

NY TIMES 6 MAR 71

Nixon's Foreign Policy

To the Editor:

I have just endured the agony of reading President Nixon's foreign policy report ("State of the World"). Reflecting its primary authorship by security adviser Henry Kissinger, the report conveys a tone of pontifical pretension and injured benevolence. It is a gratuitous insult to the intelligence of every informed reader.

President Nixon (Kissinger) could hardly have composed this overlong message with a straight face. He concocts an image of recent international history so perverted as to provoke disbelief (and anger). The disaster in Indochina, for example, is reduced to "North Vietnam's aggression" against her neighbors. Little notice is taken of the central fact of massive U.S. intervention and demolition.

The image presented of relations with China since World War II is an Alice-in-Wonderland classic. After ignoring the record of American intervention in China's civil war and the continued refusal to recognize the People's Republic, the President declares that he does not "wish to impose on China an international position that denies its legitimate national interests."

He goes on to promise that in the coming year he will "carefully examine" what "further steps" he might take to improve Chinese-American relationships. It does not appear to have occurred to Mr. Nixon (Kissinger) that U.S. withdrawal from military bases on Chinese territory (Taiwan) might be a useful first step; ending the bombing of China's ally and neighbor, North Vietnam, might be a second.

The verbal indirection and obfuscation in the report is relieved by a more forthcoming tone when the President (Kissinger) refers to nuclear weapons. His chief concern (and promise) on this life-and-death matter is to seek additional strategic options—capabilities and controls for the waging of "limited" nuclear wars.

Thus, the President assures us, he will shortly be able to make an "appropriate [nuclear] response" to every level of "provocation"—without "necessarily having to resort to mass destruction." Dr. Strangelove (Dr. Kissinger) has struck again.

THOMAS H. GREER
East Lansing, Mich., March 1, 1971