



Photo: Israeli Gov Press Office

Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir (right) and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan meet their troops Oct. 21, 1973 in the Golan Heights during the Yom Kippur War.

## New documentary explores decades of Israeli leadership

By Susan Kandell Wilkofsky

Would you like a front-row seat to the incredible “behind the scenes” story of Israel’s modern-day political history? Well, you’re in luck.

This weekend, “The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers,” a compelling documentary based on the best-selling book by Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Avner, will open in Dallas. Avner, who served as a chief aide, English language note-taker and speechwriter to Prime Ministers Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, Menachem Begin and Shimon Peres, lends his unique perspective on many critical, historic moments in the creation of modern Israel.

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Richard Trank (“The Long Way Home”) directed the film. He also produced and co-wrote the screenplay with the founder of Moriah Films, two-time Academy Award winner Rabbi Marvin Hier (“The Long Way Home,” “Genocide”). Moriah Films is a division of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, which produces documentaries about the struggle for human rights, and the major events and personalities in Jewish history.

“The Prime Ministers” deftly

weaves together fascinating interviews with Avner, and powerful still photographs and newsreels that chronicle the intricate, crucial stages of decision-making behind closed doors. Revealing anecdotes about some of Israel’s most iconic figures, accompanied by tales of American presidents Johnson, Truman and Nixon, may give you new insight into those who were instrumental in shaping Israel’s turbulent history.

Perhaps the one flaw in the film rests with actors who were asked to portray the voices of famous leaders. We hear Golda Meir’s voice in several cases where the original audio was available; but at other times, Sandra Bullock subs in with dramatic readings of Meir’s words. Michael Douglas, Leonard Nimoy and Christoph Waltz lend their voices to portray Yitzhak Rabin, Levi Eshkol and Menachem Begin, respectively, and they are a bit more convincing.

If this movie whets your appetite for more, Moriah Films will release a second documentary, “The Prime Ministers: Soldiers and Peacemakers,” in the spring of 2014. That installment will examine Ambassador Avner’s experiences with Prime Ministers Rabin, Begin and Peres as well as

his service as Israel’s Ambassador to England.

“The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers” opens on Friday, Oct. 25 at Highland Park Village Theater. Tell your friends and family in New York, Southern California and Florida to watch for its release there, as well.

Susan Kandell Wilkofsky is secretary of the North Texas Film Critics Association and a founder of 3 Stars Cinema.

“Intimate moments that shed light on the Israeli leaders and the history they made.”  
-Tom Tugend, JEWISH JOURNAL

“Here is a new way to look at the politics of the Middle East.”  
-Reviews by Amos Lassen



MORIAH PRESENTS

# THE PRIME MINISTERS

THE PIONEERS

Based on the International Best-Seller by Ambassador Yehuda Avner  
www.theprimeministers-thefilm.com

**STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
HIGHLAND PARK VILLAGE  
32 Highland Park Village, Dallas (214) 443-0222  
CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORY OR CALL FOR SHOWTIMES



We'll Help You Get Where You Want To Go!



**Serenity Rides...** helps seniors continue to have quality and fulfilling lives as they age, with access to transportation and accompaniment. Enabling seniors to engage in the fun and life-enriching activities that are most important to them.

We offer complete personalized solutions for clients who are no longer driving or are unable to drive and need the following transportation services: doctor appointments, therapy sessions, hairdresser or barber appointments, visits to friends and family, religious services, lectures, plays, and concerts, special family events, grocery shopping, errands and so much more.

All are welcome to use our service.

Reservations: [reservations@serenityrides.com](mailto:reservations@serenityrides.com)  
or call 214.800.2063

[www.serenityrides.com](http://www.serenityrides.com)

Owned by  
**LEON JACOBSON**  
Graduate of Levine and Yavneh Academies  
[leon@serenityrides.com](mailto:leon@serenityrides.com)  
phone: 972.989.2488  
office: 214.800.2063



## Top Care in Dallas

Highland Springs congratulates our Medical Director **Dr. Mary Norman** for being given a Best Docs in Dallas award by *D Magazine* for the ninth consecutive year!

**BEST D 2013**

With Dr. Norman and the superb health care team at Highland Springs, your loved one receives the individualized care they need while still enjoying the vibrant lifestyle they deserve.

Call **972-535-8100** to receive your free brochure.



7910 Frankford Road, Dallas, TX 75252

[EricksonLiving.com/NowOpen](http://EricksonLiving.com/NowOpen)

Independent Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care  
Respite Care • Post-Acute Rehabilitation and Nursing Care



**NOW RESERVING Assisted Living & Memory Care!**