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RABIN: ISRAEL WILL TRY TO PERSUADE U.S. TO WITHHOLD ARMS FROM SAUDIA

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin promised the Knesset this evening that the government would do all it could to persuade the U.S. not to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, but he did not sound too optimistic that this persuasion would help.

The Premier pointed out that America has sold weapons to the Saudis since the early 1950s -- although the deals now envisaged were far in excess of anything known before. There had been a steep increase in the pace and scope of arms supplies from the West to Saudia since the Yom Kippur War, Rabin told the Knesset.

The quantities of tanks, planes and rockets now under consideration still did not compare in significance with the armaments of Syria, Egypt, or even Jordan, but they were most certainly a factor that Israel must take into consideration, he stated. Saudia had regiments stationed permanently in Syria and Jordan and there was no knowing if she would send in even more troops in time of war.

The arms, too, could easily find their way to the "confrontation states," Rabin noted. Israel was constantly arguing with the U.S. Administration and other circles in Washington against arming Saudia, the Premier asserted, and Israel would continue to do so.

SIMON SAYS U.S. CUT AID TO ISRAEL BY \$500 MILLION TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE WITH DOMESTIC NEED AND TO HEED THOSE QUESTIONING FOREIGN AID By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA)--Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon told Israelis today that the U.S. cut aid to Israel by \$500 million because it "has to maintain a delicate balance with its domestic needs and must heed the people who are beginning to question foreign aid." Simon, who arrived here this morning for a three-day visit to Israel, told reporters at Ben Gurion Airport, "I don't think anyone can question the generosity of the United States over the years."

The Secretary spoke warmly of U.S. friendship for Israel and noted that the Ford Administration has requested \$1.8 billion in aid to help Israel promote and develop its economy. He said a just and lasting peace in the Middle East was closely linked with the economic stability of Israel and all of the countries of the area and that it was the purpose of American economic aid to improve the atmosphere for peace.

Questioned about U.S. economic aid to Syria, Simon stressed that it was limited and was being given in accordance with existing American policy. He described the Arab boycott as one of the difficulties on the road to peace, of which there will be many, and cited President Ford's statement deploring discrimination arising from the Arab boycott.

Simon, accompanied by his wife and an entourage of 20, arrived here from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and will visit Syria, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates after concluding his talks here with Premier Yitzhak Rabin, Finance Minister

Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Defense Minister Shimon Peres. He was greeted at the airport by Rabinowitz who said the Secretary's visit would enable him to see just how Israel was "tightening its belt."

Will Sign An Agreement

During his stay in Israel, Simon and Rabinowitz will serve as co-chairmen of a meeting of the Israeli-U.S. Economic Committee established last year to discuss such matters as promoting Israel's exports, increasing American investments and the supply of raw materials to Israel. The latter does not include oil supplies which are covered by a separate agreement linked to Israel's return of the Sinai oilfields to Egypt. During his visit here, Simon will sign an agreement abolishing double taxation between the U.S. and Israel. He will receive an honorary Ph.D. degree from Tel Aviv University.

Meanwhile, Assistant Secretary of Commerce Travis E. Reed, a member of Simon's party, told a meeting of the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce here that his office is encouraging American businessmen to invest in a selective group of Israeli industries, notably electronics, chemical and science-based industries and the metal industry. Reed expressed the belief that the Arab boycott was ebbing and would fade away in a short time.

Allon In Mexico: SAYS FRIENDSHIP EXISTS BETWEEN MEXICO, ISRAEL DESPITE PAST MISUNDERSTANDINGS By Jack Siegel

MEXICO CITY, March 1 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, who arrived here yesterday for an official visit, his first since becoming Foreign Minister in June, 1974, said that friendship exists between the people and government of Israel and the people and government of Mexico despite any past misunderstandings. The Israeli leader said he was looking forward to his stay here and expressed the hope that during his stay the friendship between Israel and Mexico will develop.

Allon made this statement after he and his wife were greeted at the airport by Mexico's new Foreign Minister Alfonso Garcia Robles and Mrs. Garcia Robles. The Mexican Foreign Minister expressed the hope that Allon's visit would be fruitful. Allon's arrival at the airport was marked by tight security. Mexico had not even announced the exact date of his arrival.

A meeting with President Luis Echeverria and a luncheon with Foreign Minister Garcia Robles was part of Allon's busy schedule today. Tomorrow, Allon is due to go on a sightseeing tour of Yucatan and return to Mexico City at night where he will deliver a major address.

KISSINGER REPORTEDLY ANNOYED AT THE WAY ISRAEL HAS HANDLED REPORTS OF THE U.S. END-OF-WAR INITIATIVE By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin told the Cabinet yesterday that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger had been very much annoyed that reports of the U.S. end-of-war initiative appeared in the Israeli press and was critical of the Israeli government's handling of the issue.

because premature publicity and public discussion could prejudice the chances of success.

Rabin's disclosure was the latest development in the increasingly controversial Cabinet decision of Feb. 22 to assent to attempts by the U.S. to explore the attitudes of Egypt, Syria and Jordan toward a condition of non-belligerence with Israel. Because of mounting criticism, the Cabinet decided yesterday to publish the text of the statement it had approved a week ago in which the ministers "took note" of Rabin's intention to signal the U.S. to proceed with the initiative, but only after both countries reach agreement on a definition of non-belligerence.

The Cabinet's statement was adopted without a vote and that fact led to a heated dispute between some ministers yesterday as to whether it constituted a binding decision of the government. Police Minister Shlomo Hillel and Welfare Minister Ze'evulun Hammer contended that the statement was not a decision because the Cabinet itself had not yet agreed to the meaning of non-belligerence. They said that if they had thought the statement represented a binding decision they would have demanded a ballot and voted against it.

Cabinet "doves" insisted, on the other hand, that the statement was tantamount to Cabinet approval of the U.S. initiative and claimed that if it was brought to a vote it would have been adopted by a handsome majority.

Elements Of Cabinet Statement

The statement published at yesterday's Cabinet meeting affirmed that if and when the time arrived for substantive negotiations, the Cabinet would be called on to make "operative decisions" with regard to each of the three neighboring states individually. Only then would the Cabinet consider in detail any concessions that Israel was prepared to offer for an end-of-war or non-belligerence pact. The statement reiterated Israel's call for reconvening the Geneva conference on the basis of the original invitations from the UN and with the participation of the original parties only.

However, it added, "Pursuant to its readiness for peace negotiations, and pursuant to its previous resolutions, the government is prepared for an examination of the possibility of end-of-war talks through the good offices of the U.S.... It is vital that the meaning of 'end-of-war' be agreed upon first between Israel and the U.S...." Rabin informed the Cabinet that a team of jurists was at work under the direction of Attorney General Aharon Barak to formulate Israel's interpretation of an end-of-war agreement.

Meanwhile, Maariv reported today that Kissinger has asked Foreign Minister Yigal Allon to stop over in Washington on the return from his current visit to Mexico and three Central American countries to examine the chances of resuming the Geneva conference. According to Maariv, Kissinger has serious doubts that the non-belligerence initiative can succeed because of the premature publicity. Allon is expected to meet with Kissinger in Washington next week.

SPARKMAN SAYS PRESENT PERIOD CALLS FOR QUIET DIPLOMACY IN THE MIDEAST By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA)--Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.) said today with relation to the Middle East that "we are now in a period calling for quiet diplomacy" and urged sidetracking of

all issues until "a suitable answer is found to the question of Palestinian nationalism."

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee offered his advice in a review of American foreign policy in a Senate speech. He declared that this is the time for "patience, to wait for the right moment for practical peace initiatives, and to discourage any state in the region from preemptorily altering the delicate balance."

"Perhaps therefore," he added, "it is just as well to circumvent, for the moment, the intractable issue of the Golan because it and other issues can be reduced to manageable proportions" when the Palestinian question is solved.

"The U.S. cannot, should not, and--I am confident--will not acquiesce in a final settlement which does not require the Palestinians to recognize Israel's right to exist" within UN Security Council Resolution 242," he said. Sparkman emphasized "final" in his prepared remarks.

Moving Away From J/V Amendment

Referring to the Soviet-American trade issue that is tied to Soviet emigration policy, Sparkman indicated he was moving away from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment although he did not mention it directly.

"When the trade issue is revived at some future date," he said, "we should not try to connect it to the internal practices of the Soviet Union; however greatly we may deplore some of these." Sparkman warned against becoming "dependent" on the Soviet Union for essential materials and said he is for "detente but I think it should have something for us as well as for the Soviets."

RODINO: U.S. MUST SUPPORT ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA)--Rep. Peter W. Rodino (D., N.J.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, last night cited the "democratic institutions" in Israel as an example to the free world, adding that "it is from without that Israel is threatened and we who have made our own democratic experiment a success must stand firmly with Israel as it briefly faces a difficult future."

Rodino made this statement during his address to some 1700 persons, including leaders from Zionist, religious and civic organizations in the metropolitan area, at the 68th annual Award Dinner of Bnai Zion honoring the organization's president, New York State Supreme Court Justice Abraham J. Multer. Dr. Harris J. Levine, chairman of the Bnai Zion Foundation, presented Multer with the group's 1976 America-Israel Friendship Medal for his "outstanding contributions in all major areas of public service in behalf of our country, the State of Israel and the Jewish people."

Rodino stated that Israel "has been created from the desert by men and women who thirsted and hungered for a land of their own where they could be free. They have, as the Prophets foretold, made the desert bloom. But more than that, they have made hope, and equality and human dignity bloom as well."

Now, however, "Israel is being challenged by those who would destroy it," the Congressman warned. "Arrayed against it are not only military forces, but also the political foes of those who voted in the United Nations for the resolution that called Zionism a form of racism." That vote, he said, "more than any other action in recent years, served to undermine the integrity of the institution (the United Nations) that was created to serve the interests of peace and justice for all people."

President Ford, who was the recipient of the

America-Israel Friendship Medal in 1974, sent a telegram to Multer lauding his "tireless efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship between the people of our country and Israel." Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin, in a cable from Jerusalem, praised Multer's "staunch championing of Israel's cause during his 20 years in the United States Congress and his half-century of public service."

Multer was also praised by other speakers at the dinner, including Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, Israel Consul Azariah Rappaport, and Mayor Abraham Beame. Messages of greetings were also sent by Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, former Premier Golda Meir, and Governor Hugh Carey. The dinner also commemorated America's bicentennial.

PROTESTS MOUNT AGAINST EX-NAZI SEEKING ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROTARY CLUBS

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA)--Israelis are protesting vigorously against the nomination of Wolfgang Wick, of Austria, for the office of world president of the International Rotary Clubs. They say that Wick, who will stand for election at the Rotary convention in New Orleans shortly, has a Nazi record.

According to MK Hillel Zeidel, of the Independent Liberal Party, Wick became an active member of the Nazi Party in 1933, wrote a book on the Nazi movement in Switzerland and served as Commissar for Nazi industry in Austria during World War II. Zeidel has urged Israeli Rotarians to protest his nomination and to threaten to quit the world-wide fraternity of businessmen if Wick is elected.

Lucien Harris, Governor of the Israeli Rotary Club, has already cabled Rotary International headquarters in Evanston, Ill. that Wick's Nazi past disqualifies him from office. Zeidel has also asked the Weizmann Institute of Science to withdraw an invitation sent to Wick to attend the dedication of the new French House at the Institute in Rehovoth. The invitation apparently was sent before the information on Wick's alleged Nazi activities was disclosed here.

Israelis are not the only ones protesting. Dutch Rotarians have reportedly threatened to break away from the international organization if Wick is elected and Belgian and Swiss Rotarians are said to be actively opposed to his nomination.

ANTI-SEMITISM SERIES TOO HOT FOR TV IS REWRITTEN FOR THE STAGE

AMSTERDAM, March 1 (JTA)--A television series on anti-Semitism considered too controversial for that medium has been re-written for the stage by its two authors who claim that several theatrical companies in Holland and other countries are interested in it. The writers, Johnny Speight, a British humorist, and Dutch quizmaster Berend-Boudewijn, were commissioned two years ago by the Dutch Roman Catholic broadcasting service, KRO, to write a humorous series for television on any subject.

They selected social anti-Semitism which they said was widespread in Holland though rarely admitted in public. The authors treated the subject along the lines of the successful American TV series "All in the Family" whose chief character, "Archie Bunker" is an object of ridicule because of his racial bigotry.

When the first six episodes of the proposed Dutch series were previewed by selected groups,

including representatives of the Jewish community, the consensus was that the series might foster anti-Semitism rather than denigrate it. KRO postponed the opening several times and finally cancelled the series.

The Catholic organization paid full production expenses for the pilot episodes, amounting to 170,000 guilders but refused the authors the right to re-sell the series to other Dutch broadcasters. Thereupon, Speight and Boudewijn re-wrote it for theatrical production.

J.D.L. 'APPLAUDS' SHOOTINGS AT SOVIET COMPOUND BUT DENIES TIES WITH THE J.A.R. Russians Want Culprits Punished

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA)--The Jewish Defense League has issued a statement saying that "we heartily applaud" the firing of several bullets into an apartment building in the Soviet UN Mission's residence in the Riverdale section of New York last Friday but denied any connection with the Jewish Armed Resistance, the group that claimed responsibility for the shootings.

At the same time, the Soviet Mission to the UN complained to the world body about the incident which it termed "a terrorist act." In a letter to the U.S. Mission to the UN, the Soviets demanded that the U.S. identify and punish those responsible for firing two to four shots into the lobby of the apartment building in the Soviet compound and pay the Soviet Mission for damages.

Police who investigated said that two to four bullets were fired into the lobby of the compound's apartment building. There were no injuries. The Soviet letter, however, noted that one of the bullets passed very close to a Mission employee who was in the lobby.

Shortly after the firings a woman telephoned the press to say that the Jewish Armed Resistance took responsibility for the act. She said it was to dramatize the plight of Marina Tiemkin, a 16-year-old Soviet Jewish girl, who was prevented from leaving the USSR with her father, Dr. Alexander Tiemkin, who is now living in Israel.

The Soviet letter to the UN charged that last Friday's shootings was the third time that a building belonging to the USSR in New York had been fired upon and so far the persons responsible have not been arrested.

COURT TURNS DOWN EX-NAZI'S APPEAL

AMSTERDAM, March 1 (JTA)--The District High Court in The Hague today upheld a lower court's ruling against an appeal by Nazi war criminal Joseph Kotealla to have his life sentence suspended on humanitarian grounds. Kotealla, 67, is partially paralyzed. He is the only one of three German war criminals still imprisoned in Holland.

The High Court ruled that the continuation of Kotealla's sentence cannot be considered inhumane punishment under the terms of the European Declaration of Human Rights, as claimed by the prisoner's attorney. Kotealla was sentenced to death by a Dutch court in 1948 for crimes he committed personally while subcommander of a concentration camp near Amersfoort during the Nazi occupation of Holland in World War II. His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in 1951.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The 1976 Salute to Israel Parade will take place here June 13, it was announced by Paul Maas, director of the parade. The parade is a project of the American Zionist Youth Foundation and supported by more than 100 major Jewish organizations in the metropolitan area.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**'END OF THE STATE OF WAR' --
THE DANGERS OF AMBIGUITY**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA)--The Cabinet's decision to approve a new American initiative designed to promote talks between Israel and its neighbors on an "end-of-the-state-of-war" has met with some sharply critical reaction in Israel--from both "hawks and doves."

The "hawks," predictably, spoke of a "sell-out of peace"--charging the government with whittling down Israel's long-cherished demand for full contractual peace with the Arab states as the condition for any withdrawals. Since the withdrawals which many of the "hawks" envisage are not such as to induce the Arabs to agree to peace, Premier Yitzhak Rabin and his aides dismissed the criticism from this direction without much ado. More disturbing, however, has been the criticism of such dyed-in-the-wool "doves" as former Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

Within the coalition's ranks too there is a great deal of uncertainty--much of it as yet in the form of quiet rumbling rather than outspoken criticism--of the end-of-war decision. What worries many people is that the Rabin Cabinet has allowed itself to fall into the same tactical error which cost it so dearly--in terms of credibility and of real estate--less than a year ago in the interim agreement with Egypt. The history of the interim agreement is well remembered.

Interim Accord History

Rabin, back in Feb. 1975, publicly offered Egypt the Sinai passes and oil fields in return for an "end of belligerency." After two "shuttles" by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and much diplomatic haggling, Egypt got the oil and the passes but Israel had to make do with much less than "end of belligerency" which, according to legal experts, is synonymous with "end of the state of war."

Kissinger claimed, after the interim agreement was signed, that Israel had won some "elements of non-belligerency." The Israeli government at the time tended to agree and put the best possible face on the deal.

This is not, of course, to say that the interim agreement was a bad thing. It has yet to be tested. But so far, it seems to have vindicated itself and Rabin, its most ardent advocate in the government. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's statement in Kuwait yesterday warning Syria not to drag Egypt into a war with Israel is probably the best and most convincing vindication of the interim agreement.

But almost all observers now agree that Israel was bested in the negotiating process and came off a good deal worse than Sadat who said at the outset he wanted the oil and the passes and finally achieved just that. Although Egypt does not control the strategic passes, Israel no longer does either and that precisely was Sadat's immediate goal.

Grave Tactical Blunder

Rabin is now widely perceived to have made a grave tactical blunder in offering the passes and the oil--both tangible objects--and demanding in return the vague and nebulous concept of "end of belligerency."

What happened in effect was that Sadat immediately "pocketed" the oil and the passes and all the subsequent negotiating centered on the con-

cept of end of belligerency, with Israel trying to inject as much meaning into it as possible, and Egypt trying to limit its meaning as much as possible. The vital symmetry of the negotiation had been lost by the Israeli Premier's opening offer.

Instead of negotiations over two linked variables--Egypt's concession and Israel's concession--they concerned only one variable--Egypt's concession. Israel's concession, the oil and the passes, were "taken for granted"--considered as a fixed proposition rather than as a second variable lending the negotiation its essential symmetry. This was because of the vague and uncertain definition of "end of belligerency."

It was as though Israel had offered a finite object (oil and passes) and asked in return for "a lot of money." Obviously the subsequent haggling focussed solely on what was meant by "a lot of money."

The very same danger looms again, the critics say, with the revival of "end of belligerency" as a Middle East diplomatic goal. Government officials counter that the Cabinet, aware of this danger, deliberately refrained this time from discussing any "territorial details" at this stage. But this is surely naive, say the critics. Israel last year offered Egypt two-thirds of Sinai in return for an end of belligerency pact, but Egypt refused. Authoritative Israeli sources said this week that the offer still stands and Sadat most certainly has not forgotten it.

Compounding A Bad Situation

The danger, then, is that Sadat will again "pocket" the implied concession--two-thirds of Sinai--and the subsequent negotiation will again focus solely on the Egyptian quid-pro-quo--end-of-war--which Sadat will seek to confine and restrict to the minimum possible meaning.

Israel, critics say, has enabled this situation to arise by announcing its agreement to an end-of-war probe without at the same time announcing, in the clearest possible terms, what it understands by end-of-war and what it would therefore expect to get from Egypt under this heading.

Had Israel set out its demands as clearly as it has set out its implied territorial offer, the negotiation could proceed on a symmetrical basis with each side's concession linked to the other's in direct proportion. If Egypt rejected, say, half of the Israeli demands under "end-of-war" then Israel would halve its own territorial offer.

But Israel has made no specific demands. It has given everyone to understand that "end-of-war" is an uncertain concept requiring the elaboration of legal experts. In this way, the critics fear, Israel has again in effect invited erosion of its demand from Egypt, while drawing the focus of future negotiations away from Egypt's territorial demands of Israel.

PARIS (JTA)--The Committee for French Solidarity with Israel published Monday a declaration signed by 49 members of both houses of Parliament condemning France's pro-Palestinian policy at the United Nations. The declaration said the latest French vote in the Security Council on Jan. 26 was marked by hostility towards Israel in spite of rhetoric which diluted its language. The signatories of the declaration included 24 members of the government majority in the National Assembly and 25 Senators, most of whom are Socialists.