

Israel-PLO nail down details of peace treaty

Associated Press
 CAIRO, Egypt — Israel and the PLO ran into minute potholes on the road to peace Tuesday as arrangements went ahead for them to sign their historic accord on Palestinian self-rule.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and leader Yasser Arafat met in an effort to settle disputes before Wednesday's scheduled signing. In a surprise move, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher joined the meeting.

The agreement covering the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho gives Palestinians a measure of control for the first time over their own part of the land they claim as their own. It also sets the stage for talks on a permanent solution to the decades-old conflict between Palestinians and Israel.

On Tuesday, as more than six months of negotiations drew to a close, Palestinian delegates accused Israel of creating new obstacles and holding up details.

"The Israelis are going back on what was agreed upon," PLO delegate Jamil Tarif said.

Arafat voiced similar complaints on the chartered Norwegian jet that carried him from Tunis to Tunisia. He said Norway's foreign minister,

Bjorn Tore Godal, had to persuade him to make the flight.

But Gad Ben-Ari, Rabin's spokesman, insisted the issues were "more than 98 percent" settled. Speaking of disputes to be resolved by Arafat and Rabin, he said: "There are substantial issues, but issues that can be resolved."

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said he considered last-minute crises normal in negotiations.

"Tomorrow at 11 (a.m.) we're going to sign an historic accord between Palestinians and Israelis," Peres said. "We're going to open a completely new chapter in our relations and for our future."

Speaking privately, some Palestinian delegates said they expected the signing to go ahead.

But an Israeli delegate indicated the talks could go down to the wire. Asked when negotiators would finish, Jacques Neriah replied: "Hopefully, we will finish tomorrow morning."

Egypt's president, Hosni Mubarak, is to preside over the signing, which falls on his 66th birthday. Christopher and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, whose countries are sponsoring the Middle East peace talks, are to speak.

The agreement, which reportedly runs 250 to 300 pages with maps and annexes, fills in

the details of the Sept. 13 Israel-PLO accord calling for limited Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Israel has occupied Gaza and the West Bank since the 1967 Middle East war.

Judging from a draft of the agreement obtained by The Associated Press, it gives Israel expected authority over Gaza's Jewish settlements and the borders with Egypt and Jordan.

But the draft also would allow Israel to move troops into the autonomous areas "in the event of the outbreak of general hostilities or imminent threat of such hostilities."

Under the draft, 9,000 Palestinian police officers would be responsible for the self-rule zones, and a Palestinian authority would run day-to-day government and have the right to make laws.

But the lawmaking is subject to a complicated review, and the document provides for more than a dozen committees to solve various Israel-Palestinian disputes.

A Palestinian source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said two of the last-minute disputes had to do with symbols the Palestinians want for their zones.

He said Rabin objected to Palestinians having their own postage stamps and giving Arafat a title suggesting he was "president" of a Palestinian entity.

Mexican cultists sentenced to 67 years for ritual killings

The Associated Press
 MATAMOROS, Mexico — The reputed "god mother" and four other cult members have been sentenced to more than 60 years in prison for the ritual slayings of more than a dozen people, including a Texas college student.

"It's an exaggerated sentence, totally outside the judicial reality of Mexico," Horacio Moyer Quintanilla, attorney for Sara Maria Aldrete Villarreal, said Tuesday.

Federal Judge Francisco Salvador Perez ordered a 62-year sentence for Aldrete on Monday.

He sentenced Elio Hernandez Rivera, David Serna Valdez, Serafin Hernandez Garcia and Sergio Martinez Salinas to 67 years each.

"I'm glad to hear that after five years they have finally been given a sentence," said Helen Kilroy, whose son was killed in a cult ritual.

"I think we and the people of Mexico can feel safer," Kilroy said from Santa Fe, Texas.

Mark Kilroy, a University of Texas medical student on spring break, disappeared after bar hopping in Matamoros, on March 14, 1989.

After a monthlong search, his mutilated body was found at a ranch west of Matamoros.

Fourteen other victims also were unearthed there and at a nearby farm.

Authorities said a drug-smuggling cult performed the ritual slayings seeking magical protection from the law and rival drug smugglers.

Education districts ignoring children in nursing homes

The Associated Press
 AUSTIN — More than 60 percent of education districts serving children and young people in nursing homes are violating some special education laws or regulations, according to a Texas Education Agency survey.

Seventeen of the 261 children found in Texas nursing homes were not being served by their local school districts, despite a federal law guaranteeing educational services to children with disabilities.

The school districts weren't aware of the children, according to the TEA report prepared for the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

Committee Chairwoman Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, called the number of unsevered children "absolutely outrageous."

"It's shocking, just shocking," she told the Austin American-Statesman.

The school-age nursing home residents were in 58 local education agencies, which are made up of one or more school districts.

Classes for youngsters with severe disabilities may involve sensory stimulation to teach them to respond to their environment and to keep their muscles from atrophying. Instead of learning to read or add, they may learn to turn on a tape player or signal their needs to a caregiver.

The Senate committee approved reforms in January in response to an American-Statesman series that showed the unmet needs of young people in nursing homes and reported TEA didn't keep track of such children.

The TEA report found that 22 of the local education agencies, or 38 percent, were in full compliance with federal and state laws, rules and regulations covering special education services to young people with disabilities in nursing homes.

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1.02	J	IS1	3,250 ⁰⁰	1.08	I/J	SI2	\$3,350 ⁰⁰
.73	J	SI2/I1	1,850 ⁰⁰				
.61	I	VS1	1,220 ⁰⁰				
.50	F	SI2	1,100 ⁰⁰				
.49	H	SI	1,253 ⁰⁰				
.47	F	SI	1,300 ⁰⁰				

Oval				Round Diamond			
Weight	Color	Clarity	Price	Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
1.53	I/J	SI1	5,800 ⁰⁰	9.51	L	I1/I2	\$29,500 ⁰⁰
1.01	H	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰	1.76	H	SI3	6,900 ⁰⁰
.85	J	SI2	1,950 ⁰⁰	1.80	H	SI3	7,300 ⁰⁰
.55	F	SI2	1,080 ⁰⁰	1.64	J	SI1	6,600 ⁰⁰
.55	E	SI2	1,190 ⁰⁰	1.16	J	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰
.53	G	SI2	980 ⁰⁰	1.12	D	SI2	5,150 ⁰⁰
.50	I	SI1	875 ⁰⁰	1.06	K	I1	2,050 ⁰⁰
.50	J	SI2	1,383 ⁰⁰	1.03	G	VS/VVS2	5,300 ⁰⁰
.40	J	VS1	675 ⁰⁰	1.01	E	SI1	4,695 ⁰⁰
				1.01	I	SI2	3,675 ⁰⁰
				.95	I	I1	2,275 ⁰⁰
				.92	I	SI2	3,350 ⁰⁰
				.82	K	I1	1,490 ⁰⁰
				.72	G	SI2/SI1	2,300 ⁰⁰
				.70	E	SI2	2,350 ⁰⁰
				.70	G	SI2	1,975 ⁰⁰
				.70	H	SI2	2,115 ⁰⁰
				.70	E	SI1	2,480 ⁰⁰
				.52	I	VS2	1,200 ⁰⁰
				.50	G	VS2	1,490 ⁰⁰
				.46	I	VS2	892 ⁰⁰
				.43	I	SI2/I1	700 ⁰⁰
				.52	I	SI2	2,500 ⁰⁰

Marquise Cut				Princess			
Weight	Color	Clarity	Price	Weight	Color	Clarity	Price
1.39	H	SI2	\$4,955 ⁰⁰	.65	I	VVS2	\$1,350 ⁰⁰
.94	F	SI3	3,250 ⁰⁰	.49	K	SI1	875 ⁰⁰
.90	F	SI2	3,250 ⁰⁰	.53	K	VS1	975 ⁰⁰
.85	D	SI2	3,900 ⁰⁰				
.75	G	VS1/VVS2	3,500 ⁰⁰				
.74	F	SI2	2,750 ⁰⁰				
.58	G	SI2	1,450 ⁰⁰				
.57	K	SI1	1,150 ⁰⁰				
.49	I	VS2	1,176 ⁰⁰				
.49	J	SI2	1,050 ⁰⁰				
.46	H	SI1/SI2	1,354 ⁰⁰				
.31	I	SI1	475 ⁰⁰				

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