

The original documents are located in Box 22, “1/27/76 - Remarks Upon the Arrival of Prime Minister Rabin of Israel” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....~~

ARRIVAL REMARKS

VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1976

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MR. PRIME MINISTER AND MRS. RABIN:

SHALOM (SHA-LOME)

~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....~~

MRS. FORD AND I ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME BOTH OF YOU,
OUR GOOD FRIENDS OF MANY YEARS, BACK TO WASHINGTON.
WE HOPE YOUR VISIT HERE, AND ACROSS OUR NATION, WILL RENEW
MANY HAPPY MEMORIES AND DEEPEN THE RELATIONSHIP OF OUR
TWO COUNTRIES. WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE YOU BOTH AS OUR GUESTS.

AS IN THE PAST, WE MEET TODAY IN A SPIRIT
OF WARM GOODWILL. YOUR VISIT GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY
TO REAFFIRM, ON BEHALF OF ALL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:
-- THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES;
-- THE TRADITIONAL COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND SURVIVAL, AND

-- THE DEDICATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO SEEK,
WITH ISRAEL'S COOPERATION, A PEACEFUL,
COMPREHENSIVE AND JUST SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT
IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL SHARE A DEEP DEVOTION
TO DEMOCRATIC IDEALS, A SPECIAL AFFINITY AS TWO KINDRED PEOPLES,
AND COMMON MORAL AND POLITICAL VALUES THAT FLOW FROM THE GREAT
JUDEO-CHRISTIAN HERITAGE. JUST AS YOU AND I HAVE BEEN FRIENDS
FOR MANY YEARS, MR. PRIME MINISTER, OUR TWO NATIONS
ARE FRIENDS.

FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, SINCE -- AND EVEN BEFORE --
YOUR INDEPENDENCE, OUR TWO PEOPLES HAVE WORKED TOGETHER
IN MANY FIELDS. MY STRONGEST DESIRE IS THAT WE CONTINUE
TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE FUTURE. TODAY OUR COOPERATION
IS MORE NECESSARY THAN EVER IN THE QUEST FOR AN ENDURING PEACE
IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

IN THE AGREEMENTS WE HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED BY WORKING TOGETHER
WE HAVE ESTABLISHED A SOUND BASIS FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT
TOWARDS AN ULTIMATE PEACE SETTLEMENT. WITH STATESMANSHIP
AND COURAGE, MR. PRIME MINISTER, YOU HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS.

THE WISDOM AND DETERMINATION THAT YOU -- AND YOUR NATION --
HAVE SO AMPLY DISPLAYED THUS FAR WILL BE REQUIRED
IN EVEN GREATER DEGREE IN THE DAYS AHEAD. OUR TASKS REMAIN
URGENT AND IMPORTANT. I KNOW THAT THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL YEARN
FOR PEACE. ALL OF US SHARE A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY --
ISRAEL, ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS, AND THE UNITED STATES.

OUR TASK IS TO REALIZE THIS GOAL TOGETHER -- WITH REALISM AND
JUSTICE. LET US SEIZE THE HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY TO HELP
TRANSLATE HOPES INTO REALITY.

I WELCOME YOUR VISIT, MR. PRIME MINISTER.

WE CAN, IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, DEEPEN OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

AND TRUST. WE CAN HELP TO ADVANCE THE PROCESS OF PEACE.

WE CAN ENHANCE EVEN FURTHER THE UNIQUE FRIENDSHIP OF OUR TWO

COUNTRIES.

AND IF OTHER NATIONS ALSO DO THEIR PART, THIS YEAR

WILL BE RECORDED IN HISTORY AS ANOTHER YEAR OF STEADY PROGRESS

TOWARD THE FULFILLMENT OF OUR COMMON DREAM -- THE PEACE THAT IS

SO FERVENTLY DESIRED THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST AND

BY THE ENTIRE WORLD.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS

AND TO THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY. ON BEHALF OF ALL

AMERICANS, I EXTEND OUR HEARTIEST WELCOME TO YOU AND

TO MRS. RABIN.

END OF TEXT