

daily news bulletin

Published by Tewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.T. 10036

1974, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

Vol. XLI - 57th Year

Friday, May 31, 1974

No. 105

CONGRESS INTERESTED IN DELVING INTO KISSINGER'S COMMITMENT TO SPAEL ON ISSUE OF THE TERRORISTS By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 30 (JTA)—Secretary of State Henry A, Kissinger was expected to return to Washington sometime after midnight tought and report details of the Syrian-Israeli disengagement accord to President Nixon and Congressional leaders of both parties at the White House tomorrow morning. Of special interest to Congress in their meeting with the Secretary, Congressional sources made clear to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, is the reported commitment he made to Israel that the United States government will not diplomatically oppose Israeli response to attacks by "irregular forces" coming from Syria. This commitment was seen as requiring explicit definitions,

Meanwhile an authoritative White House source said no comment will be forthcoming from the Administration, beyond the President's statement yesterday, regarding the accord to be signed tomorrow in Geneva. Neither would the White House comment on the report that the accord means the way is now clear for the President to visit Egypt, Israel and perhaps other Arab countries during the second week in June.

At the capital, key Congressional members welcomed the agreement and praised Kisainger's 32-day successful effort towards helping attain it, but cautioned against excess optimism on results. A senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who asked that his name not be used until he heard the details from Kissinger himself, said that the preliminary feeling at the Capital was that the agreement represented "another plus on the chart but not something to get too exuberant about right now."

A Truce, Not A Settlement

"At least some kind of a settlement has gotten through." he added. "Maybe it is not the best but it is something to work with." Equally cautious was the reaction in non-official quarters close to political circles here. "Anything that will help bring peace to the area is to the good but this is a truce, not a settlement," one observer said, "I must think, how long can a peace keeping force be kept there? Some hot-headed Palestinians can upset the apple cart. Then what happens?"

Senate Foreign Relations Committee sources emphasized to JTA that they will scrutinize Kissinger's reported pledge to Premier Golda Meir on "irregulars." According to unofficial reports here, Kissinger promised her the U.S. government will say in a letter to israel that attacks by "irregular forces" will constitute an infringement of the Syrian-Israeli agreement, that the United States will understand an Israeli response to such attacks and will not oppose it diplomatically in the United Nations or elsewhere.

Accord Must Go To Appropriate Committees

This reported U.S. commitment was considered by some Senate sources as an Executive agreement within the President's powers and thu

not subject to Senate confirmation. However, it was noted that under the Case Act of Aug. 22, 1972, authored by Sen. Clifford P. Case (R.NJ), details of any agreement or commitment involving the United States, oral or written, must be transmitted to the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Relations Committees of Congress within 60 days after they enter into force.

"The whole package--everything--dealing with both sides of this agreement must go to the appropriate committees," a source said. This, he said, includes full disclosure of the Kissinger

"ideas" to Syria and Israel.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, JTA learned, now has the "package" on the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement signed in Jan. But its contents are secret and have been read only by the committee's members. It is understood that in this accord the Egyptians agreed to restrain terrorist activities from Egypt against Israel. Such a clause was desired by Israel in its accord with Syria but the Damascus government refused to accept it and the reported pledge by Kissinger to Mrs. Metr presumably followed to induce Israel's acceptance of the remainder of the agreement.

SRAEL APPROVES ACCORD; MRS, MEIR PRESENTS TERMS OF AGREEMENT TO KNESSET, HINTS AT SECRET PROTOCOLS By David Landau and Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, May 30 (JTA)—The Knesset voted late tonight to approve the Israeli-Syrian disengagement accord that had won the unantmous endorsement of the Israeli Cabinet yesterday. The vote climaxed a stormy debate following Premier Golda Meir's reading of the main points of the agreement which, she stressed repeatedly and empatically, did not prejudice Israel's security and provided fully for the defense of Israeli settlements on the Golan Heights. Mrs. Meir hinted at secret protocols and undertakings with regard to the problem of terrorist incursions which are not specified in the text of the disengagement agreement.

Mrs. Meir's address, her last before parliament as Premier, was interrupted by a noisy, almost violent protest demonstration in the visitors gallery, an event unprecedented in Knesset history. Eight demonstrators--young students and settlers from the Golan Heights--were forcibly removed by guards after they linked arms and refused to heed the Speaker's demand for order. Even as the Knesset debated, fighting continued on the northern front where Syrian artillery shelled Israeli positions in the Mt. Hermon region and the southern section of the Yom Kippur War enclave during the day. There were no Israeli casualties. The exchanges of fire, which have gone on with few interruptions for nearly three months, are not expected to cease until the disengagement accord is formally signed in Geneva tomorrow.

Ensures Defense Of Golan

Premier Meir told the Knesset that the new disengagement line is "for the most part" identical with the line that existed before the Yom Kippur War. It "ensures the defense of the Golan Heights," she said. She told the packed house that her Cabinet had been guided by the Chief of Staff and his JTA Daily News Bulletin

military assessments in its decision regarding the line of separation, "We have taken care to safeguard the military line as well as the security of all our Golan settlements and their continued strengthening and development," she asserted.

asserted.

A crucial aspect of the agreement, one which the Likud opposition setzed upon, is its failure to specifically forbid "para-military actions," a reference to terrorist incursions. On this matter, Mrs. Meir disclosed that the United States Inad informed Israel that it regarded raids by armed groups or individuals across the demarcation lines to be contrary to the cease-fire and that israel, in the exercise of its right of self-defense, may act to prevent such actions by all available means.

available means.

The U.S., would not consider such acts by Israel as violations of the cease-fire and will support them politically, Mrs. Meir said. She added, "I assume the U.S. would not have made such a declaration had it not had solid foundation for doing so," an apparent allusion to a secret U.S., Syrian understanding on the terrorist problem. She promised that further details on this and other subjects would be given to the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee.

Main Points Of Disengagement Accord

The main points of disengagement, as outlined by the Premier to the Knesset are as follows: A mutual commitment to scrupulously observe the cease-fire on land, sea and air and to refrain from all military actions; separation of forces by an area of separation (buffer zone) within which no military force will be stationed except United Nations units; the two armies will be separated by the buffer. A thinning out of forces and arms will be undertaken in zones par allel to the buffer. Long-range artillery and missiles will be permitted at an additional distance away. The UN force will supervise the buffer zone and the limitation of forces zone. UN forces will be recruited from non-permanent members of the Security Council

Israel will evacuate the Syrian territory it captured in the Yom Kippur War last Oct; there will be a Syrian civilian administration inside the buffer zone (the town of Kumeitra); prisoners of war will be exchanged after the signing of the accord but before its implementation; the bodies of the dead will be returned; civilian residents of the evacuated Syrian territory and the buffer zone will be permitted to return.

The line of separation will coincide with post-1967 cease-firelineson the Israeli side, except for the town of Kunelitra and the Rafid junction. The town will be located within the UN buffer zone and its inhabitants and Syrian civilian administration will be permitted to return. The Mt. Hermon positions taken by Israel in Oct. will be under UN control. Mt. Hermon positions held by Israel since 1967 will remain in Israeli hands. The Premier said the signing would take place tomorrow in Geneva and the repatriation of woulded soldiers would begin Saturday.

Additional Terms In The Accord

(In addition to these points outlined by Premier Metr, the official document released today at the United Nations contained the following:
"The air forces of the two sides will be permitted to operate up to their respective lines without interference from the other side," The agreement is to be signed not later than May 31, 1974. The Israeli and Syrian Military Working Groups will start their work for the purpose of

implementation in Geneva under UN aegis within 24 hours of the signing and "will complete this task within five days." Disengagement will begin within 24 hours after the completion of the task of the Military Working Group. The process of disengagement will be completed no later than 20 days after it begins," the official document said.)

Terrorism, Syrian Jews Are Issues

Likud leader Menachem Beigin accused the government of retreating from previous positions. He said the Meir government had pledged that there would be no pull-back from the 1967 Six-Day War lines on the Golan Heights but now Israel is withdrawing under pressure from Syria. He noted that government officials had promised time and again that Israel would demand a solution to the problem of Syrian Jewry in the disengagement process, but yesterday's agreement does not even mention Syrian Jew.

Beigin also made much of the fact that the agreement includes no curb on terrorist activities from Syrian soil and charged that it will in fact permit the Palestinian terrorists to act on Israeli territory to attain their goals.

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, also making

his swansong appearance in the Knesset as a member of government, told the Knesset that he hoped Syrian Jews would be permitted to leave even though their, exit is "not in the technical framework of the disengagement."

Dayan justified Israel's pullback from most of the Golan Heights town of Kuneitra. "on condition that it leads to innocent civilian settlement" by the Syrians. He noted that Israel had never in-

tended to settle in Kuneitra sand when we speak

of plans for an Israeli city on the Golan we think of it much further to the west." Dayan pointed out.

from Syria would have to be interpreted as a de-

as Premier Meir did, that any terrorist incursions

liberate violation of the agreement by Damascus.

U.S. Interest Played Role in Accord

In the course of her address, Premier Meir expressed satisfaction with the scrupulous observance of the Suez disengagement pact concluded last Jan., and noted Egypt's declared intention to develop civilian and economic life in the canal area. "We would like the same process to develop on the northern border as well," she said. She observed that the accord with Syria is likely to strengthen the pact with Egypt and that its successful implementation would hold out prospects for further dialogue toward a final peace.

Mrs. Meir conceded that Israel's consideration of the accord with Syria had included the U.S. Interest in reaching an agreement. "I will not deny that in our decision we also took account of the advice and the policy of the U.S.," she said. She recalled the manifestation of "U.S. deterrent power" in the Oct. war and America's subsequent "fruitful political activity...which goes hand in hand with the needs of the peoples in the region."

Recalling her statement last Jan. 22 after conclusion of the agreement with Egypt when she expressed confidence in a "continuing positive approach" to Israel's "security requirements" by the U.S., Premier Meir said, "Not only have my words not been disproved, but the consistent aid of the U.S. to Israel has been assured for the future by the President of the United States."

Mrs. Meir opened her Knesset speech with praise of President Nixon and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger "for their tireless efforts." She concluded by extending her blessings to the new government of Premier-designate Yitzhak - 60

Rabin and said she was happy that she could hand over the reigns of government after leading Israel to the present scord which, she hoped, would bring peace and tranquility to the northern border.

UN DUE TO RATIFY ACCORD By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, May 30 (JTA)—The Security Council met briefly this afternoon to hear Secretary General Kurt Waldheim present the Israelf-Syrian disengagement document which spells out the UN's pleace-keeping role and adjourned until tomorrow when it is expected to ratify the document. Ratification by the Security Council will have no effect on the formal signing of the accord by Israel and Syria in Geneva tomorrow. Today's meeting was called for by U.S, Ambassador John Scall who had earlier presented Waldheim with the document and a letter from Secretary of State Henry A, Kissinger. Copies of the documents were distributed to Security Council members before the meeting.

Waldheim met with Security Council members this morning to discuss the UN role in implementing the accord. He released a statement announc ing that he has instructed the commander of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in the Middle East, Gen. Ensio Sillasvuo of Finland, to proceed to Geneva immediately in order to be available when Israel and Syria formally sign the agreement there tomorrow. Waldheim also announced that he would be represented at the signing by his personal representative, Roberto Guyer, Undersecretary General for special political affairs. The director general of the UNoffice in Geneva, Vittorio W. Guicciardi, has been instructed by Waldheim to make all necessary arrangements for the signing ceremony at the Palais Des Nations tomorrow.

Waldhelm himself is expected to leave for the Middle East over the weekend, a UN spokesman said. The spokesman said the Secretary General feels this trip, after a disengagement accord is signed, will give him an opportunity to discuss the UN role with the parties concerned and with UN personnel in the area. His trip does not exclude a personal effort by the Secretary General to further peace progress in the region, the spokes-

man said.

The UN force to police Israeli-Syrian disengagement will be known officially as the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), It will be manned by non-member states of the Security Council, its commander has not yet been designated. A UN spokesman said Waldheim intended to use troops from the UNEF and from the United Nations Truce Supervisors Organization (UNTSO) to make up the 1250 man force on the Israeli-Syrian border.

NEO-FASCIST MEETING CANCELLED

NEW YORK, May 30 (JTA)—Reports received today from Spain indicate that CEDADE, the neofascist movement in Europe will not be allowed to hold its scheduled Youth Congress in Barcelona on June 29 and 30. According to a news item which appeared in "Informaciones." the Spanish daily, dated May 16, the ultra-fascist character of the movement was responsible for the civil government of Barcelona's cancellation of the permit to meet.

Information and documents about CEDADE's Nazi affiliation and anti-Semitic activities were fornished to leaders of the Spanish-Jewish community by the European Affairs Department of the Anti-Defamation League and released here. CEDADE's attempt to refute Spanish press
exploded by an expose appearing in the popular
Spanish daily, "Pueblo," dated May 18. The writeer of the expose, Pedro Rodriguez, cited a document, supplied by ADL, in which James K. Warner,
the leader of the California-based Christian Crusade Church in the U.S. described CEDADE as
"the most important anti-Jewish organization in
Spain."

According to Warner's sources, the Barcelona meeting would be "the largest right-wing gathering since the Second World War" and that it would "firing together patriots of Europe and South America to unite on a global plan to fight against the Jewish anti-Christians, for Christ, for race and nation."

LATE NEWS BULLETIN: JERUSALEM, May 30 (JTA)—The Knesset vote for the disengagement accord, which came close to midnight after more than six hours of debate, was 76 in favor, 36 opposed, and six abstentions. Two were absent for the voting.

SOVIET MISSION CHARGES ZIONIST PLOT

NEW YORK, May 30 (JTA)—The Soviet Mission to the United Nations accused New York Mayor Abraham Beame and Gov. Malcolm Wilson yesterday of participating in "anti-Soviet demonstrations" sponsored by Zionists and of encouraging acts of vandalism against Soviet property. The criticism was contained in a letter to the United States Mission which protested a May 18 arson attack on a carr of a Soviet diplomat.

The letter quoted press reports that a "Zionist group" was responsible, adding that the perpetrators not only were "concealed but are directly encouraged to commit such hostile acts by local official authorities." As evidence, the letter cited the "active leading role" of Mayor Beame and Gov. Wilson "in the organization and conduct of anti-Soviet demonstrations" in New York City organized by "the leaders of Zionist organizations who are hostile to the Soviet Union." Beame and Wilson have supported demonstrations on behalf of Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel.

WEIZMANN CENTENARY PLANS SET

NEW YORK, May 30 (JTA)—The first planning session for the celebration in the United States of the Chaim Weizmann Centenary met today under the sponsorship of the World Zionist Organization—American Section. Participants were repersentatives of the American Zionist Federation, the American Zionist Youth Foundation, the Weizmann Institute of Science, the Jewish National Fund and the relevant departments of the WZO-American Section, It is anticipated that this group will be expanded to include representatives of other organizations to participate in planning and carrying out the programs.

The meeting was held with the participation of Meyer W. Weisgal, Chancellor of the Weizmann Institute for Science in Rehovot and a member of the World Committee for the Centenary, which is headed by outgoing Israeli Premier Golda Meir.

The year-long celebrations in the U.S. will open in New York with a concert at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall on Oct. 30. There will be similar public programs throughout the Jewish world, Weisgal said. The meeting was chaired by Kalman Sultanik, acting chairman of the WZO-American Section. The American Committee will be headed by Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the WZO-American Section.

JEWISH LEADERS HAIL ACCORD

NEW YORK, May 30 (JTA) -- In New York and Washington, Jewish leaders hailed the disenpagement accord as another important step on the road to peace in the Mideast and a notable achievement for American diplomatic efforts, especially the tireless and skillful diplomacy by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. These feelings were expressed by Rabbi Israel Miller. chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; Elmer L. Winter, American Jewish Committee president; Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, American Jewish Congress president; David M. Blumberg, B'nai B'rith president; and Rabbi Irwin M. Blank,

Synagogue Council of America president. Rabbi Miller and Rabbi Hertzberg also expressed the view that a next step on the agenda must be the rescue of the surviving remnant of the Jews in Syria. Rabbi Miller said it is the duty of the American Jewish community to direct every effort towards winning their release. Rabbi Hertzberg noted that if Syria permitted the Jews to emigrate it would signify "an important act of faith in the pursuit of a genuine Middle East peace."

The Jewish leaders also noted that there are still hurdles to be overcome in reaching final and total peace between Israel and her neighbors but that the accord with Syria is a monumental step in that direction.

In addition, Rabbi Blank stated that implicit in the quest for lasting peace "is Israel's recognition of the legitimacy of the Arab national struggle, including that of the Palestinians.' He added: "We fervently hope that the Palestinians themselves will no longer debase their own cause by barbaric acts of terrorism." Rabbi Hertzberg also stated that Syria, in addition to disengaging her troops and cease fighting, must also stop the terrorists from using her territory to launch their missions of murder and destruction.

Syrian Jews See Ray Of Hope In Accord

In Damascus, spokesmen for the beleaguered Jewish community saw a small ray of hope that disengagement may presage the lifting of restrictions imposed on Syrian Jewry, according to news reports reaching here. Syrian Jews are reportedly hopeful that if peace is established with Israel, their own government might stop treating them as suspected sympathizers with an enemy power. Several Jewish shopkeepers in Damascus were reported as saving that they knew that Kissinger had taken up the situation of Syrian Jews with President Hafez Assad and expressed hope that disengagement might lead to a lifting of the restrictions under which Syrian Jews are forced to live.

Waldheim Assesses Disengagement

United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim hailed the Israeli-Syrian disengagement agreement last night as "a most valuable step forward" but cautioned that the "main question" of an overall political solution in the Middle East is "still ahead of us." Waldheim's re marks which followed announcement of the agreement in Washington, Jerusalem and Damascus reflected the reaction in other world capitals today which tempered optimism with caution and generally contained fulsome praise for the achievements of Kissinger. Waldheim said that "this new agreement constitutes a further important contribution to peace in the Middle

East, as was the Egyptian-Israeli disengagement agreement before it."

ISRAEL, SYRIA TO SIGN ACCORD FRIDAY By Edwin Eytan

GENEVA, May 30 (JTA) -- Israel and Syrta are due to sign tomorrow morning 10:00 GMT the disengagement agreement which, it is hoped, will stop the fighting on the Golan Heights and Mount Hermon. The two delegations, led by Israel's Brig. Gen. Herzl Shafir and Syria's Gen. Tayara. will sign the agreement in the presence of the American and Soviet ambassadors to the Geneva conference. The chief of the United Nations observers force Gen. Ensio Sillasvuo will witness the document.

The agreement, diplomatic sources here say, may open the way to the resumption of the Geneva conference which could reconvene next autumn. Tomorrow's ceremony will take place in the brown panelled council chamber in which the conference opened last Dec.

The agreement provides that within 24 hours after it is signed Israeli and Syrian officers will start working out in Geneva its implementation. The group, which will meet within the framework of the Israeli-Egyptian military working party, will have to complete its work within five days. The actual disengagement will start 24 hours at the latest after the military group concludes its work and will have to be concluded within 20 days.

The Red Cross will start the exchange of the Syrian and Israeli wounded POWs on Saturday. A Red Cross spokesman said here today that the process will be completed on that day. Two Red Cross planes, one based at Ben Gurion Airport and the other in Damascus, are ready to take off. Israel believes that 13 of the 68 Israeli POWs in Syrian hands are wounded. It is not known how many Syrian POWs in Israel are hospital cases.

The agreement also stipulates that all prisoners of war will be exchanged at a later date. An Egyptian staff officer, Maj. Gen. Tamal el Bagdoub, will witness the ceremony tomorrow morning which will mark the end of the fighting which has been in process now for over 70 days and has caused hundreds of killed and injured on both sides.

SYNAGOGUE DESTROYED BY FIRE

NEW YORK, May 30 (JTA) -- An Orthodox synagogue, The Sons of Israel Synagogue of the Bronx, was severely damaged early yesterday morning in a two-alarm fire. The fire was discovered at 4:38 a.m. by Rabbi Jekudhiel Fuch, who reported it to the authorities. According to the rabbi, the interior of the synagogue was completely damaged and six Torahs, holy scrolls, and many sacred books and articles were destroyed. Rabbi Fuch called it "total destruction" which left only the walls remaining. Recently, the rabbi said, there have been many fires in the neighborhood's abandoned buildings. The police, however, are investigating this fire which they have termed suspicious.

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- Greek Ambassador C O. Panayotacos yesterday assured American Jewish Congress officials that the release by the gov ernment of Greece of two convicted Palestinian terrorists earlier this month would not set a precedent for such cases in the future. Panayotacos gave this assurance at a meeting at the Greek Embassy with Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president, and Phil Baum, associate executive director of the Congress, who requested the meeting. The two terrorists, who killed five and wounded 55 at Athens Airport last summer were released to Libya.