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KISSINGER QUERIED ABOUT HIS REPORTED CRITICISM OF ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Israel has "energetically queried" Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger about last week's revelations by syndicated columnist Jack Anderson of the Secretary's recent Mideast briefing to congressmen, well placed Israeli sources said today. Kissinger reportedly criticized Israel for its stubbornness by refusing to give up "six lousy kilometers" on the Golan Heights, and thereby thwarting any progress toward Mideast peace.

Kissinger, meanwhile, told Israeli diplomats he was quoted out of context. Furthermore, he said he never demanded from Israel officially to withdraw six kilometers on the Golan. [The Israeli sources said that Kissinger understood that any further concessions in the Golan should be involved in a far-reaching agreement between Israel and Syria. He understood, they said, the major differences between Syria and Egypt.

ISRAELI SOLDIER, ITZHAK SALEM, A POW IN A LEBANESE PRISON

TEL AVIV, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Itzhak Salem, an Israeli soldier reported missing after a raid on a terrorist hideout in Taibeh village in southern Lebanon last week, is alive and well in a Lebanese prison. His capture and prisoner of war status was reported by Lebanese sources yesterday and confirmed by the International Red Cross.

Salem was part of an Israeli commando force that blew up a house in Taibeh that sheltered terrorists. An unspecified number of terrorists were killed in the action but no Israeli casualties were sustained. Salem became separated from his unit when he fell asleep during a rest stop on the return to Israel. While trying to find his way to the border he became lost. He was apprehended by Lebanese police when he entered a village in search of food.

Syrian Troops Going To Lebanon

Representatives of Israeli border settlements met with government authorities recently over reports that Syrian army units may soon be stationed in southern Lebanon, it was learned today. The settlers want added protection in that event. According to reports, the Syrian may send certain Palestinian units serving in their army to man the Lebanese-Israeli border, in which case the already tense situation along that border would deteriorate further.

Some settlers reportedly suggested that the entry of Syrian units into Lebanon would be sufficient cause for Israeli military intervention. Israeli authorities are said to take a serious view of such a development and would regard it as a violation of the Syrian-Israeli disengagement agreement. There have been no reports so far that Syrian troops have entered Lebanon.

U.S. DENIES KISSINGER WANTS ISRAEL TO GIVE UP EAST JERUSALEM By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (JTA) -- A report in

usually reliable political quarters here that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger believes Israel should give up East Jerusalem and the lands it occupied in the Six-Day War was disclaimed at the State Department Friday.

According to the report, a Massachusetts member of Congress who cannot be identified, informed a meeting in Boston on Dec. 27 that Kissinger had told him Israel's return to its 1948 lines was necessary for a Middle East peace settlement. A similar report, attributed to U.S. official sources, but not to Kissinger, circulated in Washington a month ago.

State Department spokesman Robert Anderson declared that he did not know of the "rumors" regarding the Congressman's report and said that there is "no U.S. plan for a settlement of the Middle East problem." Anderson asserted: "That's not how the Secretary works. He talks with both sides -- the different sides. We don't have a plan."

Anderson made those comments when asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency if the plan of Kissinger's predecessor, former Secretary of State William P. Rogers, was still U.S. policy. Rogers in December 1969 advocated implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 except for "insubstantial" changes in Israel's borders. The Rogers plan was publicly shelved even while he was in office but never repudiated at the State Department.

JEWS TREATED WITH CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA

MONTREAL, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Alan Rose, executive director of the Canadian Jewish Congress, reported yesterday that on a recent visit to Cuba he found that the Jews are treated with every consideration by the Cuban government and that there had been no change in the status of the 1700 Cuban Jews because of Cuba's severance of relations with Israel.

Rose said the Zionist Center, the Jewish Library and a public kosher restaurant were functioning normally, as was the Albert Einstein school where 45 Jewish children, ranging in age from 6 to 12, receive regular Hebrew instruction. He said the pupils receive lunch at public expense and are bused to and from the school.

Through special arrangements with Cuban authorities, the CJC has sent Passover supplies to the Cuban Jewish community for several years. Rose said he arranged for Passover supplies and other items to be shipped from Canada to Cuba in the near future. He said he had several meetings with Moises Balda, president of the Comissar Coordinadora de Las Sociedades Religiosas Hebreas Cuba, the representative organization of Cuban Jewry.

NEW OPTIMISM IN ISRAEL FOLLOWING CAIRO-MOSCOW CRISIS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- A newly optimistic assessment of Settlement prospects was detectable this weekend in political circles here

as preparations went ahead for Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's return to Washington for a meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger Jan. 9. Well placed observers tended to share the American view that last week's sudden revelation of disputes between Egypt and the Soviet Union -- which they regard as the basic reason for the postponement of Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev's visit to Cairo -- will have the effect of softening Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's attitude and demands in a second-stage negotiation.

One high source predicted that negotiations could now get underway within a month. He felt Allon's visit to Washington, during which Kissinger would discuss with him the significance of the Cairo-Kremlin turn of events -- would be followed by some weeks of further diplomatic pulse-taking by the Secretary -- after which Kissinger might come to the Mideast for a round of shuttle diplomacy.

Narrowing Of Negotiating Gap

According to this hopeful scenario -- the high source readily admitted that only a few days ago he had been far less optimistic -- Kissinger will succeed in the ongoing diplomatic contacts with Washington and Jerusalem in substantially narrowing the negotiating gap, so that a "final push" under his direct, shuttling auspices between the capitals will achieve the needed breakthrough.

Reports from Washington, following a meeting yesterday between Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and Kissinger, said that the Secretary was now pressing for more precise Israeli proposals than the "30-50 kilometer pullback" vaguely outlined by Allon on his Washington trip last month. Observers here predict certain persuasion, if not pressure (the taboo word) from Kissinger upon Israel to produce more generous offers so as to "compensate and encourage" Sadat in his firm stand against the Soviets.

The two main issues will probably be the Abu Rodeis oilfields and the Mitla Pass, with Egypt demanding both of them and Kissinger hinting that Israel might forego at least one. The oilfield question would seem to hinge on possible fuel-supply arrangements for Israel by the U.S. -- as foreshadowed in last June's Nixon-Rabin communique, which spoke of "consultations" on this question. A high source here refused to say if such consultations had been held between Washington and Jerusalem.

Sadat, Too, Will Be Prodded

But the observers feel that Kissinger will equally be prodding Sadat towards the "political concessions," especially in terms of the duration of the settlement, which Israel is demanding. They feel, moreover, that Sadat's bargaining position is substantially weakened following his obvious disagreement with the Soviets, and that therefore the Egyptian leader will be more amenable to the Israeli suggestions.

The threat of Egypt's return to Soviet-client status, which had hung over the prospects of a settlement in recent weeks, is now seen to be lifted, at least for the immediate future. Although Brezhnev's state of health is not yet clearly known in the West, the assessment here is that it is not illness

alone that lead to the strange and sudden postponement of the visit.

Sadat himself in his address last Thursday night to Egyptian intellectuals, clearly indicated that all was not well in Egypt's relations with the Kremlin. Observers here have welcomed Sadat's speech as an important statement of Egypt's readiness to proceed with Kissinger's stage-by-stage process and to effectively defer reconvening the Geneva conference until an energetic effort to achieve a second stage settlement has been made.

Nature Of Moscow-Cairo Crisis

The crisis with the Kremlin, it is believed here, resulted from Sadat's refusal to allow the return of Soviet military advisers to Egypt as Brezhnev reportedly demanded. Sadat was also reluctant to restore to the Russians their extra-territorial base-rights on Egypt's Mediterranean seaboard. Sadat has never been favored by the Soviets -- and he knows this and is loth to leave himself dependent upon their favor, observers here say.

They add that the Vladivostok summit revealed total disagreement between the Big Two on the Mideast, and that following the summit the Soviets decided to try and thwart -- through Egypt -- Kissinger's continued diplomatic successes in the area. These observers believe that Saudi Arabia's King Faisal and the Shah of Iran were active and effective in persuading Sadat not to fall once again into the Soviet bearhug.

BOMB EXPLODES IN JERUSALEM MARKET; TWO OTHER SITES; NO INJURIES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Jerusalemites were called upon to exercise maximum alertness and caution today after a small explosive charge went off in the Mahane Yehuda marketplace and two other small bombs were dismantled before they could explode in other sections of the city. The Mahane Yehuda blast caused no casualties.

The bomb was placed on a paint can, concealed among egg cartons, and when it went off, paint and eggs flew far and wide. But a plate-glass window nearby remained undamaged, showing, according to police experts, that the charge was only a small and primitive one, probably a half-kilo of gunpowder.

The Mahane Yehuda blast occurred at 11 a.m. -- 90 minutes after police found and dismantled a booby-trapped grenade at the Jaffa Gate, one of the main entrances to the walled Old City. Soon after, police were called in to dismantle another gunpowder charge in a carton of eggs discovered by a shopkeeper outside his King George Street store in downtown West Jerusalem.

WHITE HOUSE SAYS KISSINGER REFLECTED FORD'S VIEWS THAT U.S. WOULD CONSIDER FORCE IN MIDEAST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- After two days of silence on the subject, the White House affirmed yesterday that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger "did reflect the President's views" when he warned in a Business Week interview last week that the United States would consider a resort to force to secure Middle East oil sources "in the gravest emergency."

White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen made that statement to reporters after having told them the day before that President Ford read the interview and had nothing to add to it. Nessen said at the time that Kissinger "was

giving a highly qualified answer to a hypothetical situation" that Kissinger said has not arisen. Kissinger himself stressed to reporters over the week-end that his remarks to Business Week had the President's approval. "I reflect the views of the President...I do not make a major statement on foreign policy on which I do not reflect his views," Kissinger said.

White House Taken By Surprise?

But the lapse of two days -- from the time the Business Week interview appeared Thursday and copies of it were distributed to reporters at the State Department until Nessen's acknowledgement yesterday that it reflected the President's views -- led some observers to conclude that the White House was taken by surprise.

Ford himself had refused to comment several days earlier on reports of U.S. contingency plans to seize Middle East oilfields on grounds that it would be "inappropriate" to comment. Observers believe that while such plans may indeed have come up in the National Security Council of which Kissinger is chairman, the President was clearly taken aback by their public disclosure.

Since the Business Week interview appeared, Kissinger has taken pains to stress that military action would be applied only in the gravest emergency, that he did not consider the present situation to constitute such an emergency and "I do not foresee it arising." He reiterated his remarks to Business Week that force would not be used to lower oil prices but only if the industrialized nations were being strangled by Mideast oil policies.

JACKSON AMENDMENT IS NOW LAW

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- President Ford, in signing the Trade Reform Act into law, Friday, expressed "reservations about the wisdom of legislative language that can only be seen as objectionable and discriminatory by other sovereign states." Many of the act's provisions, he said, "are complex and may well prove difficult to implement." However, he declared that "in the spirit of cooperation with the Congress, I will do my best to work out any necessary accommodations."

Some among the 200 governmental leaders and others at the White House ceremony thought the President was referring to the Jackson-Vanik Amendment embodied in the law that calls for easing of Soviet emigration for Jews and others in return for U.S. trade benefits and credits. But Jewish leaders present interpreted his words as bearing on the restrictions imposed by Congress on loans to the Soviet Union by the Export-Import Bank that relates to the trade act.

Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev attacked the amendment shortly before Ford met him in Vladivostok in December. Late last month, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, in a letter to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger denied assurances on emigration that Kissinger had given to Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.).

Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; and Stanley Lowell, president of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, both warmly welcomed the new legislation in conversations with newsmen at the White House.

"We are very happy the Jackson Amendment is now law," Lowell told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He pointed out that Ford at a meeting with Jewish leaders two weeks ago was asked not to waive the restrictions on most favored nation trade treatment and credits to the Soviet government until "he felt the purposes of the act for freer emigration were carried out."

The president's reservations at the signing, Lowell said, referred to the Export-Import Bank legislation that forbids the U.S. government from lending the Soviet government more than \$300 million over the next four years without Congressional consent.

Rabbi Miller, expressing himself similarly with regard to the President's reservations, pointed out to JTA that the President himself helped work out the trade law. "In general," Rabbi Miller said, "this is a very positive day and can be historic." The Soviet government, he added, now has the "obligation of living up to its assurances." Soviet officials might "look for outs" and put in "all kinds of obstacles," because of the Export-Import Bank limitations; Rabbi Miller cautioned. "We are going to be as tough as we possibly can. There is too much at stake."

Results Due Between April, June

Under the Jackson-Vanik measure, the President is required to report to Congress at the end of 18 months on how Soviet practices on emigration conform to Soviet assurances as set forth in the Kissinger letter to Jackson that no restrictions will be put on visa applications, and neither the applicants nor their families will be harassed.

First tangible results of the law and Soviet emigration are expected to come between April and June. Rabbi Miller said that he looked for the results in four or five months. The State Department indicated that the effects would be soon, within 90 days. The president himself, in his signing statement, said that the implementation of the law would come by "this summer."

EL AL BACK IN BUSINESS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- An El Al Boeing 707 took off for Paris this morning restoring Israel flag air service after a nine-day suspension due to a slowdown by El Al maintenance crews. The maintenance workers agreed last night to resume normal work schedules, but the nature of the agreement they reached with the El Al management through Histadrut's mediation was not immediately disclosed. Four of the company's jets were serviced for flights today and all 13 will be ready by tomorrow although a full schedule is not expected to be resumed until Tuesday.

The impasse, which caused the El Al management to ground its jet fleet ten days ago, was broken shortly before midnight last night after a day of hectic negotiations which involved Premier Yitzhak Rabin and Transport Minister Gad Yacobi. They participated in meetings between the airline management and various employee committees. The maintenance workers met separately and contacts between the two groups were maintained by go-betweens.

JEWISH LEADERS WELCOME, WITH SOME RESERVATIONS, NEW VATICAN GUIDELINES; MEETING SET IN ROME

NEW YORK, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- Jewish leaders welcomed today, with some reservation, a set of guidelines published last Friday by the Vatican to implement the "Declaration on the Jews" issued in 1965 by the Second Vatican Council. The new guidelines were prepared by the Catholic Church's Commission on Relations with Judaism.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, the American Jewish Committee's director of interreligious affairs and co-secretary of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations which includes the AJ Committee, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Israel Committee for Interreligious Contacts, Synagogue Council of America and the World Jewish Congress, said a meeting of Jewish and Catholic leaders will be held in Rome from Jan. 7-9 to discuss the present state of Catholic-Jewish relations in many parts of the world. The meeting will be co-sponsored by the International Jewish Committee and the newly-established Vatican Commission for Catholic-Jewish Relations.

This will be the fifth annual meeting of Vatican and Jewish leaders, Rabbi Tanenbaum said. The latest Vatican guidelines, which include a strong condemnation of anti-Semitism and call for joint studies and social action, provide a constructive basis for the forthcoming sessions in Rome, he said. The new guidelines, however, fall somewhat short of total acceptance by Jewish leaders.

Several Questions Unresolved

"While the guidelines represent in its entirety a positive contribution to the improvement of Catholic and Jewish understanding, it left unresolved several critical questions, namely that of a place of Israel in Jewish life, a clear Catholic policy on proselytization regarding Jews, and an adequate Christian understanding of Judaism as a living religion," Rabbi Tanenbaum stated.

"We hope that the meeting in Rome will provide an opportunity for further clarification of these questions," he added. "The agenda of the meeting will provide for discussions of these and other questions. Special attention will be paid to the rise of anti-Semitism, including the Arab and Soviet campaigns."

Rabbi Tanenbaum also noted that some of the sections in the guidelines imply a religious "second class" status for Judaism "in the family of faith communities." He criticized particularly the "assertion of a conversionary intention" which he said assumes that Judaism is "inadequate as the source of truth and value to the Jewish people."

Main Points in Guidelines

In general, the guidelines reiterated the church's condemnation of anti-Semitism and its call for sweeping action to eliminate all forms of discrimination against Jews in the church's worship and teaching; proposed dialogue, affirmation of a joint Biblical and theological heritage and emphasis on "common elements of liturgical life" to improve relations between Catholics and Jews; urged Catholic respect for the Jew's faith "and his religious conviction"; warned against unfavorable comparisons between the New and Old Testaments; and called for a common search for social justice.

The International Jewish Committee said the guidelines would encourage better understanding and applauded the stand against anti-Semitism. But the committee also said that the text of the guidelines failed to include a reference to Israel and made no reference to the issue as to whether Jews were to be considered as needing conversion to Christianity.

Differences With Vatican Noted

Dr. Nahum Goldmann issued a statement last night supplementing the formal comment on the Vatican document by the International Jewish Committee. The president of the World Jewish Congress said he welcomed the text of the Vatican's new guidelines as a "very positive document" that provides "a good basis for future cooperation between Jews and Catholics." He noted that the new guidelines "also reflect a desire for goodwill and understanding, a spirit of mutual respect and the recognition of some basic differences."

Dr. Goldmann stated that the Vatican document "should be viewed in its proper context." The guidelines, he observed, "were intended for Catholics. There are some omissions which I personally regret, and doctrinal affirmations resulting from the unavoidable divergences between Christianity and Judaism." But these deficiencies, he added, "do not stem from any lack of understanding of Jewish commitments."

Seymour Graubard, chairman of the ADL, praised the Vatican's condemnation of anti-Semitism and said that "although the lack of reference to Israel or the Land of Israel is disappointing, the guidelines are nevertheless an affirmative step forward and a good worldwide working document which will open new vistas in Catholic education and new perspectives in liturgy."

Graubard added that in the United States, the Catholic Church, since the Second Vatican Council, has developed its own set of guidelines which in some respects are more specific and advanced than those issued in Rome. He gave as examples the 1967 guidelines by the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations, U.S. Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Religious Affairs, and those of individual dioceses around the country.

They call for various grass roots programs involving mutual understanding and social action and for examination and removal of school texts and prayer books which are not in accord with the content and spirit of the Vatican II "Declaration on the Jews" and which fail to show Judaism's positive role in history.

ARTISTS RAP UNESCO

NEW YORK, Jan. 5 (JTA) -- The Artists Equity Association of New York has appealed to American member associations to withhold cooperation with UNESCO until UNESCO ends its exclusion of Israel. In a resolution, the board of the association said it was joining "the growing number of American writers, artists and scientists in expressing its shock and dismay" over the UNESCO actions. The board said the actions had changed UNESCO "from the world's most important independent, non-partisan cultural body into an organ of political confrontation, contrary to its basic nature and reason for having been brought into being." The association asked member organizations of UNESCO to rescind the actions.