

S P E E C H

by

PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT

at the Alexandria Shipyard

January 17, 1971

In the name of God,

Dear friend, President Podgorny,

Brothers, Men of the Shipyard,

Two days ago, brothers, we were in Aswan celebrating the completion of building the High Dam. The occasion was a festival of Arab-Soviet friendship. The Soviet Union chose to offer us over and above what it has already offered, a project for the electrification of the entire Egyptian countryside.

In this place also we witness another festival of Arab-Soviet friendship, and the honest and unconditional joint co-operation between the Soviet experts and the Egyptian people.

This arsenal of modern heavy industry

was in the past the monopoly of those who believed that they owned everything and gave nothing.

Today Gamal Abdel Nasser's dreams have come true with the building of the solid industrial base from which we emerge as a people capable of living the present age and not kept in backwardness as our enemies wish us to be.

I wish to tell you on this occasion that throughout the past three and a half years, the Soviet Union stood by our side in our political, economic and military steadfastness in all spheres. It stood by us in honour and honesty backing peace based on justice.

Today, in Alexandria, our second capital, bride of the Mediterranean and the city of struggle, President Podgorny can really sense the feelings of a whole people which I would like him to convey, in the name of Alexandria and in your name, to the friendly Soviet people. I want him to tell the friendly Soviet people that we have faith in our country, in every particle of its earth and sand and we will never give it up.

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ple that our people have lived on this land and fought imperialists and invaders who have all gone away but our immortal people remained and will remain for ever, God willing.

I want him to tell the friendly Soviet people who offered us and continue to offer all kinds of honest aid in all spheres that we are fully aware of our responsibility and the dimensions of our battle and that we are willing to work for a solution to this issue. If they want to solve it peacefully, then we are for peace based on justice... We will not surrender or give up and no power on earth will force us to give up an inch of our land.

I want him to convey to the friendly Soviet people who extended aid to us, built the factories with us and helped us in laying down the bases of a modern industrial state, and to Comrade Brezhnev and Comrade Kosygin the thanks and gratitude of this people.

I want him to tell the Soviet people that we will be the true and loyal friends to those who stand by our side in times of hardship and darkness and we will never renounce their friendship.

Finally, I want him to convey to the

friendly Soviet people once more the greetings of the United Arab Republic's people and to tell them that the Egyptian people are up to the historic responsibility, and are ready to pay the price, whatever the cost, in order to preserve their dignity, independence and honour.

Brothers ... Do not have any doubt that we will achieve victory, God willing ... Do not have any doubt that with God's help and with the will power of this people and your will power, we will win our battle and prove to everyone that the land is ours, the honour is ours and the dignity is ours and we know how to defend our honour and dignity.

God's peace be upon you.