

**June 4, 1975**

**Notes on Meeting between Israeli and South African  
Ministers of Defense Shimon Peres and P.W. Botha  
in Zurich**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Summary of meeting between Israeli Minister Shimon Peres and South African Minister P. W. Botha in Zurich. They discuss stalled negotiations between South Africa and Israel for a project to produce lightweight fighters and other military equipment.

**Credits:**

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**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

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NOTES ON A MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER S PERES  
AND MINISTER P W BOTHA HELD IN <sup>BERN</sup> ON  
4 JUNE 1975 *Smith*

- 1 Minister Peres expressed his concern that matters had ground to a halt.
- 2 Minister Botha said that he found the financial conditions too onerous.
- 3 Minister Peres asked Minister Botha to make proposals on, re-activating the negotiations.
- 4 Minister Botha refused and suggested that Minister Peres should make proposals.
- 5 At this stage the staffs rejoined the meeting.
- 6 Minister Peres suggested that Minister Botha consider a contribution of 10 to 15% of the investment in development that has been made already in place of the 25% for the light weight fighter and 33% for Burglar, previously proposed.
- 7 Minister Botha said that this was more attractive but that he could not commit himself and requested that his staff be allowed to look at the matter.
- 8 Minister Peres requested an urgent decision on the engine for the light weight fighter. Minister Peres suggested that R.S.A. should consider.
  - 8.1 Purchase *for now for him see*
  - 8.2 Manufacture
    - 8.2.1 Totally in both lands.
    - 8.2.2 Complementary in both countries.

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## 8.2.3 Total in one or other country.

- 9 Minister Botha said that he insisted on being able to withdraw from the project - i.e. being able to proceed in phases.
- Minister Peres took note. His staff will make proposals on how this can be achieved.
- 10 Minister Botha expressed interest in a limited number of units of Chalet <sup>which he</sup> provide the correct payload could be provided; Minister Peres said that the correct payload was available in three sizes. Minister Botha expressed his appreciation and said that he would ask for advice.
- 11 Minister Botha said that we have no aggressive intentions and hence Burglar is for us a low priority, even the 3 000 km model. It was stated that the 6 000 km model proposal had been made at the request of R.S.A.
- 12 Minister Peres asked that R.S.A. should declare their interest in BlueBat and Olive. Minister Botha undertook to do this.
- 13 Minister Peres asked that R.S.A. should declare their interest in Night Vision equipment. Minister Botha undertook to do so.
- 14 Minister Peres offered half of their production of 10 units per month of the new tank to R.S.A. Production to commence in <sup>Jan</sup> ~~June~~ 1976, although mention was also made <sup>and supply during</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> December 1976. ~~DEFENCE INTELLIGENCE~~ <sup>DECLASSIFIED</sup>
- The cost of the tank was stated to be \$ 810 000 including development charges and based on an order <sup>production from 13 JUL 2006</sup> for 1 000 units.