

Kissinger Returns From Eastern Trip

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Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger returned yesterday from 12 days of grueling but productive globe-girdling diplomacy to prepare for the second stage of Arab-Israeli talks that are underscored by the squeeze on world oil supplies.

His venture in aerial diplomacy that extended 24,400 miles ended at Andrews Air Force Base where Kissinger said: "As you all know, in the Middle East we contributed to stabilizing the cease-fire and now our task is to work with conviction and energy to get the peace negotiations started."

In the China portion of his trip, Kissinger told foreign diplomats and American officials who greeted him, "We made further progress toward normalization of relations." The results of that sixth trip to Peking by Kissinger are expected to unfold during the weeks and months ahead, while the Middle East problems command more immediate attention.

Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco, who shared the intensive diplomacy in the Middle East with Kissinger, landed just a half-hour ahead of the secretary at Andrews. Sisco was arriving from London after stops in other Western European capitals where he sought to coordinate U.S.

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actions with uneasy allies who are under pressure from the Arab oil producing nations.

The United States is engaged in a complex maze of negotiations and consultations on the Middle East in an effort to keep contending forces and interests in equilibrium until peace talks can begin to alleviate the crisis.

Although it is hoped that peace negotiations will begin about mid-December, American sources said, they anticipate no serious Arab-Israeli bargaining until after the Israeli election on Dec. 31. The Israeli government, beset with controversy over the way it conducted the war and halted its short of complete military victory, requires a mandate from its electorate to supply the unity it will require for tough, painful, negotiating decisions ahead of it, U.S. officials say privately.

As a result, no substantive bargaining appears likely until well into January. This can leave the cease-fire exposed to any new tension. At the same time, the oil-hungry industrial nations such as Japan, the next to last stop on Kissinger's tour, will come under increasing pressure from the Arab oil producers in the intervening weeks to give total support to the Arab cause in the negotiations with Israel.

Kissinger was welcomed yesterday by diplomats from the 10 nations he visited: Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, China, Japan and Korea.

Kissinger told reporters he will report to President Nixon by telephone at Key Biscayne, Fla., and then get a night's sleep before beginning consultations this morning with the Nixon administration's senior security officials. He plans to meet with Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger, Adm. Thomas H. Moore, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Under Secretary of State Ken-

neth Rush and Central Intelligence Agency Director William Colby.

Kissinger also plans to confer with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin to determine if there is any divisive problem between the United States and the Soviet Union on encouraging the launching of Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Kissinger also plans to report to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in closed session on Tuesday on the Middle East and Chinese portions of his trip.

In the next few days, Kissinger told reporters he also plans to meet with senior officials of American oil companies, to determine how much flexibility there is in their activities that could ease oil shortages for U.S. allies.

Japan is acutely dependent on Middle East oil imports, which account for 80 per cent of its oil consumption.

U.S. officials said Japanese leaders in their talks with Kissinger indicated they would wait "a few days" for further developments before acting on the Arab demands on Japan to break relations with Israel as the price for continued oil flow. Japan obtains a considerable amount of its oil through American companies operating in the Middle East. Japanese officials told Kissinger that they need assurance that Japan will get a fair share of oil from the American firms. Kissinger agreed to explore the problem.

Japanese officials also raised questions with Kissinger about their ability to continue to supply American fleet units in the Asian-Pacific region with oil from Japanese depots at a time when oil supplies reaching Japan are being curtailed.

Despite differences in the American and Japanese attitude toward the Arab-Israeli crisis, officials in the Kissinger party said he had more frank talks with the Japanese than ever. Kissinger's talks

Wednesday night and Thursday with Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and other Japanese officials were described on the U.S. side as "less hysterical" and more balanced than in many exchanges Kissinger has had with the Japanese.

Japan's loudest outcry against the Nixon administration was over U.S. failure to supply Japan with advance notice in 1971 on Kissinger's first secret trip to Peking, which marked a major shift in American policy toward China from confrontation to negotiation.

In Tokyo, and yesterday in Seoul, South Korea, Kissinger summarized his discussions in Peking with Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai that produced the newest U.S.-Chinese agreement to expand developing relations.

During a five-hour stop in Seoul, Kissinger's meetings included discussions with two senior officials who were once students of his when he was a Harvard professor, Prime Minister Jong Pil Kim and Assembly Speaker Chung Il Kwon. Kissinger's major discussions were with President Chung Hee Park, who is facing more and more student demonstrations challenging his rule. The demonstrators were out of sight of Kissinger during his brief time in the South Korean capital.

U.S. officials yesterday again denied that any commitments were made by Kissinger



Associated Press

China envoy Huang Chen greets Kissinger at Andrews Air Force Base.

in Peking to reduce further the 42,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea.

However, American officials acknowledged it is up to the United States to make the next move in further developing relations with China. Such a move is bound to adversely affect U.S. relationships with the Nationalist Chinese regime on Taiwan, where U.S. forces are scheduled to be reduced to about 6,500 by the end of December.

The Nationalist regime on Taiwan, headed by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, has again announced that it will treat any agreements by the United States and the Peoples'

Republic of China as invalid.

Officials in the Kissinger party said it was Peking which initiated what U.S. officials regard as a more flexible position on moving beyond the present level of U.S.-Chinese relations, which employ the device of labeling embassy-type offices in Washington and Peking as "liaison offices."

In the language offered by China and accepted by the United States in a communiqué on the Kissinger talks in Peking, China shifted tactics.

Instead of concentrating its scorn on the claims of Taiwan to speak for China, Peking called for positive U. S. action

recognizing that Peking's rightful rule extends to all of China, including Taiwan. The communique said, ". . . The normalization of relations between China and the United States can be realized only on the basis of confirming the principle of one China."

Kissinger and his advisers count this as a potentially important moderation of the Chinese position on diplomatic recognition, because it could leave U.S.-Taiwan relationships technically undisturbed, while setting the stage for enlarging relations formally between Washington and Peking, in effect ignoring Taiwan.