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Press Section

American Embassy

Tel Aviv

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

U.S. Ambassador welcomes flights carrying fire fighting chemicals to Israel

U.S. Ambassador James B. Cunningham welcomed to Israel the first two flights of military aircraft carrying 20 metric tons of fire retardant chemicals to help suppress the fire raging on Mount Carmel. The fire fighting chemicals were delivered by two C-130 aircraft from the US military's European Command located in Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany.

In the days to come, more flights are scheduled to arrive to provide a constant supply as long as needed to douse the flames in the Carmel area.

Ambassador Cunningham briefed the press on the tarmac as the planes were being unloaded: "In the last 24 hours or so we have been working with the Israeli government to provide information and advice and to understand how best we can contribute to dealing with the challenge posed by the fire in Carmel. We are pleased to join the efforts of many other friends of Israel who are now engaged on the ground in dealing with the fire. Our prayers go out to those who have lost loved ones and have suffered as a result of the fire. We know this is a very painful experience to go through. We want to help get it over as soon as possible."

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