SPEECH BY
PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT
At The Dinner Banquet Given In His Honour by
Prime Minister Harold Wilson
November 7, 1975.

Mr. Prime Minister:

Thank you for your kind words, and for your invitation to me. As you well know, we give great consideration to relations with the United Kingdom. We are looking forward to setting up more bridges of understanding and cooperation between our two countries in all fields. We believe that there is a large area of common interests that adds to the chances of our rapprochement. We are determined to continue along this course. It pleases me to feel the same desire on your part, especially that we together have a direct interest in the continuity of both the establishment of world peace and strengthening the desire for peace among the people of the entire world.

As regards your special position as a permanent member state in the Security Council and as regards your special interest in the Middle East situation, I feel that the United Kingdom is in a position to play an active role in the realization of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. The faculty of creation, invention and intellectual wealth characterizing the British people can be utilized as an essential source and a base for proceeding towards peace. By virtue of your long experience and profound knowledge of the Middle East problem, you are well aware of the complexity of this problem, and I am certain that you are convinced as I am that we should keep up the momentum for peace in order to restore stability and calmness to the area. In several previous messages which you had sent to me, you had pointed out the significance you gave to the consolidation of British-Egyptian relations as you have affirmed to me your determination to participate, whenever possible, in easing the tension, and reaching a peaceful solution, to Middle East problems.

You may be sure that we cherish this attitude on your part, and this desire to reinforce our relations and strengthen our ties, is a mutual feeling. Your frank talk with me today is an evidence of this desire. Your Foreign Minister explained your party policy when he came to visit Egypt before he assumed his present post and I do esteem his keen interest in our problems and his devotion to the realization of peace.