

ACTION

May 12, 1972

~~SECRET/EYES ONLY~~

MEMO FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: WINSTON LORD

At Tab B is a backchannel from Porter suggesting that he accompany us to Moscow. This does not seem to be a good idea to me. John Negroponte agrees.

Attached at Tab A for your approval is a response, thanking him for his idea, but turning it off. You undoubtedly can approve upon the rationale I give.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the backchannel to Porter at Tab A.

DOS, NSS Reviews Completed.

MORI/CDF C05105901

~~SECRET/EYES ONLY~~

WL:ms:5/12/72

BACKCHANNEL

25X1

SECRET/EYES ONLY

May 12, 1972

TO: AMBASSADOR PORTER

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER (5)

Thank you for your imaginative proposal to accompany us to Moscow. While this would have some merit, it would not match our basic public posture for the visit and would also probably irritate the Russians. We are not adverse to doing the latter, but don't think it serves our purposes in this case.

In addition, with Le Duc Tho still in Paris, it is possible that your presence there may be important.

Warm regards.

HAK:WL:ms:5/12/72

SECRET/EYES ONLY

25X1-

EYES ONLY  
**SECRET**

EYES ONLY  
1100-  
25X1-  
1400-  
CORR  
NESR

RECEIVED  
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1972 MAY 12 11 29

VZCZODLAB22

TO [REDACTED] 281 1331121  
ZNY  
O 121113Z MAY 72 ZYH  
FM PARIS  
TO WHITE HOUSE  
ZEN

*Wia  
Portum*

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**SECRET** 121116Z MAY 72 [REDACTED]  
FM AMBASSADOR PORTER PARIS 732  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE EYES ONLY FOR DR HENRY KISSINGER

1. IF YOU CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS REASONS FOR ME TO TRAVEL TO MOSCOW ALONG WITH YOUR TEAM OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN EXPERTS, I WOULD OF COURSE BE GLAD TO DO SO. PURPOSE WOULD BE OF COURSE TO EMPHASIZE PRESIDENT'S PRIMARY INTEREST IN NEGOTIATION. IT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE GOOD EFFECT ON POW FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN CLOSELY WATCHING OUR EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF THEIR MEN HERE AT PARIS TALKS. SUBSTANTIVE VALUE COULD BE BACKGROUNDING YOU MIGHT WISH ME TO DO, EITHER OF OFFICIALS OR MEDIA, ON CONDUCT OF BERRY AT TABLE HERE.

2. MANY REGARDS.

159  
1281

*M*

**SECRET EYES ONLY**