



Biden Praises Schumer's Anti-Israel Speech, Clams Up As Staffers Herd Reporters Out Post Haste

Description

US/ISRAEL : President Joe Biden offered praise for Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's recent speech on Israel — despite the fact that Schumer had blasted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and called for early elections — and then sat in complete silence as his staffers quickly herded members of the press from the room.

Biden was meeting on Wednesday morning with Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar, and he paused briefly to answer one of the questions shouted by the reporters who were gathered in the room — namely, “Do you have any comments on Sen. Schumer's speech on Israel yesterday?”

“Sen. Schumer contacted my staff, my senior staff, he was going to make that speech, and I'm not going to exag — er — elaborate on the speech, he made a good speech and I think he expressed serious concern shared not only by him, but by many Americans,” Biden replied.

All the reporters then began shouting at once, trying to make their questions heard — but Biden sat back and, with a half smile on his face, did not appear to even hear the chaotic shouting around him.

Within a few seconds, Biden staffers could be heard joining the fray — and they quickly shuffled the reporters out of the room as the president remained silent, moving only to fidget with the pen he was holding in his hands.

Next to him, Prime Minister Varadkar appeared to be mildly amused by the whole scene. He sat quietly with his hands together in his lap, breaking the pose briefly to adjust his tie when someone pointed out that it was crooked.

As members of the press got up and left, Biden flashed a wider smile and waved slightly, appearing to briefly thank them for being there. Through it all, one staffer could be heard over the reporters repeating, “Let's go, let's go, thanks everyone.”

by tts-admin

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