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TELECON McGeorge Bundy/Secretary Kissinger March 23, 1974 2:23PM

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K: Mac, how are you.

B: You're on your way aren't you?

K: I'm on my way this evening, but since all my letters are written by others I wanted you to hear from me personally how much I appreciated your letters.

B: Well, you are nice to take the time with all you've got on

K: No, I thought it was extremely thoughtful. What you said about George Ball also crossed my mind.

B: I found myself snickering to McCloy about it so I thought I would share it with you.

K: But I agree with your basic point. I think now that a shot has been fired across the bow we can all...

B: I think it worked better than I was afraid it would, you know I think you have other people to do work for you now.

K: That's right. I think now no European government it going to vote on something that effects our interest without getting it to us tone way or another.

B: That's right.

K: I have had incidentally, I've had the, our own records checked on what we were told when. We were told some of these things, but in such a peculiarly inconclusive way.

B: They may have been. It is ab solutely characteristic of the Germans. They are doing it now with the French. You can see they are not being as firm in conveying what they would like of the French as they are conveying to us what they would like to convey to the French.

K: Yes. But, I think we can cool the confrontation.

B: I think you already have.

K: Exactly.

B: I think it is four or five days better off than when I was scribbling that.

K: But I appreciated it very much. What I would like to consider working out at some point in the near future is how I can get you gentlemen down here and

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get you read into some things so that it is more a consultation.

- B: I think that the way to do that is, is not to put so much of your own time in it. If you wanted to delegate somebody that you had confidence in, then people, could come in and out as they were able to get to Washington and...
- K: Let me work that out when I get back from the Soviet Union, because on the two big issues which are going to be SALT II and the MidEast we'll need every scrap of public support we can get and every bit of advice we can get.
- B: I think both are going to be edgy and I think on the Middle East in particular there is a need not to be longly given the climate of opinion here.
- K: And that's going to be, you know that is going to get nastier and nastier.
- B: I saw Eban in the airplane coming back the same day we were down there, because he had been seeing you. And he said something cryptic about what a difficult day it had been and I could see that you had begun the educational process.
- K: Well, I am trying to avoid a head on confrontation for as long as possible.
- B: Well, you are absolutely right. First place you would break up the government and then it would be your fault.
- K: Exactly. Exactly. But on Syria for example, they have just got to give up a slice of the Golan Heights. It won't be
- B: Told \_\_\_\_\_ Rerlin about that who understands them better than almost anybody I know and he thinks they will, when they really.
- K: I think they will too. It they can figure out how to stick us with the blame for it.
- B: And if they can decide if Counatry(phonetic)? doesn't really matter, I don't know if that is the one that doesn't really matter or not. But all they have to do is find a piece of property that they, that their generals can most easily part with and you have a bargain going.
- K: That is what I think. That is what I hope any way, but even if we don't get a bargain going, I will then be able to split the Egyptians away from the Syrians.

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B: You can get the Egyptians away from the Syrians, but I'm sure how far you can get them from the Saudis, which is why I worry about Jerusalem.

K: Cn Jerusalem something has to happen. Jerusalem, on Jerusalem the Saudis will not give up.

B: Exactly right.

K: I hope the next move after Syria can be a major settlement with Egypt.

B: Well if Sadat will go. It depends a little bit how far he can go and still say he is keeping the solid front that he always talks about.

K: As long

B: He probably knows better than we do.

K: As long as we don't call it peace I think it can go quite a distance.

B: Yea. Well that gets theological with the Israelis.

K: That's right. But I think the Israelis are so. if the Israelis had any sense they would offer the 67 porters to Egypt. And get them out of the war, because for that they could get anything.

B: I'm sure that is right. That is what you said to us the other day and on reflection I am convinced of it. It's the government that is not capable of thinking for itself though it is much the same proposition that applies there that you applied to the Soviets in the context of SALT.

K: Yea.

B: You have to give them the menu because it is just an act against nature for them to design it.

K: But if they are not willing to give up all the territory, then maybe they should settle for not getting all the peas.

B: Well. They will do much better the other way around and their own does know that but, but.

K: They would no a lot better the other way around because whether they get those 10 or 15 miles. makes no difference in history.

B: None.

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K: An Som Mosaisic has become irrelevant because they can close Bal Ba Monday(?)

B: Absolutely. All clear. You know a lot of them have begun to say it. I think you are right to negotiate with Dayan because at least you can say that kind of thing to him.

K: He is the only one of them who really has some strategic grasp. But he may not last through that report of the investigating committee.

B: Well, that is the trouble. How long will you be gone?

K: I'll be back Thursday night.

B: \_\_\_says you look forward to boar hunting.

K: Inhuman. And I tell you the last time I participated in that sport, where I refuseded to shoot, but when you sit up in that stand, it makes you doubt that prudence pays because they put out the food and about 80 boars arrive simultaneously and there was one extraordinarily cautious and looked behind every tree arrived late, searched the ground before he put his foot down and it of course got it. I'll call you when I get back.

B: OK Have a good trip.

K: Thank you Mac and thank you for your letter.

B: Right.

K: Bye

B: Bye