

Peres Discusses Relations With Syria And Jordan

TEL AVIV (WNS) — Premier Shimon Peres disclosed that Israel made efforts to engage in dialogue with Syria on either limited or comprehensive issues but was rebuffed by Damascus on both levels.

His remarks were contained in a radio interview broadcast in full on the occasion of Israel's Independence Day. He said: "We made an effort - not directly - to arrive at dialogue with the Syrians at one of two levels: At the local, limited level, meaning the Golan Heights and Lebanon, and at the higher level of, perhaps, comprehensive negotiations." But, he said, "regarding comprehensive negotiations, we immediately received a negative response. On negotiations to be limited regarding place and scope, there was initially something of a hearing, but afterwards we also received a negative response from the Syrians."

His remarks were the first revelation that Israel had approached Syria with an offer of talks. In the same interview, the Premier affirmed that Israel has no intention of attacking Syria and it does not believe the Syrians will attack Israel, though a constant alert is maintained on the northern borders.

Peres also clarified the status of Israel's relations with Jordan. "In the first place, the understandings with Jordan are known and open to everyone. We told the Jordanians, first, that we are ready to conduct negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. That is an understanding. Of the five names they proposed (of possible Palestinian delegates) we agreed to two," Peres said.

"Second, the Jordanians insisted on an international forum. We agreed. Third, they insisted that it be based on (UN Security Council resolutions) 242 and 338. We agreed. These are far from negligible understandings. I can say, fourth, that in practice both they and we agree that the Americans will be the implementors in

the attempt to generate dialogue," Peres said.

"The final thing -- and I don't say this is an understanding between us, but this is an understanding of Jordan -- is that Jordan is the first Arab state that tried seriously to integrate (PLO chief Yasir) Arafat into negotiations, and reached a conclusion, which became public, that this gentleman is not a partner for negotiations."

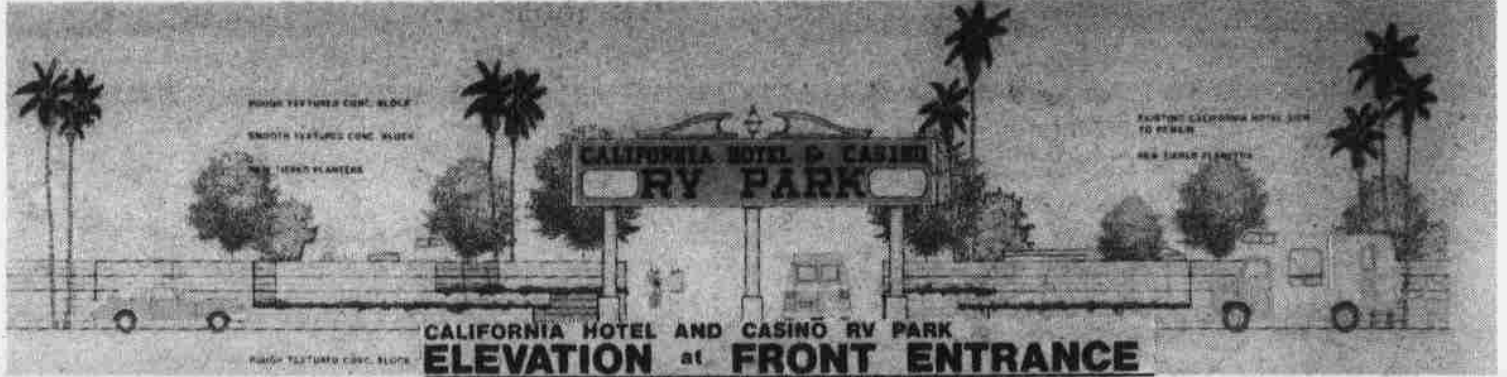
Peres was referring to King Hussein's announcement last February that he had ended his year-long efforts with Arafat because the PLO leadership is unreliable.

Responding to questions about his reported proposal to introduce Palestinian autonomy on the local level in the Gaza Strip, Peres said, "I'm

not proposing anything. I think proposals should come from the Arab side. Every proposal that originates with us will immediately arouse overall Arab opposition."

With respect to autonomy, he said: "In this case, the initiative has to come from the Arab side. The Arabs know that this (Israeli) government, like earlier governments, is ready to discuss self-rule in the territories. This is an option which we constantly raise. We will not impose it, we will not implement it by force. But if the Palestinians awake from their slumber -- or more correctly, their nightmare -- and are ready to discuss this regarding Gaza and Judaea-Samaria (West Bank), we shall willingly discuss it."

Downtown's First R.V. Park Breaks Ground



CALIFORNIA HOTEL AND CASINO TO BE THE HOME OF DOWNTOWN LAS VEGAS' FIRST R. V. PARK -- Groundbreaking ceremonies were recently held for a 224-space R.V. park at the California Hotel and Casino. The facility, with full 50-amp hook-ups, will be completed on October 1st of this year.

Sam Boyd's California Hotel & Casino, located at First and Ogden, will soon be the home of Downtown Las Vegas' first R.V. park.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were recently held for the 224-space park to be located just behind the California. The park will include full 50-amp hook-ups plus 50 percent drive-throughs to accommodate all R.V. models.

The R.V. park will occupy 9.3 acres of land and include an oversized pool and jacuzzi as well as lush landscaping.

"We are extremely pleased to be the first downtown property to offer this added service to our customers," stated Rod Ralston, General Manager of the California Hotel and Casino. "Downtown visitors, who drive an R.V., will no longer be inconvenienced by having to park elsewhere," he continued.

The developer for the park is the Boyd Group with Breslin Builders as the general contractor. The R.V. park is slated for completion on October 1st of this year.



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