

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 0930-16

Peres Funeral Sitrep from Near East Department (28 September 2016)

- ...in discussion with the [Redacted] on arrangements for VVIP and FS
- Once we have confirmation of FS Travel Plans, we will be able to work on something ensuring the wider UK delegation arrive on the same plane/similar timings

Email from Near East Department (28 September 2016)

- ...just messaged to say the FS party may arrive on Thurs evening [Redacted]. Could you give this chain an update on the emerging plan?
- If FS travels Thursday night, this will have implications for others (Chief Rabbi et al) hoping to travel in the plane, as they will also need accommodation. I suggest we confirm FS plan first, then address the question of whether there is space for others (and implications for planning/logs support in Tel Aviv). Does that sound like a sensible way forward?

Email from BE Tel Aviv to Near East Department (28 September 2016)

- Thanks. Really helpful. Just to stress the urgency on this: I've just spoken to the MFA and they need details urgently so that they can get hotels secured. I have given them the steer that (all tbc):
- Leading UK Minister arriving Thursday evening,...;
- Tony Blair arriving tbc...;
- Chief Rabbi/Arkush/Thornberry – arriving tbc...;
- The earlier the clarity (even confirmed numbers) the better.

Email from Near East Department to BE Tel Aviv (28 September 2016)

- The list of those who have been in touch regarding travel arrangements and contact points for each is below. We will let you tell us when you know more about the flight:
- Labour Party Representative (possibly Emily Thornberry MP, Shadow Foreign Secretary);
- Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis;
- Jonathan Arkush President Board of Deputies,
- Tony Blair
- I'll keep you looped in if I receive more contact.

Email from BE Tel Aviv to Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs (29 September 2016)

- We spoke earlier. This email is the definitive UK delegation list for the memorial. Attached and copied below.
- VVIP Delegation
- His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
- Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary of State
- David Quarrey HM Ambassador
- Tony Blair Former Prime Minister
- David Cameron Former Prime Minister
- Emily Thornberry MP Shadow Foreign Secretary

- Ephraim Mirvis Chief Rabbi
- Jonathan Arkush President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Email from BE Tel Aviv to Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs (29 September 2016)

- We will confirm first thing tomorrow all the details we have including flight details and names/passport details of those travelling.
- The Foreign Secretary is scheduled to arrive ... tomorrow (Thurs)... Flight departing ..., tbc
- On the FS flights we are aiming to have the following accompanying UK party (which will be confirmed tomorrow)...
- Former PM David Cameron...
- The Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis...
- Jonathan Arkush, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews
- Shadow (opposition) Foreign Secretary Emily Thornberry...
- Former Prime Minister Tony Blair is likely to arrive separately.