Remarks of Welcome to President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt
October 27, 1975

Mr. President:

It is really a great honor for me to personally—as well as President of the
United States—welcome you to our country. We established in Salzburg a
personal friendship, which I look forward to expanding during your visit to
the United States.

I am particularly pleased that Mrs. Sadat and other members of your family
are with you on this historic first state visit to the United States by an Egyptian
leader.

The United States Government respects your farsighted statesmanship, wise-
ness and your unswerving dedication to the well-being of the Egyptian
people and to all of the Arab people.

You, Mr. President, have helped to bring about historic new developments
in the Middle East. It is our fervent hope that these developments will lead to
durable peace for all peoples of that region.

The overriding purpose of our discussions will be to assure that progress
toward peace will not stop. The process of peaceful negotiations between
Arab States and Israel must move to new fronts and to new issues.

United States policy in the Middle East has two primary objectives: First,
we seek peace. We have made extraordinary efforts in the last 2 years to
see the nations of the Middle East find peace. Much has been achieved.

The world has seen that it is possible to negotiate in the Middle East
so that agreements can be reached, despite a legacy of bitter conflict and
inherent distrust. The process of peace has only begun. We are committed to
continue.

The efforts of the United States will continue until the nations directly con-
cerned achieve a peace just to all the peoples of the Middle East.

Second, we desire a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with

in the Middle East. The quality and the growth of relations between
the United States during the past 2 years give us a deep satisfaction.
Visit to Washington, Mr. President, is a symbol of the new dimensions
relationship. Egyptians and Americans in all walks of life have estab-
lished a friendship and cooperation in many areas of mutual benefit, build-
ning on historic tradition.

We seek, with every nation of the Middle East, a relationship which is benefi-
cial to the interest of both sides. We are pleased, Mr. President, that our
ties coincide with yours.

I have clearly stated your desire for a peace that will permit you and your
people to turn your energies and your resources to the improvement of
Egypt. And we are proud to work with you toward that goal.

During your visit, Mr. President, you will find that many of our people have
to know you through news reports and through the many interviews you
granted so graciously to representatives of our media, to Members of our
Congress, and to many other Americans. Your sincerity, your moderation, and
wisdom have made an impression on all who have come in contact with
you.

We are delighted that your visit to Washington and to other American cities
will permit more of our people to know you personally. You will find Ameri-
cans deeply concerned over the issues which are important to you—peace and
cooperation in the Middle East—issues which are vital to the future of the whole
region.

I am delighted by this opportunity to show the depth of our respect for
you, for the Egyptian people, and to demonstrate our dedication to the high
principles shared by Americans and Egyptians.

On behalf of the American people, Mr. President, and as a personal friend, I
tell you to the United States.

Gerald R. Ford, 1975

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to this moment.

We have come here with open hearts and open arms. We have come to put the relation between our two countries in its proper position and to thank you, Mr. President, personally, for what you have done since last June up until this moment, which could be considered as a turning point in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the area that we live.

I shall always look forward to welcoming you, Mr. President, in Egypt. I assure you that my people will hail you for all the efforts, the sincerity, the honesty that you have pushed the peace process in the last months. And we have achieved together the second disengagement agreement which will be a very important milestone on the road of peace in our area.

Again let me thank you, Mr. President, and the American people for all you have done. And I must mention now how my people are grateful for the great help they received from the United States in preparing the Suez Canal for navigation again and for the prosperity of the whole world.

I assure you, Mr. President, and our friend American people that we shall always work for peace together and achieve for the coming generations all of what we feel of inspirations built on peace based on justice.

Thank you very much.