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Kissinger Links Security of Israel to Situation in Angola

Washington

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has told Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon taht Israel's security could be more jeopardized in the long run by developments in Angola than by the debate on the Middle East next week in the United Nations Security Council, Israeli sources said Thursday.

In their private talks, Kissinger reportedly told the visiting Israeli official that if, because of congressional opposition, the United States fails to halt Soviet military activities in Angola, the Soviet Union and other countries might not take American warnings seriously in the future.

In Kissinger's view, this could encourage Arab countries such as Syria to run risks that could lead to a new, Russian-supported attack on Israel. Allon is here to discuss next week's Secutity Council debate on the Middle East and to work toward a common Israel-American position.

Allon said the U.S. and Israel have a "basic understanding" of what is needed in the Middle East.

The United States has pledged that it would veto efforts to alter the basic Middle East negotating framework in the debate but has left itself flexible for dealing with moderately worded resolutions that might not be acceptable to Israel.

Although Kissinger's predictions are not shared by his critics, who see no correlation between Angola and Israel, Allon reportedly agreed with Kissinger and expressed his own concern about the refusal of Congress to support the covert aid to American-backed factions in Angola.

New York Times