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Kissinger Sticks To Wiretap Stand

Jerusalem

U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger yesterday held his first news conference since the one a week ago at which he threatened to resign and appeared to be back in his customary good humor.

The first question put to him by newsmen here yesterday was how he felt now about his threat to resign unless cleared of allegations of impropriety in the wiretapping of government officials and newsmen.

"I stick by what I said a week ago," he replied, after saying that he would answer that question but no others

on the subject.

"And now the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is going to look into the matter," he went on. This was taken as an indication that the committee would back him, and that he would accept such action as sufficient vindication.

In response to another question, Kissinger said he had not noticed that his relations with foreign leaders had been damaged by the wiretapping allegations, which centered on whether he had initiated the taps on 13 government employees and four newsmen in the years 1969 to 1971.

New York Times