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'The Prime Ministers: Soldiers and Peacemakers' opening locally



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"Soldiers and Peacemakers" a follow-up to critically acclaimed "The Pioneers"

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he Prime Ministers: Soldiers and Peacemakers" is a powerful, insightful and moving documentary that follows the experiences of the late Ambassador Yehuda Avner during the years he worked for Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Menachem Begin.

This new film, the 14th documentary of Moriah Films, a division of the Simon Wiesenthal Center which produces documentaries concerning human rights and the major events and personalities of 3,500 years of Jewish history, is scheduled to open on Nov. 6 at O Cinema Miami Shores, AMC Aventura Mall, AMC Sunset Place 24 in South Miami, Regal Shadowood 16 in Boca Raton, Movies of Delray and Movies of Lake Worth.

The film is based on Avner's best-selling book and is a follow-up to the critically acclaimed "The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers," which opened in North American theaters in 2013. It is directed by Richard Trank, an Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker written and produced along with Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The film stars Michael Douglas and Christoph Waltz as the voices of Rabin and Begin respectively and introduces Nicola Peltz as the voice of Esther Cailingold. It is a very emotional film and uses rare, never before seen photos and film footage. The film footage, voice acting and music greatly complement this film.

"The film shows the evolution of Israeli politics and Israel's relationship with the United States," Trank said. "In the first film we looked at the beginning of that relationship which stared after the Six-Day War with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, which is the first prime minister that Yehuda Avner worked for and in this second film we see it develop through the prime ministerships of Yitzhak Rabin in the 70's and Menachem Begin in the 70's and 80's and then as it continued to develop

from a relationship to really a strategic partnership."

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Among the numerous moments the film examines include Rabin's election as the country's first native born Israeli leader in 1974, his negotiating the first bilateral treaty between Israel and Egypt in 1975, the tense relationship between Jimmy Carter and Rabin, Avner's decision to work for Begin when he surprised the world in 1977 by being elected the Prime Minister of Israel, Anwar Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem, the Camp David negotiating process, the difficult relationship between President Carter and Begin as well as the tense relations that arose between Begin and President Reagan over the 1982 Lebanon War, and Avner's career as a diplomat in the United Kingdom and Australia before returning to Israel to work with Rabin not long before his assassination in 1995.

"When you watch this film, you'll see that the very difficult challenges of each prime minister were always overcome and that despite the wishes of Israel's enemies, the State of Israel is an oasis of freedom of democracy in the Middle East," Hier said.

More information on the film, including screening dates and any possible local theaters that may have been added since press time, can be found at soldiersandpeacemakers-thefilm.com.

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