

# Henry A. Kissinger Quotes

*Country, Thinking, People, War, Believe, Years, Political, Order, Military, Issues,  
Two, Government, Men, America, Party, World, Strong, Long, Challenges,  
Leader*

If you do not know where you are going, every road will get you nowhere

~Henry A. Kissinger

Accept everything about yourself - I mean everything, You are you and that is the beginning and the end - no apologies, no regrets.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Who controls the food supply controls the people; who controls the energy can control whole continents; who controls money can control the world.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Military men are just dumb, stupid animals to be used as pawns in foreign policy.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Control oil and you control nations; control food and you control the people.

~Henry A. Kissinger

World population needs to be decreased by 50%

~Henry A. Kissinger

It was a Greek tragedy. Nixon was fulfilling his own nature. Once it started it could not end otherwise.

~Henry A. Kissinger

This country cannot afford to tear itself apart on a partisan basis on issues so vital to our national security.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Democracy is too important to leave up to the votes of the people.

~Henry A. Kissinger

It is one of history's ironies that Communism, advertised as a classless society, tended to breed a privileged class of feudal proportions.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The Vietnam War required us to emphasize the national interest rather than abstract principles. What President Nixon and I tried to do was unnatural. And that is why we didn't make it.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Diplomacy: the art of restraining power.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Oil is much too important a commodity to be left in the hands of the Arabs.

~Henry A. Kissinger

It is not a matter of what is true that counts, but a matter of what is perceived to be true.

~Henry A. Kissinger

America has no permanent friends or enemies, only interests.

~Henry A. Kissinger

NAFTA represents the single most creative step towards a New World Order.

~Henry A. Kissinger

To be an enemy of America can be dangerous, but to be a friend is fatal

~Henry A. Kissinger

No one will ever win the battle of the sexes; there's too much fraternizing with the enemy.

~Henry A. Kissinger

### How to Achieve The New World Order

~Henry A. Kissinger

The enemies you make by taking a decided stand generally have more respect for you than the friends you make by being on the fence

~Henry A. Kissinger

There cannot be a crisis next week. My schedule is already full.

~Henry A. Kissinger

There are only two reasons to sit in the back row of an airplane: Either you have diarrhea, or you're anxious to meet people who do.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Power is the ultimate aphrodisiac.

~Henry A. Kissinger

It is, after all, the responsibility of the expert to operate the familiar and that of the leader to transcend it.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The conventional army loses if it does not win. The guerrilla wins if he does not lose.

~Henry A. Kissinger

For other nations, utopia is a blessed past never to be recovered; for Americans it is just beyond the horizon.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Art is man's expression of his joy in labor.

~Henry A. Kissinger

A leader does not deserve the name unless he is willing occasionally to stand alone.

~Henry A. Kissinger

In the end, peace can be achieved only by hegemony or by balance of power.

~Henry A. Kissinger

In 10 years, there will be no more Israel.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The elderly are useless eaters.

~Henry A. Kissinger

A diamond is a chunk of coal that is made good under pressure.

~Henry A. Kissinger

NAFTA is a major stepping stone to the New World Order.

~Henry A. Kissinger

You can't make war in the Middle East without Egypt and you can't make peace without Syria.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The US must carry out some act somewhere in the world which shows its determination to continue to be a world power.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The absence of alternatives clears the mind marvelously.

~Henry A. Kissinger

History knows no resting places and no plateaus

~Henry A. Kissinger

Power is the great aphrodisiac.

~Henry A. Kissinger

No foreign policy - no matter how ingenious - has any chance of success if it is born in the minds of a few and carried in the hearts of none.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are to where they have not been.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The Israelis want security. The Arabs want dignity. And they consider the demands of each other as incompatible.

~Henry A. Kissinger

University politics are vicious precisely because the stakes are so small.

~Henry A. Kissinger

I don't see why we need to stand by and watch a country go communist due to the irresponsibility of its own people.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Leaders are responsible not for running public opinion polls but for the consequences of their actions.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Clearly security without values is like a ship without a rudder. But values without security are like a rudder without a ship.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The illegal we do immediately. The unconstitutional takes a little longer.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The art of good foreign policy is to understand and to take into consideration the values of a society, to realize them at the outer limit of the possible.

~Henry A. Kissinger

If peace is equated simply with the absence of war, it can become abject pacifism that turns the world over to the most ruthless.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Don't be too ambitious. Do the most important thing you can think of doing every year and then your career will take care of itself.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Let us fashion together a new world order.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Each success only buys an admission ticket to a more difficult problem.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The nice thing about being a celebrity is that, if you bore people, they think it's their fault.

~Henry A. Kissinger

In crises the most daring course is often safest.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Donald Rumsfeld is the most ruthless man I have ever met? and I mean that as a compliment.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Would food be considered an instrument of national power? ... Is the U.S. prepared to accept food rationing to help people who can't/won't control their population growth?

~Henry A. Kissinger

A return to the 1967 lines and the abandonment of the settlements near Jerusalem would be such a psychological trauma for Israel as to endanger its survival.

~Henry A. Kissinger

You should not go to war for the privilege of withdrawal. You need to define your objective and the outcome, and it cannot be the removal of one man.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Leaders must invoke an alchemy of great vision.

~Henry A. Kissinger

You become a superpower by being strong but also by being wise and by being farsighted. But no state is strong or wise enough to create a world order alone.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Does anyone have any questions for my answers?

~Henry A. Kissinger

The important thing is to do the right thing. Then credibility will follow.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The capacity to admire others is not my most fully developed trait.

~Henry A. Kissinger

People think responsibility is hard to bear. It's not. I think that sometimes it is the absence of responsibility that is harder to bear. You



have a great feeling of impotence.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Moderation is a virtue only in those who are thought to have an alternative.

~Henry A. Kissinger

I don't read books, I write them.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The security of Israel is a moral imperative for all free peoples.

~Henry A. Kissinger

A leader who confines his role to his people's experience dooms himself to stagnation; a leader who outstrips his people's experience runs the risk of not being understood.

~Henry A. Kissinger

If we do what is necessary, all the odds are in our favor.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The longer I am out of office, the more infallible I appear to myself.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Every civilization that has ever existed has ultimately collapsed.

~Henry A. Kissinger

I think that his [Obama's] task will be to develop an overall strategy for America in this period, when really a New World Order can be created.

~Henry A. Kissinger

What we in America call terrorists are really groups of people that reject the international system

~Henry A. Kissinger

Donald Trump is a phenomenon that foreign countries haven't seen.

~Henry A. Kissinger

If I should ever be captured, I want no negotiation - and if I should request a negotiation from captivity they should consider that a sign of duress.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Blessed are the people whose leaders can look destiny in the eye without flinching but also without attempting to play God.

~Henry A. Kissinger

We cannot always assure the future of our friends; we have a better chance of assuring our future if we remember who our friends are.

~Henry A. Kissinger

In my particular case foreign policy happens to be my hobby, my consuming interest. I had spent decades studying it.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Any fact that needs to be disclosed should be put out now or as quickly as possible, because otherwise the bleeding will not end.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Most high officials leave office with the perceptions and insights with which they entered.

~Henry A. Kissinger

A country that demands moral perfection in its foreign policy will achieve neither perfection nor security.

~Henry A. Kissinger

In my life, I have almost always been on the side of active foreign policy. But you need to know with whom you are cooperating. You need

reliable partners.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Our nation is uniquely endowed to play a creative and decisive role in the new order which is taking form around us.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The superpowers often behave like two heavily armed blind men feeling their way around a room, each believing himself in mortal peril from the other, whom he assumes to have perfect vision.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The emergence of a unified Europe is one of the most revolutionary events of our time.

~Henry A. Kissinger

It is an act of insanity and national humiliation to have a law prohibiting the President from ordering assassination.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Even a paranoid can have enemies.

~Henry A. Kissinger

A bluff taken seriously is more useful than a serious threat interpreted as a bluff.

~Henry A. Kissinger

If it's going to come out eventually, better have it come out immediately.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Statesman create; ordinary leaders consume. The ordinary leader is satisfied with ameliorating the environment, not transforming it; a statesman must be a visionary and an educator.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The true conservative is not at home in social struggle. He will attempt to avoid unbridgeable schism, because he knows that a stable social structure thrives not on triumphs but on reconciliations.

~Henry A. Kissinger

No country can act wisely simultaneously in every part of the globe at every moment of time.

~Henry A. Kissinger

An expert is someone who articulates the needs of those in power.

~Henry A. Kissinger

If you control the food, you control a nation. If you control the energy, you control a region. If you control the money, you control the world.

~Henry A. Kissinger

I am being frank about myself in this book. I tell of my first mistake on page 850.

~Henry A. Kissinger

We must learn to distinguish morality from moralizing.

~Henry A. Kissinger

The American temptation is to believe that foreign policy is a subdivision of psychiatry.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Most foreign policies that history has marked highly, in whatever country, have been originated by leaders who were opposed by experts.

~Henry A. Kissinger

We believe that peace is at hand.

~Henry A. Kissinger

Where position is felt to be a birthright, generosity is possible (though not guaranteed); flexibility is not inhibited by a commitment to perpetual success.

~Henry A. Kissinger

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