

DECLASSIFIED
Authority F.O. 12958
By TD NARA Date 1/24/01

October 20, 1973

Dear Mr. General Secretary:

As you know, I have dispatched Secretary Kissinger urgently to Moscow to consult with you regarding the termination of the current conflict in the Middle East.

The purpose of this brief note is to emphasize to you that Dr. Kissinger speaks with my full authority and that the commitments that he may make in the course of your discussions have my complete support.

I am confident that if you and I work together on this explosive problem, we can find a solution which will bring a lasting peace to the area. It will, however, require a firm commitment from both of us to devote our personal efforts toward achieving that goal and to provide the strong leadership which our respective friends in the area will find persuasive.

I am sending a message to Dr. Kissinger which he will convey orally to you, of my strong personal commitment in this regard.

Sincerely,

His Excellency
Leonid L. Brezhnev
General Secretary of the Central
Committee of the Communist
Party of the Soviet Union
The Kremlin
Moscow

The President's hand-written note: "Mrs. Nixon joins me in sending our best personal regards to Mrs. Brezhnev and to you."