MEMO FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Al Haig

You inquired about the HIGH HEELE exercise. I asked Colonel Bob Behr to do a quick summary of it so that you would be aware of the nature of the exercise and our role in it.
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Robert M. Behr

SUBJECT: JCS Exercise - High Heels 69

During the period 15-23 October 1969 the JCS will conduct a large-scale command post exercise designed to test the plans and procedures required during a period of increasing world tensions, execution of general war, and the subsequent operations phase of general war. Emphasis will be on the subsequent operations phase.

Participants will include Defense, State and those Executive Branch agencies having critical wartime responsibilities. (See attachment for full list of participants.) Secretaries Laird and Rogers are expected to meet on at least one occasion in the Gold Room with the Joint Chiefs. Assistant Secretary-level participation will be routine throughout the exercise.

Simulation of Presidential orders and executive instructions will emanate from a "response cell" under the direction of General Lincoln. This cell will function at the OEP Special Facility. General Lincoln will conduct daily situation meetings in the Winder Building.

Colonel Haig has asked me to monitor the exercise. I intend to do this by regular participation in the meetings chaired by General Lincoln, and by attending the exercise critiques (preliminary and final). At the conclusion of the exercise I will make a recommendation to you concerning the possible involvement of the WSAG in future HIGH HEELS Exercises.

No troop movements are involved and effective exercise termination procedures have been worked out in the event of an emergency during the exercise period. Public information will be tightly controlled by OSD/PA. When queries are received, emphasis will be placed on the routine, periodic nature of local or unified/specified command exercises.

SECRET
PARTICIPANTS

Department of State
Office, Secretary of Defense
Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Military departments/Services (including Coast Guard)
Unified and specified commands

Office of Emergency Preparedness
Defense Atomic Support Agency
Defense Communications Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Supply Agency
National Security Agency
Office of the Manager, National Communications System
Federal Aviation Administration
Office of Civil Defense/Secretary of the Army
Weapons Systems Evaluation Group
Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff
Joint Coordination Centers, Europe and Far East