

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
DECLASSIFIED

Authority EO 12958.

By PT NARA Date 8/20/03

VIA SPECIAL CHANNEL

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

DELIVER TO PETER RODMAN IN SEALED ENVELOPE

October 5, 1973

TO: Secretary Kissinger

FROM: Brent Scowcroft

Minister Shalev called on me at 5:30 p.m. and passed
the following informal communication from the Prime Minister:

QUOTE-----UNQUOTE
(See attached)

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1. INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN ACCUMULATING OBLIGES US TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THE MILITARY PREPARATIONS IN SYRIA AND EGYPT, THE BATTLE DEPLOYMENT AND STATE OF ALERT OF THEIR ARMED FORCES, AND IN PARTICULAR THE INCREASED MILITARY CONCENTRATIONS AT THEIR FRONT LINES WITH US, MAY BE MOTIVATED BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO POSSIBILITIES:
 - A. A BONA FIDE ASSESSMENT BY BOTH OR ONE OF THESE COUNTRIES, FOR WHATEVER REASON, THAT ISRAEL INTENDS TO CARRY OUT AN OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST THEM OR AGAINST ONE OF THEM;
 - B. THE INTENTION ON THEIR PART - OR ON THE PART OF ONE OF THEM - TO INITIATE AN OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATION AGAINST ISRAEL.

2. IN CASE, HOWEVER, THIS DEVELOPMENT STEMS FROM THEIR APPREHENSIONS ABOUT AN OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATION FROM THE SIDE OF ISRAEL, SUCH APPREHENSIONS ARE COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION. WE WISH TO ASSURE YOU PERSONALLY THAT ISRAEL HAS NO INTENTION WHATEVER TO INITIATE OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST SYRIA OR EGYPT. WE ARE, ON THE CONTRARY, MOST EAGER TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS AN EASING OF THE MILITARY TENSION IN THE AREA. ON THESE GROUNDS WE WISH, THROUGH YOUR GOOD OFFICE, TO INFORM THE ARABS AND THE SOVIETS OF OUR ATTITUDE, WITH THE VIEW OF ALLAYING THEIR SUSPICIONS AND THE AIM OF RESTORING CALM TO THE AREA.

3. SHOULD SYRIA OR EGYPT INTEND TO LAUNCH OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS, IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THEM IN ADVANCE THAT ISRAEL WILL REACT MILITARILY, WITH FIRMNESS AND IN GREAT STRENGTH. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO BRING THIS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARABS AND SOVIETS THROUGH THE CHANNELS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.