

## Bonei Olam Shows Its Gratitude



A special mission to Israel by Bonei Olam and Dr. Peter N. Schlegel from New York Cornell. Bonei Olam had the opportunity to give recognition to MK Harav Yaakov Litzman for his help for those in need.  
R-L: Rabbi Boruch Halprin of Bonei Olam USA; MK Rabbi Yaakov Litzman; Rabbi Lavunon of Bonei Olam Israel; Rabbi Shlomo Bochner, founder and director of worldwide Bonei Olam; Rabbi Chaim Stern of Bonei Olam Israel, and Professor Ronal of Asaf Harofeh Hospital.



Flash90

Israel's Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman (L)

## FM Lieberman Says Palestinians Not Serious

BY YISRAEL PRICE

**YERUSHALAYIM** – Israel's Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman dismissed yesterday hopes that renewed talks with the Palestinians in Jordan might lead to a breakthrough.

"Anyone who talks about a breakthrough with the Palestinians has no idea what he's talking about," the Foreign Minister said yesterday, ahead of a second meeting of negotiators later in the day in Jordan.

Lieberman explained that the Palestinians had only agreed to come to Amman because of the exhortations of Jordanian King Abdullah, and that they are already seeking ways out and are "preparing excuses and [will try to] transfer the responsibility for the talks' failure to Abbas."

The Palestinians had been "dragged against their will" to

Amman, Lieberman reportedly told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

Counseling a more realistic approach to the matter, Lieberman said, "Whoever talks about a 'breakthrough' with the Palestinians is clueless. The key word is 'management' of the conflict with the Palestinians."

The Prime Minister's office gave no immediate reaction to Lieberman's remarks.

Palestinian officials, meanwhile, are protesting their sincerity. "All sides in the Quartet and our brothers in Jordan see a complete seriousness from the Palestinian side, and an Israeli attempt to turn these negotiations into a waste of time," said Yasser Abed Rabbo, senior adviser to Mahmoud Abbas.

The Jordanian-hosted meeting was attended by the so-called

Quartet of peace brokers — the United States, European Union, Russia and United Nations — who on Oct. 26 gave the sides three months to submit their proposals on territory and security.

In Amman, a regional diplomatic source told Reuters that the second round of talks, held behind closed doors, held out a chance to assess longer-term prospects. "This is even more important" than the introductory meeting, the source said. "We have to see... what comes now."

During his appearance before the committee, the Foreign Minister defended himself against criticism that his public remarks have often been intemperate and damaging to Israeli diplomatic efforts.

He told the committee that his ministry handles crises more quietly and efficiently than the Defense Ministry, citing the public relations disaster of the first Gaza flotilla when the latter was in charge, compared to the second flotilla, when his people had more of a hand in shaping the policy.

"People should realize that diplomacy is stronger," he said, adding that Israel is not at all isolated, as is so often said.

Lieberman also explained his sharp reaction to a recent condemnation of Israeli building by European countries, calling them "irrelevant." He said the condemnation "crossed a red line," for failure to notify the Foreign Ministry in advance of the condemnation, and he noted dozens of civilians were killed across the Middle East that same day.

"We couldn't just let the incident pass quietly," Lieberman said. "If we hadn't reacted, it would have set a new, negative norm."

## Bill to Punish Misuse of Holocaust Imagery Passes

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toward misuse of Holocaust imagery as the reason for the measure. "Sadly, in recent years we have witnessed a growing trend where Nazi symbols are used with flippancy and complete disregard for the feelings of the Holocaust survivors and their decedents," he said.

The Justice Ministry has

opposed the bill on the grounds that it would be restrictive of freedom of speech. But Justice Minister Yaakov Ne'eman was personally in favor of it, and it is expected to be accepted with revisions, *The Jerusalem Post* reported.

Educational, documentary and historical materials will be exempted from the prohibition.

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5110 19th Ave Bklyn, NY 11204 [regencyofboropark@gmail.com](mailto:regencyofboropark@gmail.com)  
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