

“President Bush Must Intervene and Offer a Peace Settlement”

Yuli Tamir, Shlomo Ben-Ami, and Amnon Shahak Sent a Letter to the US President:

September 12, 2002

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Three former ministers - Yuli Tamir, Shlomo Ben-Ami, and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak - call on president Bush to intervene in the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians and offer the sides a solution.

In a letter they sent this week to Bush and Secretary of State Powell, they offer a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict following these outlines:

- There will be two states - Jewish and Palestinian.
- Israel will withdraw to the '67 borders, with border adjustments and land-swaps.
- Shared sovereignty in Jerusalem, according to the Clinton formula: what is Jewish -- to Israel, what is Arab -- to the Palestinians.
- A solution to the refugee problem on the basis of compensation, rehabilitation, and resettlement. There will be no right of return.
- Security arrangements for Israel
- Announced end to the conflict, including all forms of terrorism and violence.

According to the three former ministers, at the moment there is no prospect for bilateral contacts between Israel and the Palestinians. Therefore, the United States must intervene, with the support of the moderate Arab states in order to encourage both sides to reach a settlement. According to them, if the US president would offer such a plan, the two peoples would compel their leaders to accept it.