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CARTER CONGRATULATES BEGIN; INVITES HIM TO WASHINGTON FOR TALKS JULY 19-20 By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 21 (JTA)--The White House confirmed today that President Carter has invited the newly installed Premier Menachem Begin of Israel to confer with him and his principal aides in Washington on July 19-20. Begin announced in Jerusalem earlier today that he had received a letter from Carter containing warm congratulations and an official invitation to visit Washington during the week of July 18.

Carter's letter was received within hours after Begin's government was sworn into office following a long Knesset debate. According to the text of the letter released by the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, the President expressed a desire to establish a personal relationship with the new Israeli leader and to exchange views on a Middle East peace settlement and other matters of mutual concern to the U.S. and Israel.

The President wrote: "...As you know, I am deeply committed to helping Israel and its neighbors seek a lasting peaceful resolution to the conflict between them. ... I am sure that this is an objective I share with you and I would welcome your ideas on how progress toward peace can best be achieved. ... I would like, therefore, to invite you to visit the United States during the week of July 18 and to join with you in a partnership of principle leading to a just and peaceful settlement of the dispute between Israel and its neighbors."

Geneva Conference Still Hoped For

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell, who announced the invitation here, was asked by reporters if a reassessment of American policy has been taking place and whether a Geneva conference on the Middle East is still possible this year. Powell replied that U.S. policy has not changed and that the Carter Administration still hopes to see the Geneva conference reconvened in the next six months, provided that the necessary groundwork is laid.

That was interpreted as an indication that the questions of participants in the conference and the movement toward narrowing the differences between Israel and the Arab states remain unsolved.

In keeping with the visits here of former Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin and the leaders of Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia in April and May, Begin's visit is expected to include meetings with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal and Defense Secretary Harold Brown as well as with key members of the Senate and House committees dealing with foreign affairs.

BEGIN OFFERS HAVEN TO 66 VIETNAMESE

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin's first official act after his government was sworn into office last night was to announce that Israel would provide a haven for 66 Vietnamese refugees rescued at sea by the Israeli freighter Yuvali last week. The refugees, whose own craft sank, have been denied entry by Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan and are now aboard the Yuvali.

Begin told the Knesset that Jews remember other refugee ships that went from port to port and were rejected, a reference to Jews fleeing Europe

before and after World War II. "Now we have our Jewish State and we can understand what it means to be a refugee," he said. His remarks brought an appreciative response from Arieh Eliav of the leftist Sheli faction, one of Begin's most determined political opponents. Eliav rose and said, "I greet you both as a friend and as an ex-refugee."

The decision to admit the Vietnamese refugees to Israel until a permanent home can be found for them was actually taken by the outgoing government several days ago.

LARGE TURNOUT FOR HISTADRUT ELECTION By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 21 (JTA)--Voting in the bitterly contested Histadrut elections began this morning accompanied by waves of disorder, violent clashes at some polling stations and complaints alleging fraud which began reaching the Histadrut Central Elections Committee here at an early hour.

The voter turn-out has been high, as expected. Throughout the day, cars bearing the insignia of the various contesting parties carried voters to the polls. Government offices closed early to allow employees to cast their ballots.

Early returns are not expected before midnight local time and the final results will not be known until tomorrow. At stake is control of Israel's giant trade union federation, described by some as a government in its own right. The Labor Party and its various predecessors have dominated Histadrut since its founding 56 years ago. Today's elections represent the first serious challenge to Labor's hegemony, by Likud which won the national elections five weeks ago.

NEW ISRAELI CABINET

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--The new Israeli Cabinet consists of the following:

Premier, Menachem Begin; Foreign Minister, Moshe Dayan; Defense Minister, Ezer Weizman; Finance Minister, Simcha Ehrlich; Interior Minister, Dr. Yosef Burg (NRP); Minister of Commerce and Industry, Yigael Horowitz; Minister of Agriculture, Ariel Sharon; Minister of Education, Ze'evulun Hammer (NRP); Minister of Housing, Gideon Patt; Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Yitzhak Mada'i; Minister of Religious Affairs, Aharon Abut-Hatzeira (NRP); Minister of Absorption, David Levy; Minister of Health, Eliezer Shustak. In the new Cabinet the Police Ministry will be incorporated into the Ministry of Interior. The Justice, Welfare and Transportation and Communications ministries have been left open in hopes the Democratic Movement for Change will join the government coalition.

BEGIN TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AFTER LONG DEBATE IN KNESSET By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--The government of Premier Menachem Begin took the oath of office in the early hours of this morning after nine hours of angry, often bitter debate in the Knesset which emphasized the sharp cleavage

between the new bulletin and its parliamentary opposition. Begin won the vote of confidence he had asked for in his inaugural speech to the Knesset as Premier yesterday afternoon.

But his 63-53 margin was strictly along party lines. Voting for the government were Likud, the National Religious Party (NRP) and Aguda bloc, Moshe Dayan and Samuel Flatto-Sharon. Negative votes were cast by the Labor Alignment, the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), the Sheli and Rakah factions and the one-member factions of Gideon Hausner of the Independent Liberal Party and Shulamit Aloni of the Civil Rights Party. Four MKs were absent.

The debate was broadcast live on television. Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Alignment, led the attack on the Begin coalition. He scored Likud for making controversial concessions to the religious bloc to an extent unknown in Israel before. He said the agreements under which the NRP and the Aguda joined the coalition "gives cause for great concern." Begin has conceded to his coalition partners "many demands which have many grave implications" for our national life, Peres declared. He accused Begin of handing over to his religious partners conduct of State affairs "according to their particular version of a rabbinic outlook."

Referring to the more emotional portions of Begin's speech, Peres reminded the new Premier that "we are not declaring here the independence of the State of Israel. You seem to forget, Begin, that this was done over 29 years ago and not by your party."

Dayan Cites Area Of Disagreement

There was a good deal of heckling from both the government and opposition sides of the chamber during the prolonged debate. But a storm erupted when the new Foreign Minister, Moshe Dayan, mounted the podium. Dayan, the last speaker before the voting, had remained in an anteroom most of the night and did not hear the attacks on him by many of his former Labor Alignment colleagues. As he began to speak he was drowned out by catcalls and shouts from the Labor Alignment benches demanding that he return the Knesset seat to which he was elected on the Labor ticket.

When the Speaker finally restored order, Dayan said the new government differed from its predecessor on foreign policy matters on only one issue—its objection to the partition of the West Bank. "If the Arabs ever propose a partition we could always disagree among ourselves and even divide on it. But there is no point in doing so now, when they reject all our proposals and insist on total withdrawal," the new Foreign Minister said.

FEAR OF RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN ISRAEL VOICED BY REFORM RABBIS...

GROSSINGER, N.Y., June 21 (JTA)—The newly-elected president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis denounced here today "the threat of the Likud-religious party coalition to revise the Law of Return in Israel to exclude Jews and their families, who have been converted by Conservative and Reform rabbis" from provisions of that law.

Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik of Short Hills, N.J., was elected head of the 1300-member association of Reform members at the CCAR's 88th annual convention, succeeding Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld of the Fairmount Temple of Cleveland.

Pilchik, a member of the board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the association of Reform synagogues, also declared that "the Ameri-

can Jewish community, the largest and most influential Jewish community in the world today, surely does not believe that the State of Israel was established and has been sustained, these past 29 years for the purpose of disenfranchising Jews from the peoplehood of Israel."

The CCAR would "inaugurate immediate consultations with the Conservative movement to launch a program of action to prevent this semantical discrimination," Pilchik declared.

He reaffirmed the leadership role of the CCAR in interfaith and interreligious activities and said the Reform organization would enthusiastically cooperate with Protestant and Catholic clergymen, particularly in all areas bearing on the well-being of Americans generally.

He said the CCAR had recently done much "re-thinking of the philosophy of Reform Judaism and its practices" and "has developed a great volume of new and meaningful liturgical material." He said also the CCAR had as one of its "prime goals" a re-thinking "and an intensive implementation of Jewish religious education."

...ORTHODOX RABBI REJECTS CHARGE

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 21 (JTA)—Rabbi Walter S. Wurzbarger, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, today rejected the charge by Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik, newly elected president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) that proposed legislation on the issue of conversions by Israel's new Likud-led government amounts to religious discrimination against Conservative and Reform Judaism in Israel.

Wurzbarger made his remarks at the 41st annual convention of the Rabbinical Council, the organization of American Orthodox Rabbis. He was responding to a statement by Rabbi Pilchik who heads the CCAR, the Reform rabbinical group, currently holding its 88th annual convention at Grossinger's Hotel.

Wurzbarger said, "Israel is a bastion of democracy which guarantees religious freedom to all its citizens. The proposed amendment to the Law of Return has no bearing at all on the issue of religious discrimination. It is solely designed to enable Israel to continue to function as a Jewish State which can serve as a spiritual homeland for all Jews throughout the world. Jewish spirituality has always expressed itself in reverence for religious law. I therefore appeal to the leaders of Conservative and Reform Judaism to desist from agitation for obliteration of the last vestiges of halachic authority in Israel's public life."

Rabbi Bernard Rosenzweig, first vice-president of the Rabbinical Council, delivered a long and bitter attack on Breira at another session of the convention. He accused it of "undermining the security of Israel" and "jeopardizing the forthcoming peace negotiations in Geneva."

The Orthodox group received a cable of greetings from Israel's newly installed Premier, Menachem Begin, in Jerusalem. It said: "I send blessings from Zion to this important convention of the Rabbinical Council of America. We will work for a complete Torah, a complete land of Israel and a complete people of Israel. We shall serve Israel with dedication and self-sacrifice."

BUENOS AIRES (JTA)—The Argentine government has banned distribution, sale and circulation of the latest issue of the ultra-right journal Cabildo, which contains several virulent anti-Semitic attacks. Any other publication that might replace Cabildo is also forbidden by the decree.

BREZHNEV SAYS GOVERNMENT CHANGES SHOULD NOT DELAY GENEVA TALKS

PARIS, June 21 (JTA)—Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev said here today that both the Soviet Union and the United States favored reconvening the Geneva conference on Middle East peace this fall and that it should not be delayed because a new government has taken office in Israel. He said it would be nonsense to postpone the conference every time a Middle East government held a general election.

Brezhnev made his remarks at a meeting with President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing at Rambouillet Castle where he is staying during his two-day state visit to France. French official circles meanwhile have expressed concern that the tough policy adopted by the new Israeli government headed by Premier Menachem Begin could affect a Mideast peace settlement. They said the composition of Begin's Cabinet, consisting of nationalist and religious elements, confirmed their fears. But the officials added that the Begin government's slim parliamentary majority may force it to moderate its policies.

Brezhnev had sharp words for President Carter during his meeting with Giscard with respect to Carter's campaign for human rights in the USSR. He was quoted as telling his French host that Carter was waging "ideological warfare" rather than engaging in "ideological competition" against the Soviet Union. Giscard was reported to have affirmed, however, that respect for human rights and freedoms was a key issue in efforts to relax East-West tensions.

CRIF Cancels Rally

More than 3000 French police have been put on full time duty to protect the Soviet visitor, including 600 at Rambouillet Castle alone. Police have banned all street demonstrations protesting the Soviet treatment of Jews and dissidents. The Representative Council of French Jews (CRIF) cancelled a rally for Soviet Jews that was planned outside the Paris Opera House tonight. The opera is close to Intourist, the Soviet tourist office, which has been closed for the duration of Brezhnev's visit.

But 1500 persons attended a peaceful mass meeting in a Paris hall last night to protest Soviet policies of discrimination against Jews and dissidents.

Police, Jewish Demonstrators Clash

But later this evening, police clashed with Jewish demonstrators who had turned up at the opera unaware that the CRIF had cancelled the rally after the ban was imposed. Two men and two women were taken to the hospital for treatment after a truncheon charge without warning scattered 1000 people. The would-be demonstrators then moved off to the Great Synagogue where they were addressed by France's Chief Rabbi, Jacob Kaplan.

On the Champs Elysees, where Brezhnev had laid his wreath at the Unknown Soldier's Monument two hours earlier, right-wingers set fire to Soviet flags. The police made several arrests after truncheon charges during which a TV cameraman received head injuries. After the clash at the opera, the CRIF issued a press statement in which it accused the police of charging "a peaceful crowd without warning." The statement said: "Regardless of the requirements of diplomacy, the Jewish community of France intends to carry on its humanitarian fight for Soviet Jews' rights to emigrate and to preserve their own culture."

NEW GOVERNMENT'S FIRST APPOINTMENTS

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)—The government announced several appointments today to key posts

in the machinery of government. Most are long time associates of Premier Menachem Begin and members of his inner circle.

Dr. Eliyahu Ben-Eliassar was named Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, replacing Amos Eran. Ben-Eliassar, one of the architects of Likud's election campaign, was sent on a mission to Paris a week ago to brief French officials on the new Israeli regime. Yehiel Kadishai will head the Prime Minister's personal office replacing Eli Mizrahi and Arye Naor was named Cabinet Secretary, replacing Gershon Avner.

Kadishai acted as Begin's spokesman during much of his political career and Naor, an editor on Israel Radio, is the son of former Herut MK Esther Raziel Naor.

The appointment of Naftali Lavi as the new spokesman for the Foreign Ministry came as a surprise to ministry officials who had expected the job to go to a professional within the foreign service establishment. Until now, Lavi served as Defense Ministry spokesman and was close to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan when the latter was Defense Minister. He served in the same capacity when Shimon Peres succeeded Dayan.

Ceremony For Weizman

Israel's new Defense Minister, Gen. Ezer Weizman, took over that office from Peres today in a ceremony of military pageantry in the Defense Ministry courtyard. Representative units of the Israeli army stood at attention with massed flags and regimental insignias as Weizman and Peres inspected their ranks. Later, the two men entered the Defense Minister's office for a long private discussion and meetings with ministry officials and top army commanders.

While the relinquishment of office may have been a wrenching experience for some outgoing Cabinet members, many top level officials and lower echelon employees of the various ministries face a prolonged period of uncertainty over whether they will keep their jobs. In many cases, these jobs are non-political. Nevertheless, an official connected with the Ministry of Education who has such a job, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he has no idea where he stands since that ministry was handed over to the National Religious Party.

There is also nervousness among job-holders at the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency which, up to now, have been controlled by Labor. The political position of the WZO and the Agency will be determined by the 29th World Zionist Congress scheduled to convene in Jerusalem in February, 1978. (By Tuvia Mendelson and Yitzhak Shargil) * * *

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Seventy-one members of both parties in the House of Representatives have written the American delegation at the 35-nation conference in Belgrade on the Helsinki agreements that the arrest of Soviet dissident Anatoly Sharansky "must be viewed not simply as another incident of repression of Soviet Jews. Rather," their letter said, "it represents another in a new and dangerous pattern of arrests of members of the unofficial watchdog group established to monitor Soviet compliance with the provisions of the Helsinki agreement." It said that Sharansky's arrest "can only be seen as indicative of the intention of Soviet officials to dismiss as 'inapplicable' the human rights provisions adopted in Helsinki. The letter was sent to Ambassador Albert W. Sherer, head of the American delegation, by Rep. Lester D. Wolff (D.NY).

SCHINDLER SAYS JEWS STILL 'APPREHENSIVE' OVER CARTER'S MIDEAST POLICY

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 21 (JTA)--Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said yesterday that "the Jewish community continues to be apprehensive about the Administration's policy towards the Middle East."

He warned in a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "worst of all," the Administration is raising Arab expectations which may "impede the process toward peace if not plunge all into disaster." Schindler, in New York, was asked by the JTA for his comments in the wake of Vice President Walter Mondale's San Francisco speech and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's expressions Sunday on ABC's national television program "Issues and Answers." Mondale's address was particularly touted by White House sources as designed to allay fear in the Jewish community on the direction of the Administration's policy.

"Recent statements by Administration spokesmen have not served to allay our fears," Schindler said. "They have been a mere recapitulation of what gave rise to these apprehensions in the first place. Our concern is clear. We perceive a slow but sure disengagement from the traditional American Middle East policy which calls for negotiations without preconditions."

Schindler added that "The dim outlines of an American blueprint for an imposed settlement can be seen. They may not be intended as such a blueprint but they are perceived as such. This perturbs American Jews and worst of all, it raises the expectations of the Arab world, which, frustrated in the slightest degree, may impede the process toward peace if not plunge all into disaster."

Hadassah Urges No U.S. Proposals

In New York, Bernice S. Tannenbaum, national president of Hadassah, called on Carter to "announce clearly and without equivocation that the United States has no peace plan for the Middle East" and to "refrain from the presentation of concepts and proposals which create perceptions of diminished U.S. support for Israel among the Arabs."

Mrs. Tannenbaum issued her statement in a cable to Hadassah headquarters from Jerusalem where she will attend the Zionist General Council meeting opening tomorrow. She said that "The statement about the Middle East made by Vice President Walter Mondale reaffirming previous statements by President Jimmy Carter, is occasioning grave anxiety among American supporters of Israel who want a just and lasting peace."

Mrs. Tannenbaum said that Hadassah "recognizes President Carter's earnest wish to bring peace to the Middle East despite Arab intransigence. However, we must stress that his pronouncements of new proposals and concepts for a peace settlement has encouraged the Arabs to believe that the U.S. may impose a peace plan on Israel," she said.

VANCE PLEDGES U.S. WILL PROVIDE ISRAEL ARMS NEEDED FOR SELF-DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, June 21 (JTA)--Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance said this week that the United States will provide to Israel "the arms which are necessary for its self-defense." He would not commit the United States to going to war to save Israel. His comments came in response to questions on ABC's "Issues and Answers" Sunday in which he also said that "before we jump to any conclusions" about Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's views "we must

wait" to hear "first-hand what his foreign policy is, what he is prepared to do with respect to the negotiation on a peace in the Middle East." He said that "hopefully" Begin will come to Washington at the end of July.

After confirming as "correct" Vice President Walter Mondale's statement Friday that the U.S. will not use the threat of reducing military aid to Israel to give up occupied territories, Vance was asked whether that means the U.S. will continue to sell arms to Israel and the Arab countries "regardless whether there is any progress toward peace."

Vance replied that the U.S. has urged all of the parties about the "need for restraint and reduction in arms sales in the area and we will continue to do so but let there be no question, we have a deep commitment to Israel that we will provide to Israel the arms which are necessary for its self-defense and we will abide by that without any question and I don't want any lack of clarity on that point."

Asked whether the U.S. would go to war to save Israel, Vance replied: "Let me say we have told Israel that we stand behind her, that we will do everything that is necessary to preserve her security and integrity should it be challenged, and I think that sufficiently answers the question." (By Joseph Polakoff)

ADL ASKS REMOVAL OF JUDGE

LOS ANGELES, June 21 (JTA)--The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has asked California's Judicial Commission to dismiss a recently appointed judge, claiming his objectivity is tainted by his religious beliefs. In a letter to the commission, the ADL said Fresno Municipal Court Judge Hugh Goodwin was critical of the First Amendment which safeguards the separation of church and state. According to the ADL, Goodwin has said: "Any religion or form of government that is not based on Jesus Christ and the belief that only through Christ can one obtain personal salvation is doomed to destruction."

Joshua Kheel, the ADL's Pacific Southwest regional president, said in the letter: "A comment such as this... would be sufficient to arouse concern about the manner in which a member of the bench would treat those who come before him whose religion he perceives as not one of 'equal validity' and, therefore, 'doomed to destruction.'" Kheel added: "It has been reported to us that the judge has conditioned probation and avoidance of jail for a guilty defendant on mandatory church attendance."

SCHOLARSHIP HONORS KOLLEK

NEW YORK, June 21 (JTA)--A fund of \$1 million in honor of Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem has been established by a small group of his friends in the United States to provide scholarships and fellowships for outstanding undergraduate, postgraduate, and postdoctoral students at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, it was announced by Sam Rothberg, chairman of the International Board of Governors of the university. Participants in this new fund, according to Rothberg, made their contributions through the American Friends of the Hebrew University "to mark the 10th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem and to pay tribute to the splendid leadership of Mr. Kollek as mayor of the city during this challenging period."