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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

**Withdrawer**

DLB 4/29/2010

**File Folder** CO074 (ISRAEL) (033231) (5)

**FOIA**

S10-306

**Box Number** 96

SYSTEMATIC

553

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
90399	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF #90340; RICHARD ALLEN TO THE PRESIDENT, RE: YOUR MEETING WITH ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN	3	9/3/1981	B1
90400	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF #90341; ALEXANDER HAIG TO THE PRESIDENT, RE: YOUR MEETING WITH ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN	4	9/1/1981	B1
90401	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF #90342; ALEXANDER HAIG, CASPAR WEINBERGER TO THE PRESIDENT, RE: STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC COOPERATION WITH ISRAEL	4	9/1/1981	B1
90402	MEMO	DUPLICATE OF #90343; ALEXANDER HAIG TO THE PRESIDENT, RE: YOUR DISCUSSION WITH BEGIN ON THE PEACE PROCESS	4	9/3/1981	B1
90403	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90286; ISRAEL AS A STRATEGIC PARTNER	1	8/26/1981	B1

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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90404	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90387; STATUS OF SAUDI AWACS PROPOSAL <b>R 5/22/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	ND	B1
90405	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90306; LEBANON	1	ND	B1
90406	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90305; THE THREAT TO ISRAEL	1	ND	B1
90407	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90307; SINAI WITHDRAWAL AND THE MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS (MFO)	1	8/25/1981	B1
90408	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90309; NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL <b>R 5/22/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	8/25/1981	B1
90409	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90285; MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	1	8/27/1981	B1
90410	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90308; GOLAN HEIGHTS ANNEXATION	1	8/25/1981	B1

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90411	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90288; THE ISRAELI ECONOMY <b>R 5/22/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	ND	B1
90412	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90290; U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL <b>R 5/22/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	ND	B1
90413	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90289; MIDDLE EAST NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE (MENWFZ)	1	ND	B1
90414	BRIEFING PAPER	DUPLICATE OF #90355; ISRAELI EFFORT TO PRESSURE SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRANTS TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL <b>R 5/22/2023 DEPT. OF STATE WAIVER</b>	1	ND	B1

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VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER  
MENACHEM BEGIN OF ISRAEL  
SEPTEMBER 8-10, 1981

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. INTRODUCTORY MEMORANDUM (Richard V. Allen)
- II. OVERVIEW--SETTING, OBJECTIVES, ISSUES, THEMES  
(Secretary Haig)
  - 1. Overall Scope Paper
  - 2. Strategic Cooperation
  - 3. The Peace Process
- III. SCENARIO AND SCHEDULES
  - 1. Scenario--Meetings, Participants, and Emphasis of Themes and Objectives
  - 2. President Reagan's Schedule with Prime Minister Begin
  - 3. Overall Schedule of Prime Minister Begin
  - 4. Official Parties
- IV. BACKGROUND PAPERS
  - 1. Israel as a Strategic Partner
  - 2. Status of Saudi AWACS Proposal
  - 3. Lebanon
  - 4. The Threat to Israel
  - 5. Sinai Withdrawal and the MFO
  - 6. Normalization of Relations Between Egypt and Israel
  - 7. Military Assistance Programs
  - 8. Golan Heights Annexation
  - 9. The Israeli Economy
  - 10. U.S. Economic Assistance to Israel
  - 11. Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone
  - 12. Israeli Efforts to Pressure Soviet Jewish Emigrants to Settle in Israel
- V. TALKING POINTS
- VI. REMARKS AND TOAST
  - 1. Welcoming Remarks
  - 2. Dinner Toast
  - 3. Departure Statement
- VII. BIOGRAPHIES



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OVERVIEW--SETTING, OBJECTIVES,  
ISSUES, THEMES (HAIG)







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90400 MEMO

4 9/1/1981 B1

DUPLICATE OF #90341; ALEXANDER HAIG TO  
THE PRESIDENT, RE: YOUR MEETING WITH  
ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN

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90401 MEMO

4 9/1/1981 B1

DUPLICATE OF #90342; ALEXANDER HAIG,  
CASPAR WEINBERGER TO THE PRESIDENT, RE:  
STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC COOPERATION  
WITH ISRAEL

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SCENARIOADMINISTRATION SCHEDULE/PRESIDENTIAL SCENARIO  
MEETINGS, PARTICIPANTS, AND EMPHASIS OF THEMES AND OBJECTIVESMEETING WITH SECRETARY HAIG

(Tuesday, September 8, 11:40 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Blair House)

## Discuss Program Agenda

U.S. Participants: Secretary Haig, Assistant Secretary Veliotos,  
Ambassador LewisIsraeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister  
Shamir, Ambassador EvronMEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT

(Wednesday, September 9, 10:40-11:45 a.m., Oval Office)

Issues:

H*	Global Foreign Policy and Regional Security Strategy
M	AWACS
M	Importance of Peace Process
L	Lebanon

U.S. Participants: The President, Secretary Haig, Assistant to  
the President for National Security Affairs Allen,  
Ambassador LewisIsraeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir,  
Ambassador EvronMEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT - PLENARY SESSION

(Wednesday, September 9, 11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon, Cabinet Room)

Issues: Review of Meeting with the President  
Hear Prime Minister Begin Presentation

H	Regional Security Strategy
H	US-Israeli Strategic Relationship
M	How to Give Momentum to the Peace Process
L	Economic and Military Assistance to Israel
L	Lebanon

U.S. Participants: The President, The Vice President, Secretary  
Haig, Secretary Weinberger, Counsellor to the President Meese,  
Ambassador to the UN Kirkpatrick, Chief of Staff Baker, Deputy  
Chief of Staff Deaver, Assistant to the President for National  
Security Affairs Allen, Counselor McFarlane, Assistant  
Secretary Veliotos, Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Habib,  
NSC Senior Staff Kemp

\*H = Heavy Emphasis  
M = Medium Emphasis  
L = Low Emphasis

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT - PLENARY SESSION (cont'd)  
(Wednesday, September 9, 11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon, Cabinet Room)

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir, Defense Minister Sharon, Interior Minister Burg, Ambassador Evron, Messrs. Avner, Kuberski, Bar-on, General Tamir, Messrs. Kadishai, Poran

WORKING LUNCHEON HOSTED BY SECRETARY HAIG  
(Wednesday, September 9, 1:00-3:00 p.m., James Madison Room,  
The Department of State)

Issues:

H How best to proceed in the Peace Process  
H Lebanon Situation  
M Regional Security Strategy

U.S. Participants: Secretary Haig, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Allen, Deputy Secretary Clark, Counselor McFarlane, Assistant Secretary Veliotes, Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Habib, Senator Rudman, Senator Kassenbaum, Representative Fenwick

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir, Defense Minister Sharon, Interior Minister Burg, Ambassador Evron, plus others

MEETING WITH SECRETARY REGAN  
(Wednesday, September 9, 4:30 p.m., Blair House)

Issues:

H Status of Economic Assistance Programs  
L How to Increase Israeli Commercial Exports  
L Review of the Israeli Economy

U.S. Participants: Secretary Regan, AID Administrator McPherson, Under Secretary Rashish, Ambassador Lewis, Assistant Secretary Leland, NSC Senior Staff Bailey

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, others

MEETING WITH SECRETARY WEINBERGER  
(Wednesday, September 9, 5:15 p.m., Blair House)

Issues:

H Regional Security Strategy  
H US-Israeli Strategic Relationship  
M AWACS  
M Status of Military Assistance Programs

U.S. Participants: Secretary Weinberger, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Allen, Deputy Secretary Carlucci, Under Secretary Ikle, Assistant Secretary West, Ambassador Lewis, NSC Senior Staff Kemp

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Defense Minister Sharon, General Tamir

PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENT

(Thursday, September 10, 8:45 a.m., Blue Room, White House)

Issues:

- H The Immediate Future of the Autonomy Negotiations
- M AWACS
- (Others to be determined after Wednesday meetings)

U.S. Participant: The President

Israeli Participant: Prime Minister Begin

BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENT - PLENARY SESSION

(Thursday, September 10, 9:15 a.m., Blue Room, White House)

Issues:

- M US-Israeli Strategic Relationship
- (Others to be determined after Wednesday meetings)

U.S. Participants: The President, The Vice President, Secretary Haig, Secretary Weinberger, Counsellor to the President Meese, Chief of Staff Baker, Deputy Chief of Staff Deaver, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Allen, Assistant Secretary Veliotes, Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Habib, NSC Senior Staff Kemp

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir, Defense Minister Sharon, Interior Minister Burg, Ambassador Evron, Messrs. Kadishai, Kuberski, Bar-on, Nehushtan, Tamir

DEPARTURE STATEMENTS

(Thursday, September 10, 10:15 a.m.)

U.S. Participant: The President

Israeli Participant: Prime Minister Begin

MEETING WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT

(Thursday, September 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Blair House)

Issues:

- H Prospects for the Peace Process
- M Regional Security Strategy
- L Administration's Efforts to Revitalize US Economy

U.S. Participants: The Vice President, Secretary Haig, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Allen, Chief of Staff Murphy, Ambassador Veliotes, Assistant to the Vice President for National Security Affairs Dyke

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir, others

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CASEY  
(Thursday, September 10, 4:00 p.m., Blair House)

Issues:

- H Intelligence Briefing
- M Israeli Desire for Increased Intelligence Capability

U.S. Participants: CIA Director Casey, others

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, others

MEETING WITH SECRETARY HAIG  
(Friday, September 11, 8:30 a.m., Blair House)

Issues:

- H Review of Visit
- H Agreement of Follow-up Actions

U.S. Participants: Secretary Haig, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Allen, Counselor McFarlane, Assistant Secretary Veliotes, Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Habib

MEETING WITH UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVE AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK  
(Monday, September 14, 11:30 a.m., Waldorf Towers, New York City)

Issues:

- H Issues likely to arise in UNGA and other International Organizations
- L Lebanon

U.S. Participants: Ambassador Kirkpatrick, Ambassador Habib, plus others

Israeli Participants: Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Shamir

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

## EVENT: VISIT OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL MENACHEM BEGIN

Wednesday, September 9, 1981

9:55 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan join in the Diplomatic Reception Room and proceed to edge of red carpet.

10:00 a.m. Prime Minister Begin arrive The White House, Diplomatic Entrance.

THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan are introduced to Prime Minister Begin.

THE PRESIDENT introduces Prime Minister Begin to The Vice President and Mrs. Bush, Secretary Haig, and the General and Mrs. Jones.

THE PRESIDENT escorts Prime Minister Begin onto platform.

10:02 a.m. HONORS

10:08 a.m. THE PRESIDENT makes welcoming remarks.

10:13 a.m. Prime Minister Begin responds.

10:19 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan escort Prime Minister Begin to the State Floor and take positions in front of Blue Room doors.

Mrs. Reagan, at termination of receiving line, proceeds into Blue Room.

10:35 a.m. THE PRESIDENT escorts Prime Minister Begin, at termination of receiving line, to The Oval Office for private meeting.

10:40 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Prime Minister Begin begin meeting.

11:15 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Prime Minister proceed to Cabinet Room for expanded meeting.

\* Denotes approximate time.

9/04/81 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 9, 1981 - Continued

- \* 12:15 p.m. Expanded meeting concludes.
- \* 12:15 p.m. THE PRESIDENT and Prime Minister Begin proceed to The Oval Office to hold briefly.
- \* 12:20 p.m. THE PRESIDENT escorts Prime Minister Begin to motorcade, via Oval Office Walk, for departure.

Prime Minister Begin departs The White House.

THE PRESIDENT returns to The Oval Office.

Thursday, September 10, 1981

8:42 a.m. THE PRESIDENT proceeds from The Residence to the Blue Room.

8:44 a.m. Prime Minister Begin arrives The White House, North Portico, and proceeds to the Blue Room.

8:45 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Prime Minister Begin hold private meeting.

9:15 a.m. THE PRESIDENT and Prime Minister Begin are joined by U.S. and Israeli participants for expanded breakfast meeting.

10:00 a.m. THE PRESIDENT escorts Prime Minister Begin to North Portico.

THE PRESIDENT makes brief departure statement.

10:05 a.m. Prime Minister Begin makes brief departure statement.

Prime Minister Begin departs The White House.

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to The Oval Office.

THE OFFICIAL VISIT  
OF  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL  
TO  
THE UNITED STATES

SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 6, 1981

4:55 p.m. His Excellency the Prime Minister of  
Israel arrives New York -JFK Airport  
via EL AL #015

Overnight: The Waldorf

MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 7, 1981

Private day

Overnight: The Waldorf

TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 8, 1981

10:00 a.m. Depart New York-LaGuardia Airport  
(Marine Air Terminal) via U.S. Presidential  
Aircraft enroute Andrews Air Force Base

10:55 a.m. Arrive Andrews Air Force Base

Welcoming Committee

11:15 a.m. Depart Andrews Air Force Base via U.S.  
Presidential Helicopters enroute the  
Washington Monument Grounds

11:25 a.m. Arrive Washington Monument Grounds

11:30 a.m. Depart Washington Monument Grounds via  
motorcade enroute Blair House

11:35 a.m. Arrive Blair House

11:40 a.m. Meeting with the Honorable Alexander M.  
Haig, Secretary of State, at Blair House

Private afternoon and evening

Overnight: Blair House

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 9, 1981

- 10:00 a.m. White House Arrival Ceremony.
- 10:30 a.m. Meeting with the President at the White House.
- 12:45 pm Luncheon hosted by Mrs. Haig for  
Mrs. Shamir at the Department of  
State, Thomas Jefferson Room.
- 1:00 p.m. Working luncheon hosted by Secretary Haig  
at the Department of State, James Madison Room.
- 3:00 p.m. Meeting with invited Senators at Blair House.
- 4:30 p.m. Meeting with The Honorable Donald Regan,  
Secretary of the Treasury, and the  
Honorable M. Peter McPherson, Administrator,  
Agency for International Development, at  
Blair House.
- 5:30 p.m. Meeting with The Honorable Caspar Weinberger,  
TENT. Secretary of Defense, at Blair House.
- 7:30 p.m. Official Dinner at the White House.

Dress: Black Tie

Overnight: Blair House



THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 10, 1981

8:45 a.m. Meeting with President Reagan, at the  
White House

9:00 a.m. President and Prime Minister meet with  
U.S. and Israeli delegations at breakfast  
at White House

10:00 a.m. Departure statements - Press queries

10:15 a.m. Meeting with the Vice President, at  
Blair House

12:00 noon Press conference at the Sheraton-Carlton

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Press briefing for Israeli Press at Blair House

1:00 p.m. Luncheon with the Senate Foreign Relations  
Committee, U.S. Capitol, Room S-116

2:30 p.m. Meeting with the House Foreign Affairs  
Committee, Room 2172, Rayburn House Office  
Building.

6:15 p.m. Meeting with The Honorable William Casey,  
Director of Central Intelligence, at Blair  
House.

8:00 p.m. Dinner hosted by His Excellency the Ambassador  
of Israel and Mrs. Evron in honor of His  
Excellency the Prime Minister of Israel, at  
the National Portrait Gallery, 8th and F  
Streets, N.W.

Dress: Black Tie

Overnight: Blair House

FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11, 1981

8:30 a.m. Breakfast with Secretary Haig, at Blair House

10:30 a.m. Meeting with The Honorable Henry Jackson,  
TENT. United States Senator from Washington,  
at Blair House

11:30 a.m. Meeting with Rev. Jerry Falwell and  
other religious leaders (10) at Blair  
House

2:00 p.m. Meeting with Mr. Lane Kirkland, President,  
AFL-CIO, at Blair House

3:00 p.m. Depart Blair House via motorcade enroute the  
Washington Monument Grounds  
Arrive the Washington Monument Grounds

3:05 p.m. Departure Ceremony at the Washington  
TENT. Monument Grounds

3:15 p.m. Depart the Washington Monument Grounds  
TENT. via U.S. Presidential Helicopters  
enroute Andrews Air Force Base

3:25 p.m. Arrive Andrews Air Force Base  
TENT.

3:30 p.m. Depart Andrews Air Force Base  
via U.S. Presidential Aircraft  
enroute New York-LaGuardia Airport  
(Marine Air Terminal)

4:25 p.m. Arrive New York-LaGuardia Airport  
(Marine Air Terminal)

4:35 p.m. Depart airport via motorcade enroute  
APPROX. the Waldorf Towers

5:10 p.m. Arrive the Waldorf.  
APPROX.

Private evening.

Overnight: The Waldorf

MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL ISRAELI PARTY

His Excellency Menachem Begin  
Prime Minister of Israel

His Excellency Yitzhak Shamir  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Shulamit Shamir

His Excellency Dr. Yosef Burg  
Minister of Interior, Police, and  
Religious Affairs

His Excellency Ariel Sharon  
Minister of Defense

His Excellency Ephraim Evron  
Ambassador of Israel to the United  
States

Mrs. Rivka Evron

Mr. Yehiel Kadishai  
Director of the Prime Minister's  
Bureau

Mr. H. Kubersky  
Director General, Ministry of Interior

Major General Auraham Tamir  
Assistant to the Minister of Defense  
for National Security

Major General Yehoshua Sagi  
Director, Military Intelligence, I.D.F.

Brigadier General Ephraim Poran  
Military Secretary to the Prime  
Minister

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Matti Milo  
Daughter and Son-in-law of  
Prime Minister Begin

MEMBERS OF THE ACCOMPANYING ISRAELI PARTY

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Adviser to the Prime Minister  
(Press and Communications)

Mr. Hanan Bar-On  
Deputy Director General  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Yehuda Avner  
Adviser to the Prime Minister

Dr. Reuven Hecht  
Adviser to the Prime Minister

The Honorable Jacob Nehushtan  
Minister, Embassy of Israel

Mrs. Devorah Nehushtan

Mr. Yosef Ben Aharon  
Director, Bureau of the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs

Colonel Ilan Tehila  
Military Secretary to the Minister of  
Defense

Mr. Gilad Stern  
Assistant to the Minister of Interior

Mr. A. Rotem  
Head of the Prime Minister's Security

Dr. Marvin Gottesman  
Personal Physician to the Prime  
Minister

Mr. Yaacov Saar  
Official Photographer

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN PARTY

The Honorable Leonore Annenberg  
Chief of Protocol of the United States

The Honorable Walter H. Annenberg

The Honorable Samuel W. Lewis  
American Ambassador to Israel

Mrs. Lewis

Mr. Thomas Nassif  
Deputy Chief of Protocol

Mrs. Lois Evans  
Assistant Chief of Protocol  
for New York (NEW YORK ONLY)

Ms. Gahl Hodges Bothe  
Protocol Officer

Mrs. Connie Connor  
Protocol Officer

Mr. Patrick Daly  
Protocol Officer

Ms. Mary Masserini  
Protocol Press Officer

Mr. William Sittmann  
Protocol Officer

Mr. James T. Payne  
Protocol Logistics Officer

Ms. Linda Dewan  
Staff Assistant (Visits)

Ms. Brenda Connors  
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Mrs. Sandi Root  
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90403	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90286; ISRAEL AS A STRATEGIC PARTNER	1	8/26/1981	B1

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BRIEFING PAPER

90404 2

Authority State Waiver

BY dr NARADATE 5/12/2023

STATUS OF SAUDI AWACS PROPOSAL

17

The Administration submitted to the Congress August 24 its proposal to sell to Saudi Arabia airborne early warning and aerial refueling aircraft and F-15 enhancement items. The \$8.5 billion air defense package consists of the following items:

- Five E-3A Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) Aircraft and associated support, spares, training and ground environment improvements (\$5.8 billion).
- 101 ship-sets of conformal fuel tanks (CFTs) for F-15s (\$110 million).
- Six KC-707 tankers (with an option for two more) (\$2.4 billion).
- 1,177 AIM-9L (Sidewinder) air-to-air missiles (\$200 million).

We recognize that Saudi acquisition of this equipment is of concern to Israel. The air defense package has been designed to meet legitimate Saudi defense requirements. Sale of the E-3A AWACS aircraft and enhanced F-15s to Saudi Arabia will only marginally improve Arab military capabilities vis-a-vis Israel. With or without the improvements, Israel will continue to be capable of decisively defeating any potential combination of Arab opponents, on all fronts, at any level of hostilities.

We have received four types of assurances from the Saudis, covering physical security, data sharing, restrictions on third party transfers, and restrictions on the area of operation.

The 20-day informal notification period will not begin until September 9 when Congress returns from recess. During the 30-day formal notification period which follows, both houses would have to pass resolutions disapproving the sale in order to block it.

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90405	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90306; LEBANON	1	ND	B1

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90406	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90305; THE THREAT TO ISRAEL	1	ND	B1

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90407	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90307; SINAI WITHDRAWAL AND THE MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS (MFO)	1	8/25/1981	B1

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90400

21

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

6

BRIEFING PAPER

Normalization of Relations Between Egypt and Israel

Egyptian-Israeli normalization since the signing of the Peace Treaty in March 1979 generally has proceeded well. Israel has attached great importance to the pace of normalization as a tangible measure of Egypt's commitment to their new relationship. The Egyptians have not expanded cultural contacts or tourism to the degree Israelis would like. For its part, Israel has insisted that there not be any linkage between other developments in the region, (East Jerusalem, its settlement policies, or positions in the autonomy negotiations) and the pace of normalization. Sadat is trusted, but the Israelis worry about the commitment to normalization of those in the bureaucracy and the intelligentsia.

Sadat was very embarrassed by the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor which occurred only three days after his meeting with Begin and discomfited by subsequent events in Lebanon. The normalization process, however, has continued, and Begin and Sadat met in Alexandria August 25-26. This moderation is largely attributable to Egypt's desire to avoid any actions which could jeopardize completion of Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai next April.

The Egyptians nevertheless see normalization as implicitly linked to Israeli actions, even though the Camp David Accords make such connection. Many Egyptian officials believe the pace of normalization should be related specifically to progress in the autonomy negotiations, but Sadat, thus far, has decided otherwise on most occasions. If Sadat decides to slow significantly normalization, it is not likely he would do so before the return of Sinai in April 1982.

Despite these differing perspectives, there has been a significant evolution in the bilateral relationship since the Peace Treaty was signed. Ambassadors were exchanged in February, 1980, and traffic across the interim border at El Arish was begun. Direct air flights between Tel Aviv and Cairo began in March, 1980, and have expanded to seven round-trip flights weekly. Trade, commercial and cultural agreements were concluded, quickly approved by the Knesset, and ratified by the People's Assembly in May of this year. Egypt supplies 2 million tons of oil annually to Israel, at a value of \$750 million in 1980. Some specific activities will inevitably be adversely affected by Egyptian concern over events such as the Israeli raids on Baghdad and Beirut. In general, however, Egypt and Israel seem to be moving toward greater cooperation, particularly in agricultural development and health projects. We will encourage and endeavor to support such cooperation.

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BY dh NARA DATE 5/22/2023

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90409	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90285; MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	1	8/27/1981	B1

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90410	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90308; GOLAN HEIGHTS ANNEXATION	1	8/25/1981	B1

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THE ISRAELI ECONOMY

24

Israel has serious economic problems: Inflation is measured in triple digits. The 1981 balance of payments deficit is expected to be \$5 billion (it was \$3.8 billion in 1980). These problems reflect growing private consumption and the Israeli Government's massive deficit spending for defense, debt repayment, commodity subsidies, and social services. Higher import prices and depressed export markets have exacerbated the balance of payments problem. Only strong corrective measures can help solve these problems.

Israel's comprehensive indexing system enables the economy to function despite triple digit inflation. Political costs are high, however, and inflation is now the main economic target of the Begin Government. The Government introduced an austerity program in late 1979 to deal with the chronic balance of payments problem. That program involved real wage cuts, and thereby reduced import demand and stimulated exports. The U.S. supported that program, which succeeded in arresting the balance of payments slide and would, given time, have reduced inflation. Austerity has its political costs, however, and the program ultimately led to the Finance Minister's resignation and the June 1981 elections.

Prior to the elections, Begin's new Finance Minister, Yoram Aridor, switched economic targets to focus on inflation. Motivated in part by electoral considerations, Aridor cut sales taxes on consumer durables and cars and increased subsidies on basic commodities and energy, which led to increased imports and the beginnings of a consumer boom. As a result, inflation declined to about 3 percent in the month before the election, compared to the prior average 10 percent per month.

A policy of stable economic growth can mitigate both inflation and balance of payments problems. Such a policy will require Government budget restraint, reduction of consumption subsidies, and encouragement of the private sector. Otherwise the current anti-inflation program will lead to larger balance of payment deficits, which the U.S. will ultimately be called on to finance. Our assistance programs to date, averaging \$2.2 billion in recent years in addition to the \$3 billion Sinai redeployment package, have been critical in helping meet Israel's foreign exchange requirements. A new austerity program, because of its high political prices, can be implemented only early in the new Begin Administration.

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Authority

Adel Weaver

BY

dm NARA DATE 5/24/2023~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL

We have been providing Israel with \$785 million annually in economic assistance since fiscal year (FY) 1978 and have proposed that level for FY 1982. This assistance takes the form of transfers of cash from the Economic Support Fund. Prior to FY 1981, approximately two-thirds of the total package (\$525 million a year) was a grant and the remainder (\$260 million) a long term, low interest loan. For the current year Congress mandated an all grant program as a response to Israel's concerns about its heavy external debt burden. We believe that, with sound economic management, Israel should have no difficulty in servicing its debt. We therefore have proposed a return to the 2/3 grant - 1/3 loan formula in FY 1982, but Congress will likely again mandate an all grant program.

We have never conditioned assistance on Israeli Government willingness to carry out specified economic policies and programs. However, our aid is intended to help Israel cover short-term balance of payments deficits while the government takes steps to strengthen its financial position. The objective is to enable Israel to make do with less aid in future years without suffering a lower standard of living. In this light, we are not satisfied with the efforts that the Government of Israel is making to resolve the difficult balance of payments problems which gave rise to a need for our substantial economic assistance.

We expect to receive Israel's aid request for U.S. FY 1983 about the time of Prime Minister Begin's visit. Given the worsening balance of payments situation this year, we can anticipate that a case will be made for increasing the economic and military aid level. If the question of economic aid levels should arise, we should tell Begin that we are prepared to consider Israel's FY 1983 request in light of Israel's needs and our own (USG) budget and to review it with a high level Israeli delegation as in previous years. We hope the Israeli submission will reflect a program to attack inflation other than through increased consumption subsidies and to bring Israel's international accounts into better balance.

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BY

dr

NARA DATE

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90413	BRIEFING PAPER  DUPLICATE OF #90289; MIDDLE EAST NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE (MENWFZ)	1	ND	B1

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ISRAELI EFFORT TO PRESSURE SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRANTS  
TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL

27

Background: Since the Soviet Government opened the doors to limited Jewish emigration in 1971, well over 50% of the Jewish emigrants have regularly chosen not to resettle in Israel but to immigrate instead to the U.S. and to other third countries -- usually because of close or distant relatives or close friends already living elsewhere. The Israeli Government has never been pleased with this fact, and has been under continuing pressure from its staunch Zionist circles to make sure that Jews who get out of the Soviet Union go to Israel, whether they want to or not.

In recent weeks the Israelis have taken steps to do just that, by changing the procedures they follow in Vienna (first stop for Soviet Jews leaving the USSR) to pressure Soviet Jews to settle in Israel. The Austrian Government, which provides transit facilities and assistance for the Soviet Jewish emigrants, has told the Israelis their new procedures are unacceptable as denying the Jewish emigrants their right to freedom of choice. The State Department, when informed of the new procedures by the Israeli Ambassador, did not comment on the procedures but strongly reaffirmed the U.S. Government's commitment to the right of freedom of choice for the Jewish emigrants. The USG underwrites resettlement costs for Soviet Jewish emigrants who go to Israel as well as for those who settle in the U.S.

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