

MIDEAST TESTIMONY
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brazen and contemptuous violation of the standstill agreement from the very day of its signature, and received apparent confirmation in the agitated attempts by some Washington spokesmen to look the other way."

Lewis goes on to comment that, "If...they (the Soviets) decide that American firmness is a flash in the pan and will vanish within the next year or two, they will maintain a hard line and pursue it as far as they judge it to be safe. Given the necessary acquiescence, this could be very far indeed."

Lewis dismissed the notion that the Russians are encouraging a peace settlement on the part of the Arabs. "At best," he said, "the Russians will permit a settlement. It is useless to count on them for help in procuring one. Negotiations, to have any chance of success, must ultimately, in some form, involve the parties themselves."

In response to a question from Senator Jackson on the wisdom of an international force with U.S. and Soviet participation to guarantee a Middle East peace agreement, Professor Lewis said:

"It would legalize the presence of Russian troops in the Middle East, and this would probably be irreversible...and...it would

delay rather than accelerate the attainment of peace, because I feel that peace will only come when both sides realize that it is in their own hands and theirs alone. A further involvement of the great powers, particularly in this military form, would merely create the opportunity for further prevarication and delay."

Replying to a question by Senator Jackson on Mideast attitudes toward the Russian military presence, Lewis commented:

"Neither the Arabs nor the Israelis have any real interest in the continued presence of the Russians in the area, and the West certainly has none. One of the advantages which the West enjoys in the area is that Western interests coincide with those of the Middle Eastern countries themselves.

"These interests would be better served by having both superpowers out, rather than both in. The U.S.A. as far as I know has no desire whatever to dominate or garrison any part of the Middle East. The Soviet Union has such desires, and this is becoming increasingly apparent, even to many Arabs..."

"The popular image of the Russians trying to persuade the Egyptians to be pacific, to hold back war-crazed Egyptians hell-bent for battle, seems to me the

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FEATURING FOLK MUSIC BY MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH MILITARY CONGREGATION, AND USING KOSHER HOLIDAY FOODS FROM THE NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD, PASSOVER SEDERS SUCH AS THIS ONE AT THE NORFOLK, VA., NAVAL STATION, ARE "IN KEEPING WITH THE CHANGING TIMES AND ATTRACT HUNDREDS OF SERVICEMEN," CHAPLAIN SAMUEL SOBEL OF THE FIFTH NAVAL DISTRICT (IN WHITE YARMULKE) REPORTS.

reverse of the truth. The peace. The question is question is not whether whether the Russians the Russians will induce will permit the Egyptian Egyptians to make tians to make peace."

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