



daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XLIII - 59th Year

Friday, November 19, 1976

No. 221

RABIN CONFIRMS EFFORTS TO ARRANGE MEETING BETWEEN JEWISH LEADERS, SADAT; DENIES ISRAEL BLOCKED MOVE By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin confirmed last night that efforts were made during the past year to arrange a meeting between top level Jewish leaders and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. But he denied vigorously a report in Maariv yesterday that the Israeli government had thwarted a meeting between senior American-Jewish leaders and Sadat that had been arranged by Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria.

Rabin spoke of the matter at a dinner of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel. He stressed, repeating three times, that his government knew of plans for such a meeting and raised no objections. But the meeting never took place because of hedging by Sadat, Rabin said. He said he first learned of it from Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, who told him about a year ago that Sadat would agree to meet a delegation of world Jewish leaders. According to Rabin, Goldmann was informed of Sadat's interest in such a meeting by Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Rabin said he told Goldmann that the matter was one for the WJC Governing Board to decide and that he would not object if the WJC decided to send a delegation to meet Sadat. The Premier stated that about six months later Goldmann told him that he had learned from Chancellor Kreisky that Sadat would not meet with a delegation headed by Goldmann because the WJC president is a prominent Zionist leader.

Rabin said he told Goldmann once again that he would not object if the WJC decided to send a delegation to Egypt headed by someone else. Three months later, Goldmann informed Rabin that Sadat refused to meet publicly with any delegation of Jewish leaders, Rabin said. According to Goldmann, the Egyptian leader would only meet privately with such a group provided it was not an official delegation. Again, Rabin said, he raised no objections and assured Goldmann that Israel would place no obstacles in the path of a meeting between Sadat and any American-Jewish leader.

According to the Maariv story, Sadat consented twice in recent months to meet with senior American-Jewish leaders. The paper quoted American-Jewish sources as saying that Chancellor Kreisky had obtained Israel's agreement to the meeting but Israel subsequently reversed itself and by opposing the meeting jeopardized it.

ANTI-ZIONIST PARLEY IN BAGHDAD ADDRESSED BY SEN. ABOUREZK By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Sen. James Abourezk (D-SD) took advantage of an official U.S. Senate trip to the Middle East to speak in an "unofficial capacity" at the anti-Zionist conference in Baghdad, his office here acknowledged yesterday. Abourezk, with three staff aides, is visiting four Arab states on a trip of more than two weeks at American taxpayers' expense. He is on official government business for the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on refugees, of which he is a

member.

The week-long Baghdad conference closed Friday. According to the Washington Post, "Zionism was baked, boiled, fried and roasted in an unrelenting ideological tirade" at the conference sponsored by the University of Baghdad, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Arab League in cooperation with the Iraqi government.

Senator Attacks U.S. Press

Participants from 46 nations sat through the delivery of 30 papers and through dozens of "solidarity statements" from Third World countries, according to the Post's account. Abourezk was reported to have attacked the American press coverage of the Middle East, alleging it is biased toward Israel.

An aide to Abourezk told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Senator had prepared a text for delivery in Baghdad in which he attacked the American media but it does not mention Zionism. However, the aide acknowledged that Abourezk believes the United Nations resolution last year equating Zionism with racism "is an accurate statement." The aide said he did not know whether Abourezk departed from his prepared text at the conference.

Abourezk is expected to return this weekend from the trip to Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Asked why he did not include Israel, which has tens of thousands of refugees, the aide replied "it is pretty clear why he didn't go to Israel." The aide said Abourezk visited government officials in Iraq but said he did not know whether the invitation to attend the conference or meet the officials came first. The Senate Judiciary Committee officials were mystified or lacked information about the trip, including its cost, when questioned by the JTA.

ISRAEL REJECTS 'OUT OF HAND' REPORT OF PALESTINE COMMITTEE Blasts Panel As Tool Of PLO By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Israel today condemned the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and rejected "out of hand" its recommendations that "imply the stage-by-stage truncation of the Jewish State until it totally disappears."

Addressing the General Assembly this morning, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Chaim Herzog, declared, "In the name of the government and people of Israel and of the Jewish people I reject out of hand the recommendations contained in the report of the Palestine Committee." He said that "Israel condemns the committee of twenty for being one-sided, biased, intellectually dishonest and expedient for allowing itself to become a tool in the hands of the Palestine Liberation Organization and to adopt as its recommendations, the political objectives of that organization."

The report of the 20-member committee recommends the establishment of a Palestinian state under PLO aegis and calls for Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories by June, 1977. It also recommends that Arab refugees be allowed to return to their homes in Pales-

tine. Addressing himself to that aspect of the report, Herzog said that other refugee problems, larger in scope, have been solved through resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees with the help of suitable financial arrangements.

Refugee Problem Two-Sided

He contended that none of these refugee problems has been resolved by attempting to repatriate the refugees to the countries and homes from which they fled as the recommendations of the Palestine committee advocates. He charged that the Arab states are unwilling to solve the refugee problem but noted that Israel has resettled about 800,000 Jewish refugees who were driven out of Arab countries. "Let me make it quite clear," Herzog said, "that we will not at any stage consider valid any discussion of the refugee problem in the Middle East if half of that problem, the Jewish refugee problem, is ignored."

Referring to the committee's recommendation of the establishment of an "independent Palestinian entity" to be followed by "further arrangements for the full implementation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people," Herzog declared: "The committee's recommendations for Israeli withdrawal do not stop at the 1967 line but imply the stage-by-stage truncation of the Jewish State until it totally disappears." He noted that not one Arab country has ever declared that the 1967 line would be recognized by it as the final peace frontier with Israel.

"The committee of twenty on Palestine has produced a report designed to move our area away from peace, ignoring as it does Israel's rights, ignoring as it does the fact that no dictated solution will be accepted by Israel, ignoring as it does the centrality of the process of negotiations in solving any conflict," Herzog said.

Prepared To Explore Peace Option

At the close of his address, Herzog referred to a statement yesterday by the delegate of Jordan that there is an option for real peace now. The Israeli envoy said, "I declare here and now that I'm prepared to meet with you in order to examine with you how we can reach the terms of a new order within the framework of genuine peace. I solemnly declare, before this august assembly, that I'm prepared to take this step now, even as I step down from this rostrum."

Meanwhile, there has been no comment from Israeli sources here on yesterday's statement by PLO representative Farouk Kaddoumi that the PLO was prepared to assume the powers of government on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip after Israeli occupation forces withdraw. Kaddoumi, who heads the PLO's political department, said in a press interview at the UN that the Arab summit meeting at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia last month reaffirmed support for "an independent state in Palestine." A major issue now facing the PLO is whether to declare a provisional government-in-exile, Kaddoumi said.

DULZIN SAYS ZIONIST CONGRESS SHOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL JAN. '78

NEW YORK, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Leon Dulzin, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, said today that the 29th World Zionist Congress should be postponed until January, 1978 in order to avoid conflicting with the election campaign in Israel. He disagreed with Yosef Almog, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization

Executives, who said in Jerusalem earlier this week that the Congress should be held next summer, possibly in June.

Dulzin, who is president of the World Union of General Zionists, arrived here yesterday on a week-long speaking tour on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that if the Congress were to be held in June there is a great danger that Zionist issues would be pushed into the background because all the political parties in Israel use the Congress to promote their election campaigns. Dulzin, a leader of the Likud opposition, said that the Israeli representation to the Congress is based on the 1973 Knesset elections. He said it would be more representative to have it based on the composition of the new Knesset after the elections, scheduled for November, 1977.

The World Zionist Congress was to have convened in Jerusalem Jan. 17, 1977. It was postponed after the Congress Court ruled that elections must be held in all countries for Congress delegates. Dulzin will attend a meeting of the WZQ Executive Plenary in London after leaving the U.S., at which a new date for the Congress will be discussed. The Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency will meet in London Nov. 29-30.

PROF. MORGENTHAU SEES PERIL FOR ISRAEL IN RETURN TO '67 BORDERS

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Prof. Hans Morgenthau, the political scientist, warned yesterday that Israel's existence would be endangered if it were forced to return to its pre-June, 1967 borders. He said that under the guise of correcting an injustice to the Palestinians, the Arab states consider withdrawal the first stage toward Israel's destruction.

Dr. Morgenthau, a professor on the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, addressed the opening session of a two-day colloquium on the Middle East for Secondary School Curriculum Planners at the City University, New York Graduate Center. The colloquium is attended by educators from across the country.

Referring to proposals that if Israel withdrew to its 1967 lines it would receive either a U.S. guarantee of protection or UN troops patrolling the new borders, Morgenthau said such proposals "have public relations value" but "little value" to the security of Israel. He said that an American decision to come to Israel's aid might come too late. The U.S. would also have to consider whether intervention would lead to a direct confrontation with the Soviet Union and the start of World War III, he said.

Cites Four Basic U.S. Interests

Morgenthau said the four basic U.S. interests in the Middle East were to prevent the Soviet Union from gaining the dominant position in that region; the survival of Israel; good relations with the Arab states; and the preservation of peace in the area. He said that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger has seen more clearly than any of his predecessors that the U.S. faces a dilemma between its support of Israel and its desire for good relations with the Arabs. He observed that Kissinger has made a dramatic change in U.S. policy from one of all-out support of Israel to "even-handedness" which requires U.S. pressure for Israeli concessions to satisfy Arab aspirations. Morgenthau said there can be no simple solution to the problems of the Middle

East, only temporary agreements and the hope that another military confrontation can be prevented. The conference was co-sponsored by the Center for Advanced Study in Education of the CUNY Graduate School and University Center, the National Committee for Middle East Studies in Secondary Education, the National Strategy Information Center, and Georgetown University's International Labor Program.

UNESCO CONDEMNS ISRAEL

PARIS, Nov. 18 (JTA)--UNESCO's Program Commission voted today 73-6 with 30 abstentions to condemn Israel for its policies in the occupied territories, according to reports received here from Nairobi, Kenya. The resolution must still be adopted by the plenary session of the UNESCO general conference, but the report from Nairobi is that it is unlikely that there will be any change in the vote.

The United States voted against the resolution. One member of the American delegation, Rep. Albert Quie (D, Minn.) was quoted as saying it would now be "much more difficult" to persuade Congress to vote to pay the \$38 million the U.S. owes for 1975-76. The U.S. voted not to pay its dues to UNESCO after Israel was expelled two years ago, but was expected to reverse the decision after the general conference in Nairobi agreed to allow each regional group to select its own members. The European region is expected to admit Israel shortly.

The resolution said that UNESCO was "condemning" Israel's policies "as contrary to human rights and to fundamental liberties all violations resulting from the Israeli occupation, of the rights of the Palestinians living in all the occupied Arab territories to national education and cultural life... particularly by a systematic policy of cultural assimilation."

GUR: EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS CONTINUE

By Yitzhak Shargil.

TEL AVIV, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Gen. Mordechai Gur, the Chief of Staff of Israel's armed forces, said today that Egypt still has not rectified all of the violations Israel says it has made of the second interim Sinai agreement. "We shall continue dealing with these but in a quiet, delicate manner if we want results," Gur said in an address to the student body of the Haifa Technion.

He warned that "cries do not always bear fruit and a loud word is not always the right one." He said that Egypt has withdrawn the three missile launching sites it had established east of the Suez Canal in violation of the September, 1975 Sinai accord. However, there is still a dispute over Israel's charge that the Egyptians have 17 battalions in their limited forces zone, more than double the number allowed by the Sinai agreement.

This matter is high on the agenda of Israel's discussions with the UN observer force, it was learned from reliable sources. American sources say the Egyptian battalions number 12, still in excess of the permitted number but UN observers claim there are only eight Egyptian battalions and hence no violation.

Gur said that militarily, Egypt has not developed since the Yom Kippur War except for absorbing Soviet MIG-23s. Saudi Arabia, on the other hand, is becoming an unprecedented arsenal of sophisticated weapons, the Chief of Staff said. He said Jordan has no anti-aircraft missiles as yet.

Sadat Wants U.S. Weapons

Meanwhile, according to reports reaching here, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat told a group of visiting U.S. Congressmen in Cairo, headed by Rep. Lester Wolff (D, NY), that he planned to ask the U.S. for defensive weapons against Israel. "I will not ask for offensive weapons," he is quoted as saying, but wanted "defensive weapons to defend my country" in case Israel contemplated an attack.

Sadat also told the Congressmen that he would urge President-elect Jimmy Carter to give top priority to solving the Middle East conflict when he takes office. He called on Carter to offer an American initiative for both Egypt and Israel by next spring when the new administration will have had time to study the Middle East problem thoroughly. "We as friends will reserve the right to agree or disagree to all or parts of the proposed initiative. Israel will also do the same until we finally reach a decision," Sadat said.

JDL TAKES OVER RIBICOFF'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Five members of the Jewish Defense League staged a five-hour sit-in at the office of Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D, Conn.) yesterday. A JDL official warned today that Ribicoff would be met by British JDL demonstrators when he visits London this weekend en route to Washington from his trip to the Middle East.

The JDL is protesting a suggestion made by Ribicoff while he was in Israel last week that the Carter Administration appoint Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger as a special peace envoy to the Middle East. The JDL also objected to the request by Ribicoff and the 12 other Senators who accompanied him, to visit Israel's nuclear installations at Dimona. The request was rejected by the Israeli government. The JDLers complained further that Ribicoff had praised Egyptian President Anwar Sadat with whom the Senators met in Cairo.

The demonstrators were apparently taking their line from JDL founder Meir Kahane who said in New York yesterday that Ribicoff posed a "far greater danger to Israel than any Arab army. It is precisely statements such as the Jewish Senator from Connecticut makes that places Israel in a position of being the 'stubborn and intransigent party' in the Middle East," Kahane claimed. Kahane also attacked Sen. Jacob Javits (R, NY) for recent statements on the Middle East and called for a Jewish drive to unseat both Senators when they next run for office.

Mrs. Chärlotte Levin, secretary of the JDL's Washington chapter, called Ribicoff a "self-appointed spokesman for Jews" and a "court Jew like Kissinger." She said, however, that Ribicoff's staff was "very nice" to the demonstrators and offered them drinks. The police were not summoned. * * *

NEW YORK (JTA)--The remains of the famed Yiddish author, Mendele Mocher Sforim (1835-1917), have been transferred by Soviet authorities to a Christian cemetery in his home town in Odessa, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reports. Originally located in the Old Jewish Cemetery of Odessa, his gravestone is now flanked by Christian crosses atop Christian gravestones. This is yet another violation of the cultural provisions of the Helsinki accords, the GNYCSJ states.

ZIONISM IN ACTION

OPTING FOR EARLY ZIONIST CONGRESS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 18 (JTA)--Yosef Almogi, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, believes that every effort should be made to hold the 29th World Zionist Congress at the earliest possible date. "We have not yet decided on the actual date of the Congress," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview this week, "but if there is good will on the part of all parties, the Congress can be convened next June." The Zionist Executive Plenary will meet at the end of this month in London to discuss a new date for the Congress.

Almogi said that the recent ruling by the Congress Court that elections must be held in all countries for Congress delegates, should be implemented "in word and in spirit." By "word" he meant early elections and by "spirit" he indicated that there must be no prolonged postponement of the Congress which was originally to have opened here January 17.

Almogi said the WZO Executive would recommend a new date at its plenary meeting in London at the end of this month. He made it clear that he had not been happy with the decision by the Zionist General Council last July--which the Congress Court reversed--to waive elections in countries where all Zionist constituencies agreed on a single slate of delegates. On the other hand, he did not regard that decision as a "disaster" considering that it applied only to the next Congress and would not have set a precedent.

"As far as Almogi is concerned, the main reason for an early Congress is the need to prepare and approve a working program for the next four years. "Personally, any deferment of the Congress may work in my favor," he said, "because it gives me more time to come (before the Congress) with achievements. But one cannot work all the time under the shadow of preparations for the Congress and therefore I want to have it early so I can get it over."

Almogi said that if the Congress had been able to convene in January as originally scheduled, he would have used the forum to call on the Zionist movement to open itself to new, young forces and to introduce a new system of organization. Such a system is now being drafted in the form of a written program by a team of experts headed by Prof. Raanan Weitz, director of the WZO's settlement department. Almogi expressed hope that it would be accepted by all parties concerned though he conceded there would be opposition.

Rejects Claims Of Gap

The WZO chairman rejected claims that there was too wide a gap between WZO plans and programs and its actual achievements. He said that the problem of aliyah, for example, was so complex that even the most efficient organization would find it difficult to cope with.

"It is the first time that immigration to Israel is almost entirely voluntary," he said. "Voluntary immigration has always been but a small group in the larger group of immigrants who had to come to Israel because they had nowhere else to go. But now we have an annual immigration of 20,000 who do have a choice. Although it is too bad there are not more immigrants, one should not underestimate this phenomenon," he said.

Almogi is aware of new world conditions that inevitably affect the nature and scope of aliyah.

This is a free world which allows Jews to move from one place to another without having to seek refuge in Israel, he pointed out. This new world demands a new approach to aliyah "and this cannot be done overnight."

He said he recognized that more than just the reorganization of the immigration process was needed. "That there is room for considerable improvement in the quality of life in Israel is not disputed. But this cannot serve as a pretext for not coming to Israel to live a full Jewish life. My answer to those who say they don't come because of the poor quality of living is, come help us improve it," Almogi said.

Danger Of Soviet Dropouts

He declined to go into the details of the problem of dropouts--Soviet Jews who emigrate with Israeli visas but opt to go to other countries after reaching Vienna. Last month the dropout rate was 59 percent. Almogi noted that the matter was now being discussed in New York by the Committee of Eight. "and an effort should be made to reach a unified stand by all parties concerned." He added, "I see great danger in the growing number of dropouts. There is no controversy that the present state of affairs cannot be allowed to continue."

Almogi looked back over the 10 months in which he has served as chairman of the WZO and the Jewish Agency Executives. He said that period divided into three stages--the learning stage, the planning stage and the working stage. "My plans were to open a new stage with the Congress in January. This cannot be. But I shall do my utmost so that it (the postponement) will not jeopardize my plans," Almogi said.

PERES TO ADDRESS UJA DEC. 9

NEW YORK, Nov. 18 (JTA)--The opening of the fastest-paced campaign in American Jewish fund-raising history will climax Dec. 9, when Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres addresses the 1977 United Jewish Appeal Leadership Dinner, general chairman Frank R. Lautenberg announced today.

Lautenberg said the dinner would mark the culmination of a national, advanced-gifts campaign phase that began even before the Entebbe raid last summer and reached a dramatic high point in October during "This Year in Jerusalem," the 3000-strong UJA national conference held in Israel.

"This Year in Jerusalem" defined a new dimension in Jewish history: combining dreams with deeds, ideals with action, promise with reality," Lautenberg remarked. "In Jerusalem, we affirmed that all Jews are responsible for each other. In 1977, the challenge is ours: to build a vibrant Jewish community at home, to keep the lifeline open to Jews of the USSR and other lands, and to make all Israeli society a crucible for testing ideals and a laboratory for moral excellence."

(According to a report this week from Jerusalem, Peres will also address other major Jewish fund-raising functions and meet with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld during his visit to the U.S.)

Two other major leadership events will be held in New York during the week of the leadership dinner. On Dec. 8 the American Joint Distribution Committee will hold its annual meeting and on Dec. 10 the United Israel Appeal will hold its annual meeting.