



The President

الرئيس

Top Copy : Egypt, May 79,
Visits of Vice President Mubarak

August, 27, 1980

Dear Prime Minister Begin,

Thank you for your letter dated August 18. When I sent you my first letter, it was not my intention to start any rhetorical or polemical exchange which would not serve any useful purpose. Rather, I was motivated solely by my keen desire to explore every available avenue to ascertain whether a common ground existed for the resumption of the autonomy talks. In my opinion, such common ground would consist of the willingness of both parties to create, by their actions and deeds alike, a favorable atmosphere for reaching agreement. Having gone that far in the current exchange of letters and views, I think that it is neither necessary nor helpful to go further in arguing for this or that position.

I am certain that you know quite well that we have not violated, or attempted to violate, any commitment we made under the peace accords. Our record bears out this fact. We said repeatedly that we would honor all our commitments and you know that we always keep our word regardless of the risks or challenges involved. Our experiment in peace - making in my opinion, needs all the understanding and sincerity we can give. I am sure that you agree with me that we should spare no effort to promote confidence and friendship between our peoples. I also believe that it is a historic inevitability that we will reach agreement sooner or later, on all outstanding issues. I do not want either of us to look back and say; was it really

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necessary to make all these complications? What was the whole point?.

Given the present circumstances, I still believe that our common interest is better served by a summit conference at the proper time. Let us look forward to a meaningful and fruitful meeting.

With best wishes,

Mohammed Anwar El Sadat