

DECLASSIFIED

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By AC, NARA Date 7/26/01



Dep. *Department of State*

Pol 15-1 UAR

TELEGRAM

1968-7-25, Nasser, Russia, Visit @ Po / 7 UAR

Cairo 2993 7/25/68

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02993 251008Z

II
ACTION NEA 15

INFO EUR 15,NSA 02,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPMI 04,H 02,INR 07,LI 03,NSC 10.

P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,SAH 02,RSR 01,100 W

R 250842Z JUL 68
FM USINT CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5008

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1. NASSER'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO USSR FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT HAS TAKEN CAIRO COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE. CAIRO COCKTAIL CIRCUIT WILL HAVE A BALL.

2. BELIEVE CHANCES SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN EVEN THAT UAR, DURING NASSER'S ABSENCE, WILL REMAIN CALM AND THAT NASSER WILL RETURN AS PRESIDENT OF UAR. MAIN THING GOING FOR NASSER IS THAT IT DIFFICULT DISCERN ANYBODY WHO WOULD WANT HIS JOB AT THIS FRUSTRATING JUNCTURE.

3. ABSENCE ALSO GIVES NASSER OPPORTUNITY POSTPONE DIFFICULT DECISIONS SUCH AS MEMBERSHIP OF ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND HIGHER EXECUTIVE, AND RATIFICATION OF SENTENCES IN 'AMER' PLOT AND "IN ELLIGENCE DEVIATION" CASES (WHICH YESTERDAY'S PRESS INDICATED HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO NASSER BY COURTS).

4. AS TO NATURE NASSER'S AILMENT MY FIRM, UNSWERVING GUESS (BASED ON CONSULTATION WITH MY MEDICALLY TRAINED WIFE) IS PROSTATE TROUBLE. THIS AILMENT IS FOND OF ATTACKING EGYPTIAN PUBLIC FIGURES IN THEIR EARLY FIFTIES (CFI HAREZ AND FIKI).

BERGUS

(2)

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