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KISSINGER: "SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS" ABOUT PERMANENT U.S., USSR TROOPS IN MIDEAST

"We Don't Rule It Out Totally," He Says
By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said today that the U.S. government is "prepared to consider individual or joint guarantees" of a Middle East peace settlement by forces outside the region but that he is "somewhat dubious" about the "permanent stationing" of U.S. or Soviet troops there.

"We don't rule it out totally," Kissinger told a news conference at the State Department, but the U.S. will be "reluctant to get into this," he said. He recalled that the United States told the UN Security Council in Oct., when it was establishing the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF), that it opposed the participation in that force of any of the Council's five permanent members, "all of which incidentally have nuclear weapon capability."

Kissinger said the issue of guarantees would come up only after a settlement is reached among the parties on borders and security arrangements such as demilitarized zones and joint inspection teams. "Then we will know what it is the outside parties should guarantee," he said. Kissinger observed that despite outbreaks of fighting along the cease-fire lines and the break off of Israeli-Egyptian disengagement talks at Kilometer 101, it is "extremely probable" that the Middle East peace conference will begin on schedule in Geneva Dec. 18.

Kissinger said that "Some technical details remain to be worked out such as the form and nature of the invitations" to the parties. But he said these matters were "relatively easily solvable." He said the U.S. continued to be in touch with all the parties concerned--Israel, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, the Soviet Union and UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. He said that the Geneva conference would deal first with military matters and then with settlement aspects in accordance with Resolution 242.

USSR Has Played Constructive Role

On the breakoff of talks at Kilometer 101 between Egyptian and Israeli military negotiators and the shooting down today of an Egyptian plane (see separate story), Kissinger said both sides are "in danger of imminent encirclement" and this means that there is "need for separation of forces to reduce this danger." He said he did not believe that the cease-fire "will come apart" and that "the Geneva conference will be jeopardized."

Regarding participation by the Soviet Union in negotiations for a Mideast settlement, Kissinger said "we did not consider some Soviet actions as constructive" but in "setting up the conference, the Soviet Union has played a constructive one." He said he could not predict what the Soviet Union would do once the Geneva conference opened, but if the Soviet Union attempted to set forth "extreme resolutions, it will make a settlement extremely difficult."

Asked about the role of the Palestinians, Kissinger said their participation and role in the conference would be "best settled by the parties at the conference." On the solution of the "Pal-

estinian question," a settlement would have to be found between the "rights of the Palestinians and the limitations of absorption in the mandated territory of Palestine," he said.

ISRAELIS SHOOT DOWN EGYPTIAN MIG-21 High State Of Alert On Jordanian Frontier

TEL AVIV, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Israeli fighter planes shot down an Egyptian MIG-21 over the Gulf of Suez this afternoon in the first air battle since hostilities ended on the Egyptian front Oct. 25. A military spokesman said the battle, which lasted only a few minutes, began at 2 p.m. local time when Egyptian planes tried to intercept Israeli fighters patrolling the northern section of the Gulf of Suez. He said that all Israeli planes returned safely to their bases.

The aerial dogfight and the rising number of shooting incidents on the ground have contributed to increased tension along the cease-fire lines with both Egypt and Syria. One Israeli source likened the situation to "a finger on the trigger--one squeeze and the war starts again."

But Israeli security circles attribute most of the incidents to local Egyptian commanders acting on their own initiative rather than under orders from their superiors. These circles admit that the high state of alert and tension on the cease-fire lines stems from the massive movements and deployment of forces and equipment by the Egyptian and Syrian armies facing Israeli forces which tends to make a resumption of hostilities probable.

The Israeli army is also maintaining a high state of alert on the eastern frontier with Jordan. Although that front was quiet throughout the Yom Kippur War, Israeli circles are more inclined than before to believe that if Egypt and Syria resume hostilities, Jordan this time would intervene by opening a third front. The Egyptian front, nevertheless, is considered the most important. Outwardly there is no sign of tension. Israeli soldiers on the west bank of the Suez Canal went about their routine duties today, cleaning up and distributing the mail within view of the Egyptian lines. As one soldier put it, "It's a cat and mouse game."

ARABS SEEK ACCORD ON GENEVA

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Arab diplomats at the United Nations have been meeting here secretly in recent days in an effort to reach a common Arab attitude toward the upcoming peace conference scheduled Dec. 18 in Geneva, the JTA learned today from well-placed sources. The sources also indicated that Egypt "will attend" the Geneva conference despite the suspension of talks at Kilometer 101 between Israel and Egypt on the question of the Oct. 22 lines. The source added that Egypt, even though publicly undecided on its participation at the Geneva conference, will be there when the talks open.

MRS. MEIR WINS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Labor Party Fails To Resolve Basic Issues
By David Bandau, JTA Jerusalem Bureau Chief

TEL AVIV, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir won a personal vote of confidence from her Labor Party after two days of exhausting debate on defense and foreign policy that ended early this morning. But she failed to get the Party to take a decisive position on the major issues that divide it.

Her failure saved the Party from a possibly fatal split on the eve of national elections but left the voters as much in the dark as ever as to where Labor stands on fateful questions of national policy. Mrs. Meir had demanded the unprecedented pre-election debate by the Labor Party's 601-member Central Committee for the specific purpose of clarifying its positions for the electorate. The debate, begun last week, was interrupted by the death and funeral of former Premier David Ben Gurion. It was resumed Tuesday. The Premier told her colleagues that if it were not for the imminence of the elections, she would have resigned long before now and called for a new election.

In a secret ballot taken hours after midnight, the Central Committee voted 291-33 in favor of Mrs. Meir's continued leadership of the Party. There were 15 abstentions. Many members of the Central Committee were absent, either because they didn't want to vote or were too exhausted to stay. The vote came a half hour after Party Secretary General Aharon Yadlin, openly guided and prompted by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, avoided a head-on collision between hawks and doves. The Central Committee had accepted a vaguely worded, relatively moderate 14-point policy statement drafted a week ago by the Party leadership--including both hardliners and moderates. But those two elements differed sharply over whether the new statement superseded or merely supplemented the Labor Party's tough "orah platform" and the platform plank authored by Minister-Without-Portfolio Israel Galili and adopted months ago at the insistence of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan.

The Galili document contained a specific program for Jewish settlement and investment in the administered Arab territories captured in the 1967 war. The new document was less specific and more moderate on that issue. The 14-point program was to come up for a vote at about 1 a.m. when former Labor Party Secretary General Lyova Eliav, an outspoken dove, introduced a 15th point which stated categorically that the Galili document was annulled. Eliav and other doves and moderates maintained that post-Yom Kippur War conditions and realities made it "irrelevant." The hawks insisted that the Galili program was still a basic Party tenet, conceding, however, that there was no money in the Treasury at present to implement it.

Sapir, the Party strongman and himself a moderate, took that line. "I do not see us building a deep water port at Yamit (a Dayan project), spending millions on refugee rehabilitation, or investing heavily in industry in the territories because Israel's own needs are infinitely more important," he said, adding, "doesn't that mean that the Galili document in effect is abrogated?" To that, Mrs. Meir replied in the negative and Galili took the rostrum to say he stood by his program and that it would be implemented when the necessary resources were available. The doves disagreed, but Sapir and other moderates of the Tel Aviv-based "Gush" bloc persuaded Eliav to withdraw his 15th point in order to avert an intra-party crisis. To that Mrs. Meir objected vehemently. "The Party must speak to the electorate in clear language," she said. "This issue is the essence of all the disputes on defense policy and there must be a clear cut decision," she declared.

Dayan took the floor to propose an amendment stating that the new platform neither confirmed nor abrogated the Party's previous platform. Sapir refused to accept this. Pandemonium broke out in the meeting hall. At that point Mrs. Meir yielded, apparently sensing that she was forcing a Party split and that the split might not go her way. The vote of confidence in Mrs. Meir's leadership was taken and everyone, anxious to go home, promised to say no more about the platform but simply unite around it on election day. Much earlier in the debate, Mrs. Meir clashed openly with Deputy Premier Yigal Allon when he urged her to announce, in advance of elections, the composition of her new Cabinet which in effect was a demand for changes in view of the lack of confidence widely felt toward certain members of the present government. Mrs. Meir, rejecting this out of hand, said it was never the practice to select a government before elections.

NO POLICY OF SELECTIVE IMMIGRATION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Leon Dulzin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, sharply repudiated today any statements that might give the impression that a policy of selective immigration was about to be introduced. Aliya policy is based on the Law of Return and every Jew who wants to come to Israel will be welcomed with open arms, Dulzin said in an official statement released here today.

The statement came after a week of mounting criticism of remarks by Gen. Uzi Narkis, Director of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, advising Jews of retirement age planning to settle in Israel to postpone their plans. Narkis said that Israel was primarily seeking young single people and young families with children who are willing to come "with no strings attached." He conceded that this approach might cut down immigration but observed at a press conference here Nov. 27 that "things simply cannot be otherwise."

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned that Narkis' remarks were not approved by the World Zionist Executive and do not constitute WZO or Jewish Agency policy. The matter is expected to be raised at the next meeting of the Executive.

Narkis spoke in the context of conditions arising

from the Yom Kippur War. He said that while the country would give new immigrants certain privileges to make the absorption process easier, "we cannot now afford arguments between the State and immigrants about additional space in a new apartment or getting better terms to buy a refrigerator." He stressed that immigrants who come now should come with the idea of sharing the burdens Israelis will have to bear as a result of the war. Dulzin emphasized in his statement that Israel has always absorbed immigrants, even in the most trying times.

BONN, (JTA)--A delegation of West German MPs, members of the German-Israeli Parliamentary group, will travel to Israel next week. The group's chairman, Guenther Metzger (SPD), said that Germans had a special obligation at this time to demonstrate to the Israeli people and parliament that existing friendly relations should be expanded and deepened.

OSLO (JTA)--Formal charges have been prepared against six persons suspected in connection with the slaying last July of Ahmed Boushicki, State Attorney L.J. Dorenfeldt announced Thursday. The six include two Israelis, Michael Dorff and Zvi Steinburg. Venue has not been determined.

NO EVIDENCE TO DATE OF SIGNIFICANT ANTI-SEMITISM DUE TO ENERGY CRISIS
By Ben Gallob, JTA Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Jewish community relations experts have reported that--despite widespread fears among American Jews of an anti-Semitic backlash stemming from the energy crunch--there has been no evidence to date of any significant anti-Semitic reaction in the United States stemming from the energy crisis.

There was also agreement among spokesmen for four national community relations agencies that scattered incidents, suggesting such a development, required attention and they reported that their agencies were keeping a close watch. These incidents have included anti-Jewish bumper stickers and hostile editorials and letters to newspaper editors. The theme of the bumper stickers, originally reported as having been seen in some Midwest areas a few weeks ago and more recently in New York, is: "We Don't Need Jews But We Do Need Oil."

The agencies asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for reports on the problem were the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee.

Benjamin Epstein, ADL director, said of the possibility of a backlash that "it has not yet taken place in any form that we have been able to identify. We have found sporadic examples reflected in some newspaper editorials, bumper stickers and reports in the professional anti-Semitic press." He added that Jews were "justifiably apprehensive due to the elements of the situation" and that Jews "want to be ready" for any problems that might develop.

The ADL recently announced plans for an educational campaign on the energy crisis aimed at the general public, to be conducted through its national and regional offices. Epstein said a first step had been publication of a pamphlet: "Oil and United States Mideast Policy," which he said had been sent to leaders in government, business and other areas. He said an initial two printings of 25,000 copies had been "gobbled up" and a third printing was being made.

Apprehension Greater Than Reality

The spokesman for the American Jewish Committee said that "at this point," there did not seem to be any significant problem. He indicated a belief that the apprehension among Jews was greater than the reality which, he said, was "at the moment, far from crisis proportions." He agreed the problem was one which should cause concern and that the Committee was watching it closely.

He added that the agency was receiving reports regularly about the bumper stickers, and observed that Americans putting such stickers on their cars or writing hostile letters to their newspapers should not be dismissed automatically as members of the lunatic fringe.

The spokesman for the NJCRAC said "we have no evidence whatever of any anti-Semitic reaction arising as a result of the energy crisis." He said this was a summary of information from many of the 95 local Jewish community relations councils affiliated with the NJCRAC. He added, however, that the evaluation excluded "the obviously crackpot and apparently organized lunatic fringe activities."

Richard M. Cohen, associate executive director of the American Jewish Congress, also af-

firmed, "There has been no sign of any anti-Semitic fallout from the oil shortage." He said the Congress is "gratified by statements by public officials, newspaper editorials and media commentators which demonstrate an understanding that the energy crisis is not related basically to the Middle East problem." Stating that the Congress was aware of the bumper stickers, Cohen said it could be anticipated that "the lunatic fringe could be expected to try to exploit the situation. We do not see any sign that they are succeeding. If the situation should worsen and any anti-Semitic and anti-Israel fallout develop, we will take whatever action may be necessary to combat it."

CEAUSCESCU APPEARS TO ACCEPT U.S. ISRAEL INTERPRETATION OF RESOLUTION 242

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (JTA)--President Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania appeared to lean toward the U.S. and Israeli interpretation of Security Council Resolution 242 rather than that of the Soviet Union and the Arab bloc. This was the interpretation given by members of his audience at the National Press Club where the Rumanian leader spoke yesterday.

In the course of his remarks on the Middle East situation, he spoke twice of Israeli withdrawal from "territories it occupies," the phrase that appears in the English version of Resolution 242. The Soviet and other Communist bloc and Arab states hold to the direct translation from the French version which refers to "the territories," meaning all of them.

Ceausescu, who ended a four-day visit to Washington during which he met with President Nixon, also said that all parties to the Middle East dispute should be allowed to participate in the Middle East peace conference in Geneva, including the Palestinians. The Rumanian President said there was no Jewish problem in his country, and that economic and social conditions in Rumania have improved to the extent that some Rumanian Jews who emigrated to Israel now want to return.

ACTION URGED ON ISRAELI POWs IN SYRIA

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Gen. Lucius D. Clay (Ret.), who served as U.S. Military Governor in the American zone of occupied Germany after World War II, called today on the government of Syria to abide by the Geneva Convention in its treatment of Israeli POWs captured during the recent battles between Syria and Israel on the Golan Heights. He made his statement in his capacity as chairman of the Committee of Concern for Minorities in Arab Lands.

Noting that "the joint U.S.-Soviet cease-fire initiative included an understanding that there should be an immediate exchange of prisoners of war," Clay urged the two major powers to "use their good offices to impress upon the Syrian authorities the need to alleviate this unnecessary human suffering." Clay, reacting to recent revelations of murder and brutalities committed against Israeli POWs in Syria, said U.S. and Soviet intervention with Syria on behalf of the Israeli prisoners "could be a vital first step toward negotiation of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir left on a visit to the United States Thursday morning. He will tour the U.S. on behalf of the Israel Bond Organization and the United Jewish Appeal.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--An Arab youth from the Ramallah region north of Jerusalem was killed Wednesday night preparing an explosive device.

