

## WASHINGTON DATELINE

By Trude B. Feldman

### ISRAELITE'S WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT

President Nixon agreed to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir while she is in the U.S. this week for the United Jewish Appeal. The two leaders will discuss the Mideast conflict in the Oval office of the White House on December 2 at 3 p.m. The last time Mr. Nixon and Mrs. Meir met was October, 1970 at a White House dinner marking the 25th anniversary of the United Nations.

At noon on December 2nd, Mrs. Meir will confer with Secretary of State William Rogers. The Israeli Premier is expected to press Rogers for additional Phantom jets. Rogers recently told eight Senators that he feels there already exists an arms balance in the Mideast now... and that it would be a wrong signal to the Arabs if the Nixon Administration resumed sending Phantoms at this time.

The Senators who called on Rogers included 4 Democrats and 4 Republicans: Stuart Symington (Mo.); Edward Kennedy (Mass); Abraham Ribicoff (Conn.); Gale McGee, Wyoming; Robert Dole (Kan.); Edward Brooke (Mass.); Jacob Javits (NY); and Charles Percy (Ill.). The Senators who also conferred with Assistant Secretary Joseph Sisco, stressed the necessity for resumption of deliveries on the Phantoms in view of President Sadat's latest threats, as well as the fact that negotiations were halted.

Sen. Javits said that the Senators and Mr. Rogers found no meeting of the minds--and that during the hour-long "stormy" discussion, they tried--in vain-- to urge Rogers to reverse his position and send Israel the planes.

Meanwhile, the Senate voted to approve an amendment to the defense appropriations bill giving \$500 million in credit to Israel for military aid, half of which will include additional Phantoms.

Before the vote, Sens. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) and Hubert Humphrey (D. Minn.) warned the Senate that Israel needs extra support since Egypt is preparing for war against her. "Sadat's ominous threats could set in motion a train of events only partially controlled, with consequences that are tragic in the extreme," Jackson said. "The single most important step to avert the conflict is for the U.S. to stop denying Israel aircraft for her own protection."

Sen. Humphrey said that Egypt's President is steaming up his troops and getting them ready for war. He added that there are as many Soviet pilots in Egypt now as there are Israeli pilots.

Cong. Jack Kemp, a New York Republican--who recently met with Israeli leaders said the Nixon Administration is seriously jeopardizing peace prospects in the Mideast by refusing to deliver Israel the jets. He described the reason--for reluctance to give Israel the aircraft--as fear of losing a mediation role with Egypt.

"I call this a shortsighted and dangerous view," he said.

At the white House, presidential press secretary Ron Ziegler said the President does not oppose the Senate's \$500 million appropriation for Israel, but that it is "permissive" and would now be the President's decision whether or not to sell the Jets to Israel.

As for the President's decision, Ziegler said the White House's position has been that the military balance in the Mideast is being watched carefully and must be maintained.

"The Senate's action provides the funds," he said, "and they will be available IF we determine that additional equipment for Israel is necessary to continue that military balance."

A White House spokesman was asked: "What is the President doing to try to assure peace in the Middle East?"

His reply: "The State Department--as you should be well aware--is working on that matter and has been for some time...."

"Does the President feel threats by President Sadat have diminished the prospects of peace?"

"I have no direct comment or expression of feeling from The President on Sadat's remarks," the spokesman added. "I remind you that the U.S. believes that a continuation of the cease fire is in the interest of all parties. The U.S. is continuing its efforts to seek negotiations toward a settlement of the situation, but I refer you to the State Department for details."

## REVIVE JARRING MISSION?

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Informed sources here say the four African Presidents, representing the Organization of African Unity, who visited Israel and Egypt in an attempt to resolve the Middle East impasse, are seeking to revive the Jarring Mission. The mission was suspended when Israel rejected Jarring's demand that she commit herself to a total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Officials said that Premier Golda Meir was studying a memorandum prepared by the

four heads of state, Presidents Leopold Senghor of Senegal, Gen. Yakubu Gowon of Nigeria, Joseph D. Mobutu of Zaire and Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon. A similar memorandum was reported to have been presented to Egypt. While the OAU last July

had adopted a resolution calling Israel an aggressor and urging her withdrawal from the occupied territories, it is believed that Presidents Senghor and Gowon do not consider Israel an aggressor and do not demand that Israel return to the pre-Six Day War boundaries. Mrs. Meir was reported to have reiterated her position that no Egyptian troops must be allowed to cross the Suez Canal if Israeli troops withdraw from its banks. After the Cabinet studies the memorandum, a reply will be sent to Senghor.



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