

TOP SECRET

SENSITIVE

NSA review completed

MORI PER C03344263

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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O 021631Z MAR 74
FM THE SITUATION ROOM //TOHAK 70//
TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SEC. KISSINGER
ZEM
~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~ CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 86970 WH40628

TOHAK 70

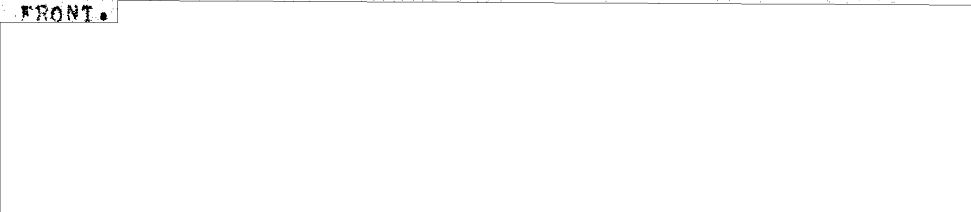
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MARCH 2, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSIN
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: EVENING NOTES

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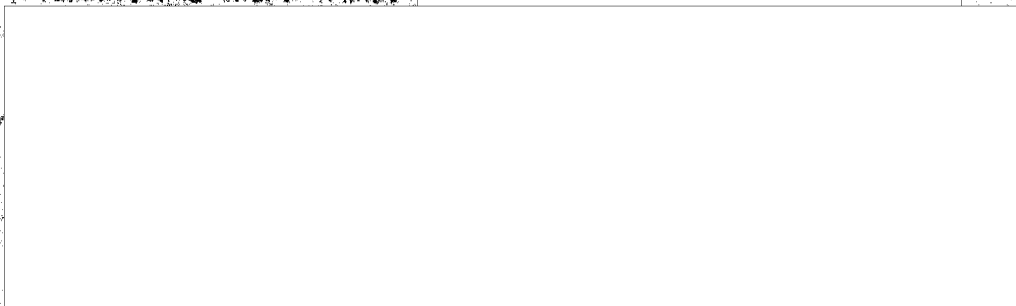
IRAQ-IRAN TROOP MOVEMENTS: IRAQ REPORTEDLY HAS DISPATCHED
ADDITIONAL ARMORED UNITS FROM CENTRAL IRAQ TO SUPPORT ITS
ORDER FORCES LOCATED ALONG THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN BORDERS
WITH IRAN. THESE LATEST MOVES APPEAR TO BE IN RESPONSE TO
IRAN'S RECENT MOVEMENT OF AN ARMORED DIVISION TO THE SOUTHERN
FRONT.



THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES
SINCE THE CLASH ON FEBRUARY 10 CAUSED BOTH IRAN AND IRAQ TO
STRENGTHEN SIGNIFICANTLY THEIR MILITARY FORCES ALONG THE BORDER.

U.S. WHEAT OFFERED FOR SALE ON INTERNATIONAL MARKET: UP
TO FOUR MILLION TONS OF U.S. WHEAT ARE BEING OFFERED ON THE
INTERNATIONAL WHEAT MARKET

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ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AGREES TO RESIGN: THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY AGREED TO RESIGN, HEALTH MINISTER LUIGI GUI TOLD REPORTERS. THE DECISION, WHICH HAD BEEN EXPECTED FOLLOWING THE SURPRISE RESIGNATION OF TREASURY MINISTER UGO LA Malfa ON THURSDAY, WAS TAKEN AT A SPECIAL CABINET MEETING. PRIME MINISTER MARIANO RUMOR IS NOW DUE TO GO TO PRESIDENT GIOVANNI LEONE TO FORMALLY TENDER THE RESIGNATION OF HIS FOUR-PARTY CABINET, WHICH CAME TO OFFICE EIGHT MONTHS AGO AS THE 35TH ITALIAN GOVERNMENT SINCE THE FALL OF FASCISM.

TANK INCIDENT IN BERLIN: EARLY THIS MORNING A SOLDIER FROM THE 40TH ARMOR BRIGADE STOLE AN M-60 TANK FROM TURNER BARRACKS, WEST BERLIN. THE SOLDIER DROVE THROUGH WEST BERLIN, UP TO AND THROUGH CHECKPOINT CHARLIE. HE TURNED AROUND, DROVE BACK THROUGH WEST BERLIN AND THROUGH CHECKPOINT BRAVO WHERE HE HALTED. HE WAS APPREHENDED AND RELEASED BY THE SOVIETS TO PURSUING U.S. AUTHORITIES WITHIN ABOUT AN HOUR. THE TANK WAS ALSO RELEASED BUT REQUIRED MINOR REPAIR TO A DAMAGED TRACK. INITIAL ESTIMATED DAMAGES INCLUDED: UPROOTED SEGMENTS OF EAST GERMAN POLE BARRIER, BERLIN TRAFFIC SIGNS, TWO U.S. MILITARY POLICE SEDANS AND THE GATES OF TURNER BARRACKS. THERE WERE NO REPORTED INJURIES TO ANY CIVILIAN OR MILITARY PERSONNEL. AN INVESTIGATION IS IN PROGRESS.

WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS: HEADLINE COVERS WATERGATE INDICTMENT AND ROLE OF PRESIDENT. HARRY KALB WRITES THAT THE 44-PAGE INDICTMENT SUPPORTS SEVERAL KEY POINTS IN THE TESTIMONY OF JOHN DEAN. (A-1)

JEREMIAH O'LEARY REPORTS THAT U.S. OFFICIALS TRAVELING WITH YOU DISCLOSED THAT SYRIA AND ISRAEL WILL SEND DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES TO WASHINGTON WITHIN TWO WEEKS TO NEGOTIATE THE FIRST PHASE OF DISENGAGEMENT IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. THE REPRESENTATIVES WILL DEAL WITH YOU -- NOT EACH OTHER, ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE. (A-1)

EDITORIAL, CITING INDICTMENTS, COMMENTS THAT THE PRESIDENT'S CREDIBILITY WILL CONTINUE AT A LOW EBB AND THE IMPACT ON THE HOUSE'S IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY MAY BE TO SLOW IT. OTHER RAMIFICATIONS SUCH AS RENEWED PRESSURE WITHIN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TO HAVE THE PRESIDENT RESIGN ARE ALSO CITED. THE EDITORIAL ENDS ON AN UP-NOTE BY STATING THAT THE AMERICAN SYSTEM WORKS (READ JUDICIAL PROCESS) -- THAT IT HAS THE ABILITY TO CLEANSE ITSELF OF EVEN SO CANCEROUS A GROWTH AS WATERGATE. (A-6)

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RICHARD WILSON'S COLUMN DECLARES THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT BE IMPEACHED. WILSON'S CONTENTION IS BASED ON BRIEFINGS BY RYCE HARLOW AND DEFENSE LAWYER JAMES D. ST. CLAIR. (A-7)

MILTON VIORST WRITES OF THE PROSPECT FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HIS APPROACH, HOWEVER, IS NOT FOUNDED ON A MILITARY POSTURE. VIORST OFFERS THE READER AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF ARABS AND ISRAELIS PUTTING ASIDE HATRED FOR A MOMENT OF TRUST. HE FEELS THAT ISRAEL MUST NOT CONTINUE TO VIEW THE ARABS AS A MONOLITHIC GIANT BENT ON DESTROYING HER BUT GIVE SOME THOUGHT OF LIVING WITH THE ARABS AS FRIENDS. ONE DANGER TO THIS SCENARIO IS THAT THE ISRAELIS "CONDITIONED FOR SO LONG TO BE CYNICS, MAY BE UNABLE TO RELAX LONG ENOUGH TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY. (A-7)

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