

EMBARGOED FOR *WIFE MOVEMENT*
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Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The President regrets the suspension of the talks that have been taking place over the past two weeks in the Middle East. While the parties were unable to reach sufficient agreement to permit a further step toward an overall settlement, the President appreciates the sincere efforts of all concerned. He reaffirms the commitment of the United States to continue its efforts to assist the parties in reaching a just and lasting peace.

The President also wishes to express his deep gratitude and personal admiration for Secretary Kissinger's skill and tireless dedication in these latest negotiations. He looks forward to meeting with him upon his return to review the situation.

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