

# Kissinger's advice to Ford: Hang tough

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WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Kissinger is urging President Ford to respond to the defeat in Vietnam with a tough, abrasive, foreign policy.

Kissinger is arguing strongly that the United States must not lower its profile and suppress the interventionist impulse that led to the debacle in South east Asia.

Instead, Kissinger is pressing Ford to adopt an even more forceful foreign policy to deter the Soviet Union from attempting to exploit presumed U.S. weaknesses.

So far the Soviets have been cautious, almost conciliatory, in their reaction to the Communist victory in South Vietnam. But Kissinger ascribes this to a traditional Soviet reading of the United States as a wounded animal that, when in trouble, might overreact to pressure.

In the long run, Kissinger expects the Soviets to exploit the slightest chink in U.S. defenses. For example, he foresees a crisis in the Middle East this summer and expects the Soviets to be much tougher than they were in the 1973 war.

To contain the Soviets in such circumstances, Kissin-

## He presses for policy to keep Soviets at bay

ger believes America must assume stronger posture and speak in more blunt terms than it did before Vietnam.

It is a truism of history, in Kissinger's view, that any major power that has suffered a defeat as large as we have in Vietnam must adopt such a posture.

Ford is responding positively to Kissinger's advice. Several times last week, the President declared his intention to defend foreign countries — notably in Europe, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand — stretching U.S. commitments beyond formal treaty obligations.

CIA Director William E. Colby seemed to be reflecting Kissinger's hard line in a speech in San Francisco last Wednesday. Colby insisted the Central Intelligence Agency is now conducting "very few" secret operations to support or undermine foreign governments.

But Colby declared pointedly that the "world seems

to be changing again, and our country might again need the capability to provide some quiet influence or assistance to friends abroad, engaging the formal diplomatic or military might of the United States."

In light of the CIA's strenuous efforts to persuade the public and Congress that covert operations are a thing of the past, Colby's statement can be read as a signal that Ford and Kissinger are again unleashing the CIA as a major tool of foreign policy.

Ford has strongly defended the CIA in several recent statements and has warned that prohibiting its secret operations would tie one of the President's hands behind his back.

Kissinger had been grumbling too that the risk of further sensational disclosure about CIA activities has inhibited the United States from taking secret counter-

action against the Communists in Portugal and other vulnerable countries within the traditional U.S. orbit.

Kissinger also has been complaining that Congress is intruding too deeply into the realm of foreign policy, denying him and Ford of the ability to move swiftly and powerfully and secretly in the manner of all other Presidents since World War II.

Kissinger will go to Missouri next week for the first in what is expected to be a series of barnstorming trips to revive the old diplomacy. The overt message will be that the American people must reunite after Vietnam, avoid recriminations, and support the traditional alliances, and reject isolationism.

The subliminal message will be that American people should blot out the memory of the war and should turn back the clock to the heady days before Vietnam and Watergate when Presidents did as they pleased in foreign affairs, Congress endorsed their every policy, the press transmitted their words with but faint criticism, and the public applauded.