



# Fuller Theological Seminary

## School of World Mission

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President Anwar Sadat  
The Presidency, Cairo  
The Arab Republic of Egypt

Prime Minister Menachem Begin  
Prime Minister's Office, Jerusalem  
Israel

Honorable Gentlemen:

The world ardently desires that you establish peace in the Near East. Much attention has been paid to the political, religious, and ethnic difficulties. These are real, but the basic obstacles to peace are not political but physical: hundreds of thousands of displaced persons, no more arable land. I propose a solution.

Please consider the following facts. a) The Negev - defined as all the land between Beersheba and the Suez Canal - is now desert, which will grow nothing and will support no population. b) The mighty Nile flows into the Sea less than 200 miles from Beersheba, providing a limitless source of water, much more than enough to irrigate all the flat land in the Negev - about 100x100 miles in extent, or six million acres. c) The Dead Sea is 1296 feet below sea level, providing a substantial source of hydroelectric power.

The following steps would remove the basic obstacles to peace and solve the problem:

- a) Build an enormous earth dam 300 feet high across the Jordan Valley at Jericho. Use all the Jordan river water to irrigate the lands north of the dam.
- b) Dig a canal to bring sea water to the southern edge of the Dead Sea Depression.
- c) Take the sea water - through tunnels where necessary - in huge iron pipes to where it will drop 1296 feet to the Dead Sea through turbines.

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- d) Use the electricity you generate to pump Nile water into the 6,400,000 acres of low fertile desert. Since more of the flat land lies only slightly above sea level, it will take little electricity. Since the Negev slopes down to the Dead Sea, on many acres the water will flow itself using no electricity.
- e) Give each of the Palestinian Refugee families 20 acres of irrigated land there. It will bear three crops a year. This is more than the refugees ever had. The Arab world should be very pleased.
- f) By the time the Dead Sea rises 200 feet, its surface will triple. Evaporation will disperse the sea water coming in.
- g) Declare that the Negev is a sovereign Palestinian State called Negev, with alliances to Jordan, Egypt and Israel. Since one key to its life will lie in Egypt and the other in Israel, it will be a peaceful orderly state.
- h) Settle one Jewish family for every four Arab families in Negev where Jews will be citizens in an Arab state and pleasantly near Jerusalem.
- i) Notice that many more than one-fifth of Israel's citizens are now Arabs.
- j) Declare that all the land north of Beersheba between the Jordan River and the Sea is Israel in perpetuity.
- k) Settle all disputes between Jews and Arabs in both Israel and Negev in the courts of each nation, with appeal to the Joint Israel-Negev Court, and final appeal to a joint Egypt/USA Court or to the International Court of Justice at the Hague.

This solution lies ready to hand! It will cost much less than war. The eyes of the world are on you.

Respectfully yours,

Donald McGavran

DMG/fj