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BALL DISAPPROVES OF SINAI AGREEMENT IN UM LECTURE

MISSOULA--

Former Under Secretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations George W. Ball delivered the second lecture of the sixth program in the continuing Mansfield Lectures on International Relations on Thursday, Oct. 30, at the University of Montana.

Speaking on the Mansfield lecture program theme, "American Foreign Policy After Vietnam," Ball spoke primarily on the U.S. involvement in the Middle East. His remarks particularly focused on the logic and reasoning of the Sinai agreement between Israel and Egypt, of which he openly disapproves.

Ball traced the history of the extensive U.S. diplomatic involvement in the Middle East since the October 1973 War, especially Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy. "Not only was this essential to avoid a resumption of the shooting but also to obtain a lifting of the oil embargo which Europeans tended to blame on America's pro-Israeli policies," Ball said.

Ball said he felt that having only one man conduct American foreign policy was deplorable. "Not only did it keep the Secretary of State away from Washington for an average of one out of every six weeks during 1974 and 1975, but his involvement impaired the usefulness of less newsworthy emissaries," Ball said.

"More important than these immediate effects, shuttle diplomacy had major political implications, since, by dramatizing our preemption of the negotiations, it notified the world that the United States would go it alone . . . we rigorously excluded the Soviet Union from any part in the negotiations."

"America's interest was . . . in seizing the opportunity to bring about a final settlement," Ball said. "Further shuttle diplomacy would keep Henry Kissinger in exclusive control of the negotiating process, would place him squarely in the spotlight of world attention and would help President Ford in the 1976 election."

Speaking directly about the Sinai agreement, Ball said, "Many feared that they (the Israelis) had been bludgeoned into making concessions against their interests for Egyptian promises of dubious validity . . . In our efforts to achieve a transaction that settled nothing, we exhausted the Israeli tolerance for further compromise."

Kissinger, Ball said, "has now publicly agreed that no final settlement is possible without Soviet concurrence . . . as well as British and French, agreement to support--or at least, not oppose--that proposed settlement.

"Nor should we disparage the utility of obtaining United Nations Security Council approval of a settlement plan once the Soviets have expressed agreement," Ball said.

Ball went on to say, "with Soviet assent to a plan for a Middle East settlement, we might work our way toward a more rational world order in which . . . the Cold War could recede into the mists of history."

Ball was involved in government before, during, and after World War II, in various positions. He became a founding partner of the Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Ball, and a specialist in international law and commercial relations, which allowed him an important role as an adviser in ultimately creating the European Common Market. He served as Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs and Under Secretary of State in the Kennedy Administration. He served as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations under Johnson.

Besides being a partner of Lehman Brothers, an international investment banking firm, Ball is a managing director of Lehman Brothers Inc. He also is counsel to the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton.

The Mansfield lecture program was established in 1967 at UM under the Mike and Maureen Mansfield Endowment of the UM Foundation in recognition of Senate Majority Leader Mansfield's 25 years of congressional service and the University's 75th anniversary, which coincided in 1968. The series is funded through the UM Foundation under donations of about \$120,000.

Sen. Mansfield inaugurated the Mansfield lecture series with an address entitled "China: Retrospect and Prospect" in 1968. He was followed by Dr. John Kenneth Galbraith, "New Industrial State: The Case, Criticism and Consequences," in 1969; Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, "United States Relations with Latin America," in 1970; Dr. Milton Friedman, "Dollar Standard: Problems and Prospects," in 1971, and then New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, "America's Third Century," in 1973.

Other speakers in the sixth Mansfield program at UM included Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, the man who made public the secret Pentagon Papers on the Vietnam War, and Dr. Walt W. Rostow, adviser to Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

Ellsberg is author of the book, "Papers on the War." He is now engaged in lecturing, research and writing.

Rostow joined the faculty of the University of Texas, Austin, as a professor of economic history in February 1969, a post he now holds. He teaches courses in economic history and American diplomatic history. A former adviser to Kennedy and Johnson, his career includes a background in both education and government.