

TELECON
Haig/Kissinger
October 23, 1973
8:00 p. m.

K. I just wanted to check how you felt.

H. I am pretty good. I went out and did the kind of thing I don't want to do. I went on a news briefing.

K. Don't do it again. I never did that.

H. Well, it worked out all right.

K. You are too valuable an asset. How are we going to resist giving up other documents now?

H. We will just take them case by case and see what they do.

K. That is the thing that worries me most.

H. We will handle it. Muck through as we do all the time. How is the Middle East thing?

K. The Israelis have now taken Suez City.

H. No kidding!

K. We have had a letter from Sadat, a letter and two messages from Ismail, three hot line messages from Brezhnev. We finally signed the Resolution to return from where they started from. We wrote to Brezhnev that we have no idea where they started from. We may have to push them back a little. That's all right, don't you think?

H. Yes, I do. It has been a hell of a day.

K. For you.

H. You can imagine.

K. How is his frame of mind?

H. Very down, very down. He is going to have the bipartisan meeting on Thursday, your press meeting, and then going to Key Biscayne. I think that is a good idea.

K. It has been a tough period.

H. Yes, it's tough.

K. I haven't fully analyzed yet where it leaves him to....Where do you think it leaves him.

H. It could be a disaster, but I don't think so.

K. You mean in the immediate?

H. No, in the short run we are in fine shape.

K. My immediate worry is where it will lead to.

H. That is the problem.

K. Have you listened to them?

H. No.

K. We are really all flying blind.

H. To a degree but not too big of a degree. I have a....

K. Win wants to hire on his staff someone who is now with Brookings Institute but not part of that, Jerome Kahan. Eagleburger knows him and says he is an o'k guy.

H. Just hire him. Just do it as long as Larry thinks that is all right.

K. Win thinks he is one of the ablest people....Is there anything I can do?

H. No, just tell those friends of ours to stop. They will be in Cairo tomorrow.

K. Their strategy is something else. They want to cut off all the roads of the Egyptian army on their side of the Canal and starve them to death.