

ments didn't defuse only the explosive situation but has opened the way to a comprehensive settlement. So, adhering to the Camp David two documents, for sure we shall be reaching an agreement.

Q. What is the main obstacle now, President Sadat? What is the main problem you still must solve?

PRESIDENT SADAT. I think—and it may appear, I mean, ridiculous—some words here or there, only some words here or there.

Q. Can that be resolved by tomorrow night, by Saturday night?

PRESIDENT SADAT. Between me and President Carter, be sure of one thing: Whatever arises between me and President Carter, we are identical, and we shall continue to be identical.

CORRESPONDENT. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:05 a.m. on board the train. Participants included Walter Cronkite of CBS News, John Chancellor of NBC News, and Peter Jennings of ABC News.

Following the trip, the President went to Ras-al-Tin Palace, where he stayed during his visit to Alexandria.

Alexandria, Egypt

White House Statement Following a Meeting Between President Carter and President Sadat. March 9, 1979

President Sadat and President Carter continued their discussions of the peace process and other matters of mutual interest. The discussions lasted from about 7:05 p.m. until 8 p.m. and were conducted in the atmosphere of friendship and candor.

Participants in the meeting were:

On the American side:

President Carter

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance
Secretary of Defense Harold Brown
Zbigniew Brzezinski, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

Harold Saunders, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs

Ambassador Herman Eilts
Ambassador at Large Roy Atherton
Bill Quandt, NSC staff

On the Egyptian side:

President Sadat
Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil
Vice President Husni Mubarak
General Hassan Ali, Defense Minister
Ahmed al-Sayegh, Economics Minister
Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal
Hassan Kamel, Chief of Protocol
Butrus Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

Secretary Vance and Prime Minister Khalil met this afternoon from 3:30 until 5 p.m. at the Palestine Hotel. Their discussions focused on the unresolved issues in the peace treaty negotiations.

The two Presidents will attend a working luncheon tomorrow at Mena House, near Cairo, to be followed by additional discussions.

President Carter will depart Egypt for Israel tomorrow evening.

NOTE: The meeting was held at Mamoura Palace.

Alexandria, Egypt

Toasts at a Dinner Honoring President Carter. March 9, 1979

PRESIDENT SADAT. . . . for the very noble cause of peace. My people have welcomed President Carter yesterday and

today. For me, I want to tell you how happy I am and how proud I am to have our dear friend and brother among us on Egyptian soil. All I can say is this: Let us raise our glass for a great President of a great nation, and to Mrs. Carter.

PRESIDENT CARTER. On a rare occasion in a person's life and on extremely rare occasions in the history of all humankind, there comes along a man or person with extremely great courage, a man who has the sensitivity to understand a complicated issue, who recognizes the deep feelings that exist because of historical animosities and hatreds, who has himself suffered through tortuous political evolutionary times, even revolutionary times, and one who's seen his own people suffer on many occasions from combat and war. And when all others are too timid, too fearful—or whose horizons are too narrow, fear to act—that great leader acts and, therefore, inspires others to join with him in a common, noble effort.

President Anwar al-Sadat is such a man. He has aroused the admiration of the entire world. He has become a hero in many nations, and he deserves this esteem and admiration completely.

I have never seen so many people as were along our route today from Cairo to Alexandria. And it was the most impressive political event that I have ever witnessed—hundreds of thousands of Egyptian citizens, millions of Egyptian citizens. The number itself was impressive, but the most impressive aspect of this tremendous outpouring of emotion was their love and respect for their President and their obvious appreciation for our common search for peace.

I look upon President Sadat as a partner, sharing with him a common past, a common present, and a common future. But I also look upon him as a brother. The closeness with which he and I work

and communicate, consult and plan and act, is reassuring to me. And I can well understand, now that I know him better, how he could have made such a momentous decision to slice through generations of hatred and, through a great expression of generosity, attempt to heal wounds.

I also have a great admiration for the Egyptian people. Tomorrow I will speak to your parliamentary leaders and make a more substantive description of my hopes for the future. But tonight I would say that I bring from 200 million Americans to 40 million Egyptians a heartfelt expression of the same kind of friendship and the same kind of mutual purpose that binds me with your President. I said today, as we watched the adoring crowds shouting out their slogan of a pledge of their heart and soul for President Sadat, that I would certainly hate to run against him for a public office in Egypt. But I would add very quickly, that I would also hate to run against him for a public office in the United States of America. [Laughter] I think it's accurate to say that he's, perhaps, the most popular person in our own country.

Tonight he and I share great hopes for the future. We recognize the difficulties that we face. Some of the distrust, some of the difficulties in communication, some of the ancient animosities still exist. But we share common faith in two things: One is that the people of Israel and Egypt pray for peace, and the other one is that the leaders of Israel and Egypt pray for peace.

This will be a first step only to a common peace for all the citizens of the Middle East and for the redressing of wrongs, for the realization of dreams and hopes. And I would like to offer a toast tonight to my friend, to a great and courageous leader who, himself, with the strength of his character, the nobility of his ideals and

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

92

D,

F

n
II

the purpose—which I share—is responsible above all others for this kindling of new hope in the hearts of those that join with us in this common effort.

To President Anwar al-Sadat, to the people of Egypt, to his lovely wife, and to peace.

NOTE: President Carter spoke at approximately 9:45 p.m. at Ras-al-Tin Palace. Because of technical difficulties, the White House Press Office was unable to provide a complete transcript of President Sadat's toast. The press release contains only the concluding portion, as printed above.

Prior to the dinner, the President received the Nile Collar award from President Sadat.

Cairo, Egypt

*Address Before the People's Assembly.
March 10, 1979*

I also come before you in the name of God, as a partner with my great and good friend, your President, Anwar al-Sadat, to address the Egyptian people through the Members of this People's Assembly of Egypt.

My heart is full as I stand before you today. I feel admiration for the land of Egypt, and I feel a profound respect for the people of Egypt and for your leader, President Sadat, a man who has reached out his strong hand to alter the very course of history.

And I also feel a deep sense of hope as I consider the future that will unfold before us if we have the will and the faith to bring peace. And we have that will and faith, and we will bring peace.

As a boy, like other schoolchildren all over the world, I studied the civilization of Egypt. In the last few days, I have at last seen the legacy of that great civilization with my own eyes. As a citizen of a very young country, I can only marvel at

the 7,000-year heritage of the Egyptian people, whom you represent.

For most of the last 500 years, Egypt suffered under foreign domination. But Egypt has again taken her place among the world's independent countries and has led the resurgence among the Arab people to a prominent place among the nations of the world. I'm very proud of that great achievement on your part.

Tragically, this generation of progress has also been a generation of suffering. Again and again, the energies of the peoples of the Middle East have been drained by the conflicts among you—and especially by the violent confrontations between Arabs and Israelis. Four wars have taken their toll in blood and treasure, in uprooted families, and young lives cut short by death.

Then, 16 months ago, one man, Anwar al-Sadat, rose up and said, "Enough of war." He rose up and said, "Enough of war. It is time for peace."

This extraordinary journey of President Sadat to Jerusalem began the process which has brought me here today. Your President has demonstrated the power of human courage and human vision to create hope where there had been only despair.

The negotiations begun by President Sadat's initiative have been long and arduous. It could not have been otherwise. The issues involved are complex, and they are tangled in a web of strong emotion. But among the people of Egypt and the people of Israel alike, the most powerful emotion is not hostility. It is not hatred. It is a will to peace. And more has been accomplished in 1 year of talking than in 30 years of fighting.

As the peace process has moved forward—sometimes smoothly, more often with pain and difficulty—the Government of Egypt has been represented by