



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016
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Vol. XXXVIII - Fifty-Fourth Year

Thursday, December 9, 1971

No. 233

STATE DEPARTMENT UPHOLDS ISRAEL'S POSITION TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS

US Peace Efforts To Resume After US Mideast Debate Ends

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA)--A State Department official today upheld Israel's position that it is prepared to enter negotiations with Egypt without pre-conditions from either side. Robert J. McCloskey, special assistant to the Secretary of State and the Department's chief spokesman, said "We do think that both sides have the right to enter negotiations without conditions."

In the course of today's news briefing, McCloskey made the State Department's first comment on a Newsweek interview with President Anwar Sadat which he said, "on a number of important points it does not accord with our records." He also described as "not correct" a recent claim by Sadat that Secretary of State William P. Rogers had told him at their meeting in Cairo last May that the US did not expect anything further from Egypt.

McCloskey's remarks seemed to indicate that the US believes a foundation still exists for getting Israel and the Arab states, particularly Egypt, into negotiations for some kind of Middle East settlement. He said that neither Israel nor Egypt has ruled out negotiations though both were "disappointed" by the lack of success of American efforts so far. "It is our intention to return to the effort of negotiation after the UN debate on the Middle East. We hope Israel and Egypt will return with us," McCloskey said.

U.S. Available To Both Sides

Newsman had tried without success for the last two days to get a State Department reaction to the Newsweek interview in which Sadat claimed he was misled by the US into believing it would extract further negotiating concessions from Israel. Asked for comment today, McCloskey said, "We have examined the Newsweek interview and I do not intend to comment specifically on it other than to say that on a number of important points it does not accord with our records. Whatever the reason for misunderstanding that may have occurred, what is important is that there has been no intention by the US to mislead anyone. We understand President Sadat's disappointment that the US has not succeeded in getting Israel to agree to certain of the points which he proposed," McCloskey continued.

"Israel is disappointed that we have not convinced the government of Egypt to accept certain points it considered fundamental. Needless to say, we share in these disappointments. It is important to look ahead. We note in the same interview that President Sadat comments that he continues to be interested in an interim agreement and said, 'Let's get on with it.' For its part, the US remains available to both sides. Lastly, we also continue to favor resumption of negotiations for an overall settlement under Ambassador Jarring's auspices."

Asked if he was more optimistic than two weeks ago over the possibility that Israel and Egypt might agree to a State Department suggestion that their representatives meet at a New York hotel for negotiations, McCloskey replied, "That would be stretching it a bit." He said there had been no agreement by the two parties to come into closer proximity, but on

the other hand neither has ruled out the possibility. He said the chances for negotiations were "still alive."

JDC ADOPTS \$24,940,000 BUDGET FOR 1972

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--A \$24,940,000 budget for 1972 was adopted today by the Joint Distribution Committee at its 57th annual meeting, attended by 400 Jewish community leaders from the US and Canada. The meeting elected Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland as chairman of the JDC. He succeeds Louis Brodsky, who was named honorary chairman. Ginsberg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, was recently appointed head of the International Fund Raising Committee of the Jewish Agency.

The JDC's record budget is intended to finance health, welfare, rehabilitation, educational, cultural and religious programs on behalf of 315,000 needy Jews in 25 countries. Samuel L. Haber, executive vice-chairman of the JDC, reported that the relief agency will have spent \$23,527,000 by the end of 1971 to aid some 311,000 Jews in Israel, Eastern and Western Europe, North Africa, Asia and other countries. Haber said that 40 percent of the 1971 expenditures went for a variety of programs aiding some 97,000 people in Israel, 30 percent assisted about 160,000 persons in Western and Eastern Europe and 25 percent helped 43,000 needy Jews in North Africa and Iran.

In his acceptance speech, Ginsberg said, "I have long admired the work of the Joint Distribution Committee and in my travels on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal I have become intimately acquainted not only with the tremendous accomplishments of the JDC in areas of Jewish need around the world, but also with the massive needs in Israel, North Africa and in Europe that remain to be provided for."

Jack D. Weller was re-elected chairman of the JDC's National Council for a sixth one-year term and was re-elected vice-chairman of the JDC. Judge Nochem S. Winnet of Philadelphia was re-elected vice-chairman of the National Council. A report outlining continuing needs in 1972 was delivered by Louis D. Horwitz, director general for overseas operations. The meeting was chaired by Edward M.M. Warburg.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY SECURITY COUNCIL TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF THREATENED JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN FORMATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--Plans to create a National Community Security Council, to protect "the rights" of threatened Jewish communities have evoked a "remarkable" response, Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Assembly said today. He is one of the organizers of the new agency which has elected as its first president Dr. Seymour Siegel, a faculty member at the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Conservative school.

Rabbi Kelman said that a "statement of principles" for the new organization had been mailed to several hundred Jewish leaders, including members of the Reform and Conservative rabbinate, lay people, government officials and academicians. The statement said that the organizers had become convinced that "efforts must be ex-

pended to preserve neighborhoods and voluntary ethnic and religious associations." When a neighborhood faces a threat, "It stands alone. We intend to form a network of communities so that when one locality needs help, it can call upon the resources of all."

The statement asserted that communities, both Jewish and non-Jewish "are threatened by disintegration through carelessness, social engineering, lack of consideration for neighborhood associations, inadequate communal institutions and the failure to consult the residents of the communities most directly affected." Rabbi Kelman agreed that such a description was in line with complaints of the predominantly Jewish population of Forest Hills against New York City plans to build an 840-unit low-income housing project in that area. But, he added, the new group had not taken a stand on the Forest Hills project.

Not in Competition

Continuing, the statement proclaimed that "we feel it therefore necessary to mobilize all who are concerned to express their concern through political action and educational efforts. Though we are primarily concerned for Jewish communities, we recognize that the problems besetting Jews are not unique. They are shared by our fellow citizens who are concerned about their ethnic roots and community solidarity." Rabbi Kelman said the "we" in the statement included himself, Dr. Siegel, and David Sidorsky, a Columbia University philosophy professor active in Jewish affairs.

The statement said the Community Security Council would act "to preserve the interests of communities" by "responsibly" calling its principles to "the attention of legislators and city officials and others who make the decisions which affect the way we live together." Rabbi Kelman stressed the new Community Security Council was not meant to be in competition with any existing Jewish groups but rather to meet a need which the initial sponsors felt was not being met.

When Jewish tensions and crises arise in a community, the new organization will help to let the affected Jews know that it is not a local problem and that he can count on action to alert political figures and influential individuals, acting through the new organization, to express concern to the appropriate government officials, it was explained.

Rabbi Kelman said that once replies have been received to the group's first mailing, a meeting will be held to proceed with formation of a formal structure, including all needed officers and the development of a permanent program. He said the new group will be a Jewish version of Common Cause, the people's lobby organized by John Gardner.

ARABS DIVIDED ON INDIAN-PAKISTANI WAR

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The Indian-Pakistani war has seriously embarrassed the Arab world and has brought out differences hitherto obscured by the united Arab front against Israel, observers here noted today. The only Arab country supporting India outright is Iraq. The reason for Baghdad's anti-Pakistan position, according to Israeli circles, is Pakistan's close friendship with Iran with which Iraq is at bitter odds.

Saudi Arabia on the other hand has accused India of aggression and is supported in its charges by Morocco, Libya and Jordan which identify with a brother Moslem country. The irony of this is that the Bengla Desh of East Pakistan who are fighting for independence with India's support are also Moslems, the Israeli circles noted.

Egypt finds itself in an awkward position. The Soviet Union, the military and political mainstay of

Egypt, supports India. Furthermore, there is a long tradition of friendship between Cairo and New Delhi stemming from the close relationship between the late Indian Premier Nehru and the late President Nasser of Egypt. But that is regarded in Egypt now as a personal relationship of the past not in force today.

Both Egypt and Yugoslavia voted with the majority of the United Nations General Assembly for an immediate cease-fire and withdrawal of forces. Egypt therefore has assumed a position of fence-sitting with almost comic sidelights. A Cairo radio commentator analyzing the situation said Egypt regretted the war and wished both sides "success." No sides have been taken so far by Algeria, Syria, Sudan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Kuwait, Yemen and South Yemen.

Israel explains its UN vote for a cease-fire and withdrawal by its position that no political status quo should be changed by force. Israeli circles rationalize that in 1967 it was Egypt which attempted to alter the status quo and was defeated by an Israel exercising its right of self-defense. They say the status quo which has existed since the 1967 Six-Day War can be changed through negotiations but not by force.

UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS ARRIVING IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The arrival of Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union has reached unprecedented proportions. Two plane-loads a day have been landing for the past five days, the Absorption Ministry reported. Another plane-load arrived last night. The government does not disclose the number of emigres arriving from the USSR. But the capacity of each plane is well over 100. (Jewish Agency Treasurer Leon Dulzin told the JTA in New York yesterday that 10,000 Russian Jews arrived in Israel between March 1-Nov. 30, 1971.)

According to the Absorption Ministry, nearly all of the newcomers are satisfied with the housing provided them. But one family of four from Vilna who arrived last night refused to accept the allocated housing and was still at the airport this morning arguing with officials. The family demands a three room flat in Natanya where the Absorption Ministry says no housing is available. Two families from Soviet Georgia were also encamped at Lydda Airport awaiting advice from relatives as to whether they should accept the housing offered them by the Absorption Ministry.

The latter announced today the opening of a synagogue for immigrants from Georgia at Ashkelon where a large concentration of the emigres is located. One of the complaints of the arrivals from Georgia has been that there were no synagogues in the places where they were sent.

PALATNIK TRANSFERRED TO PRISON CAMP

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry said today that it has learned that Raiza Palatnik, a 35-year-old Odessa librarian, sentenced June 25th to a two-year prison sentence for allegedly distributing "anti-Soviet literature," was recently secretly transferred to a notorious prison camp near Dnepropetrovsk in the East-Central Ukraine that houses criminals. As a result, although she has been ill and undernourished, she went on a hunger strike Dec. 4th which is scheduled to last until Dec. 10th, which is Human Rights Day throughout the world, the Conference reported. Camp authorities have been inciting other prisoners against Miss Palatnik. The AJCSJ has called for worldwide efforts on behalf of Miss Palatnik.

UNION PICKETS FEDERATION, THREATENS STRIKE; FEDERATION SAYS IT IS NOT INVOLVED IN DISPUTE

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies was picketed this afternoon by more than 100 members of Local 1707 of the Community and Social Agency Employees Union, AFL-CIO, demanding higher wages for 400 professional group-work agency employees. The employees, who have been without a contract since last Feb., will go on strike Dec. 12 unless their salary demands are met, according to Eric Strong, spokesman for Local 1707. The Federation says, however, that it is not involved in the dispute which is between workers and the Federation's affiliated 20 YM-YWHA's and other community centers such as the Educational Alliance and Bronx House.

In a statement given to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sanford Solender, executive vice-president of the Federation said, "The demonstrations by members of Local 1707 concerns a dispute in which Federation is not and cannot be involved. The group workers and clerical and maintenance employees represented here are all employed by volunteer-supported community centers affiliated with Federation. Each of these organizations is independent and autonomous. Their boards of directors bear sole responsibility for their organizations' labor relations. Under its by-laws, Federation cannot interfere in the internal management of its beneficiary societies nor does it participate in any manner whatsoever in the negotiations which are currently underway."

Strong told the JTA that the group workers are demanding a wage increase equal to those granted case workers last spring. He said it would amount to raises of from \$25 to \$300 more per year. The employees' three-year contract expired last Feb. 1. To avoid a cut-back of Federation services, Local 1707 agreed last April 21 to a temporary stipulation to run through Nov. 30, Strong said. He said the temporary pace "left unresolved a whole pile of original demands. Management has said no to all of them."

SPECIAL LATE NEWS BULLETIN

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The People's Republic of China this evening demanded the "total withdrawal" of Israel from all occupied Arab territories. In his first speech on the Middle East to the General Assembly, Chiao Kuan-hua, chairman of the Chinese delegation, declared that "The Israeli, Zionist aggressors must withdraw from the territories of Egypt, Syria and all other Arab territories they have occupied."

He spoke as the Middle East debate resumed after having been suspended yesterday to allow the General Assembly to act on the Indian-Pakistani war. Chiao's statement was preceded by similar remarks from the representatives of Jordan and Yugoslavia. The Soviet representative was scheduled to speak later tonight.

The delegate from Peking said "We are not opposed to the Jewish people or the people of Israel, but we are firmly opposed to the Zionist policies of expansion and aggression." He condemned UN resolutions "which in effect encouraged aggression and shielded the Israeli Zionists in the name of 'maintaining peace.'" Chiao did not specify any resolution but referred to those that have been passed "without distinguishing between the aggressors and the victims of aggression."

Such resolutions, he said "are unjust to the Arab people and in contravention of the UN Charter." Chiao repeated almost verbatim a statement contained in his maiden speech to the General Assembly following the People's Republic's admission to the

UN last month. "No one has the right to make political deals behind their (the Palestinians and other Arabs) backs at the expense of their rights to national existence and their territorial integrity and sovereignty," he said.

LINDSAY EXTENDS CHANUKAH GREETINGS Jewish Communities Plan Events

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--Wishing New Yorkers "a most happy and healthy Chanukah," Mayor John V. Lindsay issued a statement today comparing the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union and in Arab lands to oppression inflicted upon Jews during the time of the Maccabees. He said the spirit of the Maccabees is very much alive, however, both amongst Jews in the Soviet Union and in Israel where "their modern Maccabees stand ready to defend and safeguard their land against those who would destroy it."

Meanwhile, Jewish communities around the country are preparing special events for the eight-day holiday. In New York, Madison Square Garden will be the site next Monday night of a rally on behalf of Soviet Jewry. The evening's program, "Freedom Lights For Soviet Jewry" will mark the first anniversary of the show trials in Leningrad which resulted in death sentences for two Soviet Jewish activists, later commuted, and lengthy prison terms for nine others. Former Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg has been named chairman of the event by its sponsors, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Center for Soviet Jewry.

The Long Island Railroad will run five specially decorated "Freedom Trains for Soviet Jewry" from stations in Queens and Long Island to Penn Station, next door to the Garden, the night of the gathering.

In Los Angeles, the first annual Chanukah torch-run will be held next Monday under the sponsorship of the Jewish Youth and Young Adults Council of the Jewish Federation-Council of Greater Los Angeles, the Israel Consulate and the Israel Students Organization. Patterned after the famed Modin-to-Jerusalem torch-run, the Los Angeles event will begin at the city's International Airport. A specially designated torch from Israel will be carried to the Jewish Community Building. The run is expected to take two-and-a-half hours.

Jewish American servicemen and Peace Corpsmen and their families around the world will be celebrating Chanukah with special holiday packages that have been sent out since August by the National Jewish Welfare Board. The packages, which include dreidles (Chanukah tops) menorahs, holiday decorations, chocolate Chanukah money, kiddush cups and havdallah sets are among the items that will be distributed in the US and in foreign countries including Vietnam, the Philippines and Peru.

CARDINAL AWARDED HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 8 (JTA)--Raul Cardinal Henriquez Silva, Archbishop of Chile, was awarded the 1971 Human Rights Prize of the Latin American Jewish Congress for his "outstanding efforts in the fight against racism, especially in defense of Jews in the Soviet Union and Arab countries." Delegates from eight countries pledged support for a settlement of Latin American immigrants in Israel, solidarized itself with Israel's peace efforts and pledged support for Jewish rights in the Soviet Union and Arab countries. The Congress urged Latin American Jewish communities to support the 1972 "Year of the Book" to help disseminate books on Jews and Judaism.

UJA ANNUAL CONFERENCE THIS WEEKEND TO LAUNCH 1972 NATIONWIDE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--The United Jewish Appeal's annual conference beginning Friday and ending Sunday will launch the 1972 nationwide campaign to raise funds for humanitarian programs for needy Jews in some 30 countries and for humanitarian programs for immigrants in Israel, it was announced today by Edward Ginsberg, UJA general chairman. On Saturday night, Israel Premier Golda Meir will address the UJA's national conference banquet.

Commenting on the conference, Ginsberg said, "The fact that Golda Meir has chosen to address the representatives of the American Jewish community at this conference indicates the enormity of the task ahead of us in 1972. Her presence is urgent testimony to the needs of the people of Israel at this time." The conference will be attended by more than 2,000 representatives from 250 communities, Ginsberg said. In addition to the many Israeli guests attending, most of the major Jewish organizations in the country will be represented.

Among those scheduled to appear at the conference are Leon Dulzin, treasurer of the Jewish Agency; Moshe Rivlin, director-general of the Agency; Samuel Haber, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee; and Gottlieb Hammer, executive vice-chairman of the United Israel Appeal. Ginsberg will be honored at the UJA's inaugural dinner tomorrow night as an outstanding leader in national Jewish affairs as well as in Cleveland where he resides. He was recently appointed head of the International Fundraising Committee of the Jewish Agency and will now accept new and important challenges as chairman of the American Joint Distribution Committee and president of the UJA.

DELAY IN NAMING OF CHIEF RABBI FOR MOSCOW COULD HAVE DIRE CONSEQUENCES, N.Y. RABBI WARNS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--Rabbi Arthur Schneier, spiritual leader of Park East Synagogue and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, warned here that any delay in naming a successor to the late Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow could have "dire" consequences for Russian Jewry. Rabbi Schneier attended funeral services in Moscow on Nov. 21 for Rabbi Levin who died Nov. 17 at the age of 78.

At a press conference called by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier told reporters that Moscow's Jewish community "cannot remain leaderless for long." The death of Rabbi Levin, he said, meant the cessation of all religious functions requiring rabbinical guidance including marriage and divorce for the nearly half million Jews in the Soviet capital.

Rabbi Schneier said that candidates for the top post in Russian Jewry are "spectacularly" few. He said this was due to the dismantling of Jewish religious and cultural institutions including the closure of the Yeshiva rabbinic seminary in 1962. That, and the advance age of the few remaining rabbis contribute to the grave shortage of Jewish spiritual leaders in the USSR, he said.

Less Than 12 Rabbis in USSR

Rabbi Schneier pointed out that there are less than a dozen rabbis in all of the Soviet Union, most of them aged. Three are Sephardic "chachamin" who speak Hebrew and Russian but not Yiddish, thus ruling them out, he said. Rabbi Lubanov of Leningrad, a renowned Talmudic scholar, is 91 and gravely ill. Kiev has been without a rabbi for at least four years and men such as Rabbi Schwarzblatt of Odessa

and Rabbi Openstein, of Kubashov would leave their own communities leaderless if given the Moscow post, Rabbi Schneier observed.

He said the process of selecting a new chief rabbi was outlined to him in Moscow by Pyotr V. Makartsev, deputy chairman of the Council on Religious Affairs. "Since there is no central organization for Jews in the Soviet Union, the selection will be made by the 20 members of the governing council of Moscow Synagogue. The two smaller congregations in Moscow have no choice in the selection," he said. Although known as Chief Rabbi, Rabbi Levin was only the rabbi of Moscow's Choral Synagogue.

Rabbi Schneier said that in discussing the possibility of a successor from outside the Soviet Union, Makartsev told him that "the candidate would have to be a Soviet citizen." An outsider or someone not in the Soviet orbit would have no chance, Rabbi Schneier said. He said the strongest possibility was the selection of a successor from among the four or five ordained rabbis in the Soviet Union who are not in the active rabbinate for one reason or another.

He said he had asked Makartsev to "make certain the new spiritual leader would be a man of stature and scholarship who could command the confidence of the Jewish community in Moscow and have the respect of Jews all over the world." According to Rabbi Schneier, the Soviet official agreed that it was in the interests of all concerned to choose a person who would lend prestige to the office.

SLAH GIVEN HEAVY FINES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8 (JTA)--Three members of "Slah," an Israeli New Left organization, got stiff fines from a Jerusalem court today for daubing walls in the central part of town. They were also given suspended jail sentences of ten weeks to three months. The fines ranged from \$240 to \$300. The defendants, Ruth Eliraz, 39, Mordechai Bassuk, 27 and Gerard Fulber, 22, pleaded guilty to painting the slogan "Long live freedom of speech" on the walls. They said they did it after police refused them a permit to demonstrate. The three were arrested last Aug. 29 after a passerby saw them in the act and summoned police. Two other persons arrested on the same charge were acquitted.

RELIGIOUS ZIONISTS MOBILIZE FOR WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTIONS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA)--A massive effort to rally the members of the Religious Zionist Movement to cast their ballot in the forthcoming World Zionist Congress elections has been undertaken by the Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, it was announced today by Dr. Bernard A. Poupko, national president. Ballots will be mailed by the American Arbitration Association to the 725,000 American registered Zionists on December 13th.

"Never has there been such an imperative for Torah Jewry to stand up and be counted" Poupko declared. Rabbi Bernard Berzon, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, called upon its membership to issue an urgent plea from the pulpits on December 11th to urge support of the Religious Zionist Movement. Bnei Akiva and Noar Mizrachi, the National Religious Zionist youth movements, will make house to house visits, in cities throughout the country on December 19th in an effort to arouse the Zionist electorate. The World Zionist Congress is scheduled for next January in Jerusalem.