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JUNE 21, 1972

TO GENERAL HAIG, THE WHITE HOUSE

FROM HENRY A KISSINGER

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HAIG
RODMAN

1. THREE AND A HALF HOUR SESSION WITH CHOU WAS DEVOTED
PRIMARILY TO VIETNAM WITH SOME DISCUSSION OF SOVIET UNION AT OUTSET.

2. THEIR DISTRUST OF RUSSIANS WAS ONCE AGAIN CLEAR.
CHOU EMPHASIZED THAT DISARMAMENT IMPOSSIBLE, WITH LIMITATIONS IN SOME
FIELDS BUT INCREASES IN OTHERS. HE STRONGLY INTIMATED NEED FOR U. S.
TO KEEP ITS DEFENSES UP, MAKING FAVORABLE REFERENCES TO LAIRD TESTIMONY
BEFORE SFRC (PLEASE PROTECT). HE ALSO DISPLAYED CONCERN OVER OUR EX-
TENDING CREDITS TO SOVIETS SINCE THIS MIGHT BE THE ONLY WAY THAT
STRAINED SOVIET ECONOMY COULD FUEL THEIR ARMS BUILD UP.

3. CHOU REVIEWED VIETNAM AND MADE RATHER DESULTORY DEFENSE
OF NORTH VIETNAMESE POSITION. AT THE END HE SAID THAT CONTINUATION
OF THE WAR WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT INTERFERE IN
RELAXATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND PRC.

4. IN SEPERATE COUNTERPART MEETING THERE WAS FULL EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS ON HOW TO PROMOTE EXCHANGES BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

5. THEY ARE GOING TO EXTRAORDINARY LENGTHS TO SHOW
HOSPITALITY TO US .

WARM REGARDS

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

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MEMORANDUM

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...
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June 21, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: AL HAIG *AH*
SUBJECT: Report from Dr. Kissinger

I received a third progress report from Dr. Kissinger covering his June 21 activities in Peking. It contained the following highlights:

-- He had just concluded a 3 1/2 hour session with Chou which was devoted primarily to Vietnam, with some discussion of the Soviet Union at the outset.

-- Chou's distrust of the Russians was again emphasized. Chou made the point that disarmament was impossible with limitations in some fields but increases in others the likely outcome.

-- Chou again strongly intimated the need for the U.S. to keep its defenses up, even making favorable references to Secretary Laird's testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

-- Chou displayed concern over our extending credits to the Soviets since this might be the only way that the strained Soviet economy could continue to fuel their arms buildup.

-- Chou reviewed Vietnam and made a rather desultory defense of the North Vietnamese position. At the end, he made the point that continuation of the war would not interfere in the relaxation of relations between the U.S. and the Peoples Republic of China.

Kissinger also noted that there had been a separate counterpart meeting during which there was a full exchange of views on how to

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promote exchanges between our countries. Henry again commented on the extraordinary lengths to which the Chinese are going to demonstrate hospitality.

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