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BEHIND THE HEADLINES
TURNABOUT ON ARMS FOR ISRAEL
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 16 (JTA)—President Carter was being credited by analysts here today with having demolished a pressure tactic against Israel once he understood it had been molded by elements within the American foreign affairs establishment more concerned with soothing Arab leaders than long-standing American policy.

The tactic was devised on the basis of Carter's known desire to reduce the arms race everywhere by restraining deliveries of American weapons abroad. Propaganda was spread by Arabists in the Administration that the purpose of keeping Israel off the preferred list of U.S. arms clients and to block the Israeli-American co-production of weapons were only meant to keep the U.S. "even-handed" in the Middle East.

These Administration lobbyists working at the Capitol and with major columnists argued that if Israel were included in the list of preferred nations the Arabs would become upset at a delicate time in the Middle East political process. They also contended that it is imperative to keep a psychological lever on Israel like the "reassessment" under the Ford Administration preceding the second Sinai interim agreement.

Although the State Department, Pentagon and other elements consistently denied that a policy change towards Israel was being made or that the traditional Israeli-American relationship was being undermined, their tactic was quickly recognized as a means both to weaken Israel militarily and economically and make her even more dependent on U.S. largesse.

Carter Alerted To Situation

Friends of Israel, one analyst said, countered the Arabists by noting that they were attempting to weaken the Israeli government so it could not oppose an American imposed Mideast settlement or "suggestions" that were tantamount to the same thing. The pro-Israelis wanted the Carter Administration to keep the commitments made by President Ford to provide Israel with new weapons and the close production cooperation.

Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee were shocked to hear from top State Department officials that Israel was no longer to be a preferred arms customer under the Presidential policy being reviewed. As their incredulity grew that Carter appeared inclined to go along with the Arabists, a White House aide put in an emergency phone call to the President while he was flying home from London last Tuesday.

He was told a confrontation was in the making with Congress. Upon his arrival, Carter immediately asked key Senators to meet with him and after receiving their views last Thursday morning, he decided the State Department and others had misled him and he pierced their balloon by agreeing with the pro-Israeli position.

A few hours later, the President made his decisions public on national television through a press conference and a letter to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which promptly adopted the language in its foreign aid authorization bill it felt

was sufficient to keep the traditional IsraeliAmerican relationship. That language said, in part, that "in accordance with the historic special relationship" between the two countries "a policy of restraint in U.S. arms transfers, including arms sales ceilings, should not impair Israel's deterrent strength or undermine the military balance in the Middle East."

DUTCH AUTHORITIES MULLING STERN'S REQUEST FOR ASYLUM

AMSTERDAM, May 16 (JTA)—Netherlands authorities are considering a request for political asylum from Dr. Mikhail Stern, the Soviet Jew-ish physician from Vinnitza, Ukraine, who was released from prison last month after serving three years of an eight-year sentence for alleged unethical practices. Stern arrived in Holland on April 21 to recuperate from an illness contracted in prison and was granted a three-month residence permit.

His case aroused a storm of protest from medical and scientific circles throughout the world which was credited with prompting the Soviet authorities to release him. His arrest and trial in 1974 on obviously false charges were apparently a form of retaliation for the fact/that his sons, Victor and August, had applied for exit visas to go to Israel and Stern gave his permission as required by Soviet regulations.

August presently lives in Israel with his wife and two children. Victor is working at the University of Amsterdam. When he arrived here, Stern told reporters that he was still undecided in which country to make his permanent home. He said the matter would be settled by a family council.

ALLON: ISRAEL FEELS SATISFIED WITH AMERICAN REAFFIRMATIONS By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA)—The government expressed relief yesterday following strong statements by President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance re-affirming the "special security relationship" that exists between the United States and Israel. Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told the Cabinet, at its last session before election day, that Israel "could justly feel satisfied" with developments over the past few days.

Allon was referring to Carter's letter of last
Thursday to Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, chairman
of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on
Aid, in which he said "I recognize the special
responsibility the United States has toward Israel
and the particular consideration that must be given
to our military arms and co-production arrangements with Israel."

Allon also referred to Vance's remarks in his presence following their meeting at the U.S. Embassy in London last week and to Carter's elaboration on the U.S.-Israel relationship at his Washington press conference last Thursday. Allon's briefing to his Cabinet colleagues was published in some detail in the official Cabinet communique released after the session.

On the Palestinian issue, Allon reported that the U.S. had not yet determined its own position

and that, in his conversations with Vance, he had vigorously re-stated Israel's total opposition'to a third state between the Mediterranean and the Jordan.

U.S. View Of Arab Leaders

With respect to Vance's report to him on U.S. discussions with Arab leaders, Allon said the U.S. had found King Hussein of Jordan to be the most "open" on the question of "the nature of peace," a subject on which the U.S. and Israel hold very much that we could not use the base to help Israel the same bositions. President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was somewhat less positive on that subject and President Hafez Assad of Syria was the least forthcoming of the Arab leaders with whom President Carter has met to date, Allon said.

Allon said that Vance believes that of the three key issues--borders, Palestinians and the nature of peace--the widest gap between Israelis and Arabs is on the border question. Vance reported that all of the Arab leaders were firm in demanding Israel's return to the 1967 lines. The U.S. response, according to Vance, was that this must be part of the negotiations, linked to talks on the "nature of peace.

Renewal Of U.S. Commitment

Both Allon and Defense Minister Shimon Peres who is acting as Premier, noted with satisfaction that the U.S. re-stated its intention not to come forward publicly with Mideast peace proposals of its own and not to "impose a settlement." But Allon warned that the U.S. did "reserve the right to put forward to the parties at a more advanced stage of the negotiating process thoughts and ideas designed to bridge the gaps.

He said Carter's pledges regarding Israel's categorization as an arms and technology recipient and as a possible co-producer of advanced arms were "an important renewal of the American commitment. This commitment was vitally significant both as a statement of principle--Vance had noted in London that the U.S. wanted a strong Israel both as a deterrent to the Arabs and so as to enable it to be bold in peace moves--and as a practical step. The Merkava (Chariot) tank was just one concrete result of the President's policy line, Allon said.

Notes Areas Of Discord

At the same time, the Foreign Minister acknowle eledged that there were areas of discord looming ahead in the U.S.-Israel relations over certain key elements in the upcoming peace negotiations. He said the two countries did not agree on the cardinal

question of "defensible borders.

Allon said he had stressed to Vance, in London, that for Israel these must be the same as the sovereign final borders of the State and certainly different from the 1967 lines. Moreover, Allon said, security arrangements such as electronic sensors and buffer zones would only be acceptable to Israel in addition to, not instead of, "defensible borders.

PORTUGAL TO ALLOW THE U.S. TO RETAIN ITS AIR BASE AT AZORES By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 16 (JTA)--The government of Portugal, which recently established diplomatic relations with Israel, has given the United States assurances that it will allow the U.S. Air Force to remain at its base in the Azores and use it to resupply its allies.

This information was received today from State Department sources after Vice-President

Walter Mondale met with Prime Minister Mario Soares in Portugal earlier today. The assurances were said to have been given at the meeting. Afterwards, Soares said."The base (Lajes Air. Force Base) is not being put into doubt at all by us." The U.S. airlift to Israel during the Yom Kippur War used the facilities there as a refueling base. The Arab nations strongly assailed Portugal for that authorization.

"The government of Portugal has not told us again in that way if the need arises, "a State Department source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. While the diplomatic language was cast with a negative rather than a positive approach, it was unmistakable that the Portuguese are not going to block such aid. Spain, which said it would open relations with Israel but has not done so yet, barred American planes from refueling on Spanish soil during the Yom Kippur War crisis.

The U.S.-Portuguese agreement on the Azores air base has expired but use of the field is continuing pending negotiations for another pact. Portugal is inclined first to settle its problems with the inhabitants of the Azores who are seeking a greater share of the funds given by the U.S. to the Lisbon government for the use of the area.

PLAUT: DEEP ANXIETY BESETS JEWISH COMMUNITY IN QUEBEC

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 16 (JTA) -- Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, the newly-elected president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, said yesterday that while the chief concern of Canadian Jewry was once with the survival of European Jewry it is now focussed on communities within its own midst.

"It is no longer secret that deep anxiety besets our people in Quebec, one of the finest and most committed Jewish communities in the diaspora," Plaut told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview after he was elected president at the CJC's 18th plenary meeting.

"In accepting the presidency of the Congress at this crucial time--as one who knew French before he knew English--I have a deep appreciation of the aspirations of the Quebecois for cultural identity," the Foronto Reform rabbi stressed.

"But, on the other hand, fan equally deep resolve that Jewish identity, too, needs safeguarding," he continued. "Jews can find full expression only in a society that is free and accepting of differences, is not coercive and which will staunchly defend the integrity of all existing edu-

cational and social institutions."

In addressing the closing session of the fourday meeting yesterday, Canadian Secretary of State John Roberts, representing the federal government, told the 2000 delegates that the survival of the French language in North America can best be preserved in the whole of Canada rather than just in Quebec. He noted that the right to differ is part of the history and experience of the Jewish people.

Says Canada's Record On Israel Is Good

At an earlier session, Israel's Ambassador to Canada, Mordecai Shalev, said Canada's record on Israel is "a good one because there have been occasions in which Canada stood alone in clear and unequivocal opposition to resolutions vilifying and condemning Israel." But he warned Canada not to be taken in by a new, seemingly moderate position taken by some Arab leaders and urged Canada to continue to voice its opposition at the United Nations and other international forums because "its moral weight and its political significance is in fact much higher" than most other nations.

Chaim Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, praised Canada's stand at the UN. He said "when human rights were discussed at the United Nations, Canada had an upright position while many of the Western nations abstained or kept silent."

The delegates adopted resolutions supporting the principle of multi-culturalism in Canada, support for both English and French as the official languages of Canada, voicing solidarity with Israel; vowing support for Soviet and Syrian Jewry, requesting the government to develop legislation prohibiting compliance with the Arab boycatt and calling for Nazi war criminals living in Canada to be brought to justice. Allan Rose was elected executive vice-president of the CJC. He was formerly the CJC's national executive director. Steven Ain succeeded him in that post.

TUESDAY IS E DAY IN ISRAEL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA)--President Ephraim Katzir urged all eligible voters to participate in tomorrow's Knesset elections. Do not give up this "most sublime expression of democracy in Israel," Katzir declared in a statement released last night as the election campaign neared its end. Election

day is a national holiday.

There are 2,236,293 eligibles and the government is making every effort to ensure the largest possible turnout. The country's 3380 polling stations in 17 election regions will be open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. tomorrow. The state will provide free transportation to voters who live more than 11 miles from the nearest polling station and the various political factions will offer free rides to their supporters. A fleet of buses chartered by the United Arab List affiliated with the Labor Alignment will carry hundreds of Bedouins from isolated areas to vote.

An identity card is all that is needed to cast a ballot, provided that the voter has registered and is on the official list. The Interior Ministry has been working overtime to supply identity cards to thousands of applicants still without them.

The Last Debate

According to the pollsters, 8-10 percent of the electorate were undecided on the eve of election day. Last night's television debate between Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Alignment and Likud leader Menachem Beigin is not believed to have changed anyone's mind. The debate was characterized by observers as gentlemanly, dull, platitudinous, and generally unenlightening.

The contenders reiterated their familiar positions on peace, the territories and Israel's economic and social problems. Peres appeared a bit tense, rarely cracked a smile and made his points in a brief, matter-of-fact style. Beigin, looking rested after his recent heart attack but thinner and older, was in a more jovial mood and seemed to delight in referring to his rival as "my friend Shimon."

A good deal of the debate revolved around Israel's relations with the U.S. Peres claimed they could not be better and upheld the Alignment's policy of territorial concessions in exchange for genuine peace with the Arabs. He warned that Washington would not understand a Likud-style Israeli policy. Beigin, for his part, expressed concern over recent remarks by President Carter and implied that the Labor-led government was to blame

because it didn't know how to present Israel's position to the Americans.

OTTE WALLISH DEAD AT 71

TEL AVIV, May 16 (JTA)—Otte Wallish, who lettered Israel's Declaration of Independence and designed its first stamps and coins, died last night at the age of 71. Born April 25, 1906 in Czechoslovakia, he came to Palestine in 1934. Considered the dean of graphic art in Israel, he also designed stamps for the United Nations and foreign countries. He was a graduate of the Berlin Academy of Art.

Wallish, who founded the advertising business in Israel, headed his own agency. He had earlier been an illustrator for newspapers. He was a founder of the Israel Advertising Association and its chairman from 1958 to 1968. Wallish was a member of the International Advertising Association and was preparing for its convention to be held here in June when he died.

SUSLENSKY WARNED BY SOVIET OFFICIALS TO GET OUT BY JUNE 8

By Jon Fedler

Soviet Jewish dissident who recently completed a seven-year sentence at "strict regime" labor camps, has been warned by Soviet authorities to be out of the Soviet Union by June 8 or face "unpleasant consequences." But Suslensky refuses to leave without his 20-year-old daughter, Aya, who is seriously ill and has been denied permission to emigrate with him to Israel.

Suslensky, who is in his fifties and was an English teacher, related his case by telephone last week to a representative of Amnesty International here. He appealed for help to the world-wide organization that aids political prisoners. Suslensky said his daughter suffered from a form of diabetes that renders the victim susceptible to various infections. She was recently in a coma. Suslensky is divorced but his former wife gave permission for their daughter to emigrate. Suslensky's 87-year-old mother plans to leave with them.

He was arrested in 1970 in Bendery in the Moldavia region near the Rumanian border and was sentenced to seven years for alleged "anti-Soviet activities." He served time in a Moldavian strict regime camp, in the Perm camp in northern Russia and at the notorious Vladimir prison near Moscow. During his incarceration in Moscow he suffered a stroke which paralyzed him temporarily with loss of speech. He was released Jan. 29 after serving the full seven years.

MASHINGTON (JTA)—Vice—President Walter Mondale is chairman of the Honorary Committee of 16 distinguished Americans, including four Cabinet members, for the Israel Independence Ball marking Israel's 29th anniversary June 5 at the Washington Hilton Hotel. Committee members include Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal, Defense Secretary Harold Brown, Agriculture Secretary Robert Bergland and Transportation Secretary Brock Adams, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes and Washington Mayor Walter Washington.

There will be no Bulletin dated May 23 due to Shavuot holiday.

B'NAI B'RITH LEADER URGES JEWISH COMMUNAL GROUPS TO DEMOCRATIZE

WASHINGTON, May 16 (JTA)--A leading authority on volunteer communal work urged Jewish service organizations to "move toward democratization" as a means of attracting "outstanding, idealistic" young people into public service activities.

In his keynote address to the annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith Commission on Career and Counseling Services here Saturday night, Dr. Daniel Thursz, executive vice-president of B'nai . B'rith, declared that Jewish volunteer communal groups must end the fruitless competition among themselves.

Thursz, former dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Maryland, declared that this competition, the "structured-in" divisiveness and the endless "plays for vanity" by leaders of organizations discourage young people from joining the Jewish establishment. "I am concerned with the kind of image Jewish communal groups have with young people who care about their Jewish needs," hursz said.

The young people of today are immune from the cynicism and skepticism that engulfs the adult world, he added. "Despite all that has happened in recent years, I find that they are still searching for self-identification and a purpose in life," he said. Thursz, who was given the Commission's annual award for "years of achievement and dedicated service to young people" as a member of the B'nai B'rith youth organization summer staff and as a professor and dean at the University of Maryland, called on B'nai B'rith to serve as "the interpretor of the youth counter-culture to the establishment."

Need To Teach Jewish Youth To Cope

B'nai B'rith can "make the difference" to youth in their relations with synagogues, the Federations and other Jewish organizations, Thursz said, explaining that because of the affluence of the current generation of adults, Jewish youngsters are "not prepared to survive in today's world." He added: "We didn't teach them how to cope."

The Commission gave its Wilfred S. Stachenfeld Award to Boston business and trade publisher Alan Larkin for "outstanding achievement that significantly enhances the reputation of the career.... and counseling service." Larkin, a vice-president of B'nai B'rith's New York and New England Region, has been active in programs for youth for 25 years. The Commission's national director, Dr. Norman Feingold, was awarded a special plaque by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped for preparing and publishing several learning and vocational, guides.

DINITZ STRESSES THAT ISRAEL MUST NEVER DEPEND ON U.S. GUARANTEES

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--The security of Israel must never depend on American guarantees, the Israeli Ambassador to the United States declared here. Simcha Dinitz, addressing the American Jewish Committee on the closing day of its four-day 71st annual meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel yesterday, also rejected the idea of demilitarized zones on either side of Israel's borders, stating that "demilitarized zones depend on the good will of parties on both sides, and lose their viability if good will ceases on either side."

"It would be the greatest mistake for Israel, for America and for American Jews if Israel were to depend on U.S. guarantees for her continued existence," Dinifz stated. He continued: "The

day we win a war with American help will be the day we lose the war. I don't want a single American mother to mourn for the death of a son

defending the State of Israel."

Dinitz, who returned from England Saturday night where he attended the discussions between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Israel's Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, stressed that Israel's borders established after the Six-Day War were never legally recognized as final--"not by Israel, not by the Arabs, not in the armistice, not by the United Nations in Resolution 242" of 1967.

Referring to comments about possible demilitarized zones made by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt during his recent visit to the U.S., Dinitz declared: "Even Sadat realizes that the '67 borders are not secure. The trouble is that, although he detects the illness, he offers the wrong

prescription.

On the subject of a possible establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank, Dinitz said: "We can never allow a third state between Israel and Jordan because it would threaten the viability of the entire Middle East. It would be a Soviet enclave in the heart of the Levant. don't understand how President Sadat, who is so concerned about the Soviet presence in Africa, can seriously welcome Soviet influence into the area that is of greatest concern to his country and his people.

KOREY: NO FUTURE FOR JEWS IN USSR

NEW YORK, May 16 (JTA)--There is no future for Jews in the Soviet Union, the director of B'nai B'rith's International Council charged here yesterday. Dr. William Korey/told the final session of the Jewish Labor Committee's biennial convention at the Hotel Roosevelt that Soviet Jews have detected "the smell of pogrom" in recent events that have taken place in the USSR--

Korey told the 400 delegates who had earlier passed a resolution calling for the right of Soviet Jews to maintain their own cultural institutions without government harassment or curtailment, that by "coincidence or design the Soviets published an almost full-page attack on Jewish activists linking them with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Izvestia on the anniversary date

of Stalin's death." Earlier in the year, Korey charged, the Soviets televised an anti-Semitic film entitled, "Buyers of Souls" which they repeated on Soviet TV on March II. He noted that over the years, since Stalin died on March 5, 1953, the Soviets had used the CIA charge a number of times. The last was on March 17 which led to the arrest of Anatoly Sharansky, a Jewish activist.

Warning that there "is no future for Jews as individuals in the Soviet Union," Korey said that since 1968 there had been a drop in the number of Jews permitted to enter scientific studies in the universities. He stated that 75,250 Jews were now permitted to study engineering and other scientific subjects as contrasted to III, 900 in 1968. He predicted a far steeper decline in the next

years.

Korey said that the U.S. would face a strong effort by the Soviet Union at next month's Helsinki Pact agenda meeting in Belgrade to avoid cultural deprivation of Jews as a subject for discussion. The delegates re-elected Jacob Sheinkman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, as its president.