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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN AX.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON

April 4, 1975

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Dear Mr. President:

I want to report my travel plans for the next few weeks.

On Monday night I plan to fly to Paris, where on Tuesday I'll be participating in one of the periodic unannounced meetings held by the finance ministers of the five major industrial countries. In this particular meeting we'll be exchanging views on the economic outlook and attempting to hammer out agreement on some basic principles, hopefully to be implemented in a more detailed agreement in June among the 20 Ministers of the International Monetary Fund Committee carrying forward the discussions of international monetary reform. On Wednesday, also in Paris, there will be a meeting of all of the OECD Finance Ministers for the formal signing of the Financial Solidarity Agreement, which is linked to our other forms of cooperation relating to energy.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, accompanied by John Tabor of Commerce, I will be participating in the regular session of the US-USSR Commercial Commission with the Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade. Following these formal meetings, we will make brief visits to Kiev, Tashkent and Samarkand on the way to New Delhi in India, arriving April 15.

The Indian trip, which has long been urged upon us, is to discuss both bilateral economic relations and, probably more importantly, policies to be followed in the various international financial agencies. During the Indian visit, I have also been booked to make a speech in Bombay, the commercial center in India.

After a brief stop-over in Madras in southern India, I shall, at the request of the State Department, stop overnight in Colombo, Sri Lanka, for discussions similar to those in India, and will then be taking with me the Sri Lanka Finance Minister on a flight to Manila, arriving on April 22.

I shall be leading the U.S. delegation to the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank. A number of Congressmen will join me there.

The present schedule puts me back in Washington late on April 28. Of course I will be available by telephone at all times during the trip if you wish to speak to me.

Henry Kissinger and I have had a long review of our dealings with the different countries enroute and we have agreed on the positions which I shall take to be of most value to our relations with these countries.

Actually, I don't know how I will be able to survive without the stimulation of three or four testimonies a week before the Congress, but I am sure you will be able to keep the lid on the budget while I'm away.

Faithfully yours.

all.

William E. Simon

The President

The White House