ISRAEL NEWS FROM CALVARY CHAPEL JERUSALEM

June 23, 2004 ~ Tamuz 4, 5764

POOL OF SILOAM FOUND

A pool that served as a main water reservoir for Jerusalem residents 2,000 years ago has been uncovered, the Antiquities Authority announced.

The Pool of Siloam was uncovered last week by chance at the southern end of the City of David - in what today is Silwan - while the city was carrying out infrastructure work for a new sewage pipe.

Archeologist Eli Shukrun said that two millennia ago, Jewish residents would use the pool to gather water for their homes, as a meeting place, and also possibly as a mikva [ritual cleansing pool].

After lying untouched for 2,000 years, archeologists first uncovered one step, and then several more leading down to the pool, whose water came from the nearby Gihon spring.

"This find is of major importance to the archeological world," Antiquities Authority director Shuka Dorfman said at a short ceremony at the site, where excavations are ongoing. "This is our history and it is important that we know and remember that Jews lived here, and that this is our inheritance," Education Minister Limor Livnat said.

[A New Testament reference to the pool of Siloam can be found in John 9:10-12. Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered and said, "A Man called Yeshua made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."]

CHIEF RABBI: THERE WILL BE NO WITHDRAWAL FROM GAZA

The "Sanzer Rebbe", leader of the large Sanz Hassidic sect, Rabbi Tzvi Elimelech Halberstam, told David Hatuel today that, with God's help, there will be no withdrawal from Gush Katif, rather there will be expansion. The Rebbe made the comments when he was asked by Hatuel whether a community in Gaza should construct a permanent or temporary ark in the synagogue for the Torah scrolls. The Rebbe replied that they should build a temporary ark, but not to prepare for withdrawal, but because they will have to move it to a bigger synagogue when the community expands.

In April, the Sanzer Rebbe told a delegation from the Judea, Samaria and Gaza Council that the Prime Minister's "disengagement" plan is part of efforts to uproot Judaism.

David Hatuel, whose wife, their unborn son and all their four daughters were murdered by Arab terrorists, requested the meeting with the Sanzer Rebbe. The Rebbe's late father, the Klausenberger-Sanz Rebbe, Rabbi Yekutiel Halberstam, lost his entire family as well, his wife and 11 children, in the Holocaust. After World War II, he made aliyah and rebuilt both his own family and Sanz Hassidism anew, as well as founding Laniado Hospital in Netanya. (IsraeLNN)

REAGAN: NO PALESTINIAN STATE, NO WITHDRAWAL FROM

GAZA Address to the Nation on United States Policy for Peace in the Middle East September 1, 1982

My fellow Americans:

Today has been a day that should make us proud. It marked the end of the successful evacuation of PLO from Beirut, Lebanon. This peaceful step could never have been taken without the good offices of the United States and especially the truly heroic work of a great American diplomat, Ambassador Philip Habib. When our administration assumed office in January of 1981, I decided that the general framework for our Middle East policy should follow the broad guidelines laid down by my predecessors.

The time has come for a new realism on the part of all the peoples of the Middle East. The State of Israel is an accomplished fact; it deserves unchallenged legitimacy within the community of nations. But Israel's legitimacy has thus far been recognized by too few countries and has been denied by every Arab State except Egypt. Israel exists; it has a right to exist in peace behind secure and defensible borders; and it has a right to demand of its neighbors that they recognize those facts.

I have personally followed and supported Israel's heroic struggle for survival, ever since the founding of the State of Israel 34 years ago. In the pre-1967 borders Israel was barely 10 miles wide at its narrowest point. The bulk of Israel's population lived within artillery range of hostile Arab armies. I am not about to ask Israel to live that way again. Beyond the transition period, as we look to the future of the West Bank and Gaza, it is clear to me that peace cannot be achieved by the formation of an independent Palestinian state in those territories, nor is it achievable on the basis of Israeli sovereignty or permanent control over the West Bank and Gaza.

So, the United States will not support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, and we will not support annexation or permanent control by Israel. ... Finally, we remain convinced that Jerusalem must remain undivided, but its final status should be decided through negotiation. ... Tonight, on the eve of what can be a dawning of new hope for the people of the troubled Middle East -- and for all the world's people who dream of a just and peaceful future -- I ask you, my fellow Americans, for your support and your prayers in this great undertaking.

Thank you, and God bless you. Note: The President spoke at 6 p.m. from the studios of KNBC - TV in Burbank, Calif. The address was broadcast live on nationwide radio and television. www.reagan.utexas.edu/resource/speeches/1982/90182d.htm

NETANYAHU TO CLINTON: "I NEVER AGREED TO GIVE AWAY

GOLAN'' Former Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu denies that he ever agreed to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The issue has risen once again with the release of ex-US President Bill Clinton's autobiography, in which he claimed that four Israeli Prime Ministers with whom he worked agreed to leave the Golan. The three were Yitzchak Rabin, Shimon Peres, Binyamin Netanyahu, and Ehud Barak.

Netanyahu, speaking with Army Radio this morning, said that the first diplomatic move he made upon becoming Prime Minister in 1996 was to obtain a letter from then-US Secretary of State Warren Christopher. The letter laid out the U.S. position that Israel has no obligation to withdraw totally from the Golan.

"In no situation did I agree to leave the Golan," Netanyahu said. "That's what caused the break-up of the negotiations." (Arutz 7)

MEANWHILE: CLINTON IGNORED HIS OWN MISGIVINGS

ABOUT ARAFAT Not for the first time, former US president Bill Clinton Sunday laid the blame for the failed Oslo "peace" process squarely on the shoulders of PLO chief Yasser Arafat. In a weekend interview published ahead of the release of his autobiography, Clinton told Britain"s (The Guardian) he holds Arafat solely responsible for the collapse of Middle East peace efforts. But subsequent to the 2000 Camp David summit, where Clinton says Arafat appeared out of touch with reality, the by-then lameduck president attempted to assuage the "confused" terror chief by offering him even more of Israel's biblical homeland at Taba in December of that year.

US President George W. Bush has staked his Middle East policy on the same failed formula of buying the Arabs "Acceptance" of Israel by ignoring biblical mandate and uprooting Jews from their God-given lands.

Arafat to blame In My Life, scheduled for release Tuesday, Clinton reportedly speaks at length about his endeavor to broker a final peace agreement between Israel and the "Palestinians by portioning off the Jews" biblical homeland to their Muslim enemies.

But Arafat, described as "confused" and possibly no longer at the top of his "was incapable" of making the final transformation from terror boss to legitimate statesman, the former commander-in-chief said.

According to a New York Times review of his book, Clinton reflects that Arafat was "not fully in command of the facts" during their three-way summit with then-Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak at Camp David in June 2000.

Clinton told the Guardian that as he was preparing to leave the White House, Arafat phoned to tell him he was a & "Great man" "'Mr. Chairman,' I replied, 'I am not a great man. I am a failure, and you have made me one"; Clinton said.

TIME FOR JEWS TO LEAVE FRANCE?

How bad is anti-Semitism in France? A French Nazi hunter says it's so bad, the best way to keep up the fight is to leave the country. Six decades after the end of the Holocaust, the prominent French Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld told the (Jerusalem Post) that French Jews should pack their bags and get out.

"One of the lessons of the Holocaust is that even if you want to fight against a wave of anti-Semitism, the best [thing] is to leave if you can," Klarsfeld said during a visit to Israel.

At the same time, Klarsfeld, who lives in Paris, said that he does not expect there be a great wave of Jewish emigration from France to either Israel or the U.S. because most French Jews are well off.

Klarsfeld said history has proven it would have been best "had the Jews of Poland and the Jews of Austria left Europe when they could have." Klarsfeld's remarks came on the heels of reports that the Jewish Agency was planning to launch a campaign to persuade French Jews to immigrate to Israel to escape a wave of anti-Semitism...

NEWS REPORT FROM JERUSALEM

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