

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL, EGYPT BREAK DEADLOCK ON POLITICAL COMMITTEE TALKS; EGYPTIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ISRAEL, VANCE DUE MONDAY; TALKS BEGIN TUESDAY By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 15 (JTA)--The fate of Israeli-Egyptian negotiations, which hung in the balance over the weekend, was settled favorably today, with an apparent agreement by the two sides over an agenda for the joint political committee talks. Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammed Ibrahim Kaamel, head of Cairo's negotiating team, arrived at Ben Gurion Airport this afternoon where he was greeted by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan who heads the Israeli delegation.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who had postponed his departure for Israel at the last minute because of the agenda deadlock, announced in Washington today that he was leaving for Jerusalem late tonight. He is expected here tomorrow evening. Because of the delay, the political committee will convene in Jerusalem Tuesday instead of tomorrow as originally scheduled. The joint military committee, which adjourned in Cairo Friday, is now scheduled to resume its deliberations Jan. 23, one week from tomorrow.

The gloom that enveloped Israel yesterday when it appeared that the entire peace initiative may be jeopardized, was dissipated today when Premier Menachem Begin emerged from a Cabinet meeting to announce that the Cabinet had agreed to an agenda formula acceptable to Egypt. He said it had been conveyed immediately to Egypt and to the United States. It is believed that both sides made concessions.

Begin said, "We have not yet received final word from the meeting now in progress between the U.S. Ambassador (Hermann Eilts) in Cairo and President (Anwar) Sadat but there is hope that the matter will be agreed to by all sides, that is the governments of Israel, the U.S. and Egypt. If this will happen, the meeting of the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee will open as planned tomorrow and the Secretary of State, Mr. Vance, will also be attending," Begin said.

The arrival of Kaamel confirmed that the formula was acceptable to Egypt and the only change of plans was the one-day postponement of the political committee meeting and the one-week postponement of the military talks in Cairo. Kaamel was accompanied by the members of his negotiating team, former Acting Foreign Minister Pierre Butrus-Ghali who is now Minister for International Affairs, and Esmat Abdul Meguid, Egypt's Ambassador to the United Nations, who was the chief negotiator for Egypt at last month's Cairo conference.

### Looking Forward With Hope

There were smiles and handshakes as Kaamel and his party descended from an Egyptian Airways jet to the red carpet where Dayan was waiting and, behind him, scores of Israeli and foreign journalists. Dayan welcomed the guests, saying: "We are looking forward with much hope to the coming peace talks. I can assure you we shall listen attentively to what you have to say. We shall be willing to come towards you. I wish you an enjoyable time in Israel, in Jerusalem and

wish our talks are productive and fruitful."

Kaamel said, in a prepared statement, that he would respond in the same spirit of hope and recalled President Anwar Sadat's words when he addressed the Knesset last Nov. 20 that "we came with an open heart and open mind." He said the political committee talks "are an important step" toward the goal of peace.

Then he added: "We have proved our commitment for genuine peace. However, there are certain facts which are hard to face. There will be no peace with occupied lands, there can be no peace with the denial of the rights of the Palestinians, including their right for self-determination. There can be no peace without the feeling of all that they can live in security," he said.

There was no indication of what the Cabinet decided today that averted a crisis in the peace talks. According to one source, the deadlock had been over how to formulate the agenda item on the Palestinians. The Egyptians were understood to favor labeling it the "Palestinian question." Israel is believed to have insisted that the agenda item refer to the "Palestinian Arabs of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district." In any event, the impasse caused Vance to postpone his trip to Jerusalem only 90 minutes before the scheduled flight time yesterday.

### Vance To Deal With Substantive Issues

(State Department spokesman Madding Carter announced the postponement in Washington at 8:30 p.m. local time last night. He said the U.S. had informed Egypt and Israel that unless there was agreement on the agenda, Vance would not leave because he wanted to discuss only substantive issues in Jerusalem.)

(The Carter Administration has indicated that the U.S. will be taking a more active role to bridge the gaps between Israel and Egypt. In that connection, an Administration official, briefing reporters Friday, said the U.S. will propose a temporary formula for administering the West Bank and Gaza Strip that would embrace an agreement between Israel and Egypt on the nature of a future overall settlement, including the Palestinian issue but would postpone for an interim, possibly of five years, the exercise of self-determination by the Palestinians.)

### SADAT'S PESSIMISTIC WORDS IN TWO INTERVIEWS CAST A PALL ON TALKS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 15 (JTA)--The joint Israeli-Egyptian political committee will begin its deliberations here Tuesday in an atmosphere made tense by the weekend's deadlock over agenda--since resolved--and by the pessimistic, almost despairing words of President Anwar Sadat in interviews given Friday to the Egyptian weekly magazine, October, and Thursday to this correspondent in his capacity as diplomatic correspondent of the Jerusalem Post.

The swift resolution of the agenda difficulties, apparently as a result of concessions on both sides, offered a small glimmer of hope. It is believed that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's threat not to come to Jerusalem until the matter was settled spurred the Israelis and Egyptians to intensify their efforts to reach an agreement. If so, Vance succeeded.

But Sadat's expressions of disappointment and anger, his allegation that Israel has failed to respond

to his peace initiative, his veiled threat to resort to "another stand" -- of which he did not elaborate -- and his gloomy prognostication of events that would cause him to resign, cast a heavy pall over the first stage of substantive peace talks. They also elicited an urgent call from Premier Menachem Begin for a "complete armistice in public statements" in order to give the negotiations a chance.

In a television interview last night, responding to Sadat's statements to October which the Middle East News Agency distributed in advance of its publication today, Begin defended Israel's peace proposals which, he said, were pronounced "a fair basis for negotiations" by President Carter, British Prime Minister James Callaghan and many others. He said he would not exchange polemics with Sadat on the eve of "serious discussions."

#### Sadat: Israel Lost 'Essence Of My Initiative'

Sadat, in a 75-minute interview at his winter home in Aswan--the first exclusive interview he granted to an Israeli newspaper--"wondered" if his visit to Jerusalem had changed anything in Israeli policy thinking. "Don't you see that you have got everything?" he shouted at me in uncontrived anguish. "And then you are starting to bargain with me on my land. No. You have lost the essence of my initiative."

He said he did not regret embarking on his initiative because his responsibility to future generations impelled him to seek peace through every avenue. It was "a sacred mission. And if it will end in my resignation, I will feel happy, yes, happy, because what I fear for my future generations I tried to (avert)...but I couldn't. Well, let someone else continue with the whole thing after me."

Sadat was genuinely upset by Begin's hard line speech to his Knesset constituency a week ago and by the Israeli government's decision to expand settlements in the Rafah salient of northern Sinai.

"This shouldn't be an issue at all," Sadat declared. "Or don't you want peace? Your people, your government, how could you imagine anyone agreeing to this, to giving their land to someone, to others...? And look, they say they will be defending them by the Israeli army." At that point, Sadat appeared almost speechless with anger. "Absurd. I would never have agreed to such logic as this."

But the Egyptian President did not slam the door on peace negotiations. "I say, let us give the committees the opportunity to convene--and after that we shall have our say," he said.

#### Sounds Positive Note

Sadat did sound a positive note when he revealed to this reporter the six-point Egyptian plan for Sinai which was, at the moment, being submitted at the military committee meeting in Cairo. Later reports from the Egyptian capital indicated that the proposals were seen by Israel as a good basis for negotiations, although they avoid the settlements issue.

The points were: demilitarization, to be "reciprocal," i.e. on both sides of the border but with Sadat "taking into consideration" the relative sizes of Israel and of Sinai; early warning stations to be manned by a third party; limited forces zones; United Nations forces at Sharm el-Sheikh and "along the border"; a joint declaration in the peace agreement that the Gulf of Aqaba is an international waterway; a joint Israeli-Egyptian military committee to meet regularly.

Sadat added another point. "Number seven, say this: you can drop all those six points that I told you. And instead of it I would have preferred that you would have agreed upon the fact that our intention is that you live secure. For that (reason) we shall be opening the borders, we shall be normalizing everything."

Regarding the West Bank, Sadat said he was proposing an Israel-Jordan-Egypt-Palestinian committee to work out security arrangements for the area. He said he would not define the Palestinians who would participate "at this stage" but he was sure that if agreement could be reached on "the principle" the question of definition would be resolved easily. (The interview appeared in full in Friday's Jerusalem Post and in part in Friday's Daily News Bulletin.)

#### Gives Warning To Israel

Sadat was more pessimistic and tougher in his interview with October magazine. He said he now had "absolutely no hope" of reaching an agreement on principles with Israel, the goal that has eluded both sides since Sadat's summit meeting with Begin at Ismailia last month. He claimed that Israel has offered him "nothing" in exchange for the concessions he has made to them and warned that Israel's attitude could stir a new wave of Arab hostility. "Israel is sowing the winds and therefore will reap the storms," he said.

Sadat also spoke to October of resigning. He said if his peace initiative failed, "I will turn over my post to somebody else and he will have to complete this mission or decide something else, some other method..." Sadat said. He warned, "It is not my divine mission to pamper the Israelis, talk about them and their sufferings and justify their mistakes without reaching a solution that will serve them more than it will serve us."

He said, "I have offered security and legality" but "I received nothing in exchange. I have preferred my hand with honesty and the rest depends on them... Israel will regret that it has given birth to new springs of hatred and fanaticism against it... This will be a great loss for Israel...."

Meanwhile, the Jerusalem Post reported that Sadat has commissioned architects to draw up plans for a combined church, mosque and synagogue on top of the Biblical Mt. Sinai as a sanctuary of worship for the three faiths.

#### DMC ON THE VERGE OF A SPLIT

By Yitzhak Shargil

Tel Aviv, Jan. 15 (JTA)--The Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) appeared today to be on the verge of a split that would create a new faction with serious political ramifications for the party and Premier Menachem Begin's coalition government. A number of DMC leaders, including five Knesset members, have reportedly agreed to bolt the party because of dissatisfaction with the leadership of Prof. Yigael Yadin and disagreement with the DMC's activities in the political and social spheres.

Most of the dissidents represent the DMC's dovish Lashinoo (Change) faction. They include MKs Amnon Rubinstein, Mordechai Virshovsky, Steff Wertheimer and Shmuel Toledano. They are expected to be joined by Druze MK Zaidan Attashi and possibly by Assaf Yagoury.

Should the break occur, the DMC would have to relinquish one of the four Cabinet portfolios it now holds on the basis of its strength in the Knesset. There were reports that the defectors would remain in the coalition government and demand a Cabinet seat on their own account. An announce-

ment is expected later this week.

### ILP Will Not Join Government

Meanwhile, the Independent Liberal Party voted 48-30 Friday not to join the Likud-led government. The decision was a rebuff to the party's sole Knesset member, Gideon Hausner, who had argued that it was unwise for the ILP to remain an outsider at a time of momentous political events.

But veteran leader Moshe Kol insisted that the faction retain its independence. He expressed hope that Hausner would accept the majority decision. Hausner said, however, that he still believed it was not in the best interests of the party. "I shall consider my way in the future in the light of the decision. I shall make no hasty decisions," he said.

### BOMB EXPLOSION KILLS TWO

TEL AVIV, Jan. 15 (JTA)--A 55-year-old Arab and his 10-year-old son were killed here by an explosion of a time bomb they picked up in a vacant lot Friday. An explosive device detonated on an Egged bus in Jerusalem this morning causing slight damage but no casualties. The bus was en route from East Jerusalem to the center of the city. Police are investigating the incident.

Saleh Sattal of Jaffa, and his two sons went to a lot near a busy intersection to gather grass for their horse. One of the youngsters picked up a parcel containing a watch and electric wiring. He took it to his father who tried to pull out the wires, touching off an explosion that killed both of them. The other son was uninjured. Police said the device was a time bomb that detonated prematurely while being handled.

### ATLANTA BANK PRESIDENT SAYS POLICY WON'T CHANGE UNDER SAUDIAN OWNERSHIP

ATLANTA, Jan. 15 (JTA)--Robert Guyton, president of the National Bank of Georgia, has told the Jewish community here there would be no restrictions on the bank's dealings with any country, including Israel, as a result of its purchase by Saudi Arabian entrepreneur Ghait Pharaon.

In addition, Pharaon himself was quoted in the Atlanta Journal as saying, "We would welcome the Jewish community in this country doing business with us, because it is only by closer understanding and communication that we can solve much of our differences and problems."

However, concern on the part of some of the bank's Jewish customers was aroused when the Atlanta Journal also quoted Pharaon as saying, "We are restricted now from doing business with Israel by the Palestinian and boycott problems. But once these are lifted, I don't see any reason why I shouldn't be dealing with Israel."

In an exclusive interview with the Southern Israelite, Guyton said that Pharaon's statement about restrictions referred to his Saudi interests, not the bank's. Pharaon has purchased 120,000 shares or 60 percent of Bert Lance's stock in this city's fifth largest bank. Lance was director of the Office of Management and Budget in the Carter Administration before he was forced to resign last year.

While Guyton did not deny that Pharaon's majority ownership could enable him to make a major policy change, the bank president added: "It couldn't happen without clearing out the present management," adding, "Our policy will not change from what it had been previously." Regarding the boycott issue, Guyton stated: "We couldn't live with that kind of situation. It might different

in Saudi Arabia, but he (Pharaon) is in our country now and has got to have his investments managed in the way this country operates."

### MARTIN LUTHER KING FOREST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 (JTA)--The Committee for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Forest in Israel has announced that its first forest in honor of the slain civil rights leader has been completed. The forest, consisting of 10,000 trees in the Galilee, was planted in time for King's birthday. He would have been 49 years old today.

The first trees were planted last February in a ceremony in which 16 members of a Washington interfaith and interracial group took part. In that ceremony, the Rev. Robert Pruitt of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church of Washington, led in the civil rights anthem, "We Shall Overcome," and a letter of greetings from the American Consul General in Israel, Michael H. Newlin, was read by Leokadia Siegelman, vice-chairman of the committee.

Honorary sponsors of the forest committee include all Black and Jewish members of both Houses of Congress. Max M. Kampelman of Washington is the committee's chairman. A second forest is to be planted in King's honor, the committee said.

### VIENNA EXHIBITION SHOWS ROLE JEWS PLAYED IN MIDDLE AGES

By Maurice Singer

VIENNA, Jan. 15 (JTA)--An exhibition staged by the Vienna Provincial Archives proves that Jews had a highly respectable and important position in medieval Vienna. The exhibition, "The Jews of Vienna in the Middle Ages," also shows that the flourishing life of the Jewish community was extinguished by a pogrom ordered by Duke Albrecht V, in which almost all Vienna Jews were killed and the rest banned from the city.

"The existence of Jews in a community were the precondition for the establishment of a medieval city," said Dr. Klaus Lohrmann, the organizer of the exhibition. The first Vienna Jew who is known by name is Shlom, produced coins for Duke Leopold V in the last decade of the 12th Century. Another Jew, Tekla, lent Duke Leopold VI money in 1225 to conclude a peace treaty with Hungary.

The exhibition shows that the immigration of Jews to Vienna came from the west, especially from towns on the Rhine, where Jews no longer felt safe in the time of the Crusades. The Vienna Jews had their own jurisdiction and privileges and were under the special protection of the Austrian dukes. Throughout the Middle Ages they were closely linked to the monarchs.

The Vienna ghetto, in the Middle Ages, included a synagogue, a hospital and a ritual bath. The Jewish cemetery was outside the city walls. The Jews were not only traders, but also financiers and ducal officials, the exhibition proves. They played an important part in the medieval tax policy, as they had to pay special taxes on all loans they granted.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Nahal Holit, a para-military settlement in the Rafah salient of northern Sinai, was turned over to civilian control Thursday. It has been re-named Kibbutz Holit and is affiliated with the Ichud Hakutzot Vehakibutzim, the Labor Party's settlement movement. Holit is the 13th settlement in the Rafah area.

VIENNA (JTA)--The Vienna Zionist monthly, "Illustrierte Neue Welt," celebrates its 80th anniversary this year. The magazine was founded in 1897 by Theodor Herzl.

## HUBERT H. HUMPHREY WAS A FRIEND OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 (JTA)--Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, ever thoughtful of the concerns of the Jewish people, left a legacy to them in the form of a statement prepared shortly before his death. He died Friday night at his home in Waverly, Minn., of cancer at the age of 66.

Humphrey served in the Senate from 1949 until he was elected Vice President under President Johnson in 1964. After his defeat for the Presidency by Richard Nixon in 1968, Humphrey was re-elected to the Senate in 1970. Throughout his career he had been a strong supporter of Israel and had worked closely with the Jewish community on many domestic issues of concern to it.

### Statement On Israel And The U.S.

In an exclusive statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency written shortly before his death, Humphrey urged American and Arab government leaders to understand that Israel has "a special relationship with America." Explaining this, Humphrey said:

"I have absolutely no disagreement with the goal of securing the trust and friendship of the Arab world. In fact, I believe it to be imperative. But while we are pursuing this policy, we should not forget that Israel, for the United States, cannot be regarded as just another nation among nations in the Middle East. We must declare without embarrassment, and without apology, that Israel has earned a special relationship with America.

"The Arab world must understand that if it desires better relations with the United States it must accept our good relations with Israel. No Administration should ever mislead any Arab leader to believe otherwise."

Humphrey was eulogized at the Capitol's Rotunda today by President Carter "as naturally loyal" and "most beloved of all Americans" and by Vice President Walter Mondale as "his nation's conscience." Violinist Isaac Stern, a long-time friend of Humphrey, performed at the memorial ceremony.

### Concerned For Israel's Security

Humphrey was a firm supporter and friend of Israel throughout his political years dating back to the time he was mayor of Minneapolis when Israel's birth was in question. He was elected to the Senate in 1948, the year Israel became a State. He visited Israel on numerous occasions during the following years.

His concern for the security of "this tiny democratic state in the Middle East," as he had referred to Israel, was translated both spiritually in the form of inspired addresses as Senator and Vice President and also into effective action, particularly since 1973 when, as the Senate Democratic leader dealing with foreign aid, he insisted that U.S. assistance be adequately provided to Israel sorely wounded by the Yom Kippur War.

Humphrey was the confidant and friend of Israel's leaders. When Golda Meir visited Washington on her last trip, she went to his Capitol Hill office saying, "I would have gone to Minnesota to see you." When Premier Menachem Begin was in Washington in December, he went to Humphrey's apartment to chat with him. Earlier, on Begin's first visit as Premier in July, he was warmly welcomed by Humphrey at the Capitol and posed for photographs with him.

In October, when Israel was under great pressure to yield to Arab demands for a Geneva conference that included U.S. acceptance of the Palestine Liberation Organization as a participant, Humphrey, although gravely ill, declared:

"How can we expect Israel to announce prior to any negotiations that she is willing to give up large areas of territory to move to a militarily more vulnerable position if the other side, instead of committing itself to peace merely suggests it might consider moving to what is, in effect, a state of non-belligerence?... Israel has every right to believe until effectively shown otherwise that what the Arabs are offering is a non-belligerence signifying merely that they will not be fighting them today, but are leaving their options open for tomorrow."

### Denounced UN Anti-Zionism Resolution

What was apparently the last award of the many given him by Jewish organizations was the "First Golda Meir Award" on Oct. 17 by Pioneer Women which carried with it "a perpetual scholarship for advance of education for deserving students." Accepting the award for him, Humphrey's sister, Mrs. Frances Howard, read a statement hailing Mrs. Meir "a woman who personifies the intellect, the humanity, the courage and the spirit which epitomizes one of the most exciting developments of this century--the establishment of the modern State of Israel."

Humphrey's defense of Zionism rose to a crescendo after the United Nations General Assembly linked Zionism with racism. In a Senate speech Dec. 3, 1975, he declared that "the charge of racism against Israel is so manifestly absurd one's first reaction is not even to dignify the charge with substantive response. But recent discussions and inquiries make it clear that there is much ignorance and confusion about the nature of Israeli society, the result of massive propaganda efforts designed by Israel's adversaries to support their absurd charges."

He referred to the General Assembly resolution as having "sinister implications" which "only add obstacles to the struggle for peace in the Middle East and which threaten the usefulness of the United Nations itself."

In addition to his support of Israel, Humphrey worked closely with Jews on issues that he and the Jewish community were concerned with, such as civil rights, the need to end discrimination, help for the poor, providing jobs for the unemployed and numerous other social issues. There was deep affection for the Minnesota Senator in the Jewish community.

Leaders of Jewish organizations today issued statements and sent messages of condolence to Humphrey's family and the White House. Among the organizations were B'nai B'rith, the World Zionist Organization and the American Section of the WZO, the Workmen's Circle and the Committee for the Rescue of Syrian Jewry of which Humphrey was honorary chairman. \* \* \*

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Two journalists were the recipients of the Tel Aviv Municipality's annual Nahum Sokolow Awards presented over the weekend. Aryeh Dissentchik, retired editor of Maariv, was cited for his life-time accomplishments as a journalist. Haviv Knaan, of Haaretz, was given the award for his investigative reporting which helped bring about the trial and conviction in Holland last year of Nazi war crimes suspect Pieter Menten.