

April 23, 2010



*Press Section*

*American Embassy*

*Tel Aviv*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Press Release***

**Remarks by Special Envoy George Mitchell  
Before Meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu**

**Jerusalem  
April 23, 2010**

**SEN. MITCHELL:** Mr. Prime Minister, thank you very much. I just want to say a few words to the Prime Minister, the government of Israel and the people of Israel. I want to begin by quoting the words of President Obama in his statement made publicly on Israel's Independence Day just a few days ago. President Obama said: "We continue to share a strong, unbreakable bond of friendship between our two nations, anchored by the United States' enduring commitment to Israel's security. Israel remains our important partner and key strategic ally in the Middle East, and I am confident that our special relationship will only be strengthened in the months and years to come. I look forward to continuing our efforts with Israel to achieve comprehensive peace and security in the region, including a two-state solution, and to working together to counter the forces that threaten Israel, the United States, and the world. We honor the extraordinary achievements of the people of Israel, and their deep and abiding friendship with the American people. I offer my best wishes to President Peres, Prime Minister Netanyahu, and the people of Israel ." That has been American policy; that is American policy; that will be American policy. The President has stated it clearly and convincingly and I am here today as a tangible demonstration of the workings of that policy on a day-to-day basis on issues of critical interests to both our governments and our people. I look forward to working with Prime Minister Netanyahu to achieve our common objective of a comprehensive peace in the region.

Thank you all very much.

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