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FROM: HENRY A KISSINGER

TO: GENERAL HAIG

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1. WE HAD FOUR PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH CHOU THIS AFTERNOON ON THE SUBJECT OF THE SOVIET UNION AND VIET NAM. I DID ALMOST ALL THE TALKING AS CHOU EXPRESSEDLY INVITED MY PRESENTATIONS AND CONFINED HIMSELF TO CONSTRUCTIVE , NON-POLEMICAL QUESTIONS.

*HAIG
RODMAN*

2. ON SOVIET UNION , I BRIEFED CHOU ALONG FAMILIAR LINES ON OUR PURPOSES, ATTITUDES , AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS SINCE LAST JULY. HE ASKED SERIES OF QUESTIONS WHICH REFLECTED SOME CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS. HE SAID IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR MCGOVERN TO CUT DEFENSE BUDGET BY ONE-THIRD AND LATER MADE A SCATHING REFERENCE TO PEOPLE WHO PROCEED OUT OF NAIVE ILLUSIONS.

3. ON VIETNAM, I REVIEWED OUR POLICY, SLOWING OF NORTH VIETNAMESE OFFENSIVEN SOLIDARITY OF OUR DOMESTIC SUPPORT, PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION AND IMPOSSIBILITY OF OUR BETRAYING AN ALLY. CHOU WAS MODERATE AND SHOWED MORE DIRECT INTEREST IN NEGOTIATIONS THAN BEFORE. HE ONCE AGAIN FLOATED IDEA OF CEASE-FIRE- IN-PLACE . HE SAID THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR MCGOVERN OR ANYONE ELSE TO OVERTHROW THIEU, IMPLYING THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT THIS FACT. CHOU MADE NO STATEMENT, PERHAPS WISHING TO PONDER MY REMARKS BEFORE OFFERING HIS OWN

WARM REGARDS.

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO, Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
Date: 6-30-05

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