

**S P E E C H**

by

**PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT**

at the dinner banquet given in his honour

by the Prime Minister of Essen

March 31, 1976

I would first like to thank you for your kind words, and to express the gratitude of my family, of the members of the accompanying delegation and myself for your invitation to visit you as well as for the welcome you accorded to us.

It gives me great pleasure to visit the State of Essen and to have the opportunity to visit the beautiful city of Wiesbaden. This is a region to which we have often directed our sight due to the emotional and human links binding us together since nearly a century and a half ago, when your great poet Goethe in his collection « West and East », drew an artistic picture of the East and the Mediterranean area through his poetic genius and true sense.

This was the Golden ages of literature and culture in Germany, and Goethe occupied a very special place among those eternal names of the outstanding men of letters in the world.

Goethe was the prophet of amity between you and us, and you have every right to be proud of him. It is also his right that we should recognise his greatness. In recognition, Egypt hosts an institution bearing Goethe's name in both Cairo and Alexandria to spread the German language and its literature.

Dear friends,

I am looking forward to the visit to the Atomic Energy Station in order to grasp man's up-to-date capacity for directing science and technology, and employing potentials, not for destruction and anarchy but for the sake of construction and rehabilitation.

You know that Egypt is directing all its available capacity to the battle of reconstruction, moving confidently and hopefully towards accepting the challenges of peace. In confirmation of this attitude, Egypt has signed the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Agreement, just as the Federal Republic of Germany has done. Moreover, Egypt is still calling upon all countries to sign it and be committed to it. We, within the framework of our region, also hope that the Middle East area will remain free of nuclear weapons.

We are distressed at man's inability to overcome fear to the world of security, though he has succeeded in passing over the barriers of time and place.

Mr, Prime Minister,

Frankfurt is one of the most responsive cities to international developments and events, for it is also one of the largest money and economic markets in the world.

It is only natural that it would, and it will always do so, direct its attention towards the Middle East, with all the variables it brought about and with the elements of explosion it embodies at present.

Allow me here to say that we are all the more concerned with the realisation of a permanent and just peace, with calling for the convocation of the Geneva peace conference, in the presence of all parties to the conflict including representatives of the Palae

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tine Liberation Organisation as the people whose cause is the core  
of the entire problem and which can never be ignored.

Dear friends,

I am really pleased with my visit to the Federal Republic of  
Germany as well as with meeting its great people; I am also happy  
with my visit to Essen and call upon you to stand in honour of  
its Prime Minister and Mrs. Oswald, wishing the sons of Essen  
all happiness and prosperity.