

Vol. XLIV - 60th Year

Monday, December 5, 1977

No. 227

## PROPOSE BUILDING JOINT ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR REACTOR IN SINAI

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4 (JTA)--A member of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission proposed today the construction of a joint Israeli-Egyptian nuclear reactor in Sinai that would be linked to a desalination plant producing sweet water to irrigate that arid region. Prof. Shimon Yiftah, addressing the National Committee on Atomic Energy at the Haifa Technion, also discussed other measures he said Israel should take to place itself in the ranks of countries utilizing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Disappointment was expressed at the meeting over the U.S. delay in supplying Israel with the nuclear reactor promised by former President Nixon when he visited the Middle East in the spring of 1974. Nixon made the same promise to Egypt. The assembled nuclear scientists noted that 42 countries already have nuclear energy facilities.

Yiftah proposed a five-point program. He said that Israel had to find out first if the U.S. intended to supply a reactor. If not, Israel should try to obtain one from other sources such as West Germany, Italy or Japan. Israel should also study the possibility of building its own reactor. It should start to accumulate uranium and possibly produce it from phosphates which are plentiful in the Dead Sea.

Yiftah said Israel should study the possibility of building an Israeli-Egyptian nuclear center in Sinai. According to him, such a project would become a model in the cultivation of desert flora, would set an example of regional cooperation and would ease the hesitation over supplying nuclear reactors to single countries.

## UNESCO DELEGATION VISITS TERRITORIES

By Gil Sedan

SALFIT, West Bank, Dec. 4 (JTA)--For the first time since UNESCO condemned Israel for archaeological diggings in East Jerusalem two years ago, a delegation of that international organization is visiting the territories. The purpose of the week-long visit which began today is to study the educational and cultural services in the occupied territories.

The visit was approved by the Israeli government following the Nairobi UNESCO conference earlier this year in which Israel was admitted to the European region of UNESCO. Until the Nairobi conference, relations between Israel and UNESCO had deteriorated as a result of anti-Israel resolutions pushed through by the Arab-backed majority in the international organization.

The acceptance of Israel by the European organization--following pressure of international public opinion and, more specifically, threats by the U.S. government to cut off funds for UNESCO--changed the situation. Subsequently, Israel dropped her initial objection to cooperate with a UNESCO delegation.

One other reason for the change in Israel's policy was a visit by the World Health Organization (WHO) delegation which gave a favorable report on the health services in the occu-

pied territories. As a matter of fact, the report was so positive that Arab delegates managed to force the WHO into rejecting the report of its own delegation.

Originally, Israel wanted the members of the delegation to be representatives of countries with whom Israel has diplomatic relations. Alternatively, Israel suggested, they should at least be professional educators.

## Makeup Of Delegation

Half of the six-member delegation are from countries with which Israel does not have a relations. The members are: Vladimir Velebit, Yugoslavia, a former general in the Yugoslav Army; Joaquim Ruia Jimenez, Spain, former Education Minister; and Ms. Samuel Cookey, Nigeria. The delegation is headed by Paul Mare Henri, a consultant to the European Economic Community, a veteran official of the UN. A fifth member is Jacqueline Henin, a professor of Arabic at Paris University, of Moroccan origin. The sixth member of the organization is Pierre de Senarclens, a political scientist of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

The delegation began its first day of tours today at this hamlet of Salfit, half-way between Ramallah and Nablus in the West Bank. They met with teachers in the local nursery and girls' school and heard a general briefing of the educational system in the area. The discussion was mainly technical. The guests refused to discuss any political issues.

Asked for his impressions, Henri told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "It is too early to tell." Senarclens said he was certain the delegation's report will be objective, since they are all professionals.

## ISRAELI JOURNALISTS RECEIVE WARM WELCOME IN EGYPTIAN CAPITAL

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4 (JTA)--Israeli journalists have begun reporting and broadcasting from Cairo and with diplomatic developments marking time before the Cairo conference opens, the main news is about the warm welcome they received from Egyptian officials and from Cairenes in general and the small Jewish community in particular. But Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, at the Cabinet session today, rebuked two television journalists for going there. (See related Story P. 2.)

There are at least a half dozen Israeli correspondents in the Egyptian capital and more arrive each day. Most of them entered Egypt with non-Israeli passports. These include Ada Luciano of Rome and Tamar Golan of Paris, who were sent by Maariv, Hans Knopp of Amsterdam and Eliezer Strauch who are covering for Yediot Achronot, and Ben Ami, another Yediot man from Israel who made his first broadcast from Cairo Friday over Israel's armed forces radio station.

The biggest stir was created by Sami Greenspan of Yediot Achronot, who was the first Israeli reporter to land at Cairo Airport with an Israeli passport. He arrived late Thursday night via Rome without an entry visa. He was kissed on both cheeks by the Egyptian passport control officer and given permission for a week's stay in the country.

Greenspan attended Saturday morning services at Cairo's Great Synagogue. The congregants,

mostly people in their seventies, were overcome by emotion. They kissed his Israeli passport with tears in their eyes and offered prayers for the safety of Israel, the well being of the visiting journalists and for peace.

Greenspan is traveling around Cairo with an Egyptian bodyguard and an official car and driver provided by the Ministry of Information. He was told that since his arrival he received so much publicity, "we have to protect you from subversive elements."

#### Israeli Souvenirs In Great Demand

So far, the only protection needed seems to be from souvenir hunters. Anything of Israeli origin is suddenly in great demand in Cairo. Israeli-made cigarettes and Israeli coins are the most desired items. Israeli journalists draw crowds wherever they are recognized but it is a friendly curiosity. Knopp reported a chance meeting with an Egyptian general at an airline office. The general asked him to convey regards to Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman who he said he regarded as one of the best air force officers in the world. Weizman formerly commanded Israel's Air Force.

Strauch, who has been meeting with Egyptian editors, reported that political circles in Cairo regard the Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization rejection of President Anwar Sadat's peace initiatives as a blessing. The absence of those elements from the Cairo conference will allow negotiations to proceed without the threat of a crisis in the initial stages, they say.

#### Basis For Agreement

These circles acknowledge that there is a wide gap between the Israeli and Egyptian positions on territorial issues and the Palestinian problem, Strauch reported. But they believe that if Israel and Egypt are allowed to negotiate with only the Americans and some other advisors around, a bilateral agreement could be reached.

As the Egyptians see it, however, such an agreement would require a declaration of Israel's readiness to yield something toward the aspirations of all parties in the Middle East conference. If the talks fail, the Egyptians fear the momentum toward peace will be set back and Sadat would suffer a great loss of prestige, Strauch reported.

With the Cairo conference now scheduled to open at the middle of the month, the Israeli news media, including the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, have applied for permission to send correspondents to Egypt. The Cairo weekly Akbar El Yom reported yesterday that Israel has asked Egypt to admit 200 journalists to cover the talks. The paper did not say how and where the request was made. It reported that there were also requests from 400 American journalists.

#### DAYAN RAPS TV REPORTERS FOR GOING TO CAIRO ON ISRAELI PASSPORTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 4 (JTA)—Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan told the Cabinet today that the arrival in Cairo this weekend of two Israeli television journalists on Israeli passports had embarrassed and upset the Egyptian authorities, this despite the warm and friendly welcome the two men have received there.

He said the embarrassment was caused in Cairo by the arrival of Ehud Yaari, Arab affairs expert, and Alex Giladi, foreign news broadcast director, because the Egyptians viewed the two men, employees of a state corporation, as quasi-civil servants.

As such, Dayan added, they should not have

taken such politically significant action without first consulting with his ministry. The two apparently received permits from the Interior Ministry (without which their mission is technically a criminal offense). But the ministry now says the permits were issued in error and no more will be forthcoming until the official delegation leaves next week.

#### Egypt Limiting Number Of Israeli Reporters

Other officials here said they believed the embarrassment was at least in part responsible for the very severe limitation that the Egyptians were now proposing to impose on Israeli press coverage of the conference. Egypt indicated today it would allow only 30 Israeli journalists to cover the conference. This figure includes television technicians and radio soundmen and has been received with great disappointment in press circles here. Officials here are still hopeful it may not be Cairo's last word.

Yaari has already phoned back stories of his warm welcome from officials in Cairo and from ordinary people who hear he is from Israel. Giladi is, meanwhile, conferring with Egyptian television personnel on arrangements for covering the conference.

#### MAPAM URGES TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 4 (JTA)—The Mapam Council urged the government last night to follow a clear policy of territorial compromise on all fronts and to try to find a solution to the Palestinian problem. But it agreed that Israel's future borders must ensure the nation's security and it did not favor the creation of a Palestinian state.

Naftali Feder, political secretary of Mapam, expressed doubt that a Palestinian state would contribute to peace in the Middle East. Mapam Secretary General Meir Talmi said the party was opposed to such a state but that Israel would have no right to crush it by force should the Palestinians decide to create one.

Veteran Mapam leader Yaacov Hazan had praise for Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. He said he believed both leaders sincerely sought peace. He said that if Begin, long a political foe, turns out to be the man who brings peace to Israel "I assure you that I will be the first to congratulate him." Mapam decided against joining the Likud-led coalition government. If the Labor Party ever agreed to join, the Labor Alignment would be dissolved, the Mapam Council said.

#### DINITZ, GHORBAL WILL DINE TOGETHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4 (JTA)—The Ambassadors of Egypt and Israel will meet for the first time at a social event tonight at "a small informal dinner" at the Madison Hotel arranged by Barbara Walters, the ABC-TV commentator. An ABC source confirmed that Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal and Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz will be guests of Miss Walters and ABC news and sports president Roone Arledge. The source declined to say who the other guests would be or their number. While booked as "small" and "informal," and to be held in "a low key," the ABC source acknowledged that media coverage would probably be extensive.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Six persons were injured Saturday when a bomb exploded on crowded David Street, one of the main streets through the Old City of Jerusalem. Those injured included three Israelis, an Arab and two West German tourists.

## BEGIN CONFIDENT PEACE TREATIES WILL EVENTUALLY BE SIGNED WITH NEIGHBORS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Dec. 4 (JTA)—Israeli Premier Menachem Begin expressed confidence last night that his nation will eventually sign peace treaties with all of its Arab neighbors. "It will take some time but we are already on the road toward peace," he declared at a dinner given in his honor by Prime Minister James Callaghan at No. 10 Downing St.

He was responding to Callaghan who said that from his hour-long private talk with Begin before the dinner he gained the impression that Israel would strain "every muscle" in the current bid for peace and that a "new era" would open for the Middle East.

Begin and Callaghan continued their talks at the Prime Minister's official residence this morning. They will hold a joint press conference Tuesday at the end of Begin's five-day visit. There will be no joint communiqué. However, Begin's visit is expected to result in an appeal by Britain to its partners in the European Economic Community (EEC) for a continued positive attitude toward the Egyptian-Israeli peace initiatives. France has shown some reservations about the forthcoming Cairo conference and there are lingering anxieties among British officials as well.

Begin declared at the dinner last night that the contacts between Israel and Egypt were not a public relations exercise but were aimed at an agreement that both he and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt hoped would be endorsed by all other parties to the Middle East conflict before the Geneva conference is reconvened. He said the "positive voice" heard in Jerusalem and Cairo would prevail over the "negative voice" at the Arab opposition conference in Tripoli, Libya last week.

### Warm, Substantial Talks

Begin's talks with Callaghan so far were described as warm and informal and wide-ranging and full of substance. Callaghan was quoted as saying that the Sadat-Begin meeting in Jerusalem gave new hope to the Middle East and Begin replied that he would take advantage of the new situation with vigor. Both agreed on the need to aim for a comprehensive Middle East settlement and not one limited to Israel and Egypt.

British sources said there was no argument on the issue of a "Palestinian homeland," British support of which has drawn criticism from Israel. The sources said that Begin recognized that there was a Palestinian problem that had to be solved. One issue on which disagreement was openly admitted was the Arab boycott of Israel. Despite frequent Israeli complaints, the Foreign Office will not change its practice of authenticating certificates of "non-Israeli origin" of goods imported by Arab countries from British firms.

At this morning's meeting with Callaghan which continued into a working lunch, Begin emphasized Israel's need for secure geographical frontiers. He supported his arguments with a map showing Israel's pre-1967 borders. He also used the map to explain Israel's policy in south Lebanon and its "moral responsibility" to prevent the annihilation of the Lebanese Christian minority there. Begin and Callaghan also discussed EEC policies and the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union and Syria.

Begin's visit here has aroused intense interest,

not only because he is the first Israeli Premier to come to Britain officially as the guest of the government but because 30 years ago, as leader of the underground Irgun, he headed the British "wanted" list in Palestine. Callaghan referred to that past era last night when he paid tribute to Begin's "determination and decisiveness in the days when we were hunting you." He said it was those same qualities that would enable the Israeli leader to surmount the obstacles on the road to peace with the Arabs.

Begin, accompanied by his wife, Aliza, arrived at Heathrow Airport Friday morning where he was greeted by Dr. David Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, David Kidron, Israel's Ambassador, and leaders of the Anglo-Jewish community. Addressing a large crowd of dignitaries and journalists as he stepped from his plane, he declared, "I bring from Jerusalem a suggestion—to renew the covenant signed by the Jewish people and the British people 60 years ago on that unforgettable day, Nov. 2, 1917." He was referring to the Balfour Declaration. He made it clear that he was not seeking a renewal of the declaration but a revival of the ardent pro-Zionist spirit that had motivated the British government to issue it.

### Protests Mar Visit

The warm welcome accorded Begin was marred by protests by Palestinian and pro-Palestinian groups. About 500 people, including many Palestinian students, marched through London yesterday denouncing Israel and Sadat's peace initiative. They stopped near the Egyptian Embassy and near No. 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister's residence, where Arab student leaders delivered protest letters.

Begin spent most of yesterday in his suite at the Carlton Towers Hotel. An infected toe prevented him from walking to Marble Arch Synagogue for Sabbath morning services. But later, Britain's Chief Rabbi, Immanuel Jakobovits and a group of congregants visited the Israeli Premier at the hotel.

It was learned, meanwhile, that Begin personally overruled a decision not to invite Sunday Times editor Harold Evans to Tuesday's press conference because of articles in that paper last June accusing Israel of torturing Arab political prisoners. The ban had been suggested by the Israeli Embassy and approved in Jerusalem.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—The remains of three Israeli soldiers missing in action during the Yom Kippur War have been unearthed by Egyptian workers near the Suez Canal and will be returned to Israel at special ceremonies in Sinai Monday. Egyptian authorities notified United Nations headquarters that the remains were discovered at the site of a development project in the canal zone.

NEW YORK (JTA)—Three important Soviet Jewish activists, including the longest-waiting refusenik in the USSR, have been given permission to exit for Israel, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. The three are 31-year-old Yaakov Gordon of Riga, who had been rejected constantly for 16 years, and 29-year-old Jan Monastirsky and 33-year-old Adim Sheinis of Kiev.

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israeli border police Saturday dispersed several hundred Arab students who were rioting in Nablus over Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiatives.

## UN ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHES PALESTINIAN 'RIGHTS' UNIT; CALLS FOR RETURN OF PALESTINIANS TO THEIR HOMES

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 4 (JTA)—For the second time in little more than a week, the General Assembly approved by overwhelming majorities two anti-Israel resolutions last Friday which conform, to the views of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

One resolution, adopted by a vote of 95-20 with 26 abstentions, established a permanent agency in the UN Secretariate to prepare studies and promote publicity on Palestinian "rights." It also calls for the observance of an annual day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The second resolution, adopted by a vote of 100-12 with 29 abstentions, called for the return of Palestinians to their homes and for the establishment of a Palestinian state. It demanded that Israel withdraw from all occupied Arab territories and that "Palestinian areas," presumably the West Bank and Gaza Strip, be turned over to the UN to be handed over to the PLO.

Both resolutions were adopted following a four-day debate in the Assembly on "The Question of Palestine." In effect, the resolutions give the PLO its first official voice in the Secretariate. Previously, the PLO had only observer status at the UN. On Nov. 25, the Assembly voted 102-4 with 29 abstentions to condemn Israel's continued occupation of Arab territories and also proposed resumption of the Geneva conference with the participation of the PLO.

### U.S., Israel Denounce Resolutions

The United States, which along with West European nations opposed the resolutions, denounced the measures as one-sided and unrealistic. Rep. Lester Wolff (D.NY), a member of the U.S. delegation, said the committee to publicize Palestinian rights, which will prepare a film, studies and newsletter requiring an estimated expenditure of \$800,000 a year, represented an attempt to "prescribe or dictate to Israel and its Arab neighbors" the form of negotiations and the elements of a settlement. "I wonder whether some representatives here are living in the real world?" he said.

Wolff also noted that the expenditure comes at a time when the UN has a deficit of \$100 million. Israeli Ambassador Chaim Herzog told the Assembly that the new committee and two existing committees on the Palestinian issue would mean an annual UN outlay of \$1,250,000 for anti-Israel activities.

He warned that the creation of a "Palestinian agency" in the UN would "destroy any useful role the Secretariate" might have in seeking peace in the Middle East. He said the Assembly was "allying itself firmly," in the resolution dealing with the return of Palestinians to their homes, with "the forces of rejection" of a negotiated settlement. Herzog declared that both resolutions contain "the seeds" of the UN's destruction.

## UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE AND UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL CONFERENCES SCHEDULED

NEW YORK, Dec. 4 (JTA)—The 1978 annual national conference of the United Jewish Appeal, the first convocation of the American Jewish community leadership since Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, will take place Dec. 8-10 at the New York Hilton Hotel, it was announced by Leonard R. Strelitz, UJA general chairman.

Strelitz, who recently returned from Israel

along with Frank Lautenberg, UJA president, and Gordon Zacks, UJA vice-chairman, who were present during Sadat's visit, said the featured addresses at the conference will be made by Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D.NY), former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Ariel Sharon, Israel's Minister of Agriculture. Another featured speaker will be Beate Klarsfeld, the dedicated and determined non-Jewish Nazi hunter.

Conference sessions will explore a wide range of current Jewish concerns, including immigrant experiences in Israel, the situation confronting Soviet Jewry in the context of global human rights, and problems and opportunities facing Jewish communities in Europe and Latin America.

Speakers and panelists will include Gen. George Keegan, former Chief of U.S. Air Force Intelligence; Prof. Mark Azbel, the most recent Soviet emigre physicist; and from the Jewish Agency discussing the dynamism of life in Israel today will be Leon Dulzin, treasurer, Harry Rosen, acting director general and Dr. Raanan Weitz, director of the Land Resettlement Department.

### Weiler To Be Honored

On Dec. 7, the Joint Distribution Committee will hold its 63rd annual meeting at the 60 East Club, it was announced by Ralph I. Goldman, JDC executive vice-president. The meeting will adopt a budget and elect officers for the coming year. Donald M. Robinson of Pittsburgh, who will become the JDC's next president succeeding Jack D. Weiler, will present the budget. Goldman will deliver a year-end report on JDC activities around the world.

Weiler, a prominent realtor, philanthropist and communal leader, will be honored on the completion of his three-year term at a reception and dinner at the New York Hilton the evening of Dec. 7. More than 600 Jewish leaders from virtually every major American Jewish organization are expected to attend and join in the tribute. Robinson, a private investor and director of Revco Drug Stores, Inc., was named vice-president and president-elect at the JDC's 62nd annual meeting in December 1976.

The guest speaker at the reception-dinner will be Rita E. Hauser, U.S. representative to the United Nations Human Rights Commission and chairman of the American Jewish Committee's Middle East Committee. Dulzin will also be the featured speaker at the United Israel Appeal meeting Dec. 8 at the New York Hilton. Addressing the same session will be Melvin Dubinsky, UIA chairman, and Max Fisher, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

### U.S. TOURISM TO ISRAEL INCREASES

NEW YORK, Dec. 4 (JTA)—"More Americans visited Israel in the first 10 months of 1977 than in the whole of 1976," it was announced here by Israel Zuriel, Israel Commissioner for Tourism for North America. A total of 233,248 American tourists visited Israel from Jan. 1-Oct. 31, a 25 percent increase over the same period of 1976, and 8000 more than visited the country in all of 1976.

"Israel expects a record one million visitors this year, and we project an even larger number in 1978, our 30th anniversary year," Zuriel said. "This factor, linked with the hopefully successful moves towards a permanent Middle East peace settlement, should have very positive effects in encouraging increased tourism to Israel in 1978."