Department of State

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FROM: TEL AVIV

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Secretary of State

NO:

1043, JUNE 16, 10 PM

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Control: 13068

Rec'd: JUNE 16, 1963

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PRIORITY

EYES ONLY

DEPARTMENT 938 EYES ONLY

VIEW BEN GURION'S RESIGNATION, ASSUME PRES WILL WISH RECONSIDER WHETHER LETTER TEXT OF WHICH CONTAINED REFTEL SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO HIM OR REDRAFTED FOR ADDRESS TO SUCCESSOR.

ALTHOUGH I APPRECIATE THAT MATTER OF EARLY VISIT DIMONEUIS#
ONE OF HIGH PRIORITY FOR US, MOST UNLIKELY WE CAN GET FURTHER
EAR OF CABINET ON THIS QUESTION WHILE CURRENT POLITICAL
CRISIS UNRESOLVED. WOULD, THEREFORE, RECOMMEND APPROACH BE
POSTPONED UNTIL CABINET PROBLEM IS SORTED OUT AND DEMARCHE CAN
BE RETAILORED, IF NECESSARY, TO NEW INCUMBENT PRIME MINISTER'S
OFFICE. INCIDENTALLY, MAY BE NOTED THAT, WHILE PROBABLY NOT
A MAJOR CAUSE OF DISSENSION, THIS ISSUE WAS ITSELF NOT WITH—
OUT CONTROVERSY WHEN BEN_GURION PRESENTED IT TO HIS COLLEAGUES
BEFORE DISPATCH HIS LETTER MAY 27.

SCP-2

BARBOUR

EYES CHI

AAL/22

#AS RECEIVED.

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