

I want to be frank with you as I have been frank with the people, and lay before you, the full picture. To you I will reveal a secret I have so far kept. The last time I met the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser — may God's mercy be upon him — was in my house at the Pyramids. I do not know why we raised the question of what would the successor of Gamal Abdel Nasser do. Gamal Abdel Nasser and I believed that I would die before him and we talked of who would succeed Abdel Nasser and how he would fill the vacuum.

It was not really a discussion; we were just talking about what we thought. The late leader felt that he would see the battle through to the end and that he would emerge safely from it. After the consequences of aggression had been eliminated, President Nasser intended to ask the people's permission to retire and allow new leaders to take over in his life.

We all laughed and wondered who that successor would be and how the people would start comparing him to Nasser. I remember this was the last discussion between us in my house and I

recount it now for the first time and for the sake of history.

Through you, men of the security and men of the police, I convey to the people the anxious words which Gamal Abdel Nasser said on that day : « I do not want my successor to humiliate the people ». He said this with emotion : « No one will humiliate the people after me ».

When I discovered there was a conspiracy, I called Mamduh Salem — and I know how you as police officers estimate him — gave him all the details and said to him : « Here is the battle before you, I do not want to embarrass you, so are you ready to be with me ? I do not know how far this will go but I will not go back and will continue whatever the cost. » Mamduh Salem answered : « The police and myself — and I speak with confidence for the police — are with the people behind you ».

There is another thing I want to speak to you about, namely your brothers in the Armed Forces who have been stationed on the battle front for the past four years and who depend fully on a united homefront. The solidarity of the homefront means the solidarity of the battle front and you are responsible for the homefront.

In
there
wireless
I said
that w
homefr
this sa
lion Eg
them to
not to t

I sa
police, w
people b
serve th
homefron

As I
tory, Ma
his behal
thing that
all the peo
day the p
young off
to bring th
demands,
do not wan
police offic
you came

In my speech in Inshas — which all my sons there heard because I ordered that they all have wireless sets in their positions on the front line — I said to my sons, who are listening to me now, that whoever tries to undermine the unity of the homefront I will tear him to pieces — and I used this same expression. I assured them that 34 million Egyptians stood behind them and I called on them to be on the alert against the enemy and not to turn their attention to the homefront.

I said so because I had full confidence in the police, who, I am sure, are not the enemy of the people but are the guardians who will help me preserve the national unity and the integrity of the homefront while our sons face the enemy.

As I told you, for the sake of justice and history, Mamduh Salem never hesitated, neither on his behalf nor on yours. However, there is one thing that the people have to know, a fact of which all the people must be aware and proud of. Yesterday the people expressed all their feelings. The young officer who volunteered and came in order to bring the tapes and save his country, making no demands, saying : « You do not know me and I do not want anything » — this young officer was a police officer. That is why I was very glad that you came to meet me today, and I tell you

that I have full confidence in Mamduh Salem, your Minister, and in each and everyone of you. Every individual here must safeguard his life and his future so that the people may also safeguard their life and future. I want security and assurance. As I told you in my speech, I do not judge by reports. Everyone of you has the right to self-defence, if any report is submitted about him.

No one's future is to be at stake because of a report or mere talk. No. Every person must defend himself and know his worth so that we may all feel secure and assured and reflect this feeling on the masses of the people. I want you to make our firm people who made June 9 and 10 as well as May 15 yesterday, always feel secure and assured. First and foremost, everything is for the battle and no voice shall ever be raised above that of the battle. As I said in my speech it was nothing but a storm in a tea-cup and it has now blown over. With your help, with that of all our people who expressed their determination yesterday, and with God's will, we shall continue the battle and be victorious, despite all the sacrifices that shall be made and despite the fact that we shall be passing through very difficult and bitter times. I do not hide from you nor shall I minimize the losses we shall bear or the sacrifices we shall make. Let us not

belittle them
that this is
independence.
price. Howe
that we may
victorious, G

I am hap
you that if on
nothing can
officer came
country. Let
fidence in you
have left the
homefront her
with? — W
front and pres
ty. I have fu
victorious, God
in which every
house and sur
threatened.

I pray to
you may fulfil
it is exactly lik
my full trust
that and let t
meeting with n

belittle them, ever. I say to you, in all frankness, that this is a battle of existence, of honour and independence. Therefore we are willing to pay any price. However, let me confirm that despite all that we may meet with in this battle, we will be victorious, God willing.

I am happy you came here so that I may tell you that if one of the top men has made a mistake, nothing can ever remain secret. A young police officer came and said the truth for the sake of his country. Let me tell you that I have full confidence in you and that your brothers on the Canal have left their families behind as well as their homefront here, in our trust. Who am I to work with? — With you. So, safeguard your homefront and preserve the integrity of its national unity. I have full confidence in you and we shall be victorious, God willing, and build up our new state in which every individual shall feel free, safe in his house and sure of the future without ever feeling threatened.

I pray to God Almighty to guide you so that you may fulfil your duty in the homefront since it is exactly like the frontline on the Canal. I place my full trust in you. I want you to be proud of that and let the entire people hear, through your meeting with me today, that the person who made

an effort and came to me at 1.30 a.m. to speak the truth was a police officer.

I pray to God to guide your steps and that you always place yourselves in the service of the people for the success of the battle and to build a new state, God willing, for our sons and our grandchildren, so that we may fulfil our duty before God and before our conscience.

May God guide your steps and peace be upon you.

PRES

at a speci