

GOVERNMENT MOVES TO COUNTERACT OPPOSITION TO NEW ECONOMIC POLICY

By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Nov. 1 (JTA)--The government moved today to counteract the growing worker opposition to its new economic plan that has sent the cost of virtually all goods and services soaring toward record highs. Finance Ministry sources said compensation was under consideration for some 215,000 families embracing not only social welfare cases but workers in the lower wage brackets. Meanwhile, work stoppages and on-the-job protest meetings which had the same effect continued today and the full force of labor discontent is yet to be felt.

Tel Aviv is bracing for a general strike Thursday when mass meetings of workers will be held under Histadrut auspices. Sick-fund clinics will go on strike countrywide on Thursday and bakeries plan to strike tomorrow night. El Al ground maintenance workers returned to their jobs today after a 24-hour stoppage but railroad service between Haifa and Tel Aviv was suspended this morning when workers walked off the job. Haifa port was paralyzed for four hours today by a work stoppage on the heels of yesterday's four-hour walkout in the Haifa Bay industrial zone.

The fierce labor reaction to the new economic order initiated by Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich has caused concern in the Likud government. The Likud faction in Histadrut, while supporting the government's policy generally, has complained that compensation for higher living costs is much too limited. Absorption Minister David Levi, the only Cabinet minister to vote against the plan and Deputy Minister Yoram Aridor, have been pressing Ehrlich to clarify which groups are to be compensated for the higher prices.

No Salary Increases Seen

In an interview published in Yediot Achronot today, the Finance Minister said there was no room for salary increases or changes in the composition of salary elements except for the semi-annual cost-of-living allowances. But he promised that workers in the lower income brackets will benefit from full compensation.

Israeli wage-earners will receive allowances this month for the c.o.l. rise of last September. But Histadrut leaders are demanding payment now of additional allowances based on the new price index. Normally that payment is not due until April.

The government also may be forced to reconsider its imposition of the higher value-added tax (VAT) on airline tickets. Leaders of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) have written to the Finance Ministry protesting the higher tax. Moreover, payment can be evaded easily by buying pre-paid tickets abroad or taking the short, inexpensive flight to Cyprus and buying tickets for the rest of the journey there tax-free.

The only source of satisfaction for the government so far has been the public's restraint in buying dollars, legal under the new economic plan and the increase in locally held savings accounts. In the last two days the public has bought some IL 460 million of government savings bonds linked

to 80 percent of the cost-of-living index. Investments in all savings plans reached IL 2 billion.

ISRAEL CONCERNED OVER SCALE OF BRITISH ARMS SUPPLIES TO ARABS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Nov. 1 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin is expected to complain to Prime Minister James Callaghan about the scale of British arms supplies to the Arabs and the danger this poses of a new war in the Middle East, when he visits Britain later this month. Israel's anxiety has been heightened by confirmation here that Britain is on the verge of becoming Egypt's most important arms supplier in the West with the general agreement of the United States.

Although Washington reports of a single multi-million Pounds Sterling British arms package with Cairo have been denied, it is no secret that a chain of separate negotiations between British companies and the Egyptians have recently made considerable progress.

One of the most significant is a deal whereby Rolls Royce will help to recondition Egypt's 200 Soviet-built MiG-21 aircraft. Egypt is also likely to purchase from Britain 200 Hawk jet trainers, most of which will be assembled in Egypt.

A few months ago, it appeared that Egypt had decided to purchase the Franco-German Alpha-jet aircraft but now the betting is on the British winning the contract. Under another contract, expected to be signed in the next few weeks, Westland Helicopters will build a production line in Egypt to manufacture up to 250 Lynx helicopters.

Another production line in Egypt, on which agreement has not yet been reached, will be for the British Aircraft Corporation's Swingfire anti-tank missile. The corporation has already sold Egypt 20 million Pounds Sterling worth of Swingfires.

The deals, according to analysts, have the blessing of the United States which is anxious to help President Anwar Sadat to consolidate his pro-Western and anti-Soviet policies. Because of her strong commitment to Israel, backed by Israel's American supporters, the U.S. is inhibited from acting herself as Egypt's principal armorer and for this reason has given the green light to Britain, France and Italy, analysts observe.

In the past, Britain has claimed that her arms supply policy has been governed by a wish not to upset the Middle East military balance or to obstruct peace negotiations. However, the Israelis feel that the scale of the impending arms deals could dangerously tilt the military balance in the Arabs' favor, and therefore harm the prospects for a reconvened Geneva conference.

CARTER SCORES THE UNITED NATIONS FOR LINKING ZIONISM WITH RACISM

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA)--President Carter criticized the United Nations today for linking Zionism with racism. "The unwarranted linking of Zionism with racism was an impediment to serious consideration of human rights matters and the United States continued to resist it by all possible means," he said.

The President's remarks were contained in a

message accompanying a report to Congress on United States activities at the UN during 1976. Calling the UN's record on human rights "disappointing," Carter said, "In a number of cases, failure to take effective action belied the commitment to human rights that all UN members have accepted."

However, the President said the UN has provided a valuable forum for discussing political disputes and is performing a vital peace-keeping mission in the Middle East and Cyprus. Carter is scheduled to address the meeting of the World Jewish Congress here tomorrow night where he is to receive the Nahum Goldmann Award for his efforts on behalf of human rights.

BURG: ISRAEL IS NOT ABOUT TO LAPSE INTO A 'MASADA COMPLEX'

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA)--Israel's Minister of Interior Yosef Burg told the World Jewish Congress here last night that the Jewish people need not be concerned about Israel "lapsing into the Masada complex" because "the spirit in Israel is that of Yavneh."

Burg, who spoke in English, Hebrew, Yiddish and greeted the Moroccan delegation in French, was alluding to the suicide of the Jewish zealots at Masada and the founding of the first yeshiva after the fall of the Second Temple at Yavneh, which helped enable the Jewish people survive through the centuries.

Addressing some 800 delegates, Burg said the spirit of Israel is high despite the fact that they have not had a single night of peace since the founding of the State and at present 22 percent of its manpower is engaged in some form of security task either in the armed forces or the defense industry.

Burg, a member of the National Religious Party, praised the Begin government's latest economic decision saying it is a "courageous step in the right direction." In a play on words, Burg drew laughter when he said "we are willing to go to Geneva provided it won't be a 'geneva,'" the Hebrew and Yiddish equivalent for "ripoff."

Israel accepted the "working paper" of Oct. 11 in cooperation with the United States "with a heavy heart," Burg said. He described the paper as "close to the border of the possible and impossible." He said "Israel is willing to struggle for peace at the table but not on the table."

Referring to Jewish settlements on the West Bank, Burg said they are not as important as some have been led to believe, and not as dangerous as some want the people to believe. "Only those who want to see our settlements as an obstacle to peace will see them as an obstacle to peace," Burg said. In another context, he said, "Israel shall not be sold down the river whether the name of this river is Jordan or the Potomac."

Meaning Of Balfour Declaration

Lord Fisher of Camden, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and chairman of the WJC's European branch, traced the history of the Balfour Declaration issued on Nov. 2, 1917 by Britain. (See separate story for text.)

"At the time it seemed a world-shaking act," he noted. "The Balfour Declaration must not be belittled. It gave an enormous impetus to the Zionist movement, an overwhelming encouragement to the Jewish people who saw a noble political act in their favor which was unprecedented in the history of their dispersion...."

Lord Camden warned that "two lessons are relevant to our day" from the Declaration. "Its ambiguous and watered-down text was due more to Jewish opposition than to anything else," he said. "Jews were their own worst enemies. And secondly, had the Jewish people the world over taken proper advantage of the opportunity afforded them by the terms of the Declaration embodied in the Mandate, and flocked in large numbers to Palestine and poured in more of their wealth and abilities into that country at that time--and not waited until the Holocaust forced them to try to do so--then our history would have undoubtedly been different."

TEXT OF BALFOUR DECLARATION

Following is the text of the Balfour Declaration favoring the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine:

Foreign Office
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Arthur James Balfour

ANTI-HIJACK DRAFT MEASURE ADOPTED

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 1 (JTA)--The special Political Committee of the General Assembly today adopted by consensus a draft resolution aimed against aerial hijacking. The resolution, sponsored by 46 countries, urges improved security at airports, calls for the exchange of relevant information between nations and for ratification of three existing international conventions dealing with the safety of civil aviation. These are the Tokyo, The Hague and Montreal conventions which have been ratified, so far, by 88, 79 and 75 nations, respectively.

The final draft that will be sent to the General Assembly for consideration was modified under pressure from the Arab states by the addition of language that observers here saw as an allusion to Israel's rescue raid at Entebbe Airport, Uganda on July 3-4, 1976.

At the insistence of the Arab states, the words "and without prejudice to the sovereignty or territorial integrity of any state" were added after the call for the "exchange of relevant information." This was viewed as an allusion to Entebbe where Israeli forces landed without the permission of the hostile Ugandan government. The Arabs also insisted on the words "whether committed by individuals or states" in the first paragraph of the resolution that condemns aerial hijacking.

UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim expressed satisfaction with the committee's action after the vote and said he was confident that the General Assembly will "act speedily" on the resolution. A UN spokesman said the Assembly could take up the

issue as early as this Thursday. Waldheim also urged all nations to ratify the three international conventions.

The issue of aerial terrorism came to the urgent attention of the UN after the recent hijacking of a Lufthansa airliner to Mogadishu, Somalia and the murder of its pilot. The International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA) threatened a two-day world-wide strike unless the UN took prompt action. The strike was called off when the UN agreed to consider the issue.

YOUNG: GOALS OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION IDENTICAL WITH THOSE OF TRUMAN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA)—Andrew Young, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, assured the World Jewish Congress today that the "principles, goals and objectives of this Administration are identical with those of President Truman in 1948."

In a speech in which he pointedly avoided discussing U.S. Middle East policy, Young said that "peace in 1978 certainly may require more understanding and more risk" than previously. But he suggested less concern about the "risks of seeking peace" than "those that certainly go with war."

Young, whose remarks were received in silence throughout, said that in a world "where every word is viewed as a tilt in policy," he was the wrong person to be here today. He said he has "an overwhelming suspicion of statescraft" and "I would really not like to represent my government on this occasion but to say what is on my mind. You will hear from the President tomorrow," and "that's what counts."

Speaking of the UN, Young said there is an interrelationship between Israel's problem and those of the U.S. With the U.S. "identified as Israel's powerful friend, everyone that has a quarrel with the United States but can't get to us because we are too powerful, takes it out on Israel," Young said.

Baker Calls For Clear Mideast Policy

At an earlier session today of the WJC conference, Sen. Howard Baker of Tennessee, the Republican Minority Leader, called on the Carter Administration to "remove any doubts where the U.S. stands on the continued peace and existence of Israel." Baker said he was "deeply troubled" over the "shift in the Administration's posture because of the uncertainty it arouses in the minds of millions of Americans who are deeply committed to the peaceful survival of Israel."

He assailed the U.S.-Soviet joint statement on the Middle East of Oct. 1 and declared: "Even more important than the perhaps erroneous assumption that the U.S. is casting aside the only democratic state in the Middle East is the meaning of this statement to the national interests of the U.S."

Baker said that while the U.S. must recognize Soviet power where it exists and negotiate with the Soviet Union to reduce the danger of nuclear war, "I believe even more strongly that a Soviet presence in the Middle East would endanger the survival of Israel and the stability of the Arab states that dominate the area. The U.S. cannot afford upheaval along its strategic lifelines of the Middle East," he said.

Baker said he also was troubled by the Administration's "obvious pressure to set a deadline" for a Geneva conference. "Geneva must not become a symbol for diplomatic misadventure. The U.S. can best serve prospects for peace in the Middle

East by continuing the many sided dialogue between ourselves and the Israeli and Arab governments," he said.

STATE DEPARTMENT DOWNGRADES TALK OF U.S.-ISRAEL DEFENSE TREATY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA)—State Department spokesman Hodding Carter stressed yesterday that the possibility of a United States-Israel defense treaty as part of a Middle East settlement was "not a matter of major discussion" at present.

Carter told newsmen that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in an interview in the current issue of U.S. News and World Report said there is a "possibility" that such a treaty could be worked out. But Carter cautioned that the idea should not be seen as "an active question of policy."

In the interview, Vance said the U.S. "would be prepared to consider the question of guarantees of any peace agreements (in the Mideast)—provided they were done in accordance with the constitutional processes of the United States and agreed by the parties." He added, in response to a question, that could mean a bilateral defense treaty with Israel.

But Vance ruled out the possibility of American troops in the Mideast as part of a peacekeeping force as "unlikely" and "unwise." He said that "it has been a general feeling of most nations that it is a mistake for either of the so-called great powers—the Soviets and ourselves—to have actual troops involved in peace-keeping operations."

When Carter was asked yesterday if security treaties would be made with other parties in the Middle East, he replied that he did not think "that question had arisen." He said such a treaty would not be an inducement to Israel to agree to a settlement but would be "a possible outcome of an overall settlement."

Meanwhile, former Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, who addressed the World Jewish Congress conference here, told reporters yesterday that there is "no hope that even a moderate Arab government" will agree to territorial concessions with Israel since the Carter Administration is "not even recommending" such a concession.

He stressed that the U.S. has greater influence with Arab governments than it realizes and declared "America can afford not to let itself be pushed around by oil embargoes or other threats." Allon said that he urged Vance and other Administration officials to adopt a "cooling off period" rather than seek to reconvene the Geneva conference by the end of this year.

65 FAMILIES SETTLE ON WEST BANK

TEL AVIV, Nov. 1 (JTA)—Three groups of settlers comprising 65 families moved into the Beth El army camp north of Ramallah and into the abandoned Nabi-Saleh police compound northwest of Ramallah on the West Bank today. It was indicated that these will be the last settlements for the time being in the Judea and Samaria regions because the government wants to avoid further friction with the U.S. Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zipori, who visited both sites today said there would be no settlements that are not the outcome of government planning and decisions.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—Israel will play host to the next annual congress of the World Federation of Travel Writers according to a decision reached at the close of this year's congress in Budapest last week. The gathering was attended by an Israeli delegation.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

UNITED NATIONS (JTA)--Mansur Rashid Kikha, Libya's Ambassador to the UN, took over the presidency of the Security Council Tuesday for the month of November. The presidency is rotated each month between the 15 members of the Council. It was recalled here that as recently as Oct. 8, Libya's President Muammar Qaddafi was quoted by the Libyan News Agency as calling for "no negotiations or cease-fire with the Zionist enemy; we are a people who go to war as easy as we go to a party."

BELGRADE (JTA)--The United States and West European delegates attending the Helsinki Act review conference here blocked a Soviet move to allow the Palestine Liberation Organization to address the confab. The Soviet delegate, Yuri Vorontsov, said the PLO had asked to participate and the Soviet Union accepted the request. Arthur Goldberg, head of the U.S. delegation, noted that all non-European Mediterranean countries, which includes Israel and some Arab countries which border on the Mediterranean, had been invited to address the conference but not "groups or organizations." He said the Soviet proposal was "purely a propaganda stick, as it was known it would be rejected."

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Netherlands Palestine Committee has again applied for a subsidy to the Ministry for Development Aid, this time for 1978. Its applications for the years 1976 and 1977 were rejected, partly owing to strong opposition by Jewish organizations. The Netherlands Palestine Committee wants the subsidy in order to pay the salary of a full-time permanent secretary-organizer.

NEW YORK (JTA)--Seymour Martin Lipset, a professor of political science and sociology at Stanford University, warned the Carter Administration Monday that a confrontation with Israel would create a deep conflict within American society and could have a devastating effect on the President's chances for reelection. Lipset told a news conference that he had analyzed 27 separate polls on Mideast issues taken in recent months from a significant cross section of American society and they showed sympathy for Israel ranged from 35 percent to 56 percent. The same polls showed that sympathy for Arabs ranged from 1 to 9 percent.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Some 63 percent of complaints filed by soldiers to the army ombudsman were found to be at least partially justifiable; ombudsman Haim Laskov stated in his annual report published here several days ago. This is double the rates of justified complaints as compared with last year. Laskov said in a press conference that despite army orders, there were still cases in which soldiers were punished without trial, were humiliated, were required to perform additional exercises as punishment and that commanders practiced group punishment.

BUCHAREST (JTA)--The Rumanian Jewish community last week celebrated the 10th anniversary of activity of the Joint Distribution Committee. More than 10,000 people, mostly survivors from Nazi death camps, have been benefitting from the assistance program set up by the Federation of Jewish Communities with the help of the JDC. A JDC delegation, headed by its vice-president and president-elect Donald M. Robinson, and executive vice-president Ralph I. Goldman, took part in the ceremonies marking the anniversary.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Israel fruit export company, "Carmel," located here, began last week to supply fresh fruit to Holland. These exports include tomatoes, avocados, melons, strawberries and roses. These exports, it was noted, will not compete with the Dutch fruit market since the Israeli fruit is largely imported during seasons when there is no similar Dutch-grown fruit on sale or is not grown in Holland. Fruit, not including citrus, imported from Israel last year amounted to 8 million Guilders. This year it was 15 million Guilders. Next year it is expected to rise to 25 million Guilders.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--A wave of forest fires of a suspicious origin has prompted an investigation by fire and police experts. Seven fires, mainly in the northern regions of the country in recent weeks, have destroyed thousands of trees. At least in some cases the fires are believed to have been set by terrorists. Several Arabs have been questioned about a recent fire on the southwest Carmel ridge. The other fires, all in forests planted by the Jewish National Fund, were at Achtoth in western Galilee, Vardit on Mt. Carmel, Genigar and the Churchill Forest near Nazareth and Ramat Yohanan in Galilee.

KANSAS CITY (JTA)--The Soviet Jewry project of Temple Bnai Jehudah received a phone call Sunday from Evgeny Yakir, one of the noted Soviet refusniks in Moscow. Yakir reported that an exit visa had been granted to a well-known refusnik, Felix Kamov-Kandel, a screen writer who first applied for an exit visa in September, 1973. He is expected to leave the Soviet Union in a week or two. After Kamov-Kandel applied for a visa his name was removed from film titles.

ATLANTA (JTA)--The traditional Jewish mother, whose devotion to her family has been depicted as all-embracing, may soon become an endangered species, a specialist in Jewish identity and family concerns declared. Dr. Gladys Rosen, a program specialist in the American Jewish Committee's Jewish Communal Affairs Department, warned that the continuity of Jewish family life could be imperiled unless special encouragement, prestige and support were given to the role of motherhood in the Jewish community. She made her remarks at a special session of the annual meeting of the AJCommittee's National Executive Council which met here last weekend.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--An international science symposium will be convened here in March, 1979 to celebrate Albert Einstein's 100th birthday. The 10-day symposium will include subjects ranging from recent developments in physics to Einstein's impact on contemporary thought and culture. The event is organized by the Israel Academy of Science and Humanities, the Hebrew University, the Van Leer Foundation, the Jerusalem Foundation and the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--A number of ministers will be making overseas trips this month. Premier Menachem Begin will spend four days in London where he will meet with Prime Minister James Callaghan and opposition leader Margaret Thatcher. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will be in Bonn as guest of Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and will also meet with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich will leave for Belgium Wednesday to address the Keren Hayesod.

CSA daily news bulletin

[Faint, mostly illegible text in the upper half of the page, possibly containing a list of news items or a detailed report.]

The first part of the report discusses the current state of the economy, noting a period of relative stability but with some underlying concerns. It mentions that while inflation has been kept under control, the unemployment rate remains a significant issue. The text also touches upon government policies aimed at stimulating growth and supporting the workforce.

The second section of the report focuses on international relations and trade. It highlights recent diplomatic efforts to strengthen ties with key trading partners. There is a mention of a new trade agreement that is expected to boost exports and create jobs. The report also notes the impact of global market fluctuations on the domestic economy and the government's response to these challenges.

The third part of the report addresses social issues and public health. It discusses the government's commitment to improving social services and supporting vulnerable populations. There is a focus on initiatives to reduce poverty and improve access to education and healthcare. The text also mentions recent developments in public health, including efforts to prevent and control infectious diseases.

The final section of the report provides a summary of the key points discussed and offers some outlook for the future. It reiterates the government's dedication to economic growth, social progress, and international cooperation. The report concludes with a note of optimism, suggesting that the challenges ahead can be met with the right policies and collective effort.