

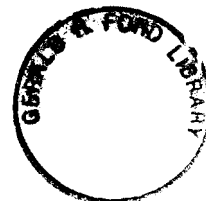
# PRESS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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COMMENTS TO THE PRESS  
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
AND  
ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON  
FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH  
ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN  
JERUSALEM  
August 25, 1975



QUESTION: Secretary Kissinger, may I ask you a few words about tonight's meeting?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I reviewed with the Israeli negotiating team ideas that were developed in Egypt. I think we are making constructive and good progress on all of the issues before us, and we still have not run into any unusual difficulties.

QUESTION: Do you still estimate that an agreement might be reached by the end of this week?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I think there is a possibility of doing it, yes.

QUESTION: Are the difficulties now military, territorial or diplomatic as far as an agreement is concerned?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I would not want to characterize what they are. They are all problems that were foreseen, that are being worked on and on which steady progress is being made. There is no deadlock on any issues at this moment.

QUESTION: What are your travel plans now?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: My travel plans are to return to Egypt tomorrow afternoon. We will meet again tomorrow morning at 9:30, work during the day here and then leave from here for Egypt.

QUESTION: What about Egyptian troop advances beyond the present Israeli lines?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I have taken the position throughout that it is not for me as the mediator to announce the position of the various parties. This is all I have ever said on this subject. I think this is not a major problem between the parties at this moment. In fact, it is not a significant problem.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, would you characterize, if you would, the Israeli reaction in general terms to what you brought back tonight from Egypt?

**For further information contact:**

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SECRETARY KISSINGER: I think the Foreign Minister ought to do that.

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: Well, Dr. Kissinger brought back from Egypt some helpful propositions which we have to study during the night and maybe we shall be able to discuss them with the American team tomorrow before lunch. As far as the question that you asked the Secretary about the line, I think I can be explicit on this. The Egyptians will be allowed to advance into the existing buffer zone while their forces, the limited forces, will take over this strip of land. There may be on change in the buffer zone when they will be permitted to go south along the Gulf of Suez a certain distance within the zone which, according to the original plan, should be controlled by the UN and administered by a civil administration by the Egyptians.

QUESTION: Why did you agree to that, Mr. Allon? Why did you make that exception?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Look, excuse me, I really do not feel that I can be part of the discussion now. If any such discussion takes place it should be ...

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: No, we are not going to discuss it. We will have an opportunity to do that in detail. Secondly, I would like to say that in addition to the work we have to do on the bilateral agreement between us and Egypt, there is some work to do about certain other papers between us and the United States which will be clarified tomorrow.

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