

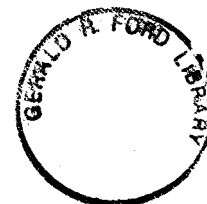
PRESS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

August 22, 1975

NO. 428



PRESS CONFERENCE BY
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
AND
EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT
MAAMURA REST HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA
AUGUST 22, 1975



QUESTION: Are you going to have an agreement this week?

PRESIDENT SADAT: I don't know, I have just received the Secretary, I don't know, really.

QUESTION: What are the prospects?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Well, as I told you I am always optimistic, whatever happens, I am always optimistic.

QUESTION: Mr. President, are you more optimistic this time than last time?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Up till this moment, I am optimistic like the last time. I don't have any conversation with my friend Henry, yet.

QUESTION: Can we ask the same question to Dr. Kissinger, are you hopeful again?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Yes, I am hopeful.

QUESTION: And the gap, is it still narrowing?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I have the impression that there is still a gap, but that it is narrowing.

QUESTION: Is it a matter of procedure, Mr. Secretary, or a matter of substance in which there is still a gap?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I think both, but, as I said, I have the impression some progress has been made.

QUESTION: Will you stay in the area until you finish this agreement?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: That's my intention.

QUESTION: How long do you expect it will take, Mr. Secretary?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Why don't you let me talk to the President, or ask me after I talk to the President?

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QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, please, what do you see more encouraging this time compared to last time? What's the new factor?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, I think that this time we are starting with the gap much narrower than it turned out to be last time, and, therefore, while one can never be sure, I think the chances look to me hopeful.

QUESTION: Is it a technical gap or a kind of confidence gap?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: No, I think there are a number of concrete issues which we have to talk over, but we have come some distance in the last three weeks and we'll try to come the remainder.

QUESTION: We can say the chances of peace are more than before?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I'd say the chances of peace are more than they were several weeks ago, but there is still work to be done.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

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