

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LIKUD

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In this Issue:

- Israeli Attorney General indicts Netanyahu
- EXCLUSIVE AFL CONF CALL BRIEFING WITH YONAH JEREMY BOB
"UNDER THE SHADOW OF INDICTMENT: WHAT'S NEXT?"
- RECAP - AFL Leadership Mission to Israel November 17-20, 2019
- Recent AFL Exclusive Briefings and Conference Calls: MAJ. GEN. (res) YAAKOV AMIDROR
- AFL Press Releases, Statements and Special Updates

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• Israeli Attorney General indicts Netanyahu

Israel's Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit formally indicted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last Thursday for bribery, fraud and breach of trust in three separate corruption cases, affirming his preliminary decision from February this year. In a dramatic televised statement, the Attorney General said he was taking the decision with "a heavy heart but wholeheartedly," adding that "enforcement of the law is not optional" and that there were reasonable chances of conviction once the cases reached trial.

- Mandelblit rejected any accusations of political bias, saying it was "not a matter of right or left, or of politics" and that no other actor had influenced his decision. Incitement against the legal establishment was "dangerous and like playing with fire" and had to be "denounced and condemned," he said.
- Speaking shortly after Mandelblit in his own [televised statement](#), Netanyahu continued to deny any wrongdoing and said the indictments were "an attempted coup against a sitting prime minister." Netanyahu called the investigations "contaminated and wrongful" and accused police investigators and state prosecutors of "outside considerations," "selective enforcement," and unlawful investigation practices, adding that Mandelblit had not withstood the pressure from these other actors.
- Netanyahu rejected any talk of resignation and vowed to continue leading the country "according to the law," demanding an external committee be formed to "investigate the investigators." "I won't let the lie win," he said.

- In “Case 1,000” Netanyahu is suspected of receiving illegal gifts from businessman Arnon Milchan worth up to £300,000 in return for acting in Milchan’s interest in a deal to sell an Israeli TV Channel (*Channel 10*) as well as helping him get a US visa, after Milchan’s was rescinded. Netanyahu is also alleged to have pursued a deal linked to Indian businessman Ratan Tata, who was Milchan’s business partner, and supported a law to extend tax breaks given to Israelis returning to live in the country after ten years (such as Milchan). Netanyahu is charged with fraud and breach of trust. Milchan has not been charged.
- In “Case 2,000” Netanyahu is accused of working with *Yediot Ahronot* owner Arnon “Noni” Mozes for better media coverage, by offering to restrict circulation of rival newspaper Israel Hayom, which is financed by US-based Netanyahu supporter Sheldon Adelson. The indictment said that Netanyahu and Mozes “recognised that the one had the ability to promote the other’s interest” in the run-up to the 2015 elections and discussed such possibilities. Netanyahu claims he was not serious about the agreement and never intended to implement the deal. Netanyahu is charged with fraud and breach of trust. Mozes has been charged with bribery.
- In “Case 4,000” Netanyahu is suspected of promoting regulatory decisions that benefited Shaul Elovitch, the controlling shareholder in the Bezeq telecom giant, in exchange for positive coverage from the Elovitch-owned Walla news site. The indictment says the relationship between Netanyahu and Elovitch was “based on give and take,” and the Prime Minister’s actions benefiting Elovitch netted the businessman benefits to the tune of some NIS 1.8 billion (\$500 million) in the period 2012-2017. In exchange, Elovitch’s Walla news site “published your political messages that you wished to convey to the public.” Netanyahu is charged with bribery, fraud and breach of trust. Elovitch is charged with bribery.

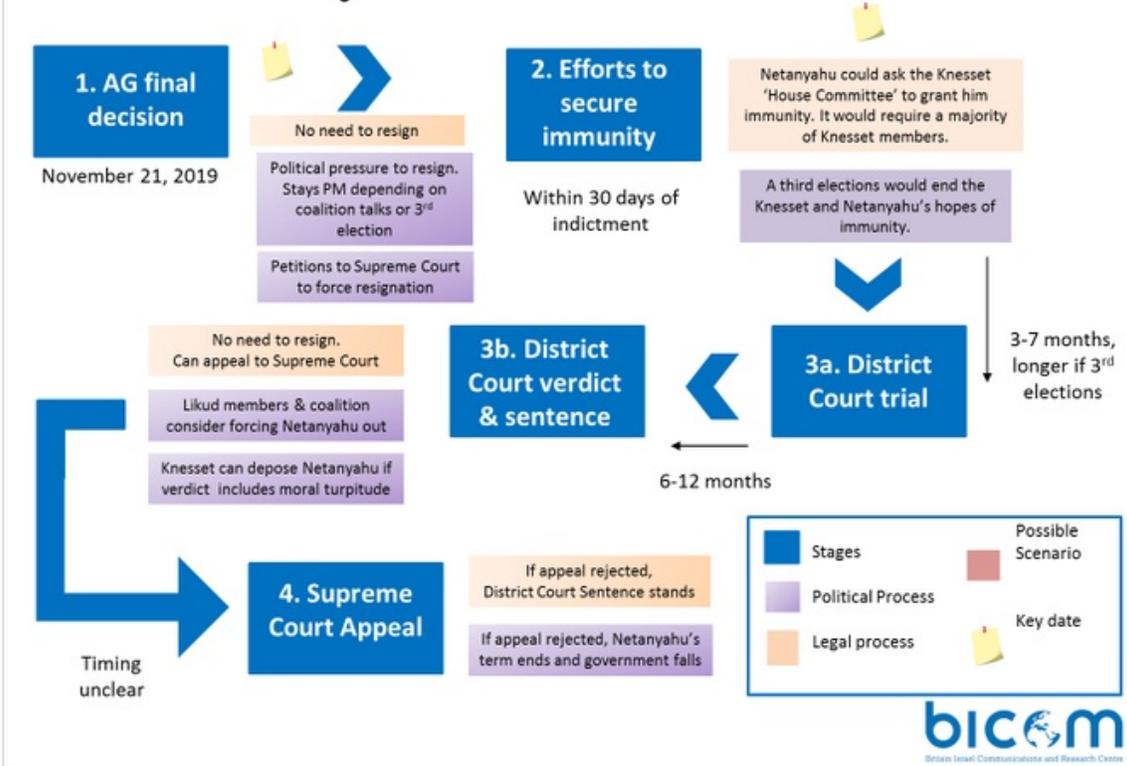
Senior Likud MK Gidon Saar openly challenged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s leadership in an interview on Israel’s *Channel 12 News* on Saturday, saying the Prime Minister (and Likud leader) had no chance of forming a government even “after a third, fourth, fifth or sixth” election and called for snap primaries to be held in order to “avoid a third election” and save the Likud. Yet Saar stopped short of calling for Netanyahu to step down after his indictment for bribery, fraud and breach of trust last week.

Israeli media reported yesterday that Netanyahu had agreed to hold Likud leadership primaries “within six weeks.”

The Israeli Parliament has 16 days left to form a government before third elections are automatically triggered. The Likud primaries will likely be held after this period ends.

Comments by Prime Minister Netanyahu at yesterday’s cabinet meeting where he warned, “Iran’s aggression in our region, and against us, continues” and highlighted comments by General McKenzie, the head of US Central Command, that “Iran is planning more attacks.”

The Netanyahu indictment: what next?



Netanyahu's future will ultimately be determined by two separate but parallel processes, the legal and political.



EXCLUSIVE AFL CONF CALL BRIEFING RE: PM NETANYAHU INDICTMENT: WHAT'S NEXT?

YONAH JEREMY BOB
Foreign Affairs Lecturer. Intelligence, Terrorism, Legal Analyst and Literary Editor at The Jerusalem Post

TUESDAY, NOV. 26th
2:30pm (NY); 11:30am (LA); 9:30pm (Israel)
7:30pm (London); 9:30pm (South Africa)

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RECAP - AFL Leadership Mission to Israel November 17-20, 2019

A group of 20 AFL Leaders have just completed a 4 day Israel trip as part of the [AFL Leadership Mission](#) where they directly interacted with Israel's leaders,

AFL Leadership Mission November 17-20 Day 3:
visit Hatsor (F16) Air Force Base



An amazing Mission day 4 in the Knesset. AFL's relationships with the leadership of Israel is unparalleled. We met:
MK Nir Barkat (fmr Mayor of J'lem)
MK Sharren Haskell; MK Yoav Kish
JPost's Gil Hoffman
Dep. Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely
Minister of Energy Yuval Steinitz
MK Ayelet Shaked (fmr Justice Minister)
Dep. Defense Minister Avi Dichter.



A very special opportunity to join the Likud Faction meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

opinion and policy makers & top security officials. We truly believe in the value of taking advantage of those special opportunities to connect with all aspects of Israel and also participating in a serious dialogue with its leaders. We appreciate the chance to produce those opportunities and we thank you for taking advantage of it! See the full itinerary here - <https://bit.ly/2FkGDNK>

Thank you everyone for being part of another incredible AFL Leadership Mission. You can download and see more photos from the trip [HERE](#) (album 2) & [HERE](#) (album 1)

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Recent AFL Exclusive Briefings and Conference Calls

The Increasing Threat of a Nuclear Iran:
What will it take to ensure Israel's security?

(11.12.2019) IDF Maj. Gen. Yaakov Amidror, Former National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Israel
[Click Here to Listen to the Conference Call](#)

The American Friends of Likud

PRESS RELEASE

AFL Applauds Pres Trump and Sec of State Pompeo re: US Statement on Settlements in Judea and Samaria

AFL STATEMENT Applauding President Trump and Secretary of State Pompeo for the United States' recognition that Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria are not violations of international law. [Read More](#)

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