

PRESS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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REMARKS OF
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
AND
ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON
FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING AT
PRIME MINISTER RABIN'S OFFICE
JERUSALEM
AUGUST 29, 1975



SECRETARY KISSINGER: Let the Foreign Minister speak.

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: Ladies and Gentlemen, I believe that we have reached the final phase of the negotiations. We had quite a useful day. We worked a lot. There are certain points which still need some clarification. A lot of paper work is still in front of us. Nevertheless, we have the feeling that we are approaching the conclusion of our work. We shall meet again tomorrow night. So, tomorrow night we shall know where we really stand.

QUESTION: Do you think, sir, that the agreement will be initialled early next week, Sunday or Monday, the way it looks now?

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: Well, I will be candid with you. Unless some unforeseen problems arise on the other side of the line, I do not want to say more than that in the presence of the Secretary, I am tempted to believe that it is possible to do it early next week.

QUESTION: Sir, could you tell us how you felt about today's negotiations?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I agree completely with what the Foreign Minister has said. We are in the final phases of the negotiations. There is an enormous amount of paper work that has to be done in terms of a basic agreement and various annexes, all of which are progressing well and in a very good atmosphere. I share the judgment that we should aim for completion by the early part of next week.

QUESTION: What did you talk about mostly today? Is it the American-Israeli relationship?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We really went through all the paper work connected with the agreement -- the basic agreement and the various annexes. We had an extended discussion also, of the American-Israeli relationship, all of which was conducted in a very positive and very friendly atmosphere.

QUESTION: Dr. Kissinger, have you had to readjust your previous time table -- the schedule through Saturday night? Or set new arrangements?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, so far I have not had to make new arrangements. I am hoping that I can come awfully close to my timetable.

QUESTION: Can you remind us, sir, of your travel plans -- where to and when?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, I believe that given the enormous amount of detail work that is involved in this agreement, that I now should stick with it until we have come to a conclusion. I expect before I leave the area, I will visit Jordan and Saudi Arabia. But I do not expect to take any side trips until we conclude our work.

QUESTION: Have you decided upon the American presence?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We have made very good progress on this. We are in the drafting phase of that issue.

QUESTION: Are you spending Shabbat tomorrow in Jerusalem or in Riyadh?

FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON: This is a secret.

QUESTION: Just tell us.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, I will probably go to Alexandria.

QUESTION: Do you come back tomorrow night?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I will come back tomorrow night, yes.

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