

~~SECRET~~ EYES ONLY 072136Z OCT 73

LITE TEHRAN

TO: EYES ONLY DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER, WHITE HOUSE

FROM: AMB. HELMS, TEHRAN

1. AM SENDING THIS MESSAGE IN INTEREST OF SPEED AT THIS HOUR (0015L OCTOBER 8 LOCAL). IF YOU WANT IT REPEATED VIA NORMAL STATE CHANNELS, PLEASE ADVISE.

2. PRIME MINISTER HOVEYLA, AT SHAH'S INSTRUCTION, SUMMONED ME AT 2315 LOCAL TO READ ME CABLE TO SHAH FROM PRESIDENT SADAT TRANSMITTED VIA IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO WHO SAW SADAT EARLY AFTERNOON EGYPTIAN TIME OCTOBER 7. TO SUMMARIZE, CABLE GIVES OPTIMISTIC DISCRPTION OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY POSITION ON EAST BANK OF SUEZ CANAL AND OF EGYPTIAN PROWESS IN CROSSING CANAL AND ESTABLISHING BRIDGEHEAD THERE. THEN CABLE REQUESTS SHAH TO INFORM PRESIDENT NIXON THAT EGYPT UNTIL NOW, IN ORDER TO AVOID FIGHTING, HAS BEEN READY TO ACCEPT PEACE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS. HOWEVER, EGYPT HAS NOW BEEN OBLIGED TO FIGHT AND TO TAKE CASUALTIES. IT STILL WANTS PEACE, A LASTING PEACE IN THE AREA. SADAT WANTS PRESIDENT NIXON TO KNOW THAT IF ISRAEL WILL EVACUATE ALL THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED SINCE JUNE 5, 1967, EGYPT WILL BE READY TO NEGOTIATE

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

HR70-14
(U)

PAGE 2 TEHRAN ~~SECRET~~/EYES ONLY

SINCERELY TO PLACE THESE TERRITORIES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE FOUR BIG POWERS, OR UNDER SOME OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL TO BE AGREED. AS FOR SHARAF ASH SHEIKH, EGYPT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION OF FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION THROUGH GULF OF AGABA AFTER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. SADAT WANTS SHARAF TO EXPLAIN FOREGOING TO PRESIDENT NIXON SO THAT CASUALTIES MAY BE STOPPED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. SINCE SADAT OFFER SET FORTH ABOVE STRUCK ME AS SOMEWHAT IMPROBABLE, I ASKED HOVEYDA AND HIS BILINGUAL ASSISTANT TO TRANSLATE THE CABLE FOR ME THREE TIMES.

4. NEW SUBJECT: IRAQ OFFER TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IRAN WILL BE ANSWERED OCTOBER 28. IRAN WILL SAY THAT SINCE IRAQ BROKE RELATIONS, IT IS UP TO IRAQ TO MAKE THE OFFER, WHICH IRAN IS READY TO DISCUSS PROVIDED IRAQ IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THAT THE 1957 AGREEMENT IS DEAD, THAT THE BRITISH COLONIAL HERITAGE IS A THING OF THE PAST, THAT IRAQ WILL ABIDE BY EXISTING NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. IN OTHER WORDS, IRAN WILL NOT TURN DOWN OFFER OUT OF HAND TO AVOID GIVING IRAQIS PROPAGANDA ADVANTAGE BUT WILL NOT THROW AWAY KURDISH CARD BY ACCEPTING ON IRAQI TERMS.

PAGE 3 TERRAN ~~SECRET~~/EYES ONLY

"BRITISH COLONIAL HERITAGE" REFERS TO IRAQ'S CONTINUING
INSISTENCE THAT THE 1937 AGREEMENT ABOUT THE SHATT AL ARAB
STILL OBTAINS.

~~SECRET~~/EYES ONLY