

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

FLASH

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FM GEN HAIG TOHAK 168

TO COL. GUAY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY TOHAK 168

VIA GUAY CHANNEL FLASH TOHAK 168
DECEMBER 12, 1972
FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM: AL HAIG

AS WE DISCUSSED, THE PRESIDENT WANTED YOU TO HAVE A MESSAGE FROM HIM WHICH YOU COULD USE IN ANY WAY YOU LIKE, OR IGNORE. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED YOUR REPORT OR ANALYSIS WHICH MAY INDICATE THAT THIS IS NOT A USEFUL TACTIC.

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

IN THE LIGHT OF YOUR REPORTS TO ME OF THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THIS PARIS ROUND AND UNLESS THERE IS AN EVIDENT CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE OTHER SIDE, I WANT YOU TO RETURN HOME ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, FOR PERSONAL CONSULTATION WITH ME. IN INFORMING THE OTHER SIDE OF YOUR RETURN, YOU SHOULD ALSO INDICATE TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR THAT THE UNITED STATES IS IN NO HURRY TO MAKE A SETTLEMENT AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL IT PARTICIPATE IN THE WRONG KIND OF SETTLEMENT. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS MY DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE OUTCOME OF THIS ROUND WHICH HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY REPEATED DELAYS AND INTRANSIGENCE. IN THIS KIND OF NEGOTIATING ENVIRONMENT, THE U.S. WILL MAKE NO MORE CONCESSIONS. THE U.S. SIDE REMAINS INTERESTED IN ACHIEVING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT AND STANDS READY TO MEET AT ANY TIME PROVIDING THE NORTH VIETNAMESE SIDE EXPRESSES A WILLINGNESS TO APPROACH FUTURE TALKS WITH THE NECESSARY GOOD WILL AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE. IN THE INTERIM, THE UNDERSTANDINGS WHICH HAVE GOVERNED THE CONDUCT OF BOTH SIDES DURING THESE TALKS WILL NO LONGER APPLY AND UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN SOME MEASURABLE PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THE CURRENT IMPASSES, THE U.S. SIDE INTENDS TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OWN INTERESTS. END TEXT.

WARM REGARDS.

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