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## SCHLESINGER SAYS IF HE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR ISRAEL'S STRATEGY HE WOULD BE INCLINED TO RESIST WITHDRAWAL FROM GOLAN WEST BANK By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger said here last night that if he were responsible for Israel's strategy he would be "inclined to resist withdrawal" of Israeli forces from the Golan Heights and the West Bank as long as the Arab nations refused to concede Israel's right to exist. Neither Schlesinger nor his interviewer mentioned the Sinai in this connection. He also indicated the Soviet Union would probably back the "more radical demands" of the Arabs against Israel in a Geneva conference.

Schlesinger's comments came during a television interview in which he disclosed that the United States would make no "new commitments" on military supply for Israel pending completion of President Ford's current review of U.S. policy towards the Middle East in general.

A Pentagon spokesman pointed out to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the review includes "all the countries" of the area now receiving U.S. military equipment. They include particularly Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Iran. The State Department confirmed today that no policy decision on foreign aid will be made while the reassessment is under way.

### Aid Program Will Not Be Known Till May

President Ford is scheduled to go before a joint session of the Senate and House either April 9 or 10 to discuss U.S. foreign policy which would embrace the Southeast Asia situation as well as the Middle East, Portugal and the Cyprus problems. His address is expected to include elements of his review.

The foreign aid program for the current U.S. fiscal year ending June 30 carries \$200 million in credit and a \$100 million grant to Israel for military purchases. Whether full aid will continue was not immediately known but Schlesinger said that the U.S. had carried out "virtually" all of "a very substantial shipment" of military supplies to Israel during the fall and winter period that ended today.

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, Israel is understood to have asked for about \$2.5 billion in aid, of which approximately \$1.8 billion is for military equipment. This figure was questioned by Administration and Congressional sources long before the breakdown of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's effort for a second Egyptian-Israeli agreement.

While ordinarily the Administration presents its new aid program to Congress by mid-March, it was postponed this year to mid-April and now is not expected to be disclosed before May 1, that is, until after the President's review is completed and its meaning well understood here and abroad. It is not ruled out that the new program may well include substantial forms of military equipment for Egypt in the U.S. effort to woo Egypt from the Soviet grasp.

Schlesinger's appearance yesterday on station WETA of the Public Broadcasting System

marked his first comments on the Middle East since Kissinger's return from Jerusalem March 23. After saying that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's statement on reopening of the Suez Canal in June was "a surprising conciliatory step," and that he was "happy" with Sadat's pledge to extend the mandate of the UN forces in the Sinai for three more months, Schlesinger was asked to comment on Kissinger's news conference statement last week that the United States is committed to Israel's survival.

### Survival Part Of Reassessment

Schlesinger replied that "is an issue that would have to be dealt with" in the "reassessment" of American policy towards the Middle East and then he added: "What the Secretary (Kissinger) did say was survival of Israel remains an objective of American policy--a commitment of American policy, but the precise measures to achieve that objective were not specified."

Schlesinger was asked whether, if he were handling Israel's strategy he would withdraw Israeli forces from the Golan Heights or yield military control of the West Bank without "a complete transformation of Arab political attitudes toward Israel--more specifically, a guarantee or a recognition on the part of the Arabs that Israel has a right to survive."

"I suspect if I were in the position that you suggest that I would be inclined to resist withdrawal," Schlesinger replied. "On the other hand, I think that it is necessary to recognize that some suitable adjustments must be made and what precisely those adjustments must be depends on the judgement of the Israelis as well as the others."

On whether Israel should have been "more flexible" in the second Kissinger round with Cairo and Jerusalem, Schlesinger said he thought the "failure of the negotiations, of course, are having a detrimental effect on Israel, as it does on the general situation in the Middle East, but since I don't know the details I am not in a position to assess responsibility."

### NO REQUESTS FROM ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--The United States has not asked Israel to provide a fresh initiative to break the deadlock with Egypt over a second interim agreement, and Israel has not presented any request to the United States to undertake new discussions involving the two countries, the State Department said today.

Department spokesman Robert Anderson, questioned on reports from the Middle East that Washington may resume its efforts, said after denying the reports that "We want to make it clear we are in touch with all the parties and all the parties hope these efforts will continue."

He added that "no one has come up with anything specific on how they wish us to continue our efforts." The Department has yet to say definitely whether passage of Israel-bound cargo would be permitted by Egypt through the Suez Canal when it opens in June.

As part of the January 1974 disengagement agreement Egyptian President Anwar Sadat assured the U.S. that he would reopen the canal and allow Israel-bound cargoes through it, but not ships flying the Israeli flag. The Department said today it would have to check if the pledge was made.

### RABIN CONFIDENT ISRAEL WILL GET WEAPONS FROM U.S. DESPITE REVIEW

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin expressed confidence tonight that Israel would get from the United States all the weapons it needs despite the Ford Administration's plans for a reassessment of its Middle East policies because of the failure of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's effort for a second Egyptian-Israeli Sinai accord.

Rabin also said, in a television interview, that he expected "certain circles" in the United States would try to pressure Israel into changing its policy on a peace agreement but that he expected Israel would "be able to stand up to this."

He said Israel had shown flexibility in the negotiations through Kissinger and had said "no" at the right time in the talks. Rabin also reaffirmed Israel's willingness to attend peace talks at a reconvened Geneva conference but expected little progress at the conference. He rejected suggestions that Egypt had made a new initiative in setting a June date for reopening the Suez Canal, declaring that the reopening would not contribute any benefit to Israel but would provide sorely needed revenues for Egypt.

### ISRAEL WILL NOT SUBMIT TO PRESSURE

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon stressed yesterday that Israel was holding the areas captured in the Six-Day War until it could reach a peace agreement with its Arab neighbors. But he said Israel will not act under demands and pressures no matter from where they come. Allon made his remarks in a speech to the Kibbutz Hameuchad Movement meeting at the Efal Seminary near Pefach Tikvah. He repeated Israel's call to Egypt to reconsider Israel's proposal for a second-stage agreement in the Sinai.

Allon said Israel had nothing to be sorry about in the recent attempt to reach a settlement with Egypt. He said Israel now had to convince others that she will not evade any chance for peace. He said Israel does not want war, will not intimidate one and will respond to any constructive proposal. But he said Israel will not accept any proposal that would undermine her security.

### GHORBAL: EXTERMINATION OF JUDAISM IN THE MIDEAST IS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR ARAB LIBERATION

BUENOS AIRES, April 1 (JTA)--The extermination of Judaism in the Middle East is "the point of departure" of any processes for the "liberation" of the Arabs, Ashraf Ghorbal, the Egyptian Ambassador to the United States, declared in an interview with the editor of Marchar (To March), an extremist rightwing periodical published here. Editor Patricia Kelly reported in the interview in the March issue that Ghorbal described the boost in petroleum prices by the Arab oil countries as partly "a tactical weapon in the war against Judaism."

Ghorbal described as "irrevocable" the Arab decision "to put an end to Judaism, as our friends have already promised to do in the United States, in the Soviet Union, and such as Rega Lopez," the Argentinean "strong-man," had "formulated" in Argentina. Judaism, Ghorbal said, is "the bridgehead" of "exploiting colonialism" which "must disappear. Today, tomorrow, it will disappear."

He also warned that if the Western nations

made a military attempt to take over the Arab oil fields, the Arabs would implement a scorched earth policy. He said "just as Judaism will be exterminated, so will be destroyed all our oil installations." Kelly asked Ghorbal whether the Arab leaders and the Arab people supported such measures. Ghorbal replied that the Palestine Liberation Organization was "the guarantee that our decisions will be fulfilled to the last soldier," including the destruction of everything "before the enemy succeeds in occupying the oil fields."

### Interview As Propaganda Tool

(Commenting in Jerusalem on the interview, Yeddyah Beeri, a Likud Knesset member, urged the Israeli Foreign Ministry to reprint and distribute millions of copies of the Ghorbal interview. Beeri said wide distribution of the Ghorbal interview would be an excellent propaganda tool to justify and explain Israel's policies. Beeri said the interview would show the world that, according to a man who is one of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's principal advisors, the Arab-Israeli conflict is not over territories but over the very existence of Israel and the Jewish people. He also suggested that the interview be discussed at a Knesset session to determine an appropriate way for Israel to react to it.)

### PROTEST OVER NESTOR MEETING

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry lodged a formal protest with the American Embassy yesterday over what it considers an unauthorized meeting recently by the U.S. economic and commercial attache, Daniel Nestor, with members of the Ramallah Chamber of Commerce in that West Bank Arab town. The Ministry asked the Embassy to see to it that any future contacts between American diplomats and West Bank residents are arranged through the Israeli military government.

According to the Foreign Ministry, Nestor's remarks at the meeting were interpreted by the Arab businessmen as advice to discontinue doing business with American firms through their Israeli agents and to establish their own direct contacts with the firms in the U.S. Instead, Nestor has denied that he made any statements of a political nature at the meeting. He said he merely explained to the Arab merchants their rights under the U.S. Trade Opportunity Program.

### SONG OF THE SEA SERVICES MOVED INTO SYNAGOGUES FOR SECURITY REASONS

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--The traditional Song of the Sea service on the eve of the last day of Passover, usually held on the beaches and along the rivers and lakes, will be observed tonight in synagogues, partly because of security reasons.

Officially, the waterside service was cancelled because in previous years it was marred by irresponsible people who violated the holiness of the event, a letter from the head of the Tel Aviv Religious Council to the gaboyim of synagogues said. The ceremonies attracted tourists who took pictures of observant Jews praying and thus interfered with the prayers. Because of this it was suggested that the Song of the Sea be recited inside synagogues.

However, it was learned that the mass concentration of people along the seashore and the rivers was causing anxiety among security people who suggested calling off the open air service.

### FRENCH PREMIER SCORES ARAB BOYCOTT

PARIS, April 1 (JTA)--French Premier Jacques Chirac denounced today economic embargoes and

boycotts based on racial or religious considerations as "contrary to our tradition and our idea of democracy." Chirac, who was referring to the Arab boycott of Jewish-owned banks in France, made his views known in a letter to Jean Rosenthal, president of the Representative Council of French Jews (CRIF). The Premier said in his letter that the government has "thoroughly studied" the reports dealing with the Arab boycott and wanted "to assure you that racial, religious and ethnic considerations in economic and social relations are contrary to France's traditions."

CRIF circles welcomed the letter recalling that Chirac's official reaction (Feb. 13, 1975) was to say that the matter "should be settled between the various banks" and that the French government "has no role to play in this matter." It was a result of this statement that Rosenthal had written Chirac asking him to clearly state his position. CRIF sources added that Rosenthal also met last week with the French Minister for Commerce and Industry, Michel D. Ornano, who also said that France is opposed to any economic embargoes or boycotts based on religious considerations.

#### Promises, But No Action

In spite of these promises the French government has not yet taken any concrete measures to try and prevent the Arab banks from imposing religious discriminatory measures in their economic transactions. Jewish financial sources say that no special legislation dealing with this issue has been prepared and that no plans about such legislation are known. These sources say they believe the government has privately asked the Arab states to "tone down" their boycott in view of the close Franco-Arab ties.

Other unconfirmed reports say that a number of non-Jewish banks have asked Jewish-owned banks to privately join in underwriting loans from which they have been barred by Arab controlled banks. Should this be the case, the Jewish sources say, it would not be a solution to the problem since it would consist of a private arrangement between banks to stem the actual boycott. What is needed, these sources say, is a government effort to stop the boycott and a show of solidarity by the various banks in openly refusing to give in to Arab demands.

#### BRANDO, DYLAN, OTHER THEATER STARS PARTICIPATE IN SEDER

LOS ANGELES, April 1 (JTA)--Marlon Brando, the screen star, made an impromptu appearance at the congregational seder of Temple Israel of Hollywood and gave an impromptu rendition of the Kiddush, in English, to begin the festival meal. Bob Dylan, the folk singer of the youth rebellion, began the Grace After Meals by singing his "Blowin' In The Wind," with the congregation joining in.

Brando and Dylan were accompanied by friends from the entertainment world, including Helaina Kallianjotes, Sarah Dylan, wife of the folk singer, and Kenneth Banks, a leader of the American Indian Freedom movement. The appearance of the theater personalities was a surprise both to Rabbi Haskell Bernat, the senior rabbi of the congregation, and the congregants. Rabbi Bernat said the visitors joined spontaneously in the worship and festivities. The artists made reservations anonymously, through a friend. Brando, asked why he and his friends had come to the Reform synagogue, said

"It was the Rabbi's ability to create warmth, social activism and worship innovation" which had attracted them.

Rabbi Bernat, in introducing the luminaries, said it was in the spirit of the festival of freedom to have present "unexpected guests," adding that Brando, Dylan and Banks "had contributed to the sense of justice and social awareness of the American people." He said that "Blowin' In The Wind" had become part of the freedom songs which had found their way "into the informal liturgy of liberal congregations."

#### Admires Dov Gruner

Brando told Rabbi Bernat that one of his first theater roles was with the Into Paul Maul in which they toured in a theater presentation to raise money for the Irgun, the underground army during the British Mandate in Palestine. He commented with admiration on Dov Gruner, who was hung by the British for his participation as an Irgun member in attacks on the British. Brando said Gruner's "martyrdom" had been a continuous inspiration.

The actor said he was delighted that Rabbi Bernat was able "to use one of the world's most ancient religious ceremonies to highlight freedom movements today, including those of Soviet Jews, American Indians and women. Brando, while professing no formal religious affiliation, said his commitment was a combination of the awe and reverence for nature found in the American Indian religion and the "humanitarianism" of Reform Judaism.

Rabbi Bernat served previously as director of the Chicago Federation of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and director of the Commission of Worship of Reform Judaism.

#### TEKOAH, WALDHEIM DISCUSS MIDEAST

UNITED NATIONS, April 1 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Yosef Tekoah, met this morning with Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and discussed with him the situation in the Middle East following the collapse of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's efforts for a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian accord.

The Tekoah-Waldheim meeting preceded meetings of Waldheim with U.S. Ambassador John Scall, Egyptian Ambassador Abdel Moguid, and Jordan's envoy Abdul Hamid Sharaf. A UN spokesman described Waldheim's meetings with the parties to the Middle East conflict as "continuing exploratory conversations concerning the situation in the Middle East."

An Israeli official said that Waldheim and Tekoah "exchanged ideas" in the aftermath of the aborted Kissinger mission. Tekoah, who arrived here last Wednesday from Israel, has been in telephone contact with Waldheim since his arrival. It was learned that the question of the Geneva peace talks, the renewal of the UN mandates in the Sinai and Golan Heights and other pressing matters were brought up in today's talk.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Bibliotheca Rosentalliana, or Hebrew and Jewish Department of the Amsterdam University library, has purchased the medieval manuscript of the Machzor. The Machzor is a festival prayerbook written by Kalonymos Ben Yehuda in Swabia on the Neckar River. It is said to have been completed in 1290. The manuscript, which contains only the second part of the annual festival prayers, was purchased for a reported 500,000 Guilders (about \$200,000). Several American and European libraries had formerly refused to purchase the manuscript in view of its high price.

