

PRESS DEPARTMENT OF STATE



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DEPARTURE STATEMENTS
BY
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
AND
PRINCE SAUD EL FAISAL
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
TAIF, SAUDI ARABIA
SEPTEMBER 2, 1975

PRINCE FAISAL: When the Secretary had his meetings with His Majesty and with the Crown Prince, I can safely summarize the views of His Majesty and the Government of Saudi Arabia. The news that the Secretary has brought to us that this is indeed a significant and important step towards the final settlement of the Palestinian problem. We think that the significance of this step is that it provides an impetus to further activity in the field. We have received the assurances of the Secretary of the commitment of the United States to a final settlement of the problems between the Arabs and Israel. We think that the efforts that have been done by the United States in this field are deeply appreciated not only in Saudi Arabia, but I think throughout the Arab world. The Secretary could even, I think, feel this among the ordinary people in Saudi Arabia today. What is significant also is the commitment of the United States to the final settlement.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Mr. Foreign Minister, I wanted to express my appreciation for the warmth of the reception which is characteristic of the friendship between the Kingdom and the United States, and I was gratified by the positive response to the recent agreement that I found on the part of His Majesty, of His Royal Highness Prince Faud and of His Royal Highness Prince Saud. The United States, as I pointed out, believes that the problems of this area should find a just and lasting settlement and will extend all appropriate efforts in that direction. So I am very pleased by my visit here. I look forward to welcoming the Foreign Minister to the United States on the occasion, too of his visit to the General Assembly, and he has promised me to visit Washington on that occasion.

QUESTION: Mr. Minister, when you talked about the Palestinian problem, were you talking about the Egypt-Israeli negotiations?

PRINCE SAUD: I meant the final settlement of the problems of the Middle East which in the essence really is the Palestinian problems.

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