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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT

(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

File Folder

Withdrawer

DLB 4/29/2010

CO074 (ISRAEL) (033231) (4) **FOIA**

S10-306

Box Number 96 SYSTEMATIC

DOX IV	552				
ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
90377	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90356; BIO	2	8/27/1981	B1 B3
90378	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90357; BIO	2	8/26/1981	B1 B3
90379	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90358; BIO	2	8/26/1981	B1 B3
90380	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90359; BIO	2	8/26/1981	B1 B3
90381	PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90360; BIO	1	8/19/1981	B1 B3
90382	PAPER	BIO	1	8/27/1981	B1 B3
90383	PAPER	BIO	1	8/26/1981	B1 B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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DOX 11					552			
ID	Doc Type	Docum	nent Description		No of Pages	Doc Date	Rest	rictions
90384	PAPER	BIO			1	8/27/1981	B 1	В3
90385	PAPER	BIO			1	8/27/1981	B1	В3
90386	PAPER	BIO			1	8/28/1981	B1	В3
90387	PAPER	BIO			1	8/26/1981	B1	В3
90388	PAPER	BIO			1	8/27/1981	B1	В3
90389	PAPER	BIO			1	8/27/1981	B1	В3
90390	BRIEFING PAPER	SETTL	EMENTS		3	9/3/1981	B1	
		R	5/22/2023	DEPT. OF STA	TE WAI	VER		

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DOX III						552	
ID	Doc Type	Docur	ment Description	ar	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
90391	BRIEFING PAPER	THE V	WEST BANK AND (GAZA	3	9/3/1981	B1
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90392	PAPER	EOCN	ICATE OF #90280; IOMIC SITUATION ILIZATION		4	9/4/1981	B1
		R	5/22/2023	TREASURY/DI WAIVERS	EPT. OF	STATE	
90393	PAPER	RE: F-	-16 AIRCRAFT		1	9/4/1981	B1
90394	PAPER	UPCC INTE	IBLE ACTION AGA OMING MEETING O RNATIONAL ATOM ICY (IAEA)	F THE	1	9/5/1981	B1
		R	5/22/2023	DEPT. OF STA	TE WAI	VER	
90395	PAPER	BEGI	GESTED TALKING N VISIT - FIRST ME EMBER 9, 1981		1	ND	B1
90396	TALLKING POINTS) FORMAT - PRIVA I BEGIN	TE MEETING	1	ND	B1

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552 ID Doc **Document Description Doc Date Restrictions** No of Type **Pages B**1 90397 PAPER IN THE PLENARY MEETING (CABINET 1 ND ROOM) CARD FORMAT - PLENARY MEETING 1 ND **B**1 90398 **TALKING POINTS** WITH BEGIN

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TALKING POINTS

To be provided following the Tuesday, September 8, briefing of the President.

ARRIVAL REMARKS: PRIME MINISTER BEGIN OF ISRAEL SEPTEMBER 9, 1981

Prime Minister Begin, on behalf of the American people,
Nancy and I are honored and delighted to welcome you and all
those accompanying you. We are proud to stand beside you
this morning, joining a tradition of hospitality for Israel
observed by our Presidents for more than three decades.
Your visit is testimony to the warm friendships, mutual
respect and shared values that bind our peoples.

Today and tomorrow we will have the opportunity to meet, to come to know each other, and to discuss in detail the vital issues of peace and security that concern both our countries. I welcome this chance to further strengthen the unbreakable ties between the United States and Israel, and to assure you of our commitment to Israel's security and well-being.

Israel and America may be thousands of miles apart, but we are philosophical neighbors, sharing a strong commitment to democracy and the rule of law. What we hold in common are the bonds of trust and friendship, the qualities that in our eyes make Israel a great nation. No people have fought longer, struggled harder or sacrificed more in order to survive, to grow and to live in freedom.

The United States and Israel share similar beginnings as nations of immigrants yearning to live in freedom, and to fulfill the hopes of their forefathers. Americans and Israelis alike have sought to establish societies of law, to live in peace and to develop to the fullest extent the

potential of our lands. We share a devotion to democratic institutions responsive to the wills of our citizens. Our peoples embrace common ideals of self-improvement through hard work and individual initiative. Together we seek peace for all people; in partnership we are determined to defend liberty and safeguard the security of our citizens.

We know Israelis live in constant peril. But Israel will have our help. She will remain strong and secure. And her special character of spirit, genius and faith will prevail.

The prophet Ezekiel spoke of a new age when the "land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and . . . ruined cities are now inhabited . . . "

We saw how miraculously you transformed and made the desert bloom. We see how, everyday, despite the dangers, your families continue working together, to build a better place to live and prosper in peace and freedom.

Our dream, our challenge, and yes our mission is to make the Golden Age of peace, prosperity and brotherhood a living reality in all countries of the Middle East.

Let us remember that whether we be Christian, or Jew, or Moslem, we are all the children of Abraham; we are all children of the same God.

Mr. Prime Minister, you come at a time of testing and a time of hope. The challenges we face are formidable. The forces of aggression, lawlessness and tyranny are intent on exploiting weakness. They seek to undo the work of generations

of our peoples. Yet there is hope. We are fully aware of their designs -- and we are determined to oppose them.

Working with all our friends in the Middle East we seek to reinforce the security of the region as a whole. As we consult together about the problems of security in the Middle East you may rest assured that the security of Israel is a principal objective of this Administration, and that we regard Israel as an ally in our search for regional peace and stability.

Equally important in our discussions during your visit is the commitment of our two countries to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East. Mr. Prime Minister, your strong leadership, great imagination and skilled statesmanship have been indispensable in reaching the milestones of the past few years on the road towards a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Prime Minister, the skill and dedication to peace of you and the members of your coalition have earned our respect and admiration. Many cynics said Israel would never make peace with Egypt. But you did. Then they said you would not honor your commitment to return the Sinai to Egypt. But you have. Now they say you cannot go forward to work out a just and durable peace with all your neighbors. But we know you will.

I look forward to receiving the benefit of your views and advice on the great tasks that remain before us. I am confident that the United States and Israel will continue

their close partnership as difficult negotiations toward peace are pursued.

Let me also thank you Mr. Prime Minister for helping our special ambassador, Philip Habib, to arrange a cessation of hostilities across your border with Lebanon. Still another considered step for peace, one well-taken.

Prime Minister Begin, I know your entire life has been dedicated to the security and well-being of your people. It was not always easy. From your earliest days you were acquainted with hunger and sorrow. But as you have written, you rarely wept. On one occasion you did. The night when your beloved State of Israel was proclaimed. You cried that night you said, because:

"Truly, there are tears of salvation . . . as well as tears of grief."

Well, with the help of God, and us working together, perhaps one day for <u>all</u> people in the Middle East, there will be no more tears of grief . . . only tears of salvation.

Shalom, Shalom. To him that is far off and to him that is near. And again Mr. Prime Minister, welcome to America.

STATE DINNER TOAST: PRIME MINISTER BEGIN OF ISRAEL SEPTEMBER 9, 1981

Prime Minister Begin, it is a genuine pleasure to welcome you to the White House this evening. I should say welcome you back, because the Prime Minister is no stranger to this room. I even have the funny feeling he may have dined here more often than I have. Be that as it may, once again he is an honored guest, but this time Nancy and I have the privilege and we're just delighted.

I'm not sure whether you saw it or not, Mr. Prime
Minister, but in the play "Fiddler on the Roof," one of the
townspeople asked the rabbi if he had a proper blessing for
the Czar.

And the rabbi answered, "Why of course: May God bless and keep the Czar . . . far away from us."

Well, Prime Minister Begin, as you know, the Jewish people have never been far away from sorrow and oppression during their long and troubled history. Now I don't believe your own influence on Jewish history goes as far back as the time of the Czars. Not, you understand, that there would be anything wrong with that. You'll hear no criticism of age tolerated in this house.

Lately I've been heartened to remember that Moses was 80 when God commissioned him for public service, and he lived to be 120. And Abraham was 100 and his wife Sarah 90 when they did something truly amazing. And he survived to be 175. So my heavens Mr. Prime Minister, we haven't even hit full-stride yet!

But to be serious a moment, after our conversations today -- very warm and productive -- I am more convinced than ever that we are on the right road. That we really can draw closer to that Golden Age of peace, prosperity and brotherhood. And the reason I think is clear: Providence has blessed us at this critical time with two leaders -- one in Israel, one in Egypt -- uniquely capable of the great decisions required.

Prime Minister Begin, I remember reading in your book
"White Nights," how as a young man, being held inside Soviet
prisons, you longed to return with your people to the Middle
East. Even then you told your captors there would be plenty
of room " . . . for the Arabs, for millions of Jews, and for
peace." And you've been working ever since to make that.
dream come true:

Though trained as a lawyer, you passed up the quiet life of a private attorney. From your earliest days, the spirit of freedom burned within you, leading you to make great personal sacrifices for the Jewish people;

As a political inmate in those Soviet dungeons, you learned the horrors of totalitarian abuse. You fought against Hitler. And you spent your early adult years helping create a haven for your people in a new Israel;

Devoted to democratic traditions, you served as leader of your country's loyal opposition for nearly thirty years;

Consistent in your views and skillful in presenting them, you were elected the leader of a free people, who

recently reaffirmed their esteem for you;

Called as a peacemaker, you boldly seized the opportunity for peace with Egypt and skillfully pursued it to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Prime Minister, the commitment you are making is a commitment to future generations.

In the Talmud there is a story about a man named Honi.

One day he was walking along and he saw an old man planting carob trees. It is said that the carob tree does not produce fruit for 70 years. Honi commented to the old man: Certainly you don't expect to see the fruit from this tree. And the old man answered: I came into this world and people had planted trees for me. And I am planting for those who will come after me.

Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for planting these seeds of peace. Ladies and gentlemen I ask you to join me in a toast to Prime Minister Begin and our friends the Israeli people. And if I may refer to that rabbi from "Fiddler on the Roof" one more time: May the good Lord bless you and keep you . . . always close to us.

DEPARTURE REMARKS: PRIME MINISTER BEGIN OF ISRAEL SEPTEMBER 10, 1981

Mr. Prime Minister, we have had two days of friendly, useful, and productive talks. I am greatly encouraged by the common purpose I have sensed throughout our discussions, and especially pleased by the friendship and complete candor that has developed between us from the very outset of our meetings. Your views have been invaluable, and your grasp of the issues that concern us is truly impressive.

We have made progress in charting the course we will be following in the peace process in the months ahead. We will work together to maintain the peace concluded between Israel and Egypt, and to build on that peace and broaden it. The United States stands ready to help advance the peace process in any way that is useful to the parties concerned.

In our discussions about the strategic situation in the Middle East, it is only natural we have found much common ground. As friends and as partners in peace, we share a determination to oppose all forces that threaten the freedom, integrity, and peace of our nations. The United States will remain committed to Israel's security and well-being. We will work together with you and with our other friends in the region to counter Soviet aggression and to strengthen the security of all countries in the area.

Mr. Prime Minister, this is the first of what I know will be many warm and productive meetings between us. I am delighted to have had this opportunity to come to know you and to discuss the partnership between our two countries.

Through our conversations, I believe we have created new bonds of understanding between the United States and Israel, and renewed and strengthened our special relationship.

I wish you a very pleasant stay in the United States and a safe return to Israel.

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IDDocument TypeNo of Doc DateRestrictionsDocument Descriptionpagestions

90377 PAPER 2 8/27/1981 B1

DUPLICATE OF #90356; BIO

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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ID	Document Type	No of	Doc Date	Restric-
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90378 PAPER 8/26/1981 **B**1 **B3**

DUPLICATE OF #90357; BIO

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90379 PAPER 2 8/26/1981 B1

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ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restric- tions	
9038	30 PAPER DUPLICATE OF #90359; BIO	2	8/26/1981	B1 B3	

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90381 PAPER 1 8/19/1981 B1

DUPLICATE OF #90360; BIO

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ID Document Type Document Description	No of Doc Date Restric- pages tions	
90382 PAPER	1 8/27/1981 B1	

B3

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<i>Box N</i> 96	lumber		552		
ID	Document Type Document Description	No of pages	Doc Date	Restric- tions	
90385	5 PAPER BIO	1	8/27/1981	B1 B3	

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9038	6 PAPER BIO	1	8/28/1981	B1 B3	

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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90387 F	PAPER	1	8/26/1981	B1		
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90388 PAPER	1	8/27/1981	B 1	
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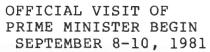
B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

FR 40 Y

September 8, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR EDWIN MEESE, III

Counsellor to the President

JAMES A. BAKER, III Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President

MICHAEL K. DEAVER
Deputy Chief of Staff and
Assistant to the President

FROM:

73.

RICHARD V. ALLEN Dik

SUBJECT:

Begin Visit -- Additional Briefing

Papers

Attached at Tab A are five briefing papers which were delivered to NSC over the weekend from State concerning the Begin visit. I have prepared a memorandum for the President suggesting that he read the two memoranda on settlements and occupied territories. I suggest we hold the other three on the Israeli economy, additional requests for F-16 follow-on aircraft, and possible action against Israel at the upcoming IAEA meeting and have them available if the subject comes up at today's briefings.

cc: Richard G. Darman

A

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SETTILEMENTS

18

Settlement of the land is deeply rooted in the Zionist tradition. The determination of the early Jewish settlers to escape the European urban ghetto situation, joined with a more recent mix of security concerns and religous-nationalistic fervor, has produced a result whereby support for settlements cuts across political party lines.

Almost immediately after the Six-day War in 1967, the Labor government began establishing settlements on the high ground overlooking the Jordan Valley and in the Valley itself. Many Arabs left this farming area during the war and additional Arabs were encouraged to leave thereafter; this provided room for what were initially para-military settlements but are now almost all civilian. Labor governments, motivated chiefly by security concerns and spurred on by politically powerful settlement organizations, continued to pursue an ambitious settlement program through 1976. Settlement activity during this period was primarily focused on the Jordan Valley, the vicinity of Jerusalem and the relatively less populated portions of the occupied territories (about 30-40% of the total) which Labor envisioned retaining in any peace agreement with the Arabs.

Unlike Labor governments, Begin's Likud, and particularly its religious allies, are ideologically committed to retaining all of the West Bank. Their motivation springs more from nationalistic or religious-historical reasons rather than from reasons of security—although security remains a factor in some minds, particularly Defense Minister Sharon's, and is often advanced in fending off criticism. The Likud leadership has not been as concerned as that of Labor with the long-term demographic implications of eventually absorbing such a large Arab population. Some extremists, in fact, hope that eventually many of the Palestinians living there will leave.

Begin's deep-seated commitment to the historic concept of restoring the "Land of Israel" to the Jewish people has guided his government's policy of establishing settlements and a supporting infrastructure throughout

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BY MARADATE 5/22/2023

the West Bank and Gaza. That policy has had as its objective to control a number of large tracts of land sufficiently separated from one another to prevent the creation of a unified Palestinian autonomous area, and thereby to render it virtually impossible for any future government to give up West Bank territory in return for Arab concessions.

During the past four years, the Likud government increased the number of West Bank settlements by over 150%. Currently, by Israel's figures there are 85 West Bank settlements (excluding those in the expanded borders of Jerusalem) either completed or under construction, compared with 33 when Begin first became Prime Minister in 1977. Approximately 14,200 settlers live on the West Bank; this is exclusive of East Jerusalem and its immediate environs, where an additional 90,000 Israelis now live.

The man responsible for implementing the Likud settlement program under the first Begin government was Arik Sharon, then Minister of Agriculture but now Defense Minister (with direct responsibility for the occupied territories). Sharon has told the Egyptians at the Alexandria Summit that the grid of 85 settlements he had been hoping to install was now finished. He suggested that additional new settlements would not be established. There is no reason to be confident that this will be the case, however, in view of the political pressure that will continue to be brought on behalf of further new settlements and the new coalition agreement which calls for continued establishment of new settlements. In any case, the fact remains that the new government can significantly add to the Jewish population on the West Bank by offering heavily subsidized apartments in large urban settlements already under construction and due for completion next year.

The Israeli authorities now, through settlements and military areas, control about one-third of all West Bank land.

Palestinians both inside and outside of the occupied territories view continued settlement activity as a clear sign that Israel intends to hold on to the territories and will not negotiate an agreement which provides for any meaningful autonomy.

Moreover, they question the legality of the means by which Israel has acquired land for settlements as well as the legality of the settlements themselves. It will be extremely difficult to get Palestinians to take seriously an autonomy agreement that does not halt new settlement activity, including expansion of the territory or substantial increase of the population of existing settlements.

The Arabs also charge that Israeli settlements are depriving Arab villages of their traditional share of scarce water resources. They can observe settlements, especially in

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- 3 -

the Jordan Valley, that have abundant water available for irrigation and recreation while they are denied permission to drill new wells, increase output from existing ones or expand irrigation networks.

Settlements will remain one of the most emotional issues for Israelis and Palestinian Arabs alike, both of whom see the outcome as largely determining who will exercise ultimate control over the West Bank and Gaza.

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20

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BRIEFING PAPER

90391

21

THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

The West Bank and Gaza together are about the size of Vermont and contain almost 1.2 million Palestinian Arab inhabitants. Occupied by Israel in 1967, these territories and their ultimate disposition are at the heart of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Israelis hold a wide spectrum of views on their ultimate status: from a small minority willing to return the entire area in exchange for peace to many others who for religious, nationalist, historic or security reasons would annex the entire area and even to a few extreme radicals who encourage the Arab population to emigrate. The Labor Party which led every Israeli government until the summer of 1977 envisioned keeping the Jordan Valley and areas around Jerusalem and widening Israel's narrow waist, while turning over the rest (about 60-70% of the total area) to Arab control.

However, since Begin's Likud Party took office in 1977 it has worked -- mainly through building settlements -- to make Labor's "territorial compromise" impossible to achieve. Begin and his colleagues view the West Bank as Israel's religious and historic patrimony - never to be given up. A number of them, and particularly Defense Minister Sharon, also view the entire West Bank as a vital security threat to Israel if it were to be taken away from Israel's control. This complex of justifications explains Begin's insistence on a concept of autonomy limited to administrative responsibilities for the Arab inhabitants and not applicable to the land itself. Begin's policy guidelines for his new coalition government include a declaration that, at the end of the five-year autonomy period called for in the Camp David Accords, Israel will "claim and act towards the implementation of this right of sovereignty over Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip."

The present Begin government will not be around to implement this policy five or more years hence assuming autonomy is agreed and implemented. Nevertheless, Begin and Sharon have worked for some time to create conditions which

-7-

would enable a future Israeli government to act on their claim of sovereignty over the territories when the opportunity arises and, conversely, to ensure that no successor government will be able to return the territories, even in return for peace, without touching off a grave political crisis. Well over a year ago Sharon told Ambassador Linowitz that Israel would establish an infrastructure of 85 settlements in the West Bank. During the recent Sadat-Begin summit Sharon said that the 85th settlement had been announced that day. His intention now is to build the population in the existing settlements to make it politically impossible for any Israeli government to agree to dismantle one of them or to place them under foreign control.

In addition to implanting settlements throughout the West Bank, including a few in densely populated areas, the Begin government has carried on a form of slow integration in which Israeli law and civil administration are gradually extended to the settlements and the West Bank's infrastructure and economy are increasingly integrated into that of Israel.

Over the course of the last eighteen months, Israeli authorities instituted a crackdown on Palestinian political activity in the territories. Such activity had been increasing ever since municipal elections in 1976 brought to power a large number of nationalistic Palestinians.

Sharon, who as Defense Minister now has responsibility for governing the territories, has ordered an end to some of the more petty harassments and restrictions involved in the crackdown. He has done this as a precursor to opening a dialogue with selected Palestinian officials in hopes of developing an alternate group of "leaders" more willing to cooperate than many of the elected mayors with the Israeli military government — either as direct employees or as material beneficiaries of it. Sharon has, however, kept the lines open to the mayors.

Sharon's purpose is to enhance the chances for implementing an autonomy agreement concluded with Sadat prior to Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai in April 1982, after which many Israelis believe Israel will lose considerable negotiating leverage. The Egyptians have welcomed his approach although they do not believe it goes far enough. Nevertheless, Sharon remains among the firmest believers in Israeli retention of fundamental control over all of the West Bank and Gaza while divesting Israel of most of its current administrative responsibility for the day-to-day functions of governing the Arab inhabitants.

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- 3 -

It is too early to tell whether Sharon's policies can strike a responsive chord among West Bank Palestinian leaders. Thus far none have been willing to cooperate with such an effort, which they continue to perceive as facilitating eventual Israeli annexation of the territories. The atmosphere among the Palestinians remains tense, if superficially quieter, than that prevailing before the crackdown. Partially as a reaction to Israel's previous hardline West Bank policies, support for the PLO is widespread and the influence of radical elements has gradually increased, particularly among the younger populace, in a society which had been highly traditional in its social outlook and quite conservative politically.

24

The Israeli economy has never recovered the dynamism it had prior to the 1973 war. (From 1968-72, for example, real growth averaged 11 percent each year.) It has experienced severe internal and external disequilibria since then: declining growth, rising inflation and large current account deficits. To some extent outside factors were the cause. Defense expenditures and defense-related imports shot-up following the war. The economy was subsequently buffeted by rising oil prices and there was a slowdown in the growth rate of Israel's export markets. (LOU)

The burden of the adjustment has been borne by private and public investment in plant and equipment, while there has been a shift of income from capital to labor. The ratio of gross fixed investment to GDP fell from 33% in 1973 to 22% in 1980. This has led to growing demand pressures on a production base that has failed to expand quickly enough. Consequently prices, which were rising around 30-40 percent per annum between 1974-77, catapulted to new plateaus, reaching 133 percent in 1980. (LOU)

vated an already deteriorating economic situation. The month-to-month rate of increase in the price index has slowed. In May, the consumer price index - announced two weeks before election day - rose at an annual rate of 48 percent, a dramatic drop from the 133 percent pace of 1980. However price deceleration was partly due to the delayed effect of earlier credit tightness, the reduction in purchase taxes and increases in subsidies. Renewed inflationary pressures are

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BY ON NARADATE 5/22/2023

Classified by D. C. Templeman

Declassify | Review for 7-4-87

likely in the latter part of 1981 as the effects of the monetary expansion associated with the increased budget deficit begins to be felt. Also, further increases in the current account deficit can be expected. (C)

We do not have a reading on the 1981/82 budget deficit, but the budget is expected to be revamped soon. Over the past four years, the budget deficit to GNP ratio has ranged between 19 and 22 percent. In 1979/80, about 72 percent of the deficit was financed by foreign borrowing and domestic bank borrowing-divided equally. Meanwhile, imports of consumer durables stimulated by pre-election tax cuts, and an estimated 40 percent increase in. military imports, will lead to a substantial increase in the current account deficit this year. Treasury staff estimate that the current account deficit (before official transfers) will be \$3.5 billion in 1981 compared to \$2.3 billion in 1980. The 1981 current account deficit to GDP ratio is estimated to rise to 15 percent compared to 14 percent the previous year. Although this is a disconcerting ratio, it has been higher before and the GOI has been able to finance such a deficit. (C)

As Begin enters his second term in office, the Israeli economy is beset by major structural problems that are being aggravated by Aridor's free spending policies. Without major changes in economic policy, the Begin government will face a number of problems. The budget deficit could reach record levels, accelerating price increases, pulling in imports and diverting production from exports to the domestic market. The current account deficit in the balance of payments could become unmanageble, as debt repayments mount and

foreign private bankers harden loan terms or stop new lending to Israel. Investment in plant and equipment, which had fallen to only 12 percent of GNP in 1980, would shrink further undermining future growth. (C)

A combination of policies designed to restrain demand and provide incentives for investment in productive capital for exports and for more efficient utilization of Israel's manpower is required if Israel is to successfully attack these problems. A reduction in demand pressures would help ameliorate both the inflationary and balance of payments problems. Aridor's plans for further tax cuts would have to be shelved and the growth of government expenditure, including the historically untouchable defense budget, would have to be cut. These measures would need to be supported by more disciplined money supply growth. (Money supply (M-1) grew by about 100 percent in 1980.) Real wage increases, which averaged 3 percent per year between 1972-79, would have to be held in check. And to spur productivity the government would have to provide incentives for investment. (C)

At the moment there is no economic stabilization policy and many observers believe that the Begin government is unlikely to develop one. Putting on the brakes will be difficult because Aridor spent the past nine months convincing the public that austerity was not necessary. He has said he intends to continue to reduce purchase taxes, while only gradually reducing subsidies. Meanwhile, Aridor is removing his critics from the Bank of Israel, the one institution able to resist bad government economic policies. Other cabinet ministers will probably resist any cuts in their

budgets, so Begin may have to get involved in economic issues which, we understand, he is not interested in. (C)

21

Former Finance Minister Hurwitz approached the IMF in September 1980 about the possibility of a Fund-backed stabilization program. He was unable to get backing in Jerusalem for an austerity program so the idea was dropped. Now that Israel's elections are over, it seems appropriate that the GOI once again approach the IMF for technical and financial support. However, there is no evidence as yet that the GOI is prepared to do so. (C)

In the absence of a stablization effort it is likely that

Israel's economic ills will get worse and could once again become
political issues for the Begin government. Meanwhile, the GOI is
already seeking higher levels of and more concessional assistance
from the U.S. These appeals can be resisted for a time, however.

Israel's foreign exchange reserves amounted to \$3.5 billion at the
end of May - sufficient to cover about 5 months of imports. Given

U.S. aid levels, the USG clearly has a basis for asking the GOI to
make better use of its resources. After all, the U.S. will provide

Israel with almost \$2.2 billion in assistance in FY 82 - our largest
program - which is equivalent to \$563 for each Israeli citizen. (C)

Drafted by:
WJMcFadden, Treasury
September 4, 1981

Cleared by:

- D. Templeman, Treasury
- R. Misheloff, AID
- R. Raphel, State/NEA

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90393 PAPER 1 9/4/1981 B1

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29

Possible Action Against Israel at Upcoming Meetings of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (IF RAISED)

It is probable that punitive action against Israel will be taken at upcoming September meetings of the IAEA in response to Israei's attack last June on the Iraqi research reactor. We will strongly oppose any such action at these meetings and have made clear to other countries that this could have serious consequences for our continued participation. We have not yet decided how we would respond to any IAEA action against Israel. However, in making such a decision, we will have to balance our support for Israel with the importance of the IAEA, which is an essential aspect of our non-proliferation policy.

TALKING POINTS

- THE US STRONGLY OPPOSES ANY PUNITIVE ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL AT THE UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.
- -- WE ARE WORKING ACTIVELY WITH OTHER STATES PARTICIPATING
 IN THESE MEETINGS TO FORESTALL ANY SUCH ACTION.
- -- PUNITIVE ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL BY THE IAEA COULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION.
- -- WE HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHAT OUR RESPONSE WILL BE
 SHOULD PUNITIVE ACTION BE TAKEN BY THE IAEA AGAINST ISRAEL.
- -- IN LARGE PART, SUCH A RESPONSE WILL DEPEND ON THE SEVERITY OF THE ACTION AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF OUR RESPONSE FOR THE CAEA.

BY du NARA DATE 5/22

DECLASSIFIED

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 8, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD G. DARMAN

FROM:

CHARLES P. TYSON

SUBJECT:

Suggested Presidential Talking Points for the Visit of Prime

Minister Begin of Israel

Suggested Presidential Talking Points are attached for insertion in your copy of briefing book for the visit of Prime Minister Begin:

Tab A: Private Meeting - 10:40 to 11:15 a.m.

Tab B: Plenary Meeting - 11:15 to 12:00 noon

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SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR BEGIN VISIT - FIRST MEETING - SEPTEMBER 9, 1981

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IN THE PLENARY MEETING (CABINET ROOM)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY HAIG

SECRETARY WEINBERGER

EDWIN MEESE
JAMES BAKER
RICHARD ALLEN
RICHARD DARMAN
CRAIG FULLER

AMBASSADOR VELIOTES AMBASSADOR HABIB

FROM :

MICHAEL K. DEAVER

SUBJECT:

BEGIN BRIEFING

On Tuesday, September 8, there will be a meeting to brief the President for the visit of Prime Minister Begin. The meeting will take place from 12:15 to 1:45 in the Cabinet Room.

Because it has generally been viewed as successful, we will continue to use the small-group Q&A format. An agenda is attached.

I look forward to your active participation.

AGENDA

Time	Topic	Lead
Allotted		
10 Min.	Objectives, Schedule, Personalities	Secretary Haig
20 Min. (5 Min.) (15 Min.)	Security StrategyOverviewQ&A	Secretary Haig Richard Allen et al.
20 Min	AMAGC	
20 Min. (5 Min.) (15 Min.)	AWACS Overview Q&A	Secretary Haig Richard Allen <u>et al</u> .
20 Min.	Peace Process	_
•	Overview Q&A	Secretary Haig Richard Allen <u>et al</u> .
20 Min.	Lebanon	
•	Overview	Secretary Haig
(15 Min.)	Q&A	Richard Allen <u>et al</u> .

1 - Thanks for his lowkers 3) Start w. reinforce "strategic ally"
Commitment to I Free! (A) hideast as region - (tous)
injust of Sandis Las well as Ir. permit # tobe another Juan. - relation they sofar usefue/holofil watch out for ! -- sales to Ivan