

JANUARY 16, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President Ford and Israeli Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yigal Allon met in the Oval Office for one hour and twenty minutes. Secretary Kissinger and General Scowcroft were present on the American side, and Israel's Ambassador Simcha Dinitz on the Israeli side.

The President and Deputy Prime Minister had a full exchange of views of the situation in the Middle East. The President stressed the seriousness of that situation and repeated his commitment to assisting the parties to move forward toward a negotiated peace settlement. Minister Allon once again assured the President that the Israeli government shares this desire for a negotiated settlement. The meeting provided the opportunity for both sides to review developments in the peace-making process since Minister Allon was here December 9, and to go over possible approaches to this next stage of negotiations.

The talks were conducted with the cordiality and friendship usual when Americans and Israelis meet. As is normal on these occasions, the two sides also reviewed several bilateral matters. Both repeated satisfaction at the excellent state of relations between the two countries.

# # #