

1           MR. BILL WHITAKER: All right. Well,  
2   Madam Vice President, I want to thank you for  
3   doing this, and thank you for inviting us into  
4   your home.

5           VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Of  
6   course. Of course.

7           MR. BILL WHITAKER: We're going to be  
8   running this on the anniversary of the Hamas  
9   attack on Israel.

10          VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Yeah.  
11   October 7th.

12          MR. BILL WHITAKER: So let's just start  
13   with Israel.

14          CREW: Hang on one second, Bill.

15          MR. BILL WHITAKER: Yeah.

16          CREW: Sorry, we had someone in the  
17   background, and I'm afraid you're going to have  
18   to re-ask that.

19          VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Okay,  
20   whoever's in the dining room?

21          WOMAN: It was me. Sorry.

22          VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Okay.

23          MR. BILL WHITAKER: So yeah, just start  
24   with Israel.

25          VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Okay.

1           MR. BILL WHITAKER: The events of the  
2 past few weeks have pushed us to the brink, if  
3 not into an all-out regional war in the Middle  
4 East.

5           VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Mm-hmm.

6           MR. BILL WHITAKER: What can the U.S.  
7 do at this point to stop this from spinning out  
8 of control?

9           VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Well,  
10 let's start with October 7th. Because obviously,  
11 what we do now must be in the context of what has  
12 happened. And as I reflect on a year ago, and  
13 that 1,200 people were massacred, young people at  
14 a festival, at a music festival, 250 hostages  
15 were taken, including Americans, women were  
16 brutally raped. And as I said then, I maintain  
17 Israel has a right to defend itself. We would.  
18 And how it does so matters.

19           And as we fast forward into what we  
20 have seen in the ensuing weeks and months, far  
21 too many innocent Palestinians have been killed.  
22 And we know that, and I think most agree, this  
23 war has to end. And that has to be our number  
24 one imperative, and that has been our number one  
25 imperative. How can we get this war to end?

1 Well, critical elements of that are we have got  
2 to get a hostage deal and a ceasefire deal done.  
3 We have to -- we have to get aid in. We have to  
4 lay the path toward a two-state solution. I do  
5 believe that we must maintain that as an  
6 objective, no matter how out of reach it seems at  
7 the moment. And the work that we have to do is  
8 also pay attention to what is happening every day  
9 in the region and put U.S. resources into  
10 everything we can do, diplomatically and  
11 otherwise, to de-escalate what is happening in  
12 the region.

13 MR. BILL WHITAKER: We supply Israel  
14 with billions of dollars in military aid.

15 VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Mm-hmm.

16 MR. BILL WHITAKER: And yet Prime  
17 Minister Netanyahu seems to be charting his own  
18 course. The Biden Administration, the Biden-  
19 Harris Administration has pressed him to agree to  
20 a ceasefire, he's resisted. You urged him not to  
21 go into Lebanon, he went in anyway. He has  
22 promised to make Iran pay for the missile attack,  
23 and that has the potential of expanding the war.  
24 Does the U.S. have no sway over Prime Minister  
25 Netanyahu?

1           VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Well,  
2 let's start with this. On this subject, the aid  
3 that we have given Israel allowed Israel to  
4 defend itself against 200 ballistic missiles that  
5 were just meant to attack the Israelis, and the  
6 people of Israel. And I think that is the most  
7 recent example of why what we do to assist in  
8 their defense around military aid is important.  
9 And when we think about the threat that Hamas,  
10 Hezbollah presents Iran, I think that it is  
11 without any question our imperative to do what we  
12 can to allow Israel to defend itself against  
13 those kinds of attacks.

14           Now, the work that we do diplomatically  
15 with the leadership of Israel is an ongoing  
16 pursuit around making clear our principles, which  
17 include the need for humanitarian aid, the need  
18 for this war to end, the need for a deal to be  
19 done which would release the hostages, and create  
20 a ceasefire. And we're not going to stop in terms  
21 of putting that pressure on Israel, and in the  
22 region, including with other leaders in the  
23 region, including Arab leaders.

24           MR. BILL WHITAKER: But it seems that  
25 Prime Minister Netanyahu is not listening. The

1 Wall Street Journal said that he -- that your  
2 administration has repeatedly been blindsided by  
3 Netanyahu, and in fact, he has rebuffed just  
4 about all of your administration's entreaties.

5 VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: Well,  
6 Bill, the work that we have done has resulted in  
7 a number of movements in that region by Israel  
8 that were very much prompted by, or a result of  
9 many things, including our advocacy for what  
10 needs to happen in the region. And we're not  
11 going to stop doing that. We are not going to  
12 stop pursuing what is necessary for the United  
13 States to be clear about where we stand on the  
14 need for this war to end.

15 MR. BILL WHITAKER: Just one last  
16 thing. Do we have a real close ally in Prime  
17 Minister Netanyahu?

18 VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: I think,  
19 with all due respect, the better question is do  
20 we have an important alliance between the  
21 American people and the Israeli people. And the  
22 answer to that question is yes. And we are going  
23 to do what is important to support whatever  
24 leadership is in Israel, that is defending the  
25 security of the State of Israel.

1           MR. BILL WHITAKER: Let's shift gears  
2 here, and most basic of questions, why do you  
3 want to be President of the United States?

4           VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS: There  
5 are many reasons. But probably first and  
6 foremost, I truly believe in the promise of  
7 America. I do. And I love the American people.  
8 You know, we are a people who have ambition and  
9 aspirations and dreams, and optimism and hope.  
10 If you look at the character of who we are, and  
11 how we have achieved the strength that we have  
12 achieved, I believe in large part it is because  
13 of our character, and our belief in the promise  
14 of America. And I'm running for President  
15 because I want to do everything that is possible  
16 to create an opportunity for people to achieve  
17 those goals, those ambitions, and those dreams.

18           And that is why you will hear me talk  
19 about my plan for an opportunity economy, to  
20 invest in what we can do not only to bring the  
21 cost of living and prices down for folks, because  
22 even though we've achieved a lot of success,  
23 prices are still too high. You know it, I know  
24 it. But what we can do to invest in the  
25 innovation that is happening in startups, in our