



ISRAEL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

35 Government statement on Jonathan Pollard- 12 May 1998

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For the first time since his arrest and trial, and as part of the ongoing efforts to secure Pollard's release, the Government of Israel publicly admitted that Jonathan Pollard was an Israeli agent. Text:

Within the framework of intensive government activities to achieve the release of Jonathan Pollard, Pollard's legal counsel has asked that his appeal be canceled, after the State of Israel reiterated its readiness to recognize its commitment to, and responsibility for, him.

In accordance with the recommendation of the professional team headed by Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh, the State of Israel has announced that Jonathan Pollard served as an Israeli agent handled by senior members of the Scientific Liaison Bureau (*Lakam*). It should be noted that this position is consistent with the facts that have already found expression in the publicly issued conclusions of the *Knesset* Intelligence and Security Services Subcommittee, and by the Rotenstreich-Tzur Commission of Inquiry, established by the Prime Minister in early 1987.

Naveh is expected to meet with Pollard in prison on Friday.