



ISRAEL SEEKS SIGNED EGYPTIAN UNDERTAKING TO END STATE OF WAR IN EXCHANGE FOR SINAI PULL-BACK

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA)--Israeli officials here reiterated today that Israel insists on a direct and signed Egyptian undertaking to end the state of war in exchange for a substantial Sinai pull-back embracing the Mitla and Gidi passes and Abu Rodels oil fields. The officials were responding to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's suggestion, issued during an interview in today's Washington Post, that "if a third party comes in between to guarantee both of us (Egypt and Israel) during negotiations, very well."

Sadat noted that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger can serve as the "most qualified" third party to guarantee Arab non-belligerency and Israeli willingness to yield Arab land captured in 1967. During the interview in Cairo with Philip L. Geyelin, Sadat also stated that he rejects a written non-belligerency pact with Israel but restated a pledge not to attack Israel while the search for settlement in the Mideast continues.

Israeli officials said that indirect undertakings to third parties could be useful as additional means of strengthening an accord, but the basis of an accord had to be direct undertakings from each party to the other in a formal and binding way.

During yesterday's Cabinet meeting the ministerial negotiating team that met with Kissinger here last week reported on the talks. Israeli officials said later that the Cabinet was advised that the practical process of negotiations for a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian agreement in Sinai has not begun. They said the talks with Kissinger, just ended, were intended to examine various aspects and points of view in preparation for the next round of talks when the Secretary returns to the Middle East next month.

The officials reported that none of the ministers briefed asked for a general political discussion and no date for such a discussion has been set by the Cabinet. Government secretary Gershon Avner told journalists that reports in the media here and abroad that there was a divergence of opinion among the Israeli ministers who negotiated with Kissinger were baseless. He said that no new Egyptian ideas for a settlement were brought up or discussed by the Cabinet.

TWO SENATORS ASK ADMINISTRATION TO PROBE ARAB EFFORTS TO EXTEND ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT IN THE U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA)--Attempts by Arab interests to extend their anti-Israel boycott to banking firms with Jewish members were denounced by two leading U.S. Senators who asked the Ford Administration to make a prompt investigation of the development. Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R,NY) and Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr. (D,NJ) made the request in a letter to Treasury Secretary William A. Simon. The Senators asked for a probe to determine whether the boycott had caused religious discrimination against "Jewish or any other Americans" and whether any U.S. laws had been violated.

Disclosure of the extension of the Arab boycott to some Jewish banking houses was made initially in Britain and France and later last week in the United States. The Senators wrote last Friday that they were gravely concerned about reports of efforts "to discriminate against banking firms with Jewish members from participation in international financial transactions."

They said the effort "seems to be spreading toward the United States as evidenced by the reported withdrawal of the Kuwait Investment Co. from two transactions in which it would have been an underwriter together with Lazard Freres and Co.," a Jewish-owned firm in Paris. "We believe that the spread of this unconscionable practice so opposed to American principles and law should be stopped in the United States."

Seek Bar To Religious Discrimination

They praised the brokerage firm, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, which said last week it planned to go ahead with two international sales of securities despite the decision of the Kuwaiti firm to withdraw. They said it was "clearly intolerable to permit Arab, or any other, investors "to attempt to extend such religious discrimination to the United States." Javits and Williams also asked Simon to "promulgate, where possible, such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the occurrence of any such religious discrimination" and to propose new legislation "if needed to prevent such discrimination."

The Senators said, in their letter, they felt the United States was ready "to welcome foreign investment, including Arab investment," if it conformed to "the standards of our society and interest but Arab oil money should not be permitted to enter our country on a basis contrary to our morality and Constitution."

TASTE BUDS NEXT ON BLACKLIST?

LONDON, Feb. 17 (JTA)--Blooms, the famous London kosher caterers, is among the reported 1400 companies on the Arab boycott offices "blacklist," although it is difficult to understand how Bloom's--famous for salt beef and Vienna sausages--came to be counted among concerns allegedly "reinforcing the military and economic power of Israel."

KISSINGER, GROMYKO END TWO DAYS OF TALKS; U.S., USSR DETERMINED TO WORK FOR MIDEAST PEACE

No Date Set For Reconvening Geneva Talks
By Edwin Eytan

GENEVA, Feb. 17 (JTA)--The United States and the Soviet reaffirmed tonight their determination to work together to achieve a peaceful solution in the Middle East. The declaration was contained in a joint communique issued here following two days of talks between Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

Kissinger told newsmen today that there had been "differences" in the positions of the two superpowers but the talks had been "fruitful" and in the interest of world peace. He said that no date had been set for reconvening the Geneva peace conference.

American sources said that though Gromyko

pressed Kissinger to set a time limit for holding the Geneva conference he finally agreed to let the Secretary continue with his step-by-step approach. The sources indicated that Gromyko said the Soviet Union will neither help nor hinder Kissinger in his quest for a partial agreement between Israel and Egypt. Both Kissinger and Gromyko agreed, these sources said, that ultimately all the parties will have to return to the Geneva conference. Kissinger and Gromyko covered a wide range of topics in their two days of talks but concentrated on the Middle East in their five-hour session today.

In the joint communique the two powers said they believed the Geneva conference "should play an important part in the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and should resume its work at an early date." The communique said the U.S. and the Soviet Union "remain concerned over the dangers persisting in the situation there. They reaffirmed their intention to make every effort to promote a solution of the key issues of a just and lasting peace in the area."

UN Resolution 338 As A Basis

The solution should be based on United Nations Resolution 338 of October 1973, calling on Israeli and Arab forces to cease fire and engage in negotiations to establish a just and durable peace, the communique said. It said the solution should also take into account "the legitimate interests of all the peoples of the area, including the Palestinian people, and respect for the right to independent existence of all states in the area."

Western and Israeli observers in Geneva expressed their satisfaction with the communique which allows Kissinger to continue his efforts in the Middle East.

Both Israel and the U.S. agree to return to Geneva but believe that the conference should be thoroughly prepared beforehand and that Kissinger's step-by-step diplomacy stands a good chance to achieve a partial agreement which could set the conference going. It is believed that the two ministers, who also lunched together at Kissinger's Geneva hotel, did not go into the details of the Secretary's plan for an additional disengagement but dealt with the entire issue in a more global way.

Kissinger told newsmen that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat will pay an official visit to Washington "during the first half of this year," probably before the end of June. He gave no other details. Kissinger later today arrived in London where he will brief British Prime Minister Harold Wilson on the developments in the Mideast. He is scheduled to return to Switzerland tomorrow for lunch with the Shah of Iran and will go to Paris Wednesday for talks with the French President.

LICA PROTESTS AGAINST ARAB BLACKLIST

PARIS, Feb. 17 (JTA)--The International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICA) published an appeal to the French government today to intervene in the Arab bank boycott. It said, "No blacklist in France," adding that "West German and American banks under the same pressures have refused to submit and are supported by their governments. What is the French government waiting for to take an identical position?"

Meanwhile, banking sources here reported that French Jews are withdrawing their accounts

from banks involved in the Arab bank boycott. Officials of Credit Lyonnais and the Banque Nationale de Paris, the two banks related to the Arab boycott have said privately that they have had an increase in the number of accounts closed since the news of the boycott became public. The closed accounts could probably be traced in a number of cases to a wish to protest against the bank's activity with the Arab banks, the officials believe.

AJ COMMITTEE, ADL FORM JOINT GROUP TO ENHANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE FACE OF GROWING ARAB PROPAGANDA POWER

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith have announced creation of a joint consultation committee, citing the need for increased cooperation at a time when "emerging Arab power challenges the political security of Israel and poses threats to many other segments of the world Jewish community."

In making the announcement, Seymour Graubard, ADL chairman, and Elmer L. Winter, AJ Committee president, said the new committee would seek to strengthen and increase long-standing cooperation. They stressed the "extraordinary resources available to Arab propagandists as a consequence of Arab oil extortion," and said that "the danger of the new Arab leverage requires us to use our resources in the most efficient and coordinated manner." The new committee, they said, will "share information, do joint planning and act as a clearance center for new projects."

The committee is made up of three lay leaders from each community relations agency and the professional administrator of each agency. The AJ Committee is represented by Theodore Ellenoff, chairman of the board of trustees; Richard Maass, chairman of the board of governors; Daniel S. Shapiro, president of the New York City chapter, and Bertram H. Gold, executive vice-president.

The ADL is represented by Nathan C. Belth, co-chairman of the national public relations committee; Maxwell Dane, a national commissioner and chairman of the national program committee; Seymour Reich, a national commissioner, co-chairman of the European affairs committee and chairman of the New York regional board; and Benjamin R. Epstein, director.

The new cooperative effort grew out of a meeting of a special AJ Committee-ADL committee on interrelationships in Chicago last October. Delegates to the Chicago meeting also agreed to set up special committees to study ways the two agencies might jointly increase their effectiveness. The officials said the first areas to be considered for that goal are foreign affairs, fact-finding and inter-religious affairs. They said a special study also will be made of the operations of the two agencies in three metropolitan centers.

TEACHERS STRIKE AGAINST A COMPUTER

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17 (JTA)--A one-day strike today by 30,000 teachers in Israel may very well be an historic one. The action was not against any employer but against a computer--a malfunctioning computer, that is. For the last 16 months, teachers have been claiming that their wage slips are either incorrect or missing altogether. The result has been that either wages were incorrect or no wages at all.

The irate teachers were forced to go to the Education Ministry offices, calculate the errors, get advance payments and wait on lines. The malfunctioning computer at the Ministry caused total

chaos in the wage payment system. A decision was made to buy a new machine, but the computer's operators and auxiliary workers warned that the new gadget was inappropriate for the job. Nevertheless, the machine was installed. The operators staged a walk-out and the chaos started all over again. The blame for the chaos and the woes of the teachers were shifted from the computer to the operators and back to the computer. At long last, the teachers decided to stage a one-day "warning strike."

The walk-out today left some 500,000 pupils without teachers. The only classes that continued to have sessions were kindergartens, schools for handicapped children and schools in border areas. Elad Peled, Education Ministry director-general, termed the strike unnecessary but conceded there had been 6000 errors last month and 11,000 errors in December.

LEADING BANKS ON BLACKLIST DISCLOSED

LONDON, Feb. 17 (JTA)--Gen. Mohamed Maghoub, secretary-general of the Arab Boycott office in Damascus, announced that boycott officers of 20 Arab states will meet in Cairo Feb. 23 to reconsider the status of several American and Japanese banks accused of dealing with Israel. Among several banking firms that may be removed from the Arab boycott list are the First National City Bank of Chicago, Chemical Bank, and the French arms manufacturing firm, Engins Matra. Other companies may be placed on the blacklist at this meeting, according to Maghoub while additional banks may be removed from the list.

Maghoub told the Financial Times yesterday that the most important banks banned in Arab countries include: S.G. Warburg of the United Kingdom and all its subsidiaries, Bank Max Fisher of Belgium, National Provincial and Rothschild (London) Ltd. of the UK., London and Colonial Bank of the U.K., Banque Belge of Belgium, La Societe Bancaire et Financiere d'Orient of France, Union Francaise de Paris of France, Bank Fuer Gemeinwirtschaft of West Germany, Kredit Bank Hagen of West Germany, International Credit Bank of Switzerland, Discount Bank (Overseas) of Switzerland, Lazard Freres of Paris, American Bank and Trust Co. of the U.S., and all Rothschild banks in the U.S., France, Switzerland and the U.K.

Maghoub stated that all activities between Arab banks and banks which are blacklisted are prohibited, and not just participation in international loans managed by Jewish institutions. "In other words," Maghoub stated, "it is not permitted to deal, directly or indirectly, with any bank in the Arab countries."

Conditions For Removal

According to another report today in London, conditions to which a firm must comply to be removed from the blacklist include: the firm and its subsidiaries must have neither main nor branch factories nor assembly plants in Israel; there must be no general office for regional or international operations from Israel; the firm must not grant any use of patent of its products in Israel; there must be no participation or ownership of shares in Israeli companies or outside Israel; the firm must not give technological assistance to any Israeli company; and the firm must not represent any Israeli business in Israel or outside.

In addition, the company that wants to be removed from the blacklist must sign an undertaking that it will never in the future break these

conditions or import or promote the sale of Israeli goods. This undertaking must be in written form and notarized and backed with a seal of approval from the Foreign Office before submission to the Arab Boycott Office for consideration at one of the two annual meetings of the representatives of 14 Arab states that act on boycott matters. The Foreign Offices' stamp of approval is confirmation that the notary used is authorized and known.

SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL NOT ERODING

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 17 (JTA)--Sen. Richard Stone (D, Fla.) declared last night that there was no erosion of support for Israel in Congress. "I don't find any erosion of support for Israel nor any grousing in the Senate because of our aid," he told some 1500 delegates attending the opening session of the ninth annual Histadrut Economic Conference for Israel, sponsored by the Israel Histadrut Foundation.

Stone, who took office last month after being the first Jew elected to the Senate from Florida since the Civil War, said the recent remarks by Sen. Charles H. Percy (R, Ill.) about Israel were not an indication of erosion. "One statement by one Senator is no indication of erosion," he said. "The United States public and its representatives in government realize that we are all in the same boat," Stone declared. "Those who gouge us for oil mean us no good. For the United States to allow erosion of support for Israel would mean appeasement. Our country should follow the example of courage shown by Israel, and the oil weapon will recede and this country will recover." The four-day conference celebrates the 15th anniversary of the Israel Histadrut Foundation and the attainment of the \$36 million mark in donations.

Dr. Sol Stein, president of the Foundation, noted that by raising \$36 million from nearly 2300 individuals the Foundation was proof "that people of modest means can have a charitable foundation of their own just like the big money people."

SAM LIPSKI TO BE JTA CORRESPONDENT IN AUSTRALIA

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA)--William M. Landau, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, announced today that Sam Lipski will be the Australian correspondent for the JTA with a bureau office in Melbourne. This step, Landau said, is part of the on-going effort by the JTA to expand and intensify its world-wide coverage of Jewish developments and to provide vital information to all Jewish communities.

Lipski, who wrote a regular column from Washington for the JTA in 1970, is the director of Australia/Israel Publications and editor of Mid-East Review. He writes for the Australian Jewish press and contributes a column on international affairs to The Australian, the country's national newspaper. During 1969-1973 he was Washington correspondent for The Australian and the Jerusalem Post and contributed articles to the New Leader, Washington Post, the Boston Globe, Atlas Magazine and the National Jewish Monthly.

LONDON (JTA)--Gideon Rafael, Israeli Ambassador to Britain, has been appointed first Israeli Ambassador to the Irish Republic, and he will combine the two assignments, residing in London and visiting Dublin periodically. The agreement on full diplomatic relations between the Irish Republic and Israel was reached last Dec. 12. It was then agreed that the diplomatic missions in both capitals should be at the ambassadorial level. The Irish have not yet announced the name of their Ambassador to Israel.

