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REMARKS OF
THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE
FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH
ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN
JERUSALEM
August 25, 1975



QUESTION: Has Egypt made more demands for territory, Mr. Secretary?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Frankly, I do not know where these ideas came from.

QUESTION: Could you tell us how the talks are going?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: The talks are going well. They are progressing steadily, and I brought the Egyptian ideas and presented them to the Israeli negotiating team. It was my impression that they thought that they were constructive elements. We are going to meet again tomorrow morning at 9:30. So far, we have not run into any unexpected difficulties or into any one difficulty that presents a deadlock, and so matters are still progressing.

QUESTION: In what elements do you see progress?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, I, as a mediator, have to take the position that while the parties can, of course, state their positions, I feel that I must not put out the positions that are given through me. I think on all issues progress has been made.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, has either side brought up any new issues or demands in the last few days?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: There have been no demands that have not been foreseen and, therefore, I would caution against any speculation that there are any new, unexpected problems.

QUESTION: Are you now at the stage, sir, of drafting?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We are beginning to exchange drafts, yes.

QUESTION: Is the troop line generally drawn in the Sinai desert? Do you know that the positions will be?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Very substantially, yes.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, is the matter of negotiations, now primarily in drafting the agreement rather than in handling of substantive issues?

For further information contact:

SECRETARY KISSINGER: Well, I do not want to deprive others who no doubt will feel the need to talk before the night is out, but every possible subject . . .

QUESTION: When are you going to finish all this, Dr. Kissinger?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I do not want to set a date.

QUESTION: Would you say it is 95 percent now?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I do not want to give the percentage either. All I want to say is that progress is being made, and we continuing.

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