

**The original documents are located in Box 14, “9/3/75 - Remarks Upon Welcoming Secretary of State Kissinger Home from the Middle East” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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I AM GLAD TO WELCOME SECRETARY KISSINGER BACK  
FROM HIS MISSION OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE SUCCESS OF THAT MISSION IS OF EXTRAORDINARY  
IMPORTANCE, NOT ONLY TO THE PARTIES IMMEDIATELY INVOLVED,  
BUT TO ALL THE WORLD.

THE INTERIM AGREEMENT SECRETARY KISSINGER NEGOTIATED  
WITH GREAT SKILL AND ENORMOUS DILIGENCE PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT  
CONTRIBUTION TO OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TOWARD AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST. FOR THAT, ALL OF US HAVE REASON TO BE  
GRATEFUL. AS FAR AS BOTH SIDES WERE CONCERNED, WAR WAS  
AN UNACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

BOTH SIDES FELT THAT THE RISKS OF PEACE IN THE LONG RUN WERE  
MORE ACCEPTABLE THAN THE DANGERS OF WAR.

THE AGREEMENT INITIALED THIS WEEK PROVIDES TIME THAT  
WILL BE NEEDED TO WORK -- AND WE INTEND TO WORK VERY HARD --  
TOWARD CONCLUDING A LASTING PEACE AGREEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

AMERICA CAN BE PROUD OF ITS ROLE AS "PEACEMAKER"

IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS -- A ROLE WHICH DEMANDED THE RESPECT  
AND TRUST OF EACH SIDE -- A ROLE WHICH DEMONSTRATED ONCE  
MORE AMERICA'S CREDIBILITY.

WE CAN BE CONFIDENT THAT THE CIVILIAN AMERICAN

TECHNICIANS WHO WILL HELP MONITOR THE AGREEMENT WILL BE

MAKING A SIMILAR CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE. I TRUST THE

CONGRESS WILL AGREE THAT THIS VERY SMALL CONTINGENT IS AN

ALTOGETHER PROPER CONTRIBUTION FOR THE UNITED STATES TO MAKE

IN STABILIZING AND SECURING THE SITUATION IN THE SINAI.

TONIGHT, HOWEVER, OUR THOUGHTS ARE PRIMARILY  
CENTERED ON WELCOMING SECRETARY KISSINGER BACK HOME --  
AND WELCOME HE IS.

HENRY HAS CARRIED THE FLAG OF PEACE THROUGH WEEKS  
OF VERY DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS. HIS ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN  
REMARKABLE. I AM VERY HAPPY TO WELCOME HIM BACK HOME --  
AND TO JOIN IN THE APPRECIATION OF HIS FELLOW AMERICANS  
FOR ALL HE HAS DONE.

END OF TEXT