

Jewish Community Holds Rally To Support Israel, Monday, July 24, 2006

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Reporting

(CBS 3) PHILADELPHIA Hundreds of Israeli supporters rallied at Love Park on Monday to show solidarity and call for peace in the Middle East crisis.

The rally was a statement of support for the state of Israel as the fighting and violence continues between Israel and Hezbollah.

Members of Philadelphia's Jewish community gave speeches and sang songs about peace as they tried to get across their message.

"It is a very difficult time in which Israel is being bombarded by hundreds of missiles from a terrorist organization launching them from Lebanon," said Daniel Leon of PhillyIsrael, adding, "We are here to show solidarity."

On Monday, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice met with Lebanese government leaders to assess the situation in order to hopefully find a peaceful end.

However, many of the supporters at the rally believe a cease-fire may not be the best thing.

"The cease-fire will allow Hezbollah to regroup, get more weapons and get more funding," said **Ilana Wilensik** of the American Jewish Committee, adding, "Personally I think it is too early for a cease-fire."

The rally also raised money to send relief supplies to Israel as a laundry list of Jewish organizations attended the event.

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