

TOP SECRET/ SENSITIVE/ EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

6 OCT 73 12 50z

FLASH

TO: THE WHITE SITUATION ROOM

FROM: SECRETARY KISSINGER

Please pass the following to the President for delivery
at 9:00 a.m., with information copy to General Haig.

Begin text.

Report to the President

At 6:00 a.m. this morning, I was notified that the Israelis have what they consider to be hard information that Egyptians and Syrians were planning to launch a coordinated attack within six hours.

I immediately called Dobrynin and told him of the Israeli demarche. I emphasized to him that:

-- The U.S. and the USSR have a special responsibility to restrain their respective friends.

-- We are urgently communicating with the Israelis, warning them against any preemptive attack.

-- That it was important for our own relationship that this crisis not degenerate into armed conflict.

I asked Dobrynin to call Moscow immediately to report this information and to ask his government to restrain Syria and Egypt. He promised to do so and has done so.

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(In order to expedite the above, we had Dobrynin use our communications.)

I then called Israeli Charge Shalev and told him that I had talked to Dobrynin. I emphasized to him the essentiality of restraint on the Israeli part, and said there must be no preemptive strike.

I have sent a brief alert message to various of our posts in the Middle East just so quiet precautions could be taken.

I am making direct contact with the Syrian Foreign Minister here in New York and have asked Dobrynin to do the same.

I will be calling SYG Waldheim to give him a general picture of the situation so that "the U.N. will be informed", but there seems to be no need at the moment for considering Security Council recourse. I will stress that the report is for information and that we are not asking for any action by the U.N. at this time.

I have directed Brent Scowcroft to call a 9:00 a.m. WSAG meeting. We have requested an urgent intelligence estimate from the CIA, and we will have further information at that time regarding Sixth Fleet dispositions.

It is still too early to give you at best what can be a preliminary judgment. On the basis of the information we have, I believe the Israeli fears of a possible attack are justified. Hopefully, we will be able to generate sufficient pressure so that cooler heads will prevail.

I shall keep you fully informed as the situation develops.

Henry A. Kissinger
Secretary of State