

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford  
Rabbi Shlomo Goren, Chief Rabbi of Israel  
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs  
Amb. Simcha Dinitz, Israeli Ambassador  
Hanan Bar-On, Minister, Embassy of Israel

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 19, 1976  
12:15 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: Welcome to the United States.

Goren: I want to thank you, Mr. President, for receiving me and for the strength of the United States in preserving the free world.

Dinitz: I just came from Miami where I saw great evidence of your presence, Mr. President.

President: How long will you be here?

Goren: I have been traveling around. I talked at Brandeis.

There are three main functions of Israel -- we are entering the last days. The first is the in-gathering of the Jews. Israel was the only place willing to receive them after the holocaust. Without the United States, Israel would not exist today. We rely on your help in the political, military and financial fields.



DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
NSC MEMO, 118000, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dep. memo 5/11/04  
BY Jed NARA DATE 4/12/04

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President: We had very productive talks with Prime Minister Rabin. He does a superb job in dealing with the United States and talking to the American people. You should be proud of him.

Goren: He is an old friend of mine. I was a military chaplain to a group of paratroopers.

President: He has shown great statesmanship in his dealing with us and especially the Sinai agreement.

Goren: As a religious man I believe in the fulfillment of the Bible that Israel should have the West Bank, but the achievement in the Sinai is the greatest achievement since Israel was established. I don't see now how war can break out.

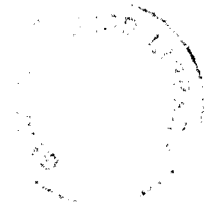
President: We must help keep Egypt away from the Soviet Union and associated with us.

Goren: She can no longer attack. She would lose the Canal and the oil. Syria can't attack without Egyptian support. I was a Major General and I think the chance of war doesn't exist, providing Israel maintains its strength.

President: We plan to insure that Israel retains its security. I think we worked that out when Prime Minister Rabin was here. If we can keep the Soviet Union out, keep the lid on Lebanon, and keep Syria quiet, we will be okay.

Goren: It is incredible what they did in Lebanon. Over 10,000 Christians were killed in Lebanon. It would be 100% worse if we had to live together with them. Israel is the leader of the Free World in the Middle East. None of the Arab states is democratic. Without the United States, the situation would be hopeless. The United States must fulfill the vision for the whole world. You are the only ones who can accomplish it.

President: I hope you will pass that message to the American people. I think it is tragic what resulted in Southeast Asia and in Angola. I was looking back at it earlier today -- if we had done something about the Italian invasion of Ethiopia, the war may not have come.



Goren: The Angola situation was very bad. This is the advance of totalitarianism. What happened in Southeast Asia, now Angola. It is very bad. We are having a conference of the Soviet Jewry now. We can't get the Jews out of Russia.

President: That is a long story. It is down from the 35,000 in '73 to 10,000 last year. We will do what we can, but it will be hard this year. We had it arranged, but internal problems have prevented it. The Ambassador knows the story.

Goren: That this could happen in the 20th Century is incredible. This is what they could do all over the world.

President: You can be assured we will do what we can. We are committed to the security of Israel.

Goren: In Syria there are two communities of Jews. They are so persecuted we may learn one day they have disappeared.

President: How many are there? 4-5,000?

Goren: Yes. They can't get out.

[He gives the President a Bible.]

This is the Jerusalem Bible. Jerusalem is the symbol of the unifying of the world. Israel is the vision of the prediction of the Bible.

President: My son is studying for the Ministry. He had to study Hebrew.

Dinitz: Maybe he would like to visit Israel.

President: That is a good thought. I will ask him.

P/ Rabbi Green /  
17 Feb 76

- P Welcome to the US.
- G (Thanks P for receiving him & for a strength of US in pursuing a free world)
- D I just came from Miami where I saw good evidence of your presence
- P How long will you be here
- G I have been traveling around - Tel Aviv, set boundaries, etc.

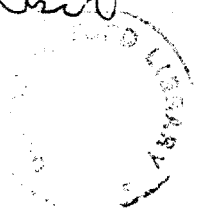
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W/o the US, I ~~can~~ could not exist today. We ~~are~~ rely on your help in a pol, and a financial field.

- P We had very productive talks w/ V. M. Katin. He does a superb job in dealing w/ the US & talking to Am people. You should be proud of him
- G He is an old friend of mine. I was a mil. chaplain & a paratrooper.
- P He has shown great statesmanship in dealing w/ us & esp. a Simon.
- G as a religious man I believe in a fulfillment of a Bible that I should have a w/ Bank, but a movement in Miami is a greatest mine I estab. I don't see how now we can break out.

1 We must buy E away from SU & assoc w/ us.

G She can no longer attack. She will be a camel & a cat. Syria will



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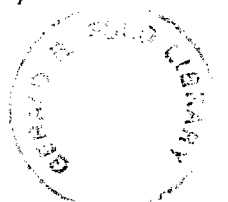
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C It is incredible what they did in Haberman.  
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We having a conf of Sov. Jewry now. We  
can't get Jews out of Russia.

P That a long story. It is damn funny  
- 35000 in TB to 10000 last year. We  
would do what we can, but we heard  
this year, we had it arranged, but



interviews had printed it. The Arab  
has a story.

G That this could happen in 20 or 25  
is conceivable. This is what they would  
do all over the world.

P You can be assured we will do what  
we can. We are united to security  
of I.

G In Syria there are 2 ~~countries~~ minutes  
of time. They are so persecuted ~~to~~ we  
may learn one day they have changed.

P How many, 4-5 days?

G Yes. They can't get out  
(Crisis for world)

This is Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a symbol

P ~~the~~ ~~prediction~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~beginning~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~world~~. ~~It~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~wise~~  
Why can't they study for humanity. He had  
to study the man.

D Why can't he would like to visit I

P A good that I will ask.

