



BINGHAM WARNS CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL MAY ERODE IF ISRAEL SEEMS 'INTRANSIGENT'

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)--Rep. Jonathan Bingham (D.N.Y.) told the House of Representatives yesterday that support for Israel in Congress "may be eroded in the future if Israel gives the impression of being intransigent." He said that "The Israelis themselves are aware of this danger and will have to take it into account as they reach their decisions" in the current negotiations in the Middle East led by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

Bingham, a profound admirer of Kissinger, introduced a Constitutional amendment last year to enable a foreign-born American to become President of the United States. He said he belonged to a group in the House that "will be prepared to back whatever decisions the Israelis feel they must make to assure their survival," but that "unfortunately" that group "does not comprise a majority of the Congress."

Noting that some of his constituents had expressed concern "that support for Israel in the Congress may be eroding," Bingham said "I cannot say for certain that this will not happen in the future but it has not happened yet." Bingham, whose Congressional district is in New York City's Bronx borough, identified himself as "a long-time Israelophile" in recording the strong support for Israel in Congress on previous issues and on opposition to the current Arab boycott.

Some analysts here have been saying that Kissinger and other American officials are telling Israelis that their request for credits and grants of about \$2.5 billion in the new U.S. fiscal year beginning July 1 will be shredded in Congress if the Jerusalem government does not reach an agreement with Egypt.

ICAO ACCEPTS ISRAELI PROPOSALS

MONTREAL, March 19 (JTA)--Dr. Theodor Meron, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, said yesterday that the General Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has agreed to include some Israeli proposals for air security measures in a letter being sent to all ICAO member states on air safety.

Meron, who headed the Israeli delegation to the Council meeting which ended Monday night, made the proposals in the wake of the recent attacks against El Al planes at Orly Airport in Paris and other acts of air terror. But, he told a news conference, that the ICAO Council failed to act on Israeli proposals to assure the prosecution of offenders.

Meron said while the ICAO has made progress on technical measures, Israel hoped it would take a more active role in pressing for the implementation by member states, including the Arab states, of The Hague and Montreal conventions on hijacking and sabotaging of aircraft.

Will Examine Specific Proposals

The ICAO Council urged member states to review the "effectiveness of existing measures, particularly in relation to any new manifestation

of the threat to civil aviation." It called upon authorities responsible for aviation security to "exercise necessary vigilance in order to prevent acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation."

The Council also requested its committee on unlawful interference to examine and report on a number of other Israeli proposals including: establishment of security guards and patrols on perimeters of international airports so as to prevent firing of long-range weapons; adoption of new procedures aimed at preventing unauthorized access of persons and vehicles to vulnerable areas; and control access to spectator terraces.

Another proposal sent for examination by the committee included the establishment by ICAO of security training programs for member states and improvement in reporting procedures on acts of unlawful interference.

DUTCH OFFICIAL SAYS IT IS ILLEGAL FOR NOTARIES TO CERTIFY THAT A PERSON IS NON-JEWISH

AMSTERDAM, March 19 (JTA)--Dutch Minister of Justice Andries van Agt has declared notarized statements certifying a person as non-Jewish are unlawful. The Justice Minister, speaking also on behalf of Foreign Minister Max van der Stoep, said he considers cooperation of notaries in establishing such declarations as unlawful and that it contravenes the spirit and meaning of the international agreement banning any form of racial discrimination.

Dutch tourists and businessmen traveling to certain Arab countries have recently been asked to furnish notarized statements that they are not Jewish. The Netherlands Brotherhood of Notaries Public declared yesterday that it was against this practice and asked its members not to comply with such requests. Van der Stoep last week cancelled an official visit to Saudi Arabia when the Saudis refused an entry visa to a young Jewish journalist.

FATEFUL DELIBERATIONS CONTINUE BY CABINET ON SECOND-STAGE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT IN SINAI

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA)--The Cabinet met in special session for nearly three hours this morning and reconvened again this evening to continue what was acknowledged to be fateful deliberations over the next phase of negotiations for a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian agreement in Sinai.

The morning session adjourned at midday to allow Foreign Minister Yigal Allon to attend the funeral of his brother, Mordechai Allon who died yesterday in Binyamina. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger returned late this evening from a day-long visit to Saudi Arabia where he met with King Faisal. He and his party left Ben Gurion Airport for Jerusalem immediately and made no statements to reporters.

Officials here said that another negotiating session with Kissinger was tentatively scheduled for tonight provided that the Cabinet concluded its session at a reasonable hour. Otherwise, the Israelis will convey their decisions, if any are reached, to Kissinger at a meeting early tomorrow morning. They ruled out another post-midnight session with

Kissinger on grounds that it was undignified and demeaning to Israel in American and Egyptian eyes.

According to nearly all observers here, Kissinger's current efforts to promote a second-stage-Sinai agreement reached a major crisis point yesterday, 13 days after they began. The Israeli Cabinet, at its session tonight, will be faced with the need to make crucial decisions that up to now it has sought to defer, sources here said.

The atmosphere in Jerusalem, which has been less than optimistic for the past few days, relapsed into undisguised gloom yesterday after President Anwar Sadat's press conference in Aswan, with Kissinger, at which the Egyptian leader totally rejected Israeli demands for a formal non-belligerency accord and any moves toward normalizing relations between Egypt and Israel.

Not Basis For An Accord

A well placed source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that the Egyptian proposals and ideas conveyed by Kissinger, when viewed overall "could not be seen as the basis for an accord." The source, a middle-of-the-road policy-maker who inclines more to the "doves" than the "hawks," conceded that he was less hopeful now than at the beginning of the week that a settlement could be obtained. That same source had told the JTA earlier that he rated Kissinger's chances of success 50-50.

Officials are understandably wary of divulging substantive details of the progress of negotiations so far. It was learned from reliable sources, however, that apart from the non-belligerency issue, the two sides are deeply divided over the time factor of a second-stage accord as well as over the central "components" of non-belligerency.

Israel's fundamental concern, basic to all of its demands, is to establish whether there is any chance to effect a basic change in Egypt's attitude toward its conflict with Israel--meaning its willingness to accept the existence of a Jewish State as a permanent feature in the Middle East. So far, evidence of such a change is certainly not visible, this source told the JTA.

Israel, therefore, is faced with a dilemma. It must not permit itself to be seen as the cause for the failure of Kissinger's mission. On the other hand, all of the government's leaders agree that Israel cannot retreat from its basic demand that any far-reaching accord with Egypt--one involving substantial territorial withdrawals including the Mitla and Gidi passes and the Abu Rodeis oil fields--must include a fundamental turning point in relations between Israel and Egypt.

Option Under Consideration

One possible option presently under consideration, the JTA has learned, is a revival of the "modest" disengagement scenario in which Israel would pull back its forces some 30-50 kilometers without surrendering the strategic Sinai passes or the oil fields. Egypt so far has dismissed that scenario out of hand. Its sole advantage would be that a less significant Israeli withdrawal would require less far-reaching political concessions from the Egyptians. The non-belligerency issue would thus be skirted.

Another possibility at this point, according to some observers, would be for Kissinger to intervene with proposals of his own in an at-

tempt to forge a compromise. A senior U.S. official told reporters on Kissinger's plane enroute from Aswan to Tel Aviv yesterday that the time was not ripe for the Secretary to introduce initiatives of his own.

(In Washington, a State Department official said today that he had no information on reports that Kissinger would break off his shuttle diplomacy to return to Washington, leaving Undersecretary of State Joseph J. Sisco in the Middle East to continue the negotiations. The State Department also said there was nothing to reports that Kissinger would fly to Vienna over the weekend for a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on the Middle East situation.)

PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE URGES WALDHEIM TO INTERPRET STRICTLY PLO'S OBSERVER STATUS AT UN

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA)--The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations asked UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim yesterday to give the "strictest possible interpretation" of the "observer status" granted the Palestine Liberation Organization by the General Assembly last year.

A Conference delegation, headed by its chairman, Rabbi Israel Miller, told the Secretary General at a meeting at the UN that the Jewish community was concerned that PLO "observers" might be granted diplomatic immunity by the UN. Rabbi Miller said later that Waldheim had "listened seriously" but made no promise. He also said that Waldheim indicated that he was "fully aware" of the damage done the good name of the UN by the anti-Israel resolutions of UNESCO.

Rabbi Miller, noting that the PLO subscribed to murder and violence and regarded every Jew as an enemy, cited a recent statement by Al Safiq, the Syrian-sponsored branch of the PLO that the PLO would strike at Israeli targets anywhere in the world, including New York City. He said he had a nightmare vision of PLO representatives walking the streets of New York under diplomatic immunity granted them by the UN.

Rabbi Miller cited a resolution adopted by the UN Conference in Vienna last Friday asking that the PLO "observers mission" at UN headquarters in New York be granted the same diplomatic immunities and privileges accorded the delegates of sovereign nations.

He said he has studied the UN General Assembly's resolution granting the PLO "observer status" "the way I study a verse from the Bible. We want a narrow interpretation of what 'observer' means." Rabbi Miller said he told Waldheim. He added: "We are going to raise some of these issues with our government. It is important that the issue be raised now, when there is time to consider it."

ISRAEL'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO EIRE PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS

DUBLIN, March 19 (JTA)--Israel's first Ambassador to Eire, Gideon Rafael, presented his credentials to President Cearbhall O'Dalaigh of the Irish Republic at the Presidential Palace this morning. Rafael, who is also Israel's envoy to Britain, opened his formal speech in Gaelic and the Irish President responded with opening words in Hebrew. Both completed their remarks in English.

After the formal presentation, the President and the Israeli Ambassador conferred in the President's office for 20 minutes where they were joined by the Foreign Minister of Eire, Dr. Garret Fitzgerald. On leaving the palace, Rafael re-

viewed an honor guard while a military band played Hatikvah. Later, the Ambassador paid courtesy calls on Dublin's Mayor James O'Keefe, the Foreign Minister, the permanent head of the Foreign Ministry, P.J.G. Keating, the Papal Nuncio, and the doyen of the diplomatic corps here.

Rafael also met with leaders of Dublin's Jewish community. He will attend a reception at the Jewish Community Center tomorrow and an event of the Jewish National Fund. The Ambassador was accompanied on his rounds by his wife, Nurith Rafael; the Israeli Consul General, Zeev Suffot; and the Press Attache, Gabriel Padon.

FOREIGN AID FOR ISRAEL APPROVED

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)--The Senate today adopted the \$3.5 billion Foreign Aid Bill and sent the measure to conference to iron out differences with the House version. The Senate allocated \$649.5 million in economic and military grants for Israel, while the House had voted \$15 million more. The difference is in the funding for Soviet refugees in Israel with the Senate reducing the amount from \$40 to \$25 million.

Funds for the Arab countries remained unchanged, with economic grants of \$250 million for Egypt, \$77 million for Jordan and another \$100 million for Middle East "requirements," meaning generally Syria. In addition, Jordan is to get about \$100 million in military aid. Thus the amount for Israel is nearly balanced by those being provided the Arabs. Economic aid to Israel will be a maximum of \$664.5 million if the House version of funds for Soviet refugees is adopted.

The grants for Israel total less than those given to its immediate Arab neighbors. Israel's grants, including the larger House version for Soviet-refugees, total \$464.5 million. This includes the \$100 million in military aid. The remaining \$200 million in military funding is a credit. The grants for the Arab states total \$527 million, including the \$100 million in military assistance to Jordan.

This bill is for the fiscal year ending next June 30. Thus, almost nine months of the year are gone. The new budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 has not yet been introduced in Congress. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger is expected to do so when he returns from his current Middle East shuffling.

The Israelis are reportedly asking for \$2.5 billion for the year beginning July 1, \$1.5 billion of it for military purchases.

USSR TRYING TO SPLIT ACTIVISTS, INTIMIDATING PROSPECTIVE EMIGRANTS

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA)--Jewish activists in Moscow have accused the Soviet authorities of trying to achieve a "final solution" of the Jewish emigration problem by issuing visas to selected activists but denying them to others who are regularly harassed, threatened with prosecution or actually arrested and held for trial on unspecified or dubious charges.

The accusation was made by a group of 15 Jewish activists who met yesterday with Western journalists in Moscow, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. They indicated that the strategy apparently is aimed at splitting the hard-core activists and intimidating other Jews from seeking exit visas.

A statement distributed to foreign newsmen

pited the cases of two activists, Mark Nashpitz and Boris Tsitlonok who were among seven demonstrators arrested outside the Lenin Library in Moscow Feb. 24 for protesting the denial of visas. While the others were either released or given brief jail terms for "hooliganism," Nashpitz and Tsitlonok were held for trial.

The charges against them were unspecified until this week when they were formally charged under Art. 190/3 of the Soviet Penal Code for "the organization or active participation in group actions disturbing public order." They will go on trial in a few days and face prison terms of up to three years.

10 Receive Exit Visas

At the same time; however, exit visas were granted to 10 "hard core" activists. They were identified as Mikhail Polotsk, Vladimir Davidov, Yacov Schwartzman and Mikhail Agursky, all of Moscow; Anatoly Schwartzman and another activist, surnamed Valin of Kishinev; Leonid Lotvin and Yacov Vinkovetsky of Leningrad; Valery Bulko of Riga; and Yuli Brind, of Kharkov, who was just released from a forced labor camp. The Moscow activists said in their statement that the selection of these men for visas was a "smoke screen" thrown up by the Soviet authorities to conceal their repression of other Jews.

The statement disclosed that three other activists were summoned to KGB (secret police) headquarters in Moscow this week and warned that they faced arrest and trial. One of them, Prof. Alexander Luntz, a scientist, was threatened with prosecution under Art. 64 of the Penal Code which relates to treason and carries the maximum penalty of death.

The other two, Anatoly Sharansky and Leonid Tsipin, were advised that they might be charged under Arts. 190 and 70 respectively. The latter covers anti-Soviet agitation. A KGB official allegedly told them: "We can do what we like; the West no longer supports you," the NCSJ reported.

SQUATTERS EVICTED FROM WEST BANK

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA)--Soldiers broke through the crumbling walls of an abandoned Turkish railroad station on the West Bank today to forcibly evacuate about 60 illegal settlers of the Gush Emunim movement who were trying to establish a settlement near Sebastia in the Samaria region in defiance of government orders.

Members of the group had barricaded themselves on the second floor of the old depot and sealed its windows with steel plates. But the soldiers, using picks and crowbars, tunneled through the walls and carried the squatters, one-by-one, to buses that returned them to Jerusalem.

Today's attempt by the would-be settlers to establish themselves in the West Bank was the second since Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger began his current peace efforts in the Middle East. Two weeks ago, a Gush Emunim group was forcibly evacuated from a site at Maale Adumim on the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

BONN (JTA)--The public prosecutor in Kiel has brought charges against four former SS officers for complicity in the murder of at least 12,000 Jews in Belgium in 1942-44. They are Ernst Ahlers, 65, a former court judge; Konstantin Canaris, 68; Kurt Asche, 65; and Karl Fiehlitz, 66. Canaris is a nephew of the former Nazi intelligence chief.

There will be no Bulletin dated March 28 due to the Passover holiday.

