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BEGIN: OUSTER OF ISRAELI MISSION FROM EGYPT IS NOT END OF PEACE INITIATIVE NOR HARBINGER OF WAR

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, July 27 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin said last night that Egypt's request for the withdrawal of the Israeli military mission left behind in Cairo when peace talks were suspended last January did not indicate the end of the peace initiative and should not be seen as a harbinger of war. The nine-man mission, headed by Col. Yaacov Heichal, landed at Ben Gurion Airport this morning. Heichal told reporters, "The Egyptians were just as sad as we were when they bid us farewell. We hope we shall return." (See related stories, P. 2).

The Egyptian request came as a surprise. But Begin, who first announced it on a television interview last night, reacted calmly. He said he did not believe that President Anwar Sadat has abandoned the peace process and that there are good prospects for renewed Israeli-Egyptian talks. He noted in that connection that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will be coming to the Middle East early next month to help arrange new meetings.

Speaking of the Israeli military mission's eight-month sojourn in Egypt, Begin said: "The Egyptians have given them months of courteous hospitality and we are grateful for that. If they do not want them there any longer, then they will come home, they have a home to come to and we will say to them, 'welcome home.'"

He noted that the delegation had not played a central role in negotiations in recent months. On occasion, they would transmit a message or cable one way or the other, but, on the whole, "we should take off our hats to these excellent officers for their patience," he said.

Timing Of Ouster Cited

Despite Begin's low-key reaction, political sources here viewed the Egyptian move as an "expulsion" and expressed concern that it represented one in a series of steps by Egypt aimed at heightening tension in the region in order to increase American pressure on Israel for concessions.

These sources maintained that the Egyptians timed their ouster of the Israeli mission to coincide with Vance's visit. They also noted yesterday's "war-like threats" by a Cairo radio commentator which they said were the first since Sadat launched his peace initiative in November. The sources also pointed to Egypt's gross violations of the Sinai interim agreement by stationing 15 battalions in the Sinai limited forces zone where a maximum of eight is permitted under terms of the agreement.

An Israeli television military commentator said well-informed American circles in Tel Aviv acknowledged that U.S. aerial reconnaissance flights confirmed these violations but Israel refrained from lodging a formal complaint so as not to add more obstacles to the resumption of peace talks.

The last message relayed by the Israeli mission was the request for their departure contained in a letter from Egyptian War Minister Mohammed

Gamassy to Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman. It said: "I regret to inform you that the National Defense Council has decided that there was no more need in the continued presence of the Israeli military mission to Egypt. We, on our part, have made the necessary arrangements for the return of the military mission on Thursday by an Egyptian Boeing 747."

The order for the Israeli mission to leave Egypt came several hours after a special four-hour session of the Egyptian National Security Council. Foreign Minister Mohammed Kamaal said after the meeting that Egypt was willing to resume direct talks with Israel but such talks would be a "waste of time" as long as Israel retains "its worn-out concepts."

Regret Over Ouster Of Mission

The Israeli mission was notified of the decision by Gen. Ahmed Shaukatt, chief of Egyptian military intelligence. Weizman expressed regret after receiving Gamassy's message. "For years we have waited for some sort of direct contact which we considered to be of great importance," he said. "I hope it will return. I hope that the return of the mission from Egypt is just a single move and not the beginning of a process."

Some sources said the Egyptian move had been contemplated by Sadat for some time because he wants all negotiations with Israel to be conducted through a third party--the U.S.--which now can exert even greater influence in both sides.

It was learned today that the Egyptians refused to accept Begin's message to Sadat sent last Sunday because it was conveyed through the Israeli military mission. The message was relayed instead by the U.S. It informed Sadat of the Cabinet's rejection of his request for the return of El Arish in northern Sinai to Egyptian civil administration as a gesture of good-will. The ouster of the military mission came three days later.

The Israeli mission had been stationed at a villa near Cairo until two months ago when it was shifted to a compound in an Egyptian air base near Alexandria.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT URGED TO ALLOW TIMERMAN AND FAMILY TO GO TO ISRAEL

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, July 27 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee yesterday urged Argentine President Jorge Videla to implement the recent Argentine Supreme Court decision which would allow Jacobo Timerman, the former editor and publisher of the newspaper La Opinion, and his family to leave for Israel.

In a cable to Videla, Richard Mooss, AJ Committee president, said that "I and all true friends of Argentina" would see the gesture of allowing Timerman to leave Argentina "as an auspicious beginning for your new term in the Presidency" which starts in August.

Timerman, a Jew, was arrested April 15, 1977 on suspicion of illegal economic activities. He was eventually cleared by a military tribunal but remained in army prison until he was allowed to return to his apartment in Buenos Aires last April where he has remained under house arrest.

Jacob Kovadoloff, head of South American affairs for the AJ Committee, a native Argentinian and a lifelong friend of the 55-year-old Timerman, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that various friends of

the journalist had been trying for months to get a writ of habeas corpus to free Timerman. He said that a lower court refused but the Supreme Court recently ruled that there were no legal grounds for holding Timerman.

Under Constant Watch

Kovadloff said that since being allowed to return home, Timerman is constantly watched and his phone is tapped. He said the journalist wants to go to Israel with his wife and child to join two other children who have been in Israel for the past year.

Kovadloff, who was head of the AJC Committee's office in Argentina, himself left the country last year after he was repeatedly threatened. The AJC Committee closed its offices at the time. La Opinion, edited by Timerman, is considered a leading liberal newspaper as well as one that strongly supported Israel. Argentine sources report that although the newspaper is now under government receivership, it continues its pro-Israeli policy.

Maass, in his cable to Videla, noted that he had met with the Argentine President at his invitation last September. "I and those who accompanied me were impressed with your frankness and with your determination to do what was in your power to bring the turmoil in Argentina to an end and to heal the wounds of your countrymen incurred during the last few years of anguish," Maass wrote Videla. He said that the "gesture" toward Timerman "and other measures which we hope you will undertake, will alleviate the anxieties of many Argentine families, and will create the basis for greater understanding between our two countries."

BEGIN CALLS ON ISRAELIS TO HAVE 'STRONG NERVES, VERY STRONG NERVES'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 27 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin advised "all Israelis" last night "to have strong nerves, very strong nerves," as the slow process of negotiations with Egypt proceeds. But he said he personally believed that eventually peace would be achieved. Speaking on a television interview during which he announced Egypt's request for the withdrawal of the Israeli military mission, Begin repeated his unqualified rejection of President Anwar Sadat's proposals which he claimed were "tantamount to the destruction of Israel."

Begin said the Egyptian leader was demanding "total withdrawal" by Israel from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He stressed the security implications of such a move but did not mention his oft-repeated claim that the territories belong to Israel because of their Biblical associations.

According to Begin, acceptance of Sadat's terms would bring every home in Israel and every Israeli plane in the skies within range of modern Soviet artillery and anti-aircraft missiles. "God forbid that we accept those terms," Begin said.

Believes Sadat Is Ready For Peace

However, he said he believed in general terms that Sadat was ready for peace. But he warned that even if Sadat himself does not intend to attack "a shrunken and whittled down Israel, his successors might and for that reason Israel must stand firm against Sadat and against those greater than Sadat." The latter was seen as a call to re-

sist pressure from the U.S. Begin repeated his charge that the opposition Labor Alignment was duping the public by suggesting the possibility of territorial compromise. He said the Egyptians flatly rejected the idea at the foreign ministers meeting in England last week and on previous occasions. Labor Party leaders and others have said that on less formal occasions senior Egyptian personages, including Sadat, have clearly indicated that they would be ready to contemplate a strategic presence of the Israeli army on the West Bank for security reasons after a peace treaty is signed.

Begin charged that King Hussein of Jordan was even more hardline than Sadat. He said Hussein told U.S. Ambassador-at-Large Alfred L. Atherton in Amman this week that he would accept only "minor border rectifications."

Though pressed by reporters, Begin refused to elaborate on Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's statement to the Knesset Monday that the government would be prepared to discuss the sovereignty issue on the West Bank after five years of "self-rule" and that it would also be prepared to discuss a territorial compromise if one was proposed by the other side. Asked if this meant the government was prepared to concede to foreign sovereignty at least in some part of the West Bank, Begin repeated that the full Cabinet had endorsed Dayan's statement and he would not "add or subtract" anything.

Urges Aid For Lebanese Christians

Switching from Hebrew to English, the Premier called on "all free nations" to come to the aid of the Christians in Lebanon who face "massacre, annihilation" at the hands of the Soviet-equipped Syrian army. He said that France, as the traditional patron of the Maronite Christian community in Lebanon, had a particular responsibility in that regard.

But Defense Minister Ezer Weizman expressed a different view of the situation in Lebanon. Press reports today quoted him as saying that the Christian rightwingers had in fact provoked the Syrian army shelling of their strongholds in Beirut by sniping at Syrian soldiers. According to the Jerusalem Post, Weizman told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that the Syrians were "not happy with developments and would have pulled their troops out (of Lebanon) if they had a face-saving way of doing it."

U.S. CONFIDENT MIDEAST TALKS WILL BE RESUMED DESPITE OUSTER OF MISSION

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 27 (JTA)--The United States expressed the view today that Egypt should not have asked for the withdrawal of the Israeli military mission but expressed confidence at the same time that Israeli-Egyptian negotiations will be resumed within the next two weeks on the foreign ministers' level at a site somewhere in the Middle East.

State Department spokesman Thomas Reston, reading a prepared statement to reporters, said "We would have preferred that this (Egyptian) step had not been taken because of the interpretation that may be placed on it." He refused to elaborate on what the interpretation might be. "It would not be useful for me to characterize every development that takes place between now and the time that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance leaves for the Middle East to meet with Israeli and Egyptian officials," Reston said.

He added, "Our overriding objective is to continue peace negotiations and to bring them as soon as realistically possible to a successful conclusion. Egypt and Israel share our view to keep negotiations going," he said. Under questioning by reporters, he indicated no doubts that Israeli-Egyptian talks will be resumed. He referred to the "upcoming visit" by Vance and emphasized, "We expect these meetings to take place."

Israel's Efforts Praised

Yesterday, the State Department said that it "appreciates the efforts" of the Israeli government in the negotiating process, after disclosing that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance discussed the elements of the speech Dayan made Monday in the Knesset. That speech appeared to present a softening of the Begin government's position on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that the Knesset speech "had been discussed with Vance at Leeds Castle, England and is a part of the record of those meetings." He said, "I want to emphasize" that the discussion was "between the two of them." He added: "We have appreciated the efforts of the Israeli government both at Leeds and thereafter for the search for solutions for the key problems that must be resolved if the negotiations are to succeed." Asked whether the U.S. believes there is a shift in the Israeli position, Carter replied he is "unable to characterize" the position as a shift.

DAYAN SAYS EGYPTIAN CONDITIONS FOR PEACE ARE EXTREMELY TOUGH By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 27 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said today that Israel will know whether the Egyptians are ready to continue peace negotiations only after Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrives in the region next month for a renewed effort to get talks started. The Foreign Minister spoke in reply to questions from leaders of the State of Israel Bond Organization in the U.S. and Canada, who were guests at a garden reception at his home here.

At present, Dayan said, the Egyptian conditions for peace were so tough that they could well lay the foundation for Israel's destruction. He said he thought Egypt wanted peace but was not prepared to pay the price. He said the Egyptians had prepared seven years for the Yom Kippur War which ended badly for them and know that a new war would also end badly. That is why they prefer U.S. pressure on Israel to attain the objectives that their soldiers could not, Dayan claimed. But he praised the Carter Administration for its generous economic and military aid to Israel.

The delegation is visiting Israel under the leadership of Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israeli Bond Organization, and the sponsorship of the Israeli Ambassadors to the U.S. and Canada, Simcha Dinitz and Mordechai Shalev, respectively. They are participating in the inaugural tour of Israel of the Ambassadors' Society of Trustees, a lay division of the Bond Organization.

GOREN: TEST TUBE CHILDREN ARE CONTRARY TO TORAH PRINCIPLES

JERUSALEM, July 27 (JTA)--The conception of babies born from an egg fertilized in a labora-

tory is contrary to ethics and the principle of the Torah, Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said today. Reacting to the successful birth in England of the 5-pound 12-ounce baby girl, who was delivered by Caesarean section Tuesday at the Oldham General Hospital in Lancashire, Goren said the conception was contrary to the Torah view on natural human existence and natural family order.

The development of the system, Goren warned, could damage the family framework and the relations between fathers and their children. He said that because the pregnancy did not start in the natural way, there was no direct link between father and child, nor between mother and child. However, Goren added, the test tube child conception was not contrary to halacha. He said there was hardly any difference between such conception and adopting a child, and therefore, he suggested, the adoption of a child was a better way.

'WHO IS A JEW' AMENDMENT SCORED By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 27 (JTA)--Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (the Reform movement), said today he failed to understand the point in renewed efforts to amend the Law of Return at a time it was essential to unite all the forces of the Jewish people.

Hirsch reacted in a public statement to a bill adopted yesterday in the Knesset at first reading, amending the Law of Return to define as Jews only those who were born to Jewish mothers or converted according to halacha. If the bill is approved in further readings--which seems unlikely--conversions performed by Conservative and Reform rabbis will be considered invalid.

Hirsch recalled that last year, shortly after the new government took office, a delegation of American Conservative and Reform rabbis met with Premier Menachem Begin and suggested various compromises, such as the establishment of a court for all three trends in Judaism. "Even the Premier agreed to that," said Hirsch, "but when he presented the idea before the Orthodox rabbis they rejected it outright."

Hirsch said he was confident that American Jewry would not stand idly by if the bill is approved by the Knesset. "Is it not paradoxical that the same rabbi (Alexander) Schindler who served as chairman of the Presidents Conference (Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations) and who has been much honored by Premier Begin cannot perform conversions that will be recognized in Israel?" Hirsch asked.

Schindler Blasts Amendment

(In New York, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform), said today: "At this critical time when the need for Jewish unity is paramount, we are appalled by the new political efforts to amend Israel's Law of Return so as to disqualify two-thirds of world Jewry from membership in the Jewish people. We are one, working for Israel's strong future throughout the world; we must be one in the eyes of Israel's law. The issue is not one of subtle interpretation of halacha. Rather it is a direct slap in the face to all non-Orthodox Jews, saying in effect that our money and our energies are good enough but we and our children are not. As we are one people in anguish and in death so we must be one people in life."

ARABS INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO AFFECT POLICIES OF U.S. BUSINESS, EDUCATION

NEW YORK, July 27 (JTA)--Arab efforts to affect the policies of American corporations, banks, colleges and universities are continuing at a record rate, according to Petro Impact, a newsletter published by the American Jewish Committee.

In its second issue, just released, the publication, which reports on growing Arab involvement in American affairs, describes a series of five meetings held between April 17 and May 3 in five major U.S. cities--New York, Washington, Los Angeles, Houston and Chicago--in which leaders of Arab and U.S. Chambers of Commerce, Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) officials, and Arab and American businessmen discussed the problems of doing business with each other.

Although the announced purpose of the session was to "stimulate Arab-U.S. trade by bringing buyers and sellers together," Petro Impact stated, "there was a distinct political undertone to the meetings and also a rumble of secret deals. The conferences also served as forums for intense Arab lobbying efforts against U.S. anti-boycott regulations and for the proposed sale of fighter planes to Saudi Arabia."

Emergence of Pro-Arab Spokesmen

A significant result of increased commercial relations between the Arab nations and U.S. companies, the publication states, is the emergence of pro-Arab spokesmen among U.S. suppliers of goods or technical services to the Arabs. "These companies, in their zeal to cooperate with oil-rich countries, are in effect a hidden lobby, helping to shape American perceptions and attitudes," it declares. Petro Impact presents the names of American companies, bankers, corporation executives and public relations practitioners who are doing business in millions--sometimes billions--of dollars with or for the Arabs.

The publication also details the current status of the effort of former Budget director Bert Lance and four Arab investors to take control of Financial General Bankshares, Inc.--the largest bank holding company in Washington, D. C. A law suit, in which Financial General is seeking to block further sale of company stock to the Lance group, is pending in the U.S. District Court.

The article states that the defendants in the suit, in addition to Lance, include, among others, J. W. Middendorf, Jr., a former U.S. Navy Secretary; Jackson T. Stephens, a prominent member of the Democratic National Committee; and Agha Hassan Abedi, "who was reportedly the middleman in the sale of Lance's holdings in the National Bank of Georgia to Saudi businessman Ghaith Pharaon, and also paid off Lance's \$3.5 million loan from the First National Bank of Chicago with no formal papers drawn."

SLOVAKIA COMMUNIST PAPER ASSAILS 'ZIONIST CENTERS' IN EUROPE, U.S.

LONDON, July 27 (JTA)--Providing the leading Communist daily in Slovakia, recently published a virulent attack against what were described as "Zionist centers in London, Vienna, New York, Rome, Tel Aviv, Paris, Brussels and Munich, complemented by emigrants from socialist countries," according to the International Council of Jews from Czechoslovakia with head-

quarters in London. These "centers" are charged with "spreading on behalf of international Zionism anti-Communist activities across the globe like the bacilli of an infectious disease, disseminating the seeds of hatred, vicious racialism and anti-Communism."

The writer of the article, Svatopluk Dolejs (using his pen-name, Jevgenij Jevsejev) was, during World War II, an editor of the Nazi weekly "Aryan Flight" published in Prague, and has remained one of the leading anti-Semitic writers of the post-war period. Among his other literary activities, he has contributed to the Czech edition of the anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist pamphlet entitled, "Beware Zionism" used in the Czech educational system.

Dolejs maintains that Western Zionists are actually pursuing their own aims under the cover of the third chapter of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference. He also alleges that two-thirds of the "700 to 800 million dollar budget of the World Zionist Organization has been earmarked for anti-Socialist activities."

According to Dolejs, the "Zionist centers" scattered throughout the world exert influence over the British Broadcasting Corporation, Radio Free Europe, the West German "Deutsche Welle" and a variety of broadcasting stations in the United States and Israel.

THE SPECTRE OF ASSIMILATION

JERUSALEM, July 27 (JTA)--Most of Europe's Jewish communities are overwhelmed by assimilation, and more than 50 percent of the Jews marry non-Jews, Moshe Krone, head of the World Zionist Organization's Torah Education and Culture Department, said at the WZO Executive's weekly meeting held this week. Krone, who returned recently from a tour of Europe and the U.S., reported of the "tragic situation" in dozens of Jewish communities in smaller towns in Italy, West Germany, France and other countries. He said he promised some of those communities Jewish literature in various languages.

Krone praised an agreement the Jewish Agency signed two years ago with Jewish organizations in France, which led to the opening of an additional 1000 learning spaces in Jewish schools in metropolitan Paris. However, Krone noted, there was still a great need for Jewish educational facilities in France.

CAMPAIGN TO FOCUS ON NAZI CRIMES

PARIS, July 27 (JTA)--Nazi-hunters Serge and Beate Klarsfeld said at a press conference that they would start a campaign in West Germany to awaken public awareness of Nazi crimes committed in France during World War II. Their decision followed the indictment of Kurt Lishka, who headed the Nazi police in France and was responsible for the mass rounding up of Jews for deportation in 1942. They were taken to the Vel d'Hiv stadium before being sent to Drancy camp near Paris from where they were packed off for the extermination camps of Poland.

The Vel d'Hiv round-up involved 12,000 of the 70,000 French Jews who died in death camps. The Klarsfelds recalled that they attempted to kidnap Lishka in 1971. Their campaign in West Germany will begin in October and involve contacts with the press, government offices and private groups, they said.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund afforestation department is planning tree planting for landscaping for the settlements of Shilat and Rut near the Latrun enclave and the new Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway.