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REPORTS OF SYRIAN MODERATION ARE VIEWED WITH SKEPTICISM

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Political sources here viewed with skepticism today reports indicating that Syria may be turning toward a course of moderation in the Middle East conflict. According to the reports, Syria promised the U.S. that it would not move its forces into southern Lebanon. The U.S. conveyed this to Israel with its own interpretation that, for the time being, Syria has decided to forego the military option.

According to the American analysis, this could pave the way for a new interim accord with Israel on the Golan Heights or the resumption of the Geneva peace conference for an overall settlement. But the Israeli sources point out that past experience has shown that Syrian positions change rapidly, sometimes swinging to extremes.

Damascus had promised the U.S. earlier that it would not allow terrorists to re-enter southern Lebanon adjacent to the Israeli border. But reports last week said that terrorist units had in fact returned to southern Lebanon and some were said to be in occupation of villages barely three miles from the Israeli lines.

Although the extent of the terrorist movement and its implications are a matter of dispute among Israeli analysts, the fact that they were allowed to pass through Syrian lines indicated a sudden shift by Damascus from its policy of supporting Lebanese Christians to one in favor of the Palestinians and Moslem leftists.

PERES: EGYPT CONTINUING VIOLATIONS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres met again yesterday at his office with the commander of the United Nations peace-keeping force in the Sinai and said Egypt continued to violate the second Sinai accord by an excess of forces in the limited forces zone east of the Suez Canal.

Peres conveyed to Gen. Enso Stilaqvuo Israel's satisfaction at the steps taken by UNEF which resulted in cancellation of Egyptian helicopter flights over the buffer zone and withdrawal of missile sites from the east bank of the canal.

But Peres stressed Israel was not satisfied with the distribution of Egyptian armed forces, contending that Egypt has many more battalions in the limited forces zone than is permitted by the accord. Peres said the Egyptian explanation that the battalions are below normal strength is not acceptable. The UNEF commander also promised to impose greater control on movement of Bedouins in the buffer zone, another source of concern to Israel.

PRICE HIKES CREATE UNREST

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA)--The prospect of strikes and protest demonstrations by workers against the decision of the government to increase prices of basic commodities by cutting subsidies emerged yesterday from an unusually vigorous protest by the Histadrut over the action.

Histadrut officials announced the labor federation's withdrawal from the government-industry-Histadrut price control committee and de-

clared that it would be the task of the workers councils and committees to launch a protest campaign against the price jumps, which have affected bread, milk, eggs and other dairy products.

The officials said the planned actions would convince the Labor-dominated government it could not conduct its economic policies without the cooperation of the Histadrut. Some Histadrut sources charged that the government deliberately timed the subsidy cancellations to coincide with the election this week in the United States to divert public attention from the increases. With the election campaign over, Israel may face a serious drive by workers for increased cost-of-living payments, in addition to the established half-yearly payments.

RABIN CONGRATULATES CARTER

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin cabled President-elect Jimmy Carter yesterday a message of congratulations. It said:

"It is in the spirit of the deep friendship that binds our two peoples, that I extend to you warm congratulations on your electoral victory. I do so in the name of the people and government of Israel. In the tradition of the great office you are about to assume, America, I know, will continue along the road of building a better, a more peaceful and safer world for the benefit of all mankind. Please accept my own personal best wishes, and all good fortune for the future."

Earlier, in an Army Radio press conference, Rabin said he believed Carter would pursue the same traditional bipartisan policy which his predecessors in the White House always followed, of "understanding Israel's needs and positions and of giving Israel the aid which this country's situation makes necessary."

FORD SUPPORTERS CLAIM AT LEAST 35% OF JEWS VOTED FOR THE PRESIDENT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Supporters of President Ford said today that nationwide at least 35 percent--or about one in every three Jewish voters--cast their ballots for Ford Tuesday.

In addition to their own surveys of precincts in Jewish neighborhoods, the Ford backers referred to the New York Times-CBS poll that estimated 32 percent of the Jewish vote went to Ford and to the Lou Harris poll showing 45 percent for Ford and 54 percent for Jimmy Carter. According to Carter people, the Jewish vote nationwide was 75 percent for him. NBC also estimated a three to one edge for Carter among Jews who voted.

"Our figures nationwide would indicate the President received at least 35 percent of the Jewish vote," David Lissy, associate director of the President's domestic council said. His report corroborated estimates in New York and Philadelphia received from Ford aides who said that Ford did better than other Republican Presidential candidates in the past in their areas. The Philadelphia estimate was 35 percent for Ford.

In New York, a specialist pointed out that it would be a mistake to assume that because the

whole of the Boro Park assembly district showed 33 percent of the votes were for Ford meant that figure represented the Jewish vote. The district has both Jews and non-Jews, he noted. In some election areas, the vote was 48 percent or even more for Ford, he said.

He also observed that while all Williamsburg was about one in three for Ford, some precincts were evenly split between Ford and Carter. In Nassau County suburbs, the Ford vote was 35 to 38 percent, he observed. "It all depends on what figures you take," he advised.

"Obviously we wanted to win," Lissy said. "Nevertheless we are very proud of the support of Jewish voters for the President. I think it is very important that both parties understand the Jewish community provides support for candidates of both parties and gives its support in accordance with the issues and the candidates. The community does not vote automatically one way or the other. It is to the credit of the Jewish community that it had such distinguished leaders active in both campaigns."

48 COUNTRIES IN CHESS COMPETITION

By Yitzhak Shargil

HAIFA, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Teams from 48 countries are competing in the 22nd International Chess Olympiad which has entered its second week here in a relaxed atmosphere of friendship and goodwill. The participants from abroad are pleased by Haifa's hospitality and those from colder climates especially are delighted by the mild weather that permits them to swim in the Mediterranean between sessions at the boards.

But this being the Middle East, the specter of politics haunts every activity no matter how apolitical. The International Chess Federation (FIDA), selected Israel to be the host country for the first time in 12 years. That brought a predictable reaction from the Arabs. Libya set up its own counter-tournament which was promptly disqualified by FIDA. The Arab countries sent teams to Libya and some countries that lean toward the Arabs did the same in order to appease their friends. But they were careful not to give their teams official status in order to avoid sanctions by FIDA.

The Soviet Union and the rest of the Communist bloc are boycotting the Haifa games. But they did not go to Libya. The Russians, however, are participating indirectly in the FIDA Congress which is being held here simultaneously with the Olympiad. They have sent chess problems for solution by experts. Yugoslavia sent delegates to the Congress representing that country and Hungary as well.

Soviet Jews Among The Best

The Olympiad was opened officially by Premier Yitzhak Rabin who greeted the 38 men and 22 women players with the injunction of the Prophet Zechariah that problems should be solved not by force but by the spirit. Dr. Max Euew of Holland, president of FIDA and a participant in the tournament, recalled that his status as a chess master helped him save Jews from deportation during World War II. He said the Nazis did not search his home where a number of Jews were in hiding.

Some of the best players on the Israeli team are recent immigrants from the Soviet Union--Grand Master Vladimir Liseverson, Roman Djindjichashvili and Leon Lederman on the men's team and Olga Podgrzesenskaya and Luba Kristal among the women. The kibbitzers--whose num-

bers are legion--are mainly Israelis. But they include not a few Arab chess fans from Jordan and other neighboring countries who crossed the Jordan River bridges.

The FIDA Congress, meanwhile, has many political problems on its agenda. These include a membership application from the PLO and the question of ousting South Africa. The PLO bid was postponed until the next Congress.

NAVON SAYS ZIONIST CONGRESS COURT 'UNINTENTIONALLY GRIEVOUSLY WRONGED' HIM IN ITS CRITICISM

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Zionist General Council, upon learning of the criticism leveled against him last Sunday by the Zionist Congress Court in Jerusalem, sent a cable to Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau who also heads the Congress Court that the Congress Court had "unintentionally grievously wronged" him in accusing him of "by-passing the democratic process."

A decision by the Congress Court (reported in the JTA Bulletin Nov. 2) overturned last July's decision by the Zionist Council not to hold elections for delegates to the 29th Zionist Congress scheduled for January, 1977. As part of that decision, the Court sharply criticized Navon for "by-passing the democratic process" by allegedly refusing to recognize the WZO counsel, Zvi Klementinovsky, and not permitting him to present his legal objections to the Council proposition.

In his cable Tuesday to Landau, Navon, who is in the United States on a business trip, stated that a member of the Zionist Actions Committee, Raphael Kotlowitz, chairman of the Herut faction, had requested that the WZO counsel express his views on the proposal regarding delegate elections. Navon cabled that "I advised him (Kotlowitz) that it was inappropriate for him to speak in the name of the counsel, who was present with us in the meeting hall and who, if he desired to make any comment, was welcome to do so."

The counsel, Navon continued, did not ask to be recognized, adding that had he asked for the floor Navon would, as in the past, have recognized him "without any difficulty." Navon concluded his cable by noting that the Congress Court had "grievously wronged" him in its reprimand.

Five Support Navon's View

Navon's version was supported in an additional cable by five members of the Zionist General Council--Charlotte Jacobson, Arthur Hertzberg, Allen Pollack, Emanuel Rackman and Kalman Sultanik--on the basis of their recollections of what transpired last July. Their cable to Landau stated:

"In the course of the discussion, Actions Committee member Kotlowitz stated to chairman Navon that he ought to give the floor to Klementinovsky. Chairman Navon then said that if Klementinovsky wanted to speak he would recognize him upon his request. Chairman Navon half turned to Klementinovsky who remained silent and did not ask for the floor then or at any later point in the session. We therefore feel that in light of the above facts, the Court's criticism of Navon was completely unwarranted."

(According to a report today from Jerusalem, the Court, in reaction to these cables, published the protocol of last July's session with no additional comment, implying that the Court's criticism of Navon was justified.)

HERZOG: ISRAEL DETERMINED NOT TO ALLOW A SECOND LEBANON TO DEVELOP IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Israel told the Security Council today that "there was no bloodshed in Israel or in the territories administered by Israel because the government of Israel has been and is determined not to allow a second Lebanon to develop in the areas under Israeli control."

Addressing the second meeting of the Security Council's debate on the situation in the occupied territories and the "explosive situation in Hebron," Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Chaim Herzog, warned that the current debate can serve only Arab extremists for the purpose of "fomenting hatred between Arabs and Jews."

Noting that Egypt requested the meeting more than two weeks ago and that she is using the Council as "an instrument to solve the internal problems" of the Arab countries, Herzog said that life returned to normal in Hebron after the Yom Kippur desecration incidents "and Jews and Moslems pray today side by side peacefully in the Tomb of the Patriarchs."

Asking why Egypt and the Security Council did not take any action over the desecration of holy places in Lebanon in the last one-and-a-half years, the Israeli envoy declared: "Am I to understand that if a mosque is allegedly desecrated in Hebron one convenes the Security Council, but if hundreds of churches and mosques are burned and razed to the ground and desecrated in Lebanon the Security Council remains silent?"

Notes Irony Of Criticism

Referring to accusations by Jordan in the first session of the Council that seven Palestinians were killed in "cold blood" by an Israeli civilian in Halhul, a village near Hebron, Herzog said that no one was killed during the events in Hebron and that the representative of Jordan simply lied. Only one person was injured and the matter is being investigated by police, Herzog said.

Herzog noted that it is "ironical" that Israel is criticized on the way she handles the holy places, because, he said, all during the period that they were under Moslem jurisdiction Jews were not allowed access to them, while today every person, regardless of his religion, is allowed to worship there.

Declaring that debates like the current one are "barren and useless," Herzog called on the Arabs to start the "negotiating process" with Israel. "As long as you refuse to talk to us it means that you don't recognize our right to exist," Herzog said.

GUSTAVE LEVY DEAD AT 66

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Gustave Lehmann Levy, head of the international investment banking firm of Goldman, Sachs & Co., and a leading philanthropist and fund-raiser for Jewish and non-Jewish causes, died yesterday at the age of 66.

Levy, who was one of the most powerful men on Wall Street, was a heavy contributor and fund-raiser for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and the United Jewish Appeal. He was president of the Federation three times and at the time of his death was associate chairman of the board. He was also a treasurer and trustee of the UJA of Greater New York.

Levy was also treasurer of the International Synagogue at Kennedy Airport and was chairman of Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan as well as Mount Sinai Medical Center and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. When Levy first came to New York from New Orleans in 1927 he lived at the Federation-sponsored 92nd Street YMHA. He left the Y owing it \$2, but later made a substantial donation to it. "They gave me friendship and confidence in myself at a time when I needed it badly," he said.

HISTORY IS MADE AT THE UN

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 4 (JTA)--For the first time in history, an agreement made almost 4000 years ago and recorded in the Bible, has been issued as a United Nations document today. At the request of Israeli Ambassador Chaim Herzog, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim circulated the contract between the Hebrew Patriarch Abraham and Ephron the Hittite for the purchase of the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron, the West Bank city which is at the center of the current debate in the Security Council. Herzog's letter was in response to the Islamic Conference's claim that "all Jewish association with the city of Hebron, both religious and historical, are completely brushed aside, if not denied outright."

RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWRY

By Sam Lipski

MELBOURNE, Nov. 4 (JTA)--A "Freedom Bus" delegation of 60 Jews staged well-publicized protest demonstrations Tuesday outside the Soviet Embassy and Parliament House in Canberra. The delegation called on the Australian government to protest to the Soviet Union over the recent increase in repressive measures by the Soviet authorities against Jewish activists.

The bus had brought the 60 Jews to Canberra from Melbourne, 450 miles south of the national capital. After a prayer service outside the Soviet Embassy led by Rabbi Ellis Sultanik of Melbourne's Northeast Jewish Community Center, the shofar was blown and a symbolic procession marched seven times around the embassy buildings. The demonstrators were unable to present a petition carrying some 20,000 signatures to the Soviet Embassy officials who refused all requests for communication with them.

The protestors were well received by parliamentarians of all parties from the House of Representatives and the Senate and were supported by letters of sympathy from the Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, the leader of the opposition, Gough Whitlam and the Deputy Prime Minister Douglas Anthony. Sen. Peter Baume presented a letter from the demonstrators to Foreign Affairs Minister Andrew Peacock which called on Australia to protest to Moscow over the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union.

In response to the protest, William Wentworth, a Liberal Party backbencher, called for a parliamentary committee to approach the Soviet Embassy in Canberra for details of the religious status of Jews in the Soviet Union.

BUDAPEST (JTA)--A new synagogue was inaugurated this week in the industrial town of Salgotarjan in northern Hungary. Local community members were joined by young Jews from other Hungarian cities in doing most of the actual construction work. The city has only a relatively small Jewish community.

RABBI DEMANDS CATHOLIC LEADER DISAVOW REMARKS ABOUT JEWS

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Remarks offensive to Jews attributed to a high ranking Roman Catholic clergyman were the subject of an exchange of letters released here yesterday between Rabbi Judah Cahn, president of the New York Board of Rabbis and Terrence Cardinal Cooke, the Archbishop of New York. Rabbi Cahn, who initiated the correspondence, asked for an explanation or disavowal of a statement reported to have been made during the Bronx health care controversy last month by Monsignor James Cassidy.

According to a report on radio station WQXR, Cassidy said on Oct. 19, "We Catholics are tired of being pushed around by the Jews of New York" and that the predominantly Puerto Rican neighborhoods of the South Bronx "would much rather be treated by their own kind."

The controversy was generated by a dispute over affiliating the city's new North Central Bronx Hospital with the Albert Einstein Medical College of Yeshiva University instead of the Catholic-sponsored Misericordia Hospital. Catholics contended that Jewish medical institutions received a disproportionate share of city health care funds.

Cahn described Cassidy's alleged remarks as "blatant appeals to the basest traits in our suffering society." He wrote, "If Monsignor Cassidy spoke in anger, compassion demands forgiveness. If he truly believes such sentiments, then I am certain that a public disavowal of them would demonstrate that the church neither condones nor recognizes the authority of Monsignor Cassidy to speak in this false and biased fashion."

Cooke Shows Concern

Replying, Cooke said, "I share your concern that the wonderful relationships between our Catholic and Jewish brothers should grow and deepen and develop more and more in the communities of our city." He added:

"I had indeed become aware of certain statements which were attributed by members of the press and media to many of the participants in the discussion concerning health and hospital care in The Bronx. I can assure you that so many of these reported attributions were either incorrect or taken out of context and that Monsignor James Cassidy is a man of deep understanding of the wonderful dedication of the Jewish community to friendship and cooperation in so many areas."

HARRIS LEVINE DEAD AT 76

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today for Dr. Harris J. Levine, one of the foremost pioneer figures in the American and world Zionist movement and top ranking figure of Bnai Zion, who died yesterday at the age of 76. Born in New York, Levine, a physician by profession, became active in the Zionist movement in his early youth, and at the age of 26 he emerged as a leader in Bnai Zion and in the major fundraising institutions for Palestine, particularly in the Jewish National Fund of America and in the Keren Hayesod, Palestine Foundation Fund which was later incorporated in the United Israel Appeal. He served as the president of the Jewish National Fund for 10 years, from 1950 to 1960. Unanimously elected as president in 1939 in which post he served until 1941, Levine founded and headed the Bnai Zion Foundation which has es-

tablished and maintains 30 humanitarian projects in Israel. He was a founder of the American Red Magen David and served as its president from 1947 through 1950.

Since the establishment of Israel, Levine played a vital role in its economic upbuilding. On Feb. 15, 1970, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, he was presented with the Bnai Zion America-Israel Friendship Gold Medal Award. In 1951 he was invited by the then Premier David Ben Gurion to Jerusalem to receive the most outstanding award from the State of Israel for his initiative in the launching of the first Israel Bond drive in the United States which set a goal of \$100 million.

In tribute to his outstanding achievements to the cause of Israel, particularly in its humanitarian projects, Kfar Bnai Zion, a prosperous agricultural town near Tel Aviv, named its main thoroughfare in his honor. Last month there took place a groundbreaking ceremony of a new modern administration building bearing his name in the Bnai Zion Institute for Retarded Children in Rosh Ha'ayin which he helped to establish. Talma Zvi, a remote settlement in the Negev was named for him by the Israel government.

Among the high posts he occupied were those of vice-president of the United Jewish Appeal, vice-president of the New York Teachers Seminary and chairman of the board of the America-Israel Friendship League of which he was a founder. He was also a member of the World Zionist Actions Committee, the governing body of the World Zionist Organization.

STEFAN ZAMOYSKI DEAD AT 71

LONDON, Nov. 4 (JTA)--The death has been announced here of Count Stefan Zamoyski, a Polish nobleman who was a strong and active friend of Israel. A former aide de camp to General Sikorski, the wartime Polish leader in exile, Zamoyski combined his love of thoroughbred horses with his support for Israel. He died in San Francisco last week while representing Israel at the International Conference of the Arab Horse Organization. He was 71. Among his Israeli equestrian friends was Chaim Barlev, the present Minister of Commerce.

YADLIN GETS 15 MORE DAYS IN JAIL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA)--Asher Yadlin was remanded for an additional 15-day period in jail Tuesday while police continued their investigation of charges that he accepted bribes and engaged in other illegal activities while chairman of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut sick fund. Yadlin's sister, Mrs. Sara Hary, was remanded for 10 days on suspicion of soliciting bribes. Mrs. Hary was arrested Sunday. Yadlin was first remanded two weeks ago.

Police, meanwhile, have released Abba Elchanani, a leading architect arrested Sunday in connection with the Yadlin case. An investigation concluded that Elchanani did not pay bribes to Yadlin to obtain Kupat Holim contracts. The investigators found that the architect received only one commission from Kupat Holim for a project that never materialized and that he was paid only his fee for planning work done.

UNITED NATIONS (JTA)--The General Assembly is due to vote Friday on several resolutions, including an Arab-inspired one calling on the Assembly to "strongly condemn the continuing and increasing collaboration" by Israel with South Africa.