

HERZOG CONVEYS TO MEGUID ISRAEL'S ACCEPTANCE TO BE AT CAIRO PARLEY

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Chaim Herzog met today for the second time in two days, with Egypt's UN Ambassador Abdel Esmat Meguid and conveyed to him Israel's acceptance of Egypt's invitation to participate in a pre-Geneva preparatory conference in Cairo.

The Israeli letter of acceptance named the two Israeli delegates who will go to Cairo. They are Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, and Dr. Meir Rosenne, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry.

The Israeli letter was addressed to the Acting Foreign Minister of Egypt, Pierre Boutros Ghallil and was signed by Premier Menachem Begin in his capacity of Acting Foreign Minister of Israel in the absence of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan who is visiting West Germany. The meeting took place at UN headquarters and lasted 30 minutes.

Herzog had telephoned Meguid directly this morning to arrange today's meeting. The two ambassadors met for the first time yesterday at the residence of a mutual friend in Manhattan. Meguid initiated yesterday's meeting which lasted about an hour. At that meeting he presented Herzog with Egypt's invitation to the Cairo conference.

EGYPT ORDERS FIGHTER JETS FROM FRANCE

PARIS, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Egypt has ordered 14 Mirage-5 fighter planes which can be used as interceptors and reconnaissance planes. The contract for the 14 planes, estimated at some \$15 million, became known here today in the midst of President Anwar Sadat's current peace campaign.

The Mirage-5 is manufactured by the Dassault Company and is a simplified and cheaper version of the Mirage-3. It can be used for ground attack and carries a larger fuel capacity than the Mirage-3. Egypt last year ordered 14 other such planes and is currently negotiating for an unspecified number of Mirage F-1 fighter-bombers.

MILITARY TEAM SEEKING TO DETERMINE WHAT CONSTITUTES SECURE BORDERS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Although Israel has been insisting for 30 years that defensible borders were the key element of its security, no one up to now has defined precisely what would constitute secure borders from which there can be no withdrawal. That question has taken on a degree of urgency since President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and subsequent developments that may bring Israel into negotiations with its neighbors sooner than expected.

When Defense Minister Ezer Weizman took office, he set up a special team to consider Israeli strategy and defense policy. Sadat's visit changed the situation and the team has been expanded and its level raised. The group, headed by Gen. Abraham Tamir, is now composed of eight senior military officers. Their assignment is to re-evaluate past political and military posi-

tions in light of recent events and to prepare operational recommendations for the Defense Ministry. The recommendations will be the basis for finally determining where Israel's defense borders must be located.

BEGIN ANNOUNCES ISRAEL WILL BE AT CAIRO CONFERENCE; REJECTS CALL FOR ISRAEL TO SHOW 'PARALLEL GESTURE' TO EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin told the Knesset today that Israel has formally accepted Egypt's invitation to participate in a Cairo conference beginning next Saturday to prepare for reconvening the Geneva conference. But he flatly rejected calls both from within and outside his governing coalition for a "parallel Israeli gesture" to President Anwar Sadat's initiative. "The gesture of his (Sadat) coming (to Jerusalem) was answered by the gesture of his reception here," Begin declared.

He appealed to Israel's other neighbors to follow Sadat's example and enter into direct negotiations with Israel. He said he was ready to meet anywhere with President Hafez Assad of Syria. "We want peace with all our neighbors. Let our voice be heard in Damascus, Baghdad, Beirut, Amman and Cairo and in all the Arab capitals," Begin said. But he stressed that it was not Israel's intention to "drive a wedge" between the Arab nations.

Begin said he wanted to avoid polemics and look to the future rather than the past. But he re-stated Israel's basic positions: no withdrawal to the pre-1967 borders and no acceptance of a Palestinian state. He said the U.S. government backed both of those points.

Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labor Alignment, stressed his party's support for a compromise "territorial or other" on the West Bank. Begin replied that he preferred to keep his own position vague. He insisted that he was aware of the "problem of the Palestinian Arab people" and his government had practical solutions to propose for it.

Sadat's Pledge Taken Seriously

Begin stressed the "warmth, heartiness and frankness" that marked his private sessions with Sadat in Jerusalem last week. He said that while atmosphere does not determine policy, it has an important intrinsic value. He said that Israel took "seriously" Sadat's pledge that the 1973 war was the last war to be fought between Israel and Egypt and said he was pleased to note that Sadat repeated that assertion in his address to the Egyptian parliament Saturday.

Begin announced to the Knesset that the Israeli delegation to Cairo would consist of Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, and Dr. Meir Rosenne, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry. (See separate story for profiles.)

The Premier said the Egyptian invitation was conveyed to Israel's Ambassador at the United Nations, Chaim Herzog, last night by the Egyptian envoy Abdel Esmat Meguid and was immediately cabled to Jerusalem by Herzog. Begin gave no date for the start of the Cairo conference but assured his religious coalition partners that there would be no desecration of the Sabbath. Israel and Egypt have both said they were ready to start the conference next Saturday.

"We are about to embark on the road for peace and I ask the blessing of this house," Begin said in his opening speech which was moderate and confined to generalities. But his response after a four-hour Knesset debate was sharply political. Claiming that he and his government shared with Sadat credit for the historic events of the past week, Begin lashed out at opposition critics. He contended that he had achieved in six months what they failed to achieve in 30 years.

PROFILES

ELIAHU BEN-ELISSAR AND MEIR ROSENNE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin's selection of Eliahu Ben-Elissar to head the Israeli delegation to the pre-Geneva talks in Cairo expected to begin next Saturday was seen here as an indication that Begin intends to keep those talks under his closest scrutiny.

Ben-Elissar, 45, is Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, Israel's No. 1 civil servant. He is also a trusted political aide and loyal personal friend of Begin. He will be providing the Premier with detailed reports on the progress of the Cairo meeting and will be receiving detailed instructions directly from Begin.

Ben-Elissar should cut an impressive figure in the Egyptian capital. Six-foot tall, slim but broad shouldered with black hair and a meticulously groomed black beard, he is witty, ingratiating and carries himself with dignity. He made friends easily with the Egyptian aides who accompanied Sadat to Jerusalem a week ago.

Politically, Ben-Elissar has always been a Herut loyalist. As a child he was smuggled out of Nazi-dominated Europe by Polish friends of his family. Many of his relatives perished in the Holocaust. Until 1965, Ben-Elissar was an operative of Mossad, Israel's secret intelligence agency, which kept him out of politics. In 1971 he declared his political preference and became chief of information at Herut's headquarters.

Was At Kilometer 101

His second in the Cairo talks will be Meir Rosenne, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry and an old friend. Both men studied political science at the Paris Sorbonne in the 1950s and both worked part-time at the Israeli Embassy in Paris under Ambassador Jacob Tsuri.

Rosenne was born in Rumania and served as Israel Consul in New York in the late 1950s. He was closely involved in the post-Yom Kippur War negotiations and was present at Kilometer 101 where the first Israeli-Egyptian cease-fire was negotiated. He went to Geneva in the spring of 1974 as a participant in the disengagement negotiations with Syria and to Washington in August, 1975 to draft the Israel-U.S. memorandum of understanding prior to the second Sinai disengagement accord.

Rosenne participated in the negotiations with Egypt at Geneva in September, 1975 which resulted in the "military protocol" attached to the second Sinai pact. He also participated in the buffer zone "joint commission" talks with Egypt in 1976 and accompanied Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan at the drafting of the U.S.-Israel working paper on Geneva conference procedures in New York last September. He has been legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry since 1971.

GUSH TO ESTABLISH NEW SETTLEMENTS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 28 (JTA)--The Gush Em-

unim announced today that it will establish two new settlements on the West Bank in the next three days at sites agreed to by the government. They will be at military camps at Givon and Beit Horon north of Jerusalem. Each will consist of 25 families. A Gush spokesman said he did not foresee any changes in the government's settlement policy as a result of President Anwar Sadat's visit to Israel and forthcoming Cairo talks. He said the Gush would soon initiate further talks with the government over new settlements in the occupied territories.

Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon said on a radio interview today that there would be more settlements this year than in the past. But he said the emphasis would be on Galilee where the Jewish population has been declining.

DENY DAYAN WILL MEET WITH ARABS WHILE HE IS IN WEST GERMANY

By Jon Fedler

BONN, Nov. 28 (JTA)--Israeli and Egyptian officials here have denied reports that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will hold secret talks with high ranking Arab officials during his four-day official visit to West Germany. Dayan, who arrived here yesterday, will be in Germany at the same time as Egypt's Deputy Premier Mohammed Hafez Ghanem who is attending an exhibition on ancient Egypt.

The Egyptian Ambassador, Mohammed Ibrahim Kaamel, said that rumors that Dayan and Arab officials would meet "are absolutely without foundation." He specifically ruled out a meeting between Dayan and Ghanem. Speculation that secret talks would take place arose apparently because of Dayan's mysterious activities during two other trips to Europe earlier this year.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the West German government announced today that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt will visit Israel some time next year. The spokesman made the announcement after a three-hour meeting between Schmidt and Dayan. Schmidt, who is due to visit Egypt next month, told Dayan, who invited him to Israel, that he would be "very happy" to visit Israel soon afterwards.

The Israeli Foreign Minister explained Israel's stand in the current peace campaign initiated by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. The West Germans reportedly promised their country's "full support" in furthering peace and understanding in the area. Dayan also met with Foreign Ministry officials in the absence of Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher who is sick.

Israel Ready To Make Compromises

The Israeli diplomat, addressing the Hamburg Senate yesterday, said Israel was ready to make compromises to achieve peace with its Arab neighbors though he reaffirmed that Israel would never sit down at the same negotiating table with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He said, however, "I do believe that there is a compromise acceptable to all of us." He praised Sadat for his courage in visiting Jerusalem last weekend and said he admired Sadat's "bold move." He added that the Egyptian leader "realizes that 30 years of war did not really bring much good for Egypt." Mayor Hans-Ulrich Klose of Hamburg welcomed Dayan to the city.

Dayan was guest of honor at a dinner here last night, hosted by Economics Minister Otto Graf Lambsdorff who substituted for Genscher. Lambsdorff called on Israel to show "flexibility" toward its Arab neighbors in order to "pave the way

to Jata and to a peace with honor."

He said, "We know from our talks with Arab politicians that in this respect, Mr. Foreign Minister, one has special expectations from you personally." He was apparently referring to Dayan's reputed "flexibility" in contrast to Premier Menachem Begin's reputed "intransigence."

Lambsdorff praised Sadat's "courageous step" in visiting Israel and said the German people watched the visit and subsequent peace moves "with strong inner emotion." He said that Bonn called for the right of self-determination for all Germans, including East Germany and pressed for that right throughout the world. "This causes us to plead for Israel's right to exist in recognized and secure borders," he said. "But it also makes us demand the realization of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination."

Visits Bergen-Belsen

Immediately after he arrived in Germany, Dayan visited the former Nazi concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen, near Hanover, where 30,000 Jews died. The Israeli Foreign Minister told reporters afterwards that "Bergen-Belsen is one of the most important places. Everyone should visit it so that nothing similar happens again."

Dayan, who flew to the site by helicopter, was accompanied by Ernst Albrecht, the Prime Minister of the state of Lower Saxony. The two men also visited the nearby International Memorial where an estimated 5000 to 10,000 dead are buried in mass graves. Dayan laid a wreath of blue and white carnations, representing the national colors of Israel, and recited kaddish. Some 200 members of the Jewish communities of Hanover and other nearby cities attended the ceremony.

U.S. DEFERS DECISION ON SADAT'S INVITATION TO CAIRO CONFERENCE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28 (JTA)—The United States continued today to defer its decision on Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's invitation to attend a multilateral meeting in Cairo to prepare the groundwork for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict at a conference in Geneva.

The invitation is "under active discussion," the State Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, said. "I don't have anything on the who, the how or what" of the Sadat invitation "and on the whether. All aspects are being discussed right now in Washington with all the parties."

Carter said that Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin was with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department for 40 minutes this morning talking about the Middle East and that U.S. officials are talking with the Arab governments and Israel. Syria, he observed, is among them.

"We simply cannot right at this point give an immediate response," Carter said with respect to the Sadat invitation, "until we have completed the process of consultations."

Say U.S. Helped Process

He pointed out that "we do feel the general process" towards a settlement initiated by the United States "has made it possible for Egypt and Israel to make this leap, this break" towards face-to-face meetings. He added, "As to our response to each step in the initiative (by Sadat) is concerned, we have a responsibility that goes outside just one or two (parties), that is, we are trying to deal with all the parties." He excluded the Pal-

estine Liberation Organization from these talks.

Carter said that "the basic thrust" of U.S. policy "remains the same" and that the U.S. will "welcome any progress" in both the procedural and substantive factors that would lead towards a Geneva meeting and a comprehensive settlement. He said the U.S. did not know of Sadat's invitation to a Cairo meeting until "the night before" it was given although the U.S. did know of the "idea" for the meeting prior to then.

Jewish Leaders Urge Carter To Respond

(In New York, a number of Jewish leaders today urged Carter to accept Sadat's invitation. "A few days more or less is not overly critical, but I would hope that Washington would respond as quickly as possible," Naomi Levine, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, declared. "I think the more delay, the more danger there is of losing momentum."

(Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, sent a telegram to Carter urging him to end the "unseemly delay" in responding to Sadat. "The United States has consistently urged the Middle East nations to deal seriously with the questions of peace," Sternstein's telegram said. "Sadat's invitation is a step in that direction."

(Alexander M. Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, also sent a telegram to Carter urging him to accept Sadat's invitation "so that our country may be represented at this vitally important summit. The momentum created by the historic face-to-face meeting in Jerusalem last week must not be halted, lest the forces that still plan Israel's destruction win the day.")

OIL DISCOVERY OPENS NEW PROSPECTS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 28 (JTA)—The government and private oil prospecting companies are moving rapidly to exploit what appears to be a major oil discovery in the Gulf of Suez Friday off A-Tur in the Israel occupied zone of Sinai. Upwards of IL 500 million will be invested in further drilling during the coming year, half of it by the government, it was learned today. The money is provided in the budget approved by the Cabinet yesterday.

According to Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i, the new oil strike will not be an impediment to an eventual peace agreement with Egypt. Moda'i told an Engineers Club luncheon here that if Israel returns Sinai to Egypt under the terms of a peace treaty, the oil could be brought to Israel by a pipeline. He disclosed that oil was struck at 4 a.m. local time Friday and the new well was producing about 130 barrels an hour. If drilling in the area yields additional wells, the oil field will be commercially feasible, he said.

The drilling was done by the Neptune Oil Prospecting Co., a Canadian firm that holds a 25 percent interest in the fields off A-Tur. The Israel-owned Jordan Exploration Co. has a four percent interest and the balance is controlled by the Israel National Oil Corp. A-Tur lies 50 miles south of the Abu Rodeis oil fields that Israel returned to Egypt in 1975 under the second Sinai interim agreement. Neptune has been drilling in an off-shore sector known as Alma II. It will soon begin operations in Alma III to determine the size of the A-Tur field.

NEW YORK (JTA)—The National Conference on Soviet Jewry said that Soviet officials are continuing investigation against Soviet Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE REMERGENCE OF DOVES By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Nov. 28 (JTA)—Israeli doves, in limbo since Likud's election victory last May, have been propelled to the forefront of political debate as a result of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's historic visit last week and his invitation to Israel and the Arab states to meet in Cairo beginning next Saturday to prepare for reconvening the Geneva conference.

The doves are not confined to the left-leaning fringe factions or the left-of-center elements of the Labor Alignment. They have surfaced within the Likud-led coalition, not only among members of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) but in the National Religious Party (NRP). Their position is that the government must respond quickly to Sadat's initiatives with bold concessions on the crucial issue of territorial compromise and the Palestinian question or miss what may be the last opportunity for a Mideast peace settlement.

Proposed Meeting Sparks Alarm

Two members of the NRP, Avraham Melamed and David Glass, have been rallying coalition doves to put pressure on Premier Menachem Begin's government to soften its position as a gesture to Sadat. A meeting of doveish elements is scheduled for tomorrow to map strategy. This has alarmed leaders of the various coalition factions. Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich, a leader of Likud's Liberal Party wing, begged his colleagues last night to exercise restraint and not exaggerate the substantive results of Sadat's visit.

With all due respect to the Egyptian President, Ehrlich said, so far the peace plan he has presented is identical to that of Rakah, Israel's Moscow-oriented Communist Party which is pro-PLO. The Likud government, he said, has shown itself to be dynamic, innovative and resourceful. So why make one-sided concessions and why announce in advance of negotiations what it is prepared to give up, Ehrlich asked.

He observed that peace negotiations, once started, will be conducted in stages over many months. He said that while he is convinced of Sadat's desire for peace, utmost vigilance must be exercised as long as peace has not been achieved. MK Zalman Shoval of Likud's small, hawkish La'am faction, urged the government to stick to its hard line in dealing with the Egyptians.

DMC Doves Are Bitter

DMC doves are bitter against Likud leaders who criticized the statement they made after Sadat's visit stressing that there was cause to modify Israel's position on territorial concessions. MK Mordechai Virshovsky said today that the DMC must express its independent views because silence would be taken as an endorsement of the Likud line. One DMC leader, Amnon Rubinstein, agreed to attend tomorrow's meeting of coalition doves on condition that all coalition factions are represented. But other DMC leaders feel the government's response to Sadat has been satisfactory so far and the meeting is not necessary.

Outside the coalition, Naftali Feder of Mapam told that faction's political committee today that he welcomed the government's readiness to go to Cairo. But he said the government has still made no reply on the two key points raised by Sadat in Jerusalem—territorial concessions on all fronts and the Palestinian problem. He warned that unless the government changes its hard line, the threat of war

could loom again over the region.

The Lashiloov group in the Labor Party also urged the government to reconsider its past policies and Labor's Young Guard has called for a moratorium on Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories as long as negotiations are in progress.

The Labor Party's official leadership has expressed satisfaction with the government's decision to go to Cairo but has called for a more flexible stand on the West Bank and the Palestinian question. Eliyahu Speiser, secretary of the Labor Party's Tel Aviv branch called for formation of a Labor-Likud coordinating body to advise the government on peace moves.

Ironically, Rakah is the only faction that has taken a determined anti-Sadat line. One of its MKs, Taufik Toubi, warned that the proposed Cairo conference was a danger to peace. Through all this, one fact is indisputable: Begin's decision that Israel participate in the Cairo conference has the widest support in the country.

AN APPEAL FOR YAD VASHEM

NEW YORK, Nov. 28 (JTA)—John Ranz, executive secretary of the Survivors of Nazi Camps and Resistance Fighters, issued an appeal here for all those who lost relatives and friends during the Holocaust to provide testimony to Yad Vashem in order to counter such recent activities as the spate of books in this country and abroad claiming that the death of six million Jews is a myth and the resurgence of Nazi groups in the U.S. and overseas.

These events, Ranz said, "are evidence that Nazi activities were not terminated with the demise of Hitler and his cohorts. Moreover, the victims of the Holocaust deserve a symbolic burial among their own people. By filling out the Page of Testimony the victims can be brought to their final rest at the central archives of Yad Vashem." Testimony forms, Ranz said, can be obtained by writing to his organization at 2747 Throop Avenue, Bronx, New York, 10469.

RABBI WARNS AGAINST INSULTING CARTER

NEW YORK, Nov. 28 (JTA)—A leading Orthodox rabbi has warned that Jews in this country and in Israel are endangered by actions of such "activists" as those who interrupted President Carter's address to the World Jewish Congress in Washington earlier this month and that all acts by impetuous Jews embarrassing Carter can only elicit a backlash from the extreme right.

This warning was sounded by Rabbi Simcha Elberg, chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada (Agudath Hatorabanim) during his address at the recent conference of the organization in Chicago where the topic, "Conduct of Jews Towards President Carter," was a major agenda item.

Elberg stated that "regardless of how deep the differences of opinion may be between America and Israel, and no matter how much we must demand from America that it change its hard position towards Israel, we must not forget that we Jews in America, despite our freedom, live in a country which is not dominated by Jews."

Any insult to Carter, he continued, "plants the seeds of Nazism in America and not only jeopardizes the Jews in Israel but also the Jews in America." After a lengthy debate, it was resolved to condemn and warn of the danger inherent in the "wild actions" of "activists."