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Telcon *NYC*
Ron Ziegler/HAK
October 6, 1973; 10:10 a.m.

- Z: I will check with you and set up the thing with McCloskey. He is with you?
- K: He is with me now. What you should say is that I was awakened this morning with a message from Jerusalem that there was an attack made on them and asking for our telling all interested parties they had no intention to launch an attack. I think the best thing is not to go into the details of what happened this morning.
- Z: I agree.
- K: You should say we received reports on a total situation this morning in the Middle East at 6 this morning. From then on I was in touch with the President, with the Foreign Ministers of Egypt and Israel, and the President as well as with the Secretary General of the UN, and the President was kept fully informed of developments. That's what you should say.
- Z: The picture is still unclear and therefore we can't expand.
- K: Yes, but you have to be careful. You must not take any position that will prevent us from siding with anybody. Just say it is not yet clear what the extent of the fighting is and therefore it would be wrong, but don't make any comment on who started it.
- Z: The picture is still unclear. But we will keep you informed.
- K: You can also say there has been a WSAG meeting in Washington.



Z: I have told the President he should not return to Washington.

K: There is not a goddam thing he can do. But I want to be in a...

Z: Your returning to Washington can hypo this.

K: And it makes it an American... We would have to do something.

Z: That's what I say. You have to pay your way back. You can't just come back to Washington. What if they ask if you have been in touch with the Soviets?

K: You will say yes.

Z: And what action will you take?

K: No statement whatever.

Z: What about US citizens in the area?

K: We will take care of that.