



SEGEL RESIGNS FROM WHITE HOUSE STAFF

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 9 (JTA)--Mark A. Siegel, President Carter's link with the American Jewish community, has resigned from the White House staff in protest over the Administration's attitude toward Israel and the President will probably react officially within the next few days, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed.

Siegel's first decision last week was to leave his duties as liaison to the American Jewish community but to remain on the Presidential staff and continue as a Deputy Assistant to Political Advisor Hamilton Jordan with services to the Democratic national and state committees. But he changed his mind after his disenchantment with the President's Middle East policies became public knowledge. It is not known who leaked that information to the press or to what purpose.

Siegel's impending departure represents the first major rift in Carter's inner circle and reflects what is being reported to be the dominant opinion in the American Jewish community over elements of the Administration's Middle East policy.

According to White House sources, Siegel's immediate problem with Carter's policy is centered on the aircraft sales package for Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia which is opposed by many in Congress. Siegel is said to have felt that he was given misleading information about the sale of 60 F-15s to Saudi Arabia by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's National Security Advisor and Brzezinski's aides on the National Security Council.

It is reported here that Brzezinski has become the focal point of the growing coldness between the Carter Administration and the American Jewish leadership. The Siegel affair and Brzezinski's Mideast policies and what the American Jewish community makes of them were seen here as a major psychological element in President Carter's meetings with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin next week.

BEGIN ANSWERS ARMY PROTESTERS

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin advised some 300 reserve soldiers and airmen who had questioned his government's policies, to let the government run the peace negotiations as it sees fit and stop interfering. Begin delivered a stern lecture in response to a petition signed by the reservists earlier this week asking him to choose "peace over territories."

He chided the signatories for making their petition public before he received it. He told them, "It is the privilege of the petitioners to express their views." But "do they believe they can impose these views on the nation's representatives who were elected to run the country's affairs?" he asked.

He also asked the soldiers to tell him personally if they accepted the claims by Egypt, Jordan and other Arab countries for Israel's a priori commitment to withdraw to its 1967 borders and grant the West Bank and Gaza Strip residents the right of self-determination. He said he hoped

their answers would be negative. He assured the reservists that his government is doing its utmost to end war and bring peace.

CLAIMS MEXICO'S RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL HAVE STEADILY IMPROVED

By Chaim Lazdeiski

MEXICO CITY, March 9 (JTA)--Mexico's relations with Israel, badly strained two years ago over anti-Zionist resolutions in the United Nations General Assembly, are better than they have been for many years, according to Mexico's Foreign Minister Santiago Roel. He told the press he was pleased with the growing cooperation between the two countries in the realms of business, science and culture.

The daily, El Nacional, an organ of the Mexican government, meanwhile, praised the Israeli Minister Yigal Horowitz who presides over the Israeli section of the joint Israeli-Mexican Commission on Trade. The commission currently is discussing means to increase tourism and commerce and joint industrial projects.

El Nacional said it has inaugurated a new chapter in relations between Israel and Mexico and welcomed Horowitz for helping to solidify the friendship between the two peoples and governments. The Israeli members of the commission consist of merchants, industrialists and scientists. They have formed a new joint company, Sol-Koor, with Israeli and Mexican capital to promote industrial development in Mexico in cooperation with Israel's Koor Industries.

On a political note, the Israeli Ambassador, Shaul Rosolio, told reporters here that the Soviet Union and hard-line Arab countries are sabotaging the current Israeli-Egyptian peace efforts. He predicted, however, that a peace settlement will ultimately be signed to the mutual benefit of Jews and Arabs in the Middle East.

WEIZMAN-CARTER MEETING FRIDAY

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 9 (JTA)--Defense Minister Ezer Weizman will meet with President Carter tomorrow at the White House at 2:30 p.m., the Israeli Embassy informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today. The meeting was suggested by Carter last week but apparently had not been scheduled until today. It will cause a change in Weizman's schedule for tomorrow. He will hold a press conference at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Watergate Hotel instead of tomorrow morning as originally announced.

Meanwhile, reports circulated here that the Pentagon and State Department officials with whom Weizman has been meeting here the last two days are cool towards his proposals for continued U.S. defense support but are withholding decisions pending the forthcoming Begin-Carter meetings. It is considered standard U.S. government practice to determine its responses for Israel's requests on how Israel reacts to U.S. desires. Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and Carter will hold talks next Tuesday and Wednesday.

Weizman is said to have asked a U.S. outlay of \$13.5 billion over the next 10 years. Israel is currently receiving \$1 billion a year in military aid, an amount that lessens annually in value as a result of inflation. The higher figure over 10 years suggests consideration of the lessening value of the

dollar in purchasing power.

When an Arab reporter, at a State Department briefing today, asked Department spokesman Tom Reston about Weizman's reported proposals, Reston replied that he would not go into "specifics," but added: "We view Israel's defense needs sympathetically and we will continue to be responsive to those needs" both in the "ongoing and long range" terms. When the reporter pressed whether military equipment for Israel would "help the peace process," Reston said "The cornerstone of our policy is to guarantee Israel's security" throughout the U.S. arms program. "Our commitment to Israel's security is unshakable," he said.

YADIN SAYS ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SOUTH LEBANON CHRISTIANS

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA)--Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin pledged in the Knesset yesterday that Israel will continue to support Christian villagers in southern Lebanon against the "barbaric" attacks of Palestinian leftists and terrorists. But he stressed that the government's policy was to maintain peace along the northern border, indicating that it does not intend to interfere in the south Lebanon situation at this time.

Yadin spoke in his capacity as acting Defense Minister in reply to a motion by Likud MK Amnon Lin. Lin wanted to know why the army did not intervene last week when Syrian-backed Al Saiqa terrorists captured the strategic Christian village of Ras A-Maroun only a mile from the Israeli border.

He noted that Israel's policy has always been that it would not tolerate the presence of Syrian forces south of the Litani River. Informed sources in Tel Aviv said today that Israel does not regard the Al Saiqa presence in the border region as a threat to its security. "Even four Saiqa brigades won't endanger Israel," they said.

LIKUD LEADERS DECIDE TO POSTPONE DECISION ON PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA)--Leaders of the Likud-led coalition government decided at a meeting today to postpone a decision on Premier Menachem Begin's choice of a little known nuclear physicist, Prof. Yitzhak Shaveh, to be Israel's next President. The leadership indicated that while Begin's recommendation should be treated with respect, they must find out more about Shaveh who is virtually unknown outside of scientific circles.

He was picked by Begin to succeed President Ephraim Katzir whose four-year term expires in May. The Knesset will vote for a new President on April 5. Some members of Likud's Liberal Party wing favor their colleague Elimelech Rimalt for the office. The Labor Alignment tends to support Laborite Yitzhak Navon who, like Shaveh, is of Sephardic origin. Begin himself reportedly hardly knew Shaveh until he was recommended by Herut Minister-Without-Portfolio Haim Landau. Begin had his first meeting with Shaveh last Monday and told coalition leaders that he had been favorably impressed.

According to Haaretz, Shaveh belonged to an extreme right-wing group in 1975 that campaigned against the second Sinai interim agreement with Egypt. The group published large advertisements in which Shaveh bitterly denounced the Labor government. The professor appears to have moderated his views somewhat since then, Haaretz said.

JEWISH LORD-MAYOR IS A CORKER

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 9 (JTA)--The total population of Cork, Ireland is 150,000 of which 21 are Jews. Gerald Y. Goldberg is a member of this tiny Jewish community and is also Lord Mayor of Cork. Speaking at a press conference last night at the St. Regis Hotel, he said, referring to his election in 1977 as Cork's first Jewish Lord Mayor, "It is a tribute to the generosity of the Irish people. This shows that minorities are appreciated in Ireland, and the tolerance, understanding and sympathy of the Irish people."

The 66-year-old Lord Mayor, who was born in Cork, said that the Jewish population there was about 600 "when I was a boy." But since the creation of the State of Israel, Goldberg explained, most of Cork's Jews went to live in Israel. "But for me the call of Ireland was stronger," he affirmed. He said he owed it to Ireland to stay and give it as much as he could as a citizen.

The son of Jewish refugees from Lithuania, he recalled his childhood: "In the street I was a little Irish boy; at home I was an Orthodox Jew. I did not speak English until I was six years old. I spoke Yiddish. I learned Irish when I was ten."

Goldberg arrived here at the beginning of this week to participate in St. Patrick's Day festivities in New York. The Lord Mayor and his wife will return to Ireland just in time to preside over the gala St. Patrick's Day parade in Cork on March 17.

MAGAZINE CARTOON ATTACKED

NEW YORK, March 9 (JTA)--The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has attacked a cartoon in the Feb. 27 issue of Newsweek magazine for presenting "virtually all the anti-Semitic stereotypes that we hoped would have ended in this country with the destruction of Hitlerism. To find the symbolism which led to the Holocaust echoed in Newsweek is repugnant to many Americans, Jews and non-Jews alike."

The cartoon, by Simpson of the Tulsa-Tribune, shows Premier Menachem Begin with a heavy protruding nose and identified by a Star of David on his shoulder, standing next to President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, shown with an extended hooked nose, and President Carter, shown with thick lips.

All of them are looking at a melange of signs on stores which read: "West Bank bank--finance your Phantom jets here"; "West Bank Hilton"; "Hymie Donald's matzo ball burger"; "West Bank taco bagel"; and "Lox and chips." Begin is saying: "But...it's only temporary..." The caption under the cartoon states: "One view of Israel's West Bank settlements: Growing signs of erosion in U.S. support for Begin."

Asked for his reaction to the ADL's denunciation of the cartoon which was issued in a telegram to the magazine by ADL director Benjamin R. Epstein, Edward Kosner, Newsweek editor, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "Newsweek isn't in the business of merchandising anti-Semitic messages. We are sensitive to this. If the cartoon appeared offensive, we're sorry about it. All political cartoons have a political edge. This apparently went over the edge in the eyes of some people. We're sorry they're upset."

NEW JERSEY SENATE HITS PLANES SALE

TRENTON, N.J., March 9 (JTA)--The New Jersey Senate has approved a resolution sponsored by Sen. Matthew Feldman opposing the sale of

fighter planes by the United States to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. At its final session prior to a spring recess last week, the Senate instructed that copies of the resolution be sent to Vice President Walter Mondale, House Speaker Thomas O'Neill and all members of the New Jersey delegation in Congress.

In a speech in support of his resolution, Feldman told his colleagues, "How quickly the world forgets the duplicity of the Egyptian government or, for that matter, the oil-producing Arab nations. Yet, how easily we are persuaded into supplying to these unstable countries lethal and sophisticated arms that do not meet legitimate defense needs."

The resolution expressed "alarm" that the United States "appears to be running out on its commitment of support for Israel," and advanced the view that the U.S. offer to sell weapons to Egypt and Saudi Arabia "threatens to upset the balance of power in the Middle East and engulf that region in yet another war that could destroy Israel." The resolution called on Congress to block the proposed sale of arms to Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

CHIEF U.S. WAR CRIMES PROSECUTOR SEES NEED FOR MORE, BETTER WITNESSES

By Rochell Wolk

ALBANY, N.Y., March 9 (JTA)--Martin Mendelsohn, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service's chief war crimes prosecutor, said here that there is a need for more and better witnesses to Nazi war crimes, and that he believes such witnesses are living in the United States today. "There is a sufficient number of survivor organizations here to ferret out these witnesses," he said, "and we shouldn't have to seek our witnesses from Israel and other countries."

Mendelsohn spoke with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency while in Albany to present the government's case at the deportation hearing of alleged Nazi war criminal Vilis A. Hazners. He took charge of a special unit set up by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in October to work exclusively on hearings concerning alleged Nazi war criminals. He heads a staff of five full-time lawyers, and says that he expects to have 20 hearings underway by the end of this year.

169 Investigations In Progress

The INS currently has 169 investigations in progress, according to Mendelsohn, but not all of the alleged war criminals are still living. He claims that he stepped into the Albany hearing at this point because the original government attorney assigned to the case, Ralph Smith, became ill and his replacement, William Strasser, "is uncomfortable in the spotlight." Mendelsohn wouldn't comment on complaints by the press and Albany residents that Strasser's handling of the case was less than competent.

Appearing as a witness this week is Mrs. Maria Radiwker, a 72-year-old police investigator from Israel who interviewed the Israeli witnesses testifying at this hearing last November. Her department is responsible for seeking out witnesses in Israel, at the request of INS.

Hazners is a native of Latvia who served as a military and police official for the German Nazis during World War II. He is accused by INS of having entered the United States illegally in 1956, by failing to declare his involvement in atrocities against Latvian Jews. If he had admitted these al-

leged atrocities, he would not have been eligible for admission to the United States. He is presently a permanent resident alien and has never applied for U.S. citizenship.

Asked what American Jewish communities and organizations can do to assist in bringing alleged Nazi war criminals to justice, Mendelsohn stressed the importance of having attorneys monitor hearings. "This lets the witnesses know that they have support," he said, "and it also makes the judges aware that they are being observed by competent professionals who will bear witness to any errors. This is an important and significant role that American Jews can play at the hearings."

Demonstrations Are Counter-Productive

Mendelsohn does not believe, however, that picketing and demonstrations are positive approaches. "We have chosen, in this society, to deal with disputes through the law," he said, "and I think that this approach should be allowed to go forward."

He mentioned that there were demonstrations by such groups as the Jewish Defense League at the hearing of another alleged Nazi war criminal, Karlis Detlavs, in Baltimore. These demonstrations received a great deal of publicity on television, he explained, but were not beneficial to the case.

Mendelsohn is determined to prove that Hazners should be deported, but, whatever the outcome of the case, he believes that the hearing has already served a two-fold purpose. "First of all," he said, "the media coverage has given residents of the Albany area, and Americans in general, an education about Nazi war criminals."

Even local public schools have sent students to observe the hearing, in connection with social studies and literature courses. "In addition, Hazners is no longer the secure and happy man that he was five years ago. Now he's worried about being deported," Mendelsohn said, "and this in itself is an accomplishment."

ISRAEL AND SOLAR ENERGY

WEST RANGE, N.J., March 9 (JTA)--Joel R. Jacobson, commissioner of energy for the state of New Jersey, which last week awarded 1725 grants toward the installation of solar hot water heating systems in homes, told a state American Jewish Congress convention here earlier this week that one of the aims of his forthcoming trip to Israel will be to gather information on solar energy technology.

Jacobson, under whose direction New Jersey has just embarked on a multimillion dollar solar energy program, has lined up meetings during his summer visit to Israel with members of that country's scientific and business community concerned with solar energy development. He expects to put to use as early as next year some of the knowledge of solar technology gleaned from Israeli sources.

LATE NEWS BULLETIN -- WASHINGTON (JTA)--President Carter Thursday accepted "with regret" the resignation of Mark A. Siegel, who has served as the Administration's liaison with the American Jewish community. He said at a press conference later that the Administration's Middle East policy "is the proper one." In reply to questions, he said that Siegel, who resigned over differences with the Administration's Middle East policy, had "a strong input" on Middle East policy-making but that his departure from the White House staff will in no way alter U.S. policy.

SILENT TREATMENT ON CASE-HUMPHREY PROPOSAL FOR MIDEAST PEACE FUND

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 9 (JTA)--The Carter Administration continued its silence on the Case-Humphrey proposal for a Middle East regional peace fund to be used for Israel and her neighbors as soon as "the political climate permits."

Sen. Clifford Case of New Jersey, the ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the ranking Republican on the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Assistance, urged the Administration in a public statement last week to join in supporting the proposal, but thus far it has chosen not to comment.

In calling on the Administration to support the fund, "and the sooner the better," Case added "We have heard too much about obstacles to peace and not enough about incentives for peace."

The proposal to promote scientific and economic cooperation in the Middle East is in the bill prepared by Minnesota Democrat Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey before his death. The bill as a whole would revamp the American Foreign Assistance Program. Although 25 Senators have co-sponsored the program, Case's office said the Administration has yet to make a "definitive comment" on it.

Queries by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency indicated the State Department opposes the overall measure since it aims at divorcing foreign aid from foreign policy. The Department, it is hinted, is therefore preparing its own legislation on reforming U.S. foreign aid by which it could maintain its authority in a mix of political leverage and humanitarian support. At present, foreign aid is administered by the Agency for International Development under the aegis of the State Department which has a veto over any program.

Humphrey's Objective Recalled

Humphrey's objective, Case said, was "to revise and modernize the structure of the whole aid program and, additionally, put a higher national priority on development assistance."

Humphrey, who headed the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Aid, died before he himself could introduce the bill. Therefore, Case and Sen. John Sparkman (D. Ala.), who as chairman of the full Senate Foreign Relations Committee has assumed Humphrey's subcommittee chairmanship, have joined in presenting it to the Senate.

Case suggested and Humphrey agreed that "we do something in this year's foreign aid bill to help the peace process" in the Middle East and they initiated a fund for \$50 million to set up the institutional and planning structure to stimulate cooperation and begin projects.

"In many instances," Case said, "the United States may be able to assist the planning, for example, in joint power projects or in large scale water projects. The planning, development and implementation of a cooperative program between the states of the Middle East could be an important ingredient in the peace process, as well as being good in itself."

Case pointed out that "Israel has a great deal of background in the areas of science, agriculture, solar energy and water conservation which could be of assistance to her neighbors. All the states in the area also could save large sums of money and avoid duplication of certain programs, such as power distribution, through joint projects. The key to the establishment of a regional peace fund "is the cooperation of the Carter Administration,"

Case said.

LARGEST ISRAELI ART EXHIBIT

PHILADELPHIA, March 9 (JTA)--The largest exhibition of Israeli art ever collected under one roof in the United States opened yesterday in Philadelphia's Civic Center Museum. Co-sponsored by the City of Philadelphia and the Foundation for International Cultural Exchange, the "Contemporary Masters from Israel" show will continue until April 9.

According to Israeli Consul General Asher Naim, Philadelphia was selected for this unprecedented exhibit because of the Sister City relationship with Tel Aviv. It represents the first major exchange between Philadelphia Mayor Frank L. Rizzo and Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat.

The exhibition of paintings and sculpture by contemporary Israeli artists, marking that country's 30th anniversary, contains more than 250 examples of current work by Israel's foremost artists. Among them are 10 scenes of Philadelphia painted by Ivan Schwabe as a result of a recent visit; works by Joseph Zaritzky, the patriarch of abstract expressionist painting in Israel; colorful primitives by Shalom of Safed; and optical art by Yacov Agam.

SALE OF 18TH-CENTURY JUDAICA ITEMS

NEW YORK, March 9 (JTA)--An Italian Chanukah lamp made in Padua about 1750 sold for \$11,000 to a New York dealer at auction yesterday at Christie's New York. Pre-sale estimate had been between \$3000 and \$4000. The lamp, which is slightly more than 13 inches high, is elaborately chased with shells, foliage, scrolls, and husks. It was one of five Italian pieces in a sale of English, Continental and American silver.

An Italian parcel-gilt Sabbath lamp, made about 1780, 28 inches high, went for \$2860. Another piece of Judaica was a menorah which was made in London in the early part of this century and went for \$770, above the pre-sale estimate of \$300 to \$500. Anthony Phillips, Christie's silver specialist, says that 18th Century Judaica is rare and is increasing in value.

RABBI ELI MUNK DEAD AT 78

JERUSALEM, March 9 (JTA)--Rabbi Eli Munk, founder and long-time leader of the German Orthodox community in northwest London, died here Tuesday at the age of 78. He had lived here for nine years following his retirement from what was universally known as "Munk's shul," the Orthodox community based on former German refugees which he founded in London's Golders Green district just before World War II. Munk was known for his original commentaries on the Bible--in the tradition of Samson Raphael Hirsch, the 19th-Century leader of German Orthodoxy.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--Herman Moses, the national commander of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV), has issued an "action alert" to all echelons of the JWV to prepare for a possible counter-demonstration in Skokie, Ill. should a Nazi march take place there on or about April 20 as has been indicated. Retired Air Force Col. Irwin R. Ziff, the JWV's national executive director, said in disclosing the JWV action that the Jewish veterans have issued a proclamation condemning the Nazi march and have asked their fellow American war veterans to join in this proclamation.