

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

22 October 1979

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US/Egypt/Israel Meeting in London

We have agreed to a US request to hold an informal meeting in the context of the autonomy negotiations in London on 26 October. The Americans say that they wanted a meeting in London to escape the glare of publicity and atmosphere of expectation generated by gathering in either Egypt or Israel. The Egyptian principal at the talks, Prime Minister Khalil was also due to be in Europe, principally visiting Austria. Apart from Mr Khalil, the meeting will be attended by Mr Robert Strauss, President Carter's Special Representative in the negotiations who is of Cabinet rank, and Dr Joseph Burg, Israeli Minister of the Interior.

Prime Minister Khalil has requested a meeting with the Prime Minister during his stay in London from 24-28 October. Lord Carrington recommends that the Prime Minister should agree to this. Mr Khalil, who is also Foreign Minister, is one of President Sadat's closest advisers. He is articulate, intelligent and much respected in Egypt. He may wish to discuss bilateral economic and commercial affairs as well as the peace talks, to which he is currently devoting most of his time. Lord Carrington believes that the Prime Minister would find a short meeting worthwhile. It would also be an important sign of our continuing support for Egyptian peace policies. If the Prime Minister agrees, wht most suitable date would be Thursday 25 October, since 26 October is given over almost entirely to the trilateral autonomy talks.

Lord Carrington will see Mr Strauss and either he or the Lord Privy Seal will see Mr Burg while they are in London.

Yours wer

Daul Lever

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You wrote to me on 22 October asking whether the Prime Minister would be able to see Prime Minister Khalil during his stay in London from 24-28 October. As I have told you on the telephone, the Prime Minister would be willing to see Mr. Khalil at 1730 on Thursday 25 October.

MO'DBA

Paul Lever, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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