

**From:** Terje Rod-Larsen [REDACTED]

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fw: The Media Line MidEast Daily

**Date:** Sun, 05 Jun 2011 15:56:52 +0000

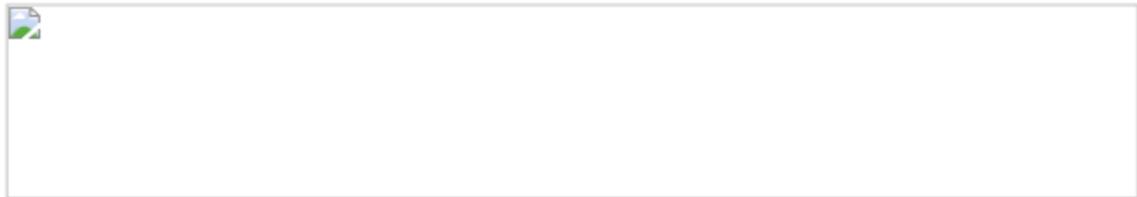
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**Sent:** Sun Jun 05 05:36:47 2011

**Subject:** The Media Line MidEast Daily



## EXCLUSIVE FROM YEMEN: Saleh Flies to Saudi Arabia: TML Correspondent Says "It's a Good Day for Yemen"

Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh was flown to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, reportedly for treatment of wounds he suffered during an attack on his palace on Friday. The injuries were originally described a "light" – burns and scratches to his face and arms. Saleh's trip opens debate over whether he will return to Yemen at all. Many protestors who have been demonstrating for Saleh's ouster reacted to the news of his flight to Riyadh as a sign of victory. Vice President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi has taken over as acting president and supreme commander of the armed forces. The Media Line's Judith Spiegel, on the ground in Sana'a, reports that most Yemenis believe Saleh "is gone for good" and a celebratory mood has broken out. Hear the audio at:

[http://media.themedialine.org/media/110605\\_Judith\\_Spiegel.mp3](http://media.themedialine.org/media/110605_Judith_Spiegel.mp3)

## Israel On-Guard Against Mass Infiltration Despite Syria, Lebanon Cancellations

Israel's military is on high alert on Sunday in anticipation of organized efforts to flood the borders with Arab protestors commemorating "Naksa Day." Although a Facebook campaign to organize the march in Syria and Lebanon has been cancelled, Israel is taking no chances along any of its borders. "Naksa Day" marks the start of the 1967 war that resulted in Israel acquiring the West Bank, east Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. In May, "Nakba Day," commemorating the creation of Israel in 1948 turned violent when protestors tried to swarm across the border with Syria and eleven were shot dead. The Israeli military wants to avoid a repeat, and has equipped soldiers with non-lethal crowd dispersal equipment. But it also warns that it will turn to live fire if provoked. Organizers of the Syria and Lebanon marches gave no explanation for the cancellation, but in recent days Lebanese government and army officials met with United Nations peacekeeping forces regarding the proposed event. An Egyptian report indicated that the Syrian effort was cancelled upon instructions from the government. At press time, reports from the Israel-Syria border indicate a small group of Syrian protestors had formed but no attempt had been made to move toward the border.

## Abbas Indicates French-sponsored Talks Acceptable



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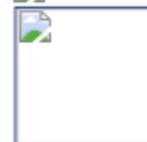
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A French offer to jumpstart talks between Israel and the Palestinians might be acceptable to Palestinian Authority head Mahmoud 'Abbas. The Reuters news agency reported that 'Abbas told the agency that he told visiting French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe that the initiative, which is said to be based on President Obama's vision of two-states on 1967 borders "is acceptable in principle." Specifically, the Palestinians would hold-off on the U.N. option and Israel would halt construction in post-1967 communities. The effort is a way to head-off an international confrontation when the United Nations convenes in September. If the Palestinians seek recognition of statehood at the U.N., action by the General Assembly can only come after the Security Council passes the appropriate enabling resolution. President Obama, however, has indicated that the U.S. would veto any such measure. The French want Israeli and Palestinian negotiators working through June and July to come up with an agreement. Juppe reportedly told Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu that France is undecided on the issue of unilateral Palestinian statehood but will consider supporting it if talks with Israel remain deadlocked.

### Syrian Killings Continue; Al-Asad Stands Firm

Syrian President Bashar Al-Asad still believes he can weather the protests that are threatening his regime. Over the weekend so far, at least 70 new deaths at the hands of government forces have been reported by Syrian rights groups. 50 were killed in Hama, where Al-Asad's father murdered tens of thousands in the early 1980s. Opposition groups are said to be in the process of coordinating efforts. Anger at the United States is growing as Syrians ask why the Americans have not supported the ouster of Al-Asad in the same way they did the overthrow of Egypt's Hosni Mubarak.

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The Media Line (TML) is an American non-profit news organization established to enhance and balance media coverage in the Middle East, promote independent reporting in the region, and break down barriers to understanding in the Arab and Israeli journalism communities.

TML's mission is to provide credible, unbiased content, background and

context to local media outlets throughout the Middle East and around the world. The Media Line has a mandate for education and supports scholarly endeavors at all levels. TML is "The Mideast News Source."

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