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NEW PULLBACK PHASE DUE SUNDAY

TEL AVIV, April 27 (JTA)--Israeli forces will begin a new phase of their withdrawal from south Lebanon this Sunday, it was announced today. The pullback will be in the western sector of the front which, until now, has been held by Israeli forces surrounding the terrorist enclave at Tyre. It will be preliminary to Israel's withdrawal to a six-mile deep security belt along the Lebanese-Israeli border which was the original objective of the Lebanese operation that began March 15.

ADMINISTRATION PRESSING TWO NEW TACTICS IN BID FOR PLANE PACKAGE WIN

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--The Carter Administration, in its attempt to prevent Congress from blocking its proposed package of warplane sales to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, appeared today to be pressing two new tactics. One is to stress, at least subtly, that it is Washington, not Jerusalem, that will determine American national interests, and the other is to shift the initial fight over the package proposal from the Senate to the House.

These tactics were revealed yesterday after a meeting between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and key members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee resulted in a stalemate. The Senators indicated they were still opposed to the sale as long as it is part of a package, because of the on-going Israeli-Egyptian peace negotiations and because of concern over the sale of highly-sophisticated planes to Saudi Arabia.

Later in the day, it was revealed that Clement Zablocki, Jr. (D. Wis.), chairman of the House International Relations Committee, said that he believed that his committee will block any effort to reject the sale by a 19-18 vote. If the committee does not reject the sale it will mean there will be no need for Senate action, since a majority in both Houses must reject the proposal within 30 days after it has been submitted by the Administration. The Carter Administration is expected to submit the package, but for each country separately, as required by law.

Raises Issue Of National Interest

The Administration's statement on determining national interest was made by White House Press Secretary Jody Powell yesterday, after he admitted the fight over the warplanes in Congress would be "very close" and "very tough."

"The real issue which Congress and the country must decide is whether it is in the best interests of the United States to maintain, without deviation, its historic commitment to the security of Israel, while at the same time we are seeking closer ties with the moderate Arab nations," Powell said. "The President feels strongly that it is." (See related stories P. 1 and P. 3.)

Powell also said that "the Congress and the country will have to decide what kind of Middle East we want in the 1980s, whether we want a Middle East with those who seek peace, both among the Arabs and the Israelis, have confi-

dence in the United States, or a Middle East where those moderate Arab nations may be forced to turn to others who don't necessarily share the U.S. commitment to the security of Israel."

The President's latest tactics may put him in direct conflict with some of the most powerful members in the Senate, such as Senators Frank Church (D. Ida.), the second ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Jacob K. Javits (R. NY) and Clifford Case (R. NJ), among others. Javits said yesterday, after the meeting with Vance, that the Congress was willing to "accommodate" the President on the warplanes issue but he asked that the President show some "trust" in members of Congress.

KOLLEK OUTRAGED BY TERROR ATTACK

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--Mayor Teddy Kollek expressed shock and sorrow today over the terrorist bomb attack on a tour bus in Nablus last night that took the lives of two young German visitors and injured six others, at least one of them seriously. Kollek said the outrage was all the more appalling inasmuch as the victims were members of "Akzion Suehnezeichen" (Movement of Atonement and Peace), a group that does volunteer work in countries that suffered directly or indirectly from Nazi oppression. It is active in many lands, including Israel and the Arab countries.

The group of 34 in the bus had been visiting Christian holy places in Galilee and were returning to their hostel in East Jerusalem when a pipe bomb filled with headless nails was thrown into the bus that had stopped briefly in Nablus' main square.

The dead were identified as Kristoff Graber, 19, and Sousanne Chahn, 20. The injured were treated first at a local hospital and flown by helicopter to Tel-Hashomer Hospital in Tel Aviv. One young woman taken to a military hospital was reported to be in a serious condition. The bus belonged to the Orient Taxi Service, an Arab-owned firm in East Jerusalem.

Kollek, who leaves for Cologne, West Germany, Saturday to open festivities related to Israel's 30th anniversary, expressed hope that the murders in Nablus would not deter the group from continuing its humanitarian pursuits. He noted that several European countries, including West Germany, tended to disregard the murderous nature of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The tragedy in Nablus was a reminder, he said. The curfew imposed in Nablus after the bombing remained in force today but apart from a few violators, no arrests were reported.

DAYAN DENIES ISRAEL IS INTERFERING IN THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan denied today that his country was interfering in the American political process in any form. "I did not come here to lobby" or to question any decision made by the U.S. government, Dayan told reporters following a two-hour meeting with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department this morning.

Dayan's statement was apparently prompted by a remark yesterday by White House Press Secretary Jody Powell that Washington, not Israel, will determine what is in the best interests of America.

Powell was speaking in connection with the Administration's proposed aircraft sales package for Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia which Israel vigorously opposes. The implication, according to some press reports, was that the Administration believes Israel is exerting undue pressure to block the package deal.

The State Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, was asked this morning if the Carter Administration considered Israel to be interfering in American politics. He replied that he could not speak for the entire Administration but "I have heard no such remark from the Secretary of State."

The spokesman added that all countries concerned in the aircraft sales package--Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia--have made their views clear on the matter. "We can hardly say to any government that they should not express a view on a matter that deals with their security," he said. Carter also cautioned reporters that "no dramatic announcement should be expected" from the Dayan-Vance talks, which he described as part of the continuing process of seeking progress toward peace in the Middle East.

Reiterates Israel's Opposition

Dayan told reporters that his discussion with Vance this morning, like their four hours of talks yesterday, was devoted entirely to Middle East peace negotiations. Pressed by reporters to repeat his statement of Israel's views on the aircraft package deal, Dayan said he had expressed himself on that subject before leaving Tel Aviv for Washington Tuesday and his statement stands.

However, when the newsmen insisted, Dayan reiterated that Israel will continue to oppose the package and if the Administration "punishes us" by not supplying Israel with planes, "we shall accept the punishment but we will not change our view."

Dayan said he made the same statement to a group of Senators, who he did not identify, at a breakfast meeting here this morning devoted to the aircraft package issue. Dayan also disclosed that he had a private meeting last night with Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's National Security Advisor, but would not divulge what was discussed. Meanwhile, Jody Powell said that the Administration will submit its plane package proposal to Congress no later than next Tuesday.

FORD RAPS ADMINISTRATION ON MIDEAST

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Former President Gerald Ford criticized President Carter's handling of the Middle East conflict for abandoning the previous administration's step-by-step approach and bringing the Soviet Union into the peace-making process. Ford offered his views last night in the course of an hour-long televised interview with NBC news correspondent John Chancellor, devoted to U.S. foreign policy.

"We would have urged bilateral agreements between Egypt and Israel, Israel and Jordan and then Israel and Syria," Ford said, but the Carter Administration proposed reconvening the Geneva conference, thereby inviting the Soviet Union back into the peace-making process. He also suggested that Carter gave some encouragement to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The former President warned that unless progress is made toward a Middle East settlement, President Anwar Sadat's government would be in danger. "It would be tragic," he said, "if the

current stalemate in the Middle East resulted in a change in government in Egypt.... There are forces in Egypt today that are making noises that might precipitate some problems for President Sadat. We've got to keep the movement toward peace in that part of the world going."

PEACE MOVEMENT TO HOLD OFF ON RALLIES DURING BEGIN'S U.S. VISIT

By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--The Peace Now movement which has been urging the government to give peace priority over settlements and territory, said last night that it would refrain from further demonstrations during Premier Menachem Begin's visit to the U.S. beginning Monday.

Begin, who traveled to Jaffa yesterday to dedicate a monument to fallen Irgun comrades, ran a gauntlet of some 4000 men, women and children spread out over 10 miles of the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway in a human chain passing peace petitions hand-to-hand.

The demonstrators were peaceful and respectful as the Premier's car passed by. They waved "Peace Now" posters, called "Shalom" and signaled "V" for victory. They had come from cities, towns and kibbutzim as far away as Shaar Haamokim in the Jezreel Valley, some in private cars, some in chartered buses and some hitchhiking.

Many of them were young couples with small children. They greeted all cars on the highway, many of which flashed their headlights and sounded horns to signal support. The occupants of some cars shouted "Secure Peace," the slogan adopted by Begin supporters to counter the "Peace Now" call.

The Premier's reaction to the highway demonstrators was not known. He has been icy toward the Peace Now advocates since the movement mushroomed into a grass roots protest against his government's policies little more than a month ago. He insists that his policies represent the will of the majority of the electorate.

Begin made no mention of the demonstration in Jaffa. Instead he extolled the Irgun fighters who battled Arabs in Jaffa during Passover week 30 years ago, claiming that their action saved Tel Aviv from damage and casualties. He placed a wreath on the new monument to the 40 Irgun men killed in the battle and paid tribute to his late aide, Amitai Paglin who commanded that operation. Paglin was Begin's advisor on counter-terrorist measures when he was killed in a highway accident two months ago.

Deliver Petition, 60,000 Postcards

While Begin was in Jaffa, Peace Now demonstrators assembled quietly outside his office in Jerusalem to deliver their petition and 60,000 postcards urging the Premier not to "endanger peace for the price of the settlements, do not get carried away to extremes, to the road of no return." Above the individual signatures were the words "I love Israel, I want peace now."

The demonstrators waited for some time before two members of Begin's staff emerged and accepted the petition and cards. Afterwards, they dispersed. Large contingents of police were on hand but no incidents occurred. When a car bearing the "Secure Peace" slogan approached, the organizers of the demonstration cautioned their followers not to be "tempted by provocations."

JEWISH LEADERS REPORT ON THEIR MEETING WITH MONDALE

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Eight top level American Jewish leaders reported today the substance of their off-the-record discussions at the White House Monday with Vice President Walter F. Mondale on U.S. policy in the Middle East and the views of the American Jewish community. They said that "President Carter joined the discussion for a brief period."

The leaders broke their silence on the meeting after what they regarded as erroneous reports of its purpose and content appeared in several newspapers abroad. "We particularly reject and repudiate the implication contained in some of those reports that this was an attempt to divide the Jewish community or to bypass the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations," they said in a statement made available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"We plan to make a full report of our discussions in Jerusalem and Washington at an early meeting of the Presidents Conference and preparations are being drawn for that meeting."

The group was in Israel last week and met twice with Premier Menachem Begin and other government leaders and with the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. They discussed the state of U.S.-Israeli relations and reportedly informed the Premier that certain of his policies relating to settlements and his interpretation of Security Council Resolution 242 were making it increasingly difficult to explain Israel's position in a positive manner to American public opinion.

Made Views Clear

The group's statement said, however, that "at our meeting in the White House we made clear to the President and Vice President that the American Jewish community was united and unwavering in its support of Israel's security concerns and in its opposition to the Administration's proposal to link the sale of jets to Israel with similar sales to Saudi Arabia and Egypt."

The statement said they also expressed disagreement with the Administration on the legality of Israel's settlements on the West Bank. While one may legitimately argue about the impact on American public opinion of the timing of new settlements, we continue to challenge the Administration's position that the settlements are illegal and serve no security function."

They expressed the view that Begin's peace offer of last December "was imaginative and far-reaching and deserved greater Administration support than it has received" and urged the President "to call on President (Anwar) Sadat (of Egypt) to return to the negotiating table and to encourage King Hussein (of Jordan) to join those talks."

The statement said that Mondale "declared that the Carter Administration strongly supported Israel and was deeply committed to its security; that the White House wished to bring the parties back to the negotiating table and that the Administration's only objective was a just and lasting peace which would guarantee the security of all parties. President Carter agreed with this assessment and reiterated that the preeminent commitment of the United States in the Middle East was the permanent security of Israel."

The statement was signed by Richard Mads, president, and Bertram H. Gold, executive vice-president, American Jewish Committee; Howard M. Squadron, president, and Naomi Levine,

executive director, American Jewish Congress; Burton M. Joseph, national chairman, and Benjamin R. Epstein, national director, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; and Theodore R. Mann, chairman, and Albert D. Chernin, executive vice-chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

VANCE SAYS ISRAEL, U.S. WILL HAVE TO REFLECT ON TALKS AT STATE DEPARTMENT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said, after completing two days of talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today, that both Israel and the U.S. will now have to "reflect" on what was said during some seven hours of meetings at the State Department that began yesterday.

Vance and Dayan faced reporters at the conclusion of their final meeting this afternoon. The Secretary of State refused to say whether he was optimistic or pessimistic about Middle East peace talks as a result of their discussions but it appeared that Israel and the U.S. have not yet ended their disagreement. Vance said no decisions were reached.

At the same time, there were some indications that Israel may now have to make some kind of decision on what was said in the talks. Dayan told reporters that he was "very happy with the visit." He said that Premier Menachem Begin and the entire Israeli Cabinet would face "not a decision" but a "clarification" of Israel's policies. Dayan is scheduled to brief Begin when he arrives in New York Sunday for a visit to the U.S. including talks with President Carter. Vance said he would participate in some of the talks Carter plans to have with Begin next week.

Vance said that he and Dayan had "an exchange of views during the two days on how we can be able to get the momentum going again in the peace talks." He said he found the talks with Dayan "useful."

"Both of us are going to return and reflect on our views," he said, adding, "We didn't reach any decisions." Both Vance and Dayan said they had discussed specifics but did not elaborate. Dayan stressed that they did not consult any maps and quipped that he and the Secretary of State both know the area so well that they didn't need any. Dayan said he did not discuss the Administration's proposed aircraft package sale to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. He said that wasn't the reason he came here.

Explains Package Submission To Congress

Meanwhile, the State Department explained today how it will submit the Administration's proposed aircraft sales package to Congress and how the law--the Arms Export Control Act--applies to Congressional action on it. It said:

"The formal notification to be sent to the Congress will cover four proposed sales (two for Israel, one each for Saudi Arabia and Egypt)... The Act provides that the Congress may, by concurrent resolution, disapprove any or all of the proposed sales if it so chooses. The Congress may also wish to suggest that the Administration change its proposals. However, there is no provision in the law for Congress to change an Administration proposal." The explanation, made in writing, was in reply to a question asked at yesterday's briefing for reporters.

YIDDISH PLAY ABOUT RESISTANCE TO NAZISM HAVING ITS PREMIERE IN WARSAW

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--A Yiddish play about Jewish resistance to the Nazis written in Russia more than 30 years ago is having its world premiere at the Yiddish State Theater in Warsaw. It is "Widerstand"--meaning "resistance"--by Soviet Jewish author Noah Uriah, who died in 1960. Among the audience at a performance last week were the Israeli and other delegates who were in Poland for the commemoration of the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Jacob Rotbaum, the producer, told Dr. S. Levenberg, chairman of the World Jewish Congress International Affairs Committee, that the original manuscript of the play had been posted to him, with a strong recommendation, by the great Soviet Yiddish actor, Solomon Mikhoels, whom Stalin had murdered in 1948.

Although extracts of the play had previously been performed in the West as well as in Poland, this was the first time it had been staged in its entirety. The present production lasts about two hours and several of the 36 actors are non-Jews, although this is not apparent from their fluent command of Yiddish.

Set in a small East European shtetl, "Widerstand" shows how the Jews reacted when the leader of the Jewish communal council, the Judenrat, announces the deportation order handed to him by the German SS. They form into three groups--one which wants to obey it reluctantly, the second which optimistically believes that there will be fresh air and good food at the labor camp, and the third and smallest group which distrusts the Nazi order and says they must resist to the death.

The Yiddish Theater, which has a staff of 120 people, shows plays each week on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. In the summer, it is open nightly for a fortnight. Many of the audience are non-Jews, including tourists.

FIRST PERFORMANCE IN ISRAEL OF PLAY BY CONCENTRATION CAMP INMATES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--An opera written by two inmates of the Theresienstadt concentration camp during World War II, which cost the authors their lives, had its first Israeli performance at the Jerusalem Theater this week by the National Opera of Holland. It was the main event of this year's spring festival in Jerusalem.

The history of the opera, titled "The Emperor of Atlantis," goes back to the Holocaust years when the Nazis maintained Theresienstadt as a "show case" where the inmates lived under more or less humane conditions. This was primarily to impress representatives of the International Red Cross who visited the place. The prisoners were allowed cultural activities and two of them, Victor Ullmann, a musician, and Peter Caine, a painter, wrote and scored the opera. Its setting was the mythical kingdom of Atlantis ruled by a cruel tyrant.

Initially, the Germans approved of the production. When they realized that it was an allegorical depiction of the horrors of the Nazi regime, they banned the work and deported the authors to Auschwitz from where they never returned. Ullmann managed to hide the script with another prisoner.

It was discovered by accident in a London attic three years ago. Kerry Woodward, a BBC

conductor, reconstructed the opera and Roda Levin, a television director from the U.S., prepared it for production. The premier performance, by the National Opera of Holland, took place in London in December, 1975.

THE STARS SALUTE ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--A spectacular all-star cast has been assembled for "The Stars Salute Israel at 30," a gigantic entertainment gala celebrating the 30th anniversary of the State of Israel, airing Monday, May 8 (9:00-11:00 p.m. EDT), on the ABC television network, it was announced today. The event itself will be presented under the auspices of the American Committee to Celebrate Israel's 30th Anniversary. Vice President Walter Mondale is chairman of the committee and the event.

Among those set to appear in the special are (in alphabetical order): Anne Bancroft, Daniel Barenboim, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Pat Boone, Sammy Davis Jr., Kirk Douglas, Henry Fonda, Hermione Gingold, Gene Kelly, Alan King, Billie Jean King, the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Barry Manilow, Dean Martin, Zubin Mehta, Paul Newman, Valery and Galina Panov, Bernadette Peters, Jean Stapleton, Sally Struthers, Cicely Tyson, Ben Vereen, Flip Wilson, Henry Winkler and Joanne Woodward.

Entertainment highlights include an appearance by Jean Stapleton as Eleanor Roosevelt; Valery and Galina Panov in a ballet performance to the music of "Star Wars" with Oscar-winning composer John Williams conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic; a piano solo by Daniel Barenboim and a ballet performance by Mikhail Baryshnikov and Gelsey Kirkland choreographed by Jerome Robbins.

The actual event will take place at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Los Angeles Music Center on Sunday, May 7, the day before the telecast. "The Stars Salute Israel at 30" is a production of James Lipton Productions. James Lipton and Charles Fishman are co-executive producers. The program is written by Buz Kohan and Bob Arnot. Marty Pasetta is the producer and director.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Netherlands government has failed so far to approve the appointment of Mrs. Gery Joseph of Minneapolis as the next U.S. Ambassador to Holland. She is the wife of Burton Joseph, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and was nominated by President Carter to succeed Robert McCloskey who is now the U.S. Ambassador to Greece. The objections seem to stem from the fact that Burton, who plans to join his wife in The Hague, has business connections with a Rotterdam grain firm that he refuses to give up, thus posing a problem of conflict of interest.

NEW YORK (JTA)--Hadassah issued the following statement Thursday regarding the 37 American Jews who last week sent a letter of support to the leaders of the Israeli Peace Now movement: "The statement on Israel's foreign policy which was issued by a group of individuals, including the editor of the Hadassah Magazine (Jesse Lurie), does not reflect the policy of Hadassah. Hadassah affirms the exclusive right of the people of Israel to determine their own security needs and their foreign policy."