

The Obama administration is preparing to release Jonathan Pollard, a U.S. Navy intelligence officer convicted of spying for Israel, the Wall Street Journal reported on Friday, citing U.S. officials.

The release would end a decades-long fight between Israel and the United States over Pollard, 60, who was convicted of spying for Israel and sentenced in 1987 to life in prison with a minimum of 30 years, a period that ends this November.

The Journal said some U.S. officials hope his release will smooth relations with Israel following the Iran nuclear deal, which Israel opposes.

Some U.S. officials are pushing for Pollard to be let out in a matter of weeks, while others expect it could take months, possibly until his parole consideration date in November, the Journal reported.

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