[President’s Trip to the Mideast 3/7/79-3/14/79]

Folder Citation: Collection: Office of Staff Secretary; Series: Presidential Files; Folder: [President’s Trip to the Mideast 3/7/79-3/14/79]; Container 109

To See Complete Finding Aid:
http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/library/findingaids/Staff_Secretary.pdf
From Begin to The President (one page) re: Expression of thanks for hospitality 3/14/79

From U.S. Embassy, Cairo to Vance (one page) re: reaction to President's Address to People's Assembly of Egypt 3/10/79

From Trudeau to The President (one page) re: Canadian Parliament's resolution of support for President's efforts to bring peace to Middle East 3/9/79

opened per RAC NLC-126-16-31-1-9 8/6/13

FILE LOCATION
Carter Presidential Papers- Staff Offices, Office of the Staff Sec.- Pres. Handwriting File [President's Trip to the Mideast 3/7/79-3/14/79] BOX 122

RESTRICTION CODES
(A) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information
(B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document
(C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift
SECRET

FM AMAMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASH DC
CAIRO 04916

SUBJ: (G-ENTIRE TEXT) INITIAL REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S SPEECH TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' FIRST REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEECH (TEXT SEPT 79) WERE OVERWHELMINGLY FAVORABLE. A FREQUENT COMMENT WAS THAT SINCERITY OF PRESIDENT'S DESIRE FOR PEACE WAS EVIDENT FROM HIS WORDS AND MANNER. ALL MPS WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WISHED HIM SUCCESS. SOME STRESSING THAT LAST HURDLE TO BE OVERCOME WAS ISRAELI SUSPICION OF EGYPT'S INTENTIONS.

3. THERE WERE TWO THEMES IN SPEECH THAT STRUCK A PARTICULARLY RESPONSIVE CHORD. FIRST WAS PRESIDENT'S PLEDGE TO WORK FOR A JUST SETTLEMENT FOR THE PALESTINIANS WHICH DREW EXTENDED APPLAUSE. SECOND WAS THE REFERENCE TO COMMON GOAL OF PEACE HELD BY CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM AND JUDAISM--AND IN PARTICULAR THE PRESIDENT'S QUOTATION FROM THE KORAN. THE EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO THE QUOTATION OF THIS PASSAGE WAS PALPABLE.

4. AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM WE TALKED WERE OPPOSITION MEMBERS ALL WERE OUTspoken IN THEIR PRAISE, TAKING SAYING...
FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Rosalynn -
Al Burruss's father died Saturday 10th.

The Hon. + Mrs. Al Burruss
P.O. Box 6338 A
Marietta, Ga. 30062

Dot Padgett called with this information March 13th.

Nancy
Joyce Cook
2776
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RSC & Rate - FyI-
A letter has been sent from the
President on behalf of RSC and
himself.

CB

3-14-79

Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes
REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE
PRESIDENT'S RETURN FROM MIDDLE EAST
MARCH 13, 1979

-- Mr. President, six days ago you left for the Middle East in search of peace. You and Rosalynn took with you our love, our prayers, and the hopes of all humanity.

-- You return tonight to a happy and grateful nation. Your perseverance and patience have drawn two ancient enemies to the brink of peace.

-- Mr. President, we thank you tonight not only for the breakthrough in the Middle East. We thank you also for renewing our confidence in the deepest of American values.

-- Where there were risks, you stood for hope. Where there were obstacles, you followed conscience. Where there were suspicions, you build a lasting foundation of trust.

-- It is the trust you won from President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin that made these historic discussions possible. And it is that trust you engendered between them that made these talks a success.

-- Mr. President, Rosalynn, welcome home to a proud and hopeful nation.
FM EXTOTT GNGC321 9MAR79
TO CAIRO DELIVER BY 100900
INFO TAVIV WSHDC CNGNY PRMNY PCDOOT/ROY
DISTR GAP GAM MIN AEG KCO JHT FPR FIA GNP DFR
---FM MESSAGE TO PRES CARTER
FLS FASS FOLLOWING MSG IMMED FROM PM TRUDEAU TO PRES CARTER
THROUGH USA EMB CAIRO (OR OTHER APPROPRIATE CHANNEL), BEGINS:

LEAR JIMMY, I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT
ON 7MAR THE CDN HOUSE OF COMMONS ADOPTED A MOTION UNANIMOUSLY
EXPRESSING OUR SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO
BRING PEACE TO THE MIDEAST. THE RESLN READS QUOTE THAT THIS
HOUSE COMMENDS USA PRESIDENT CARTER FOR HIS COURAGEOUS
INITIATIVE IN GOING PERSONALLY TO EGYPT AND ISRAEL IN HIS
CONTINUING ENDEAVOUR TO BRING ABOUT PEACE BETWEEN THESE TWO
COUNTRIES, AND SUPPORTING HIS OBJECTIVES, EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT
THROUGH HIS UNUSUAL AND STATESMANLIKE ENDEAVOURS A JUST AND
LASTING PEACE WILL HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED UNQUOTE.

2. FLs ACCEPT MY PERSONAL BEST WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF YOUR
EFFORTS. PIERRE TRUDEAU, ENDS.

3. WSHDC: FLS ENSURE LET IS ALSO BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF
WHITE HOUSE.

UUU/042 0922592 GNGC321

DECLASSIFIED
E.O.12352, SEC.3.4(b)
WHITE HOUSE GUIDELINES, FEB. 24, 1978
BY NARS, DATE 2/27/78
Dear Jimmy,

I thought you would be interested to know that on 7 March the Canadian House of Commons adopted a motion unanimously expressing our support and encouragement for your efforts to bring peace to the Middle East. The resolution reads "that this House commends USA President Carter for his courageous initiative in going personally to Egypt and Israel in his continuing endeavour to bring about peace between these two countries, and, supporting his objectives, expresses the hope that through his unusual and statesmanlike endeavours a just and lasting peace will have been achieved".

Please accept my personal best wishes for the success of your efforts.

(signed) Pierre Trudeau.

H.E. Mr. Jimmy Carter,  
President of the United States of America.
THE MESSAGE WAS RELAYED FROM ISRAELI AIRLINES TO
WHITE HOUSE SIGNAL, SENT TO COMMUNICATIONS FOR RELAY
TO AIR FORCE ONE.

MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

HAVING LEFT UNITED STATES AIR SPACE, MAY I EXPRESS
MR. PRESIDENT, MY DEEP GRATITUDE FOR YOUR
HOSPITALITY AND WARM RECEPTION GRANTED BY YOU
AND ROSALYNN CARVER TO MY WIFE AND MYSELF.

OUR TALKS WERE FRIENDLY AND FRUITFUL AND PRODUCED AN
IMPORTANT AMERICAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT.

I WISH YOU FULL SUCCESS, MR. PRESIDENT, IN WINNING THE
PROPOSAL ALREADY ACCEPTED BY THE ISRAELI CABINET.

GODSPEED AND AU REVOIR IN JERUSALEM,
SINCERELY AND RESPECTFULLY
MENACHEM BEGIN

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12398, Sec. 3.4(b)
WHITE HOUSE GUIDELINES, FEB. 24, 1993
BY

Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes
Dear Mr. President:

Hastened & Green

Food aid in your

historic mission.

Israel-Egypt Peace

March 2, 1979. Sincerely,

[Signature]
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
March 6, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JERRY RAFSHOON

Attached is the departure statement to be given, probably on live television, from the South Lawn at 6:10 p.m. Wednesday. It has been co-authored and cleared by NSC.

By mid-day Wednesday, we will have for you the following:

1. Your Cairo arrival statement
2. State dinner toast
3. Address (short) to Egyptian People's Assembly

If you can look at these at some time on the plane, we will be able to react since both Rick Hertzberg and Bill Quandt will be traveling on Air Force One.

In Israel we will require 1) an arrival statement, 2) a toast, and 3) an address to the Knesset. These will be coming to you early in your Egyptian visit. However, we realize that the substance can change during the course of the meetings.
SOUTH LAWN DEPARTURE STATEMENT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

I leave today on a new mission in the service of the

oldest of human hopes -- the hope of peace.

Nowhere is that hope more fervent, more alive, than in

the Middle East; nowhere is the path to its realization harder;

nowhere might the price of failure be more terrible.

Peace remains the goal of President Sadat and Prime

Minister Begin, and of the great peoples they represent. I know

that they share my determination to see the negotiations between

them bear fruit.

The Middle East has suffered too much and too long from

war and the fear of war. Arabs and Israelis alike must now

understand that bloodshed and deprivation and death can never

settle their differences, can never be the path to renewal and hope.
For the first time in a generation, peace in the Middle
East is within reach. President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem,
and Prime Minister Begin's warm reception opened the way.

At Camp David, we then worked together to forge a political
framework in which their differences can be resolved.

The negotiations we have held at Camp David and since,
are based on the idea that peace can only be achieved when the
legitimate needs of all who are affected by the conflict are met. Real peace will not come with a single treaty -- important
as that would be. But a treaty between Egypt and Israel is an
indispensable step toward the broader peace we all seek.

Negotiation is a long and tedious process. But there
are times when making peace demands more courage than making
war. I believe that President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin
possess that special kind of courage -- and that they possess
as well the vision and statesmanship to redeem the great hope
they have helped create.

So it is with hope that I depart, hope tempered by realism.

As a friend of Egypt and Israel, we will do our best to help
them achieve the peace they have paid for in blood many times
over. In doing this -- in seeking to lay the basis for a stable
and peaceful Middle East -- we will also be serving our own deepest
national interests, and the interests of all the people of the
world.

I know that in this endeavor, I take with me the prayers
and the good wishes of the American people. In the difficult
work that lies ahead, I will draw strength and sustenance from
your support.

* * *
I leave today on a new mission in the service of the oldest of human dreams -- the dream of peace.

Nowhere is the hope for peace more fervent, more alive, than in the Middle East; nowhere is the path to its realization more difficult; nowhere might the price of failure be more terrible.

Peace remains the goal of President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin, and of the great peoples of Egypt and Israel. I know that they share my determination to see these negotiations bear fruit.

(over) (The Middle East has suffered....)

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
The Middle East has suffered too much and too long from war and the fear of war.

Arabs and Israelis alike must now understand that bloodshed and deprivation and death can never settle their differences, can never be the path to renewal and hope.

For the first time in a generation, peace in the Middle East has come within reach. President Sadat’s visit to Jerusalem, and Prime Minister Begin’s warm reception, opened the way. At Camp David, we then worked together to forge a political framework in which their differences can be resolved.

(=NEW CARD=) (Our negotiations are based...)
Our negotiations are based on the idea that peace can only be achieved when we meet the legitimate needs of all who are affected by the conflict.

Real peace will not come with a single treaty -- important as that would be. But a treaty between Egypt and Israel is an indispensable step toward the broader comprehensive peace we all seek.

Negotiation is a long and tedious process. But there are times when making peace demands more courage than making war.

I believe that President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin possess that special kind of courage -- and that they possess as well the vision and statesmanship to redeem the great hope they have helped to create.

(=over=)  (So it is with hope...)
So it is with hope that I depart; hope tempered by realism. As a friend of Egypt and Israel, we will do our best to help them achieve the peace they have paid for in blood many times over.

In doing this -- in seeking to lay the basis for a stable and peaceful Middle East -- we will also be serving our own deepest national interests, and the interests of all the people of the world.

I know that in this endeavor, I take with me the prayers and the good wishes of the American people. In the difficult work that lies ahead, I will draw strength and sustenance from your support.
Salaam alaikum. (Peace be with you.)

The greeting of peace has a special and urgent meaning for all of us today. I come to you in the service of peace;...you receive me in peace;...we meet to resume together the sacred work of building peace.

It is an honor for my wife and me to be reunited with President and Mrs. Sadat, and with many other friends -- this time in Cairo. We bring with us the respect and good wishes of the American people for President Sadat and for the people of Egypt.

(=over=) (I have come to the ....,)

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
I have come to the Middle East to advance the cause of peace between Egypt and Israel. A treaty between these two great nations would be a beginning -- not an end. It would bring us much closer to the broader goal we all seek -- a real peace, ... a comprehensive peace, ... a peace that would reflect the legitimate needs of all who have suffered in more than 30 years of conflict.

It would also be the beginning of a new chapter in the long history of Egypt -- one in which the energies of all Egyptians can at last be turned in full force to the human task of building a future of dignity and hope.

(NEW CARD=) (I KNOW HOW DEEPLY.......)
I know how deeply President Sadat wants that kind of future. In my many hours of conversation with him, I have learned to respect him as a man of great courage with a passion for peace.

He has spoken eloquently. More important, he has acted boldly and decisively.

In his electrifying trip to Jerusalem in November of 1977, President Sadat fully committed himself to the goal of a just and lasting peace.

That was our goal at Camp David, where President Sadat, Prime Minister Begin, and I agreed on a framework for a comprehensive peace and on the outlines of a treaty between Egypt and Israel.

(=over=) (And that remains the.....)
AND THAT REMAINS THE GOAL OF THE TALKS THAT WILL CONTINUE TODAY.

Our hope is to achieve an agreement which is honorable and provides security for each of the negotiating parties.

But above all, our purpose is to achieve a peace that will last. If the promise of peace is to be fully realized for the people of Israel and Egypt, then others must be encouraged to join the process of resolving differences through negotiations and accommodation.

The United States will work with any and all parties who are committed to these principles of genuine peace and security.

As the relations among us grow stronger, we can all work more effectively to bring stability to the Middle East region as a whole.

(=new card=) (President Sadat has.....)
President Sadat has written that "no problem should ever be regarded as insuperable."

In recent months, we have overcome many problems that once seemed insurmountable. I pray that with God's help, we may remove the remaining obstacles to the conclusion of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, and begin negotiations on other issues in accordance with the Camp David agreements.

The most important condition for success has already been met -- the sincere conviction on both sides that peace is preferable to war, that differences can better be settled by the exercise of reason than by the spilling of blood.

(=over=) (Like you, Mr. President,....)
LIKE YOU, Mr. PRESIDENT, I AM DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE.
LIKE YOU, I AM DETERMINED TO PERSEVERE.

Our common dedication, our common determination, is rooted
in the soil of common religious truth. That truth takes different
forms, but its underlying message is the same.

It is a message of love, of faith, and of peace.

As we work together in the crucial discussions that are about
to begin, let us pray God, in the words of the Christian GOSPEL,
"TO GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE WAY OF PEACE." (Luke 1:79)
We have received a warm and generous welcome from a warm and generous people. Rosalynn and I had heard tales of Egyptian hospitality, but the actual experience of it has surpassed any of our expectations.

I am grateful to you, Mr. President, for inviting us to accompany you on today's train journey from Cairo to Alexandria. It was invigorating and rejuvenating to travel in the open air through the green beauty of the Nile valley and the Nile delta.

I understand your love for the land, which was so apparent today, because it is a feeling I share. Like you, I grew up in a small agricultural village, where our well-being depended on living in harmony with each other and with the slow rhythms of nature.

(=OVER=) (But what was most.....)
But what was most impressive today -- as in Cairo yesterday -- was the eagerness and joy on the faces of the thousands of ordinary Egyptians who greeted us. Seeing those faces brought home to us once again the most important reason we are struggling so hard for peace.

Very simply, we want peace so that the people of the Middle East can live their lives in dignity and security, and with hope for a better future.

The struggle for peace requires men of extraordinary vision and faith. The President of Egypt is such a man. He has charted his course in the knowledge that only in peace can he and the people he serves devote their full energies to economic and human development.

(Mr. President,...we have..)
Mr. President, we have pledged to stand by your side in the search for peace, for stability, and for constructive change throughout the region of the Middle East.

I ask you to join with me in toasting the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the prosperity and well-being of the Egyptian people, and peace.
Note for files -- original text which President Carter used for his speech to the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo on March 10, 1979 is missing.

(President put it down immediately after delivering remarks so that he could shake some of the officials' hands....and someone there picked it up apparently)

--ssc

(You may want to obtain transcript from press)
PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, CAIRO

My heart is full as I stand before you today.

I feel admiration for the land of Egypt, and for its long and glorious history. I feel a profound respect for the people of Egypt and for their leader, who has reached out his strong hand to alter the very course of history. And I feel a deep sense of hope as I consider the future that will unfold before us if we have the will and the faith to bring peace.

As a boy, like schoolchildren all over the world, I studied the civilization of Egypt. In the last few days, I have at last seen the legacy of that civilization with my own eyes. As a citizen of a very young country, I can only marvel at the seven-thousand-year heritage of the Egyptian people.
For most of the last five hundred years, Egypt suffered under foreign domination. But in this generation Egypt has again taken her place among the world's independent countries, and has led the resurgence among the Arab nation to a prominent place among the world's peoples.

Tragically, this generation of progress has been a generation of suffering. Again and again, the energies of the peoples of the Middle East have been drained by the conflicts among them -- and especially by the violent confrontations between Arabs and Israelis.

Four wars took their toll in blood and treasure, in uprooted families and young lives cut short. Then, sixteen months ago, one man -- Anwar al-Sadat -- rose up and said:

It is enough of war. It is time for peace.
The extraordinary journey of President Sadat to Jerusalem began the process which has brought me here today. He is a living refutation of the tragic inevitability of history. He has demonstrated the power of human courage and human vision to create hope where there had been only despair.

The negotiations begun by President Sadat's initiative have been long and arduous. It could not have been otherwise. The issues involved are complex, and they are tangled in a web of strong emotion. But among the people of Egypt and the people of Israel alike, the most powerful emotion is not hostility. It is not hatred. It is a will to peace. And more has been accomplished in one year of talking than in thirty years of fighting.

As the peace process has moved forward -- sometimes
smoothly, more often with pain and difficulty -- the govern-
ment of Egypt has been represented by able diplomats, finely
attuned to Egypt's national interests and continually mind-
ful of Egypt's responsibilities to the rest of the Arab
world.

Last September, the course of negotiations took the
President of Egypt and the Prime Minister of Israel to Camp
David, in the wooded mountains near the capital of the
United States. Out of our discussions there came two
agreements: a framework within which peace between Israel
and all her neighbors might be achieved, and the legitimate
rights of the Palestinian people realized; and an outline
for a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

Those agreements were rooted in United Nations
Security Council Resolution 242, which established the basic
equation between an Arab commitment to peace and Israeli
withdrawal in the context of security. The treaty which
is being negotiated between Egypt and Israel reflects
those principles.

Since the two agreements were signed, we have been
working to bring them to fruition. The United States has
served as a mediator, working to solve problems -- not to
press either party to accept provisions that are inconsistent
with its basic interests.

In these negotiations, a crucial question has in-
volved the relationship between an Egyptian-Israeli treaty
and the broader peace envisaged at Camp David. I believe
that this body and the people of Egypt deserve to know my
thinking on this subject.

When two nations conclude a treaty with one another,
they have every right to expect that the terms of that treaty
will be carried out faithfully and steadfastly. At the
same time, there can be little doubt that the two agreements reached at Camp David -- negotiated together and signed together -- are related, and that a comprehensive peace remains a common objective. Just in recent days both Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat have again pledged to carry out every commitment made at Camp David. Therefore, that is why our current efforts to complete the treaty negotiations represent not the end of a process but the beginning of one -- for a treaty between Egypt and Israel is the indispensable first step toward a comprehensive peace.

I pledge to you today that I will remain personally involved as we move on to negotiations concerning the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and other issues of concern to the Palestinians -- and to negotiations beyond that. Only the path of negotiation and accommodation can lead to the fulfillment of the hopes of the Palestinian people.

For a better life, for an identity of their own, for a homeland of their own. The negotiations propose, will provide them with an opportunity to participate in the
determination of their own future. We urge representative Palestinians to take part in those negotiations.

We are ready to work with any who are willing to talk peace. Those who attack our efforts are opposing the only realistic process that can bring real peace to the Middle East. Let no one be deceived. The effect of their slogans and their rhetoric is to make them, in reality, advocates of the status quo, not of change -- of war, not of peace -- of further suffering, not of achieving the human dignity to which the Palestinians are entitled.

There is simply no workable alternative to the course our nations are following together.

The conclusion of a treaty between Israel and Egypt will enable your government to mobilize its resources not for war, but for the provision of a better life for every Egyptian. I know how deeply President Sadat is committed
to that quest. And I believe that its achievement will ultimately be his greatest legacy to the people he serves.

My government, for its part, is ready to share some of the burden of that commitment with you. These gains will not come quickly or easily -- but they will come.

The conclusion of the peace treaty we are discussing will strengthen cooperation between Egypt and the United States in other ways. I fully share President Sadat's belief that stability must be maintained in this part of the world, even while constructive change is actively encouraged. [I applaud his determination in this regard -- is being challenged; I applaud his determination to meet that challenge, and my government will support it.]

Our policy is that each country should have the ability to defend itself, so that it does not have to depend on external alliances. The United States does not seek a special position for itself.
If we are successful in our efforts to conclude a treaty, it will be presented to this body for ratification. It is in the nature of negotiation that no treaty can be ideal from either the Egyptian or the Israeli point of view. The question we have faced all along, however, is not whether the treaty we negotiate will meet all the desires of each of the two parties, but whether it will protect the vital interests of both, and further the cause of peace for all the states and peoples of the region. Such a treaty is within our grasp. Let us seize this opportunity.

We who are engaged in this great work of peace are of varied faiths. Some are Moslems; some are Jews; some are Christians. The forms of our faith are different. But the message of Providence has always been the same.

"If (thine) (adversary) incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust in God:
for He is the One that heareth and knoweth all things."

These are the words of the Holy Koran.

"Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." These are the words of the Old Testament.

"Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God." These are the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.

My friends -- my brothers -- let us complete the work before us.

# # #
Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister,...thank you for your generous and wise words. They are deeply appreciated. And both Rosalynn and I want to express to President and Mrs. Navon our thanks for the wonderful hospitality you have extended to us.

We know we are among friends here. Indeed, we feel that we are among family. As in a family, the agreements between us are frank and lively. But, also like family members, we recognize that the bonds between our two nations and peoples are more than just strong -- they are permanent.

We in the United States will stand by Israel, and we will never waver in our support of a strong, secure, and free State of Israel.

(=over=) (We realize that......)
We realize that our own security is tied to yours.

There are bonds of blood between us, bonds of history, bonds of culture and religious heritage.

Perhaps most important are the enduring values we share: a belief in individual liberty; a common commitment to representative democracy; a common vision of human brotherhood; the conviction that there is no higher pursuit than that of peace and justice -- not only among our own kin and kind, but throughout the world.

We are now engaged together in a great common effort to achieve a real and comprehensive peace in the Middle East -- a peace that would enable the people of Israel and all Middle Eastern peoples to live in security and prosperity, and to develop to their full potential.

(=new card=) (We are now within sight...)
We are now within sight of an important part of that great objective. The events of the past 16 months -- beginning with President Sadat’s initiative and Prime Minister Begin’s immediate response -- have engendered a great hope. More progress toward peace has been made in these months than in the previous three decades of bloodshed.

There have been difficulties and frustrations. Some still remain. But the progress that has been made would not have been possible without Israel’s great leader -- Menachim Begin.

He is a man of courage, of integrity, of utter and selfless dedication. He and his colleagues have been tough negotiators -- they know what is at stake for Israel and they want the best possible agreement for Israel.
But in guiding the negotiations, the Prime Minister has never lost sight of his original vision—a strong, free, vibrant Jewish people living in Israel—and living in peace.

And we have all seen abundant evidence that he possesses the political skills to translate that vision into reality.

I am confident from my conversation with President Sadat in Cairo, and from my talks with the Prime Minister since I arrived here, that both are determined not to let this great opportunity for peace slip from their grasp.

(=NEW CARD=) (IF WE CAN RESOLVE .......)
IF WE CAN RESOLVE THE FEW REMAINING DIFFERENCES -- AND I AM STILL
HOPEFUL WE CAN -- OUR MEETING TONIGHT WILL BE THE PRELUDE FOR AN
OCCASION OF JOYOUS CELEBRATION -- THE SIGNING OF THE FIRST PEACE
TREATY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AN ARAB STATE.

I ASK ALL OF YOU TO JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO OUR GRACIOUS HOSTS
PRESIDENT AND MRS. NAVON; TO ISRAEL'S COURAGEOUS LEADER,
PRIME MINISTER AND MRS. BEGIN: AND TO OUR COMMON GOAL -- THE
TRANSFORMATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST INTO A LAND OF PEACE.

LE CHAYIM. (L'Chaim)
LE HIME

(# # #)
STATE DINNER TOAST -- DRAFT

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, thank you for your generous and wise words. They are deeply appreciated. And both Rosalynn and I want to express to President and Mrs. Navon our thanks for the wonderful hospitality you have extended to us.

We know we are among friends here. Indeed, we feel that we are among family. As in a family, the agreements between us are frank and lively. But, also like family members, we recognize that the bonds between our two nations and peoples are more than just strong -- they are indissoluble.

We in the United States will stand by Israel, always. And we will never waver in our support of a strong, secure, and free State of Israel.
We realize that our own security is tied to yours.

There are ties of blood between us, ties of history, ties of cultural and religious heritage. Perhaps most important are the enduring values we share: a belief in individual liberty; a common commitment to representative democracy; a common vision of human brotherhood; the conviction that there is no higher pursuit than that of peace and justice -- not only among our own kin and kind, but throughout the world.

We are now engaged together in a great common effort to achieve a real peace in the Middle East -- a peace that would enable the people of Israel and all Middle Eastern peoples to live in security and prosperity and to develop their full potential.

We are now within sight of an important part of that great objective. The events of the past sixteen months --
beginning with President Sadat's initiative and Prime Minister Begin's immediate response -- have engendered a great hope. More progress toward peace has been made in that time than in the previous three decades of bloodshed.

There have been difficulties and frustrations. But the progress that has been made would not have been possible without Israel's great leader -- Menachim Begin.

He is a man of courage, of integrity, of utter and selfless dedication. He and his colleagues have been tough negotiators -- they know what is at stake for Israel and they want the best possible agreement for Israel. But in guiding the negotiations, the Prime Minister has never lost sight of his original vision, a strong, free, vibrant Jewish people living in Israel. And we have all seen abundant evidence that he possesses the political skills
and humanity to translate that vision into reality.

I am confident from my conversation with President Sadat in Cairo, and from my talks with the Prime Minister since I arrived here, that both are determined not to let this great opportunity slip from their grasp. If we can resolve the few remaining difficulties -- and I am confident we can -- our meeting tonight will be the prelude for an occasion of joyous celebration -- the signing of the first peace treaty between Israel and an Arab state.

I ask all of you to join me in a toast to our gracious hosts President and Mrs. Navon; to Israel's courageous leader, Prime Minister Begin; and to our great goal -- the transformation of the Middle East into a land of peace. La chayim.

# # #
SUBJ: (U) INITIAL REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S SPEECH TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS' FIRST REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEECH (TEXT SEPARATELY) WERE OVERWHELMLY FAVORABLE. A FREQUENT COMMENT WAS THAT SINCERITY OF PRESIDENT'S DESIRE FOR PEACE WAS EVIDENT FROM HIS WORDS AND MANNER. ALL MPS WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WISHED HIM SUCCESS; SOME STRESSING THAT LAST HURDLE TO BE OVERCOME WAS ISRAELI SUSPICION OF EGYPT'S INTENTIONS.

3. THERE WERE TWO THEMES IN SPEECH THAT STRUCK A PARTICULARLY RESPONSIVE CHORD. FIRST WAS PRESIDENT'S PLEDGE TO WORK FOR A JUST SETTLEMENT FOR THE PALESTINIANS WHICH GREW EXTENDED APPLAUSE. SECOND WAS THE REFERENCE TO COMMON GOAL OF PEACE HELD BY CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM AND JUDAISM--AND IN PARTICULAR THE PRESIDENT'S QUOTATION FROM THE KORAN. THE EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO THE QUOTATION OF THIS PASSAGE WAS PALPABLE.

4. AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WERE OPPORTUNITY MEMBERS IBRAHIM SHUKRI AND LEILA TAKLA AND MUSTAFA KAMEL MURAD. ALL WERE OUTSPOKEN IN THEIR PRAISE. TAKLA SAYING SHE FOUND HERSELF APPLAUDING CARTER AND CAMP. DAVID MORE THAN SHE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT POSSIBLE. EILTS

0251
1854

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Par, Rec Project

ESDN: NLC 126-16:31-1-5

xx/xx/xx

MK

MK

MK

MK
Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, distinguished members of the Knesset, friends --

I am honored to stand in this assembly of free men and women, which represents a great and ancient people, a young and courageous nation.

I bring with me the greetings of the people of the United States, who share with the people of Israel the love of liberty, justice, and peace.

And I am honored to be in Jerusalem -- this holy city, this "quiet habitation", (Isaiah 33:20), in which, for so much of the human race, the cause of brotherhood and peace is enshrined.

I am here in that cause.

I have come to Cairo and here to Jerusalem to try to enhance the bold, brave, and historic efforts of President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin, and to demonstrate that the United States is as determined as they are to create lasting peace and friendship between Egypt and Israel, and to put an end to war and the threat of war throughout the Middle East.

-- No people desire or deserve.....
No people desire or deserve peace more than the Jewish people.

None have wanted it for so long.

None have spoken of it so eloquently.

None have suffered so much from its absence.

Pogrom after pogrom, war after war, Israel has buried its sons and daughters.

Yesterday morning at Yad Vashem, I grieved in the presence of terrible reminders of the agony and horror of the Holocaust.

Modern Israel came into being in the wake of that historic crime, the enormity of which is almost beyond human comprehension.

I know that Israel is determined, above all, that nothing like it must ever, ever be permitted to happen again.

Americans respect that determination, and fully share it.

And Americans recognize that for Jews over the centuries, as for Israel since its independence, caution and wariness have been a practical and moral necessity for survival.
AND YET IN THESE PAST MONTHS YOU HAVE MADE ENORMOUS SACRIFICES AND TAKEN GREAT RISKS FOR PEACE.

THIS SACRED DEDICATION TO PEACE, BORN AND FOSTERED IN JERUSALEM AND CAIRO, HAS GIVEN TO MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE A RENEWED SENSE OF HOPE THAT HUMAN REASON, GOODWILL, AND FAITH CAN SUCCEED...CAN BREAK DOWN BARRIERS BETWEEN PEOPLES WHO IN OUR LIFETIMES HAVE KNOWN ONLY WAR.

AS PRIME MINISTER BEGIN SAID AFTER THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT, THE AGREEMENTS REACHED THERE "PROVED THAT ANY PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED IF THERE IS SOME, SOME WISDOM."

THOSE ARE TRUTHFUL AND REASSURING WORDS.

I KNOW FROM MY INTENSE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS THAT PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAVE NOT WAVERED FROM THEIR COMMITMENT TO PEACE.

PRESIDENT SADAT TOLD ME IN CAIRO THAT HE WILL LET NOTHING STAND IN THE WAY OF OUR SHARED GOAL OF FINISHING THIS TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT,...AND OF MAKING IT A LIVING TESTAMENT OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING PEOPLES.

I BELIEVE HIM AND I KNOW IN MY HEART THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL ARE NO LESS FERVENTLY COMMITTED TO THE SAME NOBLE OBJECTIVE.

-- BUT WE HAVE NOT FULLY MET .......
But we have not fully met our challenge.
Despite our unflagging determination, despite the extraordinary progress of the past six months, we still fall short.

It is now the somber responsibility of us all to exert our energies and our imaginations once again to contemplate the tragedy of failure and the legitimate exultation if we bring peace.

In this effort, the support of the members of the Knesset will be crucial.

Our vision must be as great as our goal.

Wisdom and courage are required from us all — and so too are practicality and realism.

We must not lose this moment.

We must pray as if everything depends on God; but we must act as if everything depends on ourselves.

What kind of peace do we seek?

Spinoza said that "peace is not an absence of war,... it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, for confidence, for justice."

Americans share that vision, and will stand beside Israel to be sure that it is fulfilled.
IN EGYPT, I SAW VIVID EVIDENCE THAT THE EFFORTS FOR PEACE OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAVE TOUCHED A DEEP LONGING FOR PEACE IN THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE.

BUT LIKE YOU, THEY WORRY ABOUT THE UNCERTAINTIES OF THIS FIRST CRUCIAL STAGE IN THE BROAD TASK OF POUNDING MIDDLE EAST SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES.

LIKE YOU, THEY HOPE TO BANISH FOREVER THE ENMITY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT.

LIKE YOU, THEY WANT THIS PEACE.

AND LIKE YOU, THEY WANT IT TO BE A REAL AND NOT A SHAM PEACE.

MY FRIENDS, FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, I UNDERSTAND ALL TOO WELL THAT HISTORIC DECISIONS ARE SELDOM EASY, SELDOM WITHOUT PAIN.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, WHO NEGOTIATED THE PEACE TREATY BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA AFTER THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, ONCE SAID THAT HE HAD "NEVER SEEN A PEACE MADE, EVEN THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS, THAT WAS NOT CENSURED AS INADEQUATE."

THROUGHOUT THE PEACE PROCESS, BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT NO TREATY CAN EMBODY EVERY AIM OF EACH PARTY.

-- WHAT A TREATY CAN DO -- .....

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
WHAT A TREATY CAN DO -- WHAT IT CAN DO FAR BETTER THAN THE FRAGILE STATUS QUO, AND INFINITELY BETTER THAN THE INSIDIOUS TENSIONS THAT WILL BUILD IF OUR EFFORTS ARE FURTHER STALLED -- IS TO PROTECT THE VITAL INTERESTS OF BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT, AND OPEN UP THE POSSIBILITY OF PEACE FOR ALL THE STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE REGION.

Doubts are the stuff of great decisions -- but so are dreams.

We are now at the very edge of turning Israel's eternal dream of peace into a reality.

I will not pretend that this reality will be free from further challenges.

It will not.

And better than most, the Jewish people know that life is seldom easy.

But we must make a beginning.

We must seize this precious opportunity.

Fifty-seven years ago, the Congress of the United States committed itself to a Jewish homeland.

Twenty-six years later, President Harry Truman recognized the new State of Israel just eleven minutes after its birth.
Seven Presidents have believed and demonstrated that America's relationship with Israel is more than special. It is unique, and it is undestructable.

Let me repeat what I said to Prime Minister Begin last year, on the anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel: "For 30 years we have stood at the side of the proud and independent nation of Israel. I can say without reservation, as President of the United States, that we will continue to do so, ... not just for another 30 years, but forever."

We recognize the advantages to the United States of this partnership.

You know that America deeply desires peace between Israel and Egypt, and that we will do everything we can to make peace possible.

The people of the two nations are ready now for peace.

The leaders have not yet proven that we are ready to take a chance.

We must persevere.

But with or without a peace treaty, the United States will always be at Israel's side -- (and you can depend on it.)

Meeting in this Hall of Liberty reminds us that we are bound more than in any other way by instinctive common ideals and values.

-- This Knesset is a temple.....

Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes
This Knesset is a temple to the principle and the practice of open debate. Democracy is as essential to the very nationhood of Israel as it is to that of the United States. You have proved that democracy can be a stable form of government in a nation of great diversity, and in a time and place of danger and instability.

Both Israel and the United States were shaped by pioneers, ... by peoples gathered from many lands, ... by dreamers who by "the work of their hands and the sweat of their brows" transformed their dreams into the reality of nationhood.

We share the heritage of the Bible, ... of individual freedom, ... and of cooperative endeavor.

In nations around the world where governments deny these values, millions look to us to uphold the right to freedom of speech and the press, ... the right to emigrate, ... the right to a decent standard of material life.

These are the unbreakable ties that bind Israel and the United States together.

These are the values we offer to the world.
Our mutual dedication to these ideals is an indispensable resource in our search for peace.

The treaty between Egypt and Israel that we hope may be placed before you for approval promises to be the cornerstone of a comprehensive structure of peace for this region.

We all recognize that this structure will be incomplete until the peace can be extended to include all the people who have been involved in the conflict.

I know and I understand the concerns you feel as you consider the magnitude of the choices that will remain to be faced even after a peace treaty is concluded between Israel and Egypt.

As the time for those choices approaches, remember this pledge I make to you today: The United States will never support any agreement or action that places Israel's security in jeopardy.

We must proceed with due caution -- but we must proceed.

As recently as two years ago, after all, these present steps seemed unthinkable.

-- Confrontation magnifies......

Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes
Confrontation magnifies differences.

But the process of negotiation circumscribes differences, defines them, isolates them from larger regions of common interest -- and so makes the gaps more bridgeable.

We have seen the proof of that in the past 16 months.

At Camp David, Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat forged two frameworks for the building of a comprehensive peace.

The genius of that accomplishment is that negotiations under those frameworks can go forward independently of each other without destroying the obvious relationship between them.

They are designed to be mutually reinforcing, with the intrinsic flexibility necessary to promote the comprehensive peace we all desire.

Both will be fulfilled only when others of your Arab neighbors follow the visionary example of President Sadat -- when they put ancient animosities aside, and agree to negotiate, as he has done, an honorable solution to the differences between you.

It is important that the door be kept open to all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestinians -- with whom, above all, Israel shares a common interest in living in peace and mutual respect.
Peace in the Middle East, important to the security not just of Israel and Egypt, but of the entire region,... in recent weeks has become an even more urgent concern.

Israel's security will rest not only on how the negotiations affect the situation on its borders,... but also on how they affect forces of stability and moderation beyond those borders.

I am convinced that nothing could do more to create a hospitable atmosphere for those forces in the long run than an equitable peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

The risks of peace between you and your Egyptian neighbors are real, but America is ready to reduce the risks and to balance them.

I came to Israel representing the most powerful country on earth.

And I can assure you that the United States intends to use that power in the pursuit of a stable and peaceful Middle East.

-- We have been centrally involved......
WE HAVE BEEN CENTRALLY INVOLVED IN THIS REGION AND WE WILL STAY INVOLVED -- POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY, AND MILITARILY.

WE WILL STAND BY OUR FRIENDS.
WE ARE READY TO PLACE OUR STRENGTH AT ISRAEL'S SIDE TO ENSURE ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND WELL-BEING.

WE KNOW ISRAEL'S CONCERN FOR ITS OIL SUPPLY.
IN THE CONTEXT OF PEACE, WE ARE READY TO GUARANTEE THAT SUPPLY.

WE KNOW ISRAEL'S CONCERN THAT THE PRICE OF PEACE WITH EGYPT WILL EXACERBATE AN ALREADY DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION, AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO MEET THE COUNTRY'S ESSENTIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

IN THE CONTEXT OF PEACE, WE ARE PREPARED TO SEE ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC AND MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES TAKE ON NEW DIMENSIONS.
WE WILL WORK NOT ONLY TO ATTAIN PEACE, BUT TO MAINTAIN IT, ...RECOGNIZING THAT IT IS A PERMANENT CHALLENGE OF OUR TIME.

WE WILL REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE IDEALS OUR PEOPLES SHARE.

THESE IDEALS ARE THE COURSE NOT ONLY OF OUR STRENGTH, BUT OF OUR SELF-RESPECT.

I AM HERE TODAY TO REAFFIRM THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL ALWAYS RECOGNIZE, APPRECIATE, AND HONOR THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGES OF THE STRENGTH AND SECURITY OF ISRAEL.

AND I AM HERE TO EXPRESS MY MOST HEARTFELT AND PASSIONATE HOPE THAT WE MAY WORK TOGETHER SUCCESSFULLY TO MAKE THIS PEACE.

THE MIDRASH TELLS US THAT "PEACE IS THE WISP OF STRAW THAT BINDS TOGETHER THE SHEAF OF BLESSINGS."

BUT THE WISP OF STRAW IS FRAGILE, AND EASILY BROKEN.

-- LET US PRAY GOD TO GUIDE......
LET US PRAY GOD TO GUIDE OUR HAND.

MILLIONS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN -- IN ISRAEL, IN EGYPT, AND BEYOND, IN THIS GENERATION AND IN GENERATIONS TO COME -- ARE RELYING UPON OUR SKILL AND OUR FAITH.

IN THE WORDS OF A SABBATH PRAYER, "MAY HE WHO CAUSES PEACE TO REIGN IN THE HIGH HEAVENS LET PEACE DESCEND ON US, ON ALL ISRAEL, AND ALL THE WORLD."

# # # # #
ADDRESS TO THE KNESSET

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, distinguished members of the Knesset, friends --

I am honored to stand in this assembly of free men and women, which represents a great ancient people, a young and courageous nation. I bring with me the greetings of the people of the United States, who share with the people of Israel the love of liberty, justice, and peace.

And I am honored to be in Jerusalem -- this holy city, this "quiet habitation" /Isaiah 33:20/, in which, for so much of the human race, the cause of brotherhood and peace is enshrined.

I am here in that cause.
I have come to Cairo and here in Jerusalem to try
to enhance the bold, brave, and historic efforts of
Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat, and to demon-
strate that the United States is as determined as they
are to create lasting peace and friendship between Egypt
and Israel, and to put an end to war and the threat of
war throughout the Middle East.

No people desire or deserve peace more than the
Jewish people. None have wanted it for so long. None
have spoken of it so eloquently. None have suffered so
much from its absence.

Pogrom after pogrom, war after war, Israel has buried
its sons and daughters. Yesterday morning at Yad Vashem,
I grieved in the presence of terrible reminders of the
agony and horror of the Holocaust. Modern Israel came
into being in the wake of that historic crime, the
enormity of which is almost beyond human comprehension.

I know that Israel is determined, above all, that [like]

[like] must never, never be permitted to happen again.

Americans respect that determination and fully share it. And Americans recognize that for Jews over the centuries, as for Israel since its independence, caution and wariness have been a practical and moral necessity for survival.

And yet in these past months you have made enormous sacrifices and taken great risks for peace. This sacred dedication to peace, born and fostered in Jerusalem and Cairo, has given a renewed sense of hope to men and women everywhere that human reason, good will and faith can succeed, can break down barriers between peoples who in our lifetime have known only war, have warred against each other for a generation or more.

As Prime Minister Begin said after the Camp David Summit,
the agreements reached there "proved that any problem can be solved if there is some wisdom." Those are truthful and reassuring words.

I know from my intense personal involvement in these negotiations that Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat have not wavered from their commitment to peace. President Sadat told me in Cairo that he will let nothing stand in the way of our shared goal of finishing this Treaty of Peace between Israel and Egypt, and of making it a living testament of friendship and neighborly amity between the two peoples. I believe him and I know in my heart that Prime Minister Begin and the Government of Israel are no less fervently committed to the same noble objective.

But our challenge has not yet been fully met. Despite our unflagging determination, despite the extraordinary
progress of the past six months, we still fall short.

It is now the somber responsibility of us all to exert our energies and our imaginations once again for the same end. To contemplate the tragedy of failure and the legitimate cause of peace. In this effort, the support of you, in the members of the Knesset will be crucial. Our vision must be as great as our goal. Wisdom and courage are required from us all—and so too are practicality and realism. We must not lose this moment. We must pray as if everything depends on God; but we must act as if everything depends on ourselves.

What kind of peace do we seek? Spinoza said that "peace is not an absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, for confidence, for justice." Americans share that vision, and will stand beside Israel to be sure that it is fulfilled.
In Egypt, I saw vivid evidence that the efforts for peace of President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin have touched a deep longing for peace in the Egyptian people.

But like you, they worry about the uncertainties of this first crucial stage in the broad task of pounding Middle East swords into plowshares. Like you, they hope to banish forever the enmity between Israel and Egypt.

Like you, they want this peace. And like you, they want it to be a real and not a sham peace.

My friends, from my own experience as President of the United States, I understand all too well that historic decisions are seldom easy, seldom without pain.

Benjamin Franklin, who negotiated the peace treaty between England and America after the War of Independence, once said that he had "never seen a peace made, even the
most advantageous, that was not censured as inadequate."

Throughout the peace process, both Israel and Egypt have understood that no treaty can embody every aim of each party. What a treaty can do -- what it can do far better than the fragile status quo, and infinitely better than the insidious tensions that will build if our efforts are further stalled -- is to protect the vital interests of both Israel and Egypt, and open up the possibility of peace for all the states and peoples of the region.

Doubts are the stuff of great decisions -- but so are dreams. We are now at the very edge of turning Israel's eternal dream of peace into a reality. I will not pretend that this reality will be free from further challenges. It will not. And better than most, the Jewish people know that life is seldom easy. But we must make a beginning. We must seize this precious opportunity.
Fifty-seven years ago, the Congress of the United States committed itself to a Jewish homeland. Twenty-six years after that, President Harry Truman recognized the new State of Israel just eleven minutes after its birth. Seven Presidents have believed and demonstrated that America's relationship with Israel is more than special. It is unique. And it is indestructible.

Let me repeat what I said to Prime Minister Begin last year, on the anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel: "For thirty years we have stood at the side of the proud and independent nation of Israel. I can say without reservation, as President of the United States, that we will continue to do so, not just for another thirty years, but forever."

You recognize the advantages to the United States of this partnership. You know that America deeply desires peace between Israel and Egypt, and that we will do everything we can
to make peace possible. But with or without a peace treaty, the United States will always be at Israel's side -- and you can depend on it.

Meeting in this hall of liberty reminds us that we are bound more than in any other way by instinctive common ideals and values. This Knesset is a temple to the principle and the practice of open debate. Democracy is as essential to the very nationhood of Israel as it is to that of the United States. You have proved that democracy can be a stable form of government in a nation of great diversity and in a time and place of danger and instability.

Both Israel and the United States were shaped by pioneers, by peoples gathered from many lands, by dreamers who by "the work of their hands and the sweat of their brows" transformed their dreams into the reality of nationhood. We share the heritage of the Bible, of individual
freedom, and of cooperative endeavor. In nations around the world where governments deny these values, millions look to us to uphold the right to freedom of speech and the press; the right to emigrate; the right to a decent standard of material life. These are the unbreakable ties that bind Israel and the United States together. These are the values we offer to the world.

Our mutual dedication to these ideals is an indispensable resource in our search for peace.

The draft treaty between Egypt and Israel that we hope will be placed before you for approval promises to be the cornerstone of a comprehensive structure of peace for this region. These two great and ancient nations have been the principal antagonists in over 30 years of intermittent but unremitting conflict. Israel and Egypt can now become the principal actors in a new era, showing
others the way to the goal of peace and prosperity for the whole region.

We all recognize that this structure will be incomplete until the peace can be extended to include all the parties which have been involved in the conflict. I know and I understand the concerns you feel as you consider the magnitude of the choices that will remain to be faced even after a peace treaty is concluded between Israel and Egypt. As the time for those choices approaches, remember this pledge I make to you today: the United States will never support any agreement or action that places Israel's security in jeopardy.

We must proceed with due caution -- but we must proceed. As recently as two years ago, after all, these steps (step we hope soon to take) seemed unthinkable.
Confrontation magnifies differences. But the process of negotiation circumscribes differences, defines them, isolates them from larger regions of common interest—and so makes the gaps more bridgeable. We have seen the proof of that in the past sixteen months.

At Camp David, Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat forged two frameworks for the building of peace. The genius of that accomplishment is that negotiations under those frameworks can go forward independently of each other without destroying the obvious relationship between them. They are designed to be mutually reinforcing, with the intrinsic flexibility necessary to promote the comprehensive peace we all desire. Both will be fulfilled only when others of your Arab neighbors follow the visionary example of President Sadat—when they put ancient animosities aside, and agree to negotiate, as
he has done, an honorable solution to the differences between you. It is important that the door be kept open to all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestinians -- with whom, above all, Israel shares a common interest in living in peace and mutual respect.

Peace in the Middle East is important to the security not just of Israel and Egypt but of the entire region. In recent weeks, the six months since the Camp David summit, this has become an even more urgent concern.

Israel's security will rest not only on how the negotiations affect the situation on its borders, but also on how they affect forces of stability and moderation beyond those borders. I am convinced that nothing could do more to create a hospitable atmosphere for those forces in the long run than an equitable peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.
The risks of peace between you and your Egyptian neighbors are real, but America is ready to balance them.

I came to Israel representing the most powerful country on earth. And I can assure you that the United States intends to use that power in the pursuit of a stable and peaceful Middle East. We have been centrally involved in this region and we will stay involved -- politically, economically and militarily.

We will stand by our friends. We are ready to place our strength at Israel's side to ensure Israel's security and well-being.

We know Israel's concern for its oil supply. In the context of peace, we are ready to guarantee that supply. We know Israel's concern that the price of peace with Egypt will exacerbate an already difficult economic
situation and make it more difficult to meet the country's essential security requirements. In the context of peace, we are prepared to see Israel's economic and military relationship with the United States take on new dimensions.

We will work not only to attain peace but to maintain it, recognizing that it is a permanent challenge of our time.

We will rededicate ourselves to the ideals our peoples share. These ideals are the source not only of our strength but of our self-respect.

I am here today to reaffirm that the United States will always recognize, appreciate and honor the mutual advantages of the strength and security of Israel. And I am here to express my most heartfelt and passionate hope that we may join together successfully to make this peace.
The Midrash tells us that "Peace is the wisp of straw that binds together the sheaf of blessings." But the wisp of straw is fragile, and easily broken. Let us pray God to guide our hand. Millions of men, women and children -- in Israel, in Egypt, and beyond, in this generation and in generations to come -- are relying upon our skill and our faith. In the words of the Sabbath prayer, "May He who causes peace to reign in the high heavens let peace descend on us, on all Israel, and all the world."

# # #
Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, friends --

As we depart for Cairo and then for Washington, I want to express—on behalf of Rosalynn and me, and all who have accompanied us on this journey — our gratitude to the government and people of Israel for their hospitality and kindness.

I came here in the service of the cause that unites the Israeli, Egyptian, and American peoples — the sacred cause of peace.

We have talked and reasoned together in that cause for many hours during the past three days.

(=over=) (We have talked as .......)
WE HAVE TALKED AS FRIENDS -- AND OUR CONVERSATIONS HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY THE FRANKNESS, THE HONESTY, AND THE MUTUAL RESPECT AND CONCERN THAT TRUE FRIENDSHIP DEMANDS.

In our discussions, we have concentrated on the differences between Egypt and Israel in the peace process -- differences that are now very small compared to the much larger areas of agreement.

Progress has been made. There are fewer differences than there were when I left Washington five days ago, and those few that remain have been narrowed.

Last night, there were further intensive discussions among members of the Israeli Cabinet and the United States delegation on the two or three most difficult issues.

(=new card=) (This morning, building on...
This morning, building on those discussions, Prime Minister Begin and I were able to make additional progress.

I will now fly to Cairo to review with President Sadat the discussions we have had here and the progress we have made here together.

As I depart, I want to repeat once again what I said in the Knesset yesterday: The friendship between America and Israel is more than strong -- it is indestructable.

In the past three days, I have been impressed deeply by the extraordinary story of faith and perseverance in the face of adversity that is Israel.

(=over+) (Prime Minister Begin,....)
Prime Minister Begin, President Sadat, and I remain determined to exert every ounce of effort at our command to bring the peace negotiations to a successful conclusion.
Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, friends--

As we depart for Cairo and then for Washington, I want to express—on behalf of Rosalynn and all who have accompanied us on this journey—our gratitude to the government and people of Israel for their hospitality and kindness.

I came here in the service of the cause that unites the Israeli, Egyptian, and American peoples—the sacred cause of peace.

We have talked and reasoned together in that cause for many hours during the past three days. We have talked as friends—and our conversations have been characterized by the frankness, the honesty, and the mutual respect and concern that true friendship demands.

In our discussions, we have concentrated on the differences between Egypt and Israel in the peace process—differences that are now very small compared to the much larger areas of agreement. Progress has been made. There are fewer differences than there were when I left Washington five days ago, and those few that remain have been narrowed.

Last night, there were further intensive discussions among members of the Israeli cabinet and the United States delegation on the two or three most difficult
issues. This morning, building on those discussions, Prime Minister Begin and I were able to make additional progress.

I will now fly to Cairo to review with President Sadat the discussions we have had here and the progress we have made here together.

As I depart, I want to repeat once again what I said in the Knesset yesterday: the friendship between America and Israel is more than strong—it is indestructable. And America will stand by Israel always.

In the past three days, I have been impressed deeply by the extraordinary story of faith and self-reliance and courage perseverance in the face of adversity that is Israel.

This nation flourishing; democratic state is

of testimony not only to the perseverance of her people, but to the universality of their vision of liberty, human brotherhood, and peace.

The negotiations in which we have been engaged together are tightly bound up with that universal vision. I remain determined to exert every ounce of effort at the command to bring them to a successful conclusion. I know that Prime Minister Begin, and President Sadat share that determination. We owe it to ourselves; we owe it to the heritage of suffering and hope that has brought us together; above all,
I have just given President Sadat a full report on my discussions in Israel. During that visit the United States made proposals for resolving a number of the outstanding issues -- proposals which were accepted by Prime Minister Begin and his cabinet. President Sadat has now accepted these proposals in the same form as accepted by Israel.

Based on discussions in Egypt & Israel, I have also presented U.S. proposals to President Sadat and to Prime Minister Begin for resolving the few remaining issues. Earlier today Prime Minister Begin agreed to present these proposals to his cabinet for consideration. President Sadat has carefully reviewed and accepted these same proposals.

(=over=) (I am convinced that we now...)
I am convinced that we now have defined all of the main ingredients of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, which will be the cornerstone of a comprehensive peace settlement for the Middle East.

#  #  #

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN CAIRO

Salaam alaikum. (Peace be upon you.)

The greeting of peace has a special and urgent meaning for all of us today. I come to you in the service of peace; you receive me in peace; we meet together to take up, once more, the sacred work of building peace.

It is an honor for Mrs. Carter and me to be reunited with President and Mrs. Sadat, and with many other friends -- this time in Cairo. We bring with us the respect and good wishes of the American people for President Sadat and for the people of Egypt.

I have come to the Middle East to advance the cause of peace between Egypt and Israel. A treaty between these two great nations would be a beginning -- not an end. It would bring us much closer to the broader goal we all seek -- a real peace, a comprehensive peace, a peace that would reflect the
legitimate needs of all who have suffered in more than 30 years of conflict.

It would also be the beginning of a new chapter in the long history of Egypt -- one in which the energies of all Egyptians can at last be turned in full force to the human task of building a future of dignity and hope.

I know how deeply President Sadat wants that kind of future. In my many hours of conversation with him, I have learned to respect him as a man with a passion for peace.

He has spoken eloquently. More important, he has acted courageously.

In his electrifying trip to Jerusalem in November of 1977, President Sadat fully committed himself to the goal of a just and lasting peace.
That was the goal of the discussions at Camp David, where President Sadat, Prime Minister Begin and I agreed on a framework for a comprehensive peace and on the outlines of a treaty between Egypt and Israel. And that remains the goal of the talks that begin today.

Our hope is to achieve an agreement which is honorable and provides security for each of the negotiating parties. But above all, our purpose of peace is realized for the people of Israel and Egypt, others must be encouraged to join the process of resolving differences through negotiations and accommodation. The United States will work with any and all parties who are committed to the principles of genuine peace.

And as the relations between us grow stronger, we can work together more effectively to bring stability to the Middle East region as a whole.
President Sadat has written that "no problem should ever be regarded as insuperable."

In recent months, we have overcome many problems that once seemed insuperable. I believe that with God's help, we can remove the remaining obstacles to the conclusion of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and to the beginning of negotiations on issues of concern to the Palestinians.

The most important condition for peace has already been met -- the sincere conviction on both sides that peace is preferable to war, that differences can better be settled by the exercise of reason than by the spilling of blood.

"Let us heed the counsel of the Holy Koran: "Be patient and persevering; for God is with those who patiently persevere."

Like you, Mr. President, I am determined to persevere. I pray that God will be with us in these crucial discussions as we work together in the cause of peace.

* * *
Tel Aviv Arrival Statement

3/10/79

PM Begin, People of Israel

As the elected leader and representative of the people of the United States, I am honored to set foot upon the soil of Israel. I come to you as a fellow worker in the cause of peace. I know how much that cause means to the people of this land.

No people in all history have suffered more from violence than the Jewish people. The state of Israel was born as a refuge from that violence.

Yet after four wars in three decades, every Israeli citizen still knows at first hand what it is to grieve for a fallen loved one or friend.

(over) (As Prime Minister Begin has....)
As Prime Minister Begin has said many times, Israel truly wants peace. Of that there can be no doubt.

And I feel absolutely certain, after my experience of the past three days, that the people of Egypt fully share that desire for peace.

During the last three days, I have spent many hours discussing with President Sadat what should be the final details of a treaty of peace. Prime Minister Begin and I will soon begin discussing these same details, with the same end in mind: to seek, in the present situation, the means and the will to take this next, crucial step toward a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

(=new card=) (We have come a great......)
We have come a great distance together. Under the strong and courageous leadership of Prime Minister Begin, the Government of Israel has been willing to make difficult decisions all along the way.

I need not add that it would be a tragedy to turn away from the path of peace after having come so far.

I have good reason to hope that the goal can now be reached. But of course the ultimate choices lie where they always have -- with the representatives of the people who have suffered directly from so many years of destruction and bloodshed. I look forward to completing the urgent business at hand.

(=over=) (I bring with me the best wishes....)
I bring with me the best wishes of the American people, the
greetings of President Sadat, and the hopes of the entire world.
The task we are striving to accomplish together demands more than
reason, more even than will.
It demands faith -- for in a very real sense, the task of building
peace is a sacred task.
In the words of the Midrash, "Peace is important, for God's name
is Shalom."
Let us have Shalom. Let us make peace.

#    #    #

Electrostatic Copy Made
for Preservation Purposes
Andrews Arrival Statement

Vice President Mondale, Speaker O'Neill, Senator Byrd, Members of Congress, members of the Cabinet, friends and fellow citizens.

You are looking at a tired but happy man. All of us who made this journey are grateful for the opportunity we have had to render service in the cause of peace.

Now the journey is done, and we are grateful to be home---

to be back in our beloved country, our beloved United States of America.

It's good to see so many familiar and welcoming faces, especially at this hour of the night. I want to thank everyone of you for coming out here to greet us.

[This was not a ceremonial trip.] We did not go to Egypt and Israel in order to confirm a result guaranteed in advance. We went there to work to use our influence and our good offices to help the leaders of two great
nations move decisively toward the peace that is so ardently desired by the peoples they serve. Your work has had a happy result. But I want to stress that the effort would have been worth making regardless of the outcome. No goal is higher than that of genuine peace, no goal, therefore, is worthier of risk. In war, we put ourselves on the line almost as a matter of routine. We must be no less daring, no less steadfast in the pursuit of peace.

For more than thirty years, the nations of Egypt and Israel have existed in a continual state of hostility. That hostility has exploded into war four times, and each war has brought with it suffering and loss of life, and hatred, renewed fear, and great danger for the region and the world beyond. But in the last 16 months the way has been opened to peace.
When I decided to make this trip, important differences still divided the two nations, and the peace negotiations seemed to have reached a stalemate. After long hours of discussion in both Egypt and Israel, during the visits from which we have just returned, the United States presented proposals for resolving all the outstanding issues. All but two of these issues have now been accepted by Prime Minister Begin and his Cabinet. Less than three hours from now, the Prime Minister will present these two remaining proposals to his Cabinet for consideration. President Sadat has already accepted all the proposals, the American delegation presented.

Therefore, what this means is that we have now defined all the major components of a peace treaty between the largest Arab country, Egypt, and her neighbor and former enemy, Israel. In both countries there will be sharp internal debate before this process is complete. But the treaty
that emerges will be the cornerstone of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, one that would encompass all the peoples who have suffered from the conflict in the Middle East.

I spoke of risk a moment ago. But the real risks have been taken by the leaders of Egypt and Israel. They have overcome major substantive obstacles, and now the psychological leap they have taken is far greater. They have dared to break the pattern of 30 years of bitterness and war, and are following the advice of the Biblical proverb: "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." In choosing peace, President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin are venturing into the unknown. I want them to know that the United States will be with them as they begin to make peace between them a living reality for their peoples. The friendships between their countries and the United States will grow even stronger.
and more meaningful than they are now.

Through private messages and public statements,

I am urging other world leaders to support what Egypt and Israel have done, for it offers hope to all who love peace, everywhere in the world.

My friends, thank you again for coming out to greet us and for listening so patiently to what I have said. God bless you all, and good night.
VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, SPEAKER O'NEILL, SENATOR BYRD, MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS.

You are looking at a tired but grateful man. All of us who made
this journey appreciate the opportunity we have had to render some
service in the cause of peace. Now the journey is done, and we are glad
to be home -- back in our own country, our beloved United States of
America.

It's good to see so many familiar and welcoming faces. I want to
thank you for coming here to greet us.

(=over=) (We did not go to....)
As you know, we did not go to Egypt and Israel in order to confirm a result guaranteed in advance. We went there to use our influence and our good offices to help the leaders of two great nations move decisively toward the peace that is so ardently desired by the people they serve.

There were risks involved -- political risks to me as President -- and therefore perhaps to the prestige of the United States.

Fortunately, our work has had a happy result. But I want to stress that the effort would have been worth making regardless of the outcome.

Risk of failure should never deter us from a worthy goal, and no goal is higher than that of genuine peace. In war, we offer our very lives almost as a matter of routine. We must be no less daring, no less steadfast in the pursuit of peace.

(=NEW CARD=) (FOR MORE THAN.....)

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
For more than 30 years, the nations of Egypt and Israel have existed in a continual state of hostility. That hostility has exploded into combat four times, and each war has brought with it suffering and loss of life, renewed fear and hatred, and great danger for the region and the world beyond. But in the last 16 months, the way has been opened to peace. When I decided to make this trip, the peace negotiations seemed to have reached a stalemate. After long hours of discussion in both Egypt and Israel, proposals were made for resolving all the outstanding issues. All but two of these issues have been resolved with Prime Minister Begin and his Cabinet. Less than three hours from now, the Prime Minister will present the remaining proposals to the Israeli Cabinet for consideration.

(=over=) (President Sadat has, , , , )

Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
President Sadat has already accepted all of the proposals.

Therefore, we have now defined the major components of a peace treaty between the largest Arab country, Egypt, and her neighbor and former enemy, Israel. There may be sharp internal debates before this process is complete. But the treaty that emerges can be the cornerstone of a comprehensive settlement, one that can bless with peace all the people who have suffered from the conflict in the Middle East.

The leaders of Egypt and Israel have overcome major substantive obstacles, and they are now daring to break the pattern of 30 years of bitterness and war.

(=new card=) (They are following the.....)
They are following the advice of the Biblical proverb: "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."

In choosing peace, President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin are venturing into the unknown. They know that the United States will be with them as they begin to make peace a living reality for their people.

I am thankful that the friendships between their countries and the United States will now grow even stronger and more meaningful.

Through private messages and public statements, I am urging other world leaders to support what Egypt and Israel have done... for it offers hope to all who love peace, everywhere in the world.

(=over=) (My friends,.....)