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BEGIN MOVE FOR ANTI-PLO VOTE THWARTED BY ALIGNMENT AND DMC

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24 (JTA)--An effort by Premier Menachem Begin to weld an inter-factional front for a Knesset vote today on a resolution ruling out all possibilities of negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization received a setback because of the opposition of both the Labor Alignment and the Democratic Movement for Change. Both these two main opposition blocs informed Begin that, while they agreed with the anti-PLO sentiment they could not in good conscience agree to give their support to a motion of this kind.

"We must stress the positive, not only the negative," former Foreign Minister Yigal Allon explained. He referred to his party's long-time proposal for a Palestinian solution within the Jordanian context, which specifically advocates a territorial compromise on the West Bank, a solution anathema to the Likud government.

The DMC gave much the same response, calling for a full-scale Knesset debate on foreign policy, not merely a solidarity resolution on this single aspect of the peace problem. In the face of this situation, Begin withdrew his initiative and the Knesset, which was to convene today to discuss budgetary provisions, did not take up the PLO issue at all.

Instead, the Knesset will convene next week for a special recess session to discuss Israel's foreign policy. The session will be convened at a joint initiative of the Alignment and the DMC factions following Begin's failure in his bid today to secure an inter-factional front. The PLO issue will be only a part of the subjects discussed in the Knesset, as the Alignment and the DMC originally demanded.

DAYAN DENIES SECRET MEETINGS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan denied today that he conducted any secret meetings during his brief visits to France and England this week. Speaking to reporters at Ben Gurion Airport upon arrival, Dayan said: "I did not meet King Hussein, neither did I meet British or French officials. Whoever created the fog around my trip has the responsibility to disperse it."

Dayan said the purpose of his visit to England was simply as it had been described: explaining to British Jewry the situation in the Middle East following the visit of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

"I wanted British Jewry to understand us," he said. He reported that some Jewish leaders in Britain had asked him why Israel would not halt settlements in the West Bank. "They ask this not because they themselves oppose the settlements, but because there is criticism in the world against the settlements. Some Jews do not like it when they are criticized by non-Jews."

Dayan said he believed it was imperative that world Jewry understand the Israeli policy. "They have to understand that we were not just plain stubborn. It is not that we don't want peace, but we simply must secure our future," he said. "World Jewry must understand that a Palestinian state headed by the PLO would mean disaster to Israel."

The Foreign Minister repeated, however, a statement he made in London that he believes Egyptian President Anwar Sadat is now interested in peace. Dayan said that enroute to New York for the UN General Assembly next month he would stop for one day in Europe, to again brief European Jewish leaders of the latest developments in the Mideast crisis.

AUSTRIAN GROUP APPEALS FOR ACTION AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA

By Maurice Fine

VIENNA, Aug. 24 (JTA)--The Austrian Action Group Against Anti-Semitism appealed today to the government, the churches and to all Austrians to condemn recent anti-Semitic acts. In a statement, the group asked the government to express solidarity with Jewish citizens and to make all efforts to prevent anti-Semitic actions in the future.

The group referred to a series of anti-Semitic actions in the last few days: tombstones in the Jewish section of the Vienna Central Cemetery were desecrated by unidentified vandals, anti-Semitic slogans were daubed on walls of a downtown synagogue and a monument for Sigmund Freud was defaced. The group said such provocations create the wrong impression in the world that Austria is a stronghold for neo-Nazism.

Meanwhile, Austrian police arrested a member of the right-wing organization, Action New Right (ANR) under the suspicion of being involved in the anti-Semitic actions. A police spokesman said the man, whose name was withheld, denied all connections with the incidents. However, ANR, in a statement, complained that Austrian police start to act just as soon as "Jews do a bit of complaining."

SPECIAL ANALYSIS
A TRADE-OFF IN THE MAKING

By Murray Zuckoff and Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24 (JTA)--The Carter Administration's apparent effort to create a climate of "world opinion" in favor of its Middle East policy continues to center on legitimizing the Palestine Liberation Organization and paving the way to have it participate in reconvened Geneva talks.

At the same time, there seems to be an easing off of any harsh criticism of Israel regarding its announced policy of establishing more settlements on the West Bank and aiding militarily the Christians in southern Lebanon. There are some analysts here who feel that "toned down" statements on Israel's West Bank policy indicate a policy of trade-off.

The thinking among these analysts is that President Carter realizes there is nothing he can do under current circumstances, short of strong statements of concern, rebukes and admonishments, about Israel's West Bank policy. He is in the same position in that regard as he was when he was admonishing and rebuking the Soviet Union on the issue of human rights. After a series of strongly-worded statements he had to concede, during a press conference, that he cannot, after all, use physical force to persuade the Russians to change their policy.

Persuasion And Pressure

But, if Carter cannot use physical force to persuade the Israeli government to change its West Bank settlement policy--and strong statements of concern and rebukes do not seem to have any affect --he can find a way of dealing with the PLO and thereby place Israel on the diplomatic griddle.

In fact, Carter said earlier this month while Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was in Saudi Arabia during his Mideast trip, that the U.S. has indirect contact with the PLO. The President added: "We have a means to contact them and to exchange ideas with them." This is a step away from direct U.S.-PLO contacts. Events of the past few days tend to bear out the trade-off theory.

Centrality Of The PLO

The centrality of the PLO in the Administration's Mideast policy was indicated by U.S. Ambassador Richard Parker's comments in Beirut last week and the State Department's studied refusals to name the PLO as the perpetrators of the recent rash of bombing in Israel even though the terrorist organization has itself boasted publicly of the deeds and promised more of them.

Most Beirut newspapers and some unidentified "legislators" quoted Parker as saying that Carter had sent a letter to Premier Menachem Begin of Israel to stop Israeli support of Christians resisting the PLO's onslaught in southern Lebanon and strongly opposing Israel's West Bank settlement policy. Parker was also reported as saying that Carter, in a letter to President Hafez Assad of Syria, asked him for "self-restraint" in view of Begin's statement that Israeli artillery was helping the Lebanese Christians.

According to information received here, Parker was quoted as stating that the message Carter sent to Begin contained an American "demand that Israel restrict its military operations along the Israeli-Lebanese border" and that it contained a "strong American protest" against the settlements.

The State Department acknowledged the letters were sent but refused to discuss them or the remarks attributed to Parker. It referred queries about the letters to the White House where Presidential spokesmen said they would not reveal Presidential correspondence. No one, however, denied Parker's comments.

Series Of Statements, Developments

Beginning with last Friday a series of curious statements and developments ensued. Having fired a double-barreled blast at Israel last Thursday for Israel's move to establish three new civilian settlements on the West Bank as "unilateral illegal acts" and assailing Israel's policy of providing the West Bank and Gaza Strip with services equal to that available in Israel, the State Department refused last Friday to respond to Israeli statements rejecting the U.S. reaction.

In fact, the White House said that the U.S. and Israel are not on a "collision course" and that the U.S.-Israel discussions on the West Bank should not be seen as destroying their relationship. Presidential news secretary Jody Powell, who made the statement in response to reporters' questions about the consequences of the discord over the new settlements and the equalization policy, said "we expressed through diplomatic channels our concern, namely about recent steps in the West Bank."

Then, on Sunday, when the Israeli Cabinet issued a statement rejecting as "unjustified" the U.S. criticism of Israel for establishing the three new settlements and declaring that the government of Israel "cannot accept the assertion that Jewish settlement in the Land of Israel is regarded as illegal," the State Department commented that it had nothing to add to its statement three days earlier.

Relationship Remains Unaffected

However, the Department spokesman added: "As the President and other spokesmen have noted in the past, we do not believe that the long-standing close and friendly relationship between the United States and Israel are affected by disagreements of this type." On Monday, the State Department said that Israeli use of the U.S. equipment in aiding the Lebanese Christians does not violate any U.S. law or Israeli-U.S. agreements regarding the transfer of American-supplied military equipment without receiving U.S. government permission.

There were no violations, Department spokesman John Trattner said, because Israel is using that equipment and has not transferred it to a second party in the Lebanese conflict. He said Israel informed the U.S. about its use of the equipment but not how it was being used. In fact, he added, he could not be sure what equipment was being used, how it was being used or when Israel informed the U.S. about using the equipment.

Then, in what seemed to some observers as an attempt to play down entirely Israel's West Bank settlement policy, Carter, in response to a reporter's question during his news conference yesterday declared that "at this time our pointing out to Israel that these three settlements that were just established are illegal because they were made on occupied territory is the extent of our intention." Pressed by the same reporter as to whether this was all he planned to do or say about the issue, Carter replied: "Obviously we can exert pressure on Israel in other ways, but I have no intention to do so." The "other ways" was taken by some to indicate the validity of the trade-off theory vis-a-vis legitimizing the PLO.

Mum Is The Word

For example, the State Department refused to comment on the PLO's executive committee's threat made in Beirut last Friday to "escalate the armed struggle" against Israel. The committee, saying it has mapped a "plan of action" in response to the new Jewish settlements, also condemned the Carter Administration even though it has assailed Israel on that issue in the statement last Thursday.

The State Department also kept mum even when the terrorist organization's executive committee also reiterated the PLO's rejection of UN Security Council Resolution 242 despite Carter's statement during Vance's Mideast trip that the PLO might be ready to accept 242. In addition, Trattner claimed yesterday that he had no information on a published statement Monday by Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department, that the PLO attitude toward 242 has not changed. Kaddoumi made this statement just three days before the Palestine National Council was to meet in Damascus.

Meanwhile, analysts continued to see the U.S. watering down its support for Resolution 242 despite State Department insistence that it would oppose any tampering with it. Carter's assertion two weeks ago that it "would suit us fine" if the "Palestinians" would say "we recognize" 242 "in its entirety, but we think the Palestinians have additional status other than refugees," was seen as a distinct modification of the U.S. position without any formality from the Security Council.

The point, in a nutshell, is that if Israel refuses to heel to U.S. demands to reverse its West Bank policy the U.S. may look the other way should the PLO decide to "exert pressure in other ways" on Israel. The agonizing question is whether a trade-off policy is indeed in the making and if it is, what price will Israel be forced to pay?

HADASSAH MOBILIZES FOR WZ CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Aug. 24 (JTA)--"Hadassah, as the largest Zionist bloc in the world, is mobilizing its membership so that its Zionist philosophy is reflected in decisions to be made at the 29th World Zionist Congress in February," Bernice S. Tannenbaum, national president of Hadassah said today.

Speaking at a luncheon ending Hadassah's four-day 63rd annual national convention at the New York Hilton, Mrs. Tannenbaum told the 3000 delegates that Hadassah will be asked to take a position on the issues of religious pluralism in Israel, whether aliya is a matter of free choice or an imperative and the structure of the World Zionist Organization and Congress. "These questions and many more bear scrutiny," she said.

"Since the founding of Israel, a surprising new debate emerged on what role organized Zionism would have to play in light of the creation of a sovereign Jewish State," Mrs. Tannenbaum said. "Hadassah has clearly defined its role: we belong to the World Confederation of United Zionists which is completely divorced from any of the political parties in Israel."

This does not mean that Hadassah is apolitical or non-political, she observed. "Zionism is, by definition, a political movement and Hadassah is involved daily with the politics of Zionist life. Both our Confederation and Hadassah trace our ideological roots to the philosophy of general Zionism, which opens its doors to diverse ideas, united by acceptance of the Jerusalem Program."

Mrs. Tannenbaum said that every Zionist organization is presently engaged in an intensive information and recruitment campaign. Representation, she noted is based on membership figures as of Oct. 13. "As we leave this convention, our first priority is to communicate a sense of urgency for full participation by our membership. Because at this Congress far-reaching decisions will be made of a philosophical as well as of a practical nature. Every Hadassah member must recognize her responsibility to vote for delegates to the Congress. Of course, we believe she will vote the Hadassah slate."

CONCERN OVER NEO-NAZISM IN WEST GERMANY REACHES THE WHITE HOUSE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24 (JTA)--Concern over the spread of neo-Nazism in West Germany reached the White House when the Mayor of West Berlin, Dietrich Stobbe, paid a courtesy call on President Carter.

Vice President Walter Mondale, who joined in the meeting Monday, raised the question of growing ultra-right extremism that former German Chancellor Willy Brandt had dealt with recently in a letter to the Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. (See Daily News Bulletin's Aug. 23 issue.)

Stobbe revealed Mondale's interest in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency upon his emergence from the White House. The Berlin Mayor said he responded that left-wing extremists in Germany are "the main problem just now, but Brandt warned the German people of the danger on the other end of the political spectrum."

Brandt, he added, "wrote the letter to make clear the German people should look at both sides," Stobbe said. "That's my personal opinion, too."

The Mayor observed that in West Berlin there is a "small but totally controlled" National Party of Germany (NPD) whose members are forbidden to hold meetings. There are far more left-wing extremists, he said "with a certain anti-Israel feeling which concerns me a lot and gives me sorrow."

Later, when the JTA raised the matter at the daily White House news briefing, Presidential news secretary Jody Powell replied he was "sure the President and the Mayor share abhorrence of anything like" the revival of Hitlerism.

Brandt's letter became public knowledge at a time many Germans have expressed sympathy in public for the Nazi war criminal Herbert Kappler, who escaped from an Italian prison hospital with the aid of his wife and, according to authoritative sources in Europe, with the aid of former Nazis, prison and border personnel. The German government has said it cannot legally extradite Kappler to Italy and has helped keep him from public view at a hideaway in West Germany.

TOP JNF OFFICIAL CALLS FOR 10 NEW SETTLEMENTS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24 (JTA)--The head of the Jewish National Fund's land development projects, Meir Shamir, has called for the establishment of 10 additional settlements in the Golan Heights over the coming decade. Shamir told newsmen this week that the JNF can lay the groundwork for the establishment of these settlements.

In the next 10 years, Shamir said, the JNF planned to prepare 50,000 dunams for cultivation, lay the infra-structure for another 10 settlements, drain another 15,000 dunams, and create reservoirs to store another 25 million cubic meters of water.

Surveying the JNF's activities in the Golan over the past 10 years, Shamir highlighted the following points: 100,000 dunams of land (25,000 acres) were readied for cultivation; 109 kilometers of security roads were opened up; another 400 kilometers of pasture trails were blazed; 16,000 dunams of waterlogged land were drained; five dams were built, providing storage facilities for 7.5 million cubic meters of water; and the groundwork was prepared for the establishment of all the 26 existing Golan settlements.

The main spurt in Golan development has been achieved during the last three years, Shamir pointed out. In its forestry work, the JNF, he said, had: planted 25,000 trees in army camps in the Golan; planted 1000 dunams of trees on the slopes of the Golan Heights; planted trees in eight settlements, and laid out three recreation parks, at Gamla, the planned new town of Katrin, and the "Jordan Park."

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--Jerusalemites sweltered for the third day in a row Wednesday as the freak high pressure build-up continued to hover over the country affecting particularly the higher ground. While the Tel Aviv coastal area enjoyed some relief by virtue of the proximity of the sea, Jerusalemites bore the full brunt of the heatwave, with temperatures Wednesday said to be near 100 degrees in the Capital. Meteorologists had to go back to their records of the 1930s to come up with comparable figures for the Capital.