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Kissinger Hits Account Of Nixon Resignation

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Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said that published accounts of his meeting with President Nixon the night before Nixon's resignation are distorted and inaccurate and "show an indecent lack of compassion."

Published excerpts from a new book, "The Final Days," depict a distraught Nixon, pounding the carpet in the Lincoln Sitting Room at the White House and asking Kissinger between sobs, "What have I done? What has happened?"

State Department spokesman Robert Funseth confirmed that Kissinger met with the book's authors, Washington Post reporters

Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, but Funseth refused to say whether Kissinger was the source for the description of the late night encounter with Nixon.

Funseth said Kissinger authorized him to make the following statement:

"Excerpts the secretary has seen of the material from the book of which he has personal knowledge contain too much gossip, too many inaccuracies, distortions and misrepresentations to be dealt with.

"In addition, the secretary believes these excerpts show an indecent lack of compassion and lack of essential human understanding on the part of the authors."