

WXPost DEC 7 1973
Last-Hour Nixon Plea

Described by Heikal

Agence France-Presse

CAIRO, Dec. 7 (Friday) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat received an urgent message from President Nixon assuring him of Israel's peaceful intentions 20 minutes before the Egyptian attack of Oct. 6, the influential journalist Mohamed Hassanien Heikal said today.

Heikal, editor of the authoritative weekly Al Ahram, added in his column that a similar message had gone from Mr. Nixon to the Soviet leaders, at the request of Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir.

The newsman added that Sadat was already at armed forces headquarters, following the countdown for the Egyptian attack, when he received the message. Heikal said President Nixon's message to the Soviet Union asked it to halt an attack by Egypt and if such an assault was planned.