

Israel Update

March 9, 2018

Guatemala President Tells AIPAC He'll Move Embassy to Jerusalem in May

According to a report by The Times of Israel, Guatemala's president told the AIPAC Policy Conference on Sunday night that he will move his country's embassy to Jerusalem in May, and that the relocation will take place two days after the United States moves its embassy to the holy city, to coincide with the 70th anniversary of Israel's founding. "In May of this year, we will celebrate Israel's 70th anniversary," said President Jimmy Morales, "and under my instructions two days after the U.S. will move its embassy, Guatemala will return and permanently move its embassy to Jerusalem." Morales added, "This decision strongly evidences Guatemala's continued support of Israel, and we are sure that many other countries will follow in our steps." In 1959, Guatemala was the first country to open its embassy in Jerusalem, but later moved it to Tel Aviv following international rejection of Israeli claims to East Jerusalem, U.S. President Donald Trump bucked decades of U.S. foreign policy by formally recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital last December and setting in motion plans to move the U.S. embassy there from Tel Aviv.

Our Synagogue partners with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at synagogue@aipac.org or by visiting www.aipac.org.