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STATEMENTS BY
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
AND
FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON
FOLLOWING MEETINGS, JERUSALEM, ISRAEL
AUGUST 22, 1975

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: Well, it's too early to sum up the results of our talks but I can safely say that the talks were conducted in a friendly atmosphere typical to the atmosphere which used to characterize our frank and open friendly talks in the good old days. Secondly, during the conversations we had we managed to achieve some progress clarifying certain important points which make me more hopeful. But still, as I said before, it's too early to draw any judgement about the final conclusions because the Secretary of State is just going to Egypt and I hope that when he comes back, we will be able to talk again about the same points and some others. We should be in a better position than even today. And so, the floor is yours, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I agree with the remarks of the Foreign Minister. We spoke as friends in detail about all aspects of the agreement and all aspects of our bilateral relations and from the attitude that a close friendship between Israel and the U.S. is essential for the preservation of peace and progress towards peace. We clarified some outstanding points. I am now going to Egypt and plan to return tomorrow night to continue the discussions with an attitude of hope.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, Mr. Kissinger, how do you feel about the anti-Kissinger demonstrations?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, you forget that I come from Harvard and I am used to them.

QUESTION: Why aren't you going to Syria?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: (Unintelligible)

QUESTION: Why aren't you going to wrap up this agreement this week?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I don't want to speculate on this; I think both the Israeli negotiating team and we agree to move with all appropriate speed but I don't want to set any artificial deadlines. As for going to Syria, I definitely plan on going to Syria while I'm in this area. As of now we haven't fixed any precise time but I haven't seen any of the latest cables.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, will the clarification be made essentially by one diplomat in the US, or between Israel and Egypt?



For further information contact:

SECRETARY KISSINGER: They covered all aspects of all issues -- Egypt, Israel and Israel-US.

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: With your permission, I'll say something in Hebrew now but don't disturb me, please.

(Embassy translation):

We conducted today continued talks with Secretary of State Kissinger and members of his party. We had an opportunity to request clarifications and to examine chances and a number of significant subjects. I have to say that the talks were held in the friendly atmosphere which characterized the best period in our relations. At this stage, it is of course too early to predict what the final outcome of his mediation will be. However, I can say with confidence that today's conversation undoubtedly advanced us in the desirable direction. We have to wait patiently until Dr. Kissinger returns from his trip to Egypt and we can continue to examine points which we discussed today as well as additional points. For us and for the Americans, and I suppose the Egyptians, too, have an interest that the negotiations will not extend for an unnecessarily long period and efforts will be made to clarify whatever needs clarification and reach agreement to the extent possible within the shortest possible time.

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