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ALLON: 'NEW DECISION' ON 'IMPORTANT' MILITARY ITEMS HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES

Israeli Makes Announcement After Holding A 55-Minute Meeting With The President
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said today that "no new arms agreement" has been made between Israel and the U.S. but that a "new decision" on "important items" was reached by the U.S. He made those remarks during and after a 55-minute meeting with President Ford at the White House.

While posing for photographs in the Oval Office, Allon and Ford were heard conversing. According to reporters present, the Israeli Foreign Minister expressed his thanks and "satisfaction with your (Ford's) new decision on the modern (inaudible) and other important items."

Ford was heard to reply that "It obviously was the right thing to do to make certain that it was no question about the support and to meet the circumstances that we want to avoid." No amplification of those remarks was given by the White House or by Allon when he met with reporters afterwards.

Allon told the reporters, however, that "there is no new arms agreement." He said "The question in Israel is if the U.S. is living up to its commitments. The Prime Minister made clear that the U.S. is living up to its commitments, its promises, including certain items discussed long ago," Allon said. (See related story from Israel.)

Rejects Election Connection

Asked if the U.S. arms were in the form of assistance or a cash sale, Allon would say only that they were included in the "general agreement." When reporters inquired if his discussion of arms with Ford had anything to do with the Presidential election campaign, Allon replied, "Why drag me into the elections? Negotiations have been going on for years--months before elections and months after elections. This is a continuing process." Allon also said "I'm not supposed to interfere with the elections" when asked about the Administration's position on legislation related to the Arab boycott.

Pressed by reporters about the "new arms deal," the Foreign Minister said "the recent announcement" referred to "what we were looking for" and that the discussion was "very satisfactory."

Mideast Situation Discussed

Allon said in reply to questions that the U.S.-Israeli controversy over oil drilling in the eastern sector of the Gulf of Suez was not raised during his meeting with the President today. He said he was discussing that matter with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. But he said his talks with Ford included a review of the Middle East situation and "recent events in the area." He said they also discussed "prospects of peace in the Middle East as soon as momentum can be revived."

The Ford-Allon meeting was attended by Kissinger and Gen. Brent Scowcroft, assistant to the

President for National Security Affairs and chairman of the National Security Council. Allon was accompanied by Ambassador Simcha Dinitz; Ephraim Evron, deputy director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who had discussed the Gulf of Suez issue at the State Department last month; and Hannan Baron, Minister at the Israeli Embassy here.

Pershing Missiles Not Included

White House press secretary Ron Nessen pointed out at a press briefing later that the President had approved "certain additional items of military hardware which Israel requested." He stated that the decision was made by the President last week and transmitted to Israel. He said it was "part of the ongoing discussion" with Israel.

Nessen refused to describe the weapons involved. He emphasized, however, that they do not include Pershing surface-to-surface missiles which can be equipped with nuclear warheads. The transfer of Pershings to any country is opposed by Congress.

Nessen also emphasized that there was no increase in the U.S. commitment of \$1 billion in military credits to Israel for fiscal year 1977 which began on Oct. 1 and that Congress would have to approve the transfers of weapons. This means that no action will be taken until the new Congress convenes in January.

Nessen said that some of the additional equipment for Israel includes "new items never before sold to Israel" as well as "additions to lists of previous items." Asked if the arms decision had anything to do with the Presidential election campaign, the White House press secretary replied, "That is unworthy of an answer and not something I am even going to deny."

RABIN SAYS U.S. RESPONDED FAVORABLY FOR CERTAIN 'ULTRA MODERN WEAPONS SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin informed the Cabinet yesterday that the United States has responded favorably to recent requests by Israel for certain "ultra modern weapons systems and technology." It was learned at the same time that Rabin had made a personal appeal to President Ford for the arms last week. No details were made public as to the nature of the weapons he requested but political sources here said they are of a type badly needed by Israel.

Rabin told the Cabinet at its weekly session that all arms promised Israel by the U.S. were delivered and are being delivered on schedule. He expressed satisfaction with the state of U.S.-Israeli relations and noted that in the past year there has been "serious progress" in American legislation aimed against the Arab boycott and American companies participating in it.

"On the whole, one should be satisfied with the many achievements in the relations between the two countries," Rabin told the Cabinet. He added praise for the contributions made by Israel's envoy in Washington, Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, toward those relations.

Political observers here noted that Rabin's remarks yesterday were not the first by the

Premier that could be construed as an expression of support for President Ford in the American election campaign over his Democratic opponent, Jimmy Carter. Addressing the convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, the Orthodox rabbinical body, held here last summer Rabin stressed that relations between Israel and the U.S. were never as good as during the last four years. Those years included the last two of the Nixon Administration.

Similar remarks were made several weeks ago by Amos Eran, director general of the Prime Minister's Office. Criticism was expressed later that Rabin was leaving little doubt as to which of the two American Presidential candidates he favored.

The Premier referred at the Cabinet meeting to the expressions of support for Israel by both candidates during their television debate on U.S. foreign policy last week. He said those expressions indicated to a large degree that "the American public, media, parties, Congress and the Administration show a deep understanding of Israel's needs and goals." President Anwar Sadat of Egypt offered similar praise of the Ford Administration's foreign policy as executed by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in an interview with ABC-TV correspondent Barbara Walters last week.

Toon Reassures Israel

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador Malcolm Toon who was appointed to his post by Ford, told an audience in Tel Aviv Thursday that no matter which candidate is the winner in the American elections, U.S. policy toward Israel will remain the same as it is today. "We will remain firmly committed to the freedom and safety of this country," Toon declared at the opening of the American Carnival, a bicentennial display of American products at the Shalom department store.

ISRAEL WILL NOT REPLY TO SOVIETS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11 (JTA)--The Israel government does not intend to reply directly to the recent Soviet peace proposal for the Mideast. Officials here said last weekend that Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's speech at the UN General Assembly last Thursday, in which he reiterated Israel's immediate readiness to return to Geneva with the other original participants, but without the PLO, was an implied reply to Moscow. Israel would make no further reply at the present time, the officials explained, because it did not wish to engage in a dialogue with the Soviets on Moscow's terms.

The Soviet proposal was published by Tass as a statement 10 days ago and was delivered by a Soviet diplomat to Israel's UN Mission in New York. This was the first such diplomatic salvo by Moscow towards Israel for several years, and it was plain that Moscow hoped for an Israeli response, thereby creating a dialogue.

The Soviet proposal called for a reconvening of Geneva in two stages: the first procedural, at which the agenda for the second, substantive stage would be formulated. The proposal also laid down four basic points for a settlement: total Israeli withdrawal; a Palestinian state; international guarantees for Arabs and Israelis; and an end of the state of war.

Israeli officials explained that they saw no benefit for Israel in entering upon a dialogue

with Moscow--as Moscow evidently wished--while the freeze in diplomatic relations between the two countries is maintained by Moscow with full rigidity. Israel would only talk if and when Moscow initiated a meaningful thaw, they said.

These officials pointed out, too, that it had been a cardinal aim of both U.S. and Israeli policy in the Mideast during the past three years, to limit Soviet influence in the area. Moscow's exclusion from Cairo and its weakening ties with Damascus were measures of the success of that policy. It would thus be inopportune for Israel, responding to the Soviet overture, to help the Soviets climb back to a position of central prominence in Mideast peacemaking, the officials reasoned.

The 1974-1975 situation, in which the Soviets were merely brought into rubber-stamp American-orchestrated agreements, was the best possible for Israel--and there is no reason for Israel to change it without an adequate Soviet quid pro quo in political terms, the officials added.

HERZOG GIVES DOBRYNIN ISRAEL'S VIEWS ON MIDEAST, GENEVA TALKS

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Chaim Herzog, Israel's permanent representative to the United Nations, handed last Friday a paper to Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin of the Soviet Union, acting head of the Soviet delegation, outlining Israel's position on the problem of a settlement in the Middle East and a Geneva peace conference. Herzog said this was not a reply to the Soviets but an attempt to draw their attention to Israel's position.

This paper re-stated Israel's position as presented last Thursday to the General Assembly by Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon:

"We believe that Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 form the only agreed basis both for the nature of the peace and for the method of achieving it. For that reason we are ready to take part in a reconvened Geneva peace conference in its original composition at any mutually acceptable time.

"At such a conference or by any other means which the parties find satisfactory, we would hope to negotiate with each of our neighbors a final peace settlement based on a fair compromise which, on one hand, will provide Israel with defensible borders and on the other satisfy genuine Arab interests including a just and constructive solution to the problem of Palestinian Arab identity within the context of the settlement with our neighbor to the east. Only a peace which serves the peace of Israel and its neighbors will endure."

ABRAM SALOMON DEAD AT 64

NEW YORK, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Funeral services were held at the Park East Synagogue today for Abram Salomon, executive vice-president and administrative head of the Jewish National Fund of America, who died suddenly of a heart attack Saturday night at the age of 64. At the time of his death, he was engaged in the establishment of the American Bicentennial Park in the Judean hills near Jerusalem, a \$6 million JNF project conceived as a tribute to America's 200th anniversary. He participated in the dedication of the park on its site last July 4.

Salomon also served as a vice-president of the Zionist Organization of America and as a member of its national executive committee and administrative board; a member of the executive

of the American Zionist Federation and a member of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress.

A scholar fluent in Hebrew and Yiddish, Salomon—often quoted passages from the Bible, the Talmud and Yiddish classics to illustrate points. He was born in Poland where he graduated from the University of Warsaw, received a Master of Laws degree and was active in the Zionist movement before the outbreak of World War II. He and his wife fled Nazi-occupied Poland in 1939, crossed Siberia to China and Japan and spent the war years in Australia. He served as the vice-president of the Australian Zionist Federation and as a correspondent for the Australian Jewish Press for which he visited and wrote about displaced persons camps in Germany after the war.

Salomon came to New York in 1950 and while making his home here travelled frequently to Israel and other countries on behalf of the JNF. He assumed the administrative leadership of the JNF of America in 1971, directing its activities in this country and in Israel. Burial will be in the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.

AJ COMMITTEE GRAVELY DISAPPOINTED AT FAILURE BY NCC TO REMOVE OR SUSPEND TRIFA FROM GOVERNING BOARD

NEW YORK, Oct. 11 (JTA)—The American Jewish Committee said today that it "is gravely disappointed at the failure of the National Council of Churches to remove or suspend from its governing board a fascist war criminal, Bishop Valerian D. Trifa, of Grass Lake, Mich.," who participated in the murder of thousands of Jews and others while a commandant of the Rumanian fascist Iron Guard in 1941.

Trifa has been charged by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Immigration and Naturalization Service with having lied about his membership in the Iron Guard when he applied for American citizenship after World War II.

The AJ Committee statement, issued by Rabbi Marc H. Tannenbaum, national director and Rabbi James Rudin, assistant director of the AJ Committee's Interreligious Affairs Department, declared that "The continued presence on the National Council's governing body of this former commandant of the anti-Semitic Rumanian Iron Guard...will seriously compromise the moral credibility of the National Council and will undoubtedly call into question any of its pronouncements or actions regarding issues of public morality."

Meeting Interrupted For Two Hours

A meeting of the policy-making board of the National Council of Churches was interrupted for two hours on Friday by 30 young Jews who demanded Trifa's ouster from its governing board. The youngsters, who took over the rostrum during a luncheon break, described themselves as members of Concerned Jewish Youth. The CJY is a project of the Betar Zionist Youth Movement. About ten members of the Jewish Defense League also participated in the protest demonstration.

major Protestant denominations, returned to their seats, the protestors handed them leaflets calling Trifa a "mass murderer" and a "Nazi criminal." They described the Iron Guard as the "Rumanian equivalent of the Nazi Party." The youths left the meeting room after the policy board agreed to

refer the ouster request to its credentials committee. The board, however, declined to vote immediately on the removal of Trifa.

The AJ Committee statement read: "To avoid taking action on the dismissal of Trifa, a murderer, on the technical basis that such decision rests with the Rumanian Orthodox Church is to evade moral responsibility through legalisms." Citing the government's charges against Trifa, who faces revocation of his citizenship, the AJ Committee said "It would seem that the very least moral obligation rested on the leadership of the National Council to suspend Trifa pending completion of the government's proceedings against him."

PESIN ELECTED JNF PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, Oct. 11 (JTA)—Meyer Pesin, veteran American Zionist and communal leader, was elected national president of the Jewish National Fund of America at a meeting of the JNF board of directors held last Wednesday night.

Pesin was chosen to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor, Dr. Maurice S. Sage, who collapsed and died June 22 after he had presented Mrs. Betty Ford to the huge audience assembled at the JNF Bicentennial Dinner held that evening at the New York Hilton. Pesin previously served as JNF president from 1971 to 1975 and was succeeded in office by the late Dr. Sage. Since his death, Jack Lefkowitz, JNF national treasurer, was acting president.

Pesin, in a brief acceptance speech, pledged to dedicate himself to the development of the American Bicentennial Park in Israel, a project of the JNF of America which had been conceived during his prior administration. He termed the park "one of the greatest projects in the 75-year history of the JNF; a glorious evergreen tribute to the role of the Jew in 200 years of American history."

7 FIRMS CITED BY COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (JTA)—The Commerce Department has accused seven relatively small American corporations with knowingly violating federal law by failing to report requests to take part in the Arab boycott of Israel. The department declared last Friday it had "reasonable cause to believe" that the seven firms were asked to join in the boycott and did not file reports on those approaches. There is no penalty for compliance, only for not reporting requests to comply.

The seven firms may contest the charges. A Department spokesman said a variety of penalties may be applied if the firms are found guilty. Export privileges could be withdrawn for minor violations. Major violations will be turned over to the Justice Department for criminal prosecution with possible fines of up to \$10,000 and jail terms of up to 10 years for those found guilty.

The firms named by the Commerce Department were Henry Stern and Co., Hartsdale, N.Y.; L & M Export Co., Downey, Calif.; Longhorn Machine Works, Houston; M. Swift and Sons, Hartford; Pako Corp., Minneapolis; Stafford Miller Export, Jersey City; and Wilk Industries, New York. An earlier Commerce Department statement listed 24,710 reported transactions with Arab countries in which demands were made for boycott compliance. The data covered the period from Oct. 1, 1975 to March 31, 1976, the latest period for which such data were available.

MAJOR JEWISH LEADERS NATIONAL GROUP ASSESS ARAB BOYCOTT AND RESPONSES BY THE ADMINISTRATION

NEW YORK, Oct. 11 (JTA)--Two national Jewish leaders and a national representative body of Jewish groups spoke out in the past few days on the issue of the Arab boycott and the Ford Administration's handling of this situation.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said that while the executive order, announced last Wednesday night by President Ford during his debate with Democratic Presidential nominee Jimmy Carter requiring that Arab boycott demands be made public, would call attention to those corporations that surrender to the boycott pressures, "there is still no law that protects American companies from Arab pressure to stop trading with Israel and to stop trading with other U.S. companies trading with Israel."

Max M. Fisher, Detroit industrialist who is chairman of "People for Ford" in the Jewish community, in a communication being widely distributed, hailed Ford's "further action" to combat the boycott and called attention to the "far-reaching steps taken by President Ford in the last year-and-a-half." Noting Ford's announcement last week, Fisher stated that "this will bring out in the open which companies are supporting the boycott and will give the American people an opportunity to react and also give the companies pause as to whether to continue compliance with the boycott when it becomes a matter of public record."

Parliamentary Obstruction Cited

The National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, charged in a statement that "parliamentary obstructions" with the backing of the Administration had prevented Congress from enacting amendments to the Export Administration Act that would have prohibited U.S. firms from participating in the boycott against Israel, thus allowing the act to expire Sept. 30.

The NJCRAC, comprising nine national Jewish organizations and 100 Jewish community relations councils in cities throughout the country, branded the Administration's arguments against the amendments as "a shameful knuckling under to Arab attempts to dictate American policy and the business conduct of American companies." Some of the amendments had passed the Senate and others the House by majorities of 5-1 in both chambers, NJCRAC stated.

Schindler, in discussing legislation required to protect U.S. firms from Arab pressure, declared that this "must become a top priority for the next Congress and Administration no matter who is elected President." He continued: "Without such laws, the quality of citizenship of American Jews and all who support and trade with Israel will continue to be under growing Arab attack. Without such laws, the Arab states will remain free to exploit American industry as a weapon in their economic war against Israel."

Ford Praised For Actions

Fisher, who is also a member of the President's campaign steering committee, made his views known in a "Dear Friend" letter on stationery of the "President Ford Committee" sent to more than 4000 leaders of the Jewish community. Accompanying it is a "fact sheet" issued by the

White House explaining Ford's directive to Commerce Secretary Elliot Richardson on boycott-related reports by U.S. firms.

"We have heard a lot of rhetoric from the other candidate but very few specifics," Fisher stated. "With President Ford, we have a record of a clear and committed stance in opposition to the boycott. The President has not taken every action which has been urged on him by various members of the community, but when you consider he is the first President ever to take any action, and when you look at what he has done, the record is really impressive."

The NJCRAC statement asserted that laws are needed "to deny the Arab states the means of playing off American businesses one against the other; to protect American companies against unfair competition from other companies less scrupulous in their business ethics and sense of fair play." It noted that the Arabs are dependent on U.S. equipment and know-how and that the impact of the boycott "will be nullified, without damage to America's economy" if the U.S. government and business community refuse to collaborate in the boycott.

Ford Had Reasonable, Responsible Compromise

Meanwhile, White House press secretary Ron Nessen claimed today that Ford had a "responsible compromise... a reasonable compromise" over the anti-boycott provisions in the Export Administration act extension bill which died when Congress adjourned Oct. 2 without acting on the measure. He said that Ford wanted to present the compromise and that it was "pushed through the Congressional liaison office" but "Congress went away without doing it." Nessen did not describe the nature of the compromise.

Asked why the President had advanced his compromise legislation three days before Congress adjourned when he had felt previously that anti-boycott legislation was not required, Nessen replied that Ford opposed legislation because he had "already taken" effective action against the boycott in Nov. 1975. At that time Ford expressed the opposition of the Administration to discrimination against Americans as a result of the boycott.

NEW YORK (JTA)--More than \$3.6 million in Israel Bonds was sold last Thursday at a dinner here which paid tribute to Ira Gulden, New York financier and industrialist, who is serving as chairman of the board of the Israel Bond Organization. Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, was the principal speaker at the event which honored Gulden for his pioneering leadership in the establishment of the Israel Bond campaign.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--President Ford has signed legislation that "will serve as a significant enforcement tool for us to deal more effectively with the menace of terrorism." He also said in making the legislation into U.S. law that it "once again demonstrates the commitment of the U.S. to sustain its struggle against international terrorism." The law provides new penalties for attempted murder or kidnapping of diplomats.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Julie Nixon Eisenhower, daughter of former President Nixon, interviewed former Premier Golda Meir at her home here. Mrs. Eisenhower is writing a book on six personalities--one of them Mrs. Meir.