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Congressional Record - Negotiations in the Middle East

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a tremendous amount of pressure; but to their credit, in the cause of a possible settlement and a possible peace, they have both given their consent.

There is a good deal of emotion mixed up in the question of the Middle East which must be taken into consideration and recognized and, because of that factor, it is all the more reasonable that we accept the acceptances which have already been given. Let no one be under any illusion about the difficulties which will confront all parties directly and indirectly concerned once negotiations get underway but, at least, a breathing space may have been achieved and, hopefully, the 90-day cease fire contained in the Roger's proposal will be extended indefinitely.

It is my understanding that a meeting of the Big Four—the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, and France—will convene on Wednesday under the auspices of the countries' respective U.N. ambassadors and at that time will discuss the possibilities for progress and peace in the Middle East with Ambassador Gunnar Jarring. To Ambassador Jarring, also, goes much credit for his willingness to undertake renewed efforts to achieve a settlement in that part of the world.

Let us hope and pray that what will get underway shortly under the most difficult circumstances will meet with progress and results in the weeks and months ahead. Men of reason on both sides will be, I am sure, aware of the possible cataclysmic results which will follow if a settlement is not achieved. To all of them, I wish good luck and God-speed.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, will the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire yield me 3 minutes?

Mr. McINTYRE. I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished minority leader.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the distinguished majority leader has said what he did. I am in full accord with what he said. I must admit that when the two great power talks began, and then when the four great powers became involved, I was quite skeptical as to whether they would lead to any solution.

It is cause for a very considerable, yet guarded, optimism that the first essential step has been taken and a breakthrough has been had.

There is now more than a glimmer of hope for peace in the Middle East, an area which controls the fate and the destiny of three continents, the crossroads of the world, the vital lifeline that it is for the means of energy and defense of so many nations.

It is much to the credit, as the distinguished majority leader has said, of our really great Secretary of State, William Rogers, that he has so patiently and diligently pursued these efforts. It is to the credit of the great Russian colossus that it has shown a responsibility and equal desire for peace.

One great solid fact emerges from the decision for a 90-day ceasefire. That is that the contending parties have indi-

cated by their action that they prefer peace to continued conflict.

This is the beginning of something that might bring about a massive collective sigh of relief on the part of all the peoples of the world.

Prime Minister Golda Meir has shown statesmanship on the part of Israel. The Arab Nations have indicated that it is clearly in their best interests not to continue to exacerbate a bad situation.

The action of President Nixon has clearly established him as a man who loves peace and seeks it, as indeed is the mark of all Presidents generally. They would certainly prefer peace to war.

Winston Churchill said:

Jaw, jaw is better than war, war.

And that sets the tone for what we all hope will be going on.

I would like to see the 90-day ceasefire extended indefinitely until the swords are beaten into plowshares. There is much need for food. There is much need for improvement of human conditions in all of those countries. There is much need for peace in the world. And as the President winds down the war in Vietnam, as he concludes the agreement with Spain for the continuance of certain Spanish bases, as he negotiates with Russia in the SALT talks—which are going very well so far—as all these things are done, the call for peace increases and may come to full bloom in these troubled sections.

If it does, no one would be more happy than I to see the Swedish Government and the Swedish officials proceed to call together the chief officials of the United States and Soviet Union in order to do what Theodore Roosevelt did with Russia and Japan. He followed after the ways that led to peace, as the Bible says.

If so, they will well deserve the Nobel peace award from a grateful world.

We hope that this will happen. At any rate, we are obviously advancing toward better days.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. SCOTT. I yield.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I am of the opinion that the remarks made by the President of the United States in his press conference last Thursday not only also add some influence in bringing about a meeting of the minds on the negotiating basis covering that particular area of the world.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority leader. I do agree that when the President indicated he was pledging the United States toward the security of the State of Israel and, to a recognition that the defense of Israel was essential to the defense of the United States, he also strengthened the hands of the negotiators.

We would all say to Ambassador Jarring, "Go with peace and bring peace back from these negotiations so that the world may see its fears subside and may again return to a state and condition where less fear dominates the minds of the world's peoples."

I again thank the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire for yielding.

NEGOTIATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I am encouraged that at long last, more than 3 years after the end of the 6-Day War in 1967, that Israel, on the one hand, the U.A.R., Jordan and, I understand, Kuwait and Lebanon, also, have agreed to consider the possibility of negotiations based on the 1967 United Nations Security Council resolution. I am sorry that Iraq, Syria, and Algeria have refused to give their assent to this effort. In my opinion, the fact that there is agreement, if only in part as far as all of the countries involved generally are concerned, is a good start toward an opening of negotiations which may furnish an opportunity to achieve a settlement in this tinderbox area of the world. Certainly, it is far better than a continuation of the confrontation which has taken and is still taking place and, most certainly, it is a step away from a confrontation which might well involve the two so-called superpowers of the world—the U.S.S.R. and the United States.

Too much credit cannot be given to Secretary of State William Rogers for his patience, his tenacity, and his quiet determination that something must, should and would be done to try to dampen the flames in the Middle East. Credit should also be given to the Soviet Union because, while I have no definite information at my disposal, I assume that President Nasser's 19-day stay in Moscow had much to do in the way of Egypt's acquiescence to the Roger's proposal. By the same token, much credit should go to Mrs. Golda Meir, the Prime Minister of Israel, for her final acceptance of the proposal. I am sure it was not easy for either President Nasser nor Prime Minister Meir to assent to the Roger's proposal; I feel that they were both under