

JUNE 11, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President Ford and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin met in the Oval Office for one hour and forty-five minutes. The meeting was also attended by Secretary of State Kissinger, General Brent Scowcroft and Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Joseph Sisco on the American side, and Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., Mordechai Shalev, Minister of the Israeli Embassy, and Mordechai Gazit, Director General of the Office of the Prime Minister and Political Adviser to the Prime Minister on the Israeli side.

This first meeting gave the President and Prime Minister the opportunity for a general review of the Middle East situation. The talks will continue tonight at a working dinner and tomorrow in the White House, during which the two leaders will have a chance to go more deeply into the various issues of the Middle East peacemaking process.

The President today restated American determination not to have a stalemate in this peacemaking process. He discussed with Prime Minister Rabin various approaches which might be taken to regain momentum toward a negotiated settlement. The talks were conducted in the spirit of frankness and cordiality which has long characterized the friendship between the United States and Israel.

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