

SFChronicle

JUN 17 1974

**Expert's View****Bomb Potential  
Of Egyptian  
Nuclear Plants****Pasadena**

Nuclear power plants the size of those pledged to Egypt by the United States produce enough plutonium every year to manufacture about 20 atomic bombs, according to a California Institute of Technology expert on nuclear technology.

And although Egypt claims the nuclear plants will be used only for the generation of electricity, Egypt already has far more electricity available from hydroelectric facilities than it can use, according to Milton Plesset, a nuclear engineer who has worked as an atomic energy consultant to many groups.

"That makes me somewhat suspicious," Plesset said. "It makes one wonder why."

Many statements coming out of Washington on the heels of the announcement are reportedly in conflict with nearly all the literature on nuclear power.

For example, Senator George D. Aiken (Rep-Vt.), senior minority member of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, said in a nationally televised statement that a 1000 - megawatt nuclear power plant would have to run for 15 years to produce enough plutonium to make one bomb.

But literature on the subject — plus testimony before Aiken's own committee— reveals that such a reactor produces about 200 kilograms of plutonium in one year's operation, and it takes less than ten kilograms to make an atomic bomb.

And although federal authorities insist that adequate safeguards will be imposed to keep Egypt from using its

**Kissinger  
To Ottawa****Jerusalem**

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will pull out of President Nixon's Middle East tour today so he can reach Ottawa in time for the meeting in that Canadian capital of the foreign ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Kissinger is to leave shortly before the President's jetliner takes off for Amman, Jordan.

*Associated Press*

reactors for weapons purposes, experts like Plesset fear this may not be possible.

The United States could cut off Egypt's supply of enriched uranium if Egypt diverts its plutonium to military uses, but the worldwide nuclear picture is changing so rapidly that it may not be possible for this nation to keep Egypt from getting the fuel it will need to run its U.S.-built reactors.

France already produces enriched uranium, and England, Holland and West Germany have indicated plans to get into the enriching business, according to recent Atomic Energy Commission reports.

*Los Angeles Times***Tallest Dam****Washington**

The world's tallest dam, at 1017 feet, is the Nurek Dam of Russia's Vakhsh River.

*United Press*