



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

© 1975, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

Vol. XLII — 58th Year

Tuesday, January 28, 1975

No. 19

SADAT, IN FRANCE FOR 3-DAY VISIT, EXPECTED TO SIGN FRANCO-EGYPTIAN ACCORDS FOR MASSIVE ARMS SALE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 27 (JTA)--President Anwar Sadat of Egypt arrived at Orly Airport this afternoon to commence a three-day state visit during which he is expected to sign a series of Franco-Egyptian agreements providing for massive sales of French combat aircraft and other military equipment to Egypt and for heavy French investments in civilian projects in that country. It was Sadat's first official call on a Western-European country and French and Egyptian officials here stressed that it was an event far beyond the normal exchange between chiefs of state.

Sadat, accompanied by his wife and two daughters, was greeted at the airport by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and his wife. The two leaders reviewed an honor guard while a military band played the French and Egyptian national anthems. There were no welcoming speeches but the two Presidents chatted briefly in a salon adjoining the VIP building at Orly.

France mustered all of its traditional pomp and ceremony to greet the Egyptian President, and what were probably the most elaborate security measures in the history of the Republic. But much of the pageantry planned for today was washed out by rain and high winds. The helicopter that was to have flown Sadat to the center of Paris was cancelled and the Presidential party was driven directly to their official residence, the luxurious Hotel Marigny opposite the Elysee Palace, which serves as France's Blair House.

The rain also forced the replacement of the brilliantly uniformed horse guard by cordons of police motorcyclists. There were few spectators along the route. At the corner of the Rue Du Faubourg St. Honore and the Avenue Marigny, normally one of the city's busiest intersections, only about 20 persons were on hand--most of them plainclothes detectives--to see the Egyptian President alight from his grey Citroen-Maserati limousine.

In addition, a group of about 25 Jewish militants, members of the Jewish Student Front, gathered near the Elysee Palace and threw thousands of leaflets at the Egyptian President's car as it arrived. The leaflets showed pictures of Sadat dressed in a Nazi uniform, and read, "No arms for Sadat," and "Fascist assassin." Police quickly dispersed the demonstrators and took 10 in for questioning.

Major Attempt By Egypt

Sadat's visit is regarded in diplomatic circles as a major attempt by Egypt to break loose from the pressures exerted on it directly by the Soviet Union and indirectly by the United States. According to these circles, Sadat is seeking political, economic and military aid from France and wants to tighten his ties with this country and the rest of Western Europe as a counter-force to the two super-powers.

Sadat has already said that he will seek from France "large quantities of weapons" now denied him by the Soviet Union. An Egyptian spokesman here said his country would like to obtain "everything it needs in this field." Judging from preliminary contracts already negotiated in Cairo and due

to be signed during Sadat's stay here, the shopping list is large and money seems to be no object. French business circles have already been informed that Egypt has a \$1 billion credit grant from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and that additional grants running into several billion dollars are expected.

What the Arab oil money is expected to buy for Egypt includes the Mirage 111-C and even more sophisticated F-1 supersonic jets for the Egyptian Air Force; Crotale ground-to-air missiles; SS ground-to-ground anti-tank rockets; radar and other electronic equipment; helicopters and tanks.

The French government has reportedly approved a \$120 million credit for two nuclear plants, an oil refinery and other major projects in the civilian sector. French sources said they expect "thousands of Frenchmen" to leave for Egypt during the next few years to re-organize that country's industrial and economic activities. Apparently they will replace the thousands of Soviet technicians and advisors ousted by Sadat in 1970.

Politically, Egypt is said to expect to obtain French and West European backing at the United Nations Security Council where France and Britain are permanent members with veto rights. According to Egyptian sources here, that backing would lift super power pressures on Egypt and would be the first step toward a major alliance between Europe and the Middle Eastern countries with their vast oil supplies and huge market potentialities.

Rules Out War As Solution

Sadat and Giscard d'Estaing were scheduled to hold their first official meeting late this afternoon to be followed by a state dinner in the Elysee Palace ballroom tonight. No political statement by either leader is expected today. Significantly, on the eve of his departure for France, Sadat said on a television interview in Aswan that he ruled out war as a means of solving the Middle East crisis but that it was up to Israel to make the peace gesture that would permit a political solution.

"I will tell you very frankly, and I am speaking both for Egypt and Syria, that we are not preparing an attack against Israel," Sadat said. He added, "What I ask is that Israel, if it desires peace, should pull back from three fronts--the Sinai, the Golan Heights and the West Bank of the Jordan--as a gesture of peace. After that, we will go to Geneva. The extent of these retreats is negotiable." Sadat also affirmed, "I think that after the October, 1973 war it is obvious that a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict will not and cannot be found through military action or force."

Sadat made similar remarks to a group of American journalists and businessmen touring the Middle East under the auspices of Time magazine. According to an interview published today in Time, Sadat said he would consider a preliminary arrangement with Israel and reciprocal de-militarized zones on both sides of the Israeli-Egyptian border.

Two Ironic Notes

There were two ironic notes in President Sadat's arrival today. First, he landed at Orly Airport where only a week ago three Arab terrorists held 10 persons hostage for 19 hours after failing in a grenade and machinegun attack on an El Al plane.

Secondly, the Hotel Marigny where he and his family will stay during the visit is the former home

of the Rothschilds, the Jewish banking-family, which was purchased by the French government in 1972. "Hotel" is the French term for any large privately owned town house or palace. The Marigny Hotel, considered to be the most luxurious residence in Europe, has been redecorated by the government at a reported cost of \$5 million and contains priceless works of art and antiques.

The entire area is being guarded by some 10,000 police who form a human wall along the 500 yards that Sadat will traverse on his way to and from the Elysee Palace. Additional guards and sharpshooters have been posted on rooftops and terraces. A police spokesman said that 5000 additional police, gendarmes and sharpshooters have been brought to Paris to bolster the local police. The spokesman said that the security precautions taken for Sadat's visit are in excess of any taken in the past. Sadat will be accompanied by a cordon of French police, security agents and his own personal bodyguard wherever he goes.

Mideast Peace Chances Better Than Ever

At the state dinner late tonight, Giscard d'Estaing said that chances were now better than ever for a just Middle East peace. "Technically and diplomatically, we can now see that the nature of a settlement that is fair to all countries involved are greater than they have been up to now," he said. Sadat responded by praising France's position on a Mideast settlement, especially its acknowledgement of the rights of the Palestinians.

Following a two-hour meeting with the French President late this afternoon, Sadat told reporters that he was completely satisfied with their first round of discussions. A French spokesman said the two leaders had reviewed all aspects of the Middle East situation and prospects for a settlement. He added that the talks took place in an excellent atmosphere.

EBAN'S PARIS VISIT A COINCIDENCE

PARIS, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban arrived here today for the purpose of collecting private French funds for Israel.

Sources at the Israel Embassy in Paris said that Eban's presence in Paris during Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit is a "mere coincidence" and that there was no chance of any "secret meeting" between the two leaders.

OIL RESERVOIR IN RAMALLAH REGION

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Oil geologists drilling in the Ramallah region of the West Bank have indicated that they are about to tap a reservoir of oil estimated to contain seven billion barrels, 100 times Israel's annual oil requirements. The news touched off a slight rise in oil shares on the Tel Aviv stock exchange. But investors with past experience of oil finds that failed to materialize are acting with caution.

The director of the oil exploration and investment department of the Treasury said today that plans are ready to develop the Ramallah site if positive results are achieved. He added, however, that it would take more than a year to raise the necessary money to start working the site.

100 SOVIET JEWS SAY REPUDIATION OF TRADE PACT WITH U.S. NOT DUE TO JACKSON AMENDMENT IN TRADE LAW

LONDON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Jews in the Soviet Union contend that Moscow's repudiation of its 1973 trade pact with the United States had nothing to do with the incorporation of the Jackson Amendment linking trade and emigration practices into

the new U.S. trade law. A letter stressing that point was sent to Western sources over the signatures of more than 100 Soviet Jews from eight of the largest cities in the USSR.

The letter stressed that there was now "even greater uncertainty regarding the fate of those Soviet Jews who are striving to go to Israel," but pledged to "continue with even more determination to fight for our right to emigrate."

The letter claimed that the USSR withdrew from its trade agreement with the U.S. because of the \$300 million a year limit on Export-Import Bank credits to the Soviet Union imposed by the U.S. Congress. The signatories claimed that the limit was imposed "purely as a result of the increased price of crude oil and the attempt to control its sale by the Arab states and the role in this maneuvering played by the Soviet Union."

In conclusion, the letter declared that "we are grateful to all those who are supporting us in this fight for immigration to Israel and we are sure that this support will remain firm in the future. The exodus of the Jews from the USSR is an historic phenomena and it would be idle to look upon it as a chance or temporary circumstance."

RAIN FAILS TO DAMPEN TU B'SHVAT MOOD

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Husky soldiers and small children worked together in the rain today to plant saplings at Metullah on Israel's northern frontier. The occasion was Tu B'Shvat--the 15th day of the Hebrew calendar month of Shevat--which is known in Israel as the New Year's Day of Trees. Only a week ago the border echoed with artillery and small arms fire as Israeli forces continued their mini-war against terrorists in southern Lebanon. Today all was quiet, except for the steady downpour.

It rained over most of northern and central Israel but that didn't dampen the spirits of youngsters who came out to plant trees around Tel Aviv and Jaffa, in Rehovoth and on the slopes of Mt. Carmel overlooking Haifa. In Beersheba and the south it was dry however. In Eilat, local youngsters and some 400 members of an Israel Bond Organization mission currently visiting Israel laid down a forest of 500 trees under sunny skies. There was one tree for each child born in Eilat during the past year.

WINE EXPORTED FOR PASSOVER MAY NOT BE KOSHER L'PESACH

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The Chief Rabbinate is investigating the possibility that a large quantity of sacramental wine made in Israel and exported for Passover use is not "Kosher l'Pesach." The matter is not one of intentional fraud but the unwitting use of alcohol fermented from cornstarch instead of fruits. Cornstarch is "hametz"--leavened material--forbidden for Passover use according to religious law.

The matter was disclosed by the Aguda newspaper, Hamodia, which said that two major producers of alcohol for the food industry--"Assis" of Ramat Gan, and "Paka" of Bat Yam--had switched from fruit to cornstarch as the base for their alcohol production. Many leading wineries unknowingly used these firms' products in wines that have been exported with the "Kosher for Passover" label.

Chief Rabbinate officials fear that much of the Israeli wine already exported to Jewish communities abroad is tainted by the "hametz" alcohol. They told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Chief Rabbinate would issue a statement identifying the wines when their investigation is completed. The wineries are cooperating. Normally the major wine firms go to great lengths to keep their Passover wines free of any contact with "hametz." Winery employees must wear special clothes at work and are not allowed to bring their lunches anywhere near the wines.

'WORLD JEWRY IN A CHANGING WORLD'— IS THEME OF SIXTH PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Dr. Gerhart M. Riegner, director-general of the World Jewish Congress, said here yesterday that the more than 500 delegates from 65 countries around the world who will be attending the Sixth Plenary Assembly of the WJC from Feb. 3-10 will debate and decide what new policies must be undertaken to meet the new realities of a changing world and how those policies should be implemented.

Addressing a press conference at the Beit Agnon, Dr. Riegner said that first and foremost responsibility the WJC faces is the forging of new and effective ways to strengthen relations between Israel and the diaspora. He noted that a new sense of isolation has swept through the Jewish world. Frustrated by the apparent abandonment of Israel even by old friends, Jews have displayed a tendency to withdraw into their shells and to move away from the traditional liberal Jewish position of support for social changes, he said.

While there are understandable reasons for this change of behavior, Dr. Riegner observed, no nation can live in the modern world in isolation. "Our difficulties will only increase if we do not succeed in convincing those responsible for shaping tomorrow's world of the legitimacy of our position," he stated. The WJC will deal with this problem in a series of seminars, symposiums and workshops dealing with Israel and the diaspora, Soviet Jews and Jews in Arab lands, the situation of small Jewish communities, Jewish-Christian relations, and relations with the Third World. The theme of the week-long assembly will be "World Jewry in a Changing World."

Debates, Symposiums, Workshops

On Feb. 2, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, WJC president, will formally open the meeting with an address on "The Jewish People Among Nations." The following day there will be a debate on the assembly theme with the main speakers Philip M. Klutznick, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Economic and Social Council and a member of the WJC Governing Council, and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress.

On Feb. 5 there will be discussions on Jews in North America, Western Europe and Eastern Europe; a debate on the issue of Jewish youth; and addresses on "Israel and the Middle East" to be delivered by Premier Itzhak Rabin and WZO Chairman Pinhas Sapir. The following day Dr. Riegner will address the assembly on "The World Jewish Congress in a Changing World." There will also be a report on Israel and the Middle East by Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, discussions on "Jerusalem and the Jewish People," anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, and reports on changes in the WJC structure to better meet challenges and tasks imposed by new realities.

The meeting will be the first gathering of the WJC since 1966 and the first ever to be held in Israel. All sessions but one will be held in the Jerusalem convention center, Binyan ha-Ooma. The largest delegation, 109 persons, is expected from the U.S. Other Jewish communities to be represented will include India, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Iran.

EEC-EXPANDING ITS TIES WITH ISRAEL AND ARAB STATES

BRUSSELS, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The European Common Market is expanding its economic ties with both Israel and the Arab states. The trade

agreement, initiated last week between Israel and the European Economic Community, is expected to be broadened to include financial cooperation. The new agreements would be negotiated this year and implemented after the trade accord is put into effect late in the year.

Jean Durioux, head of the EEC delegation, announced when he initiated the pact last Thursday that the new project had been submitted to the EEC Council of Ministers. According to well informed sources, it includes the establishment of a cooperative body on the ministerial level that would meet once a year; a renewable five-year financial cooperation plan; and facilitated contacts between the EEC parliament and the Knesset.

The Council of Ministers, meanwhile, is examining trade agreements to be negotiated separately with Egypt, Libya, Syria and Jordan. The accords would be within the framework of the Common Market's Mediterranean policy and would rest on the same foundations as its agreements with the Maghreb countries—Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. Most industrial products from the Arab countries could be imported duty-free and a list of agricultural products would be established for each country.

EXODUS OF ISRAELIS FROM GALILEE MAY LEAD TO ARAB MAJORITY THERE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The growing exodus of Israelis from towns and settlements in Galilee, if not reversed, may lead to an Arab majority in that part of Israel, according to an Interior Ministry document released here. The document, prepared as part of the Ministry's general plan for a national population of four million by early 1980s, said there was a steady Jewish emigration from Galilee.

It cited as an example Kiryat Shemona, founded in 1983, in which some 80,000 persons were settled. In 1965, however, its population was only 15,000. Kiryat Shemona, near the Lebanese border, has been the target of terrorist attacks in the past year.

The Interior Ministry reported that many Jewish youths leave their home towns in Galilee, especially after completing military service, while Arab residents show a much higher degree of attachment to their home villages. The proportion of Arabs in Galilee rose from 44 percent of the population in 1968 to 46 percent in 1973. The latest figures show that Arabs now constitute 49 percent of Galilee's population, the Interior Ministry said.

KISSINGER VERY LIKELY TO VISIT THE MIDEAST IN FEBRUARY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--A visit by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to the Middle East is "a very high likelihood" in February, the State Department said today. It declined, however, to announce any dates, saying that the Secretary is discussing possible dates in his close contacts with the parties in the Middle East.

Department spokesman Robert Anderson acknowledged that Syria and Egypt were among the countries with which Kissinger is communicating. He also indicated the Soviet government was included, but was not specific. Israel had invited Kissinger to make an official visit at his convenience. Anderson said he had no idea whether Kissinger and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko would meet in the Middle East. Gromyko is to visit Egypt next month.

AMSTERDAM, (JTA)--Over 100,000 Reformed Church of Holland members have signed a declaration supporting Israel's right to exist.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**THE WEAK LINK**

By Uri Bensiman

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Israel's current economic difficulties inevitably bring into sharper focus the problem of new immigrants' employment and job-security. Publicly, officials prefer not to admit that a very real problem exists. But behind the scenes a small group of Cabinet Ministers, Histadrut leaders, Knesset members and senior Absorption Ministry officials are discussing it intensively, trying to solve the inherent contradiction between the socialist fundamental principle of "last in, first out" and the no less important principle--for Israel--of successful and equitable absorption of immigrants.

The socialist--in fact, syndicalist--principle of "last in, first out," means that in the event of lay-offs or staff reductions, the last employee to be hired is the first to be fired. This principle has become an integral part of all labor contracts in Israel and has thereby acquired a strong and recognized legal status. Attempts to violate the principle are tantamount to breaches of the law. In many instances, the employees most recently hired are, naturally, new immigrants, and thus, they are the first candidates to be fired.

On the other hand, Israel--now more than ever--is energetically striving to attract newcomers. How can Israel settle the contradiction between its need for olim and the economic problems and labor laws which may put the olim in danger of repeated dismissals? The question is no longer merely hypothetical. The advent of incipient signs of recession have already shown that immigrants are the first to be asked to look for new jobs.

Avraham Hasson, chairman of the Absorption and Development Department of the Histadrut, confirms that during recent weeks he has been faced with several cases of dismissal notices handed to immigrant workers. The Absorption and Development Department has solved almost all these individual cases by direct contact with the employers.

Vulnerability Of New Immigrants

As a result of Hasson's intervention, most of the employers concerned have agreed to rescind the dismissals. But Hasson--who himself came to Israel as an immigrant from Chile in 1954--admits that a general and more fundamental approach is needed to tackle the root problem nation-wide. In fact, the Histadrut, as well as a Knesset Committee have begun to examine possibilities of a general legislative solution, and a special government--Histadrut committee has been set up to consider the whole problem.

According to Hasson, the vulnerability of new immigrants on the labor market, highlighted with the current possibility of economic recession, has had previous expressions. Hasson explains that some employers consistently, as a matter of policy, fire immigrants after two years of employment in order to avoid their attaining tenure. Under Israeli law, a worker becomes permanent in his job if he is employed for more than two years; until then he is considered a temporary employee only. Temporary workers do not benefit from the full measure of Histadrut protection.

Moreover, Hasson adds, older immigrants are often discriminated against in job-hunting by employers, who prefer younger local men. Hasson points out, too, that in some firms members of workers committees--most of Oriental origin--openly demonstrate hostility towards the Soviet and Western (Ashkenazi) newcomers.

Parallel with the Histadrut's efforts to face the problems of immigrant employment, the Knesset's Labor Committee is meanwhile embarking on a tentative but potentially revolutionary reappraisal of the hallowed principle of "last in, first out." There is a growing realization among lawmakers and within concerned public opinion that if Israel truly seeks to attract immigrants, it must be able to offer them stable and secure employment.

**FRIEDMAN ELECTED ORT PRESIDENT;
HABER RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS**

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Harold Friedman, a former president of the United HIAS Service, was elected president of the American ORT Federation at the conclusion yesterday of its three-day 53rd annual convention. He had served as first vice-president of the organization last year. A New Yorker, who has long been a leader in Jewish causes, including the United Jewish Appeal, Friedman succeeds Dr. William Haber of Ann Arbor, Mich., who had been American ORT president for 25 years. Dr. Haber was designated honorary president.

Friedman is an investment banker who is currently chairman of the Overseas Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. He has also been active with HIAS, and its associated agency, the United Service for New Americans, for more than 25 years. He is now chairman of its executive committee. Friedman is also a member of the Board of Governors of the New York United Jewish Appeal and Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Joint Campaign, and is a member of the boards of the Joint Distribution Committee and the CJFWE.

Dr. Haber, who was honored at the convention for his 25 years of service, devoted his life to the resettlement and retraining of displaced Jews of the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and Africa. During his career in Jewish communal life he was executive director of the National Refugee Service, which was created as the central American organization for the resettlement of refugees from Nazism in the U.S. and was advisor on Jewish Affairs to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Commander in Chief of the U.S. Zone of Germany.

Dr. Haber is a member of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University and chairman of the Academic Council of the American Friends of the Hebrew University. For many years he was active in the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation and served as chairman of the National Hillel Commission.

'ODESSA FILE' IS NOT FICTION

PARIS, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The film, "The Odessa File," based on the novel of the same name which depicts a world-wide organization of Nazi war criminals and former SS officers, is not fiction but the truth, according to Pierre Bloc, president of the Committee Against Racism and Anti-Semitism. "We believe there are still about 100 war criminals who are free and we want to find them," Bloc said. He cited as only one example, Klaus Barbie, the "butcher of Lyons" who is living in Bolivia and so far has managed to evade all attempts to have him extradited to France.

Bloc could not say whether the Nazi network is as widespread as the one described in "The Odessa File." He noted, however, that a recent meeting of Fascist and Nazi organizations in southern France drew members from all corners of the globe. "It is incontestable that a Nazi organization exists and they have money...We must not forget this if we are to avoid it happening all over again," Bloc said.