

## Congressman Rothman Meets With Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Defense

Congressman Rothman meets with Brigadier General (Ret.) Pinchas Buchris, the Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Defense.

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(Washington, DC)— On September 10, 2008, Representative Steve Rothman (D-NJ) met with Brigadier General (Ret.) Pinchas Buchris, the Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Defense, to discuss the security situation in the Middle East, the looming threat of Iran's nuclear weapons program, and the Congressman's efforts to secure increased funding for the U.S.-Israeli Arrow Weapon System to defend the State of Israel from regional missile threats.

Congressman Rothman, pictured with General Buchris, said: "Israel is the United States' number one strategic ally in the Middle East, and the only democracy in the region. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittees on Defense, and State and Foreign Operations, I will continue to fight to secure increased funding to ensure that Israel is able to defend herself and counter any and all threats from its neighbors. The Arrow Weapons System program is currently one of Israel's most critical tools to protect its citizenry from an Iranian missile strike, and I was pleased to help secure a total of \$155 million for this critical program in Fiscal Year 2008. Israel can continue to rely on my unrelenting support for maintaining their qualitative military edge over all adversaries."

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