



mediakit

- [Jewish Singles](#)
- [Plant a Tree](#)
- [Car Rentals](#)
- [JPost Store](#)
- [JPost ePaper](#)
- [Christian Edition](#)
- [Advertise with Us](#)

TV NEWS FROM ISRAEL FREE! [Click here](#)

israel.jpost.com

JPost.com » Israel » Article

Dec. 11, 2006 20:23 | Updated Dec. 11, 2006 22:45

Olmert indicates Israel has nuclear capability

By JPOST.COM STAFF



Talkbacks for this article: 17



Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. Has he made a blunder with his admission of Israel's nuclear capability?
Photo: AP

In a move unprecedented by any Israeli leader, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on Monday suggested that Israel possessed nuclear weapons capability when he named Israel in a list of nuclear nations.

In an interview with the German television network SAT 1,, Olmert was asked about the statement by newly-appointed US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates regarding Israel's nuclear capability.

The prime minister became enraged when he was asked if the fact that Israel possessed nuclear power weakened the West's position against Iran.

"Israel is a democracy and does not threaten anyone," Olmert exclaimed. The only thing we have tried to do is to live without [threats of] terror, but we have never threatened anyone with annihilation. Iran explicitly, openly and publicly threatens to wipe Israel off the map."

"Can you say that this is the same level, when they [Iran] are aspiring to have nuclear weapons, like America, France, Israel and Russia [JPost italics]?" he said, adding that these were "civilized nations" who did not threaten the world's foundations with nuclear destruction.

Olmert's statements drew fire from politicians across the political spectrum. MK Yuval Steinitz responded to Olmert's statement by calling for the prime minister to resign, while Meretz-Yahad chairman Yossi Beilin called the prime minister's remarks "irresponsible to the point of

Advertisement

IT'S HAPPENING NOW. ISRAEL. CLICK HERE FOR BEST DEALS

- SERVICES**
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [E-mail Edition](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Kotel Cam Live](#)
- [Toolbar](#)
- [AllJobs Israel](#)
- [Christian Edition](#)
- [Youth Magazines](#)
- [News Ticker](#)
- [Israel Alert](#)

- SECTIONS**
- [Home](#)
- [Headlines](#)
- [Israel](#)
- [Middle East](#)
- [Iranian Threat](#)
- [International](#)
- [Jewish World](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Cafe Oleh](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Magazine](#)
- [Arts & Culture](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Travel & Tourism](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Health & Sci-Tech](#)
- [In Jerusalem](#)
- [Special Reports](#)

Q & A

Audio Programs

Map of Israel **NEW!**

Israel Resources

Financial Tables

Weather

Shabbat Times

Media Kit

Sudoku

Crossword

RSS JPOST NEWS FEEDS

[How to use RSS feeds?](#)

JPost Store

Unique Gift Ideas
Made in Israel

Armenian Ceramics
Direct From Israel

New! AHAYA
SPA Line

DVD Specials
Jewish/Israeli History

Readers' Specials

HiTech Chanukah
Israel Gadgets On Sale

Chanukah For Kids!
Great Kids Gift Ideas

#1 Chanukah Baskets
Kosher Gifts USA/Isr

Jewelry & Judaica
Holiday Sale!

HAMMERSITE
Avshalom Okashi

Soon on Auction

ISRART.COM

Online Auctions
R. Sutzkever

Specials

Eldan Rent-a-Car
The largest car rental company in Israel offers 20% discount.

GoJerusalem!
All you want to know About Jerusalem Visit our Portal!

Join Free at JDate.com
Where love happens! Join Now!

recklessness."

The Prime Minister's Office denied on Monday evening that Olmert's statement was an official acknowledgement that Israel possessed nuclear weapons.

Israel has constrained itself for decades by insisting on a policy of 'amimut,' nuclear ambiguity or opacity, never admitting to its real capabilities, necessitating local journalists to add the line 'according to foreign sources' every time they report on Israel's alleged nuclear weapons.

Olmert called on Germany to cut its ties with Teheran. "It could be that you have economic interests, it could be that you have business interests, but you have a deep moral duty to yourselves, to history and to your future."

Last week, incoming US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, when asked by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee why Iran seeks nuclear weapons, replied, They seek "a deterrent against nuclear nations around them - Pakistan from the East, Russia from the North, Israel from the West and us in the Persian Gulf."

Anshel Pfeffer contributed to this report

Talkback

[Post comment](#) | [Terms](#)

- 17. Hmmmmmmmmm**
DUD - (12/11/2006 22:07)
- 16. #7, we already knew**
Yoni - USA (12/11/2006 21:48)
- 15. the nuclear scenerio is is the air**
daeved - nz (12/11/2006 21:44)
- 14. Is that all he said?**
JB - (12/11/2006 21:20)
- 13. Israel**
Chaim Gorenstein - (12/11/2006 21:11)
- 12. Now olmert will find out that you can't tell just half a story**
Ron - Belgium (12/11/2006 21:09)
- 11. Unbelievable stupidity!**
Len the davidide - USA (12/11/2006 21:05)
- 10. Strategically planned?... for what?**
A.K. - (12/11/2006 21:00)
- 9. Did anyone feign surprise?**
Frank Molnar - USA (12/11/2006 20:57)
- 8. Olmert's confession**
S - (12/11/2006 20:55)
- 7. next he'll tell where the missiles are...**
mike - usa (12/11/2006 20:57)
- 6. nuclear weapons**
Marc - Canada (12/11/2006 20:54)
- 5. Nuclear Proliferation**
EAS - USA (12/11/2006 20:48)
- 4. The guy is a moron like Khrushchev**
LK - USA (12/11/2006 20:47)

www.B-Israeli.com

CHANUKAH Sale!!

Barnie DVD

Israel Puzzle

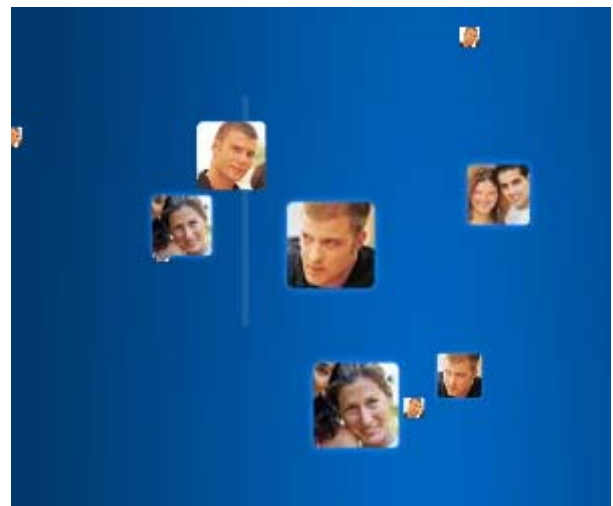
My computer

Smart Kid (Hebrew)

Chanukah CD

Sesame St (Hebrew)

Alphabet Board



Welcome to Tel Aviv - Yafo

The city that never sleeps!

Earn a B.A. in Israel

Live in Israel Study in English

Great apartments

Exclusive apartments in best locations in Israel

Change your luck

Change your luck with one click – Really works!

Plant JNF Trees

Order online now

Careers at JPost

Passover Specials

Passover 2007

Join Rabbi Jonathan Sacks at the Le Meridien Dead Sea.

Lasko Kosher Tours

5 Magnificent Passover Resorts to choose from

6 Deluxe Resorts

Leisure Time Tours
Florida, NY, Arizona, Malta & Puerto Rico

3. OH! The BIG surprise!

David L. - (12/11/2006 20:46)

2. nuclear weapons

Marc - Canada (12/11/2006 20:45)

1. olmert confesses

garyhj - usa (12/11/2006 20:41)

[More...](#)



Print



E-mail



Subscribe



ISRAEL

[[more](#) »]

[Sela's mother begs that he be treated](#)
[Supreme court rejects appeals of Bat Ayin gang members](#)

[13 arrested for alleged arms smuggling](#)
[Peretz supports Saudi peace plan](#)
[Analysis: El Al Shabbat debate inevitable](#)

Ads by Google

[Learn Arabic Online](#)

Read and listen to authentic texts. Updated weekly. Free samples.
www.naturalarabic.com

[Arabic lessons](#)

Meet Tens of Thousands of Muslim Singles for Love or Friendship.
www.MuslimFriends.com

TALKBACK

ARTICLES



[France deploys UAVs to stop IAF flights](#)

Comments: **200**

[What's the chance of war with Syria? Top IDF officers appear confused](#)

Comments: **49**

[Israel angry over German loans to Iran](#)

Comments: **16**



JPost Sites: [JPost Store](#) · [JPost Travel](#) · [Dating](#) · [America's Voices](#) · [JPost Français](#) · [The Jerusalem Report](#)

Sponsored Links: [Car Donations](#) · [Car Hire](#) · [Donate Vehicle](#) · [Fundraisers and Fundraising Ideas](#) · [Web Hosting Providers](#) · [Web Hosting](#) · [Donate Car](#) · [Israeli Poster Center](#) · [Make Money Online](#) · [Shopping](#) · [Intranet software](#) · [Cheap Flights UK](#) · [Consumer Electronics B2B](#) · [Dental Plans](#) · [Real estate forum](#) · [Classified ads](#) · [Online Backgammon](#)

Services: [Print Edition](#) · [JPost CD-Rom](#) · [Subscriptions](#) · [Print Classifieds](#) · [Online Classifieds](#) · [Careers](#) · [E-mail Edition](#) · [Archives](#) · [Kotel Cam Live](#) · [JPost Toolbar](#) · [News Ticker](#) · [Israel Alert](#) · [AllJobs Israel](#) · [Christian Edition](#) · [Youth Magazines](#)

JPost Guides: [Dating & Relationships](#) · [Israel Programs](#) · [Charitable Funds](#)

Information: [About Us](#) · [Feedback](#) · [Media Kit](#) · [Sales](#) · [Staff E-mails](#) · [Privacy Statement](#) · [Copyright](#) · [Terms of Use](#)

© 1995 - 2006 The Jerusalem Post. All rights reserved.

[About Us](#) | [Media Kit](#) | [Advertise with Us](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Contact Us](#)