

21 OCT 73 10 46z

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21 0940Z OCT 73 STAFF

CTIE KUWAIT [REDACTED]

TO: TEHRAN.

RYBAT

~~EYES ONLY~~ [REDACTED] FOR KNIGHT

1. FOR DURATION OF ARAB-ISRAELI HOSTILITIES [REDACTED] WILL HOLD OFF ON BI-WEEKLY SUMMARIES, AS [REDACTED] RECEIVING ONLY WAR-RELATED MATERIAL, IF KNIGHT AGREES.

2. I WOULD, HOWEVER, LIKE TO MAKE ONE OBSERVATION. USG HAS MAINTAINED ITS POSITION IN ARAB WORLD, IN SPITE OF ITS POSITION ON ISRAEL, BASICALLY BECAUSE OF ITS SUPPORT BY CONSERVATIVE ARAB STATES (SAUDI, KUWAIT, OMAN, UAE, JORDAN, BAHRAIN, QATAR AND MORROCCO). THESE STATES SAW IN USG A COUNTERBALANCE TO THE BLIND RUSH INTO THE SOCIALIST-PROGRESSIVE ERA, WITH CONCOMITANT RISE IN SOVIET INFLUENCE, WHICH THEY WERE NOT PREPARED TECHNOLOGICALLY, BUREAUCRATICALLY OR IDEOLOGICALLY, TO HANDLE. THESE STATES WERE ABLE, IN TURN, TO SUSTAIN THEIR CONSERVATIVE POSTURE THROUGH A COMBINATION OF WEALTH, ~~PERMANENCY~~ ^{MASSIVE} OF THEIR RULERS AND REALTIONS WITH USG.

3. IT FOLLOWS THAT ANY CHANGE IN ATTITUDE OF CONSERVATIVE STATES IN ARAB WORLD VIS A VIS USG WILL EFFECT USG POSITION.

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IT MIGHT BE ARGUED THAT TO MAKE THIS CHANGE WOULD BE CUTTING OFF NOSE TO SPITE FACE BECAUSE WEAKENING OF USG POSITION WOULD, IN R, WEAKEN FABRIC OF THEIR POLITICAL STRUCTURE. THIS, NONETHELESS, HAPPENING BECAUSE CONSERVATIVE STATES ARE IN POSITION OF HAVING TO ACT IN PROGRESSIVE MANNER TO WAR AND THEY ARE SETTING IN MOTION A TREND THEY WILL BE UNABLE TO REVERSE WHEN WAR IS OVER. RADICALS AND PROGRESSIVES IN CONSERVATIVE STATES WILL USE THEIR NEWLY GAINED FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, PARTICULARLY ANTI-AMERICAN EXPRESSIONS, TO EXPAND THEIR BASES. NOW THAT THESE PROGRESSIVE FORCES ARE LEGALLY VOCAL, USING SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE AS THEIR VEHICLE, CONSERVATIVE REGIMES WILL BE FORCED TO TAKE MANY STANDS, INCLUDING STRONG STANDS AGAINST THE USG, WHICH THEY ARE NOT INCLINED TO TAKE. THIS TREND IS LIKELY TO SNOWBALL AND END NOT ONLY IN ELIMINATION OF USG INFLUENCE IN AREA BUT DOWNFALL OF CONSERVATIVE REGIMES.

4. THE SOVIETS WILL USE THEIR NEW PRESTIGE TO PRESS FOR A PRESENCE IN THESE STATES, WHICH LACK SOPHISTICATION TO HANDLE SOVIETS. THIS WILL TEND TO HASTEN PARA 2 PROCESS.

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5. WE HOPE WE DO NOT SOUND IMPERTINENT IN NEXT COMMENT, BUT WE MAKE IT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE. DETENTE IS, WITHOUT DOUBT, IMPORTANT BUT ONLY IF SOVIETS TAKE DETENTE AS SERIOUSLY AS WE DO. IF THEY USE DETENTE TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS OR AS A WEAPON, THEN WE ARE PUTTING A ^{GR} ~~DE~~AT DEAL ON THE LINE FOR JUST A WORD, PARTICULARLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. LONGER WAR DRAGES ON, THE GREATER THE TOLL WILL BE AMONG THE CONSERVATIVE REGIMES. WE HAVE SEEN THE ACTIONS THE CONSERVATIVES HAVE HAD TO TAKE TO DATE. HOW MANY MORE BAHRAINS MKIT THERE BE BEFORE WE ~~RE~~ALIZE OUR GLOBAL INTERESTS ARE WORTH MORE THAN A WORD? BY HOLDING OUT PD THE INTERESTS OF DETENTE, WE HAVE LOST COMIDEASTFOR'S BASE. THE SOVIETS MUST BE ENJOYING THIS. WE MUST TAKE DECISIONS AND INITIATIVES WITH OUR OWN INTERESTS IN MIND.

6. NEW ARAB ATTITUDE WILL ALSO EFFECT IRAN. DESPITE GENERALLY PRO-ARAB STAND TAKEN BY IRAN, RADICALS ~~OUT~~ WILL QUICKLY FORGET THIS WHEN ~~WAR IS OVER~~ ^{WAR IS OVER}. WITH RADICAL STRUCTURE STRENGTHENED IN GULF, NEXT TARGET WILL BE IRAN, BECAUSE OF ITS

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TIES WITH USG (ITS PRO-ARAB STANCE NOTWITHSTANDING). SAUDI-
IRANIAN TIES HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED BY IRAN'S RESPONSE FOR
AIRCRAFT, BUT WE DOUBT THESE TIES WILL BE SUSTAINED IN FACE
OF RADICAL TREND AND WITHOUT USG AS COMMON DENOMINATOR.

7. NO FILE. E2 IMPDET.ORS ~~SECRET~~