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REPORTAGE ON SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S VISIT

Kissinger, As-Sadat Talks Begin

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1154 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--President Anwar as-Sadat received Dr Henry Kissinger at 1250 today at the president's resthouse in the pyramids area. The president shook hands with Dr Kissinger on his arrival and they posed together for photographers on the balcony of the resthouse overlooking the pyramids. Asked about the course of his talks in Damascus, Dr Kissinger said: "I think we are making some progress." When asked about the progress of the talks, the president said: I think I should first talk with Dr Kissinger. Dr Kissinger was asked whether he will return to Egypt again. He said: Certainly, and this will be quick.

The president then accompanied Dr Kissinger inside the resthouse where their meeting began immediately.

President as-Sadat and Kissinger resumed their discussions at a working luncheon attended by Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi and War Minister and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal Ahmad Isma'il 'Ali. Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi and Maj Gen Taha al-Majdub joined them at 1600.

At 1620, the journalists and photographers were invited to the meeting hall to take some photographs of President as-Sadat, Kissinger and members of the Egyptian and U.S. sides who were studying some positions on a big map of the Golan Heights. The meeting ended at 1630 when President as-Sadat left the resthouse accompanied by Kissinger. Members of the two delegations followed.

Asked what was agreed upon concerning the question of the restoration of the relations between the two countries, the president said: "An agreement has been reached on the restoration of the relations" and an official statement in this regard will be issued later today. Asked about the names of the two ambassadors who will be appointed in Cairo and Washington, President as-Sadat said this will be included in the official statement.

Answering another question, the president said: We have discussed the separation of forces on the Syrian front, and this is now our primary preoccupation.

A woman journalist accompanying Kissinger asked the president why he is wearing civilian clothes today while he used to receive Kissinger in his previous visits in military clothes, and whether this has any special significance. The president answered that it has significance, indeed, and that this is the first time since the October war he has received a guest while wearing civilian clothes. The president added: After the achievement of what has already been accomplished, I believe that a new era has begun.

Asked whether the other Arab countries that had broken off their diplomatic relations with the United States will follow Egypt's example in restoring relations with the United States, his excellency the president said: Algeria, Syria and Mauritania were contacted and notified of this decision [to restore relations with the United States]

Asked about the question of the oil embargo and whether he told Dr Kissinger anything about the approach of lifting the embargo, the president said: As I said in Lahore, the Arab oil ministers will meet during March to discuss this question.

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REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO

Al-Asad Receives Gromyko

Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad at 1100 today received Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, who conveyed to his excellency the greetings of the Soviet leaders and the personal greetings of CPSU General Secretary Brezhnev. At the meeting they reviewed the situation in the Arab area and the international situation. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Nuritdin Mukhitdinov. The meeting ended at 1430.

Al-Ayyubi Receives Gromyko

Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Ayyubi at 1930 today received Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and the delegation accompanying him. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Nuritdin Mukhitdinov attended the meeting. They discussed the political situation in the area and the two countries' relations.

Gromyko Leaves for Cairo

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1117 GMT 1 Mar 74 M

[Text] Damascus--Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko left Damascus for Cairo this afternoon for a 4-day visit to Egypt. He was seen off at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, a number of senior [Foreign] Ministry officials and Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Mukhitdinov.

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACCORDS WITH HUNGARY

Damascus MENA in Arabic to MENA Cairo 0850 GMT 28 Feb 74 M--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Damascus--Two agreements on economic and technical cooperation between Syria and Hungary were initialed here last night. The agreement was signed on the Syrian side by Assistant Minister of State for Planning Affairs Issam al-Hilu, and on the Hungarian side by Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Trade Domokos.

The agreement aims at developing and strengthening economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and implementing a number of development projects in Syria.

At the same time a long term trade agreement between the two countries was also signed by the director of the Syrian Central Bank, Tariq Atasi, for Syria and by Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Trade Domokos for Hungary. The agreement aims at developing trade between the two countries.

Syrian agriculture and Agrarian Reform Minister Ahmad Hasan al-As'ad met last night with the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus, Janos Veres. They discussed the possibility of extending and developing cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of agriculture.

The Hungarian delegation, headed by Domokos arrived in Damascus on 19 February 1974.

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Asked about the specific date for holding this meeting, the president said: There are contacts currently underway among the Arab states in this regard.

On the other hand, Dr Kissinger was asked whether the talks dealt with the reopening of the Suez Canal. He said: We discussed the aspects of relations, including the reopening of the Suez Canal. He said:

His excellency the president then shook hands with Dr Kissinger and embraced him, bidding him farewell. Kissinger left the resthouse at about 1645.

As-Sadat Comments on Talks

Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Excerpt] President as-Sadat met with U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger at 1245 today at the pyramids resthouse. The meeting lasted 5 hours, after which the president answered journalists' questions. He declared that relations between Egypt and the United States have returned to normal.

Speaking about the separation of forces on the Syrian front, his excellency the president said: Syria has the last word regarding this question. We are participating because we are one front and are waging the same battle. The president said we are participating in this question as an auxiliary side.

The president added that he believes that separation of forces on the Syrian front will take place just like it was carried out on the Egyptian front in four phases--the six points, the Kilometer 101 talks, the Geneva conference and finally the Aswan talks.

The president said the process of the separation of forces on the Syrian front will be based on the experiment on the Egyptian front. The president said that disengagement on the Egyptian front was carried out precisely as planned. What is important is to prepare for the next phase--and we have prepared for it, he said.

The president said the next phase of the Geneva conference depends on the disengagement on the Syrian front and that there is a clear fact, namely, that without the Palestinians, there can be no talk about peace in Geneva.

President Anwar as-Sadat said that he has invited King Husayn, through 'Abd al-Mun'im ar-Rifa'i in Lahore, to visit Cairo and that his majesty will come to Cairo after his visit to Washington.

President as-Sadat said Cairo will witness this year the visit of U.S. President Nixon and FRG Chancellor Willy Brandt.

President as-Sadat added that he will get in touch with President Hafiz al-Asad in the next few hours.

Speaking about Gromyko's visit to Cairo, the president said he will meet with him next Saturday.

Speaking about the aspects of cooperation between Egypt and the United States, President Anwar as-Sadat said these aspects have not yet been defined although there is specific cooperation as far as the clearing of the Suez Canal is concerned, which requires certain technical expertise available to the United States.

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MENA Reports Kissinger's Schedule

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1107 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger will visit the Saqqarah archeological area at 1500 today. He will then visit the Muhammad 'Ali Mosque at Al-Qal'ah. In the evening Kissinger will attend a banquet to be given in his honor by Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi. Dr. Kissinger is scheduled to leave Cairo for Tel Aviv at 0900 tomorrow.

Diplomatic Relations Restored

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1846 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--The following official statement on the restoration of the relations between Egypt and the United States was announced in Cairo and Washington this evening:

The Governments of Egypt and the United States have agreed to resume their diplomatic relations on 28 February 1974.

The two governments express their hope that this step will lead toward the development and strengthening of the relations between the two countries and contribute toward increasing reciprocal understanding and cooperation between them.

The Egyptian Government has nominated Ashraf Ghurbal as its ambassador in the United States.

The President of the United States intends to nominate Ambassador Hermann Eilts as the U.S. ambassador to Egypt.

U.S. Embassy Ceremony

Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Mar 74 M

[Text] Cairo--A ceremony was held this morning in which the U.S. flag was hoisted over the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, after it was decided to resume diplomatic relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States of America. The ceremony was attended by U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger and Egyptian Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi.

Dr Kissinger delivered a speech during the celebration held at the embassy garden in which he said: When I first came to Cairo last November the great President Anwar as-Sadat told me: We do not want to carry out a series of simple works but we are trying to carry out a great work. Kissinger added: I believe that a great work has been achieved. The resumption of relations between Egypt and the United States is not a tactical step on the map of world diplomacy. It is an action which reflects a long tradition and promises a brighter future.

The U.S. secretary of state added: We have not only resumed our diplomatic relations but we have also started what I believe to be a permanent friendship.

Dr Kissinger said: The United States will work with Egypt to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and to achieve progress and stability in the area. We will do this in an atmosphere of confidence and through the personal and friendly relations which are growing between our two countries.

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Dr Kissinger voiced his appreciation of President as-Sadat and of Egyptian Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi.

The U.S. secretary of state concluded his speech by saying: "I want our Egyptian friends to know that the U.S. Government is committed to progressively seeking improved relations between the two countries and to bolster the ties of friendship between them in favor of peace, advancement and stability in the area."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi then delivered a speech in which he said:
Since 6 October and since Dr Kissinger visited, I have been certain that our relations would progress on the right course. I can say very frankly that our relations have been resumed since his first visit. What happened today is only an official measure.

Isma'il Fahmi added: I agree with Dr Kissinger that our relations are not just a tactical step, but that they will make progress on firm bases. We hope that this will lead to the strengthening of relations in the interest of world peace, just peace in the Middle East and in the interests of the peoples of the area. He added: We are looking forward now to seeing our relations develop in the various fields as well as possible. As for us, we are committed to do all we can to achieve this in the near future and stage after stage. We are also looking forward hopefully to the exchange of visits between American and Egyptian officials.

After Isma'il Fahmi concluded his speech, Dr Kissinger went to the Spanish ambassador and thanked him for the Spanish supervision of U.S. interests in Cairo since the severance of U.S.-Egyptian relations. Dr Kissinger then left for the airport accompanied by Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi and U.S. ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts.

Kissinger Leaves Cairo

Cairo MENA in Arabic 0944 GMT 1 Mar 74 M

[Text] Cairo--U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger left Cairo at 0920 today after a 1-day visit to Cairo. Egyptian Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi saw him off at the airport.

'Ali Amin on U.S. Relations

Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 1 Mar 74 M

[Text] Cairo--AL-AHRAM Chief Editor 'Ali Amin writes in the paper's issue today: It is now possible for us to say that the crisis of confidence between Cairo and Washington ended yesterday. This crisis is well over 8 years old. It culminated in a diplomatic estrangement which lasted several years.

On his return from [a visit to the] Saqqarah Pyramid, U.S. Secretary of State Dr Kissinger stated: I have told President as-Sadat I am prepared to fly to Cairo at any time he sets, because I take pleasure in meeting with him at all opportunities. I have spent some happy and jovial times with the president and his children at lunch. I am happy to state today that a new era has begun in relations between my country and Egypt. First credit in this respect goes to President Anwar as-Sadat. We reviewed together all the Middle East and world problems. I have spent some of my happiest days in Cairo. I hope I will return soon.

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Cairo Radio on U.S. Relations

Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

['Abd al-Fattah Hilal commentary]

[Text] Our clear political line is proceeding in a straight line, in accordance with our will and the spirit of 6 October. Among the most prominent elements of power in the position from which we are currently acting to accomplish our objectives, is that our action has gained new strength since the October achievements, which caused a historic transformation in the situation in the Middle East and in the world, excluding any return to the pre-10 Ramadan situation.

While before 6 October the majority of the world public supported what we were advocating, this support was transformed into effective action on the African, Asian and European levels and on the level of the nonaligned countries and the big powers after 6 October. The most remarkable achievement we have accomplished by sacrifices and blood is the fact that life was restored to the UN resolutions, which Israeli arrogance was about to strangle and completely destroy. This arrogance was also about to gravely endanger the effectiveness of the international organization and international legitimacy. Every part of the determined action which was instilled into our cause following our giving and our sacrifices proceeds in accordance with our decision and our will, in absolute freedom, without dictation or imposition by anyone or intervention from any foreign side, particularly now that the myth of Israeli deterrence and Zionist military superiority has been destroyed.

Today President Anwar as-Sadat declared that relations between Egypt and the United States have returned to normal since the United States has adopted a new stand. President as-Sadat said in this regard that this new stand is tantamount to showing good will, and this has paved the way for the restoration of relations. He said Dr Kissinger's return to this area shows the U.S. intention for a settlement. This represents a new U.S. stand that has made it possible to restore U.S.-Egyptian relations to normal.

Our relations and dealings with the whole world are based on being explicit and specific and on honest, fair bases. We have not initiated hostility toward anyone. The yardstick for the stand of any state toward us and toward our issue is its attitude which proves its good will. Our position toward our issue is supported by UN resolutions that have remained pending or have been neglected for a long time. Implementation of these resolutions has now begun at our insistence and with the aid of international support that is almost unanimous. Israel must withdraw from the occupied Arab areas, and the Palestine people's rights must be restored. If the Geneva conference is to be resumed, separation of forces on the Syrian front should be accomplished. Additionally, the representatives of the Palestinian people should attend the Geneva conference.

As President Anwar as-Sadat said today, Syria has the upper hand in the question of the separation of forces on the Syrian front, and we are participating with Syria in this matter because we are part of a single front waging a single battle. Therefore our participation in this matter is that of an auxiliary party, and that without the Palestinians there can be no talk about peace at the Geneva conference.

Thus our stand is explicit and specific. We are proceeding in a straight line toward our objectives with free will and in the spirit of 10 Ramadan, because the shortest distance between two points is a straight line.

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Voice of Arabs Commentary

Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic to the Arab World 1130 GMT 28 Feb 74 L

[Abd al-Fattah al-Adawi commentary]

[Excerpts] Dr Henry Kissinger's visit to Cairo comes amid a number of vital circumstances and requirements. The more this visit responds to these circumstances and requirements, the more success and progress it will make. It would be better for us now to cite the circumstances and the requirements under which the visit is taking place. They are:

First, Dr Henry Kissinger's current visit to the Middle East region comes after it has been proved to the whole world that the Arab nation is one unit, regardless of any political forms, and that it knows its course and the deep impact which its solidarity would have on the course of events.

Perhaps the visit of the foreign ministers of Egypt and Saudi Arabia to the United States of America--following the restricted Arab summit conference in Algiers--and the tangible move on the Syrian front achieved by this visit show in themselves the extent of solidarity and coordination among the Arab countries and the inevitability of outside cooperation with the Arab nation on the basis of this solidarity and on this basis alone.

Second, Dr Henry Kissinger's visit to the region follows the splendid solidarity shown by the Islamic world toward the Arab cause and the specific stand declared by 700 million Moslems toward the question of Jerusalem.

Third, since the phase of the disengagement of forces on the Egyptian front is about to be completed, the time has come to achieve a similar disengagement between the forces on the Syrian front, otherwise the entire peace effort would be liable to freeze once more. Egypt is determined not to go to the Geneva conference unless accompanied by Syria, and Syria, in its turn, cannot possibly attend while its forces are still in contact with the enemy.

Dr Henry Kissinger is now in the region, following the visit of the two Arab envoys to the United States of America which resulted in certain contacts which have set in motion the diplomatic efforts around the Golan front. What we are certain of is that the diplomatic success on the Golan front has absolute priority over everything that preoccupies the mind concerning developments, because neither the Geneva conference nor the disengagement between the forces on the Egyptian front--whose phase is about to be completed--are safe from setbacks if the present conditions remain unchanged on the Syrian front.

Fourth, one cannot but observe with great satisfaction the expansion of the role which American diplomacy is now performing with the aim of solving peacefully what is termed "the Middle East crisis" on a just basis. If American policy is now trying to accord with the true American legitimate interests in the region through reconciliation with the Arabs and through relaxing its absolute pro-Israeli stand, then this attempt on its part would inevitably be welcomed on our part and be reciprocated with another attempt to meet it halfway.

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Disengagement in Syria Essential

Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 28 Feb 74 L

[Hilmi al-Buluk commentary]

[Text] The progress achieved so far by Dr Henry Kissinger, U.S. secretary of state, in his present task in the Middle East region in order to realize a separation of forces on the Syrian front, may be a pointer encouraging optimism with regard to the possible success of the task of the U.S. secretary of state and the likelihood of obtaining, thereby, an agreement to separate forces on the Syrian front. At a time when the U.S. secretary of state was beginning his talks in Cairo with President Anwar as-Sadat, reports were being published in Washington on the progress of the talks between the U.S. secretary of state and the authorities in Syria and Israel, to the effect that Israel would present a plan to the U.S. secretary of state tomorrow on its ideas on separating forces so that he might convey these to the authorities in Damascus. This was also announced by Golda Meir in her speech in Israel yesterday.

We have declared that achieving the separation of forces on the Syrian front is undoubtedly an essential matter and even a fundamental condition for the success of efforts aimed at securing peace in the Middle East region, and that it will be an encouraging factor in pursuing subsequent steps and measures aimed at implementing Security Council Resolution No 242 of 1967.

On its part, Egypt has announced more than once and on more than one occasion through President Anwar as-Sadat, that achieving the separation of forces on the Egyptian front is linked with realizing a similar separation on the Syrian front; that it would not go to the Geneva conference alone, as Syria must attend after reaching an agreement on separating forces on the Golan front; that representatives of the Palestinian Liberation Organization must also attend on behalf of the Palestinian people, since the Palestinian problem is the essence and foundation of the problem and the essence of the problem cannot be discussed in the absence of its masters.

It follows that securing the separation of forces on Egyptian and Syrian fronts does not in itself constitute an aim, but is a precursor to a fundamental settlement of the problem and a treatment of its very grass-roots which comprise two basic branches, namely, ending the occupation of the occupied Arab lands and the restoration of the lawful rights of the Palestinian people.

The basis of the efforts made to attain disengagement on the Egyptian front has been to advance a step toward a just solution to the problem, after which one may progress toward subsequent stages within a framework of complete coordination with Syria, whose front is the continuation of that of Egypt--two fronts which together constitute the advanced front of the Arab nation in its entirety.

This Arab stand cannot be but perfectly obvious to the U.S. authorities, particularly when the Egyptian and Saudi foreign ministers conveyed to U.S. President Nixon the Arab position following the limited Arab summit conference in Algiers, affirming the necessity for linking the separation of forces on the Egyptian and Syrian fronts and for going ahead toward a comprehensive settlement by implementing the articles of Security Council Resolution No 242, which stipulates the complete withdrawal and the restoration of the lawful rights of the Palestinian people. [as heard]

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We believe that the U.S. Government is serious about reaching a settlement of the Middle East position on the basis of the Security Council resolution, since such a settlement is essential for safeguarding peace in the Middle East region and, indeed, necessary for preserving world peace and for realizing international prosperity and progress.

If the establishment of peace runs counter to Israel's expansionist ambitions, since it wishes to expand, though that may be at the expense of peace and the expense of the lawful rights of the Arab nation, we say: If peace runs counter to Israel's expansionist ambitions then it is the responsibility of the international community, particularly the great powers, to use their means to safeguard peace and to put an end to the flagrant violations of international principles. If this does not happen, then the results would be contrary to the interests of peace and contrary to the interests of the entire human community.

The Arab nation keenly desires the establishment of peace in the region and, toward this end, it is hoping for the success of Dr Henry Kissinger's mission lest the world find itself face to face with a new explosion in the Middle East with serious consequences for the entire international community.

AL-AHRAM On Kissinger, Gromyko

Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 1 Mar 74 M

[Excerpt] AL-AHRAM writes in its editorial on the visit of the U.S. and Soviet ministers to Cairo. It says: These two visits are a clear expression of the position of Egypt as the meeting point of all roads to find the much sought after solution of the Middle East crisis based on justice and international legitimacy as expressed in the UN and Security Council resolutions.

AL-AHRAM stresses that Egypt is anxious to obtain the optimum mobilization of international forces to exert pressure toward a just peace. Egypt is eager to maintain relations of friendship with all countries which are contributing to the fulfillment of this aim. Egypt is anxious to exploit the readiness of the whole world to speed up the solution so the Middle East region will become an area of peace and will be able to play its role for the sake of all humanity at the crossroad of the continents.

AS-SADAT ENVOY TO LEAVE FOR ARAB CAPITALS

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--Ashraf Marwan, the president's secretary for foreign contacts, will leave tomorrow for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain and Algeria carrying messages from President Anwar as-Sadat to the kings and heads of these states.

AS-SADAT, AL-ASAD TELEPHONE CONTACTS REPORTED

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2315 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--AL-AHRAM says in tomorrow's Friday edition that when President Anwar as-Sadat's talks with Henry Kissinger ended, President as-Sadat asked a senior official to fly to Damascus to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and to acquaint him with the details of the talks which took place in Cairo on evacuation from the Golan. The newspaper further says that several important telephone conversations between President as-Sadat and Al-Asad took place in the past hours and that the conversations continued to a late hour in the night.

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UN COMMANDER MEETS WITH AL-JAMASI, EL'AZAR

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--UN Spokesman Rudolf Stajduhar has stated that UN Emergency Force Commander Gen Ensio Siilasvuo met today with Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi. Siilasvuo returned to Cairo from Israel tonight after meeting with Israeli Chief of Staff Gen David El'azar.

In his discussions with Al-Jamasi and El'azar, Siilasvuo dealt with the progress of separating the forces on the Egyptian front, which is being supervised by the UN Emergency Forces, and some aspects of the final stage of implementing the separation of forces agreement. Siilasvuo's contacts with the Egyptian and Israeli officials also dealt with the continuation of the UN Emergency Forces' role and duties in the Middle East after the completion of the separation of forces.

GROMYKO DUE IN CAIRO FOR TALKS WITH FAHMI

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will arrive in Cairo at about 1400 tomorrow, Friday, for a 4-day official visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi. The official talks between the two ministers will begin at 1800 tomorrow. The talks are expected to center on two main topics--developments in the Middle East situation and relations between the two countries. Gromyko will leave for Luxor and Aswan on Saturday for a 2-day visit. He will then return to Cairo to resume his talks with the officials.

VICE PRESIDENT ASH-SHAFI'I INTERVIEWED BY KUWAIT PAPER

Damascus MENA in Arabic to MENA Cairo 0915 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Text] Kuwait--In an interview published by AL-WATAN today [Egyptian Vice President] ash-Shafi'i said: There was no war in 1967 but conspiracy and treason, the dimensions of which became known during the battles and during the revolutionary court's trial of Salah Nasr [Egyptian director of intelligence in 1967] and his group. The objective of the 1967 theatrics was that we should not win--and we deserve what happened--and that we should lose confidence in ourselves, our army and in everything built by the revolution in the hope that this would eliminate Egypt as a center of power.

He said: In the Ramadan war the Arab fighter achieved military glories and confirmed that Egypt is still the good earth on which heroes are born. The Ramadan war restored all the confidence to the Arabs.

Asked about some regimes' claim that Egypt has gained financially from the battle and that Arab financial support has been spent in fields other than those for which it was intended he said: We all know who gained from the battle and who participated in it, we do not care for these accusations because the role played by those who make them was nothing more than that of a spectator during the battle, to gloat over Egypt's defeat should it occur, or run after Egypt should it win. Egypt's losses are well known, he said.

Asked about Egypt's attitude toward the Arabs he said: If the Arabs unite their forces they could become a world power and play a role in the future of the world.

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REPORTAGE ON SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S VISIT

Cairo Announces Plans

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--President Anwar as-Sadat will meet with Dr Henry Kissinger at noon tomorrow following the U.S. secretary of state's arrival in Cairo at 1100. It is expected that the discussions between the president and Dr Kissinger will take place in a resthouse in the pyramids area.

Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi will receive Kissinger, who; will arrive on a special plane from Tel Aviv. The U.S. secretary of state will be accompanied by a delegation consisting of 39 assistants, secretaries and journalists led by Joseph Sisco, Robert McCloskey, Harold Saunders, Alfred Atherton and George Vest.

Kissinger's discussions in Cairo are expected to center on the question of the separation of the forces on the Golan front. They are also expected to deal with the next stages of the settlement of the Middle East crisis including the arrangements for reconvening the Geneva conference. They are also expected to deal with the question of Egyptian-U.S. relations. Kissinger is scheduled to leave Cairo for Tel Aviv at 0900 on Friday. The official U.S. sources in Cairo have declined to deny or confirm the possibility of Kissinger's return to Cairo.

Kissinger Arrives

Cairo MENA in Arabic 0921 GMT 28 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger arrived in Cairo at 1110 today for 1 day of discussions with President Anwar as-Sadat within the framework of the secretary's tour of the Middle East area. Dr Kissinger was met at Cairo airport by Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi.

Dr Kissinger made a statement to journalists at Cairo airport following his arrival in which he said that he feels extremely happy about holding discussions with President as-Sadat and Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi. He added that he knows these discussions will be constructive in connection with the relations between Egypt and the United States and with peace in the Middle East.

Observers See Renewed Relations

Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Excerpt] Informed observers in Damascus say it is likely that Kissinger's 1-day visit to Cairo will lead to the resumption of full diplomatic relations with the United States, which Egypt severed in June 1967. However, Egyptian sources have said that the future of Egyptian-U.S. relations will depend to a large extent on the results of Kissinger's mediation between Damascus and Tel Aviv. AL-AHRAM reported that Kissinger's talks in Cairo will also deal with the arrangements for resuming the Geneva peace conference.

Press on Kissinger Talks

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2245 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--Cairo papers to be published tomorrow, Thursday, comment on U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's new visit to the Middle East. The newspaper AL-AHRAM says that after the visit of the Egyptian and Saudi foreign ministers to Washington Kissinger has all that can be expected from the Arab side to make his visit to the Middle East succeed as far as the separation of forces on the Syrian front is concerned.

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AL-AHRAM adds: It is certain that Kissinger's mission calls for compelling Israel to abandon Golda Meir's declaration that the Golan is an inseparable part of Israel, because the aim of such statements is not only to completely abort the current talks but also to obstruct the discussion of the substance of the settlement by obstructing the opportunity for convening the Geneva conference in the foreseeable future. AL-AHRAM refers to a statement by a U.S. official that the U.S. Government does not approve of the Israeli prime minister's view in this connection.

AL-AHRAM adds: What is required now from Kissinger is to translate the U.S. Government objection into practical measures to deny Israel this clear attempt at provocation and to guarantee for Syria its sovereignty over its lands, and at the same time to take the necessary preparatory step for the convocation of the Geneva conference by actually completing the process of the separation of the forces on the Golan front.

Speaking about Kissinger's mission in Israel and the pretexts he will hear from the officials there to justify Israel's procrastination and evasiveness in carrying out the separation of forces on the Syrian front, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says editorially: More likely, in Israel Kissinger will hear numerous pretexts and excuses by the Israeli officials to justify their procrastination and evasiveness in carrying out the separation of forces on the Syrian front.

AL-AKHBAR explains: Among these pretexts and excuses for example is that Golda Meir's government is a transitory government and its authority in making decisions is weak, particularly in view of Meir's inability so far to form a new government. Certain Israeli and Western information media said a few days ago that failure to form a new cabinet in Israel so far will create difficulties for Kissinger's mission.

AL-AKHBAR adds: Kissinger has also heard the Israeli officials affirming that Israel will not withdraw one inch from the Syrian heights for this or that reason. Israel has paved the way for Kissinger's new tour by statements made by Golda Meir in which she said that the Golan Heights are an inseparable part of Israel. These statements were a blatant expression of the expansionist ambitions to the point which prompted a U.S. diplomat--the representative of the United States in Damascus--to declare that Washington differs with Israel on this question. AL-AKHBAR continues: Such pretexts and excuses are new evidence that Israel is not serious in seeking a peaceful settlement and does not wish to establish peace in the Middle East.

AL-AKHBAR declares: The steps to solve a dangerous crisis like the Middle East crisis and the considerations related to world peace and the interests of many states which are connected with this crisis cannot be linked with the domestic considerations in Israel; the maneuvers of its parties; personal differences among its leaders or the weakness or strength of its government.

AL-AKHBAR says in conclusion: Israel's upholding of Zionist expansionist ambitions, as expressed in Golda Meir's statements, will lead to no result except preparing the area for a new explosion.

AL-AHRAM Comments

Cairo MENA in Arabic 2315 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Text] Cairo--AL-AHRAM reports in its Thursday edition that President Anwar as-Sadat's talks with Kissinger will be centered on four important topics connected with consolidating the peaceful efforts in the area for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

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1. To achieve the disengagement of forces on the Golan front in the light of Kissinger's recent visit to Damascus and Tel Aviv. President as-Sadat had declared on several occasions that Egypt will not go to the Geneva conference alone unless the disengagement of forces is achieved on the Golan and unless Syria attends the conference.
2. The coming phase of the Geneva conference and the conference's procedure, its next objectives and the expected date for it. The two Arab envoys of the Algiers restricted Arab summit conference last week conveyed to Washington the necessity of linking the disengagement of forces on the Egyptian and Syrian fronts with the progress toward a comprehensive settlement by implementing the provisions of Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for complete withdrawal and for safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights.
3. The bilateral relations between Egypt and the United States in the light of the changes which have taken place in the Middle East problem. An important statement is expected to be released in Cairo on this subject before the end of the U.S. secretary of state's visit.
4. The visit which U.S. President Richard Nixon is expected to make to the Middle East area in spring.

Voice of Arabs Comments

Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 27 Feb 74 L

[Anis al-Jawhari commentary]

[Excerpts] On the eve of his current Middle East visit, U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger spoke optimistically of "a chance of success" in his main task, namely, to bring about agreement on the disengagement of Syrian and Israeli forces on the Golan front. However, the present political climate in Israel does not seem to support such optimism. Kissinger may, of course, have reasons of his own for maintaining an optimistic outlook regardless of all the facts pointing in the opposite direction. We may attribute some of these reasons to the plans of the United States, for even if they run counter to Israel's they will eventually be implemented. We are thoroughly convinced that Israel's policies cannot be pursued independently of, not to say contrary to, U.S. policies. The big question hanging over this entire issue concerns, therefore, the extent to which the United States can proceed in its present efforts to bring about a political settlement of the raging conflict in the Middle East.

If we believe the statements made recently by President Nixon about the serious desire of the United States to establish a just peace in the Middle East and turn a new page in its relations with the Arabs, and if we accept the view that Dr Kissinger's attitude during the recent attempts to reach a disengagement of the forces on the Egyptian front was genuine, we shall find certain evidence of the change which has occurred in U.S. policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, no one should ever forget that this is merely the beginning of the road, that all that has been achieved so far is nothing more than a step toward a just solution of the real problem--the Israeli occupation of vast areas of Arab land and the loss of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Final judgment on America's attitude therefore depends on its genuine preparedness to continue its present efforts until the goal is achieved. This is a fact which is undoubtedly taken into consideration by all Arab countries in defining their policies toward the United States.

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Two weeks before Kissinger returned to the Middle East, Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir made an extremely militant statement, if only because of its circumstances. Meir declared, clearly and unequivocally, that Israel would under no circumstances withdraw from those parts of the Golan Heights occupied in the 1967 war. She tried to justify this by reiterating that threadbare argument about the Golan being of vital importance to Israel's security. It soon became clear that Meir's surprise statement on the Golan was in effect deliberate: It was meant to precede Kissinger's visit and create an obstacle which would frustrate his mission even before its start. However, some people believe Meir's hard-line statements on the Golan may have been intended for domestic consumption--to bolster the position of the Labor Party in its conflict with the opposition--particularly as the opponents of Meir and her ruling party are concentrating on what they call "a disgraceful giving in by the Israeli Government to American pressures." At any rate, it is clear that the Meir government, which will conduct the negotiations with Kissinger, has been eager to adopt a hard line on the Golan, in advance, for various reasons.

We have no clear indication yet as to how Kissinger's diplomacy will surmount that obstacle. He may try his own method of advancing slowly toward a solution by dividing the problem into short stages. This may mean that a long road still lies ahead in the Middle East question, but one thing is certain: The next step in Geneva cannot be taken until a decisive step is taken on the Golan--a step acceptable to the Arabs on the road to the final goal for which they are currently struggling.

CAIRO ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Feb 74 M

[Text] Official talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Egyptian Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi will begin at 1800 on Friday. The talks will deal with the recent developments in the Middle East crisis and Egyptian-Soviet relations. It is to be recalled that Gromyko will arrive in Cairo on Friday afternoon for a 4-day visit during which he will meet with officials in Cairo, visit Aswan, and visit the iron and steel plants in Hulwan. Gromyko arrived in Damascus tonight and stated that his visit aims to strengthen relations between the two friendly countries.

MENA REPORTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HATIM'S JAPAN VISIT

Cairo MENA in Arabic 1018 GMT 26 Feb 74 M

[Excerpt] Cairo--Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Dr 'Abd al-Qadir Hatim will return to Cairo tomorrow after one of the most successful official visits that has taken place recently in the field of economic and technical cooperation. The importance of the visit lies in the agreements and contracts the Egyptian delegation has signed with officials and the offers that have been made by major Japanese companies during this 14-day visit.

Extremely important agreements have been signed and they will be implemented in the near future. The most important of these agreements grants a \$100 million loan for use in Egyptian development projects. Half of this loan will be used to implement industrial projects and the other half to purchase consumer goods. Another loan of \$140 million will contribute to the project to deepen and widen the Suez Canal.

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Dr Hatim has also reached agreement with Japanese officials on the presentation of loans totaling \$1 billion to Egypt over the next 5 years. He has also signed an agreement with radio and television corporation officials for the construction of a grand theater that will accommodate 4,000 spectators. Radio and television corporation experts will arrive in Egypt next month to study the project and start its implementation.

The Japanese Government has agreed to a proposal that a Japanese mission of senior transport experts comprising 40 transport and industrial and electronic experts visit Egypt to study the monorail project which, Japanese experts have said, will cover a distance of 15 kilometers and cost \$30 million, of which \$2 million will be in local currency. The Japanese mission of transport experts will arrive around the end of March to study this project.

One of the most important results of the discussions is Dr Hatim's agreement with Japanese Trade Minister Nakasone on the establishment of a **joint** Arab-Japanese bank for development in which Japan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Qatar will participate and which will have its main headquarters in Cairo. The bank's capital will be invested in projects in the interest of those participating in it.

A group of Japanese companies have made offers to implement major projects in Egypt valued so far at over \$1 billion. Most important of these companies is the Mitsubishi Company, which has offered \$200 million for joint projects including the construction of a ground station for communications via satellites estimated to cost \$10 million, the construction of two cargo ships of 33,500 tons each, the construction of a telephone network for the Suez area costing \$17 million, implementation of an oil prospecting project costing \$12 million, an electric station in the town of Suez costing \$5 million, and a complete factory for the production of wire and steel sheets costing \$53 million.

The company has also offered to sell to Egypt commodities including 80 tramcars, equipment for the Suez Canal, weaving machines, rice threshing machines, food preservation cans, steel plates for the iron and steel complex, steel pipes, equipment for the (Sigwart) Company and electrical cables for the electrification of the countryside, synthetic rubber, and steel equipment for the Transport Ministry.

The Japanese Itoh Company has offered to implement projects in Egypt costing \$400 million, the most important of which is **the factory** for the production of glass, a turbine factory and a factory for the production of prefabricated houses.

The Nippon Company has offered to implement projects valued at \$200 million in the field of satellites and electronics.

AL-AHRAM ON OUTCOME OF FAHMI VISIT TO U.S.

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 23 Feb 74 p 1, 4 M

[Text] Washington 22 February--By Hamdi Fu'ad--I have learned definitely that the contacts now taking place in the U.S. capital have jelled into a proposal for the resumption of the meetings of the Egyptian-Israeli military committee in Geneva in the near future under General Siilasvuo to discuss the disengagement of the Syrian and Israeli forces in accordance with the principles now being agreed on in the contacts between Isma'il Fahmi and Henry Kissinger and Sabah al-Qabbani, who is in charge of Syrian interests in the United States, between Kissinger and Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, and between Kissinger and the Soviet Government.

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Sources here affirm that Syria welcomes this proposal because the [principles of the] unified Arab command, which includes the Syrian and Egyptian fronts, allows the subject of disengagement of forces on both fronts to be the responsibility of the unified command. I have also learned that the Israeli side did not welcome, but rather opposed, this idea although contacts have already been made between the U.S. and Soviet Governments to discuss the possibility of implementing this idea should it be approved by the sides concerned.

Kissinger's assistant, Under Secretary of State Joseph Sisco, today telephoned Isma'il Fahmi to discuss the developments regarding this proposal after Kissinger's departure for Mexico. Immediately upon his return tomorrow Kissinger will meet with Isma'il Fahmi before leaving on his trip to the Middle East, which he will begin with a visit to Algeria [as published].

The subject of the resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and Egypt was also discussed in the U.S. capital on the basis of the evaluation made by each Arab state which had severed relations with the United States concerning the significance of this step. This evaluation was in accordance with a prior agreement among the Arab states.

I have learned that Isma'il Fahmi's discussions with Kissinger tomorrow will also deal with President Nixon's coming visit to Egypt and certain Arab states. Isma'il Fahmi and 'Umar as-Saqqaf had informed President Nixon and Dr Kissinger that the time has come for the United States to reconsider its policy and its relations with Israel, on the one hand, and U.S. relations with the Arab countries on the other; that the financial and military aid already given to Israel has only resulted in continued deterioration in the situation; and that if peace now appears to be closer than ever the prevention of the flow of more allocations and arms to Israel might help achieve it.

I have learned that the Arab side also explained the need to completely separate the subject of the so-called embargo on oil shipments to the United States from the disengagement of the Syrian and Israeli forces because the Arab countries might use the oil weapon in a manner to effectively harm U.S. interests. That is why the Arab countries did not exert pressure on the United States in this context. It is preferable, therefore, to discuss the joint relationship in construction and cooperation that might materialize between the United States and the Arab countries, starting from a new point in a stable situation in the Middle East with a view to achieving a durable and just peace there.

I have also learned that Cairo will witness wide-scale political activity starting this week. This activity will begin with Kissinger's visit on 28 February and 1 March. The U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers will be present in Cairo at the same time although it may not be necessary for a meeting to take place between them in Cairo. Then there will be Michel Jobert's visit to Cairo. This will be followed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib Chatti's visit, which will be followed by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's visit on 9 March. April will witness even a broader activity on higher level with President Nixon's expected visit and West German Chancellor Willy Brandt's visit to Cairo in mid April.