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SB 2401*

RELEASED IN PART

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TELCON

James Callaghan/Sec. Kissinger
4:10 p.m., April 13, 1974

C: Hello, Henry.

K: Hello, Jim. How are you?

C: I'm all right. How are you?

K: O.K. I was just drafting a letter to you today.

C: I would just like to have a word if you have the time about the Middle East situation.

K: Absolutely.

~~Can absolutely~~ I gather you have seen Gromyko and we have this request like you from the Lebanese about making representation and I wanted to concert our actions with yours.

K: Right. I have great trouble hearing you.

C: I have a lot of trouble hearing you, I must say.

K: Do you want me to put -- where are you?

C: Can you hear me now.

K: No. Where are you now.

C: I am at TH Dorney Woods.

K: That's probably why -- I was going to suggest that I would put in the call from my end.

C: I don't know whether that would be any better or if we could extract one or two who are probably listening in it might help.

K: (Laughter)

C: I find that the power goes when you've got several people listening in.

K: Exactly.

C: If there is anybody listening in on my end would they please put their phones back. They can do the same on your end. Where are you speaking from?

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K: I'm speaking from my office in the State Dept.

C: The connection should be better but it is pretty poor at the moment. I can just barely hear you, can you hear me.

K: Yes, I can hear you now.

C: Can we carry on like this.

K: Yes, let's.

C: How do you feel about this request of the Lebanese. What is your reaction to it?

K: Well, we will probably be a low key way say something to the Israelis but basically we feel that that was a rather flagrant guerilla attack and it is hard to know what one really can tell the Israelis to do.

C: This is what I was wondering. Whether we just let them have tit for tat ~~and~~ and then hope it settles down.

K: Why don't we leave it that we had not really planned to do anything immediate.

C: Oh.

K: We could leave it that I will let you know if we do plan to do something.

C: Yes. Well, I think that would be helpful. Are you going to say anything about the Israeli raid, Henry?

K: Am I personally?

C: Yes, or the State Dept. Are you going to make any statement about it.

K: Well certainly not over the weekend.

C: Then I won't do anything of the sort either.

K: And if we say something it will be that in the sense that puts the blame equally.

C: Yes. That's right. We put out a statement yesterday about the first attack and now the Office is suggesting to me that I should put out another statement that we abhor the second attack equally. That is just an escalating



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business and I see no future in that. But if you are going to say something publically, I would like to do the same, but not otherwise.

K: Look, we have no occasion to say anything before Monday.

C: All right.

K: Should I get word to you.

C: Yes. Your office can get me through the Foreign Office on Monday quite easily.

K: Good. I will get word to you if we plan to say something.

C: Maybe, it might be better than going through the Foreign Office to come through direct.

K: All right. What is the number.

C: It is an open line. It is

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K: O.K.

C: I won't make any statement at the moment. I will just hold everything up and perhaps by Monday, the situation might be a little clearer and we might concert our action.

K: Good. I am writing you a letter over this weekend about some matters concerning Egypt. There is no great hurry. I just wanted you to have my thinking.

C: Yes. Well thank you very much. I would like to have that. I think it would be better on Monday if your office could ring me on that Burnham number. I think we will hear each other much better than we are tonight.

K: Why don't we plan to talk on Monday in any event.

C: All right. What time do you suggest? Your time.

K: Oh, damn it. I will be in New York, come to think of it. I will call you say around 1:00 your time. 8:00 New York time.

C: 8:00 New York time and 1:00 London time. All right, Henry.

K: We will talk then.

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C: ~~All right, Ha~~ We will settle for that and perhaps we will have some ideas on how to handle this. I don't like to see your work going down the drain.

K: You are terrific.

C: Are you taking Gromyko along with you.

K: I've had a good talk with Gromyko. I will send you a report about that.

C: That's fine. Righto then. All right. Monday at 1:00 then.
Have a good time.

K: Terrific. Thank you. BYE

END

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