

Netanyahu leaves his options open

In a draft of policy guidelines obtained by *The Associated Press*, Binyamin Netanyahu appears to be shying away from some hard-line policies pursued by his Likud Party in the past. Although Netanyahu is willing to negotiate with the PLO, the document raises questions about the chance for further agreements



Palestinians:

Guidelines offer Palestinians

arrangement under

which they run their lives in framework of self-rule. **Rules out Palestinians' key goal – an independent state with east Jerusalem as its capital**

Settlements: Government to strengthen, expand and develop settlements throughout Israel. West Bank contains 100 settlements and 120,000 settlers. Largest settlement is Ma'ale Adumim, with 20,000 residents

Jerusalem:

Will not be divided.

To remain under Israeli sovereignty.

Members of all religions will have freedom to worship in Jerusalem

Security: Increase power of Israel

Defence Forces. Reserve right to activate IDF and security forces with 'complete freedom of action' to combat terrorism in West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Return of Israeli troops to areas where they have been withdrawn would violate Oslo accord and increase risk of clashes with Yasser Arafat's 30,000 armed Palestinians



Golan Heights:

To remain under Israeli sovereignty.

Seized from Syria in 1967 – considered vital to state security and to safeguard water supplies

