Backstage With the Crisis Managers

WASHINGTON — There has never been much doubt about the sympathy of the Nixon Administration for the war in Vietnam. But it is more than that. It is an obsession.

I am getting hell every half-hour from the President that we are not being tough enough on India. I just called him again and he wants to tilt in favor of Pakistan.

Henceforth, we show a certain coolness to the Indian ambassador, and the ambassador is not to be treated at too high a level.

If we do not have the right to authorize Jordan or Saudi Arabia to transfer military equipment to Pakistan, it is quite obvious that the President is not inclined to let the Pakistanis be defeated.

As revealed last week, presidential national security advisor Henry Kissinger, instead of pulling Pakistan at secret national security council sessions on Dec. 12 and 19 (in the first few pages above—along with arguments to John F. Kennedy) and when he briefed newsmen on Dec. 7, Mr. Kissinger seemed to take a different tack.

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