



KISSINGER SAYS SINAI ACCORD HAS IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE FOR FURTHER PROGRESS ON ALL ISSUES IN MIDEAST

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger declared here today that the new Israeli-Egyptian interim accord has improved the atmosphere for further progress on all issues in the Middle East, that the U.S. is "prepared to make a serious effort to encourage negotiations between Syria and Israel" and that despite "important differences" between the U.S. and the Soviet Union "our two countries have held parallel views that the situation in the Middle East poses grave dangers and that partial steps must be part of and contribute to progress toward a comprehensive settlement." He said discussions have begun with the Soviet Union toward that end.

Kissinger made his remarks in an address to the United Nations General Assembly on the opening of its annual policy debate. The Sinai accords created an unusual opportunity for further progress "but opportunities must be seized or they will disappear," he said.

He said the U.S. intended "to consult over the coming weeks with all concerned regarding the reopening of the Geneva conference which met at an early crucial phase. As co-chairmen of the Geneva conference together with the Soviet Union, our two countries have special responsibilities in this regard," Kissinger said. He added that "We are prepared also to explore possibilities for perhaps a more informal multi-lateral meeting to assess conditions and to discuss the future." (See separate story from Washington.)

Aimed At Getting Soviet Approval

Some observers here viewed Kissinger's speech as aimed at getting Soviet approval of the new Sinai accord from which Moscow disassociated itself and to assure the USSR of the importance of its role in the Middle East and not exclude or alienate the Soviets from the peace-making process in the area.

The Secretary's remarks drew favorable response from the Israeli Ambassador, Chaim Herzog, and the Egyptian Ambassador, Abdel Meguid. Herzog said he was pleased with the "strong measure of American leadership" demonstrated in Kissinger's speech. He hoped this "new look" would be maintained by American representatives throughout the session. Meguid, asked if he thought the speech could ease tensions in the area, replied, "Yes."

Kissinger said "The United States seeks no special benefit; we do not attempt to exclude any country. We will cooperate with any nation that is willing to make a contribution. We have no preference for any particular procedure. We will support whatever process seems most promising. Our approach will continue to be both flexible and determined." He said that U.S. had already begun discussions with the Soviet Union, with a view to assessing the current situation in the Middle East and weighing possible diplomatic approaches to bring about a durable peace in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Role Of UN Remains Essential

Kissinger also stressed that "The role of the world organization remains essential. If this organization has no other accomplishment than its effective peacekeeping role in this troubled area, it would have well justified itself." He said that UN troops had become indispensable to the two disengagement agreements in the Mideast as well as the new Sinai accord. The General Assembly's deliberations on the Middle East have also played a central role and could encourage progress or exacerbate tensions, Kissinger said.

The Secretary said that the Middle East would continue to be an area of anguish, turmoil and danger until a just and durable peace is achieved. He stressed that such a peace must meet the principal concerns and interests of all parties in the area, including their territorial integrity, their right to live in peace and security and the legitimate interests of the Palestinians. "The United States promises its full dedication to further progress toward peace," Kissinger said.

ALLON WARNS ARAB EXTREMISTS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon left for New York today to head the Israeli delegation at the United Nations General Assembly with a warning that Arab extremists would continue their attempts to have Israel ousted from the world organization. Allon said the extremists' motive was to try to sabotage peace moves in the Middle East, but noted that more and more countries have stated their position against suspending Israel from the General Assembly.

Allon is scheduled to meet Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in Washington Wednesday. Asked about a statement attributed to Kissinger that Israel would consider a three kilometer pull-back on the Golan Heights as part of a new disengagement agreement with Syria, the Foreign Minister repeated yesterday's denial by Premier Yitzhak Rabin that Israel had ever made such a pledge to Kissinger. Allon told reporters that no meeting has been arranged for him with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. He added that there are no chance meetings with the Russians--they are always pre-arranged.

ISRAELI, EGYPTIAN GROUPS RESUME WORK ON ACCORD AMID REPORTS THAT TERRORISTS ARE ON WAY TO SCUTTLE SIGNING

By Edwin Eytan

GENEVA, Sept. 22 (JTA)--The Israeli and Egyptian military groups resumed work here this morning on implementing the Sinai agreement amid tight security following reports that Palestinian terrorists were on their way to Switzerland to try to stop the signing of the accords.

Reports of possible terrorist attempts to sabotage the agreement came from Vienna today where a state of alert was ordered at the airport following information from international police authorities that a group of Palestinian terrorists were trying to reach Geneva with forged passports, a spokesman at Schvechat Airport said. The spokesman said the police were on the lookout for four very young Palestinians but so far no trace of the alleged terrorists has been found.

Police have also been alerted at Amsterdam's

Schiphol Airport and border patrols throughout Holland were similarly alerted against a possible movement of Palestinian terrorists. Reports from Amsterdam said international police authorities have issued warnings to all European police forces about possible terrorist attempts to reach Geneva.

Racing Against Deadline

The Israeli and Egyptian delegations resumed work this morning after having held a 14-hour night-long session earlier in a race against time to conclude its protocol within the 14-day time limit set by the disengagement agreement. The two delegations held an all-night session during which they tried to finalize the protocol and the annex documents. It is generally believed that the two sides have by now reached basic agreement and are currently putting the last touches to the implementation acts.

The head of the Israeli delegation, Mordechai Gazit, said when leaving the "Palais des Nations" building here this morning after the all-night session that he hoped the protocol "will be initiated today still as provided for by the agreement." It will probably be signed only after the U.S. Congress decides on the implementation of America's participation in the disengagement process. Diplomatic sources say the disengagement will become operative two weeks after the signature.

Two Parts To Final Protocol

It is believed that the final protocol will consist of two parts: one public and one secret. This decision was taken after the Egyptian delegation adamantly refused to include in the protocol any articles which it thought liable to infringe on the sovereignty of its territory.

One of the basic points on which they refused to give way dealt with restrictions to be imposed on the Arab civilians in the buffer zone. Israel had asked that the 3000 Bedouins living in that area, Egyptian nationals, be prevented from carrying out sabotage or espionage missions. The articles in the protocol dealing with them will probably form part of a secret protocol.

Conference sources said that though the Egyptians discussed at length every point, often every word, in the proposed protocol, there was not much of a fight over Israel's intention to initial the protocol now and sign it only after Congressional approval. These sources said that the Egyptian agreement on this point was reached after Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger personally approached Cairo and Jerusalem on this issue.

MAPAM DEBATES WHETHER TO CONTINUE AS AN ALIGNMENT PARTNER

TEL AVIV, Sept. 23 (JTA)--The Mapam leadership debated over the week-end whether to continue its alignment with Premier Yitzhak Rabin's Labor Party or go it alone. The matter will be brought before the Mapam convention, scheduled to be held in December, although some party circles have suggested postponement until February, 1976 when the political situation arising from the new interim accord with Egypt is more clear.

Continuance of the alignment with Labor was defended at the leadership meeting here by veteran Mapam leader Yaacob Hazan. He was supported by MKs Yehuda Udin and Reuven Arazli. But other MKs--Dov Zakai, Aharon Ephraim, Eli-

ezer Ron and Chaika Grossman--argued that while there might be a politically pragmatic reason for the alignment with Labor, it was time that Mapam went to the electorate on a separate list. Supporters of the alignment maintained that Mapam could better influence the nation's political and economic decisions from within.

LIST HAS 1800 PERSONS INELIGIBLE FOR MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO HALACHA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23 (JTA)--The Religious Affairs Ministry confirmed today the existence of a list of some 1800 persons ineligible for marriage according to halacha but insisted that it was not compiled in violation of the law and had no sinister intent.

The disclosure was made by David Glass, director general of the Ministry of Religious Affairs after Justice Minister Haim Zadok informed the Cabinet yesterday that he had ordered the Attorney General to investigate the matter. Glass met with Attorney General Aharon Barak yesterday for what was described as an initial review of the statistical breakdown of the list.

Glass told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the list is circulated to all marriage registrars and is periodically updated. He said it was compiled on the basis of information from two sources--judgements by rabbinical courts and inquiries by marriage registrars who are accredited officials under the marriage and divorce ordinance.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg of the National Religious Party claimed yesterday that his ministry has no such list and that as far as he knows, neither does the Religious Affairs Ministry. Burg is acting Minister of Religious Affairs in the absence of Yitzhak Raphael who is abroad.

Denies List Is A 'Blacklist'

Burg "clarified" his statement today, saying he did not intend to deny that a list of marriage eligibles existed but was referring to allegations that it was a "blacklist" containing information culled by devious, underhand and anti-constitutional means. Glass told the JTA that the list was an essential instrument in administering the marriage and divorce ordinance which, in Israel, is the exclusive domain of the Orthodox rabbinate and the rabbinical courts.

Glass disclosed that the majority of names in the list are those of male co-respondents in divorce suits for adultery who, according to halacha, may not marry the women with whom they allegedly had extra-marital affairs. He said another major category consisted of non-Jews who the rabbinate had reason to believe might try to marry Jews before converting fully to Judaism, meaning according to Orthodox rites. He said there were no "mamzerim" (bastards) on the list.

Barak was instructed by the Justice Minister to submit a comprehensive dossier on the list and its functions to the Cabinet. He told the JTA his report should be ready within a month.

Political observers here see a major coalition crisis looming over the list. The Independent Liberal Party has decided to re-submit its civil marriage bill to the Knesset in light of the new disclosure. The ILP is supported by the leftist Yaad and Moked factions and other groups seeking the establishment of civil marriage in Israel as an alternative for couples denied marriage rites by the rabbinical authorities. The NRP is bitterly opposed to the bill.

CONGRESS MOVING AT DELIBERATE PACE ON ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF U.S. PERSONNEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Congress is moving at a deliberate pace toward action on the Administration's request for approval of the presence of American technicians in Sinai despite President Ford's urging that it act within two weeks of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's Sept. 4 briefing of Senate and House leaders on the Israeli-Egyptian interim accord. Action according to Ford's timetable is already four days overdue.

While a vote may come late this week on the concurrent resolution introduced on Sept. 10 by Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman John Sparkman (D-Ala.) at the State Department's request, it is more likely to be held over in view of the continuing discussions in committee and the scheduling of the debate to follow. The House International Relations Committee will hold another session behind closed doors tomorrow with Undersecretary of State Joseph J. Sisco testifying for the Administration. It will be Sisco's third appearance before the committee since last week.

The Sparkman resolution calls for not more than 200 Americans to serve in the Sinai surveillance units to be established under the terms of the interim accord. Some Americans will be stationed in one Egyptian and one Israeli advance warning post and the others will man three other exclusively American posts to be set up between Israeli and Egyptian lines.

The resolution stipulates that the President can withdraw the American personnel in the event of hostilities or if their presence is no longer required. Otherwise, they will remain in Sinai for the duration of the three-year agreement at an estimated cost of about \$10 million a year. It is understood, however, that Congress will insist in the final resolution to have the right to remove the Americans itself under stated conditions.

Sadat Suggested U.S. Presence

The evolution of the American presence, described in the transcript of a Sisco interview on Public Broadcasting Station WETA Sept. 10, which has been released by the State Department, confirmed that the matter was first suggested by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and not by Israel as originally contended. According to Sisco, Sadat objected to Israel's insistence that it retain control of the advance warning station it built at Umm Hashelba located in the area that will become the UN buffer zone under terms of the accord.

"At one point he did suggest that perhaps Americans, and even the UN, might man this station," but "the Israelis did not agree with this and therefore the discussion evolved in such a way that it was agreed, as contained in the agreement, that there would be one strategic early warning station manned and operated by the Israelis" and "likewise the Egyptians would have the right to build one not too far away in the passes," Sisco said. "In addition, there would be three small manned tactical early warning stations which would be manned by Americans."

Sisco said there would be "a few Americans at the large strategic installation of the Israelis and there will be a few Americans at the large

Egyptian installation, but this is largely in a custodial role. The Egyptians will in fact be operating their own stations and the Israelis will in fact be operating their own. Our role will be in the manned stations in early warning."

KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL FOR MULTI-LATERAL MEETING SEEN AS DEVICE TO PLACATE ARAB ANGER TOWARD EGYPT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's proposal in his United Nations speech today for an "informal, multi-lateral meeting to assess conditions and to discuss the future" of Middle East peace negotiations was immediately seen by observers here as a diplomatic device to placate Arab anger toward Egypt for signing the Sinai accord with Israel and which eventually may open the door to participation by the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Geneva conference sponsored by the UN.

U.S. officials went to extraordinary lengths to explain that U.S. consultations with "Middle Eastern states" was only one of three options that Kissinger had in mind. They pointed out that he also spoke of Syrian-Israeli negotiations and a formal Geneva meeting. Noting that consultations on an informal meeting had just begun and would continue over the coming weeks, officials said the informal discussions would not be under UN auspices.

When questioned closely on possible participation by the PLO, a top official noted that he spoke very explicitly and deliberately of "states." Asked if the Arabs would sit down with Israel even at informal sessions, the official said that the consultation forms have yet to be arranged.

The fact that Kissinger announced the proposal at this time, so soon after its apparent inception, indicated to informed observers that its purpose is to mollify Arabs, especially the Syrian and Palestinian leaders who are expressing anger over their view that Egypt gave too much to Israel even though the Sinai agreements show Egypt clearly stands to reap military and economic gains with U.S. support. (By Joseph Polakoff)

URI BEN-ARI, ISRAELI CONSUL GENERAL IN NY

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Gen. (Res.) Uri Ben-Ari, a former tank commander who played a major role on the Sinai front during the Yom Kippur War, has been appointed Israel's Consul General in New York. It was announced here. He succeeds David Rivlin who was appointed Ambassador to Norway earlier this year. Ben-Ari has appeared frequently on radio and television since the war as a military commentator and has written military and political analyses for the newspaper Yediot Achronot.

The Cabinet also announced the appointment of veteran diplomat Hanan Baron to the post of Minister at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. Baron is currently Israel's Ambassador to The Netherlands. He will succeed Mordechai Shalev who has been named Ambassador to Canada.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York, left Israel Tuesday after a four-day visit. He told officials here, including Tourism Minister Moshe Kol, that he felt hopeful of increased Christian pilgrim traffic to Israel now that the political situation seemed quieter. The Cardinal himself headed a group of 50 pilgrims from New York on his trip. Many of them have remained for more extensive touring.

AJCONGRESS SUES COMMERCE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress today filed suit under the Freedom of Information Act to require the Department of Commerce to make public the names of American companies involved in the Arab boycott of Jewish business interests or companies that trade with Israel. Secretary of Commerce Rogers Morton and Rauer H. Meyer, director of the Department's Office of Export Administration, were named as defendants in papers filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. On Sept. 10, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith filed a similar suit in New York.

The AJCongress action seeks an injunction to bar the federal officials from withholding their files on U.S. firms that are asked to comply with the Arab boycott. The suit also asks for a declaratory judgment "that such withholding is not authorized by law." The suit was brought after the AJCongress had exhausted its efforts to obtain the material from the Commerce Department.

Last week, in a letter to the AJCongress, Morton rejected the organization's appeal from an earlier ruling by Meyer refusing to make the information available. In his letter, dated Sept. 17, Morton said that reports on Arab boycott requests filed with the Commerce Department by American companies under the Export Administration Act of 1966 were "confidential" unless he judged that withholding them was "contrary to the national interest."

Asserting that he was "unable to conclude that withholding of the material you have requested would be contrary to national interest," Morton wrote that disclosing the identity of such firms "might reveal to their trade competitors valuable intelligence" and could expose them "to obvious countermeasures and pressure by various individuals and groups."

Morton said that making public such information would not "serve a constructive purpose or contribute to the national welfare" and that "disclosure...would be of great potential damage to the small exporting companies now developing their trade in Middle Eastern markets and gaining a foothold in this highly competitive region."

Charges U.S. Protecting Firms

In a statement responding to Morton's letter, Howard M. Squadron of New York, chairman of the AJCongress Governing Council and one of three individual plaintiffs in the suit, charged that Morton's "sole interest seems to be in protecting American companies from whatever adverse effects may flow from their unwillingness to comply with the legislated policy of the United States."

Continuing, Squadron stated: "Secretary Morton's announced intention of retaining a shield of confidentiality around firms acquiescing in the Arab boycott--or those which, in violation of law, have failed to file reports--is in direct conflict with the declared public policy of this country.... Accordingly, the American Jewish Congress and its members have been urging exporters and other business concerns to refuse to comply with the boycott. This activity is in the national interest because it carries out a nationally declared policy."

The two other individual plaintiffs in the suit are Theodore R. Mann of Philadelphia, co-chairman of the AJCongress' Governing Council

and Naomi Levine of New York, executive director of the AJCongress. All the individual plaintiffs are lawyers. The complaint was filed in behalf of the AJCongress by Joel H. Levy of Washington. The American Jewish Congress announced last May 27 that it would file suit against the Department of Commerce if its request for the names of companies asked to comply with the Arab boycott was rejected. The legal action announced today is the final step in the process initiated at that time.

BARLEV IN THE U.S. TO DISCUSS AID WITH MEMBERS OF FORD ADMINISTRATION
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Israel's Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev, who is in the United States on a two-week visit to explore ways to stimulate more American investments in Israel and to promote Israeli exports to the U.S., told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he will discuss the proposed U.S. assistance to Israel with members of the Ford Administration in Washington this week. "The Americans know what we want, I hope they will meet our demands or at least come close to it," Barlev said.

The Israeli minister, who arrived here last Wednesday, was guest of honor last Thursday night at the New York Hilton here. The reception was attended by American buyers, businessmen, and presidents of major department stores in the city. Barlev said that he will meet in Washington with Secretary of Treasury William Simon, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butte and Secretary of Commerce Rogers Morton. He also said that he will meet with his former teacher at Columbia University, Arthur Burns, who is now the chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank.

Yehezkel Kassif, the Israeli Trade Commissioner in the U.S.,--who sponsored the reception for Barlev--said that the two-week-long Israeli fashion exhibition at the Hilton Hotel, which ended Friday, was "extremely successful." It was attended by some 1800 American buyers and the sales were better this year than any previous years, Kassif said. He added that Israeli fashion products sales in the U.S. during the last year totalled \$40 million.

JEROME M. COMAR DEAD AT 64

CHICAGO, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Jerome M. Comar, a former president of the Jewish Federation and Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, who died last Thursday in Winnetka, Ill. He was 64. The chairman of the executive committee of the Maremont Corp., Mr. Comar headed a Federation committee that recently completed what is perhaps the most comprehensive planning effort ever undertaken by a major Jewish community in the U.S.

A civic and communal leader, Mr. Comar served on the national boards of the American Jewish Committee and the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. He was a past president of the Chicago Federation of Jewish Vocational Service, past chairman of the AJ Committee's Chicago chapter and a former director of the Chicago Young Men's Jewish Council.

CORRECTION

The story in Monday's Bulletin about the Israel Bonds inaugural dinner in Philadelphia stated that a total of \$63.3 million in Israel Bonds were purchased at the dinner. The correct sum should have been \$3.3 million.