SPEECH
by
PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT
to the Egyptian Expatriates In Washington
November 6, 1975

It gives me great pleasure indeed to meet you and to see before me this gathering of Egyptians after the lapse of 10 days away from Egypt. This meeting evokes Egypt and the spirit of Egypt. I am also delighted to meet the youth who will take over the responsibility in the future, and I would like to assure you that everything is going on all right in Egypt and that the political structure has succeeded in setting up a state of institutions and the sovereignty of law.

The President then went on to speak about liberties and the irrevocable ending of exceptional measures as well as about the open-door policy saying: «The open-door policy is not only economic but also political, civilizational and intellectual. Egypt is now determined to compensate what it had lost during the past 20 years, and is working with a double effort encountering with all courage the problems that had been postponed since the year 1962».

The President expressed his hope that within a year all these problems will come to an end. He said: «Egypt is fine, and Arab cooperation is still standing».

In answer to the questions asked by the expatriates, President Sadat said that his visit to the U.S. has realised a balance
with the big powers and put an end to the attitude of traditional friendship and traditional enmity, and hence Egypt's national interests have become the foremost consideration. The President said that the results of this visit should be followed up. The President added: "We are striving to raise a new generation on liberalism, co-existing with the present age and elimination of backwardness."

The President then referred to the second disengagement agreement in Sinai which came as a result of the October victory prior to which the entire world had considered Egypt a motionless corpse. The President related the development which culminated in the agreement with the Syrian President Hafez El-Assad on the war decision, and how the Egyptian forces caused an upheaval in the balance of the Israelis within few hours.

The President further explained the development of Egyptian-Soviet relations since the promulgation of the decision concerning the termination of the Soviet experts service in July 1972.

He said that the Soviet Union had stopped providing Egypt with weapons and that he had suffered a great deal from the Soviets' neglect in fulfilling his demands or answering his messages.

The President said that the Soviet Union Foreign Minister Gromyko during his last visit to Egypt asked: "Is there any defect in me that is not in Kissinger?"

The President's reply was: "Not at all, only the Americans give their replies within 48 hours while you don't reply at all."
On the attitude of the Syrian Baath Party, the President said: «It is an attitude full of spite and bitterness for no reason at the time when I am endeavouring on every possible occasion to spur matters towards an agreement on the Golan, and to press for the necessity of the Palestinian participation at the Geneva conference. The President asserted that the Baath Party campaigns can never affect nor shake Egypt's stand, for Egypt has its historical responsibilities and will never forefeit its rights.

The President then spoke about the early warning station in Sinai and said that he agreed with President Ford on this station during their meeting in Salzburg so that Egypt may be on equal footing with Israel. He made it clear that Egypt bought this station for 120 million dollars and consequently it belongs to Egypt and manned by Egyptians.

The President added that he decided to purchase this station after the Soviet Union refused to provide Egypt with a similar one.