October 17, 1973

EUR - Mr. Springsteen

The Secretary has approved this and ask you to carry it out as soon as possible on the morning of October 18.

Thomas R. Pickering
Executive Secretary

SECRET/NODIS Attachment

S/S: TRP: jlh
Acting Assistant Secretary Springsteen is to call in the French Ambassador and make the following points:

-- The Secretary of State has seen the reports of Foreign Minister Jobert's statement before the National Assembly on the Middle East.

-- The Secretary finds the Foreign Minister's personal references to him both offensive and unnecessary. Whatever point the Foreign Minister was attempting to make could have been made in less direct language.

-- The United States has made great efforts over the course of the last week to bring peace to the Middle East. These efforts, including a number of specific proposals made by the U.S., were consistently evaded by the Soviet Union.

-- It was not until the Soviet Union had been engaged in massive resupply of the Arabs for some 5 days that the United States initiated its own air resupply effort.

-- Thus, to be put on the same level as the Soviets in the Foreign Minister's statement is to distort the facts.

-- We find the Foreign Minister's statement inconsistent with the good relations between the United States and France that have existed in the past, and inconsistent with the personal relationships that have heretofore existed between the Foreign Minister and the Secretary of State.

S: LSEagleburger:ml

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