

REMARKS TO THE PRESS BY
SECRETARY KISSINGER
FOLLOWING HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SFRC
OCTOBER 3, 1975



Secretary Kissinger: We had a very fruitful discussion and we are moving towards a resolution of problems. The really only issue is in what form there will be a public statement of all the relevant undertakings and commitments which have been before the committee for several weeks. And we have had a very detailed and I repeat, very useful discussion going through all of the relevant documents. And we are dealing with this in the spirit of partnership and not confrontation -- if I may so -- on both sides.

Question: Are you coming back here, Mr. Secretary, or are you finished as far as the closed session is concerned?

Secretary Kissinger: The committee is now in Executive Session and they know that I am available to come back. There is no time fixed for my return.

Question: Did you discuss with them this morning what might be disclosed and what might not? Did they discuss this with you?

Secretary Kissinger: We discussed it, and they are meeting in Executive Session now. But I repeat, we think that the agreement is important. We think progress towards peace in the Middle East is of vital interest to all Americans and I think both the committee and the Executive branch agree that this can only be done in partnership between the Congress and the Executive Branch. And that was the spirit that prevailed in the committee today.

Question: Mr. Secretary, if the committee should so decide, would you agree to publication of documents in the report that the committee publishes?

Secretary Kissinger: I don't want to say what our reaction would be to various committee decisions. We are not in favor of declassifying documents which we submitted on a classified basis, but we are hopeful of finding a solution.

Question: Would it disturb you if the committee published documents that had been published in the newspapers without your then agreeing that they were the documents?

Secretary Kissinger: Well, I don't want to go through all the various formulas that human ingenuity can devise.

Question: Mr. Secretary, is it true as Secretary Schlesinger

indicates that there will be no Pershing missiles delivered to Isreal?

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Secretary Kissinger: /issue of the Pershing missile is under study by the NSC group. We had agreed to study them and we are studying them. There has been no final decision taken but there was never any plan of making an immediate decision. So, this is an issue that has been blown out of all proportion; they have been studied since August 1974 and they continue to be studied. And there will be many opportunities for an exchange of views before a final decision.

Question: Mr. Schlesinger said they would destabilize the whole situation over there. That's the Secretary of Defense's view.

Secretary Kissinger: At some point these views are going to be fed into the NSC system, and when they are, we will consider them.

