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KNESSET BEATS BACK NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION BY A VOTE OF 70 TO 35

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA)--A Labor Alignment motion of no confidence in the government was beaten back today in the Knesset by a vote of 70-35, thus giving solid support to Premier Menachem Begin's policies in the Middle East peace negotiations. During the three-hour debate, speeches were moderate, in sharp contrast to the bitter invective hurled between Begin and the Alignment opposition at the Knesset's last session Monday. Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Nissim of Likud were the main protagonists in today's debate over the government's Mideast policy.

Nissim defended the government's offer of limited self-rule for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, claiming that it contained more negotiable elements than the Alignment's proposals of territorial compromise. According to Nissim, neither Egypt nor Jordan would accept territorial compromise and Labor therefore misled the public when it claimed that a settlement could be reached on such basis.

Eban maintained that the government's position was growing harder while that of Egypt was softening significantly. He said that Egypt now accepted full peace with Israel and minor border changes while Israel has moved from its traditional willingness to offer territorial compromise to a "not one inch" position.

This, Eban said, was "a tragedy." He also criticized the government for its swift rejection of President Anwar Sadat's suggestion that El Arish be returned to Egyptian civil administration as a gesture of good faith. The least the government could have done was to investigate whether the idea could lead to an interim agreement, he said.

Eban questioned Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's claim that there were "points of contact" between the Israeli and Egyptian peace proposals. It was "like saying that black and white are the same because they are both colors," Eban said. Finally, he deplored the government's attacks on Labor Alignment chairman Shimon Peres' meeting with Sadat in Vienna earlier this month and its flat rejection of the peace proposals formulated by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and the former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Nissim stressed that the government is prepared to negotiate a territorial compromise if the other side proposed one and that Dayan had so informed Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. He denied that the government wants to limit Labor Party contacts and political discussions with foreign leaders. But he insisted that Peres' trip to Vienna was improper, coming as it did on the eve of the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers' meeting in England.

Atherton In Israel For Talks

Meanwhile, Alfred L. Atherton, President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, arrived here today from Jordan for 2-1/2 days of

talks with Israeli leaders before proceeding to Cairo. Atherton met with King Hussein in Amman and was in Saudi Arabia earlier this week for talks with Saudi officials.

He told newsmen on his arrival that he has returned to the region in a further effort to advance peace negotiations. He said it was premature to predict whether Jordan will join in the peace process between Israel and Egypt and that his conversations in Amman were intended to keep Hussein informed of the latest developments.

Atherton would not comment on the prospects for an early renewal of Israeli-Egyptian talks, possibly at a Sinai locale, and said he knew nothing of plans reported in the press to send Vice President Walter Mondale to the Middle East as a special emissary. Mondale was in the region at the end of June and early July.

Atherton's arrival, via the Allenby bridge, was informal for a top level diplomat. Dressed casually, with an open collar shirt because of the hot weather, he strolled across the bridge followed by a Jordanian porter carrying his luggage. Midway across the span an Israeli porter took over. Atherton, all smiles, was greeted at the Israeli end of the bridge by Ephraim Evron, Director General of the Foreign Ministry.

MARIYA SLEPAK GETS 3-YEAR SUSPENDED SENTENCE ON HOOLIGANISM CHARGE

NEW YORK, July 26 (JTA)--Soviet Jewish activist Mariya Slepak was given a suspended three-year sentence on the charge of "malicious hooliganism" in a Moscow court today, it was reported here by organizations active in the Soviet Jewish emigration cause.

The 51-year-old Mrs. Slepak's husband, Vladimir, was sentenced to five years internal exile on the same charge in June. Last week his appeal was turned down. They were arrested after they displayed a banner from their balcony demanding to be allowed to join their oldest son in Israel. Mrs. Slepak was released shortly after her arrest when she became ill.

The three-year sentence against Mrs. Slepak would go into effect only if she was arrested again on the same charge, sources here said. Mrs. Slepak told reporters outside the court "this is the result because my people are supporting me."

The Slepaks first applied for an emigration visa eight years ago. They have a son in Israel. Their youngest son, Leonid, is in hiding to avoid being drafted into the Soviet army.

(In Washington, State Department-spokesman Hodding Carter welcomed the Soviet court's decision to suspend the sentence against Mrs. Slepak. "From a humanitarian point of view, we welcome the action," he said. "Further actions along these lines would have a constructive effect on U.S.-Soviet relations.")

'WHO IS A JEW' BILL PASSES ITS FIRST READING IN THE KNESSET

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 26 (JTA)--The bitterly controversial "Who is a Jew" bill demanded by Israel's Orthodox religious establishment, unexpectedly passed its first reading in the Knesset today as a result of parliamentary maneuvering by the religious bloc which caught the opponents off guard. The

measure was referred to committee and must pass three other readings in the Knesset before it becomes law. It is expected, ultimately, to be defeated. The bill is an amendment to Israel's Law of Return. It defines as a Jew anyone born to a Jewish mother or converted to Judaism according to halacha, religious law.

In practice, this means that only conversions performed by Orthodox rabbis would be recognized in Israel, a restriction regarded as an affront to Reform and Conservative Judaism abroad and one that would strengthen the Orthodox grip on personal matters in Israel to the exclusion of the other branches of Judaism.

The "Who is a Jew" bill has been a source of deep conflict between the Orthodox and non-Orthodox in Israel for years. It lay in abeyance until the Likud government headed by Premier Menachem Begin came to power in the May, 1977 elections. Article 8 of Begin's coalition agreement with the National Religious Party and the ultra-Orthodox Aguda bloc promised that the Law of Return would be amended according to halacha and that a bill to that effect would be submitted by a coalition member and supported by the government.

It authorizes the Rabbinical Court, meaning the Orthodox rabbinate, to "be the authorized body to determine the validity of a conversion certificate" and pledged that "the Premier shall make every effort to gain a parliamentary majority for this bill."

Caught By Surprise

The Aguda has complained recently that Begin has been lagging in the implementation of this promise. Flushed with their recent Knesset victory over the exemption of Orthodox women from military service, Poalei Aguda MK Kalman Kahana introduced his measure today, to the apparent surprise of everyone, including the government.

He and his supporters chose a time when most MKs had left the house after an exhausting foreign policy debate. To make sure that the secular opposition was completely tricked, some 15 of the bill's supporters hid in the wash room until it was time to vote. When the bell rang for voting they rushed to their seats in the nearly empty chamber and pushed the measure through.

Activists of the Habad Hasidic group who were present in the visitors gallery immediately telephoned the Lubavitcher Rebbe in New York, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, to advise him of the "victory." But that is far from assured. Most observers predict a fierce storm of opposition and possibly a government crisis before the matter is ended.

MOROCCAN OFFICIAL WELCOMES MIDEAST PEACE MOVES BUT IS CRITICAL OF ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA)--The President of Morocco's Parliament, Dey Ould Sidi Baba, said here yesterday at a news conference that "we salute and are happy at the effort of all nations, including the United States, to reach peace" in the Middle East. Asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency whether "all nations" includes Israel, he replied, "Indeed." Later, however, he voiced an "impression" that Israel does not want total peace or "even" a bilateral agreement with Egypt.

Sidi Baba was concluding two days of talks

in Washington at the invitation of House Speaker Thomas O'Neill (D. Mass.). He met with State Department officials and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee. Political, trade and economic matters concerning the U.S. and Morocco were discussed. He is due to return to Morocco Sunday following a visit to Connecticut's State Assembly, at the suggestion of the State Department.

Sidi Baba, speaking in French through a translator at the news conference arranged by Hill and Knowlton, Inc., a Washington public relations firm, said in response to questions that Morocco supports Egypt's effort to reach peace with Israel. He said his country is ready to continue to contribute to Egypt politically and economically to this end. "We are conscious of the fact that part of the world needs peace, but it has to be peace based on justice and legality," he said. "We are in favor of the application of the resolutions of the UN Security Council."

Asked by the JTA whether he favored a separate Egyptian-Israeli peace as a first step toward total peace in the Mideast, Sidi Baba said "This is a question I cannot answer for Egypt but everybody knows--Israel knows and friends of Israel know--a separate peace is not a total peace."

Defends Role of PLO

Asked to comment on the virtue of a separate peace as a first step, he replied that "political wisdom and political intelligence tell us not to do things partially." He then added: "We have the impression Israel does not want to even take that step." When he was asked for the basis of that impression, Sidi Baba replied that when Egyptian President Anwar Sadat visited Israel "he demonstrated to the whole world he wanted peace." Since then Israel has been dragging its feet and the whole world has the impression it does not want peace."

Responding to a question about Morocco's relationship with the Palestine Liberation Organization, Sidi Baba said: "The PLO has the support of Morocco because we believe the PLO is the only representative of the people of Palestine. It is wisdom that reality has to be faced by all our friends. It is true that the PLO is backed by and belongs to the rejectionist camp--Libya, Algeria and others--but we believe the PLO will collaborate in the search for peace when the moment arrives, if necessary. Intransigence will give way to wisdom and intelligence. We believe all those countries need to live and prosper and to get to know each other."

CARTER PRESENTS GOLDBERG WITH THE MEDAL OF FREEDOM

* WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA)--Arthur Goldberg, who served his country as its Ambassador to the United Nations and as a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, was honored by President Carter at the White House today. The President presented the 69-year-old jurist and diplomat with the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

The presentation was made only a few days after President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, in a nationally televised speech in Cairo last Saturday, said that peace might have been achieved in the Middle East if Carter had been in office in 1967 and not "the Zionist" Goldberg, who was a member of the Johnson Administration.

But White House Press Secretary Jody Powell stressed that the award to Goldberg had no connection with Sadat's remarks. He noted that the ceremony had been planned some time ago and was scheduled to suit the convenience of the President and Goldberg.

The Medal of Freedom was awarded to Goldberg specifically for the services he rendered as U.S. representative to the UN after the Six-Day War, for which he was disparaged by Sadat. Carter praised Goldberg as an author of Security Council Resolution 242 which "is now... the unshakeable basis for ultimate agreement in the Middle East."

He also hailed Goldberg's dedication to human and civil rights as a Supreme Court Justice and as chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Belgrade conference last spring on the results of the Helsinki Final Act.

2000 RALLY FOR SHCHARANSKY, SLEPAK

By Reena Sigman Friedman

NEW YORK--July 26 (JTA)--Some 2,000 people jammed the Wall Street area today for a noontime rally on behalf of Anatoly Shcharansky and Mariya Slepak. The New York rally was one of many demonstrations held in cities throughout the country, at the call of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, to "protest the Soviet repression of Jewish emigration activists and those seeking basic human rights."

Mervin Risenman, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYSJ), told the enthusiastic crowd: "We are now in the crucial 30-day period during which Shcharansky may appeal his unjust sentence. It is incumbent on us to show the American people, the Carter Administration and Soviet authorities that we will keep the pressure on." Referring to reports released this morning, that Mariya Slepak's three-year sentence has been suspended, Risenman said "This substantiates our hope that continued pressure can make a difference."

He expressed gratitude to President Carter for his support of Shcharansky but demanded that "Soviet-American trade and human rights must continue to be linked." He called on university presidents throughout the country to join John Sawhill, of New York University, in severing ties with their Soviet colleagues and asked that all bilateral scientific and technological exchanges between the United States and the Soviet Union be discontinued until Shcharansky and other Soviet Jewish dissidents are freed.

Dr. Alan Dershowitz, a professor at Harvard Law School and Shcharansky's official attorney in the U.S., disclosed that he had renewed his request to represent the 30-year-old activist before the Soviet Court of Appeals. Dershowitz proposed that, on each day of Shcharansky's imprisonment, one of the organizations, corporations or law firms represented at today's demonstration should sponsor an advertisement in a New York newspaper to ensure that Shcharansky's plight is not forgotten by the press and the world at large.

He also urged those participating in the rally to continue sending letters of protest to the "Shcharansky Remembrance Fund" of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, and to President Carter and Leonid Brezhnev. "We cannot allow the world to forget Anatoly Shcharansky for even a single day," he declared, "because that would play directly into the hands of his Soviet oppressors."

New Project Announced

Also addressing today's rally were Bernice

Tannenbaum, president of Hadassah, and David Blumberg, international president of B'nai B'rith. Mrs. Tannenbaum stressed her organization's solidarity with Soviet Jewish dissident Ida Nudel and announced the launching of a new "Ishah L'Ishah" project which would strengthen communications between Hadassah's national leaders and "all women standing for the rights of Soviet Jews to emigrate." Blumberg urged President Carter to impose restrictions upon trade with the USSR and called for the removal of the 1980 Olympics from Moscow.

The crowd, assembled at the corner of Wall and Broad streets, included many young people, most of them members of the National Federation of Temple Youth, who led the group in song and the chanting of slogans. Large delegations from the GNYSJ, B'nai B'rith, Hadassah and the Jewish War Veterans were also present. The GNYSJ announced that a special seminar focusing on the Soviet Union and human rights, cosponsored by the New York Coalition for Soviet Jewry and the American Bar Association (ABA), will be held Aug. 9 during the ABA annual convention of the Hilton Hotel.

DISPUTE OVER A SYNAGOGUE

By Jon Fedler

BONN--July 26 (JTA)--A dispute has broken out concerning the ruins of a synagogue in Gross-Umstadt, near Darmstadt, south of Frankfurt. A plan to transfer the ruins of the building which was constructed in 1876 and destroyed during the "Kristallnacht," along with other historical buildings still intact, to an outdoor museum in a park, has aroused strong public opposition.

Although the Association of Jewish Communities in the State of Hessen (in which Gross-Umstadt is located) previously agreed to the move, its chairman, Prof. Herbert Lewin, said the Association had changed its mind. In a letter to the Hessen Culture Minister and various other authorities he appealed for the ruin to be left where it is.

A resolution by the Social Democratic Party caucus in the Town Council, calling for the synagogue to be retained and restored, was defeated. Several citizens have signed a petition and announced their intention of setting up an association for the retention of the synagogue.

One of the signatories, Protestant priest Alexander Claar, said in an interview that there were no longer any Jewish residents in the town. They had either died in concentration camps or emigrated. It was "not fitting" for a "testimonial to the persecution and destruction of innumerable people" to be presented in the context of an open air museum, he said. Claar charged that the authorities were "scared to say publicly that they don't want the synagogue any more" and wanted it in the park merely to "save face." The damaged building is "an inseparable part" of the history of Gross-Umstadt, he said.

LATE BULLETIN: TEL AVIV, July 26 (JTA)--

Premier Menachem Begin announced tonight that Egypt has asked Israel to withdraw its military mission from Egypt by tomorrow. The small group of Israeli officers remained in Cairo after military and political talks were suspended last January and was recently moved to Alexandria. Begin, who disclosed on a TV interview that Defense Minister Ezer Weizman received a letter from Egyptian War Minister Mohammed Gamasy asking their removal, said he did not attach too much importance to the move. He said the mission has "not really done very much, occasionally passing messages to and fro."

PROBE TO CONTINUE OF TIES BETWEEN EX-NAZIS, U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 26 (JTA)--Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D. Pa.), chairman of the House subcommittee on immigration, said his panel will "probe deeper into the post-World War II ties between alleged war criminals and U.S. intelligence agencies" and "monitor the government's current investigations and court actions against alleged former Nazis living in this country."

Eilberg also said he will "press the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to continue to explore the files of the intelligence agencies" and that the subcommittee "will continue to make its own independent investigation of all aspects of this problem." The lawmaker convened three days of hearings last week, two months after he released a General Accounting Office (GAO) report showing that Nazis living in the U.S. had close ties with the CIA, FBI and the Defense Department in the years after the war.

Eilberg ordered the GAO study in early 1977. He asked the GAO to determine why the INS failed for 30 years to investigate and take action against alleged war criminals. During the hearings last week, he charged that the report "failed to respond to the subcommittee's main question as to the reason for the lack of action on the Nazi issue."

Eilberg stated that his subcommittee will "vigorously pursue this matter until we get to the bottom of it, especially to determine what kind of contacts the intelligence agencies had with these people, how much the alleged Nazis were paid, what kind of work they performed, when they carried out their work, and whether their ties with the intelligence agencies had anything to do with the fact that they were never brought to justice for their alleged war crimes."

No All-Out Effort To Prosecute

In the final two days of hearings, the subcommittee questioned former State Department and Justice Department officials who screened refugees entering the U.S. after World War II, and other former INS officials. In quizzing former INS deputy commissioner James Greene, Eilberg and his colleagues focused on reports of misplaced and lost files on alleged Nazis.

Greene joined the INS in 1941 and retired in 1954. But he could not remember the details of any investigations, even though he was acting director of INS at one point. "They were only allegations. I can't remember any details on how investigations were resolved," Greene said. "I can state flat-out that there was no collusion to thwart investigations of cases." He added that there "wasn't an all-out effort to prosecute them, either." Communism "was the factor at that time," Greene told the subcommittee. "All the politicians wanted us to go after communism. That's what got the money for investigations."

Almanza Tripp, former INS officer who was stationed in Europe and helped administer the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, cited the large number of persons--more than 300,000--who entered the country after the war, and said this led to a laxity in screening. "The political administration at that time wanted to make the DPA a good show," Tripp said. "So they ordered quantity, not quality. It took us three weeks to check a person's record at the Berlin Records Cen-

ter. But some people were being processed in less than a day. The Commissioners never waited for record checks to be completed."

THIRD DUTCH WAR CRIMINAL DISCOVERED LIVING IN WEST GERMANY

AMSTERDAM, July 26 (JTA)--A third Dutch war criminal has been discovered living in West Germany, following the discovery of Siert Bruins a few weeks ago and of Wilhelm Bos this week. The man now discovered is Jan Hajo Klim, 68, who has been living only a few kilometers across the Dutch-West German border for the past 30 years.

He was sentenced to death in absentia in 1948 and arrested in West Germany the next year and extradited to Holland where, after a new trial, he was sentenced to 11 years imprisonment. After serving four years of this sentence he managed to escape across the West German border. Klim operated in the same northeastern area of The Netherlands during the Nazi occupation as Bruins and Bos.

U.S. TENTATIVE \$8.5 M PLEDGE TO UNRWA MAY SAVE AGENCY'S SCHOOL

GENEVA, July 26 (JTA)--A tentative pledge by the United States of an additional \$8.5 million for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Arabs (UNRWA) may save that agency's preparatory school program for another year. The schools, which serve 90,000 Palestinian youngsters throughout the Middle East, faced suspension at the end of August because of UNRWA's multi-million dollar deficit in 1978.

But Thomas W. McElhiney, Commissioner General of UNRWA, announced the program will be extended at least through October on the basis of a statement of intent by the U.S. government to provide the additional funds. The extra contribution is subject to approval by Congress. If it is approved, the school program will be extended until the end of the year and will continue into 1979.

The UNRWA schools operate in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, the West Bank and Gaza Strip. More than half the agency's budget is earmarked for educational purposes, which include the operation of 610 schools, eight vocational and teacher-training institutions and subsidized secondary and university education for a total of 380,000 Palestinian refugee youths.

The remainder of the budget goes for health care and relief programs. Earlier this year, the U.S. pledged a regular contribution of \$42.5 million to UNRWA. If Congress approves the additional stipend, the total American contribution will amount to \$51 million this year.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Fifty young men and women, members of the Israeli Communist Party's youth movement, "Banki," departed for Cuba Tuesday to attend the 11th International Youth and Students Festival there. A delegation of PLO youth is also expected in Cuba. Yoram Gozansky, who heads the Israeli contingent, said he hoped the two groups could meet and talk. A small number of non-Communist left-wing artists joined the young Communists. They will take part in the national art exhibitions which are being held during the youth festival.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Religious young women who waive their exemption from military service will be permitted to wear the traditional Orthodox headgear rather than the general issue uniform caps, according to an order by Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan.