

LOZ CIA
MR. PARROTT

WANTED YOU TO SEE THE TACHED HORROR. SOME OF I S
WSENSE WILL NO DOUBT BE AWAITING YOU IN THE PRESS BRIEFING
TURDAY.

TACHMENT

FIRST LINE REPORT - WTOP
TH DAN RATHER
SEPTEMBER 15, 1972
10 AM EDT

DAN RATHER: FIRST LINE REPORT, NEWS AND ANALYSIS.
DAN RATHER, CBS NEWS, THE WHITE HOUSE. GOOD MORNING.

QUESTIONS OF TRADE, AND IS HANOI BEATING THE BOMBING?
TRY AT SOME ANALYTICAL THOUGHTS AFTER THIS.
(ANNOUNCEMENT)

DAN RATHER: IT NOW CAN BE REPORTED AUTHORITATIVELY
THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS BEEN TOLD WHILE MINING HARBORS AND
INCREASED BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM HAVE CAUSED GREAT DAMAGE
AND SPREAD TERROR, THEY HAVE NOT CUT OFF HANOI'S SUPPLY LINES
FORCES IN THE SOUTH.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN TOLD THAT SOVIET
AND EASTERN EUROPEAN TANKERS, WHICH PREVIOUSLY RAN IN AND OUT
OF HAIPHONG HARBOR, NOW CALL, INSTEAD, AT CHINESE PORTS AND
THEIR CARGOES ARE SENT INTO NORTH VIETNAM VIA THREE PIPELINES,
THEN PUMPED INTO THE SOUTH, INCLUDING ONE PIPELINE WHICH RUNS
ALL THE WAY INTO THE A SHAU VALLEY.

THIS IS THE BEST JUDGMENT OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY AND THE SEPARATE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. TAD SZULC
OF THE NEW YORK TIMES WAS FIRST IN PRINT WITH PART OF THIS STORY.
WHAT HE HAD, AND THE REST OF IT, CHECKS OUT; SO DO REPORTS THAT
THIS IS THE OPINION OF MOST U.S. INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS THAT
HANOI IS READY WITH A NEW OFFENSIVE IN THE SOUTH LATE THIS MONTH
NEXT, BEFORE THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, WHICH, AS POINTED OUT
IN THIS BROADCAST EARLIER IN THE WEEK, IS THE REASON DR. HENRY
KISSINGER IS IN MOSCOW.

not what
said

THE INCREASES IN TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES, AND
THE DEVELOPMENT OF RUSSIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES ARE BEING DANGLED
BY DR. KISSINGER AS BAIT--HE NO DOUBT WOULD PREFER THE WORD
"INCENTIVE"--FOR SOVIET HELP IN ENDING THE WAR. PRESIDENT NIXON,
YOU MAY RECALL, DID SOME OF THIS AT THE MOSCOW SUMMIT IN THE
SPRING. KISSINGER, ON HIS CURRENT TRIP, IS IN EFFECT OFFERING
TO SWEETEN THE POT.

ON THE BASIS OF MORE TRADE, AND WHAT THAT COULD MEAN
OF INCREASING CONSUMER GOODS FOR THE AVERAGE RUSSIAN, AND OTHER
CONSIDERATIONS, KREMLIN LEADERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE INDICATED

END PAGE ONE

THAT THEY ARE DOING WHAT THEY CAN TO HELP END THE WAR, BUT THEY HAVE GIVEN NO ASSURANCES, ARGUING THAT HANOI, AS ALWAYS, IS TOUGH, INDEPENDENT, PATIENT, AND RESISTS PRESSURE, ESPECIALLY AS LONG AS THIEU REMAINS PRESIDENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

PRESIDENT NIXON IS DESCRIBED BY NOT ONE, BUT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE SEEN HIM RECENTLY, AS "ABSOLUTELY DETERMINED TO END THE WAR SOMEHOW BEFORE THE END OF THIS TERM." THAT IS, BY LATE JANUARY. WITH CAUTIONS AGAINST WHAT ALL HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS CALL EXCESSIVE OPTIMISM IN MIND, IT SHOULD BE MARKED THAT KISSINGER'S MOSCOW TRIP, AND TALK OF INCREASED TRADE RESULTING FROM IT, MUST BE VIEWED FROM THIS OVERALL PERSPECTIVE.

ONE SMALL EXAMPLE: QUESTION: HOW BADLY AND HOW SOON DO THE SOVIETS WANT THEIR VAST OIL AND GAS FIELDS IN SIBERIA DEVELOPED, AND WHAT ARE THEY WILLING TO DO IN THE WAY OF HELPING END THE VIETNAM TRAGEDY TO GET THAT?

HOW BACK TO CONSIDERATION OF HANOI'S BEATING THE BOMBING: AT LEAST THREE, AND PERHAPS FOUR OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S OWN NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE ADVISED HIM AGAINST THE MINING AND HEAVY BOMBING. THAT DECISION HE ANNOUNCED IN MAY. CIA DIRECTOR HELMS, DR. KISSINGER AND ADMIRAL MOORER, CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY JOINT CHIEFS. MOORER RECOMMENDED AGAINST BECAUSE HE DID NOT THINK IT WAS ENOUGH TO BE EFFECTIVE. HELMS AND KISSINGER SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE IT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE.

THE SOURCE ON THIS IS ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, QUOTED BY PETER KARSKY IN TECH, PUBLISHED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. DEFENSE SECRETARY LAIRD MAY ALSO HAVE PROPOSED THE BOMBING AND MINING. EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY IN HIS CASE IS LESS CONCLUSIVE.

THE POINT IS, WITH AT LEAST THREE OF HIS TOP ADVISERS PROPOSED, THE PRESIDENT WENT AHEAD AND GAMBLER ON MINING AND BOMBING IN NORTH VIETNAM. MR. NIXON MAY YET PROVE TO BE RIGHT. WE AND WE ARE IN THE PROCESS NOW OF FINDING OUT.

300

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN