



## SUCCESS OF KISSINGER'S MISSION CONTINGENT ON SYRIA'S REACTION AND RESPONSE BY ISRAELI LEADERS

By David Landau,

JERUSALEM, May 5 (JTA) -- The Cabinet met today for 4 1/2 hours to decide whether Israel would make territorial concessions to Syria in return for a disengagement agreement. Today's Cabinet session is probably the most crucial in the present round of Middle East diplomacy. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger flew to Amman, Jordan this afternoon. He will be back in Israel tomorrow morning to hear the government's decision and will fly to Damascus to convey it to the Syrians. Most observers here believe the success of his current mission to achieve a disengagement accord will depend on what he hears from the Israelis tomorrow and how their decision is received by the Syrians. (See P. 3 for Cabinet meeting.)

The thrust of Dr. Kissinger's diplomatic efforts has become apparent. In several hours of talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus yesterday he sought to extract concessions on such issues as the United Nations role in a disengagement accord; prisoner of war exchange; buffer zones; and limited forces zones. In his talks with Israeli leaders, the over-riding issue has been territorial. A high U.S. official reportedly said yesterday that Syria and Israel were within "negotiating range" on all issues except the territorial one.

### Bleak Alternative to Disengagement

Kissinger has avoided any semblance of pressure on Israel, but he is trying hard to persuade the government to make what is clearly an unpalatable decision to give up both the Golan Heights town of Kuneitra and the hills to its west. He reportedly told the Cabinet that it was hardly worth foregoing the chance of disengagement for the sake of a few barren hills. He also reportedly spent considerable time here painting a bleak picture of the alternatives to a disengagement agreement.

According to some sources, Kissinger forecast a further escalation of fighting on the northern front. Egyptian intervention and Soviet involvement. U.S. officials, however, have dismissed the visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Damascus today as simply a Soviet manifestation of "visibility" in the region rather than a bald attempt to sabotage current negotiations.

According to informed sources, Kissinger encountered some willingness on the part of Syrian President Hafez Assad to consider a Suez-style buffer zone policed by the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) rather than the UN observers corps as the Syrians had insisted upon to now. The Syrians were also reported prepared to agree to a POW exchange at the outset of disengagement. Kissinger was said to feel that some diplomatic formula could be worked out on "linkage" of disengagement to a final peace settlement that would satisfy both sides. But Syrian flexibility was said to be conditional on Israel's acceptance of its territorial demands.

### Seek Concession on Kuneitra, Hills

Officially, Israel remains adamant in its refusal to relinquish any territory save that captured in the Yom Kippur War last Oct. In recent days, however, there seemed to be a softening on the matter of Kuneitra. Stories appeared in the press playing down Kuneitra's military value. But the hills surrounding the town were said to be absolutely not negotiable in the Israeli view because they command all of the northern Golan Heights. Today's reports indicated that Kissinger was seeking Israeli concessions not only on Kuneitra, but the hills as well.

Highly placed U.S. officials have admitted the possibility that no agreement will be reached during Kissinger's current round of talks, though they professed confidence that disengagement will be achieved eventually. At the very least, however, Kissinger must bring about a cease-fire on the northern front if he is to claim any success for his current mission. If he manages that, he might return to the region for a sixth time to continue his diplomatic rounds or he might seek to move the disengagement issue to Geneva for settlement.

### GOLAN SETTLERS URGE GOVERNMENT NOT TO SURRENDER ANY TERRITORY

TEL AVIV, May 5 (JTA) -- Pressure mounted on the government today not to surrender to Syria any territory captured in the Six-Day War. The pressure came from Golan Heights settlers who held an emergency meeting at Ramot where they were joined by representatives of settlements in the administered territories as far off as Kfar Etzion and the Gaza Strip.

The meeting was occasioned by rumors that the government may agree to yield a portion of the pre-Yom Kippur War Golan Heights, including the town of Kuneitra, in the interests of a disengagement accord with Syria. Though no decision has been reached, the settlers were clearly worried.

They adopted a series of resolutions pledging not to leave their settlements no matter what happens. They declared the Six-Day War boundaries to be the "natural borders" of Israel and warned that any pull-back from those lines would imperil the safety of all of Galilee and the Jordan Valley. They urged Israeli youth to establish new settlements in the Golan Heights and the rest of the administered territories.

### SENATOR SAYS MIDEAST PEACE PACKAGE MUST INCLUDE SECURE BOUNDARIES FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, May 5 (JTA) -- Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R., Pa.) said tonight that "any Middle East peace package must guarantee secure, recognized and defensible borders for Israel" which, he added, "will be my test in evaluating any Mideast settlement." Opposing a compromise on the Jackson Amendment to the Trade Reform Bill affecting Soviet emigration policy, Schweiker said, "we must further

the efforts of the Soviet Jewish community to gain its freedom."

He made his pledge for "continuing commitment to the goal of a strong Israel" in receiving the Israel Prime Minister's medal "in recognition for his outstanding contributions to the State of Israel." It was awarded to him at a State of Israel Bond dinner at the Mountain View Inn, in Greensburg, Pa.; sponsored by the Tri-state Committee for Israel Bonds comprised of Jewish leaders in the area embracing parts of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

In his prepared remarks made available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here, Schweiker also said that he was "insisting" that in Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's meetings with the Syrian government "the plight of the Syrian Jewish community be dealt with now, rather than deferred for indefinite future action."

Schweiker also said he opposed the funds the Administration is asking for in its new aid bill. "I'm going to fight this new giveaway," he said, "all we've gotten from massive American capital investments in Arab countries has been an oil embargo."

#### HEAVY FIGHTING ON SYRIAN FRONT

TEL AVIV, May 5 (JTA) -- Heavy fighting continued on the Syrian front today despite unconfirmed reports from Damascus that the Syrians had agreed to a cease-fire in the entire Golan Heights section except for the Mt. Hermon area. The reports came during U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's visit to Damascus yesterday.

A military spokesman reported at noon today that the Syrians were directing artillery and tank fire and Katyusha rocket salvos at Israeli positions in the southern sector of the Yom Kippur War enclave and the southern Golan Heights. Israeli forces returned the fire. No casualties were reported today on the Israeli side.

Bazooka rockets and automatic fire struck Metullah settlement last night without causing casualties or damage. The bursts came from Hamanis, a hill in Lebanese territory east of Metullah. Israeli artillery fired on the hill and into the "Fatahland" section of southeastern Lebanon. Golan Heights settlers spent most of yesterday in bomb shelters as a result of Syrian artillery fire.

Six Israeli soldiers were wounded by Syrian artillery fire Friday morning and afternoon. Ten sustained injuries when their patrol entered a minefield. They were extricated by an armored troop carrier and flown to a hospital by helicopter. Israeli artillery shelled Syrian targets on Friday, well behind the front lines. Yesterday the Syrians shelled the southern section of the Golan Heights and the Har Dov region west of Mt. Hermon, and terrorist areas in "Fatahland" were hit by Israeli fire.

Israeli Chief of Staff, Gen. Mordechai Gur said on a visit to the northern front Friday that the fighting as a whole was not escalating despite the intensity of Syrian artillery barrages and the extended range of the shooting. He said the only new developments were political ones, referring to Secretary Kissinger's visit to the region.

#### CANADA'S POLITICAL LEADERS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL

OTTAWA, May 5 (JTA) -- Leaders of Cana-

da's three political parties stressed their nation's solidarity with Israel and expressed the hope that peace would soon reign in the Middle East. These views were expressed at the third annual dinner meeting for 150 members of Parliament on the occasion of Israel's 26th anniversary. The dinner was sponsored by the Canada-Israel committee.

Robert Stanfield, president of the Progressive Conservative Party, said that "the challenge to Israel's friends is to do what our decency requires -- help Israel to reach peace. Pressure should be resisted and I look to Holland with pride for that reason. Maybe some day it will be our time to be tested for our will to resist pressure." He expressed optimism regarding peace prospects in the Mideast "and about Canada helping the coming of peace in an atmosphere of good will for all."

David Lewis, leader of the National Democratic Party, and member of Parliament, said he was also speaking "as the Jew David Lewis whose heart is full of anxiety in regard to the future of the State of Israel (which is) surrounded by enemy nations and threatened with annihilation. The problem of the Palestinians will not be solved by war or terrorism."

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mitchell Sharp, declared that Canada's "standing policy is the recognition of Israel's right to exist in a climate of peace under secure and recognized borders." He said that negotiations, direct or indirect, between the parties involved in the conflict are essential if peace is to be achieved in the Mideast. "Each time there is an outbreak of terrorism like that in Kiryat Shemona the act must be condemned regardless of the aims of the terrorists."

#### Israel On List For Nuclear Reactors

Sharp noted that relations between Canada and Israel have become closer due to frequent contacts between both peoples. Some 12,000 Israelis visited Canada in 1973, he said, adding, Foreign Minister Abba Eban will pay a visit to Ottawa sometime in June. The Secretary also observed that the Canadian government is willing to sell nuclear reactors to any nation provided they are used for peaceful purposes.

Focusing on a similar point, Donald MacDonald, federal Minister of Energy and Resources, said that although Canada is currently concentrating on selling nuclear reactors to Iran because that country has the money to pay for it, "Israel is on the list and we'll be quite prepared to sell one to Israel." He noted, however, that Canada has reached "almost its capacity to finance the selling" of reactors.

#### Canada's Attitude Toward Israel

MacDonald also told the meeting that "the establishment of diplomatic relations by Canada with Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries will ultimately serve the interest of the Jewish community in Canada and Israel because in moments of international tension we can play the role we have diplomatically played for the last 20 years, that is, to help in the understanding of the position of the other side." As for the apprehension within the Jewish community and the speculation about a possible erosion of Canada's position toward Israel, MacDonald stressed that trade with Arab states will not affect Canadian foreign

policy "due to the extent of sympathy for Israel existing in this country." Dr. Theodore Miron, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, said that despite "all the sorrow and sacrifice, the people of Israel hope that 1974 may become a threshold to a new era" and assured the legislators that Israel "will do all she can reasonably be expected to do to speed the coming of peace." (By Michael Solomon)

#### NO TERMS OF DISENGAGEMENT WITH SYRIA REACHED BY CABINET By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, May 5 (JTA) -- The Cabinet met today without reaching any decision on terms of disengagement with Syria. Cabinet sources indicated that discussions with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger were still in a fluid stage, that several options remain open for re-discussion and negotiation and that the Cabinet expects to meet several more times while Kissinger is in the region.

Kissinger, who is in Amman, Jordan today, is expected back in Jerusalem tomorrow. Apparently he will study a report of today's Cabinet session before going on to Damascus for a second round of talks with Syrian leaders. The Cabinet had before it today Kissinger's report on his seven hours of discussion in Damascus Friday and Saturday and the report of the ministerial negotiating team that met with the Secretary of State at Premier Golda Meir's office for more than two hours this morning before his departure for Amman.

A Cabinet communique issued late today said only: "A report was presented on the talks and the negotiations conducted with the U.S. Secretary of State and his aides concerning a separation of forces agreement with Syria. The Cabinet held a discussion on the subject."

The government appears to be reserving any decision on substantive items involved in disengagement, particularly territorial issues until Kissinger holds further talks with the Syrians. The emphasis here is that no final resolution has been reached yet on any of the points discussed with Kissinger. Sources here described the latest talks with Kissinger as very broad and inclusive of topics not directly related to disengagement such as U.S. - Israeli relations. They said that everything was still in a phase of "clarification" and there were no indications how long Kissinger will remain in the region.

#### Not Sure An Accord Can Be Reached

U.S. officials accompanying the Secretary of State said the preliminary shape of any agreement was not likely to emerge before Wednesday, after Kissinger's second round of talks in Damascus and further meetings with Israeli leaders. They hinted that Kissinger himself was not sure an agreement could be reached by the end of this week and it was possible that he would return to Washington at that time to allow both sides time to reconsider their position.

Information Minister Shimon Peres who participated in today's meeting with Kissinger, told newsmen afterwards that he didn't know how long the present round of talks would continue. "I don't think we should be in such a hurry because we are dealing with a very complex situation," he said. He observed that, like in all such negotiations, there was a "real gulf" between the sides "and we are looking

for ways and means to overcome them."

#### HAIL RULING ON KOSHER SLAUGHTERING

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- Leading national Jewish organizations have hailed the unanimous decision by a three-judge Federal Court upholding the constitutionality of kosher slaughtering as "a signal of victory for religious freedom" and "an important victory for the Jewish community." This was the view of the Joint Advisory Committee of the Synagogue Council of America and the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, and the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), both of which participated in the case.

The suit, known as Jones vs. Butz, was regarded as the first serious challenge to Humane Slaughter Acts since its enactment in 1958. The complaint attacked the law prohibiting government purchase of meat that was slaughtered "inhumanely" but which permitted the purchases of meat slaughtered by Jewish ritual procedure including the hoisting and shackling of fully conscious animals prior to the actual slaughter. The complainants, eight taxpayers, the Society for Animal Rights and the Committee for a Wall of Separation between Church and State in America charged that the ritual slaughter was "inhumane."

In its ruling, the court accepted the arguments that the section in the law defining Jewish ritual slaughter as humane is based on uncontradicted scientific evidence; its inclusion did not constitute a law respecting an establishment of religion; the statute is, in all respects, within the competence of Congress in the exercise of its power to enact all measures necessary and proper to carry out the national policy of protecting religious freedom.

The court also held that "by making it possible for those who wish to eat ritually acceptable meat to slaughter the animal in accordance with the tenets of their faith, Congress neither established the tenets of that faith nor interfered with the exercise of any other." Leo Pfeffer, special counsel for the American Jewish Congress, served as attorney for the Joint Advisory Committee. COLPA was represented by Nathan Lewin, one of its vice-presidents, in its brief in behalf of three national Orthodox organizations.

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PARIS (JTA) -- A Christian "Brotherly Solidarity With Israel Association" has been set up in Paris. A spokesman for the Association stated that its objectives are "to help Israel through the spoken and written word as well as offer the Jewish State material and moral support through its work."

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- City Councilman Stanley Simon of The Bronx and Howard Golden of Brooklyn are drafting legislation to suspend alternate side of the street parking on Saturdays. They noted the legislation is aimed at helping Orthodox Jews who consider it a Sabbath violation to drive on Saturdays.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- No progress has been made toward forming a new Labor-led coalition government. With only 11 days left out of the 21 allotted for the purpose by President Ephraim Katzir, the Labor Party and the National Religious Party were still far from an agreement today.

**JEWISH FEMINISTS FORM NEW GROUP**

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- A new organization has been established to represent the special interests of Jewish feminists throughout the United States and Canada both inside and outside the Jewish community, it was announced here by Leora Fishman. The group, known as the Jewish Feminist Organization, will concern itself with religious and secular problems and "defend the interests and images of the Jewish women in the community-at-large against stereotyping," according to Ms. Fishman who was elected to the board of the JFO.

The new group was launched by the National Conference on Jewish Women and Men which met here last week to discuss sex roles in Jewish life. More than 400 persons from cities across the U.S. and Canada attended the three-day conclave. The principal sponsor of the conference was the North American Jewish Students' Network, an umbrella organization for hundreds of Jewish student groups in high schools and on college campuses.

Assessing the need and objective of the JFO, Ms. Fishman said that "the time has come for women in the Jewish community to organize their strength and pressure the male-dominated power structure for positive change." Aside from applying pressure, she noted, the organization will set up an information clearing house and speakers bureau "to deal with the hundreds of requests for speakers on the subject of the role of women in Judaism.

**Conference Played A Vanguard Role**

Moreover, Ms. Fishman said, it will provide the names of women qualified to speak on what is considered more traditional Jewish topics, "usually reserved for male speakers. The Jewish community today seems to feel that women are only qualified to speak about women. We will push to change that attitude."

The conference this year differed from the one held last year in that men were involved in this year's conclave. A spokesman for Network described the conference as playing a vanguard role in bringing Jewish men and women together to deal with sex role related issues as well as to explore them in small groups separated by sex.

Congresswoman Bella Abzug (D., N.Y.), one of the featured speakers at the parley, said the effort to coalesce the thinking and feelings of Jewish men and women around the issues of Jewish feminism "is extremely exciting." Noting that "in our hierarchy there is a greater tendency to ignore women and not to recognize their leadership" and that prominent Jewish women are rarely called upon to speak out for Jewish causes, Ms. Abzug declared:

"I think the strength of the Jewish people will be considerably improved as we release the capacities and potentials of the total population. That is what it is all about. We are not going to change anything meaningfully as Jews unless we have the men and women working on changing the atmosphere that restricts all of us to maximize our potentials."

**ROSENTHAL RAPS U.S. MIDEAST POLICY**

WASHINGTON, May 5 (JTA) -- Rep. Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D., N.Y.) has asked Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Undersecretary of State Joseph J. Sisco to meet with him to discuss the "emerging U.S. policy toward Israel," an aide to the congressman said today. Rosenthal, the aide said, is very disturbed by the Administration's Middle East activities that included backing of the Security Council's condemnation of Israel April 24 for its raid into Lebanon but without mentioning the massacre by Arabs at Kiryat Shmona that provoked it. He expects the meeting to be held soon after the officials return from the Middle East.

Declaring that the "United States supports Israel's enemies," Rosenthal in a statement to the House of Representatives said of the Security Council's action: "There would be nothing new about this outrageous double standard were it not for the fact that for the first time it had the support of the United States. Israel has long considered this country her truest and best and possibly her only friend in the community of nations. The Nixon Administration has shown exceedingly poor judgment in this matter. I am deeply disturbed by this action and the Administration's seemingly headlong rush into Arab arms."

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**MRS. JACOBSON SAYS ISRAELIS EXPRESSING RENEWED OPTIMISM**

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- "The Jewish people have always reacted to adversity in what others would consider irrational ways," Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, Chairman of the World Zionist Organization -- American Section, commented as she left for a month's tour which will take her first to London this weekend, for a meeting of the Conference of Jewish Organizations, of which she is acting chairman, and then to an extended tour of Australia on behalf of the Keren Hayesod, Foundation Fund of the World Zionist Organization.

"The Israelis today are following the same pattern," she said, pointing out that in the wake of the shakeup in the top echelons of the Israel Defense Forces after the Yom Kippur War more young draftees than ever before are volunteering for hazardous duty. Fully a third are opting for service with the paratroops, the Air Force and special naval units. "The highest volunteer rate, significantly enough -- almost half -- is from among those with the highest educational level," Mrs. Jacobson said.

At the same time -- despite a recent spate of newspaper stories to the contrary -- fewer Israelis are leaving for residence abroad and an increasing number, many of whom have established themselves in the professions or in American academic life, are returning to resume their lives in Israel, she observed. "Crisis situations seem to attract them," Mrs. Jacobson declared. More than a thousand professionals have applied for help in reestablishing themselves in Israel, and the Bureau for Israeli Professionals has received applications from an additional two thousand, for whom it is now seeking positions in Israel."

Continuing, she said: "We are quick to paint dismal pictures, but they should not be taken over literally since they are generally more a matter of mood than of the reality." The first 26 years of Israel's history as a modern state have shown how vital and basically healthy a society it is, Mrs. Jacobson said.