

PALESTINIAN EXTREMISTS BOMB PARIS BRANCH OF ISRAELI BANK LEUMI

PARIS, Nov. 27 (JTA)—Palestinian extremists claimed responsibility tonight for a bomb explosion which wrecked the Paris branch of the Israeli Bank Leumi earlier today. French news agencies received phone messages from callers who said they placed the bomb on behalf of the self-styled Tel al Zaater organization. This group takes its name from a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon which was captured by the Christian forces during last year's civil war.

The bank's glass facade was smashed and cars parked in the area were damaged by the blast. Nobody was hurt. French police linked the bomb attack with joint efforts by Israel and Egypt to reach a Middle East peace since President Anwar Sadat of Egypt visited Jerusalem a week ago.

CARTER SAYS SPEEDY RECONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE IS REQUIRED

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 27 (JTA)—President Carter stressed his conviction that a speedy reconvening of the Geneva conference is needed. In an interview with the French weekly, L'Express, published today, Carter reiterated that peace in the Middle East can be reached only within the framework of the Geneva conference and only through a "comprehensive" agreement with all the belligerent countries.

Asked to comment on former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's statement last week that Geneva is not the only key to the conflict, Carter replied: "We are willing to explore any answer, but Geneva is a framework. The forum has already been provided." All of the parties involved—ourselves, the Soviets, the Lebanese, the Syrians, Jordanians, Egyptians, Israelis—have agreed Geneva is the best forum. Until some alternative comes along that is better, that is the one we will adhere to."

Asked whether he would agree to participate in a summit meeting with Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt or another Arab leader, Carter replied: "Only if I thought my personal participation would be crucial and would lead towards a substantial settlement." Carter added, "We can't act as a party trying to force a settlement on others. We maintain this posture at all times: this Administration and the previous one as well."

Terms Sadat's Visit Constructive

Carter stated that Sadat's visit to Israel "was constructive. It did lead us a step further to a comprehensive settlement after negotiations in Geneva and I think it helped to break a somewhat stagnant progress that was developing."

The President, who was interviewed last Wednesday night at the White House, said the U.S. intends to try "and encourage" President Hafez Assad of Syria to participate in the quest for peace. "I have met with all the leaders (involved) personally, some of them on more than one occasion and will continue to do that," he declared.

Carter said on several occasions that he and

his Administration have "not backed down." He said in the interview that what he and his government have done was to "establish a growing realization of the mutual good faith that the Mideast leaders have in their own commitments to peace."

BEGIN EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE AT KNESSET SESSION MONDAY THAT ISRAEL ACCEPTS SADAT'S CALL FOR CAIRO PARLEY

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 27 (JTA)—The Knesset will meet in special session tomorrow at which Premier Menachem Begin is expected to announce that Israel accepts Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's call for a conference in Cairo beginning next Saturday to prepare for a reconvened Geneva conference. Sadat's official invitation had not been received here as of this evening but was expected by tomorrow morning, probably through U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis.

Sadat's latest initiative was launched yesterday in his address to the Peoples Assembly (the Egyptian parliament) in which he reported on his visit to Israel of Nov. 20-21. He said he had instructed Acting Foreign Minister Pierre Boutros-Ghali to contact UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and the U.S. and the Soviet Union, co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference, to advise them that Egypt was prepared to receive all parties to the Middle East conflict "to prepare for the Geneva conference."

Sadat said in an interview with NBC television correspondent John Chancellor in Cairo last night that he wanted all parties to the Middle East conflict to come to Cairo. "But if the Israelis only come, I shall start the conference. I shall be starting it with them," he said, adding, "If everything goes okay here in Cairo and no one attends, except one or two or whatever comes, I shall be proceeding to Geneva also."

Sadat said much the same today in an appearance on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation." "I shall be proceeding to Geneva, even if I go alone, and I shall be proceeding to Geneva for this comprehensive settlement," he declared. He said that following agreement at Geneva, "I shall be calling for an Arab summit here and put what we have already agreed on before them.... And they shall have to decide for themselves."

U.S. Waiting To Make Formal Response

(Meanwhile, the United States said yesterday that Sadat's proposed Cairo meeting could be helpful in preparing for Mideast talks in Geneva. "We believe that a preparatory conference involving the co-chairmen and other parties to the Geneva conference could be helpful and are consulting with the other parties," an Administration spokesman said.

(Nevertheless, the U.S. said it would not make a formal response to Sadat's invitation before consulting with other nations involved. Prior to its statement regarding a preparatory conference, the White House, in a statement issued after Sadat spoke in Cairo, said: "We will be consulting with those invited to determine their willingness to meet in Cairo to prepare for the Geneva conference."

(An Administration spokesman said the White House had been notified of the substance of Sadat's speech prior to delivery. According to some observers, the White House statement was meant to

reassure the Soviet Union that the U.S. was not acting contrary to the joint statement of Oct. 1 and trying to ignore or sidestep Soviet involvement as co-chairman of the Geneva conference.)

PLO Is Not Mentioned

Immediately after Sadat's speech, Begin met at his home with his senior Cabinet ministers, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin. An official statement released late last night said that the Cabinet would name Israel's representative to the Cairo conference as soon as the formal invitation was received. Official sources said later that the statement was issued on the assumption that the PLO would not be invited to Cairo or, at any rate, would not attend the conference. The sources said there were good grounds for that assumption.

In his speech, Sadat referred to the Palestinians but not the PLO. According to reports today, Syria and the PLO have rejected the proposed Cairo conference. They and other hard-line Arab states were reportedly preparing to convene Thursday in Tripoli, Libya for a counter-conference.

The Israeli statement noted that Sadat's demand for total withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the creation of a Palestinian state were contrary to the position of Israel supported "by more than 100 members of the Knesset." It said Israel will continue to be guided by its positions in negotiations with each of its neighbors. But "as agreed between Egypt and Israel" the negotiations would be "without any preconditions."

Real Hope To End Wars

In his speech to the Peoples Assembly, Sadat referred at length to his historic visit to Israel and his talks with its leaders. "There is a certain change," he said. "The change is, as far as the psychological atmosphere is concerned so that today there is real hope to put an end to wars and to the sacrifice and misery in the area and at the same time we could have a just peace established in the area."

He told the Egyptian parliament, "Today I shall entrust the Egyptian Foreign Minister to contact the United Nations Secretary General and the two superpowers to tell them that Cairo is ready, starting from Saturday next, God willing, to receive all the parties of the conflict, including the two superpowers, and we shall send to all parties of the conflict and including Israel, that we should meet, all the confrontation states here in Cairo and prepare for the Geneva conference so that we do not go to the Geneva conference and discuss matters for years, but we should discuss matters and settle them within months."

"Regarding the Palestinians," he said, "once again I will say that we shall try to assume the responsibility, that once again we shall bear with them, we shall bear with the representatives of the Palestinian people, and we shall bear with the fact that they have never been deceived at one time. Egypt will never cede any of their rights."

Says USSR Blocks Peace Efforts

The Egyptian leader accused the Soviet Union of blocking peace efforts in the Middle East and using the Palestinians for that purpose. "The Soviets wanted us to live in a no-war, no-peace situation because as they analyzed it, they thought they would not have a role in the Middle East if peace were established," Sadat said.

"The problem we face today is not the Syrian

party that is mounting the Palestinians against us. No, no, no. Those who are behind it all—it is strange—like, for instance, Moscow radio said in January (during the food riots in Egypt) that it was a popular upheaval and that there would be a coup. Today Moscow radio says that I have given up the Arab cause. Immediately the Syrians picked up from there and went on to pressure the poor Palestinians who also got nervous."

Sadat added: "Despite what I have just said about the Soviet Union, no, we shall invite the Soviet Union so that the Soviet Union does not believe that we are trying to keep them apart. But I would warn that if the Soviet Union tries to put any impediments on the way, that they would be committing the biggest error in their lives because I'm telling you, openly, here that anything we would find that could bring us permanent peace based on justice, we shall accept it and neither the Soviet Union nor any other person has anything to do with it. It's up to us to accept it."

Sadat confirmed during his speech that there had been an Egyptian military build-up before his visit to Jerusalem as charged by the Israeli Chief of Staff, Gen. Mordechai Gur. But he said it was simply a counter-measure to a similar build-up by Israel and that he had explained this to Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman when they met in Jerusalem.

Deny Secret Meeting

The two matters that have raised the most speculation here today are who Israel will select to represent it at the Cairo conference and whether Sadat gave Israel's leaders any hint of his plans when he was in Jerusalem last week. Several local and foreign news sources said Dayan would go to Cairo. Dayan, who left on an official visit to West Germany today, denied those reports. He said the identity of the Israeli representative would be determined by the Cabinet after it learned at what diplomatic level the Cairo talks would be held.

Both Israeli and Egyptian spokesmen meanwhile denied a CBS news report that Dayan and Ghalhi met secretly in Sinai Friday for preliminary talks about a Cairo conference.

According to Maariv, the idea of a Cairo conference was raised by Sadat in his talks with Begin here last week. Both leaders agreed in principle to resort to direct negotiations whenever possible and use the good offices of the U.S. only in those cases in which direct contacts were not possible, Maariv said. It was further rumored that the latest developments were coordinated with the U.S. Begin was said to have received a cable from President Carter last night.

But other sources here insisted that neither Begin nor the U.S. knew of Sadat's plans more than a few hours before he announced them. An aide to the Premier who was questioned by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency last night, refused to say whether or not Begin had advance knowledge of Sadat's speech.

SOME WEST BANK MAYORS REJECT BID TO COME TO CAIRO TO DISCUSS SITUATION By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 27 (JTA)—Several West Bank mayors who are known supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization have rejected an Egyptian bid to Arabs living in Israel and the occupied territories to come to Cairo to discuss the current political developments in the region. The mayors, who met at the Arab University at Bir Zeit yesterday, declared that the PLO was the

sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that any invitations should be sent to the PLO.

The invitation, broadcast by Cairo radio Thursday, appears to have created an open split in the West Bank leadership. While the majority of the younger mayors who won landslide victories in the April, 1976 West Bank municipal elections are strongly pro-PLO and have criticized Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiatives toward Israel, other West Bank notables hold different views.

Fahed Kawassme, Mayor of Hebron, once openly pro-PLO, has recently modified his stand and has drawn closer to King Hussein of Jordan who has agreed to extend financial aid to Hebron. Others, with links to Amman, such as the former Jordanian Interior Minister Moustafa Doudin, former Jordanian Justice Minister Nihad Jaralla, and Abd Rauf el Fares, a former member of the Jordanian parliament, said they would go to Cairo if invited.

Effort To Outflank The PLO

Obviously, the legitimacy of any Mideast talks in Cairo would be strengthened by the participation of Palestinians. According to Prof. Shimon Shamir of Tel Aviv University's Institute for Mideastern Affairs, Sadat's failure to mention the PLO in his address to the Egyptian parliament yesterday and his representation of the Arabs in Jerusalem and on the West Bank as authentic elements in Palestinian society, indicated an attempt to outflank the PLO. Shamir said that Sadat hoped to enlist the West Bank leaders to represent Palestinian interests instead of the PLO.

The extension of the Egyptian invitation beyond the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Arabs living in Israel, however, may not be a welcome development in Jerusalem. Israel's policy of long standing has been that the fate of its Arab citizens was tied to its own fate and that Israeli Arabs should be treated differently from those in the occupied territories.

One Israeli Arab leader, former Mayor Seif A-Din Zuabi of Nazareth who is a Knesset member representing the Labor-backed Arab list, was quick to announce that he would accept the invitation to Cairo. But government sources indicated that it was not certain that Zuabi would be allowed to leave Israel on a "Palestinian" ticket. To do so would link Israeli Arabs with the rest of the Palestinians, one source explained. But the sources did not rule out the possibility that Zuabi would be a member of the Israeli delegation to Cairo.

AGUDATH ISRAEL RAPS FEMINIST MOVEMENT

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 27 (JTA)—Agudath Israel of America has called on the United States government to stop financing feminist goals such as last week's national women's conference in Houston.

"We condemn the recent women's conference in Houston for adopting a broad range of resolutions which are contrary to the accepted moral value of our society," the delegates to the Orthodox group's 55th convention said in a resolution adopted at the opening session last Thursday. Some 3000 delegates, including the foremost scholars in Judaism from around the country, are meeting here to deliberate current Jewish issues in this country and overseas.

The resolution condemning the women's conference added: "We are further disturbed that this conference was financed with the taxpayers' dol-

lars of all Americans when its proceedings do not reflect grassroots America."

However, Rabbi Simon Schwab, spiritual leader of Congregation K'hal Adath Jeshurun, New York City, and Rabbi Chaim Dov Keller, dean of the Telshe Yeshiva of Chicago, said later that the feminist movement does not threaten Orthodox Judaism. They said the education provided in yeshivot and Jewish day schools was adequate to preserve the traditional role of the woman in Jewish life.

Schwab declared that "while the dangers of a rising anti-traditional feminism is more or less met by widespread educational endeavors under Torah auspices, the pressures exerted by society's inversion of most of our sacred values are only beginning to be realized and are not met at all as yet." Citing an example of necessary change for the benefit of the Jewish community, he said: "The first two or three very wealthy parents who make a simple wedding for their children and divert the savings to Torah causes will be able to set a new trend."

Keller warned that the current value system of Jews is a bad example for the young and non-Jews. He said that Jews were influenced by the "disintegration of moral values" by their exposure to the mores of the general society. He added: "Jews should set examples to the world of modesty and humility, honesty and sensitivity to the needs of others, but unfortunately all too often the opposite image of the Jew is suggested." The yeshiva dean also voiced criticism at extravagance and huge budgets for luxuries which could otherwise be diverted to financing Jewish causes.

AWARD FOR MAN WHO HELPED FRANK FAMILY

TORONTO, Nov. 27 (JTA)—Victor Kugler received the Nicholas and Hedy Munk Brotherhood Award of \$10,000 for his defiance of the Nazis when he hid the Anne Frank family in Amsterdam for 25 months. The award was given at the annual dinner of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

Rabbi Michael Stroh, chairman of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, who made the presentation, called Kugler's deed an "act of pure moral courage" that likened him to one of the legendary 36 righteous persons on whose merit the world exists. Kugler, 77, was too moved to reply and his response, in the presence of 1200 persons in attendance, was made by Claus van Banning, vice-consul of The Netherlands. "They were my friends is how Kugler answers," van Banning said. "What could I do?"

Kugler emigrated to Canada 23 years ago with his second wife, Loes. He has been living modestly and unobtrusively in a Toronto suburb. In Holland he was associated with Otto Frank, Anne Frank's father, in a spice import business.

The award was established in 1973 by Munk, a Hungarian-born engineer, to be given every second year to the person who had done most to further Jewish-Christian amity and to combat anti-Semitism. The jury committee for the award consists of the Anglican Bishop, Roman Catholic Archbishop, secular and lay leaders of the Jewish community and Protestant leaders.

Avital Shcharansky, wife of the imprisoned Anatoly Shcharansky, was in the audience. The meeting adopted a resolution asking the Canadian government to express its concern in the Shcharansky case as an example of violating the Helsinki Final Act.

HERZOG URGES UN TO END ACrimonious DEBATES AND RISE TO HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWING SADAT'S VISIT

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 27 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Chaim Herzog told the General Assembly that Israel is willing to begin "immediately a direct and open dialogue" with each of its Arab neighbors and called on the world body to rise to the historic development made possible by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem last weekend by contributing to peace in the Middle East instead of engaging in acrimonious debate.

Herzog, who was addressing the Assembly Friday during the course of the debate on the Middle East, hailed the meeting between Sadat and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and said it indicated Israel's position "that only direct face-to-face negotiations on the basis of mutual respect and dignity can move our war-torn area towards peace."

Everything Must Be Negotiable

He added that in the process of negotiations with the Arabs, at Geneva or elsewhere, "everything must be negotiable" as Begin reemphasized last week. Contending that Sadat's visit was the first step toward resolving the Mideast conflict, Herzog cautioned, however, that long and arduous negotiations lie ahead.

The Israeli envoy was highly critical of the United Nations and the debate on the Mideast which, he said, "reverberates once again with bitterness and vituperation, and is asked to consider a resolution of condemnation (of Israel for its continued occupation of Arab territories) which ignores the dramatic events in Jerusalem as though they never were." Noting the resolution would hamper "at this crucial turning point in history" the chances for peace, Herzog declared:

"Let me re-echo the call of Prime Minister Begin to all our neighbors to reject warmongering and hate, to seize the opportunity offered by the courageous initiative taken in the Middle East and to join us in serious negotiations on substantive issues."

UN Assembly Condemns Israel

Despite this plea, the General Assembly voted 102-4 late Friday afternoon to condemn Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories and also proposed resumption of the Geneva conference with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The United States, Canada, Israel and El Salvador voted against the resolution, 29 member states abstained and China and Iraq were among the 14 nations which did not participate in the vote. Egypt, which was the target during the debate of criticism from Syria and other Arab countries for Sadat's visit, voted for the resolution.

The vote ended four days of general debate on the Mideast which Syria had initiated despite many Western and Third World delegates who said it would be appropriate to postpone such a resolution pending the outcome of talks between Sadat and Begin.

Soviet View Outlined

One development in the debate was a more detailed outline by the Soviet delegate Oleg Taryanovsky, of Soviet views on possible security guarantees to encourage Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories.

He said such withdrawal could be followed by creation of demilitarized zones on both sides of the frontiers and that UN observers or a UN peace

force could be provided for clearly-defined periods. He said guarantees might be given by the Security Council or by individual states. He listed these as the Soviet Union, Britain, France and the United States. Taryanovsky said he had voted for the Syrian resolution because Soviet policy was not influenced by individual events, even spectacular ones, an allusion to the Sadat visit to Israel.

A number of Third World and Western countries praised the Sadat visit. Iran, for example, lauded Sadat's "courageous initiative." Libya, which broke off diplomatic relations with Egypt over Sadat's visit, avoided a direct attack on Sadat but suggested that his sojourn to Israel was made in "collusion" with "imperialists and Zionists."

Other Assembly Actions due

Meanwhile, the Assembly is scheduled to begin tomorrow another Mideast debate, focussed on the "rights" of Palestinian Arabs. Herzog predicted that at least 20 more anti-Israel resolutions would be submitted before the current Assembly session ends in December.

The Security Council is scheduled to meet to extend the mandate of the UN peace-keeping force in the Golan Heights, which will expire Nov. 30. Israel has already informed UN officials it will agree to another six-month extension of the UNEF mandate. Syria has remained silent on the matter. In the past, Syria has sought to attach to its extension agreements conditions favorable to the PLO. Observers here agreed that with most of its armed forces tied down in Lebanon, Syria had no choice but to agree to an extension but that it would hold out to the last minute.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER SAYS THERE IS NO JEWISH 'ANGLE' IN THE FORTHCOMING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 27 (JTA)--Denis Diamond, executive director of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, rejected "any attempt to gratuitously introduce a Jewish 'angle' into party politics or electioneering" in the parliamentary elections to be held in South Africa on Wednesday. In a statement issued on the eve of the elections, Diamond said:

"The South African Jewish Board of Deputies, speaking on behalf of the Jewish community of South Africa, has often proclaimed that it is a cardinal principle that Jews participate in politics as individual citizens and not as members of a national or religious group. Just as it believes that there should be no such thing as a Jewish question in politics, so it strongly deprecates any attempt to gratuitously introduce a Jewish 'angle' into party politics or electioneering."

This same principle was restated by David K. Mann, president of the Board of Deputies, at a recent meeting of the organization. It received wide media publicity.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--Vice President Walter Mondale has discussed the case of Anatoly Shcharansky with President Carter, it was disclosed. Administration sources said the case of the Soviet-Jewish dissident is "a matter of continuing concern to the U.S." Mondale had promised last week that he would report personally to Carter the plea of Mrs. Shcharansky that she be reunited in Israel with her husband who has been in a Moscow prison since March 15. Mondale, who made the promise during an address to the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League's annual meeting here, said Shcharansky should be considered as among the 36 righteous men.