

ETS - HK - AB150

Message from
Bhutto
Oct. 16

OP IMMED

#0105 2891614

O 161612Z OCT 73

FM TEHRAN

DOS has reviewed

TO WHITE HOUSE

T O P S E C R E T /EYES ONLY 161612Z OCT 73

25X1

CITE TEHRAN 105

TO: IMMEDIATE GENERAL SCOWCROFT, WHITE HOUSE

FROM: AMB. HELMS, TEHRAN

1. 1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO SECRETARY KISSINGER FOR PRESIDENT AND HIM.

2. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO SUMMONED ME FEW MINUTES AGO, AFTER GIVING BRIEF RUNDOWN ON HIS PRODUCTIVE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT IN WASHINGTON, HE DESCRIBED DOMESTIC PRESSURES BUILDING UP IN HIS COUNTRY, AS RESULT OF WHAT HE REFERRED TO AS "ALL-PERVASIVE MUSLIM INFULENCE", FOR POSTIVE ACTION IN SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSE IN CURRENT CONFLICT. HE SAID THAT HE HAS BEEN CONTAINING THIS PRESSURE BY VARIOUS DEVICES, BUT IN ADDITION TO DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS, HE HAS BEEN GETTING INSISTENT REQUESTS FROM ARAB PARTICIPANTS, PARTICULARLY SYRIA, FOR MILITARY SUPPORT. EVEN HIS MILITARY CHIEFS OF STAFF FAVORED SENDING A BRIGADE TO SYRIAN FRONT. BHUTTO CLAIMS HE ARGUED THEM OUT OF SUCH AN ADVENTURE BUT HE DID AGREE TO SENDING SOME AMMUNITION TO SYRIA WHICH HE HAS DONE AND IS DOING. HIS QUERY TO THE PRESIDENT IS THIS: IN CONTEXT OF PAK DOMESTIC POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS PRESSURES, HE STILL WANTS TO BE HELPFUL, AND IF POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTIVE, IN BEHALF OF HIS "FRIEND AND VALUED ALLY", THE UNITED STATES. HE WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER ON BALANCE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR HIM TO PROCEED TO DAMASCUS AFTER HE VISITS TURKEY AND SAUDI ARABIA, WHICH ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED. HE SEES A PLUS IN THIS VISIT, BECAUSE HE COULD CONVINCE SYRIANS OF HIS INABAILITY TO HELP THEM MILITARILY EXCEPT FOR AMMUNITION. HE COULD ALSO TRY TO PERSUADE THEM THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR A CEASE-FIRE IN PLACE. HE SEE A MINUS IN THE FACT THAT SUCH A VISIT MIGHT BE MISUNDERSTOOD, THAT IT WOULD LOOK AS THOUGH HE WERE THROWING WHAT WEIGHT PAKISTAN HAS BEHIND THE ARAB CAUSE. IN SHORT, HE WANTS USG OPINION AS TO WHETHER HE SHOULD PROCEED TO SYRIA OR WHETHER HE SHOULD RETURN HOME DIRECTLY FROM SAUDI ARABIA. HIS PRIDE WOULD NOT PERMIT HIM TO PUT THE QUESTION IN TERMS OF USG APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL.

3. YOUR REPLY CAN BE PASSED TO BHUTTO EITHER HERE OR VIA MACOMBER IN ANKARA. HE SAYS HE DOES NOT CARE WHICH. HE DEPARTS TEHRAN AT 1400 LOCAL OCTOBER 17, PROCEEDING FROM TURKEY TO SAUDI

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

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

HAK, SCOWCROFT, RODMAN, HOWE, MCFARLANE

RECALLED

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PAGE 01

TOR:289/17:17Z

DTG:161612Z OCT 73

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ARABIA OCTOBER 18.

4. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN PASSED THROUGH ME, BECAUSE BHUTTO DID NOT WANT TO DEAL WITH SOBER IN ISLAMABAD ON THIS KIND OF MATTER. HIS REASONS CAN BE HANDLED SEPARATELY IN ANOTHER MESSAGE IF YOU NEED THEM.

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PAGE 02

OF 02

TOR:289/17:17Z

DTG:161612Z OCT

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