

Kissinger begins Mideast tour; says one more could achieve goal

United Press International

WASHINGTON—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger embarked on a tenth mission to the Middle East Sunday hopeful of bringing about an agreement between Israel and Egypt on a further Israeli troop withdrawal east of the Suez canal.

If he fails, it will be his last run of shuttle diplomacy, American officials said.

President Ford, changing protocol arrangements at the last minute,

accompanied Kissinger to suburban Andrews Air Force Base in a gesture apparently designed to underscore the importance of the mission.

The blue and silver Air Force jet had only a refueling stop in England on its direct route to Israel, where Kissinger was expected to arrive this afternoon.

Kissinger said Sunday he believes he can wind up Arab-Israeli negotiations with one more trip to the Middle East. His current journey to the area will not end the long

drawn-out negotiations, Kissinger said in an interview with NOS-Netherlands Television. But one additional trip should do it, he added.

Kissinger denied he was attempting to bypass the Geneva Conference on the Middle East, although the United States has been lukewarm toward the international gathering since it considers it an opening for the Soviet Union to increase its influence in the area.

Kissinger will meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko in Geneva to discuss the Middle East as well as the Soviet repudiation of the trade pact with the United States.

"The trip on which I am starting does not in itself will not yield results," Kissinger said. "I am making only one stop in each capital, except I am going twice to Israel, in order to get a feel for the real convictions of the chief protagonists, who might be reluctant to put their thoughts down in writing."

"After I've had this, I will come back here, formulate an American view on the matter, and then return to the Middle East and

conclude the negotiations," Kissinger said.

Asked if the Geneva Conference would reconvene if his current trip failed, Kissinger replied: "First of all, I don't expect the mission to fail. Secondly, I have never looked at Geneva as an alternative to the step-by-step approach. I have always said that at some time, Geneva should be reconvened, that everything depends on the framework within which Geneva should be reconvened."

He said Soviet repudiation of the trade pact was a setback to his policy of detente, but "I believe it can be restored" during the meeting with Gromyko.

Regarding the recent ground-swell of Congressional criticism of his policies, Kissinger said "I think if one looks at the requirements of foreign policy in the present period, one will find that some things must be done secretly."

However, noting that he had met 110 times with Congressional groups since he became secretary 16 months ago, Kissinger added "I understand that foreign policy has to be part of the democratic debate, and I think I can handle what needs to be done."

Jackson asks change in Mideast diplomacy

United Press International

WASHINGTON—President aspirant Sen. Henry Jackson said Sunday that rather than threaten military intervention in the Middle East, the United States should withdraw our gunboats.

The best way of dealing with the Middle East, Jackson said, is through private and direct diplomacy. But he showed little optimism about the outcome of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's current Middle East trip.

"Much will depend on the ability of the Secretary of State to in effect isolate Egypt from the other Arab countries in a solution regarding the Sinai," Jackson said. "I doubt whether the Egyptians will enter into a separate agreement and if that's not possible, then anything can happen."

Jackson, appearing on NBC-TV's Meet the Press, criticized Kissinger's lack of openness with Congress, particularly in regard to Jackson's amendment to the Trade Bill which made better trading conditions with the Soviet Union conditional on the Russians allowing freer emigration of Jews and other minorities.

He said Kissinger and President Ford had told him on Oct. 18 last year that they had all these assurances from the Soviet leadership that they would carry out the terms of the amendment.

A letter from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko to Kissinger on Oct. 26 appeared to contradict that but it was never made public until the bill was signed, Jackson said.

"Very clearly Dr. Kissinger had a minimal duty to disclose to me that letter of Oct. 26," Jackson said.

Burns plan. It's his blueprint. He's the architect. He is still running the show. His attitude is inhuman. He doesn't understand people. All he understands is his economic theories and they are completely out of date."

He suggested that because "this country is going into a depression...we've got to take some measures like you take when you are fighting a war...you do a lot of things that you wouldn't do otherwise."

"We are fighting a war to preserve our way of life," he added.

Bipartisan Congressional group seeks end to aid to S. Vietnam

United Press International

WASHINGTON—Eighty-two members of Congress from both parties asked President Ford Sunday to stop all aid to Cambodia and South Vietnam.

This is no time to start an acrimonious national debate on Indochina, they said, nor is it a time for a new confrontation between Congress and Ford when other matters are more pressing.

Ford, in an interview with the Chicago Tribune Saturday, said he would be willing to pledge an end to Indochina aid in three years if Congress would support the countries of the area fully in the interim.

The legislators, 74 Democrats and 8

Republicans, belong to Members of Congress for Peace Through Law. Headed by Sen. Dick Clark, D-Iowa, they work together on issues of foreign aid and defense policy.

They told Ford in a letter they are willing to start a dialogue on the means of phasing out United States support in Cambodia and South Vietnam.

"While continuing high levels of American assistance may perhaps prolong the life of the incumbent South Vietnamese and Cambodian governments, we can see no humanitarian or national interest that justifies the cost of this assistance to our country," the lawmakers said.



Presidential candidate Sen. Henry Jackson, speaking on NBC's Meet the Press, calls for the U.S. to withdraw our gunboats from the Mideast.

Meany predicts 10% jobless rate

United Press International

WASHINGTON—AFL-CIO President George Meany gloomily predicted Sunday that the nation's jobless rate may hit 10 per cent by July.

Meany, head of the country's largest labor organization, also labeled Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns a national disaster who is inhuman and doesn't understand people.

Meany's 10 per cent unemployment projection came two days after the Labor Department reported that the jobless rate reached 8.2 per cent in January. The administration has projected that unemployment will average 8.1 per cent this year and then slowly recede to a 5.5 per cent level by 1980.

Meany said his organization's projections are much more realistic than the administrations because "we don't put a

political figure in it. We don't depress them — the figures — because of political considerations."

"I think unemployment may go to 10 per cent by next July," Meany said.

Meany was interviewed on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation."

He said the situation is actually worse because the official government unemployment figures do not reflect the actual job market.

"We don't count the underemployed, we don't count those who have become discouraged and are no longer looking for jobs. When you stop looking for a job and you stop registering for a job, you are considered employed. If you work two days a week you are considered employed. The figures do not reflect the extent of the unemployment," Meany launched the attack on Burns, saying "what we've been through here in the past five years is Arthur

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