

**The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “9/10/74 - Arrival Statement for the Visit of Prime Minister Rabin” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *df.*

ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR  
VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN

MR. PRIME MINISTER, IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU  
BACK TO WASHINGTON IN THE HIGH OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL.  
TODAY, WE WELCOME YOU AS BOTH LEADER AND FRIEND. IT IS A PERSONAL  
PLEASURE FOR ME, HAVING KNOWN YOU DURING YOUR MANY YEARS AS ISRAEL'S  
AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. I TRUST THAT YOU AND MRS. RABIN WILL  
ENJOY YOUR VISIT HERE AMONG YOUR MANY FRIENDS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PROUD TO STAND WITH ISRAEL FOR  
MANY YEARS. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO STAND WITH YOU FOR WE REMAIN FIRMLY  
COMMITTED TO THE SURVIVAL AND TO THE SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF YOUR  
NATION. AND THIS IS THE FOUNDATION FROM WHICH WE SHALL WORK TOGETHER.

FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER CENTURY, ISRAEL AND WE HAVE BUILT OUR  
COOPERATIVE RELATIONS IN MANY FIELDS, TO REFLECT THE MUTUAL  
ASPIRATIONS OF OUR PEOPLES. WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO ENSURE  
OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES OF A FREE, HAPPY AND SECURE LIFE FOR OUR  
PEOPLES. OUR UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP, OUR COMMON HERITAGE AND OUR  
HISTORIC TIES HAVE SERVED THIS CAUSE.

IN THIS SPIRIT, WE SHALL ALSO CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER  
TOWARDS OUR COMMON VISION OF A LASTING PEACE. THE PEOPLES OF THE  
MIDDLE EAST WANT -- AND DESERVE -- A FINAL PEACE. WE CANNOT, WHERE  
IT IS WITHIN MAN'S CAPABILITY TO PUT AN END TO WAR, TURN AWAY FROM  
MAKING OUR BEST EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A FINAL AND DURABLE PEACE SETTLEMENT.

FIRST STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TOWARDS THIS GOAL. THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO CONTINUING ITS ASSISTANCE IN THIS PROCESS. WE CANNOT LET DOWN THE VAST HOPES OF ALL PEOPLES IN THE AREA THAT PEACE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO STEADY PROGRESS TOWARDS THIS OBJECTIVE AND TO WORKING WITH ISRAEL TOWARDS THIS HIGH GOAL.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, YOU ARE AMONG FRIENDS.

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