

RELEASE IN FULL

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Subject: Fw: US Jewish leaders criticize West Bank report (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov [mailto:OpsNewsTicker@state.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 11:07 AM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Subject: US Jewish leaders criticize West Bank report (AP)

JERUSALEM (AP) - Dozens of American Jewish leaders have appealed to Benjamin Netanyahu, asking that his government reject a recent report claiming Israel is not occupying the West Bank.

In a letter to the Israeli prime minister, they predict the report could jeopardize prospects for peace with the Palestinians and tarnish Israel's image. The letter was obtained Monday by The Associated Press.

Signatories included businessmen and philanthropists Charles Bronfman and Stanley Gold; the former head of the Israel lobby in Washington, Tom Dine, and former Jewish Agency board chairman Richard Pearlstone.

The signatories wrote they fear the report will "add fuel to those who seek to delegitimize Israel's right to exist."

The Israeli report by former Supreme Court Justice Edmond Levy says Israel has a legal right to build settlements.

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