

# PRESS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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PRESS CONFERENCE BY  
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
AND  
PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT OF  
THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT  
BEFORE MEETING AT MAAMURA  
ALEXANDRIA  
August 31, 1975



QUESTION: Are you going to Jordan tomorrow?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Probably I cannot go to Jordan tomorrow. But we will agree on a schedule after I have had a chance to talk to the President.

QUESTION: And you are not going back to New York, sir?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: No. I have asked Ambassador Moynihan to deliver the speech that had been prepared for delivery at the General Assembly.

QUESTION: When do you expect the second stage initialing to take place?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We will discuss it today. I am hopeful in the next few days.

QUESTION: Mr. President, there was a report before we started coming here today that Egypt has requested a larger number of troops in the limited forces zone numbering 12,000. Is that correct?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: She tried it already on me, Mr. President. She is just seeing what she can get out of you.

PRESIDENT SADAT: I shall be discussing this with Dr. Kissinger.

QUESTION: Is that report incorrect, sir?

PRESIDENT SADAT: I cannot say yes or no.

QUESTION: Mr. President, is there one particular issue that is sort of slowing down the pace at this point?

PRESIDENT SADAT: What?

QUESTION: Is there one particular problem that is causing this slight delay in wrapping up the agreement?

PRESIDENT SADAT: From my side?

QUESTION: No, no, generally, from your side and the Israeli side?

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PRESIDENT SADAT: From my side, no.

QUESTION: Is there one from the Israeli side?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Maybe.

QUESTION: Could it be the American presence -- is that an issue of some dispute now?

PRESIDENT SADAT: No, I do not think this is the problem at all.

QUESTION: Mr. President, when do you, Sir, expect the agreement to be initialed?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Well, you did not give me the opportunity to discuss with Dr. Kissinger yet.

QUESTION: When do you expect that the last remaining block ---

PRESIDENT SADAT: As soon as possible.

QUESTION: Are there any difficulties, Dr. Kissinger, you feel that you are facing?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I think we are now dealing with very technical, very complicated subjects. And when you get to the last phase, these are the issues that remain. I do not find any deadlock or any problems that cannot be solved. We have worked in a very good atmosphere here yesterday and overnight on the other side, in Israel, and I think that we can make good progress today.

QUESTION: Mr. President, could these technical issues that are now remaining be resolved with someone other than Dr. Kissinger? Is it really necessary for him to come back and forth to follow this rather tiring pace? Could it be done by phone or emissary?

PRESIDENT SADAT: How could it be done?

QUESTION: Through an emissary or ambassadors, is that possible?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Well, the whole thing has been handled since the beginning by Dr. Kissinger. He should end it. He should finish it.

QUESTION: Mr. President, do you feel that Israel has raised some unexpected demands in the course of this week?

PRESIDENT SADAT: They are always raising hell, as you say in America.

QUESTION: Mr. President, can you imagine, having come this far, that failure is still possible?

PRESIDENT SADAT: Believe me, as I have seen and as happened during the March mission, it may come to this, but not from the Egyptian side. We

are quite ready and we are quite understanding. But I do not know what goes there on the Israeli side.

QUESTION: Well, the only conclusion we can draw then, sir, since you say you are ready for an agreement and no difficulties are being raised from your side -- the only conclusion we can draw is your suggestion that there are difficulties being raised by the Israeli side.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Unless they are raised by my side. (Laughter)

PRESIDENT SADAT: From our side we are trying our best to reach an agreement. Dr. Kissinger is doing his best and as I told you before, the day before yesterday, he is honest and tireless in his efforts. In this agreement there are very big technical details in the whole thing. That is what Dr. Kissinger is doing his best to try and solve these technical details.

QUESTION: No matters of substance left?

PRESIDENT SADAT: I do not think we have anything about the substance itself -- I do not think.

THE PRESS: Thank you Sir.

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