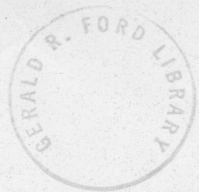


The original documents are located in Box 134, folder “June 11, 1974 - Statement re: Henry Kissinger, Washington, DC” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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STATEMENT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

I firmly believe in the integrity of Henry Kissinger. His resignation at this hour would be catastrophic to the cause of peace.

The time has come when the wrecking of reputations by ~~ill-informed~~ innuendo and leaks ~~of unsupported~~ charges from faceless accusers must stop. Whoever is attacking the honesty and dedication of the Secretary of State is ~~undercutting~~ his peacemaking achievements on behalf of the United States. To do so while the President and Dr. Kissinger are on the threshold of a major peace mission is to ~~destroy~~ the highest hopes of millions of people all over the world. The American people will not tolerate such sabotage.

~~Secretary~~
All that ~~Dr.~~ Kissinger's tireless diplomacy has done to advance the cause of peace in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, and to reduce tensions with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, has required the strictest of security precautions. The National Security Council is charged by law with the protection ~~of~~ of our nation's most carefully guarded secrets. Anyone who failed to take all prudent measures to safeguard this data would be derelict in his duty. ~~and~~

I am completely confident that Henry Kissinger has done his utmost to preserve, protect and defend the vital interests of this country and to further the cause of peace. I know he will continue to do so.

Gen. Dist

STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, June 11, 1974

CONTACT
Paul Miltich 456-2364

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