



communiqué

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JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT
TO CANADA OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF EGYPT

1. The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Egypt, Mr. Kamal Hassan Aly, paid an official visit to Ottawa on November 8 and 9, 1982 at the invitation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen. During the visit, Mr. Aly was received by His Excellency the Governor General and called on the Minister of Energy, the Honourable Jean Chrétien and the Minister of State (International Trade), the Honourable Gerald Regan. He met with senior members of the Canadian International Development Agency and the Export Development Corporation, and addressed members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and House of Commons External Affairs and National Defence Committee.
2. On leaving Ottawa, Mr. Aly will visit Quebec City and Toronto. He will depart Canada on November 11.
3. In their discussions, the two Ministers exchanged views on international issues of mutual concern, particularly the situation in the Middle East.
4. They reiterated the support of their respective Governments for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and called for the prompt withdrawal of Israeli as well as all other foreign forces.
5. The Canadian side lauded the farsighted policy of the Government of Egypt under President Mubarak in its contribution to peace and stability in the area. The two Ministers voiced their concern at the lack of progress in moving toward a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem. The two parties re-affirmed their conviction that the settlement of the Middle East conflict should come through the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, including their right to a homeland in the West Bank and Gaza, and guaranteeing the security of all states in the region, including Israel, within secure and recognized boundaries according to Security Council Resolution 242. They also reiterated their deep concern over Israeli settlement policy in the Occupied Territories.

6. The two sides welcomed the initiative launched by President Reagan on September 1 as a solid point of departure for progress towards Middle East peace. The two sides also considered as a positive development the resolution issued at the Arab Summit in Fez on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

7. Canada welcomed Egypt's initiative at UNGA 36 which called for the appointment of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to explore with the parties concerned the prospects for establishing a nuclear weapon free zone in the Middle East. Canada and Egypt share a fundamental commitment to the Non-Proliferation Treaty which has been ratified by 115 countries and hope that countries which have not ratified will do so.

8. On bilateral matters, the two sides agreed that relations between Egypt and Canada were marked by a high degree of mutual understanding and co-operation. They noted with satisfaction that activity had expanded and intensified in a number of areas of interest and importance such as trade and development. An exchange of letters to permit the operation of an office of the Canadian Institute in Egypt was a major step forward in co-operation for the advancement of the study of Egypt's history. The Ministers also welcomed the various cultural, education and scientific initiatives which had taken place between the two countries.

9. At the end of their consultations, the Ministers exchanged letters which form the final step of the Agreement (negotiated earlier and signed by the respective Energy Ministers in May) to co-operate in the peaceful development of nuclear energy. Both Ministers expressed their pleasure on the completion of the Agreement and looked forward to the results of further meetings between officials.