAKING HERE
AGAIN IS THAT, SINCE THE DETAILS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE SIX POINTS WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BY YOUR RESPECTIVE
MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR NEGOTIATOR
APPROACH THIS MEETING IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT AND IN A WAY THAT WOULD
NOT MAKE ISRAEL SEEM TO BE THE CAUSE OF ANY POSSIBLE BREAKDOWN
IN THE FUTURE.

WHILE COMMUNICATING THE EGYPTIAN MESSAGE TO YOU, WE
REPEATEDLY INSISTED WITH EGYPT ON THE POSITION WE AGREED ON
WITH RESPECT TO THE BLOCKADE. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL
HAS ATTAINED THE TERMS YOU GAVE LAST SATURDAY NIGHT--

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

MCFARLANE, SEC FLE

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FRANKLY AGAINST MY EXPECTATIONS. I WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED TO HEAR YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE AGREEMENT AS A "FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT".

I DO NOT THINK IT IMPOSSIBLE IF BOTH SIDES APPROACH THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN YOUR MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT, TO RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING QUESTION IN A WAY THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT BOTH EGYPTIAN SENSIBILITIES AND YOUR MILITARY NECESSITIES.

OF COURSE WE STAND BY THE SIX POINTS AND THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS THE WAY YOU INTEND TO PROCEED AT THE MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES LEVEL. IT IS NEVERTHELESS IMPORTANT MADAME PRIME MINISTER, THAT WE ALL TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM OF MAKING A SUCCESS OF THIS AGREEMENT WHICH GIVES ISRAEL ESSENTIALLY WHAT IT SOUGHT. I HOPE THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WILL NOW FIND ITSELF ABLE TO PROCEED SINCE MY VIEW REMAINS THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS BASED ON AN ISRAELI PROPOSAL AND SINCE THE ALTERNATIVES ARE MUCH WORSE. I HOPE THIS LETTER CONSTITUTES ALSO A SATISFACTORY ANSWER TO YOUR MESSAGE WHICH I HAVE JUST RECEIVED.

WARM REGARDS,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

END TEXT.

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