



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

Contents copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XLIII - 59th Year

Friday, May 14, 1976

No. 94

FORD: U.S. RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES WILL NOT BE AT EXPENSE OF SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

DETROIT, May 13 (JTA)--President Ford has rejected allegations that he vetoed the foreign aid measure because it contained too much money for Israel and affirmed that "Our relations with the Arab states will not be pursued in my Administration at the expense of our special relationship with Israel."

These statements were contained in a letter to Rep. William Broomfield (R, Mich.), a member of the House International Relations Committee, who had asked Ford to explain the reason for vetoing the foreign aid authorization bill which included \$550 million in transitional quarter aid to Israel. Broomfield released the text of Ford's letter to the Jewish News of Detroit last night while the two officials were there as part of the President's campaign swing through Michigan. Ford's letter stated:

"As you know, there have been incorrect reports that I used the veto because this bill contained too much money for Israel. Nothing could be further from the truth. The fact is that I vetoed the bill because it would undermine the President's authority to conduct the decisive foreign policy that Israel, along with our other friends and allies rely upon.

"The bill would have imposed unwise and intolerable limits on my ability to conduct foreign policy. In today's world, as during the Yom Kippur War of 1973, we can have only one foreign policy--that of the President.

"Our relations with the Arab states will not be pursued in my Administration at the expense of our special relationship with Israel. Indeed, I regret that my veto has delayed the funds that the Israelis need so urgently. As soon as the Congress sends me a bill, free of unacceptable restrictions, I will immediately sign it so the Israelis may receive these vital funds."

A revised foreign aid authorization measure, which excludes some of the features Ford cited as objectionable in the measure he vetoed, was adopted Tuesday by the Senate Foreign Relations and the House International Relations Committee. Congressional sources indicated that Ford may go along with this revised measure.

PRIEST DENOUNCES CATHOLIC BOOK WHICH IS VICIOUSLY ANTI-SEMITIC

PARIS, May 13 (JTA)--A new edition of a Catholic book containing vicious accusations against the Jews was strongly denounced by Oratorian Father Pierre Daboville in the May edition of the newspaper "Le Droit de Vivre" (The Right To Live).

The book by Father Arminjon, "Fin du Monde Present et Mysteres de la Vie Future" (The End of the Present World and Mysteries of Future Life) re-issued by the central office of the Carmelite Order in Lisieux, Normandy, contains "scandalous accusations against the Jews." Daboville said,

He added: "This re-edition enables us to put our finger on the persistence of the incredible triviality. I would say the pernicious triviality, of Christian conscience when the Jewish people,

its history, its hopes are at stake. Auschwitz should have at least buried Father Arminjon, especially at the Lisieux Carmelite Order."

The newspaper, Le Monde, which yesterday reported the publication of the book, asked why it had been published again since it did nothing but hurt the Jews and humiliate the Christians who took Vatican Two seriously.

SPECIAL TO JTA

6 ORTHODOX RABBIS AND YESHIVA DEANS DENOUNCE VIOLENCE AND TERROR AGAINST SOVIET OFFICIALS, PROPERTY IN THE U.S.

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--Six Orthodox rabbis and deans of yeshivot issued a statement here today denouncing "violence and terror" by Jews as a transgression of Torah law. The statement, released to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by the Agudat Israel of America, was issued in the name of the Council of Torah Sages (Moetzes Gedolei Hatorah).

An Agudat Israel spokesman, who described the signatories as "a group of the foremost Torah scholars in the world," said the statement was "a clear reference to recent acts and threats of violence against Russian officials and property in the United States."

Violence, Terror Contrary To Halacha

Their statement read: "In response to widespread queries regarding the viewpoint that our Jewish brethren can be helped in their distress through violence and terror, whose advocates perpetrate various acts of assault and destruction on persons and property: We herewith proclaim that such acts are contrary to halacha and that according to Torah law they are to be viewed severely as very grave prohibitions. We therefore declare that whoever follows their ways will suffer extreme retribution. Needless to say, he is considered a transgressor of Torah law. The general community should distance itself from them and their ways."

The statement was signed by Rabbi Yaacov Kamenetzky, dean of Mesivta Torah Vodaath; Rabbi Yaacov Yitzchok Ruderman, dean of the Ner Israel Rabbinical College of Baltimore; Rabbi Yitzchok Hutner, dean of Mesivta Rabbi Chaim Berlin; Yisrael Spira, the Hasidic rabbi of Bluzov; Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, dean of Mesivta Tifereth Jerusalem; and Nachum Perlow, the Hasidic rabbi of Novominsk.

SOVIET DELEGATION IN ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 13 (JTA)--A three-member delegation from the Soviet Union--one Jew among them--told Israelis today that the USSR is convinced that Israeli-Arab co-existence is possible and is working toward that end. They also suggested that Israelis are needlessly fearful and pessimistic over chances of a settlement with their neighbors. They found fault, not with the principles of democracy in Israel but with the political competitiveness they claimed hampered the decision-making process.

The delegation came to Israel at the invitation of the pro-Moscow Rakah Communist Party to attend the annual memorial in the Red Army

Forest near Jerusalem marking the Allied victory over Nazi Germany. Members of the group are Vikenti Alexandrowitch Metveyev, a political analyst of the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia; Prof. Roman Akhramowitch, Rector of Moscow University's Asia-African Institute; and Dr. Paulina Gelman, who is Jewish.

The visitors contended that a renewal of formal diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union was unwarranted unless significant progress toward peace is made. A renewal of relations now would not change anything but would undermine Soviet credibility with some of the Arabs and this might harm efforts to find a solution of the Middle East conflict, they said.

Undue Fear Of Arabs Noted

They expressed the view that the Israelis are unduly fearful of the Arabs because they have been influenced by a daily diet of war stories that has caused profound pessimism. Metveyev observed that "You see yourself surrounded by enemies, but it is not so. We spoke with many Arabs but not once did I hear an anti-Jewish utterance."

The Izvestia writer claimed that the Palestinians are not the extremists Israelis think they are. "Sooner or later you will have to negotiate with the Palestinians and (PLO chieftain Yasser) Arafat is surely not the most extreme of them," he said.

He also said he was deeply struck by the complexity of domestic politics in Israel and the prevailing atmosphere of pessimism. He and his colleagues contended that the source of many of Israel's troubles stemmed from an excess of democratization. It may not be democracy itself, Metveyev said, but the competitive character of Israel's political life. An Israeli political leader thinks more how he is going to win support rather than how to tackle issues, he said.

The delegation said they had met with some Russian immigrants who wanted to return to the USSR "but we cannot help them," they said. The group leaves Israel tomorrow.

JAVITS URGES U.S. JEWS TO HELP ISRAEL IN HER SEARCH FOR PEACE

Criticizes New Israeli Settlements

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 13 (JTA)--Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R,N.Y.), strongly critical of the new Israeli settlements in areas under her control, appealed to the American Jewish community last night to assist Israel in her search for peace. "It is absolutely correct to point out to Israel that new settlement of these areas cannot be permitted to change what ultimately may be their disposition," Javits said. He added, "In these new settlements the Israelis are strictly on their own."

Addressing the American Jewish Committee's 70th annual meeting here, Javits said that the United States must make it clear that the settlement issues "will not make a difference" in U.S. policy. He said that "the new Israeli settlements in the West Bank and other administered areas" are "the most serious symptom of the current tensions between Israel and the bordering Arab states, Israel and the United States government, and even Israeli and some of her close friends in the United States."

Javits said that "The American Jewish community can and must play a forceful role in assisting the Israelis to emulate in the search for peace the bold risks that they have so success-

fully assumed in war. It is time to offer new alternatives, new perspectives and new possibilities."

Offers 6-Point Program

He offered a six-point program that included Israel offering "yet again to sit directly across the table from her Arab neighbors in return for the neighboring Arab states explicitly accepting Israel's sovereignty." Emphasizing that "there is a Palestinian nationality because the Palestinians--including those on the West Bank--express it," Javits urged a solution whereby the Palestinians "can assert themselves as an entity."

In this connection, he suggested a Jordanian confederation with the West Bank as "a real potential." He ruled out the PLO, saying that in his recent visit to the Middle East he became "very convinced" that the PLO offered no solution. Besides its embroilment in Lebanon and "its inhuman terrorism," Javits pointed to the PLO's "unwillingness to come to any position where it can be taken seriously as a negotiator."

Praising Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's remarks last Sunday at the Chizuk Amuno Synagogue in Baltimore that "Israel's survival is inseparable from the future of human dignity," Javits said that "in view of recent events, I hope Dr. Kissinger's words signal the end of an unhappy era."

Garrison State Mentality

He added that some of the recent actions "seemed to reflect a lessening of commitment to the survival and national integrity of the Middle East's only "truly democratic state." This, he said, "contributed to a climate that has helped to create a 'garrison state' mentality among many Israelis." Javits did not identify the events but he is believed to have been referring to the coolness that developed between the Ford Administration and Israel dating back to 16 months ago when Israel rejected the first Sinai agreement proposal offered to Israel by Kissinger in March 1975.

With reference to the West Bank settlements, Javits said that the U.S. should make clear "without necessarily using the stringent language of Ambassador William Scranton,"--the U.S. envoy to the UN--the U.S. policy regarding the area.

DINITZ DEFENDS OCCUPIED AREA SETTLEMENTS. RAPPS U.S. JEWS WHO USE MEDIA TO CRITICIZE ISRAELI POLICIES

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--Simcha Dinitz, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, last night rejected charges that Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are a hindrance to peace and denounced American Jews who use the media to criticize Israeli's policies. "I am for an exchange of views between American Jews and Israel..." but "the New York Times and the Washington Post do not have to be the first channel of dispute between American Jews and Israel," he said.

Dinitz made these remarks in answer to questions at a "special dialogue" with Rabbi William Berkowitz of B'nai B'rith. Some 2000 persons attended the "dialogue" which celebrated Israel's Independence Day and the 150th anniversary of the Conservative congregation.

In saying that the Jewish settlements did not prevent a peace settlement, Dinitz noted that from 1948-67 there were no Israeli settlements on the West Bank and the Golan Heights, but the

Arabs refused to make peace. He said the only settlements that hampered Mideast peace were those in the minds of Arabs who continue to refuse to accept the legitimacy of the State of Israel.

Dinitz said he could also not accept the argument that even if these territories were returned to Syria and Jordan in a peace settlement Jews could not live there as Arabs live in Israel. Finally, he pointed out that Israel in 1947 agreed to the partition of Palestine and was then willing to give up even a city such as Nahariya in return for what it thought would be peace.

Dialogue, Not Press Statements

Dinitz's remarks regarding Jewish critics of Israeli policies came when Berkowitz, noting that 100 prominent American Jews signed a statement several days ago supporting a demonstration in Tel Aviv against unauthorized settlements on the West Bank, asked whether American Jews should criticize Israel publicly or be silent as a price for not living there.

The Israeli envoy said that in his first meetings with an American Jewish organization after taking up his post three years ago, he told the group, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, that "I am for an open dialogue" between American Jews and Israel.

He said there are numerous channels that are used but said the public media should not be one since it provides ammunition to Israel's enemies. Dinitz said that he looked over the list of 100 signers and every one has a channel to voice his criticism to Israelis, including to Premier Yitzhak Rabin.

However, Dinitz said while Israel will continue to have a free exchange of views with American Jews, "when it comes to decisions that effect the life and security of Israel," such as the final borders, "only the people of Israel can make the final decision" because it is their lives that are at stake. "We are entitled to our own big decisions and our own small mistakes," he said. He invited those who want to publicly criticize Israel to make aliya and then argue for their policies through the Israeli political process.

Denounces Agnew's Statements

Asked about Spiro Agnew's attack on "Zionist influences in the U.S." and American media, Dinitz replied that "I will not open a dialogue with a former Vice-President of the United States." However, he said remarks such as Agnew made are typical of anti-Semites going back to the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion."

Dinitz added, "I don't think we should be oversensitive" to such bigoted remarks. "The record of Israel and of American Jews is so splendid that we can walk with our heads high and look down at these things." He also stressed that he did not believe that Agnew's views were shared by the majority of the American people.

HISTADRUT REFUSED TO PLAY HOST TO TWO SOUTH AFRICAN UNION LEADERS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 13 (JTA)--Histadrut has refused to play host to two South African trade union leaders who have expressed interest in visiting here next month, it was learned today. The visit was proposed by C.P. Grobler, secretary of the South African Labor Federation, who said two members wanted to stop over in Israel as Histadrut guests on their way to the International Labor

Organization convention in Geneva in June.

Grobler's letter was received in the aftermath of South African Prime Minister John Vorster's visit to Israel last month. The Histadrut Central Committee replied that such a visit would be inopportune. The Central Committee gave as grounds the fact that Histadrut is a member of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) which limits contacts with non-members. South Africa is not a member of the ICFTU.

A Histadrut spokesman said the Israeli labor federation would open itself to charges of hypocrisy if it invited the South Africans, inasmuch as Histadrut was in the vanguard of the anti-apartheid drive in the ICFTU.

The spokesman noted that Histadrut maintains contact with labor federations in Black African states notwithstanding that many of those states have severed diplomatic relations with Israel. These contacts might be jeopardized by contacts with South African trade unionists, he said. He explained that that was the reason why Histadrut boycotted all official receptions for Vorster in Israel.

WZO APPROVES IL 281.3 MILLION BUDGET; ALIYA DEPT TO GET IL 90.1 MILLION

JERUSALEM, May 13 (JTA)--The World Zionist Organization's budget committee has approved an IL 281.3 million budget for the 1976-77 fiscal year, the first time in eight years that a new WZO budget has not contained an increase over the previous year's budget.

The largest single allocation is to the aliya department which will receive IL 90.1 million. The youth and halutz department will receive IL 51.7 million, an increase over last year's allocation for the purpose of conducting youth programs abroad and bringing more overseas youth to Israel for various summer programs.

WZO officials said the budgetary restraint reflected the effects of the world-wide economic recession and the resultant tight fund-raising situation. Nevertheless, the WZO has allocated funds to help promote the national tourism goal of 500,000 visitors to Israel during the current "pilgrimage solidarity year."

In addition to the aliya and youth department allocations, the budget provides IL 25.8 million for the information and organization departments and IL 18.6 million each for the education and Torah education departments.

ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY IN LIMA

LIMA, May 13 (JTA)--The need for Israel and the Jewish people to face "with dignity" the attacks on them, particularly when the truth is being distorted by the Arab countries in their effort to destroy Israel, at least politically, was stressed at a Yom Haatzmaut celebration by Michael T. Michael, Israel's Ambassador to Peru.

Another guest speaker at the event, sponsored by Lima's small Jewish community, was Dr. Jorge Basadre, a historian whose name has been inscribed in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem. Another participant was Bustamante Y. Rivero, former President of Peru and former chairman of the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

The week-long observance of Israel's 28th birthday began on May 4 and ended with a meeting addressed by Michael.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**BOARD OF DEPUTIES FACES OVERHAULING**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, May 13 (JTA)--Proposals for radical changes in the running of the Board of Deputies of British Jews will soon be ready for consideration by the 216-year-old umbrella organization of the Anglo-Jewish community. A report, the result of 18 months' work by a 12-man committee, is expected to cause heated controversy among the community's "parliament" whose monthly meetings are attended by representatives from all over the British Isles.

It is now being studied by the Board's four senior officers who are expected to forward it, with their own comments, to the rest of the honorary officers and the senior staff. If implemented, it will bring about considerable changes in a body renowned for its conservative and even archaic image. The first attempt to overhaul the Board in 40 years, the report was instigated by Lord Fisher of Camden when he was elected president three years ago.

Fisher, 72, has just reached the end of his term of office and is constitutionally permitted to stand for another three years. Despite recent illness, he has not yet made up his mind to do so. The election takes place early in July.

Fisher told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that one of the factors which would prompt him to seek another term would be to see the reform plan through to fruition. He particularly wants to widen the scope of the Board so that it will interest academics, industrialists and business people far more than at present.

Board Has Become Fashionable

Reviewing his three-year presidency, he expressed satisfaction that from being somewhat denigrated, the Board has now "become fashionable." The caliber of its staff was higher than ever before and there was intense competition among Jewish congregants to represent their synagogues at its sessions. It also enjoyed great respect in the country as a whole. Other minorities, such as the Baptists, occasionally approached it for advice.

Interest in the Board's activities has resulted partly from the issues facing the Jewish community--solidarity with Israel and Soviet Jewry and the need to combat fascism in Britain. Fisher himself symbolizes the Board's prestige. A close friend of former Premier Sir Harold Wilson, he was made a Lord two years ago and is highly thought of in the main political parties.

Some Problems Cited

He has regrets, though. In terms of numbers, Anglo-Jewry has become one of the country's smaller minorities, and it does not have enough close contact with other minorities. Rivalries with other Jewish organizations occasionally showed up the community in an embarrassing light as when the Zionist Federation recently sent a delegation to complain to the Foreign Office about Britain's Middle East policy, even though some of the same people were on an almost identical delegation sent by the Board.

But there have been compensations. The Board has become far more involved with international Jewish groups. It is now affiliated to the World Jewish Congress, and it is working for closer ties with B'nai B'rith.

YOM HAATZMAUT; ECUADORIAN STYLE

By Jim Reibel

QUITO, May 13 (JTA)--On the evening of May 4, the Israeli Ambassador to Ecuador, Itzhak Shefti, the entire Jewish community, many important government, military and economic leaders, and the general public participated in a ceremony marking Israel's 28th anniversary. The Asociacion Israelita de Quito sponsored a program of speeches and classical music. The music was provided by a string quartet comprised of members of the Sinfonica Nacional.

Shefti told an overflow audience of 400 persons that "At the beginning of this new anniversary of our liberty we celebrate the victory of the Jewish spirit over each and every despotic and wicked element, past and present." Referring to Israel's attitude towards its Arab neighbors, he said that "we are seeking a continuous dialogue between countries that are separated by profound disparities. It is essential to cleanse the political atmosphere of our region, to stop proclamations that incite revenge, that lead to threats of a new war as the only outcome."

Flanked on either side of the stage by pictures of Theodor Herzl and Chaim Weizmann, Shefti stated that "the fight of the Jewish people is a grand historical mission" and that furthermore, "we don't have a viewpoint of only 28 years but of centuries of sacrifice."

The Ambassador was followed up by Humberto Vacas Gomez, sub-director of El Comercio, the country's leading daily paper. Vacas Gomez recently returned from a visit to Israel, where he had been a guest of the Israeli government, meeting with his journalistic counterparts. What impressed him the most about the country, he said, was that "Jews had come from every country in the world, coming with many different habits, languages, levels of cultural achievement... Zionism unified them."

The program closed with a presentation of poems, stories and dramatic readings by the students of the Albert Einstein school, started by the Jewish community in Quito more than three years ago to provide the opportunity of a Jewish education for their youngsters.

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY APPROVES BILL ON STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

ALBANY, May 13 (JTA)--A bill to allow savings banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions in New York State to invest in State of Israel Bonds has been approved by the State Assembly and the State Senate and now awaits Gov. Hugh Carey's signature. Assemblyman Leonard Silverman, Brooklyn Democrat, reported today. He sponsored the bill in the Assembly which approved it Monday. State Senator Roy Goodman, New York Republican, sponsored the measure in the Senate.

Silverman said that under the legislation, investment in Israel Bonds would be limited to five percent of the capital deposits and reserves of the investing institution. Commercial banks have been permitted for some time to invest in Israel Bonds. Silverman said 20 states now permit savings banks to buy Israel Bonds.

NEW YORK (JTA)--A representative from Israel's Ministry of Education, Gershon Bergson, is currently in the United States interviewing teachers interested in working and living in Israel.