



Speaker Lyons is backstage chatting with his aids. The group is hard at work, as they add new paragraphs to the Speaker's speech.

"C.J., how's it looking?"

"Mr. Speaker, because you just gave us an assignment to write another paragraph with 5 minutes before you're on, I'd say it is just great."

"That's fantastic C.J."

"You're enjoying this scramble, aren't you sir?"

“Absolutely.”

“Okay, here it is boss.”

“Josh, if I told you that this was a very late April fool’s joke, would you slap me?”

“YES” C.J. yells.

“Duly noted.”

“Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the Democratic nominee for the first Congressional district of Dixie, Speaker Tripplyons18.”

The Speaker drives out onto the stage, waving to everyone. He takes the microphone and waits for the crowd to settle down.

The Speaker’s speech can be heard [here](#). A transcript follows:

“Good morning Naples! Today, I am here to talk about a very important issue - the alliance between the United States and Egypt, an alliance that has existed since the mid 1950s. [Since the 1950s, the United States has sent \\$17.6 billion in foreign aid, with more than \\$1.3 billion annually](#) - with the justification being for “stability’s sake.” [The aid that the United States sends](#)

[to Egypt does not require Egypt to comply with any American approved human rights protections or guarantees](#) in order to receive it. In 2013 Egypt had a military coup that started the Arab Spring in the Middle East. Along with the domestic issues in Egypt, the United States is faced with what role they want to have in the Middle East. Since the fall of the Shah of Iran during the Iranian Revolution, the Iranian and Saudi Arabia Governments have been engaged in an Arabian cold war. Although neither has declared hot war on the other, they have been in many proxy wars against each other. When Iraq invaded Iran to annex some of their oil reserves in 1980 Saudi Arabia came to their defense. Throughout the Yemen Civil War, Saudi Arabia continued to support the Yemen government, while the Iranians backed the Houthi rebels. Iraq has served as a buffer between Saudi Arabia and Iran. Iran has become an unstable state with Saudi Arabia and Iran supporting opposing groups to take over the nation. Historically, Saudi Arabia and Iran have been the two major powers in the Middle East fighting over influence over the other smaller nations in the area. Since 1932, the United States has held close relations with Saudi Arabia for a global presence in this region. Saudi Arabia holds a geographical strategic position for U.S. and NATO forces. However, recently the United States has moved to giving Saudi Arabia funds to buy arms. [Since 2017, the United States has sent over \\$110 billion to Saudi Arabia in arms deals.](#) Saudi Arabia has become more aggressive towards Iran and its allies by bombing Houthi rebels in Yemen, which are still backed by the Iranians.”

“Currently the United States has made no progress towards limiting the aid sent to Egypt. In the past the United States has kept giving Egypt money annually without making any changes during times of wars and coups. The major act that is relevant to this situation is the [Foreign Assistance](#)

[Act of 1961](#) which states that “none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available according to this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance to the government of any country whose duly elected head of government is deposed by military coup or decree.” If I am elected to Congress, I will take action on limiting aid to Egypt.”

“I want to thank you all for coming out here today. Together, we will craft better foreign policy and help make the world a better place. Thank you, God bless you and God bless the United States of America. “

[M: The linked audio recording is part of this event and should be graded as such. Please note that if it sounds a little weird, it's because I use my iPad to talk because I can't physically talk, due to my disability. Thanks graders!