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SPLIT CABINET TELLS U.S. ISRAEL WILL CONSIDER FUTURE OF W. BANK, GAZA ONLY AFTER 5 YEARS OF "SELF RULE"

Weizman, DMC Ministers Oppose Formulation
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA)--The Cabinet, after meeting for nearly five hours today, voted 14-5 to reply to American questions on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in a manner favored by Premier Menachem Begin. The Cabinet told the U.S. that Israel would be prepared only in five years for "the nature of the future relations between the parties" to be "considered and agreed upon." (See full text.)

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and the four ministers of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) opposed the formulation but 13 other ministers supported Begin. The questions, posed by the U.S. had sought a commitment from Israel to negotiate the permanent status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the five years of self-rule proposed by Begin expires. The U.S. also asked Israel how it intended to grant political self-expression to the Arab population of those territories.

The full text of the Cabinet's reply was released here at 7 p.m. local time, after it had been transmitted to Washington. It is regarded as a far cry from the answers expected by the U.S. Both Weizman and the DMC had proposed a more positive response in which Israel would have agreed to a determination of the "permanent status" of the territories. Begin rejected this on grounds that it implied that Israel's "self-rule" plan was not "permanent" but only a transitional status.

According to an Israel Radio report, Weizman expressed his anger and frustration in no uncertain terms both at the Cabinet table and after the session. Newsmen said he left the Cabinet room before any of the other ministers, looking somber. Begin, who left last, was smiling broadly.

DMC Position In Doubt

Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, leader of the DMC, said later that his 15 Knesset members probably would abstain when the Cabinet's decision is debated in the Knesset tomorrow. Many observers wondered whether some of the more dove-ish members of the DMC's Knesset faction would vote against the government. The Cabinet's decision is expected to strengthen the hand of DMC doves in the party's crucial internal elections to be held in two weeks. They have been pressing the DMC to leave Begin's Likud-led coalition.

The U.S. is known to believe that Israel's reply is crucial to resumption of the stalled peace talks with Egypt. Even before the Cabinet's decision was known, observers here predicted negative and even critical responses from Washington and Cairo if Israel's answers turned out to be the product of a compromise between the hardliners and the moderates.

In the event, the Cabinet, though split, lined up behind the uncompromising position

favored by Begin, which had been proposed at Monday's Cabinet session by his close Herut associate, Minister-Without-Portfolio Haim Landau.

Atherton Said U.S. Hoped For "Positive" Response

(Speaking in Los Angeles Thursday, President Carter's Ambassador-at-Large to the Middle East, Alfred L. Atherton, said the U.S. was looking forward to "positive" responses to the questions put to the Israel government. Addressing a conference on U.S. Mideast policy sponsored by the State Department in association with the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Atherton said "We know these questions. . . require agonizingly difficult choices to be made. We hope, nonetheless, that Israel's responses will be positive because we believe this offers perhaps the only possibility for renewing the momentum of the Egyptian-Israeli talks and ultimately, the overall Arab-Israeli negotiating process.")

FULL TEXT OF THE CABINET REPLY

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA)--The Cabinet sent a three-point reply to the United States this afternoon in response to the questions posed regarding the future status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It read as follows:

1. The Government of Israel considers it vital to continue the peace-making process between Israel and its neighbors.
2. The Government of Israel agrees that five years after the application of the administrative autonomy in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, which will come into force upon the establishment of peace, the nature of the future relations between the parties will be considered and agreed upon, at the suggestion of any of the parties.
3. For the purpose of reaching an agreement, the parties will conduct negotiations between them with the participation of representatives of the residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza as elected in accordance with the administrative autonomy.

ISRAELI ARABS MAY VISIT

MECCA NEXT FALL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA)--Arab citizens of Israel will be able to make the traditional pilgrimage to the Moslem holy cities of Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia next November, for the first time since Israel's independence, it was announced here today. Approval for the pilgrimage, known as the Haj, was granted after top level discussions by senior officials of various ministries who decided that the welfare of Israel's Arab population, including their religious rights, outweighed the political difficulties involved. Premier Menachem Begin agreed.

Until recently, Saudi Arabia banned Israeli Arabs from entering its territory. But a small group of Moslem clergy from Israel was permitted to go to Mecca last year, opening the way for a mass pilgrimage. Although Israel Arabs, mostly Moslem, number more than 500,000, no more than 10,000 at most are expected to make the Haj next fall. The \$1400 cost of the trip is the major deterrent.

They will travel on laissez-passers issued by the Interior Ministry similar to those issued to residents of the occupied territories for trips to Arab countries.

Neither Saudi Arabia nor Jordan will honor Israeli passports. The pilgrims will obtain Saudi visas in Amman enroute to Mecca. The transit through Jordan posed a problem since Jordan has no dealings with Israeli civil bodies. Arrangements for the trip were made through the offices of the Moslem High Council in East Jerusalem which has to approve all applications for the Haj.

Some questions arose as to whether the Jordanian authorities would allow pilgrims they regard as too "pro-Israel" to pass through their territory. The Jordanians indicated, however, that they regarded the matter as purely religious without political overtones.

SWISS JEWS SUPPORT PEACE NOW

GENEVA, June 18 (JTA)--A committee supporting the Israeli Peace Now movement has been formed in French-speaking Switzerland. The heads of the Swiss group said at a press conference here that so far they had collected 200 signatures. Their movement is composed of Swiss Jews and foreign Jews living here.

They stated that they had no intention of interfering in Israel's internal affairs, but they criticized Premier Menachem Begin for answering "Sadat's brave visit to Jerusalem" with "blows on both cheeks in pursuing his policy of creating new settlements." The Swiss movement is cooperating with the Peace Now movement in Israel, Paris and Belgium. A meeting will be held in Paris this week.

KH-UIA ESTABLISHES WORLD COUNCIL TO SUPERVISE ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA)--The Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal will soon establish a World Council of Governors to supervise UIA activities in some 50 countries throughout the world, UIA world chairman, Dr. Avraham Avihai said at a press conference here today. Avihai said the Council was a significant innovation in the work of the UIA, in that it invited overseas representatives to participate for the first time on the highest level of decision making in the organization.

The Keren Hayesod-UIA and the United Jewish Appeal of the U.S. are the financial arms of the Jewish Agency for Israel in meeting Israel's human and social needs. Some 16 members will be on the new Council, half from Israel and half from overseas. The overseas members will be representatives of the main funds--Australia, Great Britain, South Africa, France, Canada, Switzerland and two other countries, whose names were not given.

The Israeli delegates to the council will be members of the Zionist executive--Dr. Avraham Avihai, Eli Eyal, MK Avraham Katz, Akiva Lewinsky, Andre Narvoni, Raphael Kotlowitz, Avraham Schenker. Rabbi Mordechai Kirschblum, a former Executive member, will also be on the Council. It will be headed by a representative of the overseas funds.

Leif Yaffe Prize Awarded

In another development, the Keren Hayesod-UIA Leif Yaffe Prize was awarded today to Prof. Mordechai Eliav and Dr. Eviatar Friesel. The presentation was made at a ceremony at the Keren Hayesod-Memorial Hall in Jerusalem, to mark the

30th anniversary of the death of Leif Yaffe. The director of Keren Hayesod for many years, he was killed in a terrorist bombing of the Jewish Agency compound shortly before the establishment of the State.

The two scholars received the award for their books: Eliav's "David Wolffsohn: The Man and His Times" (Tel Aviv University) and Friesel's "Zionist Policy After the Balfour Declaration" (Tel Aviv University and Hakibbutz Hameuchad). Eliav is head of the department of Jewish History at Bar Ilan University. He is a researcher of German-Jewish history, the Jewish settlement in Palestine and Zionism and a founder of the world religious youth movement, Bnei Akiva. Friesel received his doctorate from the Hebrew University in Modern Jewish History and wrote several works on the history of Zionism, including the Zionist Movement in the U.S., and a biography of Zionist leader Julius Simon.

U.S. JEWS URGED TO SPEAK OUT ON ISSUES THAT CONCERN THEM

By David Ettinger

WASHINGTON, June 18 (JTA)--Jewish community leaders, attending the quarterly meeting of the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) here, were urged to speak out strongly on issues that concern them. The strength of local Jewish activity is "one element the Arabs can never match," Albert Chemin, executive vice chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC) stressed. He said the Jewish community must state its position in such a way as to include others in American society "who may agree with our positions." He said the function of the organized Jewish community "is to register the intensity of feeling on certain issues" of concern to the community.

Mark Talisman, director of the CJF's Washington office, said that if Jewish groups are silent, they created a vacuum in Washington which other experienced groups are ready to fill. "You have nothing to fear from exercising this government," he said. "Citizenship is a full time occupation. You get exactly the government you deserve."

Jay Berman, a public relations consultant, said that the American public has to be sensitized to realize the closeness between American and Israeli interests as the 1980 Presidential election approaches. If President Carter puts forward a Middle East peace plan inimical to Israel, Jews should be in "the same position" as in 1975 when Congress voiced disapproval over the "reassessment" of American Mideast policy by President Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, he said.

ANGLO JEWRY PLEDGES AID TO RE-HOUSE SLUM DWELLERS IN ISRAEL

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 18 (JTA)--Anglo-Jewry will contribute 2.5 million Pounds Sterling (\$4.5M) this year to Premier Menachem Begin's special fund to rehouse 45,000 slum families in Israel, the Joint Israel Appeal announced. It promised to raise the money, following an appeal by Leon Dulzin, Action chairman of the Jewish Agency, in addition to its normal appeal for the next 12 months.

The target represents Anglo-Jewry's share of the \$47 million already budgeted by the Agency for the poor families special resettlement project this year. American Jewry is to raise \$36 million this year and other communities, including Anglo-

Jewry, \$16 million. The entire project will cost \$1.2 billion over the next five years, half the sum being provided by the Israel government and half by the Diaspora.

EILAT SIGNALS GREETINGS TO HUSSEIN AND BRIDE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 18 (JTA)--Officially, a state of war exists between Israel and Jordan. But that did not deter the Mayor and citizens of Eilat from sending warm congratulations to King Hussein and his new American bride, the former Elizabeth Halaby, last night when they arrived at the neighboring Jordanian town of Aqaba.

The warmth was more than figurative. The message, "Congratulations To The Royal-Couple From The City Of Eilat," was spelled out in letters of flame 15 feet high and 75 feet long, that was visible for miles. Mayor Gad Katz, who was among the hundreds of Eilat residents and visitors watching the huge sign when it was ignited, said he hoped the demonstration of good will would convince the Mayor of Aqaba to open the borders between the twin cities on the Red Sea.

Both are popular resorts. Mayor Katz said he has been trying for some time to link them just as the West Bank and Jordan are linked by open bridges. Hussein's 26-year-old bride has taken an Arabic name, Queen Noor el-Hussein, and has adopted the Moslem faith. Her father is the Texas-born lawyer and industrialist, Najeeb E. Halaby, former head of the Federal Aviation Administration and former president of Pan American Airways.

MRS. SLEPAK SIGNED INCRIMINATING DOCUMENT UNDER SEVERE DURESS

TORONTO, June 18 (JTA)--Mrs. Maria Slepak was suffering intense pain from an inflamed pancreas and was under severe duress from Soviet police interrogators when she was forced to sign a statement that resulted in her indictment on charges of "malicious hooliganism... which grossly violates public order and shows open disrespect for society," the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned.

The wife of imprisoned Jewish activist Vladimir Slepak described her ordeal in a telephone interview with Mrs. Genya Intrator of Toronto, vice-president of the Canadian Committee for Soviet Jewry. She and her husband were arrested by plainclothesmen on June 1 after they hung a sign from the balcony of their Moscow flat demanding the right to re-unite with their son in Israel. Mrs. Slepak was subsequently released because of her illness. But she was indicted on June 12 and faces trial on the charges which carry penalties of 1-5 years in jail. Her husband has been indicted on the same charges and is being held in prison pending trial.

The statement Mrs. Slepak was forced to sign said that the couple refused to remove the sign "despite repeated requests by the militia (Moscow police) and by employees of the superintendent of the building. . . Her stubborn behavior was accompanied by threatening gestures, screams of anti-Soviet slogans and spitting. . ." Mrs. Slepak said most of the facts described never took place. There was no screaming, no spitting, no anti-Soviet slogans, she said.

She will try to have the transcript declared invalid. According to Mrs. Slepak, she was not

fully aware of its contents at the time because she did not have her reading glasses with her. "It could be my last appeal. I don't know what tomorrow may bring," she said.

SUPREME COURT REVIEWING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT BY E. JERUSALEM ARAB

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA)--The Supreme Court is reviewing the case of an East Jerusalem Arab who complained that he was barred from buying a flat in the Jewish quarter because he is an Arab. The complainant, Mohammed Said Burkan, alleges discrimination on the part of the government-owned Corporation for the Reconstruction and Development of the Jewish Quarter which refused to allow him to bid for the flat which he had formerly occupied.

Burkan, a house-painter by profession, and his family, were forced to leave the premises a year ago when the building was expropriated by government order and renovated. Residency was restricted to veterans of the armed services and new immigrants. At the outset of the hearing last week, presiding Justice Haim Cohen warned Burkan that the court would not assist him if he came before it "dishonestly." The Justice wanted to know why Burkan has not applied for Israeli citizenship and criticized him for giving interviews to the foreign media in which there was "an element of slander against the State."

Sincerity Questioned

The defendants were represented by Dr. Moshe Ben Zeev, one of Israel's leading attorneys, who argued that there was no discrimination against Burkan because "the Jewish quarter fights for its destiny as a Jewish quarter." Burkan's lawyer, Avraham Lenemann, a young attorney of limited experience, argued that the government-owned company had practiced discrimination which was contrary to the letter and spirit of Israel's proclamation of independence. "Just as Israel can be a Jewish State with an Arab minority, so can the Jewish quarter be Jewish with an Arab minority," he said.

Justice Cohen challenged the sincerity of Burkan's appeal on grounds that the complainant had said that as a Moslem he was forbidden to sell property to Jews. "Burkan cannot complain that he is discriminated against when he himself adheres to discrimination. When he comes to this court he must first come to us in honesty," he said. At another point, the Judge asked, "Why hasn't Burkan applied for Israel citizenship," asserting that if he showed solidarity with the State it would have strengthened his case for living in peace with Jews. Lenemann replied that it is not citizenship that determines loyalty and it is not up to the housing corporation to determine loyalty to the State.

NEW YORK (JTA)--About 120,000 Americans visited Israel during the first five months of 1978, representing a 20 per cent increase over the same period of 1977, it was announced here by Israel Zuriel, Israel's Commissioner for Tourism to the United States and Canada. During this period traffic from all countries increased 17 per cent, auguring another major year for Israel's tourism industry, following on the record one million tourists who vacationed in the country in 1977, Zuriel said. Tourism is a major source of foreign currency income for Israel.

PHILA. EDITOR NEW PRESIDENT OF AJPA

MINNEAPOLIS, June 18 (JTA)--Frank F. Wundohl, 48, of Philadelphia, was elected by acclamation as president of the American Jewish Press Association at the AJPA's three-day 36th annual meeting here. Wundohl, a journalist for 30 years, has been editor of the Jewish Exponent of Philadelphia since May, 1973. The Exponent is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Philadelphia.

Wundohl succeeded Norman Gold, editor and publisher of the American Jewish World of Minneapolis-St. Paul. He heads a slate of officers approved by the AJPA membership. Elected to serve one-year terms with Wundohl were Milton Firestone, editor of the Jewish Chronicle of Kansas City, Mo., first vice-president; Jack Goldbart, editor and publisher of the Southern Israelite in Atlanta; second vice-president; and Charles A. Burger, co-publisher of the Baltimore Jewish Times, third vice-president.

Also Ann Hammerman, editor of the Dayton Jewish Chronicle, treasurer; Miriam Goldberg, editor and publisher of the Intermountain Jewish News of Denver, recording secretary; and Heiman I. Goldberger, editor and publisher of the Hebrew Watchman, of Memphis, Tenn., corresponding secretary. Elected to the AJPA executive committee were Morris Maline, editor of the Jewish Press of Omaha; Albert Bloom, executive editor of the Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle; and Joseph W. Samuels, editor and publisher of the Jewish Herald-Voice of Houston, Texas.

Service To The Jewish Community

Wundohl has been in the service of the Jewish community as a professional for the past 11 years. He served as director of public information for the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia from 1967 until his appointment as editor of the Exponent. He won the 1976 Boris Smoler Award of the Council of Jewish Federations "for excellence in North American Jewish journalism" for two series of dispatches, "Israel: From the Golan to the Negev," written during a World Zionist Organization sponsored press tour in December, 1975 and January, 1976.

The bulk of the annual meeting sessions was taken up with critiques and seminars as well as discussion of the writing clarity and readability of AJPA member papers and of the graphic presentation used by newspapers of the AJPA. The AJPA delegates approved a resolution putting the association "on record in support of AJPA member and colleague Jeffrey Fisher, editor of the San Francisco Jewish bulletin, in his pursuit of his right of press freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment." The unanimous action was taken in recognition of Fisher being a co-defendant in a pending lawsuit brought by the local American Nazi party.

The AJPA announced that its fall mid-year meeting would be held in San Francisco in November to coincide with the General Assembly of the CJF. It is comprised of some 70 American and Canadian English-language Jewish community newspapers with a combined circulation of some 750,000 weekly.

BNAI ZION ENDS 69TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

MONTICELLO, N.Y., June 18 (JTA)--Bnai Zion, the American Zionist fraternal order, ended

its 69th annual convention here today after adopting a resolution urging its members to go to Skokie, Ill. on June 25 for a counter-demonstration against a planned march by a group of American Nazis in that heavily Jewish-populated suburb. The 500 delegates elected Paul Safro, of Lawrence, N.Y. as president of Bnai Zion, which enters its Jubilee Year.

He succeeded Rabbi William Berkowitz of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in New York. In his valedictory address last night, Berkowitz exhorted the Jewish community to drop its timidity and "join en masse" what he termed the gallant but few Jewish organizations that will be going to Skokie. He warned that developments in Skokie were being watched by sinister international forces and that the lack of a proper Jewish response could signal ominous consequences. He rejected that claim that the Nazis have a Constitutional right to march in Skokie, declaring "This issue was that of a perversion of the Constitution."

Urges Faith In UN

Another speaker last night, Allard Lowenstein, U.S. Representative to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, called on the Jewish community to continue fighting for human rights throughout the world. He said that while the struggle for human rights in the Soviet Union and the Arab lands is important, Jews must engage in every struggle where human rights are denied anywhere in the world. Lowenstein urged faith in the UN despite its apparent failings. It remains the primary institution in the battle to preserve human dignity throughout the world, he said.

Addressing an earlier session of the four-day convention at Kutsher's Country Club here, Kalman Sultanik, executive co-president of the Confederation of United Zionists, stressed the need for a more "thorough and all embracing involvement" in the American Zionist movement. He urged "a grass roots approach" and a swelling of interest and activity in all the newly affiliated groups derived "not alone from the top level," he said. He said that involvement in local and national Zionist federations by the new affiliates was "a prime step in Zionization."

CANADIAN MINISTER OPPOSES ANTI-BOYCOTT LAWS

OTTAWA, June 18 (JTA)--Federal Trade Minister Jack Horner has told the House of Commons that the government will not yield to demands by Canadian Jewish organizations to adopt anti-boycott legislation because "it might jeopardize trade with Arab states." The Canada-Israel Committee and other Jewish groups have been urging laws that would make it illegal for a Canadian company to comply with the Arab boycott of Israel.

Horner said that "The government has to tread the middle way. If we please the Canadian-Israel Committee then we harm our chance of doing trade with the Arab states," he said. The Canada-Israel Committee charged in a communique released June 7 that Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau was "not protecting the civil rights of all Canadians, permitting the infringement of Canadian sovereignty and permitting foreign governments to restrict Canadian trading opportunities."

TEL AVIV (JTA)--The Rumanian Minister of Food and Agriculture, Peter Blajovici, arrived here to discuss cooperation in the food industry between Israel and Rumania.