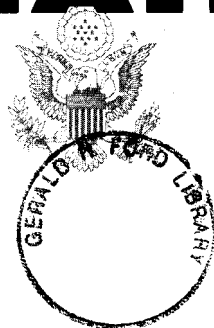


PRESS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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SECRETARY KISSINGER RECEIVES THE WATELER PEACE PRIZE

Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger, was awarded the Wateler Peace Prize for 1974 at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Brussels on December 11, 1974.

The following is the text of the announcement of the award to Secretary Kissinger issued at The Hague, The Netherlands on December 10 by the Carnegie Foundation of The Netherlands:

"The Wateler Peace Prize for 1974 was awarded to the Honorable Henry Alfred Kissinger, Secretary of State of the United States of America in June 1974 for his outstanding and untiring efforts to promote a peaceful, just and durable settlement in the Middle East, and more in particular for his invaluable offices in bringing about agreements on troop disengagements between Israel and Egypt on the one hand, and between Israel and Syria on the other hand.

"On October 6th, 1973, shortly after Mr. Kissinger had been invested with the Office of Secretary of State by the President of the United States, an armed conflict broke out in the Middle East. In the months following Mr. Kissinger spent a very important part of his time and energy in efforts to bring about a reconciliation of the parties in this conflict and to find an equitable solution to the outstanding problems in this area. He played a major role in the accomplishment of a suspension of hostilities, which was achieved on October 25th, 1973. Thereupon, it was largely due to his efforts that, on January 18th, 1974, a troop disengagement agreement could be concluded between Israel and Egypt and that, on May 31st, 1974, a similar agreement could be signed between Israel and Syria.

"To clear the ground for these agreements, Mr. Kissinger paid five visits to the Middle East, the last of which lasted 33 days. When it appeared that there was sufficient common ground between the parties, Mr. Kissinger travelled to and fro between them as an intermediary, until full agreement was reached.

"Thanks to his energetic and tactful course of action, carried out under very difficult circumstances, Mr. Kissinger succeeded in laying the basis for further progress toward a final settlement in the Middle East, thus serving the cause of world peace in a most eminent way and deserving well of all mankind.

"The Wateler Peace Prize was founded by Mr. J.G.D. Wateler, a Dutch citizen, who died in 1927, bequeathing his estate to the Carnegie Foundation, the body which owns and administers the Peace Palace, on condition that the annual revenue (30,000 Dutch Guilders) should be awarded as a peace prize

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to the person or institution having rendered the most valuable service in the cause of peace or having contributed to finding means of combating war. The prize is given alternatively to a Dutch and a foreign person or institution. In the past, the prize was awarded i.a. to Mr. Arthur Henderson, Lord Baden Powell, The World Council of Churches, Mr. D.U. Stikker, Monsieur Jean Monnet, Sir Anthony Eden, Dr. A. Pelt, Mrs. Martin Luther King and Mrs. Alva Myrdal.

"On behalf of the Carnegie Foundation the Wateler Peace Prize will be presented to Mr. Henry A. Kissinger by Dr. J.H. Van Roijen, President of the Board of Directors of the Carnegie Foundation at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Brussels on December 11, 1974."

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EXCHANGE OF REMARKS BY
DR. J.H. VAN ROIJEN
PRESIDENT OF THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION
AND BY
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE
WATELER PEACE PRIZE FOR 1974
AT THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS EMBASSY, BRUSSELS
DECEMBER 11, 1974

Dr. Van Roijen:

Mr Secretary, it is indeed a great pleasure and an honor for me, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Carnegie Foundation, to present you with the Wateler Peace Prize for 1974. This prize was awarded you in June of this year in recognition of your untiring and outstanding efforts to bring about a just and peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Middle East.

The Wateler Peace Prize is conferred each year, in accordance with the wishes of the late Mr. Wateler, alternatively on a Dutch or a foreign person or institution for the most valuable services rendered in the cause of peace or in the finding of means of countering war.

We -- and I am speaking for our Board of Directors -- have felt, and feel, that you, Mr. Secretary, in succeeding as you did -- under extremely difficult circumstances -- in laying the basis for further progress toward a final settlement, are eminently qualified to receive this award.



In your book A World Restored you wrote on the role of Austria in the formation of the coalition against Napoleon in the summer of 1813: "Few diplomatic campaigns demonstrate more clearly that policy is proportion, that its wisdom depends on the relation of its measure to each other, not on the 'cleverness' of individual moves." I believe, Mr. secretary, that that passage is entirely applicable to your own achievement of statecraft, for which we are honouring you today.

In your letter of acceptance you wrote me in July of this year that you hoped to continue to work with undiminished vigor for the achievement of a just and durable peace in that region. Contrary to what is so often cynically said of good intentions, you, sir, most certainly have realized the purpose you expressed in that letter.

Let me say in concluding that we of the Board of Directors of the Carnegie Foundation are deeply impressed by what you accomplished as a result of your well-directed efforts.

Allow me, now, Mr. Secretary, to present you with the visible and tangible token of the prize, awarded you.

Secretary Kissinger:

Mr. Foreign Minister, Excellency, I am very moved to receive this award. It honors not an individual but a purpose. Throughout last year, during my efforts on behalf of the United States to contribute to a just and durable peace in the Middle East, it was a source of great pride that with all the difficulties the United States faced at home, it was nevertheless our country which was trusted enough by both sides in the Middle East to be able to contribute to the effort to reconcile peoples whose suffering and courage have earned them a period of respite and a period of conciliation.

In no area of the world is it more difficult to promote a just and lasting peace than in the Middle East. Two great peoples, one that has suffered for millenia by being dispersed and persecuted, and another that has felt deprived of part of its territory, have attempted to reconcile, however haltingly and with however much great anguish, their different points of view. Needless to say, this is not an easy effort. But, progress has been made.

As far as the United States is concerned and whatever contribution I usefully can make, we will spare no efforts to promote this end. Peace in the Middle East is only part of a larger process. Throughout history statesmen have avowed the goal of peace. But no period has ever had the imperative of ours.

There no longer is any alternative to peace. To insist on national advantage, to promote purely regional objectives, must promote over a period of time a conflict which can only end with the destruction of humanity.

So statesmen in our period have no excuse not to strive for peace. They can have no nobler aim than to leave behind them a world safer than that which they found, and therefore, perhaps they should not be given any award for doing what is necessary. As far as the United States is concerned, we will work together with our friends to promote a structure of peace that can last so that humanity can look back to this period as the turning point when the long hope and aspiration for permanent peace was finally achieved.

Thank you very much.