The original documents are located in Box 122, folder "Egypt" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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7. Can you confirm President Sadat's statement that Secretary Kissinger will visit the Middle East next month? When will President Sadat visit the United States?

9/24/14

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<u>Guidance:</u> Secretary Kissinger will be making a brief trip to the Middle East in mid-October to continue his consultations with the parties on further steps in negotiations toward a peace settlement. No dates have been announced and I would refer you to State for further details. No date has been set for President Sadat's visit to Washington but we expect this to occur before the end of this year.

<u>FYI</u>: Refer to State any questions about the role of the Palestinians in the UN General Assembly debate. End FYI.

6. For Your Information:

10/1/74 Refer to State any questions about the transfer of a plot of land in Cairo to the Egyptian Government which will be used as a place site for President Sadat.

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A retired U.S. Admiral has said that U.S. ships carry nuclear weapons when they berth at ports in Japan. This statement has produced protests in Japan and claims of a violation of our agreement with the Japanese Government. Can you confirm this report?

 $\frac{\text{Guidance: As you know, it is long standing Administration policy}}{\text{not to confirm or deny or discuss the location of deployed nuclear}}$ $\frac{10}{14}$ weapons. I would suggest you check with the Department of Defense for any details on U.S. agreements with Japan concerning this subject.

Ron

ABC SADAT SPECIAL (Excerpts)

December 19, 1974

HOWARD K. SMITH:

President Sadat, the mwelement in the Middle East debate is the rise of the Palestinian Liberation Organization to represent the Palestinian people.

Now, Mr. Arafat has said he is in favor of a Palestinian state sustaining a Jewish minority, but that would mean the dissolution of Israel. You've indicated that you're willing to accept an Israeli State. How do you compare the difference between you and Arafat?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

If I am a Palestinian I should say what Arafat says, It is their problem. But, for me, I have stated my views and I, the mere acceptance of the resolution 242 means that I, accept Israel as a fact.

PETER JENNINGS:

Sir, in the year since the October War you and Egypt have gained little else than a disengagement of the Sinai. That, I know, is not the accomplishment you expected when the war ended.

ANWAR el-SADAT:

Quite right, quite right. I should have liked that more progress would have taken place. But, I am a man of realities. I don't dream, and I hope the next three months -- as I told you -- we can speed up the momentum of the whole thing.

Are you, as President of Egypt, and is your nation prepared to live in peace with a. an Israel which does not expand beyond the 1967 borders

ANWAR el-SADAT:

I'm ready for a peace agreement with Israel... and this is valid up to this moment. I said much more than this. Let us do our best to end this state of belligerency that has already taken more than 26 years between the Arabs and the Israelis.

PETER JENNINGS:

How much pressure is on you. Mr. President if you didn't have the pressure of the wide variety of opinion in the Arab world on you. Would you move faster....would everything be easier?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

I'm ready, I'm ready to move faster, by my friend, just give me something concreto, and I am ready this moment to stop and work.

PETER JENNINGS:

What is concrete if we may look at the very next small step?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

You want to know it practical on the ground?

PETER JENNING:

Exactly.

ANWAR el-SADAT:

Very well,....I may tell you this....Israel must smove on all the fronts the Egyptian frint, the Syrian front, the Jordanian front, the Palestinian front now... but what I can gave is this. The end of the state of belligerency that has already taken more than twenty-six years up till this moment. More than that I am going to ask a third party like the United States. The United States has special relations with Israel and I consider myself now a friend of the United States. Well, why not the United States come and guarantee both of us.

PETER JENNINGS:

Has Henry Lissinger let you down in any way over the last year?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

Not at all. Not at all. Henry Kissinger has always been up to his word. And, **President Ford**, after he took power also, he has been always up to his word.

PETER JENNINGS:

If the Americans do not produce for you, if Dr. Kissinger do es not produce for you in the near future, will you abandon the United States....and where will that leave you - or do you have no choice at the moment?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

When I started my new chapter with the United States it was not a policy of the moment or on, or something that - is that I needed for some time and then drop it and as.....I mean with my new chapter. with the United States, that we must keep at least - if it is not the best - the normal relations with the United States, whatever the consequences are.

HOWARD K. SMITH:

If Israel starts it I have no choice.

But I am not planning any offensive, I told you this... I told you this now as I told you before, when I was planning the offensive. I said, "I am planning for the offensive", and you didn't believe me at that time. I think you shoyld believe me now. I'm not planning any offensive. The Arabs are not planning.... Syria, slso is not planning any offensive.

PETER JENNINGS:

At the beginning of this broadcast, at the beginning of the Sadat biography which we have just seen, Howard K. Smith said that the Americans were lucky to have Anwar Sadat because he was a moderate Arab leader. If there is no peace in a relatively short period of time... is there not a danger that the moderates, like Sadat, will disappear?

ANWAR el-SADAT:

Maybe.... Maybe.... Maybe.... because, you see, our people all over the Arab world are feeling, are starting to feel frustration, but, I think, and I am sure, also, that the United States can play the main role in keeping the momentum and in achieving peace in this area because, frankly speaking, all the cards are in the hands of the United States.

PETER JENNINGS:

Thank you Mr. President.

HOWARD K. SMITH:

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Thank you very much President Sadat.

5. Do you have any comment on the Evans and Novak report offamassive new arms agreement between Moscow and Cairo? Do you have any comment on the Newsweek reports that Israel and Egypt have adopted a more moderate stance with regard to the second Sinai withdrawal?

1/6/15

<u>GUIDANCE:</u> I have no comment on those news reports. As we have said before, we are now in a period of quiet diplomacy and I would have no details to provide on our contacts with the various parties.

<u>FYI</u>: The State Department will announce today that Israeli Foreign Minister Allon will visit Washington next week for further talks with Secretary Kissinger. If asked whether Allon will meet with the President you should respond that you won't rate out such compared to a set at this time. 11. Secretary Butz has signed an agreement to give Egypt an additional 200,000 tons of wheat. How can the U.S. afford to do this and why are we helping Egypt when it has access to Arab oil money and other countries may need the wheat even more desperately?

> <u>Guidance:</u> You should note that the agreement signed by Secretary Butz provides for the delivery of the wheat during the second quarter of 1975 and this is consistent with our policy of making food assistance allocations on a quarterly basis as U.S. grain availabilities can be more precisely determined. It is our view that assistance to Egypt is important to the success of our efforts to help bring peace to the Middle East and to further develop bilateral ties between the United States and the Middle East nations by assisting the countries there to turn their efforts toward reconstruction in economic development as part of their movement toward a durable peace settlement.

12. Can you confirm reports that Secretary Butshas requested permission of the President to announce a doubling of U.S.foodraidstosthesWorld Food Conference?

0 11/11/14

11/11/14

<u>Guidance: Secretary Butz did send in a cable from the delgation</u> requesting instructions on an increase in U.S. food assistance. There is general agreement within the Administration with the position stated by Secretary Kissinger on November 5 that the U.S. would increase its food aid contribution. However, as I said last Friday we are not able at this time to discuss specific figures related to this assistance until we have more information on U.S. crop availabilities this year. (You strictly should not be drawn into any discussion of whether an increase in food assistance would be an actual increase in the amount of food or only a dollar increase due to inflated costs. 8. FYI ONLY: If asked about the shipment of Soviet MIG-23's to Egypt you should say:

I would rather not comment on reports of military arrangements between other countries. Obviously, the subject of arms shipments to the Middle East is one that bears close watching, but we would hope that nothing would be done in this regard which would in any way jeopardize possibilities of a peaceful settlement. End FYI.

MEETING WITH EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

The President met this morning at 10: 30 a.m. with an Egyptian parliamentary delegation. This is the first official visit to the United States by Egyptian parliamentarians since before 1967. The meeting gave the President the chance to underline our intention to work actively for a negotiated settlement in the Middle East, and to emphasize the importance we attach to strengthening U.S.-Egyptian bilateral relations.

<u>FYI</u>: The parliamentarians are scheduled to spend sixteen days in the U.S. (April 25-May 2 in Washington), during which we expect them to get national and local news media coverage. Arrangements have been made for two days of meetings and hospitality with their counterpars on the Hill, and they are also scheduled to meet with other U.S. officials, academicians, and the media. In addition to Washington, the parliamentarians will be visiting Phoenix, San Francisco and New York before departing for Egypt on May II.

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NEA PROSS BRIEFING PAPER

June 11, 1975

MILITARY SALES TO EGYPT

- Q. Is it true, as reported today in the Boston Globe, that the President is considering a \$100 million military equipment sale to Egypt?
- A. No military sales from this government to Egypt are under consideration. I want to be clear-- the U.S. Government is not selling military equipment to Egypt. I understand that certain American companies, in straight commercial cash sales which need no licensing by the American government, have contracted to sell some trucks and jeeps to Egypt. But I repeat--these are not military transactions by the U.S. Government.
- Q. What about the transport helicopters mentioned in the story?A. No helicopters are being sold to Egypt by American companies.Q. How many trucks and jeeps are going to Egypt?

A. You will have to ask the company involved--AMC.

Q. Did the U.S. Government approve these transactions?

A. It is not a question of approval or disapproval, since they are straight commercial deals. We were asked whether such sales to Egypt would conflict with any U.S. policy. The answer was that we saw no problem with these sales.

- Q. Well, are the trucks and jeeps going to the Egyptian c.rmy?
- A. We do not know what use the Egyptians have in mind for all of these. It is my understanding that some of them are being purchased by an Egyptian Government corporation. Some of them at least will be going to the Egyptian army. But I stress--this is not a military sale, it is not a U.S. Government transaction, nor is it a commercial transaction which the U.S. Government must license, nor are any U. S. Government funds involved.
- Q. Is it true that Egyptian officers are to be enrolled in U.S. service schools?
- A. The Egyptians have indicated an interest in sending a small number of military officers for training at US Service Schools. The matter is being discussed. There is currently one Egyptian officer enrolled at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. in the Foreign Officers Command course.

Clearance: NEA - Mr. Atherton

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EGYPT REFUSES TO EXTEND UNEF MANDATE

BACKGROUND:

In a press conference last evening, Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi read the substance of a letter which was later delivered to Secretary General Waldheim. The letter states that the term of the UN forces in the Sinai, which had been extended until July 23, would no longer be extended beyond that date. Fahmi's letter explained this on the grounds that Israel has exploited the prevailing calm in the area "to perpetuate its occupation instead of supporting efforts aimed at establishing a lasting peace." The letter stated, however, that Egypt was not against "sound use" of the emergency force and would not prevent the Security Council from "acting within its jurisdiction in accordance with the UN charter, so the t Israel would not misinterpret the presence of the emergency forces or the philosophy behind it." Following the reading of the letter, Fahmi reportedly stated the UNEF could not remain without a mandate from the UN. As a matter of timing, it is of interest that Waldheim is to deliver a report on the status of UNEF today.

* * * *

The following Q & A was drafted by Under Secretary Sisco and approved

by Secretary Kissinger:

- Q. What do you think of the fact that the Egyptians will not extend United Nations Emergency Force in the Sinai beyond July 23rd?
- A. We have this under study and will be discussing this with

other interested parties.

FYI ONLY: Update to be provided contingent upon Secretary Kissinger's remarks at 11:00 a.m. press conference today.

SADAT'S VISIT

- Q. Henry Tanner's story in the <u>New York Times</u> states that President Sadat will be visiting the U.S. next month. Can you confirm the story and give us a date for the proposed visit?
- A. As you are aware, President Sadat has a long-standing invitation to visit the U.S. -- an invitation President Ford reiterated Monday in his conversation with President Sadat.
 We are looking forward to a visit from the President sometime this fall, but as yet no dates have been firmed up.

FYI ONLY: The Egyptian Embassy here is beginning to make some plans for a visit sometime in November. Nothing is firm, however.

MILITARY AID TO EGYPT

- Q. Is it true that the US will give military aid to Egypt? Will we give sophisticated equipment? Will the Israelis be upset?
- A. No decisions have been taken. As the President indicated, this matter has been under discussion. This is not a new issue. It has been under discussion tor some time. President Sadat has explained publicly and to a number of visiting members of Congress his views on the need for some degree to military supply from the West, including the U.S.
- Q. What did the President mean by the implied obligation to provide military assistance to Egypt? Is there a secret understanding?
 A. I am not going to try to interpret the President's words. I will just re-emphasize that this is not a new issue, that it has been discussed in public and that the President has indicated the matter is under discussion. I have nothing further to add.

September 25, 1975

MILITARY AID TO EGYPT

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ARMS AID TO EGYPT

Q. What did the President mean in his remarks in the Los Angeles Times that the U.S. has "an implied commitment" to supply arms to Egypt? Was this another secret commitment made during the recent shuttle?

Α.

To answer your last question first, Secretary Kissinger has said repeatedly that all U.S. undertakings in the recent negotiations have been put before the pertinent committees of Congress. The President told the Congressional leadership that we would work out with Congress the form for making these undertakings public. These undertakings do not include any specific commitment on arms requests from Egypt.

As to your first question, I think we should put the matter into perspective. For the past two years Egypt has sought actively to broaden its relations with other countries around the world. This is true in the economic sphere and certainly in the diplomatic. Furthermore, President Sadat has said openly specifically to visiting members of Congress that he wants to widen his sources of military supplies, to include the U.S., as well as other countries. We have made clear that this is a difficult matter for us so long as a state of war exists in the Middle East. We have also made clear that our policy is to be as responsive as possible in supporting President Sadat's efforts to raise the living standards of his people, as well as to move toward peace. The latter efforts include President Sadat's desire to diversify his sources of arms and increase Egypt's confidence in its present course. In this sense, our commitment to help him move toward peace certainly implies giving consideration to his military supply needs. We have made no commitment to Egypt on any arms request and, as the President said, this is a subject which still must be discussed. No decisions have been taken.

- Q. If this issue is difficult to determine as long as a state of war exists in the Middle East, are you going to wait until a final peace settlement before giving arms to Egypt?
- A. As I just said, and as the President has said, we have made no commitment on this. President Sadat has only addressed this matter in general terms.
- Q. Will you discuss this when Sadat visits here?
- A. We will have to wait and see. No dates for the visit have been formally announced, and I have nothing to give you in advance of the visit.

FORD ASSURANCES TO SADAT

Q. Wire services (FBIS, UPI) Sunday quote President Sadat as having said he has been assured by President Ford that Israel will not attack Syria, that there will be another disengagement agreement on the Golan Heights, and that the Palestinians will take part in efforts to reach an overall settlement.

Can you confirm these reports?

A. The President and Secretary Kissinger have said repeatedly in public statements that this interim agreement is only a step, albeit an important one toward an overall peace settlement which is our objective. As part of our effort, we have said we would make every effort to bring about progress on the Golan Heights and we have stated that any final settlement must take into account the legitimate interests of the Palestinians. We would not comment, however, on any communication which one party may have thad with another through us, but not involving any U.S. is not a commitments divert party.

<u>FYI:</u> If pressed for sources, you may recall for the press that President Ford told President Sadat in his public telephone conversation of September 1 that we must keep the momentum going for an overall settlement. Kissinger addressed this issue in his Cincinnati speech September 16, 1975.

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

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His Excellency, Anwar Sadat, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, has accepted the President's invitation to visit the United States beginning on October 26. President Sadat will visit Washington before proceeding to other cities in the United States. President and Mrs. Ford have long wished to welcome President Sadat to this country, and also look forward with special pleasure to receiving Mrs. Sadat. The President believes this visit will serve to symbolize the close relationship currently existing between Egypt and the United States, and further strengthen their bilateral ties, in the interest of continuing friendship between their peoples and peace in the Middle East.

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October 9, 1975

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SADAT VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

- Q: The White House has announced that President Sadat will visit the United States beginning October 26. What do you see as being the purpose of this visit?
- A: You may remember that during President Nixon's visit to Cairo last year, President and Mrs. Sadat were invited to the United States at a mutually convenient time. I reaffirmed this invitation by telephone on September 1 at the end of Secretary Kissinger's last trip to the Middle East. This visit is in response to that invitation. I personally look forward to renewing my acquaintance with President Sadat and welcoming him and Mrs. Sadat to this country. Our first series of meetings this summer in Salzburg were very constructive, and I expect to continue them in the United States. Finally, I see this visit as signifying the development in our relationship with Egypt, and the progress achieved thus far in moving toward a just and durable settlement in the Middle East. President Sadat and I are both determined to see that goal achieved.
- Q: Do you plan to announce your intended level of support for Egypt? What about the question of Egyptian interest in acquiring US arms?
- A: It would not be appropriate for the to discuss in any detail what President Sadat and I might talk about during our forthcoming meeting. To do so would be speculative. A. We plan to review the full rave of issues healing with the Sinai agreement issues healing with the Sinai agreement and with possible next steps towne and with possible next steps towne

PAGE 2

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- Q: Will Prime Minister Rabin be coming to the US?
- A: I also invited Prime Minister Rabin by phone on September 1, but the details and timing still need to be worked out.

October 9, 1975

SADAT VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

- Q: Where exactly will Sadat be going? Will he come to Washington first or is he going somewhere else? What about the rest of his itinerary?
- A: The precise details for the Sadat visit have not yet been fixed. This will be done during the next few weeks, in coordination with the Egyptian Government. An advance party of Egyptian officials will in fact be arriving on October 10 to help work out the details of President Sadat's visit. (FYI: For security reasons, we do not intend to give full details of President Sadat's itinerary.)

Q: Why is Sadat coming to the United States at this time? Weren't there plans for him to arrive last December or January? gince gune 1974 with There has been an outstanding invitation for President and A: an invitation the Pier reaffirmed during his come station with Sadat Sestember 1. Mrs. Sadat to visit the United States, since President Cairo in June of last year. The visit was to mulual conference of the two Pres ođ place a time mutually con ent and venient to th Schedule developed an e th President Sadat , and that has not been possible until now.

- Q: What will be the principal aims of this visit?
- A: I cannot speak for Egypt, but President Ford clearly looks forward to renewing his acquaintance with President Sadat, whom he first met in Salzburg in June, and to welcoming him

to the United States. Although President Sadat visited this country in 1966, this will be the first visit of an Egyptian President to the United States. President Ford believes that this visit stands as a symbol of the progress that has taken place in our continuing relationship with Egypt as a manifestation of our determination to achieve a just and durable settlement in the Middle East.

- Q: What will the two leaders discuss? Will there be an announcement about the level of US financial support for Egypt? Is the United States prepared to respond to the Egyptian interest in acquiring US arms?
- A: Both President Sadat and President Ford will discuss matters of bilateral concern and, of course, the current situation in the Middle East. It is not now possible to give you more details of what the two Presidents will discuss.

Q: Will there be a communique or joint statement during or after the visit?

I have writing the sense on that at this time. That hasn't been determined yet.

A:

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SADAT VISIT

- Q. Can you give us any more details on Sadat's schedule for his visit here?
- A. Not at this time. We will inform you when plans are

firmed up.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SADAT VISIT

President Sadat of Egypt begins his State Visit to the United States on Sunday, October 26, lasting through Wednesday, November 5. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Sadat, and members of their family, as well by Prime Munster and Minet of Economic (convention Kaki as foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy, and other officials of the Egyptian Shafe Government. President and Mrs. Ford especially look forward to this State Visit -- the first by an Egyptian President -- to renew their acquaintance with President Sadat whom they met in Salzburg, Austria last June, and to meet Mrs. Sadat for the first time. This visit should be seen against the background of the developing relationship between the United States and the Arab Republic of Egypt in the search for a just and durable settlement in the Middle East.

President and Mrs. Sadat and their official party will arrive at Williamsburg, Virginia, and proceed to Washington on October 27. While in the United States they will also visit New York, Illinois, Texas and Florida.

President and Mrs. Ford look forward to greeting President *i / um* and Mrs. Sadat at an Arrival Ceremony on Monday, October 27. President Ford will meet with President Sadat that day and President and Mrs. Ford will host a State Dinner at the White House that evening in honor of the President and Mrs. Sadat.

President Ford also will meet with President Sadat on Tuesday, Dimer at Anlersontfrise hotel by 10:40 October 28. (President Ford also expects to meet again with President P. Sa · Hh - evening . ≁ Sadat during his visit in Florida and Washington prior to President Sadat's departure P esident Ford also expects to meet again with Pr osident his stay in the United States and these meetings Sadat during will-be in due course. announce

We will have a fuller schedule with more details for you later this afternoon or tomorrow.

FYI: The Protocol Office is meeting on the public aspects of the schedule today.

* * * *

SADAT VISIT -- OFFICIAL PARTY

Sadat's Wife:	Jihan
Sadat's Daughter: Husband of Daughter:	Lubna 'Abd al-Ghaffar 'Abd al-Khaliq
Sadat's Daughter: Husband of Daughter:	Nuha Mar'i Hassan Mar'i
Son:	Gamal Sadat
Daughter: Escort of Youngest Daughter:	Jihan Sadat Mahmoud Osman

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THE ZIONISM ISSUE

In his National Press Club remarks yesterday, President Sadat Q: placed himself firmly against Zionism His policies run directly counter to those of the United States on this issue. Has President

Ford registered with President Sadat the strong opposition of the US to Egypt's stand?

Quelice male

This country's position on the anti-Zionist issue at the UN & clear This country's position on the anti-Zionist issue at the UN & clear This country the model of anything would the united States believes that the passage of such a resolution would A: dan/age both the United Nations and the prospects for a sattlement. The two Presidents weeked upon but did not discuss the resolution in any detail; their main elicit concentrated on ways to maintain the momentum of the peace process.

- But how can we welcome Sadat so warmly when he supports a resolution Q: that the President says may cripple the UN?
- A: As I said, both Presidents view their meetings as opportunities to concentrate on the principal issues upon which progress in the Middle East can be made. They expect to continue their discussions along these lines.
- Major Beame of New York has refused to see President Sadat during Q: his visit. How does the White House view this evident snub of a visiting Chief of State by New York? What do you think are the reasons behind Major Beame's action? Pres Sadat is queil & US Coot.

do not want to characterize Mayor Beame's decision, or speculate on A:

mis reasons We negret the decision

If Jacksonville meetings are to be announced

- Q: When will President Ford go to Jacksonville? How long will he stay there? Will they meet again later?
- A: President Ford will depart for Jacksonville on Sunday morning, November 2, and plans to return the same evening. There may also be occasion for the two Presidents to hold a final meeting before President Sadat's departure from the US, but the details of this are not yet firm.

EGYPT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

FYI:

The acquisition of two US nuclear-power reactors will boost Egypt's industrial development in the mid-1980's.

The two reactors, which have combined planned capacity of 1.2 million kilowatts will be located near Alexandria to serve the Cairo area. Seawater desalinization equipment capable of processing 5 million gallons perday will be included.

Egypt's electric power base, now underutilized by about 50 percent will be hard pressed to meet the country's requirements until nuclear power plants are completed. Completion of the plants is planned for 1983. The Soviet-built Aswan hydroelectric station accounts for almost half of Egypt's national capacity of about 4.5 million kilowatts, even though it is operating at only about half its potential. Aswan may never operate at more than this because of the competition from irrigation for available water.

The present electric power surplus is expected to be readily consumed as industrialization progresses. The nuclear installations are expected to provide the necessary electricity requirements to sustain industrial growth as well as provide fresh water for agricultural development. The location of the two reactors in the industrial heartland will alleviate the currently excessive dependence on transmission from Aswan, which is susceptible to interruption.

Nuclear power is expected to assure a more stable output of electricity than hydroelectric production. Possession of nuclear power would also serve Egypt's desire for enhanced prestige and technological competence.

November 26, 1975

US ARMS FOR EGYPT

Q: What is your view on US arms for Egypt?

A: This was among the questions discussed during President Sadat's visit, but there was no consideration of a list of specific equipment. President Sadat has made it clear that Egypt is interested in diversifying its sources of military equipment so as not to depend exclusively upon the USSR. He has explained to Members of Congress why he would like some military equipment from the United States as part of this process. As relations between our two countries continue to evolve, assuming the situation in the Middle East remains favorable, we will be consulting with Congress and talking more specifically with the Egyptians about the possibility of Egypt buying some military equipment from the United States.

MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT

- Q. In the context of moving to solidify our relations with Egypt, is it true that you plan to provide military assistance to Egypt, beginning with C-130 aircraft?
- A: Egyptian interest in military equipment from the US is not a $TL \in US$. Was made Awate $c \neq This Interest Some fine ego$, new issue. The subject came up in a general way during

the visit of President Sadat and he has also discussed his

desires in this regard with visiting members of the Congress.

We have made it very clear that we would consult with Congress before selling military equipment to Egypt and whatever is done in this regard would be done in consultation with Congress and m herm, will decomplicable. This is understood by the Egyptians.

As the State Department spokesman indicated last week, a specific request from Egypt for C-130 aircraft has been received and is being considered. Congress will be consulted before the sale of these aircraft is approved. These consultations can be expected to begin fairly soon. (Oach Dors on exact $\int i^{Ocress}$)

We will also consult Congress on the development of this relationship, the shape and size of which would be worked out gradually in consultation with the Congress.

PAGE 2

Q: Has Rabin been told, during his visit?

- A: The situation is as I have described it and I am not going to get into a discussion of diplomatic exchanges with other Governments. I emphasize that any decision on military equipment for Egypt is dependent on consultations with Congress.
- Q: Are you concerned about fueling an arms race by providing military assistance to Egypt or will you place restraints on what they can purchase? What is the rationale for providing arms to Egypt?

Should there be any future military supply relationship, it would have to be seen within the context of our efforts to assist our friends in the area who are trying to reach a negotiated peace and who have certain legitimate security needs. In the case of Egypt, our emphasis is primarily $75000 \pm 1000 \pm 1000$ on assisting in the economic and development areas. We have also told them we are prepared to discuss pruchases m(1/4000)of some kinds of equipment but that prior consultations with Congress would be required for any actual sale to take place.

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- Q. What else besides the C-130s are we planning to give to Egypt -- F-5s, TOWs?
- A. I have made clear that the shape and size of any future military sales to Egypt has not been decided and would only be decided in consultations with the Congress.

CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND ARMS TO EGYPT

Q. Is it true that the Administration has begun consultations with Congress looking toward opening an arms-supply relationship with Egypt?

Yes, consultations on opening a military-supply relationship with Egypt have begun with Congress. As we said earlier, a decision on opening such a relationship with Egypt will be taken in light of these consultations.

What is the Administration proposing to provide Egypt and when?

> On a number of occasions, President Sadat has expressed his interest in acquiring American military equipment. The Egyptian Government knows that prior to any decision the Administration must consult fully with Congress. The specific items we are considering at this time are the sale of six C-130 transport aircraft. But I repeat -- a decision to go forward on these items is dependent upon these consultations with Congress.

Q.

Α.

Q.

Α.

What are the nature of your consultations with the Congress?

-- We have provided the Congress with our conceptual analysis of a serious problem.

-- As you know, President Sadat has shown his desire to end Egyptian dependence on the Soviet Union in the military, as well as in other fields, and it is clearly in our interest to assist him in defending his policies of moderation against outside pressures.

-- The Administration is consulting with the Congress about a decision on whether to meet an interest President Sadat has expressed -- to members of Congress, as well as to the United States Government, in obtaining some military equipment from us.

-- Before we could proceed with the sale of six C-130's the President would submit to Congress a Presidential recommendation making Egypt eligible to buy military equipment under the Foreign Military Sales Act.

-- So with respect to the specific items now being considered for Egypt -- the six C-130's -- we would use the Foreign Military Sales procedure, as distinct from commerical channels (also available for sales). [Any specific, formal Congressional decision would be taken in connection with transactions submitted to the Congress subsequently under the terms of the Nelson-Bingham Amendment. (This amendment gives both Houses of Congress 20 days to register any objection to military sales or credit over \$25 million.)]

Q. Then you are really saying that the C-130's are only the first item that by allowing it to go forward to Congress, is opening the door to other items?

Α.

The Administration is consultating Congress about a decision on whether to meet an interest President Sadat has expressed -- to membersof Congress, as well as to the United States Government -- in acquiring some military equipment from the United States. Neither the United States or Egypt has discussed in specific terms what sort of long-term relationship might develop in the military field, nor is there agreement on what the U.S. would supply.

-- What we are considering are the six C-130's, and we would proceed under the requirements of the Foreign Military Sales Act. Under the Nelson-Bingham Amendment, the proposed sales of six C-130's clearly gives Congress a role.

-3-

In bald terms, then, the Administration is proposing to open a military supply relationship with Egypt that could expand in the years ahead?

We are consulting with the Congress about the United States broadening a relationship with Egypt that has helped promote the first real progress toward a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is vitally important to the United States to maintain the confidence of Egypt, in the peace process. President Sadat has shown his desire to reduce Egyptian dependence on the Soviet Union in the military, as well as other fields, and it is clearly in our interest to assist him in defending his policies of moderation against outside pressures.

- Q. Have you not also been consulting with Congress about other categories of military items beside the C-130's?
- A. The only specific item of military equipment under consideration, at this time, is the C-130.

ONLY IF PRESSED:

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Α.

- Q. Has Egypt used commerical channels?
- A. These channels have been used from time to time for line purchases which require U.S. Government licensing.

Future decisions will be taken in light of our current consultations with Congress.

- Q. What items have already been licensed?
- A. I understand we have licensed some trucks and jeeps, and handguns for the police and temporary licenses for some inertial navigation systems for civilian airliners.

END ONLY IF PRESSED

Q. Have you told the Israelis of your intentions? Do they agree?

A. The Israeli Government has been informed as to our intentions. But I am not going to get into the details of our diplomatic exchanges with other governments.

Q. What is the estimated cost of the C-130's?

The basic cost of a C-130 is now approximately \$6.5 million. To that you would have to add training, spare parts, associated ground equipment and special plane configurations. The total costs cannot be estimated until negotiations are concluded.

March 9, 1976

US ARMS SALES TO EGYPT

- Q. Based on Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's statements, it would appear that the Administration has more in mind for Egypt than just limited arms sales. What exactly is involved and how can the USG possibly justify arms sales to Egypt since these will fuel an arms race and weaken our commitment to Israel's security?
- A. You know that President Sadat has expressed interest in some military equipment and training. We indicated that we would consider these requests as part of our policy to maintain a close relationship with Egypt.

However, I want to make very clear that any decision to supply any military equipment to Egypt will be taken after we have had the benefit of the <u>full</u> consultation with the Congress which is now underway, and in accordance with Congressional procedures. Also, whatever we will do will be limited in nature. At present, the only specific item under consultation is several C-130 transport aircraft.

Our objective in supplying Egypt anything in the military field is the same as that in providing economic assistance, -- to support

EGYPT ARMS -- 2

Egypt in continuing the moderate policies which have been so instrumental in helping the area move closer to peace. By responding to Egypt's own desires to diversify its resources in this field, including reducing dependence on the Soviets, we can help maintain its confidence in the peace process. We do not intend to become Egypt's main supplier of arms.

Let me make very clear however that we remain unequivocally committed to Israel's security and will do nothing to upset the balance in the area to Israel's disadvantage. Israel's position is very strong and it will continue to receive substantial military and economic assistance from the US to this end.

- Q. The Israelis are obviously not persuaded by the Administration's arguments. What is your reaction to their strong condemnation of the arms decision?
- A. We have been in touch with the Israelis on this matter. We are firm in our commitment to Israel's security and we will do nothing to upset the balance in the area to Israel's disadvantage.

EGYPT ARMS -- 3

- Q. Is it true that the Administration's real intent is to use the C-130s to set a precedent for future supply of more sophisticated equipment to Egypt, possibly after the results of more primaries are in?
- A. Our intention is to consult with Congress on a matter of support for Egypt's moderate policies. It is public knowledge that President Sadat desires other items of equipment. Any decisions will be taken on the basis of <u>full</u> consultations with the Congress. We do not intend to become Egypt's main supplier of arms.

SADAT ASKS FOR ABROGATION OF FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH THE SOVIET UNION

- Q. What was the President's reaction to President Sadat's call for termination of his country's friendship treaty with the Soviet Union?
- A. I have no reaction to report, nor do I have any comment on President Sadat's announcement.
- Q. But how will this affect U.S.-Egyptian relations? Won't the Egyptians now expect us to step in and fill the gap as a major supplier of Egyptian military needs?

Α.

U.S. -Egyptian relations have been developing steadily since 1973 and we do not expect any change in that bilateral relationship. At present, the U.S. is discussing with the Congress the idea of providing Egypt with 6 C-130 aircraft in keeping with our response to Egypt's publicly acknowledged position on diversifying its source of suppliers. The 6 aircraft are at present the only supplies under discussion for Egypt, and as we have said before, any decisions on materiel for Egypt will be made with the full consultation of the Congress.

March 15, 1976

THE SHAH OF IRAN WARNS THE UNITED STATES ON ARMS SUPPLY

See attached wire story on <u>U.S. News and World Report</u> interview with the Shah of Iran.

We should not comment on the alleged statements by the Shah until we have had a chance to read the article (due to arrive at the White House today). Since a fairly well-constructed rejoinder to the Shah may be required, we would not want to make any public statements based on reports alone.

FYI: Arms to Iran are provided through FMS cash sales and also

through commercial channels.

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SHAH

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EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE 6 P.M. EST TODAY, MARCH 14 WASHINGTON, MARCH 14, REUTER - THE SHAH OF IRAN WARNED IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED TODAY THAT A UNITED STATES EMBARGO ON ARMS WOULD LEAD TO ""IMMEASURABLE" PEPERCUSSIONS.

""COULD THE UNITED STATES AFFORD TO SEE IRAN LOST?"" HE ASKED. ""COULD THE WHOLE WORLD AFFORD IT? YOU CAN"T JUST LIVE IN YOUR DREAMLAND, YOUR "FORTRESS AMERICA", AND LET ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD EVENTUALLY DISAPPEAR.""

THE SHAH TOLD THE MAGAZINE U.S. NEWS AND WOPLD REPORT THAT IF CONCEESS OUTS OFF ARMS SHIPMENTS TO IEAN HE WOULD TUPN TO OTHER SOURCES FOR MILITARY SUPPLIES. "WE HAVE 10 OTHER MARKETS TO PROVIDE US WITH WHAT WE NEED. THERE ARE PEOPLE JUST WAITING FOR THAT MOMENT, " HE SAID.

HE CLAIMED THAT IRAN COULD HURT THE UNITED STATES ""AS BADLY IF NOT MORE SO THAN YOU CAN HURT US. NOT JUST THROUGH OIL, WE CAN CREATE TROUBLE FOR YOU IN THE REGION. IF YOU FORCE US TO CHANGE OUR FRIENDLY ATTITUDE, THE REPERCUSSIONS WILL BE IMMEASURABLE.""

MORE 1430

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SHAH 2 WASHINGTON (EMBARGOED)

IRAN WANTS TO BUY HUNDREDS OF AIRCRAFT FROM THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING F-16 FIGHTER PLANES AND AWACS, AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM PLANES, SPECIALLY OUTFITTED WITH SOPHISTICATED RADAR AND OTHER ELECTRONIC GEAR.

THE SHAH SAID AMERICA"S CREDIBILITY IS NOT TOO HIGH. ""YOU LOOK LIKE A CRIPPLED GIANT. ANGOLA HAS CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO THAT. THIS KIND OF POLICY WILL ONLY LEAD YOU INTO MORE VIETNAMS IN THE FUTURE,"" HE SAID. REUTER 1432

SITUATION IN LEBANON

Lebanese Situation Remains Unchanged: Although political and military pressures have heightened during the past twelve hours, there have been no substantive developments. President Frangie continues to maintain a hard-line posture toward efforts to unseat him. A parliamentarian who called on the President yesterday with a petition from Parliament signed by 66 deputies (two-thirds of the total Parliament membership) calling for his resignation, said the head of state told him he would not resign and wanted to finish his six-year term, which ends in September.

Q. What can you tell us today about the situation in Lebanon? Is the President concerns over developments there?

A. The President is watching the situation closely and with concern. for the people of Lebanon. Our hope remains that the Lebanese can find a solution which will preserve the independence and territorial integrity of their country and preserve their national unity and cohesion.

<u>FYI:</u> This policy was enunciated by the State Department at their briefing Friday. It is basically a reiteration of our publicly stated policy from last fall.

*

March 15, 1976

CIA ON ISRAEL'S A-WEAPONS AND SOVIET AERONAUTICS INDUSTRY

Angus Thuermer, Public Affairs Officer for the CIA confirmed that the Agency had a briefing for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, not unlike backfround briefings that have been held for the past 15 years. Thuermer could not confirm the substance of the briefings but did say that all invitees were asked not to bring notebooks and not to write down anything they were told.

Because the Agency has no entertainment allowance, the IAA paid to GSI what they otherwise would have paid to a hotel or other reception room for refreshments.

* * * *

Any and all questions on the <u>substance</u> of the reported CIA briefing or the <u>arrangements</u> under which the briefing was conducted should be referred to the CIA.

March 18, 1976

FORD REBUFF TO JEWISH GROUP ON C-130's

- Q. Bernard Gwertzman reports that President Ford told a group of American Jewish leaders that despite their opposition, he would proceed with plans to sell C-130's to Egypt. Can you confirm the story and describe in fuller detail the meeting of yesterday?
- A. While we would not discuss or characterize the nature of the President's meeting, I think his views on our continued commitment and support to Israel are well known, as are his views on assisting President Sadat and Egypt as our bilateral relations develop. These views have been stated publicly and often by the President, the Secretary of State, and by Administration spokesmen and they have not changed.

Statement on an IF ASKED BASIS concerning Notification to Congress on C-130s

The President has signed today a Determination making Egypt eligible for the cash sale of C-130 aircraft and training in United States military schools in accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Military Sales Act, as amended. The appropriate Committees of Congress have been informed by the Department of State. Pursuant to this Determination, the Department of Defense has informed Congress of its intention to sell to Egypt 6 unarmed C-130 transport aircraft in accordance with the Foreign Military Sales Act.

<u>Question:</u> Will there be any other sales of military equipment to Egypt? <u>Answer:</u> This Determination relates only to the sale of C-130 aircraft and training of Egyptian personnel. There are no other plans at this time.

Question: Why did the President decide to proceed via FMS rather than

commercially?

Answer: It was the President's wish to allow Egypt to receive the same administrative support services as other purchases of US military equipment.

ALL OTHER QUESTIONS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE.

March 27, 1976

UNCLASSIFIED WITH CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

US ARMS SALES TO EGYPT

- Q. President Sadat has indicated in a press interview that he wants much more than just C-130s from the US. He really wants F-5 aircraft, TOW missiles and other equipment, and says he will ask for these items within this year. Is it not true that the sale of C-130s is a prelude to a much broader arms relationship with Egypt? How will we respond to Egypt's requests? Will we provide this equipment before the elections?
- A. As we have made abundantly clear, the C-130 is the only specific item of equipment under consideration. There are no other plans at this time. We have made emphatically clear that any future steps to be taken in this regard would only be taken in full consultation with the Congress.

With respect to Egypt's requirements for military equipment, this is not new. The many members of Congress who have visited Egypt have been told of President Sadat's interest. However, we have no present plans to go beyond the C-130/training offer.

- Q. What is the President's reaction to the strong Israeli protest, including in the US Jewish community, of the plans to even sell the C-130s?
- A. The President has stated many times that we remain firmly committed to Israel's security, that we are continuing to provide very substantial aid to Israel and that no steps will be taken to upset the balance in the area.

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ED 11652: GOS TAGS: PFOR EG:US UR SUBJECT: SADAT INTERVIEW WITH WASHINGTON POST

1. WASHINGTON POST EDITOR DBERDORFER HAD INTERVIEW MARCH 26 WITH SADAT. WE HAVE SEEN COPY OF HIS ARTICLE WHICH USIS ASSISTED HIM IN TRANSMITTING (STRICTLY PROTECT:

2. SADAT MADE THO IMPORTANT STATEMENTS TO OBEROORFER. FIRST, HE SURFACED FACT THAT SOVIETS HAVE BEEN GIVEN ONE MONTH TO EVACUATE ALEXAMORIA NAVAL FACILITIES. (I.E. APRIL 14 IS DEADLINE).

3. SECOND, FOR EIRST TIME, SADAT SPECIFIED TO JOURNALIST ON THE RECORD THE YPES OF ARMS HE IS REQUESTING EROM. US: THEY ARE F-5E JET FIGHTERS, TOW ANTI-TANK MISSILES, AND ALSO "SOME COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVAL GEAR." PRESIDENT HAS NOT MADE ANY FORMAL REQUEST OTHER THAN FOR C+1301S, BU SAID HE HAS DECIDED MAKE PUBLIC THESE NEEDS IN ORDER EXPLA-HTS SITUATION TO US CONGRESS AND PUBLIC. HE STRESSED WEAPONS ARE DNLY DEFENSIVE AND ARE NEEDED WITHIN 1976. "I THINK I HAVE RIGHT NOW TO ASK FOR DEFENSIVE WEAPONS... WHEN THEY ASKED ME IN THE STATES I SAID I DID NOT HAVE SHOPPING LIST. I CAN NOW SAY THAT I AM IN NEED, AT LEAST FOR DEFENSIVE WEAPONS." SADAT CALLED SIX C-130 " A VERY SMALL THING," BUT MADE CLEAR THAT EVOLVING GDE-USG RELATION SYMBOLIZED BY THIS FIRST PROPOSED MILITARY SALE IN THO DEC/ IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE FOR EGYPT.

4. DN SOVIETS, SADAT SAID RUSSIANS ARE PUTTING DNEWVICIOUS SQUEEZEW ECONDHICALLY AND MILITARILY, AND STRESSED DECISION ABROGATE FRIENDSHIP TREATY WAS PURELY EGYPTIAN

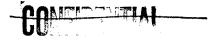
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DECISION, MADE WITHOUT CONSULTING US. EILTS BT

US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Q: Mr. President, may we have your reaction to the conclusion of the new US-Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement, signed on Friday evening, March 26 by Secretary Kissinger and Turkish Foreign Minister Caglayangil?
A: It is a source of great satisfaction that the United States and Turkey have successfully concluded the negotiation of a new Defense Cooperation Agreement. The new agreement reflects the very important defense interests we share with the Government of Turkey as NATO allies -- : I reviewed these issues personally with the Turkish Foreign Minister on Wednesday. The new agreement makes an important contribution to the national security interests of the United States, and it is therefore very much to be welcomed.

Q: What are the details?

A: By mutual agreement with the Government of Turkey, the details will be announced simultaneously in Ankara and Washington at the beginning of next week. We will have a detailed review of the agreement at that time.

- Q: Mr. President, with only limited progress to date toward a Cyprus settlement, why does the United States continue to provide military assistance to Turkey, the nation which invaded Cyprus in July 1974?
- A: I believe we should be looking to the future and to the interests of the United States rather than debating events of 1974 -- events which are subject to different interpretation by each of the interested parties.
 We cooperate with Turkey -- in terms of military assistance -- not as a favor but as a contribution to our common security. Events of the past year have shown that restrictions on military assistance to Turkey --

a NATO ally -- are counterproductive, impeding rather than facilitating progress on Cyprus and otherwise damaging our overall interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. We want to be as even-handed as possible toward all the parties in the Greek-Turkish dispute over Cyprus. At a time when the United States is taking steps on a number of fronts to improve and strengthen relations with Greece, we should not be considering punitive legislation which would reimpose restrictions on aid to Turkey. This course would damage U.S.-interests and offer the prospect of stalemate or worse on issues of importance to us in the Eastern Mediterranean. The Administration is consulting with the Congress on security assistance legislation for countries in the Eastern Mediterranean.

In my meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Caglayangil on March 24, I firmly reiterated the importance my Administration attaches to Turkey's contributions to the NATO Alliance.

MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT WITH EGYPTIAN VICE ADMIRAL FUAD MUHAMMAD AHMED ZIKRI

The President met this morning at 10:20 with the Commander in Chief of the Egyptian Navy, Vice Admiral Fuad Muhammad Ahmed Zikri. Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal, Secretary Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft also attended. Vice Admiral Zikri is in this country as President Sadat's representative to the U.S. Bicentennial. He participated in the International Naval Review held in New York Harbor on July 5, where Egypt was represented by the Naval vessel Huriyya.

During their meeting, Vice Admiral Zikri presented the President with Egypt's Bicentennial gift to the United States, an ancient Egyptian stele, representing a religious scene from the 18th Dynasty. The stele was discovered in 1967 and is dated about 1420 B.C.

The meeting also gave the President the opportunity to extend his best personal wishes through Vice Admiral Zikri to President Sadat and his appreciation on behalf of the American people for Egypt's gift to the U.S.

F.Y.I. : A description of the stele is attached. The admiral will actually present the President with a photograph of the stele, the gift itself being too heavy for personal presentation. The stele is set up in the Cabinet room this morning.

MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT WITH EGYPTIAN VICE ADMIRAL FUAD MUHAMMAD AHMED ZIKRI

Q: Is Vice Admiral Zikri coming as an Egyptian military representative and will he and the President discuss U.S. weapons sales to Egypt?

As noted in the announcement, Admiral Zikri is visiting the U.S. as President Sadat's representative to our Bicentennial Celebrations. The question of U.S. arms sales to Egypt has not arisen during his visit here, nor is it expected to during his meeting with the President. As you will remember, the Administration gave its assurances to Congress during the Congressional deliberations on the sale of C-130 aircraft to Egypt that no other U.S. military equipment will be sold to Egypt during this calendar year.

Q: What is the Huriyya? Is it a warship?

A:

A: The Huriyya is a Naval Yacht commissioned in 1865. It was the first vessel to pass through the newly completed Suez Canal in 1868, and again, through the newly reopened Suez Canal in 1975. Historically, it was also the vessel which took King
Farouk out of Egypt at the instance of the newly created Revolutionary Command Council following Egypt's July Revolution in 1952. It is currently at the Washington Navy Yard.

- Can you give us a fuller description of the stele? How large is it? What is its symbolism?
- A: The stele itself is a limestone monolith about 2-1/2 feet high, a foot and a half wide, and three inches thick. I understand that it contains a votive scene showing an Egyptian priest of Hathor, the goddess of love and beauty, offering incense to his parents. There is also an inscription. [FYI: There is a well-known Egyptologist, Dr. Sayyid Tawfiq, currently in Washington who may be available to answer jouralists' questions if desired. He is thoroughly familiar with the stele.]
- Q: Will Admiral Zikri and the President discuss Middle East negotiations?
 - A: I would expect that the President and the Admiral will touch upon the Middle East situation in a general way, but I would not want to characterize their discussions before they occur.

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Q:

PRESIDENT SADAT'S BICENFENNIAL GIFT

TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Ibraheem El-Nawawy, First Curator, Egyptian Museum, has sent us a description, given below, of the antiquity to be presented to the American people on behalf of President Sadat by Admiral Zikry.

> "A memorial stela of a Hather-Priest called N NWNW. Limestone, 75 centimeters high, 47.5 centimeters wide and 12.5 centimeters thick. The stela is round-topped. Depicted on it in the upper field in sunk relief, thirteen vertical lines of hieroglyphic text bringing the offering formula, the names, titles and epithets of the persons and gods mentioned in the formula.

Under the text we see, from right to left, a son who is standing before his parents censing and libating. The son is called Neb-Pehetra, who was already dead and to whom the repeated life is wished. The parents are sitting on a sofa; before them is an offering table laden with bread and onions. The father is smelling a lotus-flower while his wife is holding him by the shoulder and by the arm. On the lower part of the stela, there is a representation of two children of NWNW (Paser, called clean of hands, and Hehhy) who stand before three big jars of liquids. The stela is of a good state of preservation. Provenance: Matarrya (Heliopolis) found the excavation of the antiquities organization behind the Technical High Institute (Temp No. 5/6 over 76/1); Date -Dynasty XVIII (about 1420 B.C.) "

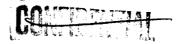
The stela is of limestone and weighs 100 kilograms.

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President Sadat's bicentennial gift to the American people.

MEMORANDUM



DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4 (5) White House Guide Lines, Feb. 24, 1983

By 2012 NARS, Data 3/7/85

THE WHITE HOUSE washington

CONFIDENTIAL

August 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

GENERAL SCOWCROFT RON NESSEN LES JANKA

SUBJECT:

Morning Press Items

1. Egyptian Hijacking:

Q. Does the President have any reaction to the successful conclusion of the hijacking of an Egyptian airliner yesterday?

A. Suggested Answer:

We are always pleased to see decisive action taken against such terrorist acts, wherever they occur, and the President is gratified yesterday's hijacking was thwarted without injuries or loss of life.

FYI ONLY: Despite the Entebbe precedent, the President will not send any special message to President Sadat, in keeping with our standard practice of simply commenting on terrorist incidents rather than sending Presidential messages. There is also less reason for a message in this case, since it is unclear if there were any Americans aboard the aircraft, and there are some questions about the hijacking itself, with respect to the current state of Egyptian-Libyian relations.



Morning Press Items (Continued)

3. (Continued)

FYI ONLY:

The State Department will confirm today that the meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, which we requested, will be held on Wednesday morning, Korean time.

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CONTIDENTIAL

4. President Sadat has said the Middle East is a bomb about to explode unless the U.S. and Sec. Kissinger takes urgent action to bring about a resumption of negotiations. Is the U.S. concerned about an outbreak of war and can you confirm the Evans and Novak report that President Sadat's visit to the U.S. has been cancelled?

<u>GUIDANCE:</u> As we have said repeatedly in recent days, the U.S. remains committed to maintaining a momentum toward a Middle East peace settlement and we believe that the most effective way to do this is through a period of quiet diplomacy. I will, therefore, not have any detailed comment to provide you regarding the Middle East.

With regard to the visit of President Sadat to the U.S. there has never been a specific date set, therefore, we cannot talk of a cancellation or postponement. President Ford continues to look forward to welcoming President Sadat to the U.S. and when a mutually convenient date has been arranged, we will announce it to you.

We certainly hope that all the parties will refrain from actions or words which might jeopardize the progress and possibilities of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

-5-

IMPRESSIONS OF PRESIDENT SADAT ASSESSMENT OF YOUR MEETING

Q: What is your assessment of President Sadat and of the results of your meeting with him and do they hold promise for early movement in the negotiations? Did you and Sadat agree on views on next steps on what an overall settlement should look like?

This was my first opportunity to have wide-ranging personal discussions with President Sadat and to establish a personal relationship with him. I am impressed with his judgment and statesmanship and I believe he is sincerely committed to peace.

Our discussions were most constructive. We exchanged analyses on the current situation and covered the whole range of the various approaches and diplomatic options for resuming progress toward peace. I emphasized my view that stagnation or a stalemate is unacceptable. He agreed and presented his views on the nature of an eventual peaceful settlement. We also discussed bilateral issues, including ways in which we can work directly and with others to help Egypt carry out its plans for economic development.

I will now be consulting with Prime Minister Rabin, but until I have concluded all of my discussions, I would not want to speculate on decisions that may be made as a result of our reassessment.

A:

VISIT TO EGYPT

- Q: Have you accepted Sadat's invitation to visit Egypt and when would you plan such a visit? Would it also include a visit to Israel? Have you invited Sadat to Washington?
- A: President Sadat has invited me to visit Egypt and I renewed my invitation that he visit Washington. I greatly appreciated his invitation and have accepted it. But no firm plans have been made as yet for a date to visit Egypt or any other countries in the area.

US ARMS SALES TO EGYPT

- Q: Based on Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's statements, it would appear that the Administration has more in mind for Egypt than just limited arms sales. What exactly is involved and how can the USG possibly justify arms sales to Egypt since these will fuel an arms race and weaken our commitment to Israel's security?
- A: The only item now under consultation C-130 transport

aircraft. This can scarcely affect the military balance.

Our objective in supplying Egypt anything in the military

field is she same as that in providing economic assistance - to-

(T[☉] support Egypt in its moderate policies which have been so instrumental in helping the area move closer to peace. By responding to Egypt's own desires to diversify its resources in this field, including reducing dependence on the Soviets, we can help maintain its confidence in the peace process.

We will do nothing to upset the balance in the area to Israel's disadvantage. Israel's position is very strong and it will continue to receive substantial military and economic assistance from the US to this end.

- Q: The Israelis are obviously not persuaded by the Administration's arguments. What is your reaction to their strong condemnation of the arms decision?
- A: We have been in touch with the Israelis on this matter. We are firm in our commitment to Israel's security and we will do nothing to upset the balance in the area to Israel's disadvantage.

Is it true that the Administration's real intent is to use the C-130s to set a precedent for future supply of more sophisticated equipment to Egypt, possibly after the results of more primaries are in?

A: There are no plans at this time to provide material other than the

C-130s. Any future decision would be taken only after close

consultation with the Congress.

Q:

PURPOSE OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT OTHER MEETINGS

- Q: Will the U.S. policy reassessment be concluded by the time you meet with Sadat in early June and will your meeting involve the launching of a "new" US initiative in the Middle East? What will be the outcome of your meeting?
- A: This will be a first opportunity for me to meet President Sadat and discuss the Middle East situation and the evolution of U.S. -Egyptian relations personally with him. I look forward to this opportunity. While our policy review remains underway, I am not going to prejudge or speculate on the outcome or on specifics of a meeting which has yet to be held. As you know, I will also be meeting with Prime Minister Rabin in June as a part of our efforts to move toward peace in the Middle East. I will not make any final decisions until after these meetings are conducted.

- Q: What about military assistance--was that discussed?
- A: The subject has, as I have said before, come up in a general way. There was no "shopping list," however, and the matter was not given the major part of the Presidents' attention during today's meeting. As Ambassador Beshir indicated yesterday-and I fully concur in his remarks--the matter of greatest interest between President Ford and President Sadat is how the negotiations may be moved toward a just and final settlement. That is the primary focus of our interest, President Sadat's interest and of this visit.

U.S. -EGYPT AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF U.S. NUCLEAR REACTORS AND NUCLEAR FUEL IN EGYPT

Q: What can you tell us about the nuclear cooperation agreement?
Unkerslow to be included at 3115 Des - HAK-Falmi,
A: The U.S. and Egypt have reached agreement in principle on the provisions of a bilateral agreement to allow the sale of U.S. nuclear reactors and nuclear fuel in Egypt. The agreement is tied specifically to two reactors to generate 1200 MW electrical power, and the slightly enriched uranium fuel to fuel these reactors. The following major safeguards will be applied:

- -- The reactors and the nuclear fuel will be monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna;
- -- Any new reactors which might be derived from the technology that the U.S. has provided to Egypt will also be subject to IAEA safeguards.
- -- The plutonium generated in the US-supplied reactors will be extracted from the spent fuel elements and stored outside of Egypt.

These and other provisions relating to safeguards, physical security, and other controls will be incorporated in a bilateral Agreement for Cooperation in the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy, and this agreement will, as required by the Atomic Energy Act, be submitted to Congress for its consideration. The U.S. is prepared to negotiate the same agreement with Israel, and this will be the subject of future discussions.

SADAT SPEECH TO THE UN

RUSH to Ron Nessen immediate delivery

- Q: Mr. President, there is considerable coverage today of President Sadat's remarks to the UN yesterday. In his speech he called for early resumption of the Middle East peace talks in Geneva, including full representation by the PLO. What is your reaction to his suggestion?
- A: President Sadat's concerns for the interests of the Palestinians are well known and were a subject of discussion in a broader context during my talks with him earlier this week. Our position on the PLO has been clear and we have always maintained that the legitimate interests of all the peoples in the area must be taken into account in any overall settlement in the Middle East.

As far as a resumption of the Geneva Conference is concerned, we have stated repeatedly that we are determined to seek ways in which progress can be made on the Middle East toward an overall settlement. How best to do this is one of the main subjects of discussion. We are prepared to work in whatever framework the parties themselves agree is acceptable.