I really felt great happiness when I saw today, on my way from the airport to here, the works of reconstruction progressively going on in two new districts, in addition to the one which was already achieved, namely, King Feisal district. It was a source of pleasure to me to pass through the streets of Suez on my way to you, and to see that hundreds of thousands of people had returned to Suez, to their home ... I was really happy to see all this, though I know quite well that there are some evacuees from Suez who did not return yet. The share of Suez in the battle against Israel was larger even than that of Ismailia or Port Said. However, I wish to assure the people of Suez that everything to do with reconstruction, the return of the evacuees and the rebuilding of prosperity on the land of Suez is underway, because my instructions in this respect are very clear, and my decision is political one ... You know quite well that political decisions, exactly like that of the High Dam, take their way to implementation very quickly, because they cannot brook any delay ... In this
particular case, we can never delay the implementation of our decisions, because it is a matter that greatly affects the people of Suez who endured, and are still enduring, a great deal of the bitterness of emigration, and the pains of disruption and defeat. The barbarity of the enemy against the city of Suez had, in fact, reached the maximum, as a result more than 50% or 90% of the city was destroyed.

I was really happy today to see the city of ghosts come back to life when I came to visit Suez the day Zayetta was hit, in retaliation to our naval forces' destruction to Eilath in October 1967, it was a city of ghosts, and it remained so for more than 7 years until life ran in its veins once again after the 1973 battle. I thank God for my sons, the combatants of the Third Field Army ... You cannot imagine my happiness as I was inspecting the Israeli Headquarters facing Suez, surrounded by the machine guns which attacked and destroyed Suez and hit Zayetta .... The Israelis never believed it possible for us to reach this position, their very Headquarters, hidden by the rear mountain, out of reach of the artillery, where no planes could affect it ... They thought, as said in the Koran, that their fortifications would be their barriers ... Then, my sons, the soldiers of the Third Army pounced upon it and forced the Israelis to flee with only their clothes; they left the Headquarters exactly as they were; They left the maps and everything else.

We should always remember this, and I am saying it for Egypt, the entire Arab nation, and the world to hear ... I am really happy you have taken your revenge ... You, my dear sons, soldiers of the Third Army, have avenged Suez and refuted the allegation about the invincible Israeli soldier ... Their commanders fled with only their clothes, leaving the Headquarters intact with all the maps and even the machine-guns with which the
previously hit Suez. Our sons seized and destroyed these machine-guns so that they would never threaten nor be used against Suez or Egypt again.

My utmost thanks go to my sons, combatants of the Third Army, for all the heroic deeds they courageously performed, foremost among which was the Cabrit operation, this immortal legend of struggle... I recall now that while I was following the battle from the operation-room on October 6, the news of the downfall of the fortified posts of the Bar Lev line and the raising of the Egyptian flag in Sinai successively reaching us up to the moment of the breach; some people in Cairo thought we had lost the battle, and many of those who were living in tranquility and comfort in Cairo collapsed in contrast to what was happening in the battlefield; they collapsed and lost their nerves, whereas my sons in the battlefield were fighting the enemy with unprecedented firmness and courage until they seized all the Israeli strongholds.

Meantime, Cabrit, in the east, stood fast and strongly resisted repulsing the enemy attacks for more than 120 days, and it never surrendered until the Israelis were forced to carry their defeat on their shoulders and take off.

Today I congratulate you, members of the Third Army, for the second disengagement agreement which was fully executed the 22nd of last February, and the Israelis pulled out behind the passes. For the first time I declare to my people, the Arabs and the whole world, that our plan and objective, the instructions I gave to the General Commander, was to force the Israelis to withdraw behind the passes. The second disengagement agreement fulfilled for us the major objective of the limited battle which we spent long hours planning, and in which we achieved victory in October 1973... Our victory was further elaborated on the first disengagement agreement and the land we regained.
Here, I would like to state that at one time two divisions of the Third Army were in the east, and at the time of the breach the Jews came and occupied a position behind them... The rest of the Third Army were also confronting the Israelis... As I told you, some people, then, lost their nerves and collapsed, and unfortunately, spite had eaten up the hearts of some who tried, as did Israel, to make something out of this theatrical move. But reality was much bigger than that... When we were preparing for the first disengagement agreement, and planning on the very land our forces had already regained, I said that I was satisfied with what we obtained, because it was quite obvious that everyone was conspiring against our victory... When we were planning for the agreement, I found the two divisions of General Badawi, which some people claimed to be absolutely paralyzed, and against which the sick-minded Kazzafy had directed stabs in the back, just as he had done against the Arab nation; I found they had acquired more land than what he had obtained in the October battle.

I am saying all this for the Arab world and for Egypt to hear. I am really very glad to meet you today dear sons, now after all these plays are over... Nothing but right wins. With the second disengagement agreement we have fulfilled all the objectives of the 1973 battle... We expelled the Jews behind the passes, and this was the plan; it was the objective which I defined to the General Commander in the fighting order which I signed on Tuesday, Ramadan 6, just three days before the battle.

I recall this as I meet you today, dear sons... I remember when Suez was a city of ghosts, and I remember 1967, and that we had never surrendered despite all the dimensions of the painful bitter defeat of 1967... Four months had only elapsed, and on October 21, 1967 our courageous navy was launching for the
first time in the history of world naval battle, the first rocket against the biggest unit of the Israeli fleet, namely, Eilath... Ever since that heroic operation, history has recorded that the first rocket in the history of the world navies was Egyptian and shot by Egyptians... Consequently, the strategy of naval war changed from big units to small ones, and we did not surrender ... This heroic act happened only 4 months after the painful and bitter defeat.

I recall your brothers in Ras El Eish, and the glorious battle they waged against the Israelis at midday on a Saturday which the Israelis later came to call «sad Saturday»... On that day, a few members of our Special Forces totally annihilated an Israeli column that was advancing on the eastern bank, hoping to reach Kilo 10.

All this I recall now my sons while I am sitting with you, and I tell you that Egypt, and the entire Arab nation will always be indebted to you, to your magnificent performance, superb planning and unprecedented combat ability... The Jews had thought they were in indomitable fortifications ... But you appeared to them so unexpectedly from behind thus forcing them to leave with only their clothes ... They left their tanks, and our soldiers drove them and brought them ... Due to all this, Egypt and all the Arabs owe you their very lives.

At this very moment I hail all our martyrs, the martyrs of the Third Army, of the Second Army, and the martyrs of all the divisions of the Armed Forces who fell for the sake of the homeland ... I hail them as we achieve victory.

On June 5, 1974 while I was inspecting the Third Army after the 1973 war, I promised you that there will never be, return backwards ... Now the first and second disengagement agree-
ments have been concluded and the coming stage, God willing, be the ultimate solution for the liberation of Sinai and all the occupied Arab territories.

We shall always remain indebted to you, dear sons, your people and the entire Arab nation will always remain indebted to you for the position it occupies today as the sixth power in the world.

Your performance and planning were purely Egyptian ... Your performance was magnificent, and your fighting was glorious ... Nobody had planned for our battle, and this was, in fact, the reason behind my decision to expel the Soviet experts from Egypt one year before the battle. The Egyptian Armed Forces laid down the plan ... The Armed Forces put their plan into effect in the most magnificent and unprecedented manner fully acknowledged by all: friends foes alike ... These same friends and foes now hold you in great esteem ... I cannot tell you how high I held my head while negotiating with Dr. Kissinger ... I felt so proud and I held my head higher and higher as he was conveying to me the feelings of the Israelis about Egyptian planning, their apprehensions of the Egyptian commander, the Egyptian soldier, and the Egyptian performance.

For all this, the people of Egypt and the entire Arab nation owe you their lives ... Perhaps our brothers in Syria fully realise that the magnificent feats that had been accomplished were also due to their valiant performance ... Perhaps they will give up all these limited party tendencies, and trivial outbiddings ... Every victory we achieved is also theirs ... We do not bear grudges against anyone, and we do not base our working method on grudges ... That is why we planned, fought, succeeded and won ... Now, we are no longer in need of another battle to fulfil the rest of our objectives ... When the US entered the battle, it
stood in the way of fulfilling our objective, because I declared that I was not ready to sacrifice you, my Armed Forces, nor my people in confrontation with America ... I was not ready to fight the USA ...

However, with your magnificent performance, all the objectives of the battle were fulfilled; the second disengagement agreement was concluded, and the Israelis withdrew behind the passes. This was, in fact, the major objective of the battle ... We did not need to launch any more battles ... We reopened the Suez Canal on the banks of which the Israelis sat, one day, in the waters of which they swam, claiming to be owners in it. Then, with your will, my sons, your weapons and your power, you reopened the Canal as an expression of your victory and the triumph of your will.

I was extremely happy to see the process of reconstruction going on in Suez. Do not forget, my sons, nor should Egypt forget that Suez, in particular, has paid a very high price, the highest price in the Canal Zone ... It offered very high sacrifices, and there is large part of its inhabitants still evacuated until today ... For all this we owe them a great deal ... We must make up for all their sufferings in the past period. We must ensure their well-being, stability and safety ... As I told you, I was extremely happy to find reconstruction progressing so fast in these two new districts, and to see thousands of the inhabitants of Suez in its streets again, when, once, it had become a city of ghosts.

Suez had endured and suffered a great deal for all of us. Suez fought the battle of Egypt on the day of the break through, after the ceasefire ... A magnificent cohesion reigned among the people, the Armed Forces and the Police Forces at all levels... They fought an immortal battle, the result of which is that the heroism of Suez is now recorded in the annals of history ...Such
heroism will always remain a symbol of Egypt, the performance of Egypt and the spirit of Egypt. On that day, only a small part of the population of Suez were performing services, since the rest had been evacuated; those who remained joined the Armed Forces and the Police Forces, and courageously fought the battle of Suez in October 1973. One of the most splendid epics of national and popular struggle in which the people become one with their Armed and Police Forces, with every man on this good earth, to defend its precious soil. The people of Suez have done more than their duty, and in the most magnificent manner. Today it is our turn to perform our duty towards them, and we shall do so, God willing my instructions in this respect are very clear and definite. My instructions with regard to the free zone are also very clear. At this stage of our history, my sons, we are not just celebrating this occasion, nor have I just come to congratulate you for one of the results of your work, namely, the second disengagement agreement, and the withdrawal of the Israelis behind the passes. I did not come to congratulate you for all this, because it was all of your own doing, the fruits of your work, performance, fighting, planning and command. Reopening the Suez Canal was another result on the 5th of last June, the whole world celebrated this occasion with us, so that the memory of June 5, 1967, may be obliterated forever, for we have now transformed it into a bright and shining occasion. The whole world joined in the celebrations of reopening the Suez Canal, thus turning this evil day into a day of the victories of our Armed Forces in Egyptian history, as well as in Arab history.

Moreover, we are now undergoing another major transformation in our life. We are heading towards full democracy. A complete democratic set up with no turning back; as a matter of fact we are taking this step in realisation of the objectives of the July 23 and the May 15 revolutions.
You have recently heard me speaking in the People’s Assembly. The July 23 and May 15 Revolutions have done their duty. In your name, and in the name of all the people, I handed the trust to the people, to whom it originally belongs. I handed it over with our banners hoisted high in the political sphere. The world’s opinion of Egypt has changed ... The whole world holds Egypt in high esteem now, and is attracted to it after a period of interrupted relations, even with our Arab brothers, with Western Europe, the United States and many other states. Today our relations had returned to normal so that Egypt may occupy its rightful place in the world of today, not only as the heart of the Arab nation, but also as one of the powers to be taken into account in the today’s world scales. We have regained our position, thank God, thanks to your performance and to the patience of our people over the last few years. I am doing my utmost for country whilst facing the imbecilities of some others.

However, my faith, thank God, had never been shaken, and it was proved ... I had faith that the broad base of our people is strong and sound, integrated, persistent, patient and confident in the ultimate victory. A base that will never yield to any doubts or allow disruption and defeatism to prevail therein.

Today we are going back to normality. We handed the trust intact to the people. The last thing to be clarified in our relations with the world, was our treaty with the Soviet Union. It was imperative, so I handed the trust, to present a report to the people on the reality of these relations. Then, I left the whole matter to the People’s Assembly to take its decision. The decision was taken in this respect. We do not want to antagonise anyone. As I said before, and as we began with the July 23 Revolution, and ended with the May 15 Revolution, we befriend those who are friendly with us and antagonise those who are our enemies. I really felt very sorry for
the state reached by our relations with the Soviet Union. For three full years after the 1967 defeat, that is from 1967 to 1970, I used to receive the Soviet Ambassador every Monday, and we would analyse matters and endeavour to develop the best possible relations between the two countries. My four visits to the Soviet Union in less than a year after assuming power as a President, my defence of the Soviet Union before the People's Assembly in February 1972, and all this is written in its minutes, we recall an attempt on my part, to cover the Soviet Union's attitude because we did not want to antagonise anyone. Until this very moment I was telling officials who were working with me that I welcome those who want to cooperate, and those who do not can withdraw calmly because I would never accept any split at this stage. All we want is to preserve our dignity and independent free will for which we waged the battle and fought.

During the past period, especially after the ceasefire, and until today I was subjected to violent pressure from the Soviet Union and some other axes they are endeavouring to create in the Arab world. Military pressure of not supplying me with the spare parts I need, or replacing the weapons we lost and which I offered to buy. However, the development of the Armed Forces is going on because we do not accept to stay as we are and lie behind. Never. We have crossed this fence once and for all. We destroyed it a long time ago by obliterating the wall of defeatism. By tearing the Israeli myth to pieces we also wiped out all restrictions on our movement. Such military pressure is imposed on us so that in one or one and half years the weapons we possess would become scrap iron for lack of the necessary spare parts. It is a cat and mouse game as I told you...

I am also subjected to economic pressure. The Soviet Union refuses to re-schedule our debts. Not only does it refuse to re-
schedule our debts, but it also does not want to conclude a commercial agreement with me despite the fact that we bought all our factories from there. Until this moment the 1976 agreement has not been signed, though we usually used to sign a five-year agreement; we asked for it, but to no avail. However all these pressures will not affect our drive in any way whatsoever. I thank God that today we maintain balanced relations with all, and they all come to Egypt now... Everybody fully realises and acknowledges Egypt's position in the Arab nation in general, and in the area we are living in, in particular.

From the military point of view your performance was beyond description, my dear sons... I do not need to talk about it, but I have left it to others to talk about it instead. Economically, as you see and realise, we are going through an acute economic crisis at present... However, during my last tour of some Arab countries, we were able to reach an agreement that will help solve the economic problems piled up since 1962... We agreed to establish a fund, with the participation of our Arab brothers and our friends all over the world, in order to straighten up our economy, and not to be threatened, again, by anyone, nor face any other crisis at any time...

In this respect, we elicited the help of world experts, together with Egyptian and Arab experts... Within two months, God willing, this plan will be ready, and will be submitted to the People's Assembly which, in its turn, will submit it to the people so they may know the whole truth about our economy.

What I want to stress is that we are handing the political, military and economic trust back to the people with honour, we are handing back to them what is theirs.

When I was talking about the question of platforms in the
People’s Assembly, I stated that I handed the trust back to its owners, militarily, politically and economically. I also stressed the role of the Armed Forces who were at the vanguard of the people the day the July 23 Revolution broke out ... The Armed Forces are, once again resuming their role as the fence of protection of the homeland, and protector of constitutional legitimacy. As long as the Constitution exists, the Armed Forces perform their military duty only, and nothing else. In the application of democracy we are saying to our people, «come in through the widest gates, because you have really suffered and endured a great deal». Our people have suffered a great deal before and after the 1967 defeat ... I do not have to tell you that man lost his dignity, for there was not one single man who felt security for himself, or his children, or his life and home.

Today, as we are handing over the trust, we feel proud that we are turning a new page politically, militarily and economically. We are gaining a spotless reputation and an outstanding position in today’s world. It is a bright, clean and strong situation now, and I am telling our people to go ahead and assume the responsibility, to forge ahead with love, towards fulfilling their objectives, and achieving prosperity in an atmosphere in which full democracy prevails, and within the framework of the inevitability of the socialist solution and the granting of all rights to workers and farmers. It is a source of great pleasure to me, a peasant, to feel that the word peasant is no longer considered an insult. Today everyone wishes he could be called a peasant. In the past, the word peasant was considered an insult, but never any more. This word stands for the noble origin of the country.

Today, we are setting up the state of institutions in which there is no return to the rule of the individual. We are giving love to our country, and doing away with spite and rancour ... I must
admit, my sons, that we have been able to achieve victory, and you have demonstrated the most magnificent military performance in modern history ... Militarily, we have been able to make Egypt a centre that carries weight in today's world, a centre that is being taken into account by big powers in making their calculations.

Economically, as I told you, we have been able to achieve a great deal, but my sons, a mountain of hatred still stand in our way, one which aims at introducing enmity, envy and spite among the people and between social classes, a blind and bitter vindictiveness; just as we succeeded in fulfilling all these feats, we must also rid our country completely from this spite so that it will always remain as it is now, the state of institutions.

The sovereignty of the law brings equality between big and small... They are all the same... The executive authority is performing its duty at this stage of the re-building of our society... The legislative authority, as you have seen in the past stage, is assuming its duties though with some excess. Nevertheless, it is very easy to straighten up our drive occasionally.

The judiciary has recovered its dignity and sanctity, and every man in Egypt has his judge... We closed all the detention camps five years ago, and they will never be re-opened, God willing ... The Armed Forces have regained their position in their country and in the entire Arab nation. The lessons deduced from your battles, my sons, will be taught for tens of years to come in all the military academies in Europe, America, Asia and Africa.

We had performed and are still performing our duties in a magnificent manner ... If any errors are committed by the press, we must straighten them up, not by abolishing the freedom of the press, but by doing away with the reasons which led to this excess... If anything happens, we must behave as one family, and
solve it among ourselves ... The President of the Republic represents the head of the family, the brother and father of all, and he is also the arbiter among all ... The rest of the institutions are performing their constitutional role ... Here, I must clarify a certain point. Some people think that such talk aims at doing away with or affecting the Arab Socialist Union ... No ... The Arab Socialist Union has performed its role in the best possible manner ... I am declaring this very loudly ... Let us put aside all kinds of spite and enmity ... I shall never forget that when I was in Borg El Arab in August 1973, two months before the battle, I gathered all the A.S.U. secretaries and instructed them to prepare themselves because we were about to enter a battle ... No one objected, then, to what I said ... The people have sustained a magnificent role during the battle ... The Arab Socialist Union played its role in all the crises we were exposed to ...

But today we have transcended this stage to a more open practice, for, undoubtedly, the ASU was the major characteristic of the one party system.

The theory of the alliance is one thing, and the one organisation is another ... The alliance is indisputable with no return ... It is the alliance of workers, farmers, soldiers, intellectuals, national capital and national unity ... There is no return in it, and it is an indisputable fact that 50% of its seats are for farmers and workers ... The alliance exists, but it is the theory of practice that changes ... What happens today is a development to democratic practice after it was characterised by the trend of the one organisation or the one party. No, I shall not accept this ... I previously said in the October Working Paper that I shall never approve the one party nor the multi-party system ... We should not make a leap directly into the dark, straight to parties, let us first embark on the idea of platforms ... We should not jump
into the dark ... Perhaps we need not three parties, but two or four ... Parties and political organisations are not formed by anyone's decision, but as a result of the practice of democracy. As a result of the historical stage any people pass through, political organisations emerge from within it, and express the people's objectives at this stage and the following ones.

We are broad-minded and our hearts are open to everything ... We do not attack anybody, but welcome the friendship of all... However, we shall always maintain our principle of befriending those who befriend us, and being inimical to those who antagonise us.

However, it is a different case in our Arab world ... We do not enter a battle even with those who antagonise us. Our Arab brothers know perfectly well how dear they are to us...

They also fully realise the true position of the Egyptian people, Egypt's performance and the magnificent role it played throughout history ... No theatrical acts, no bluffing, no outbiddings or scenes will ever affect it ...

Hence our answer to our Arab brothers ... We categorically reject our classification into reactionaries and progressive, for this has only led to the disruption of our Arab countries. These words with which the Soviet Union is still classifying the Arabs, we do not accept ... We are Arabs, and we reject the Soviet Union's classification as being reactionary and progressive ... We are Arabs only, and this word «Arabs» is above all the expressions they use, above progressive and above reactionary ...

We are Arabs and this was evidently proved the day we, the Arabs, rallied as one family ... I spent two years strenuously working to achieve this end, despite all outbiddings ... Today, they are talking about Arab solidarity in Syria ... I stayed two years until
I succeeded in making one family out of the Arabs, as I made one family out of Egypt; a family which was able to launch a unique battle in the history of modern war. When you fought the enemy, my dear sons, and demonstrated your splendid performance your Arab nation entered the battle behind you with the oil weapon. For the first time you surprised the West and the Western civilization with your performance; and they found themselves threatened by the will of one man; and this one man was us, all the Arabs. We shall never give up this solidarity.

The Soviet Union is still endeavouring to create axes in the Arab nation. But never in our Arab nation. We are Arabs. We stood as one hand in time of difficulty. They stood by our side and supported us. On Ramadan 5, before the battle, I convened the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. I met the commanders of all the branches of the Armed Forces for six hours during which they explained the plan in detail.

Each one knew what the function of the other was. On Ramadan 7 I signed the battle order. On Ramadan 4 I had a long meeting with the National Security Council. I listened to what they had to say, and at the end I told them that Egypt's economy had reached rock bottom, which meant that I did not have enough funds to cover my commitments for the next two months until the end of the year, not even for such basic needs as bread. But I had no fear, and took the decision for the battle. All our Arab brothers rose to help us. I am deeply grateful to all of them except one sick man, namely, El Kazzafy. No one can blame him because he is so bitter.

In our Arab nation we reject classification of states or creating axes by any power outside or even inside the Arab region. The axis the Soviet Union is attempting to create these days, about which Brezhnev talked in his speech, is categorically rejected.
ed by us. We reject the policy of axes, not only from the Soviet Union, but also from any Arab country that intends to embark upon the policy of axes.

We are now occupying our position as the sixth power in the world, and anyone who will deviate from this, shall be excluded from this field. We shall all remain up, only those who deviate shall go down. The Arab nation will never again be conquered or relinquish its position ... The majority of Arab countries, about 90% of them, are wise and only 1% are sick and outbidders. The Soviet Union is founding axes under the pretext that it is firmly backing the Arab cause; big words ... Well, if the Soviet Union is talking about its firm and solid attitude and the Arab cause, is there an Arab cause in Syria while Egypt does not have one? Everyone knows that Egypt is the balance of the battle in the area whether the Soviet Union wishes or not, whether the U.S. and Israel wish it or not ... The balance is Egypt, here and not anywhere else; and we categorically reject the policy of axes.

I told your brothers in the Second Army about the 1956 battle. When we discovered that it was a conspiracy, Gamal Abdel Nasser immediately sent to Syria and Jordan telling them not to enter the battle. He prevented them from entering the battle, and our Armed Forces alone faced the tripartite conspiracy hatched by Britain: Eden, France: Guy Mollet and Israel: Ben Gurion. We fought the battle, and came out of it politically victorious ... However, we prevented Syria and Jordan from taking part therein.

Today, I shall tell you a secret ... In the last war President Hafez El Assad and I took the decision of fighting and did not choose Jordan. When King Hussein visited us in Cairo some time before the battle our diplomatic relations were severed then. I immediately restored our relations because I cannot enter a battle while my relations with a colleague in the Arab nation were
severed whatever the reasons. We restored our relations with Jordan but did not tell King Hussein about the Battle. We launched the battle on October 6 and King Hussein who had known nothing about it was astounded by the magnificent performance. He was also surprised a few days later when Syria asked him to enter the battle and attack from his front... He sent to ask me what to do... The Syrians wanted him to attack from the depths, from the River Jordan... King Hussein sent to me complaining of this attitude, and he was very logical... We did not inform him of our plan, nor did we prepare him for anything, and he did not have an air-defence ready... I agreed with Jordan and told King Hussein that in my estimation, their position would make it easy for the Israelis to hit them, and even to enter Amman at once. Thus, I saved them from Syria's outbidding and manoeuvre. Today, King Hussein and President Assad have a pact... Well, that is very good because we, as military men and politicians, are fully aware that the Jordanian front and the Syrian front are, in fact, one. But what we object to is that such a step should be at the expense of someone else, the Palestinians for instance as matters are and as others will find out in future.

Today, King Hussein is following the Syrian Baath Party. We have nothing to do with this, and it will not affect us in any way whatsoever, nor change anything in the Arab region.

I shall tell you an incident which has something to do with you... When the gap operation happened, I was aware it was a T.V. battle. Even the Strategic Studies Institutes in France and England stated that it was a theatrical battle in order to save face... So, when it happened. I said: "Well, I shall let them taste what it is like to have a gap at their land"... So, I sent for ten of the most efficient officers in our special forces who know every inch of Palestine. They boarded a Comet plane and went to Jordan with a personal message from me to King Hussein... In this...
message I told him to choose whoever he liked from amongst the Palestine resistance — for I know of his old trouble with them — and let them enter Israel with my ten officers. I assured him that no one would know that he had anything to do with this operation, because I did not want to get him involved. All I wanted was just to make Israel have a taste of the gap just for one day or 12 hours before the ceasefire. Unfortunately, King Hussein was afraid and refused to take part in the operation. My sons, the ten officers were told that King Hussein was out of Jordan for 48 hours; they returned after waiting for him in vain. I am laying these facts before the Arab nation because I want to tell the Arabs that in 1956 Egypt had performed its duty and did not wish to involve Syria and Jordan in the battle... Even in the 1973 War, Egypt upheld its responsibility, and we did not like to involve King Hussein because he had not been pre-notified... In this respect, I stand by his side... Here I am declaring to the whole world that I stood by his side as my principle is always to side with right. We do not want to outbid anyone, and I would not have liked to involve him when he had no air defence which might have lead the Israelis to occupy Amman the next day... As a matter of fact, Syria's request from Jordan to enter the battle, could have been suicidal for Jordan...
Egypt has been an example to all Arab countries for the past five years now and is still and will always because what we are applying at present is full freedom in the exact sense of the word, a revolution that rectifies its own errors. When some mistakes were committed, it straightened itself out and then said to the people, the owners of the trust: "Here is the trust complete politically, militarily and economically ... Everyone is in his right place ... There have been no detention camps for five years now and will never be". We released the freedom of the press immediately after the battle and forever. We have a sound democratic structure. This is the example Egypt can give, and not anyone of those who are outbidding. I would like to stress another point, namely, since the end of the battle until today Egypt has firmly held the initiative, and will never let it slip out of its hands. Never ... Egypt's policy and strategy are based on one major point, namely, that the cause should never be stagnant or frozen ... It must be always pushed forward. We achieved the first disengagement agreement in 1974, concluded the second disengagement agreement in 1975, are preparing for Geneva in 1976, and we want to reach the final solution, God willing, in 1977 after the American elections and the complete evacuation from Sinai and all the occupied Arab territories ... This is Egypt's policy in full.

Who is against Egypt? Even the Soviet Union, with all its actions, cannot oppose our foreign policy ... On the contrary, we both agree in this respect, and I cannot claim that it approves of the clowning of the Syrian Ba’ath Party. We have freedom of movement and the whole world is with us ... We have the power to move, and to push the cause constantly forward as I told you ... I am congratulating you, my sons, from this spot on the land of glorious Suez which waged heroic and glorious battles ... I congratulate you for the second disengagement agreement which fulfilled the objectives of our battle and spared us another bat-
I am not ready to sacrifice anything just for the sake of outbidding. America had forced me out of the battle, but I was very willing to liquidate the gap and that is what I told them. When I asked Kissinger about the U.S. attitude, he told me that unfortunately they would be obliged to interfere on Israel's behalf to rescue it. He also said that such an action would be considered another blow against the American weapons, and they would never allow such a thing.
ple, the owners of the trust ... We are all working to build up a society of love, a society in which there is absolutely no place for spite or malice; a society of the one family in which every man feels a sense of brotherhood everywhere; a society of the State which is fully responsible of guaranteeing the livelihood of every individual on the land of Egypt, in its cities, deserts, villages and hamlets.

I would like to indicate to you what I learned in days gone by, while in prison; I learned that great matters can be reached through patience, not force. We have to be patient, but you should not waste one single moment, my sons, without constant and hard training. I promise you, as you have heard me tell your brothers in the Second Army, to get you as much as I can of modern and sophisticated weapons. We shall never lag behind once again, and if we, the Arabs, ever do that again, it will be a knock-out. We proved ourselves in the last battles, and battles are no longer a problem for us. However, the world cannot forge ahead and advance, while we are standing still or stagnant.

I promise you that whatever the difficulties, I shall provide you with all your pre-requisites ... I am also certain, and assure you that your people will never forget what you have done and are doing for them. I am also certain that you will live up to our expectations of more hard training, to further develop military sciences, and to give your weapons from your own being, as you had sacrificed in the October battle in order to bridge the gap between us and Israel. You did so by your psychological intrinsic performance; the performance of the Egyptian ... You should be confident that your people will never forget what you have performed and fulfilled; they are asking you to be always prepared to sacrifice more whenever necessary. May God guide your steps and God's peace be upon you.