

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 219969032
By [Signature] NARA Date 11-30-00

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October 24, 1973

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Secretary Kissinger requests that Mr. Ismail pass the following urgent communication from President Nixon to President Sadat:

"I have just learned that a resolution may be introduced into the Security Council this evening urging that outside military forces -- including those of the US and the USSR -- be sent to the Middle East to enforce the ceasefire. I must tell you that if such a resolution is introduced into the Security Council it will be vetoed by the United States for the following reasons:

"--It would be impossible to assemble sufficient outside military power to represent an effective counterweight to the indigenous forces now engaged in combat in the Middle East.

"--Should the two great nuclear powers be called upon to provide forces, it would introduce an extremely dangerous potential for direct great power rivalry in the area.

"It is our view that an effective implementation of the ceasefire already called for by the Security Council would be by the rapid introduction of United Nations observer personnel. We strongly support such a move.

POK 27-14 ARRB-ISR
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"Mr. President, the United States stands ready to move rapidly toward a political solution to the tragic problems that have made peace in the Middle East such a tenuous thing.

But we are equally intent upon avoiding an unnecessary confrontation which would but make more difficult and dangerous an already extremely complex situation."

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S.I.S.E. ml

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FOR [illegible]