

FOR RELEASE AT 12 noon MDT  
(2 pm EDT)

AUGUST 17, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary  
(Vail, Colorado)

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have worked many hours with the Secretary of State analyzing and assessing the situation in the Middle East, and I have now directed him to return to that region in an effort to bring the discussions to a successful conclusion.

I am hopeful that the parties will successfully conclude an interim agreement which not only would be in the best interest of the parties involved, but also in the best interest of the entire Middle East region and indeed of the whole world.

I am sure all Americans join me in wishing the Secretary of State success on this critically important mission.

# # #