

International

Israel: No Policy Change After Obama Speech

Friday, June 5, 2009 6:10 AM

JERUSALEM -- Israeli officials say the country will not halt construction in West Bank settlements even after the U.S. president's explicit call to do so.

The officials say some building must continue to accommodate growing families.

In an address Thursday, President Barack Obama said Israeli settlement activity on lands the Palestinians claim for a future state must stop.

An Israeli government statement did not mention that policy clash. But officials Friday say Israel's position is unchanged.

They say the government will evacuate some unauthorized outposts but will allow construction to go ahead elsewhere.

They spoke Friday on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to go beyond the government's formal statement.

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