EMBAJADA DE ISRAEL SANTIAGO CHILE



SANTIAGO, 1 DE MARZO, 1994 D-059

SU EXCELENCIA
EL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPUBLICA DE CHILE
DON PATRICIO AYLWIN AZOCAR
PALACIO DE LA MONEDA
P R E S E N T E



EXCELENTISIMO SEÑOR PRESIDENTE:

Por la presente tengo el honor de transcribir la carta enviada a Vuestra Excelencia, por el Primer Ministro de Israel, señor Yitzhak Rabin:

"JERUSALEM, FEBRUARY 28th., 1994

ARCHIVO

DEAR SIR.

I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF INFORMING YOU ABOUT THE LATEST DECISIONS OF MY GOVERNMENT AS A RESULT OF THE APPALLING AND RUTHLESS CRIME THAT WAS COMMITTED AT THE TOMB OF THE PATRIARCHS BY AN ISRAELI EXTREMIST. AND WHOSE VICTIMS WERE INNOCENT ARABS AT MORNING PRAYERS.

I HAVE DENOUNCED AND CONDEMNED THIS BESTIAL BEHAVIOR IN THE STRONGEST TERMS STILL. I AM FULLY AWARE THAT THERE IS NO WAY TO ADEQUATELY EXPRESS MY REVULSION FOR THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS MASSACRE. I, AS THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL, AS AN ISRAELI, AS A JEW. AM MORE THAN ASHAMED THAT A JEW, AN ISRAELI, CARRIED OUT THIS KIND OF ATROCITY. IN THE WAKE OF THIS EVENT, I SUMMONED THE ISRAELI CABINET ON 27 FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS WAYS TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF ACTS OF THIS NATURE IN THE FUTURE.

THE CABINET TOOK THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS:

- A. GIVEN THE EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED, TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY LAW 5729-1968, REGARDING THE MASSACRE OF THE TOMB OF PATRIARCHS IN HEBRON ON 25 FEBRUARY 1994.
- B. THE CABINET DECIDED, AFTER HEARING THE REPORT OF SECURITY ELEMENTS AND AFTER BEING PRESENTED WITH THE OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL, TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING SERIES OF MEASURES ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS AGAINST RADICAL ELEMENTS AMONG THE ISRAELI RESIDENTS IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA.

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- 1. THE IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION:
- 2. THE EXTENSION OF RESTRAINING AND SUPERVISORY ORDERS AGAINST THE ENTRY OF CERTAIN PERSONS INTO THE JUDEA, SAMARIA AND HEBRON AREAS, AND;
- 3. THE DISARMAMENT OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS AND THE CONFISCATION OF THEIR WEAPON PERMITS.
- C. TO CHARGE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL WITH THE TASK OF EXPLORING AND PROPOSING OPTIONS FOR THE OUTLAWING OF THE "KACH" AND "KAHANE CHAI" ORGANIZATIONS.
- D. TO RECORD THE STATEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND DEFENSE MINISTER ON THE RELEASE OF ABOUT 800 PALESTINIAN DETAINEES AND PRISONERS FROM ARREST AND DETENTION. THE INTENT IS TO RELEASE UP TO 1.000 DETAINEES AND PRISONERS WITHIN THE COMING WEEK.
- E. THE TOMB OF THE PATRIARCHS WILL BE OPENED ONLY AFTER NEW ARRAGEMENTS FOR SECURITY AND PRAYERS HAVE BEEN DETERMINED.

THE CABINET EMPOWERED THE PRIME MINISTER AND DEFENSE MINISTER, THE LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER. THE AGRICULTURE MINISTER. THE CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING MINISTER AND THE FINANCE MINISTER TO DECIDE ON A TEMPORARY REGULATION - WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CABINET - CONCERNING CIVILIAN MATTERS REGARDING THE CLOSURE IN JUDEA, SAMARIA AND GAZA, INCLUDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS.

FRANKLY, I AM WORRIED ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE POLITICAL PROCESS. I CAN UNDERSTAND THE FURY, THE AGONY AND THE PROTESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS. THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT MANY OF THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PEACE PROCESS - FIRST AND FOREMOST THE ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS, HAMAS - WILL EXPLOIT THIS TRAGIC INCIDENT. THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PLAN ACTS OF REVENGE AND CAUSE FURTHER BLOODSHED.

SINCE SEPTEMBER 13, AND IN SPITE OF THE MANY TERROR ATTACKS, WHICH TOOK THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 30 ISRAELIES AND WOUNDED HUNDREDS, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND I STOOD FIRM IN OUR POSITION THAT "WE WILL FIGHT TERRORISM ON THE ONE HAND. WE WILL CONTINUE THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE OTHER, NOT MAKING ANY CONDITIONS TO LINK THEM IN ANY WAY". AND I BELIEVE THIS SHOULD BE THE MAIN MESSAGE.

THEREFORE, MY EXPECTATION IS THAT WE SHOULD NOW CONCETRATE ON SPEEDING UP THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO IN ORDER TO REACH AGREEMENT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME AND BEGIN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

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IT WOULD BE A MAJOR MISTAKE TO DELAY RATHER THAN TO ACCELERATE THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. IT WILL SERVE ONLY THOSE - ON BOTH SIDES -WHO CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTS AND ATROCITIES, WITH THE PURPOSE OF UNDERMINING THE AGREEMENT AND PUT THE NEGOTIATONS ON HOLD. THEREFORE A SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE A VERY POSITIVE AND STRONG RESPONSE TO ALL THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PEACE PROCESS, AND A LIVING PROOF THAT THE PROCESS IS IRREVERSIBLE AND WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO RECONCILIATION BETWEEN JEWS AND ARABS.

SINCERELY YOURS. YITZHAK RABIN "

Aprovecho la ocasión para reiterarle Excelentísimo Señor Presidente, las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración y estima.

PINCHAS AVIVI Embajador de Israel