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STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS KISSINGER STANDS BY HIS LETTER TO JACKSON ON THE TRADE-EMIGRATION ISSUE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (JTA)—State Department spokesman Robert Anderson said today that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger "stands by his letter of Oct. 18" to Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) outlining a U.S.-Soviet understanding on Russian emigration practices. The text of a letter from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Kissinger denying that any understanding existed on the subject of emigration was released yesterday by Tass, the official Soviet news agency.

Anderson reported that Kissinger met yesterday with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin and that the subject of the U.S. trade bill did come up. He said the meeting was held after the disclosure of the Gromyko letter.

Meanwhile, Congressional leaders, ignoring the Gromyko denial of a linkage between emigration and U.S. trade concessions, pushed ahead today for quick enactment of the Ford Administration's Trade Bill with the Jackson Amendment intact.

The House and Senate passed versions of the bill, each embodying such an easement in exchange for such benefits as most favored nation trading status. Members of a Senate-House Conference Committee resolved minor differences in the two bills. The Senate version contains an amendment sponsored by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, and the House version contains the Mills-Vanik amendment, which link the two matters. Jackson said yesterday he would push for quick final approval of the bills by the Senate and House in time for President Ford to sign the bill into law before the end of the current Congress, this month.

In a telephone interview broadcast over Kōl Israel, Jackson said he had assurances from Ford that, during the initial 18-month trial period of the projected trade pact, the President would not hesitate to halt most favored nation treatment for the Soviet Union if he felt the Soviets were not acting in good faith on the emigration commitment.

Israel Takes Wait And See Approach

(The Israel government remained silent on the Gromyko letter but political sources in Jerusalem referred newsmen to Jackson's statement that the linkage agreement would be "tested in practice," not in letters.

(The "wait and see" theme also was sounded by Moshe Rivlin, the Jewish Agency director general, speaking on Israel Radio. He said he would not like to commit himself on any aspects of Soviet emigration policy, adding that "We will have to wait and see how things work out in reality." He also said that regardless of what the real meaning of the Gromyko repudiation letter might turn out to be, Israel should continue plans for large-scale immigration from the Soviet Union.)

Continued Vigilance Sought

Jewish leaders meanwhile called for continued vigilance over Soviet emigration policies. Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, president of the Labor Zionist Alliance, said "This new Soviet announcement rejecting the terms of the Jackson Amendment is

a repetition of what had been said directly to Dr. Henry Kissinger at the end of October. While it is possible to keep information from the public in the USSR, it ought not to be the way in which such matters are honored in a democracy like the U.S."

Kings County District Attorney Eugene Gold, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, demanded "unshakable proof" from the Ford Administration that it has received assurances that the Soviets will ease their emigration policies in exchange for trade concessions.

"It is difficult to understand how Dr. Kissinger could testify in support of the trade bill only a few days ago before the Senate Finance Committee when the Soviets had written him of their position nearly two months ago," Gold said. "It is urgent," he added "that Dr. Kissinger clarify the situation immediately so that the American people will not believe that they have been deceived."

Meanwhile, it was learned that Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and Stanley Lowell, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, are to meet tomorrow with Ford at which time they are expected to discuss, among other items, the Gromyko letter to Kissinger. Sources here said the meeting had been scheduled earlier but that in view of the latest developments, this item will also figure in the discussion.

ISRAEL TO REMAIN IN THE UN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)—Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, said here today that Israel will remain in the UN and continue its struggle against terrorism. Israel will not accept the situation whereby the Palestine Liberation Organization continues to gain international recognition, and will not leave the UN because the Arabs and their Soviet and other allies command a numerical majority and can pass any resolutions they want. Tekoah told reporters on his return home for consultations that there were indications that the nations of the world were awakening to the dangers of Arab terrorism aided by Arab oil wealth.

Yesterday, Defense Minister Shimon Peres, referring to remote Arab countries that have threatened to send arms and manpower to fight against Israel, said Israel took the threats seriously and would act accordingly. He specifically named Kuwait, Morocco, Libya, Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi, but not Iran.

They "will do it while their own countries are shielded from any danger to themselves," Peres said at a meeting of the Labor Party moshavim group. "If anyone threatens us we shall take their threats seriously and take the threat into account," he said. He did not elaborate but his apparent implication was that Israel would find means to strike back at remote Arab countries warring against it.

DINITZ AND KISSINGER IN ANGRY EXCHANGE? ISRAEL EMBASSY SAYS NO By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (JTA)—Avi Pazner, information officer of the Israeli Embassy, said today that the report of an angry exchange between

Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger during a black-tie dinner party last night honoring former Israeli Premier Golda Meir was "completely baseless." Pazmer said that Dinitz and Kissinger "didn't even touch on the Middle East or political subjects" during the party.

The Embassy official said, however, that Dinitz had not issued a denial of the report. That was at variance with State Department spokesman Robert Anderson who told reporters earlier today that the report "has already been denied by Dinitz" and was "absolutely ridiculous."

The issue developed when two Israeli reporters wired stories back to Israel saying that they had seen Kissinger and Dinitz flailing their arms during what appeared to be a heated and angry discussion. The reporters concluded that the two diplomats were arguing about the next steps in the Middle East peace negotiations between Israel and Egypt.

However, Kissinger and Dinitz did discuss the Mideast, but that was earlier yesterday. The two met for two hours to discuss Mideast developments since Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's visit to Washington a week ago. Dinitz and Kissinger were said to have exchanged views on information the U.S. has received from Arab capitals and also discussed the recent meeting between President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing, of France on Martinique.

IRAN DENIES THAT SHAH HAS THREATENED TO JOIN ARAB STATES AGAINST ISRAEL IN EVENT OF NEW WAR

LONDON, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Iranian Embassy in The Hague denied today that the Shah of Iran has threatened to join the Arab states against Israel if a new Middle East war breaks out. A statement issued by the Embassy said news media reports from Beirut quoting the Shah to that effect were a gross distortion.

The statement explained, "What His Majesty had said was that the choice between war and peace was before Israel" and "the sympathies of Iran are with the Palestinians. But His Majesty did not say that Iran would take part in a war against Israel," the Embassy statement said.

The Shah's remarks were contained in an interview with the "Middle East Economic Survey," an Arabic language periodical published in Beirut. According to reports from the Lebanese capital, the Shah said "Either Israel accepts the implementation of the United Nations resolutions or there is no alternative to war. Of course, this time it will be our war."

The Shah was also quoted as saying, in connection with his forthcoming visit to Cairo to meet with President Anwar Sadat that the Egyptian leader was working toward a peaceful settlement but "regrettably, the Israelis have not responded to him." He blamed the United States for failing to press Israel to withdraw from Arab territories. He said, "We support the Arab view because the Arabs became a victim of foreign occupation." The statement from the Iranian Embassy in The Hague said, "There is no change in the policy of Iran regarding the Middle East. Iran firmly supports the Security Council Resolution 242 which demands the evacuation of all occupied territories by Israel."

SCALI OPTIMISTIC THAT KISSINGER'S APPROACH WILL LEAD TO MIDEAST PEACE By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 19 (JTA)--U.S. Am-

bassador John Scall said yesterday that he is optimistic that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's step-by-step approach will lead to peace in the Middle East. Speaking at a press conference marking the end of the 29th session of the General Assembly, Scall described the Mideast as a "major unsolved problem confronting mankind."

Referring to the appearance of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat at the Assembly and the granting of an observer status to the PLO, Scall contended that this did not add "to the atmosphere of compromise and negotiations in the Middle East." He also cited the appearance of Arafat and the PLO at the United Nations as factors in the eroding support for the UN in the United States. He added that the anti-Israeli resolutions taken by UNESCO did not help the image of the world organization.

Turning to his speech on Dec. 6 in which he attacked the tyranny of the majority at the UN, Scall said that he spoke as a friend of the UN "trying to avert the anti-UN fever" by the American public. He said, however, that he does not believe that the U.S. should walk away from the UN. He said that the U.S. will contribute to all UN programs as in the past.

Scall pointed out that he personally received some 500 letters of support from Americans after his speech. He said that the mail ran 55-1 in favor. He cited the decision by the Security Council to renew the mandate of the UN peacekeeping forces in the Middle East as a contributing factor to peace in the area.

Although the Assembly concluded its three-month session it nevertheless decided to keep open the option of reconvening if Mideast developments should warrant. A similar procedure was followed last year and in 1967.

2200 VOLUNTEERS FROM SOUTH AMERICA WILL SPEND WINTER IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--About 2200 volunteers from South America, most of them students, will spend the winter in Israel, as part of a volunteering project organized by the youth and halutz department of the World Zionist Organization, the WZO announced yesterday. Some of them arrived here this month. About 150 will stay in Israel for a half year, and the rest will leave after two months. The volunteers include a group of 300 youth leaders and organizers of communal centers.

The volunteers will spend 50 days at kibbutzim and will devote the rest of their stay in the country to tours and a seminar. "Tour and Immigrate," the Jewish Agency office for the promotion of immigration and absorption, will keep close contacts with the volunteers during their stay at the kibbutzim in an effort in interesting them in extending their stay in the country.

DAYAN BESIEGED BY PARENTS WHO BLAME HIM FOR DEATH OF THEIR SONS IN THE YOM KIPPUR WAR

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan was rescued by security guards tonight from a building on the Bar Ilan University campus that was besieged by parents who blamed him for the deaths of their sons in the Yom Kippur War. About 200 demonstrators, mostly women, burst through police cordons around the campus and surrounded the building where Dayan was to have lectured on "The involvement of the major powers in Arab-Israeli relations." They prevented his departure for more

than two hours.

The demonstrators carried signs declaring, "We've had enough of Dayan." Some yelled, "Put him on trial." Dayan and his party left the building under escort by security guards after police dispersed the crowds around the building. Dayan, a national hero after Israel's victory in the 1967 Six-Day War, was held responsible by many Israelis for Israel's lack of preparedness when the Yom Kippur War broke out in Oct. 1973. The Agranat Committee investigating the conduct of that war cleared Dayan of responsibility but the aura of heroism that surrounded him faded.

Arab Students Hoot Yadin

In another incident last night, Education Minister Aharon Yadin was hooted by Arab students during a lecture at Haifa University. His experience was similar to that of Premier Yitzhak Rabin who was heckled by Arab students in Nazareth several weeks ago. Yadin was addressing the Haifa University student body which has a large proportion of Arabs on the subject of the problems of Arab intellectuals and university graduates.

When he criticized Arab students who supported Yasser Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization, he was greeted with catcalls from Arab youths which sparked counter shouting from Jewish students. Arab students rose and left the lecture hall in a body. Yadin continued his lecture with only Jewish students present.

URGE PRACTICAL PROJECTS TO UNIFY JEWISH PEOPLE AROUND ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Uri Gordon, director general of the "continuation generation," a World Zionist Organization project to develop Zionist leadership among the younger generation of Jews in Israel and abroad, called today for a world-wide convention of Jewish organizations to plan practical projects for the unification of the Jewish people around Israel.

Eliezer Shefer, a WZO youth leader who just returned from an extensive tour of Latin America, said he found a strong Jewish awakening among the younger generation in that part of the world, despite reports of growing assimilation. He said he prepared a plan for the establishment of a young leadership institution in Latin America in cooperation with one of Israel's universities. Shefer said he found interest in Israel and Judaism among Jews in the most remote parts of Latin America.

U.S. SCHOLARS TO VISIT ISRAELI DEVELOPMENT TOWNS

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (JTA)--To foster better understanding between the Jewish communities of the United States and Israel, the American Zionist Federation, through its academic arm, the Zionist Council of the Arts and Sciences, is sending this month three prominent Jewish scholars to Israel where they will speak in three of the country's development towns.

In making the announcement, Mrs. Faye Schenk, AZF president, said the three scholars on the new program are Dr. David Sidorsky, 47, Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, New York; Dr. Chaim I. Waxman, 33, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Dr. Irwin Cotler, 34, Associate Professor of Law at McGill University, Montreal.

The three development towns chosen to host the American scholars are Beisan, recently the scene of the brutal murder of two women and a

man by PLO terrorists; Hatzor, in upper Galilee, some 10 miles from the Golan Heights and inhabited by Jews from North Africa; and Netivot, in the Negev, halfway between Beersheba and Gaza, whose residents come from Moslem countries and the USSR.

For the past three years the AZF and the American Zionist Youth Foundation have been jointly engaged in a similar activity, with scholars coming here from Israel and spending two weeks in a community, talking to high school and college students, faculty, Zionist and non-Zionist organizations, meeting families in their homes and the general public. Through the efforts of these scholars, 20 of whom will be visiting the U.S. this year alone, the communities are developing a better understanding of Israel and its problems.

Mrs. Schenk said: "We have very good reason to believe that the Israelis are just as anxious to learn about us as we are to learn about them. This new project of the Federation will complement the activities already begun in the past. What we want to achieve, perhaps for the first time, is to base our mutual relations more on a personal level than on an institutional one. This is a unique and novel approach which I hope will be embraced by Jewish communities in both countries.

MRS. JACOBSON BLASTS FAHMY DEMANDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (JTA)--"Israel is not prepared to sacrifice its commitment to the Zionist principles of development and growth even to please Egypt's Foreign Minister," declared Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, in response to Ismail Fahmy's statement that Israel can buy peace only if she agrees to "freeze" her population at its present level and halt all immigration for the next 50 years.

Calling the latest Egyptian demands "an outrage against common sense and common decency," Mrs. Jacobson pointed out that the very raison d'être of Israel and the Zionist movement is free and unlimited immigration, adding that the whole thrust of Zionist activity today is to stimulate even greater numbers of young people, particularly from the free world, to make their homes in Israel.

"Fahmy calls for Israel's acceptance of the 1947 partition plan," Mrs. Jacobson said, "but he seems to have forgotten that Israel did accept that plan when it was offered, and it was Egypt and the rest of the Arabs who rejected it. Indeed, it was their rejection--in word and bloody deed--which has kept the Middle East in turmoil ever since. The alternative which he offers--acceptance of Arafat's proposal for a 'secular Palestine state'--is simply another name for the same goal: the disappearance of Israel from the world scene."

JACOB M. GERY DEAD AT 73

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Jacob M. Gery, a pioneer immigrant from South Africa, who served as Minister of Commerce and Industry during the Premiership of the late David Ben Gurion. Gery, who died here last night at the age of 73, was born in Lithuania and raised in South Africa where he earned a law degree.

He arrived in Palestine in 1934, one of the first immigrants from South Africa. He worked in orange groves and later joined the law firm of the late Dr. Dov Joseph, Israel's first Minister of Supply and Rationing. In 1950, Gery was invited by Premier Ben Gurion to join his Cabinet as a non-partisan member. He subsequently returned to the practice of law and headed the Africa-Israel Investment Corporation.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES FLIPPING THE PEACE COIN

By Murray Zuckoff

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Egyptian President Anwar Sadat may have let the cat out of the diplomatic pouch and, thereby, placed into public domain the policy of "quiet diplomacy" pursued by the United States and, to some degree, by the Soviet Union.

The voluble Egyptian leader warned this week that the Mideast is a bomb ready to explode and that this bomb must be defused by continuing the momentum of the progress of peace either through step-by-step negotiations as proposed by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, or, if that doesn't work, by the resumption of the Geneva peace talks as favored by the Soviet Union.

With this either/or strategy Egypt was very likely floating a trial balloon on behalf of both the U.S. and USSR for a joint superpower effect to settle the Mideast conflict and get the Israeli-Arab impasse off dead center.

Can't Go It Alone

There have been strong indications in recent weeks by the U.S. and the USSR that neither power can continue to go it alone in the Mideast and that neither country is in a position to continue for much longer as patrons of client states.

At the same time, neither the U.S. nor the USSR can afford, at this time, to write off their respective clients nor to permit a situation to develop whereby one or the other is totally frozen out of the Mideast scene. But neither superpower can say so, or does not want to say so, publicly. Nevertheless, the economic, political and diplomatic strains of dealing with their respective clients are becoming too much for both superpowers.

There are signals from the upper echelon of the Ford Administration, the State Department and the Pentagon that America cannot continue indefinitely to be Israel's sole patron. The basic reason for this is America's faltering economy.

Similarly, the USSR is trying to cope with sluggish productivity in its agricultural sector and moderates in the Soviet government feel that further investments in military hardware for the Arabs is having a negative effect in production of consumer and industrial goods at home.

Both the U.S. and USSR are beginning to cringe under the continuing pressure of their respective clients' demands for ongoing supply of arms and spare parts. Efforts to limit the production of strategic arms is also putting a dent into what the Soviet Union and the United States can supply their Mideast clients in the way of sophisticated weapons.

The Arms Supplies Merry-Go-Round

The merry-go-round of supplying arms to the Arabs and Israelis continues because neither superpower wants to offend its respective clients at a time when both are seeking to establish firm footholds in the Mideast and neither are in a position to limit or halt each other's supply of arms.

At the same time, neither the Arabs nor Israelis relish the prospects of eventually being reduced to "vassal states" by their respective patrons by sheer necessity of depending on them to supply the arms or assure peace. Such a development would destroy the viability of all the Mideast nations as sovereign and independent states.

At the moment, however, progress in negotiations depends in large measure on what the U.S. and the USSR can do either together or separately to cool tempers on both sides. Of all the Arab

states, Egypt is most anxious to achieve a settlement, if only to retrieve some land from Israel, including the Abu Rodeis oil field and to embark on some kind of internal economic stabilization.

Egypt would, therefore, welcome a joint undertaking by the two superpowers, in helping to get the next stage of negotiations going. In this respect, Egypt may be the catalytic agent in bringing the two superpowers together, or at least provide them with the necessary public rationalization for an agreement to be co-equals in the next stage of peace talks.

Balloon Or Bauble?

The coin of step-by-step negotiations and Geneva talks has been flipped diplomatically in recent weeks during talks between President Ford and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev, French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Brezhnev, and President Ford and Giscard d'Estaing.

Even Israelis are beginning to talk more openly about unfreezing the Soviet Union's role in future Mideast talks, now frozen by Kissinger's approach. On Dec. 3, Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon reiterated that Israel was prepared to resume diplomatic relations with the USSR and noted that Soviet officials are aware of this.

Last week in Washington, Allon said it "would be helpful" if there was a U.S.-Soviet guaranteed peace settlement, but added, "not in place of a signed agreement."

What was significant about Sadat's statement, given in an interview with Iranian publisher, Farhad Massoudi, was that the step-by-step approach was given priority with Geneva talks to follow if the first approach failed. Also of significance was its timing: Brezhnev is due in Cairo early next month and Allon is due to return to Washington at the same time.

The next few weeks will tell whether Sadat is desperately trying to keep all options open in his relations with the U.S. and USSR to avoid political repercussions from more radical elements in his government or a signal to all parties involved in the Mideast that time for peaceful solutions has run out.

ISRAEL STRENGTHENS FORTIFICATIONS ALONG THE JORDANIAN BORDER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Israel will spend IL 350 million to strengthen its fortifications along the frontier with Jordan, it was disclosed here. Military correspondents touring the Jordanian line were told that the first stage of the project would cost IL 200 million and the balance would be spent on the second stage.

The network of fortifications will extend along the Jordan River and the Araba district of the Negev where there is no water barrier between Israel and Jordan. The work will be carried out by the Army Engineers Corps and the Defense Ministry's construction department.

The correspondents were told that the Jordanian army was undergoing modernization with the latest American weapons including long range artillery and anti-tank missiles of the TOW type. The Jordanian army is composed of two tank divisions, one mechanized division and two infantry divisions.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--A strike that idled Israel's flag-ships for the past two-and-a-half days ended at noon Wednesday after the Seamen's Union agreed to further negotiations of their wage claims.