



## Prime Ministers - A Bit Of Israeli History

By Serita Stevens



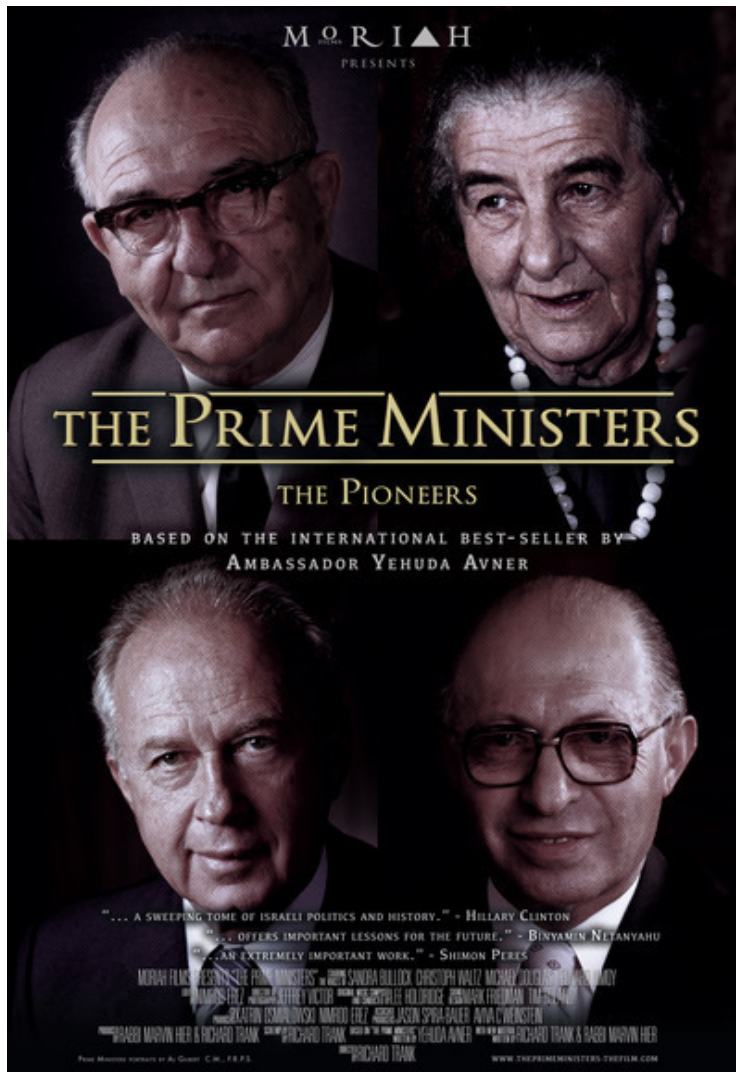
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Opening to a star-studded cast, Simon Wiesenthal Center's Moriah Films is proud to present its 13th production, *The Prime Ministers*. As they bring important events of the 20th and 21st century to life, Sandra Bullock stars as the voice of Israeli Prime Minister, Golda Meir, while Michael Douglas joins in as Yitzhak Rabin's voice and Christoph Waltz as the voice of Menachem Begin with Leonard Nimoy as the voice of Levi Eshkol.

It was May 14, 1948, just as the British gave up rule of the country, when the state of Israel was founded amidst much bloodshed and turmoil, but even as they danced in the street, the newly formed Israel was being attacked from all sides by their neighbors and the new prime minister, David Ben Gurion, took charge and was befriended by President Truman.

Truman thanked his friend **Eddie Jacobson**, who gave him the push to sign for Israeli statehood. He told Truman that "Hitler's war against the Jews was not just a Jewish problem, but an American one. It was a choice for the Jews between statehood and extermination."

Golda Meir said that "Israel was created so that every Jew could come home whenever he wants to or when he need to for the ingathering of our people."



The film, based on the bestselling book by Ambassador Yehuda Avner and brings to life never revealed stories about Levi Eskol, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, Menachem Begin and Shimon Peres, envelops most of Israeli history from the creation to Six Day War and the war the following June, 1967, where Moshe Dyan took charge as Ministry of Defense. Such notables as Henry Kissinger, Abba Eban and LBJ appear in this interesting, but sometimes slow moving, film.

Moriah Films is the documentary filmmaking division of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Their films focus on the 3,500 year old Jewish experience as well as other contemporary human rights and ethical issues. Their goal is to produce theatrical documentaries on a regular basis that both enlighten and educate, while reaching national and international audiences. Two of their films have been Academy Award recipients for Genocide (1981) and The Long Way Home (1997)

The Prime Ministers, a documentary by Richard Trank and produced by Rabbi Marvin Hier and Moriah Films, will open at the **Quad Cinema** in NYC on Friday October 18 and at the **Royal** in Los Angeles and **Town Center** in Encino on Wednesday, November 6th. A national release will follow.

Published on Oct 14, 2013

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