

U.S.-SOVIET JOINT DECLARATION: TREACHERY AND BETRAYAL ISRAELI, JEWISH LEADERS DENOUNCE STATEMENT AS MOVE TO IMPOSE MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

ISRAEL CHARGES JOINT STATEMENT CONTRAvenes UN RESOLUTION 242

Ehrlich Warns Israel May Have To Be Prepared For A Period Of Emergency
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 2 (JTA)--Israel flatly rejected today a joint declaration by the United States and the Soviet Union released last night, that called for the participation of "representatives... of the Palestinian people" in Middle East peace talks at Geneva and for resolution of "such key issues as withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the 1967 conflict."

A five-point statement issued by the government this morning charged that the declaration "contra-venes the true meaning of Security Council Resolution 242" and warned that it "cannot but still further harden the positions of the Arab states and make the Middle East peace process still more difficult."

Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich, who presided at today's weekly Cabinet session in the absence of Premier Menachem Begin, told newsmen afterwards that the U.S.-Soviet joint declaration was an attempt to impose a settlement and said Israel might have to be prepared for "a period of emergency." But Ehrlich added, "Perhaps this is not the last word" and noted that Israel has weathered disputes with the U.S. in the past.

In an earlier statement to the press on his return from the U.S. last night, Ehrlich said the U.S.-Soviet accord on the Middle East need not necessarily bring about a confrontation between Israel and the U.S.

But there was an air of deep despondency here today. The U.S.-Soviet communique was widely viewed as the start of an attempt by the two super-powers to "impose" a Mideast peace settlement, a course that both the present government and its Labor-led predecessor have vowed to oppose. Ehrlich hinted to newsmen that the government would make new overtures to the opposition parties to form a national unity coalition.

The text of the U.S.-Soviet declaration is believed to have been shown to Israel before its release. Begin is said to have read it on Friday, shortly before he was hospitalized for what was described as exhaustion.

Text Of Israel Government's Statement

The government's statement that followed said: "The Soviet Union's demand that Israel withdraw to the pre-June, 1967 borders--a demand which contravenes the true meaning of Security Council Resolution 242--is known to all."

"Despite the fact that the governments of the U.S. and Israel agreed on July 7, 1977 that the aim of the negotiations at Geneva should be 'on overall peace settlement to be expressed in a peace treaty' the concept of a 'peace treaty' is not mentioned at all in the Soviet-American statement."

"There is no reference at all in this statement to Resolutions 242 and 338, despite the fact that the U.S. government has repeatedly affirmed heretofore that these resolutions constitute the sole basis

for the convening of the Geneva conference.

"There can be no doubt that this statement, issued at a time when discussions are proceeding on the reconvening of the Geneva conference, cannot but still further harden the positions of the Arab states and make the Middle East peace process still more difficult."

"As the Prime Minister has stated, Israel will continue to aspire to free negotiations with its neighbors with the purpose of signing a peace treaty with them."

Points Of Pressure

Meanwhile, there was no word here on the substantive state of the talks going on in the U.S. between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and U.S. officials. The U.S. is believed to be pressing Israel on two points: admittance of "low level" PLO representatives to the Geneva talks and inclusion of the "Palestinian issue" on the Geneva agenda. PLO participation is believed to be conditioned on its acceptance of Israel's right to exist and adherence to Resolution 242 which might be amended to include a reference to Palestinian national aspirations.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is understood to have submitted new proposals to Dayan covering these points at their meeting in New York on Friday. The Cabinet was briefed on the state of the Dayan-Vance talks by Ephraim Evron, director general of the Foreign Ministry. The meeting adjourned early for Meyer Weisgal's funeral at Rehovot. He died Thursday at the age of 83.

TEXT OF U.S.-USSR MIDEAST STATEMENT

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 2 (JTA)--The text of the joint U.S.-Soviet statement on the Middle East, as released here yesterday by the State Department, declares:

Having exchanged views regarding the unsafe situation which remains in the Middle East, "Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance of the United States and Andrei A. Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, have the following statement to make on behalf of their countries, which are the co-chairmen of the Geneva Peace Conference on the Middle East:

1. Both governments are convinced that vital interests of the peoples of this area as well as the interests of strengthening peace and international security in general urgently dictate the necessity of achieving as soon as possible a just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. This settlement should be comprehensive, incorporating all parties concerned and all questions.

The United States and the Soviet Union believe that within the framework of a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem, all specific questions of the settlement should be resolved, including such key issues as withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the 1967 conflict; the resolution of the Palestinian question including insuring the legitimate rights of the Pal-

estinian people; termination of the state of war and establishment of normal peaceful relations on the basis of mutual recognition of the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence.

The two governments believe that, in addition to such measures for insuring the security of the borders between Israel and the neighboring Arab states as the establishment of demilitarized zones and the agreed stationing in them of United Nations troops or observers, international guarantees of such borders as well as of the observance of the terms of the settlement can also be established, should the contracting parties so desire. The United States and the Soviet Union are ready to participate in these guarantees, subject to their constitutional processes.

2. The United States and the Soviet Union believe that the only right and effective way for achieving a fundamental solution to all aspects of the Middle East problem in its entirety is negotiations within the framework of the Geneva Peace Conference, specially convened for these purposes, with participation in its work of the representatives of all the parties involved in the conflict, including those of the Palestinian people, and legal and contractual formalization of the decisions reached at the conference.

In their capacity as co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference, the U.S. and the USSR affirm their intention through joint efforts and in their contacts with the parties concerned to facilitate in every way the resumption of the work of the Conference not later than December 1977. The co-chairmen note that there still exist several questions of a procedural and organizational nature which remain to be agreed upon by the participants to the Conference.

3. Guided by the goal of achieving a just political settlement in the Middle East and of eliminating the explosive situation in this area of the world, the U.S. and the USSR appeal to all the parties in the conflict to understand the necessity for careful consideration of each other's legitimate rights and interests and to demonstrate mutual readiness to act accordingly.

EHRlich SAYS ISRAEL WILL DEFY U.S.-SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO IMPOSE SETTLEMENT By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 2 (JTA)--Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich, speaking today for the government, said that Israel would defy U.S.-Soviet attempts to impose a settlement of the Middle East conflict. He said such an attempt was implicit in the U.S.-Soviet joint declaration.

Israel will not accept an imposed settlement, will not accept a Palestinian state and will not accept PLO representation at the Geneva talks, Ehrlich told newsmen after today's Cabinet meeting. "There is hardly anything in the (U.S.-Soviet) communique that is not alarming," he declared.

Ehrlich presided at today's Cabinet session in the absence of Premier Menachem Begin who was hospitalized in Tel Aviv Friday for exhaustion. He said the Cabinet did not discuss the U.S.-Soviet statement today. The subject may have been discussed by the Ministerial Defense Committee, the proceedings of which are not publicized. Ehrlich said the joint communique was probably an outcome of the SALT talks and American efforts to improve relations with the Soviet Union "at the expense of Israel."

(According to reports in the U.S., the statement was suggested to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance

some time ago by the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, Anatoly F. Dobrynin. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter described it last night as "a general statement of guiding principles" for a Mideast solution as the U.S. and the Soviet Union see them.)

Ehrlich expressed hope that the joint communique would not become durable. He said Israel's ability to face U.S.-Soviet pressure depended on "time and nerves" and to a large extent on unity among the people, notably the degree of support from American Jewry. He said Israel has made considerable concessions aimed at reconvening the Geneva conference but would not participate in it if the PLO is represented.

Rabin: No Point To Israel Going To Geneva

Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin denounced the U.S.-Soviet statement and urged Israel to declare that on its basis there is no point to Israel participating in the Geneva conference. Rabin agreed that the statement "reflects for the first time the trend to impose a settlement." He said the purpose set forth by the two superpowers "is no longer a just and durable peace as it was defined in Security Council Resolution 242 but a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

He noted that it mentioned Israeli withdrawals to its 1967 borders and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people before referring to "termination of the state of war and establishment of normal peaceful relations."

Rabin blamed the Likud government for ruining in three months a system of political understanding that was built over 10 years with great effort by the previous Labor governments. He said he would have used much harsher language toward the present regime if Begin had not been confined to the hospital. He said the U.S.-Soviet statement was "an unprecedented turning point in the relations between Israel and the U.S."

Likud Blamed For Developpment

Former Foreign Minister Yigal Allon shared Rabin's view that the Likud government was responsible for the crisis. Speaking at Ben Gurion Airport before leaving for Britain and the U.S. and Canada, Allon said the government's foreign policy put Israel in the position of a stubborn nation that had to be softened. The American-Soviet statement "eliminated prospects for the Geneva conference and negotiations for peace."

However, he said, the mistake was made by Begin when he first met President Carter last July and deliberately did not try to reach an understanding with him on substantive matters. "When the Gush Emunim dictates the government's foreign policy and when the government subjugates internal matters to its moves in the international arena, there are difficulties," he said. Allon was referring to Begin's public support of Gush demands for massive Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank.

Former Defense Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Alignment, said today that the joint communique has completely isolated Israel in the international political arena. Speaking at a Labor Party meeting in Tel Aviv, Peres said the statement contradicted all "rules of the game" and was contrary to Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which did not call for Palestinian representation at Geneva, and "certainly did not call for the establishment of a Palestinian state." The UN did not authorize the superpowers to change Security Council resolutions, Peres said.

JOINT STATEMENT RAPPEL AS ABANDONMENT OF AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 2 (JTA)--The joint U.S.-Soviet statement was denounced today by several leading Jewish and non-Jewish spokesmen as an abandonment of America's historic commitment to Israel's security.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, accused the Carter Administration of renegeing on President Carter's pledge to support a negotiated settlement in the Middle East on the basis of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and requested Secretary of State Cyrus Vance "the opportunity of a clarification from you of the American position."

Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, condemned the joint statement as a "new Munich." He called for an immediate national mobilization of the Jewish people in this country and urged the convocation of a leadership assembly in Washington "to dramatize our concern at the lethal direction American foreign policy has taken and its mortal danger to the State of Israel."

In a telegram sent to Vance, Schindler said, "We are profoundly disturbed" by the joint U.S.-Soviet statement "which on its face represents an abandonment of America's historic commitment to the security and survival of Israel and imperils our country's interests by giving a major role to the USSR, not merely at Geneva but in the Middle East itself."

"The statement also appears to be a shocking about-face of the President's public pledges of support for the principles of a negotiated settlement within the framework of UN-Resolutions 242 and 338. The U.S.-Soviet plan calls for an imposed settlement that will inevitably lead to further turmoil in the area. It is not a prescription for peace but rather a formula for reducing Israel... into a vassal state dependent in part for its physical protection and thus its very survival on the Soviet Union.... We respectfully request the opportunity of a clarification from you of the American position."

Does The Work Of The PLO

Sternstein said the joint statement "has done the work of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The statement leaves Israel with nothing to negotiate at Geneva. The phrase, 'legitimate rights of the Palestinians,' is a code phrase for a Palestinian state ruled by the PLO. There is now no point in Israel's going to Geneva since the United States and the Soviet Union have announced their plan to impose their own solution in line with Arab demands, even though President Carter has repeatedly and solemnly stated that the U.S. would not be a party to an imposed solution."

In television interviews today the joint statement was attacked by AFL-CIO president George Meany and Sen. Henry Jackson (D.Wash.). Appearing on CBS' "Face the Nation," Meany said an imposed settlement will not work since a peace settlement could only come from the parties involved. "I just can't see an imposed settlement," he said.

Jackson said on NBC's "Meet the Press," that by agreeing to a joint effort with the Soviet Union, the U.S. had allowed "the fox... back in the chicken coop." He said the joint statement elevated the Soviets to an influential position that they had not even dreamed of having in the Mideast. "It is a step in the wrong direction," he said. "It's going to raise issues of confrontation."

BRZEZINSKI: U.S. AID OF ISRAEL ASSURED

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2 (JTA)--Zbigniew Brzezinski, chairman of the National Security Council, said today, "If Israel was mortally threatened, especially by an external power, the United States, even now, without a security treaty, would certainly go to its aid." The Presidential advisor on national security made his remarks in an interview taped yesterday and broadcast in Canada by the Canadian Television Network as a crisis brewed in U.S.-Israeli relations over last night's joint U.S.-Soviet declaration.

Brzezinski stressed that the U.S. was committed to bring about peace in the Middle East. He said that in addition, "the United States has indicated that it is prepared to work toward the creation of a variety of bilateral as well as international security arrangements which would further enhance the security of Israel."

With respect to peace prospects, he said, "I think all of the parties have realized that they need peace. The Israelis know that if they don't have peace their economy will stagnate, their neighbors will get more radical and more modern at the same time and the Soviets will re-enter (the Middle East) and therefore the threat to Israel will grow." He said "The Arabs realize that they don't have the power to destroy Israel, that their repeated efforts have backfired."

WALDHEIM, PLO PRAISE JOINT STATEMENT

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 2 (JTA)--United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said today that he hoped the U.S.-USSR joint statement will "lead to a breakthrough" to reconvening the Geneva conference. "It contains the main elements for a solution of the Middle East problem," he said of the statement. Waldheim said he especially hoped that the statement will "overcome the existing difficulties" in the talks being conducted at the UN and elsewhere.

Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization political department, who met with Waldheim yesterday, also welcomed the joint statement. He said it contained "positive indications toward a just settlement of the Middle East conflict" and "a contribution to international efforts which aim at securing a new Security Council resolution which provides an adequate basis that ensures the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine."

CABINET APPROVES GUSH SETTLEMENT

JERUSALEM, Oct. 2 (JTA)--The Cabinet today authorized the immediate settlement of a Gush Emunim group inside an army camp near Nablus, in the heart of Samaria. The group was due to enter the camp late today. Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor said Israel believed this settlement would not perturb Washington, apparently because it was being undertaken within the framework of the military occupation forces. Newsmen deduced that the U.S. had been informed in advance although Naor did not say so.

He said he assumed that the soldiers presently in the camp would remain there--as would the settlers--indefinitely. The settlers will be employed by the army on defense-related work under special contracts but will not be enlisted. A previous proposal to that effect has been dropped in the face of Defense Ministry and public opposition.

There will be no Bulletin dated Oct. 10 due to Columbus Day, a postal holiday.

WARNING ON MISSIONARY ACTIVITY

NEW YORK, Oct. 2 (JTA)—Representatives of the "Christian Brothers Carpet Cleaning Service" are blanketing Jewish communities in the metropolitan area soliciting business. This company is, in fact, a part of the "Church of Bible Understanding" (COBU) and operates out of the missionary-cult group's headquarters, according to the Jewish Community Relations Council's Task Force on Missionary Activity (JCRC). The COBU is considered one of the more extreme groups and has been the subject of a number of investigations and exposes, the JCRC said.

Malcolm Hoenlein, JCRC executive director, warned that the cleaning service offers COBU members opportunities to gain entree into people's homes. While performing their service, they are reported to engage in religious discussions especially when young people are present. Moreover, the income from the business is said to fund COBU's other conversionary activities, he said.

In November, 1976, COBU, formerly known as "Forever Family," was ordered by the New York City Health, Fire and Buildings Departments to vacate lofts in downtown New York where 159 members were living in "unsafe, unsanitary and illegal" conditions. The group is headed by Stewart Traill and a considerable number of its members are from Jewish families, Hoenlein said.

Rabbis, organizations and schools have been urged to alert all Jewish homes to the true sponsorship of the carpet cleaning and maid service and the nature of its activities. The JCRC is the central coordinating and resource body for the major Jewish organizations in the metropolitan area.

FOUNDATION MAKES GRANT OF \$150,000 TO HUC FOR NEW N.Y.C. FACILITY

NEW YORK, Oct. 2 (JTA)—The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich., has informed Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, that the Foundation will make a challenge grant of \$150,000 toward construction of a new home for the New York school of the Reform college. The college recently announced plans to move from its present building on Manhattan's West Side to a new site adjacent to the New York University campus in downtown Manhattan and to enter into a cooperative academic relationship with the university.

"We are grateful to the trustees of The Kresge Foundation for the enormous assistance they are giving to our project," Gottschalk said. "We have outgrown our present facilities and need adequate quarters to maintain the vitality of our educational efforts. Both the financial assistance that this generous grant provides and the confidence in us that it expresses are deeply appreciated."

William H. Baldwin, president of The Kresge Foundation, said the grant is conditioned upon Hebrew Union College securing all of the funds required for construction by November 1978. Gottschalk said approximately \$5 million of the \$7 million required for the project already was contributed or pledged and that the college was certain it would meet the time requirement.

SULTANIK SAYS ZIONIST MOVEMENT WILL BE DEPOLITICIZED AT NEXT WZCONGRESS

MONTREAL, Oct. 2 (JTA)—The "depoliticizing" of the organized Zionist movement by the forthcoming 29th World Zionist Congress, in terms of severing existing alignments with political parties in Israel, was predicted here by Kalman Sul-

tanik, executive vice-president of the World Confederation of United Zionists, the international body of all non-party Zionist organizations.

Sultanik, a member of the World Zionist Executive, spoke Thursday night at a meeting of the United Zionists of Canada in preparation for the election of delegates to the Congress which will convene on Feb. 20 in Jerusalem.

He asserted that the participation in the Zionist Congress for the first time by delegates from the Reform and Conservative movement, plus the Sephardim and the Maccabi as well as the appearance of a new factor in the Zionist movement in Israel, the Democratic Movement for Change—which in its platform for the Knesset elections called for non-interference by political parties in Israel in the Zionist movements of the diaspora—will result in an overturn of the traditional domination of the political parties in Israel with their counterparts in the diaspora, which prevailed in the previous Congresses.

"For the first time in the history of the Zionist Congresses, the 29th Congress will encompass the majority of the Jewish people, with the largest representation from Jews in the diaspora," Sultanik said. He observed that while the "depoliticization of the Zionist movement has been strongly advocated for many years by the World Confederation, a stand validated by the passing of time," it deplores any action by Zionist bodies in the diaspora which are aligned with the opposition parties in the Knesset in voicing opposition to the Israel government on issues which are irrelevant to the diaspora. "The Confederation considers such opposition by diaspora party bodies as a disservice to Zionism, he said. Diaspora Zionists should rather direct their entire support to the State of Israel, its people and its democratically elected government, he declared.

ZVI YARON DEAD AT 54

JERUSALEM, Oct. 2 (JTA)—Zvi Yaron (Singer), well known writer and broadcaster and former spokesman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization, died suddenly here last night at the age of 54. He suffered a heart attack in the course of a radio broadcast.

German-born, Yaron resided in Britain before and during World War II, and after the war made aliya to Kibbutz Lavie in the Galilee. He entered the WZO as an official of the Torah Education Department but, with his winning way with people and his exemplary eloquence, soon made his mark and was selected spokesman for the entire organization, a post he held until two years ago.

Beyond his regular duties, Yaron found time for scholarly work and over the years became an acknowledged authority on the often esoteric works of Rabbi Avraham Hachohen Kook, first Chief Rabbi of Palestine. Yaron, a political dove, found in Kook's writings none of the bases for Gush Emunim-type right-wing nationalism that others claim to see in it, and, as founder of the "Oz Veshalom" circle of religious doves, Yaron led an Orthodox counter-attack in recent years against the Gush. Since resigning as Jewish Agency-WZO spokesman, Yaron had edited the WZO's prestigious cultural quarterly, "Forum."

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal will visit Israel and six other countries during a trip to the Middle East and Europe Oct. 21 to Nov. 2.