

## ATHERTON CONVINCED PEACE PROCESS CAN GO FORWARD

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Alfred Atherton, the United States special envoy in the Middle East, returned here today after four days of talks in Egypt with President Anwar Sadat and other Egyptian officials. "I am still convinced the peace process can and must go forward," Atherton told reporters. But Atherton, who said he will report on his talks to Israeli Premier Menachem Begin, said he had not brought any message from Sadat to the Israelis.

The American envoy will remain in Israel to prepare for the arrival of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance who is scheduled to arrive here Saturday. Vance will try to get Egypt and Israel back to the negotiating table, an effort that was torpedoed Sunday when Sadat said Egypt would not negotiate with the Israelis until they agreed to complete withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

## JAVITS: VANCE'S, ATHERTON'S MIDEAST TRIPS SHOULD HAVE BEEN CANCELLED

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R. NY) said today that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's upcoming trip to Israel and Egypt should have been cancelled and Ambassador Alfred Atherton should have been recalled from the Middle East after Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's speech Sunday rejecting further talks with Israel.

These steps would have been "more compatible with the role of the U.S., which is that of mediator and not of salesman," Javits said in a speech on the Senate floor. He charged that Sadat has been "hardening" his position in order "to force the U.S. to offer its own terms for a peace settlement in the belief that the U.S. would then be obliged to pressure Israel into adopting those terms."

Javits urged the United States to call on Saudi Arabia, Jordan and other "moderate" Arab states to help forward peace talks. He noted that Israel showed flexibility in its negotiating position in the talks with Egypt at Leeds Castle in England two weeks ago. The Senator also expressed the hope that President Carter would "publicly and privately urge Egypt and Israel to cool it" and return to the negotiating table without preconditions.

## ISRAEL NOW FAVORS STATIONING OF LEBANESE TROOPS IN SOUTH LEBANON

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Government officials indicated today that it had changed its stand and was now willing to see the Lebanese battalion sent from Beirut earlier in the week take up positions in south Lebanon. The officials added the proviso, however, that Maj. Saad Haddad and his Christian militiamen ensconced in enclaves near the Israeli border should not be harmed. The Lebanese battalion has been blocked for two days at the village of Kaukaba and has come under sporadic shelling from the Haddad militia.

In addition, Syria is reported to have demanded that Haddad and other local Christian commanders be brought to Beirut to face court martials. Christian militia in south Lebanon had fired artillery at Lebanese army regulars attempting to enter the area. The Christians claimed that the Lebanese force consisted mainly of disguised Syrian soldiers or pro-Syrian elements. The Syrians have been waging war against Christian strongholds in the Beirut area for the past month.

Earlier in the week, Israeli and Lebanese officers met at the Ras el-Nakura border post to discuss the return of the regular Lebanese army to south Lebanon. The Israeli position at that time was that there would be no objections to their return provided the troops are not dominated by Syria or escorted by Syrian forces.

Israeli officials gave two reasons today for their change in position: the Syrian "escorting force" which had accompanied the 600-man Lebanese battalion southwards has been withdrawn; Israel was now persuaded that the Lebanese force represented a sincere effort by Beirut to reassert Lebanese authority in the area--a longstanding Israeli desire--and was not sent south merely at the behest of the Syrians to heat up the border area, as had at first been suspected.

The Israeli turnabout followed intensive consultations with the United States, through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. The United States urged insistently that the Lebanese force was to be seen in a positive light, as the first harbinger of a re-established Lebanese government control of the war-torn south. American officials pointed out that this was the clearly stated long-term aim of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 425, which set up the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in March, after Israel's massive incursion into the south.

## Christians Disappointed With Israeli Change

A deep feeling of disappointment over the Israeli change of attitude was reported among residents of the Christian enclaves. Francis Rezak, the outspoken spokesman of the Christian militia in south Lebanon, said today that his men are determined to prevent the "pro-Syrian" Lebanese force from entering the enclaves. He said that should the Lebanese unit try to force its way, there would be war.

There was sporadic shelling all through the night and day and the Lebanese soldiers were observed entering the UNIFIL enclosure nearby, as a protection against the shelling. Christians said that the shelling was not intended to hit the battalion but rather to prevent its advance into the enclaves.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for UNIFIL has reported that the Christians asked that UNIFIL's troops in the Kaukaba region evacuate the area to give the Christians a free hand in attacking the Lebanese. UNIFIL rejected the demand, noting the serious consequences of a confrontation with the UN force.

## ISRAEL, SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN COOPERATING ON PILGRIMAGE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Israel, Saudi

Arabia and Jordan are partners in a move to enable large numbers of Israeli Arab citizens to make the "hadj" (pilgrimage) this autumn to Moslem holy cities of Mecca and Medina. But who officially made the agreement and where it was consummated are among factors not yet being publicly revealed.

"This is one Middle East case where it looks like it's going to work and you don't ask too many questions," a State Department source intimate with the arrangements told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The arrangements, he acknowledged reluctantly, have "the blessing of the United States," but added that he could not say whether the U.S. was an intermediary. He made it clear, however, that representatives of the three countries never met about the matter. Discussion took place in a roundabout way.

"In principle, Saudi Arabia and Jordan would like the Israeli Moslems to make the hadj as a matter of good will, and procedures to that end are being worked out," the JTA was told at the State Department. Israel, in principle, it was said there, never had any major problem with the pilgrimage which pious Moslems try to make at least once in their lifetime. Israel's only major problem was whether Saudi Arabia would accept Israeli passports. Now, apparently, this matter has been temporarily adjusted.

#### Credit Given To Senator Stone

State Department and Capitol Hill sources give much credit to Sen. Richard Stone (D. Fla.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on the Middle East, for forwarding the arrangement. While in the Mideast on official business in June, 1977, Stone was told in Amman by Jordanian officials about the situation relating to the hadj and they suggested he help them. Stone brought up the matter with Saudi Arabia's King Khalid and later with the Israelis. Arrangements to solve the problem were put in motion.

Last week, in a letter dated July 20, the State Department reported to Stone that "progress" has been made. The letter, signed by William Crawford, acting Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East, added:

"We have learned the governments of Israel and Saudi Arabia have agreed to facilitate the travel of some 5000 Israeli Moslems to Mecca in October of this year. We have been told that when the pilgrims arrive in Amman, the Jordanians plan to issue special travel documents to them. We have also received indications that consideration will be given to expanding the present number of travelers in order to permit additional pilgrims to make the journey in future years."

Continuing, the letter to Stone stated: "We are heartened by the positive outcome of your efforts to promote the liberalization process and know that the satisfactory resolution of this problem will be deeply appreciated by the many pilgrims who can now avail themselves of this opportunity."

#### First Time In 30 Years

After receiving the letter from Crawford, Stone said "thousands" of Israeli Moslems will go to the holy cities this autumn for the first time in 30 years "thanks to a decision" by Khalid. Stone said he asked "a religious favor" from Khalid when they met in Saudi Arabia.

Last year, initial talks resulted in four Israeli Moslems making the hadj while negotiations

continued, Stone said. This year, as many as 5000 are likely to go, according to the Senator's information. Some 2500 of Israel's 411,000 Moslem citizens have applied, Stone said. The deadline for applications is Aug. 7. "The success of this initiative shows that the Saudis are thoughtful and sympathetic leaders of Islam and that disputes among nations can be overcome by the higher obligations of religious worship," Stone observed.

#### KNESSET UNIT TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL ON EL ARISH

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)--The Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee will discuss a proposal that Israel should offer to set up a joint industrial project with Egypt in the town of El Arish in northern Sinai. The idea was raised today in the Knesset plenum by Knesset member David Golomb of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC). Golomb accused the government of rejecting Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's suggestion of an Israeli goodwill gesture in El Arish. "Why is it that each Israeli response begins with a no?" he asked.

Replying for the government, Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Nissim said Israel had replied positively to Sadat's suggestion, but asked for time to consider the issue. It was Sadat who rejected the idea, Nissim said.

#### U.S. INSISTS SAUDI ARABIA REMAINS COMMITTED TO MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (JTA)--The United States today insisted that Saudi Arabia "remains committed to the peace process in the Middle East as we have always said," but it refused to say on what basis it continues to hold this view.

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter, under sharp questioning about the belief that the Saudis induced Egypt to issue its demand that Israel withdraw completely from all areas taken in the Six-Day War, declared to reporters that the U.S. position of last spring about Saudi Arabia being in support of the peace process "is still a valid argument."

Carter's remarks came as Senators who accepted the Carter Administration's argument last May and voted to provide 60 F-15 warplanes to Saudi Arabia were preparing a letter of protest that reportedly says in effect that the positive impact on peace attributed to Saudi Arabia is not taking place. When Carter was asked about this, he said he had not seen the letter and would not comment.

A summation of overseas comments widely circulated among high U.S. officials today said that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's ultimatum last Sunday suggested that it is an attempt to force the U.S. to offer its own proposals for a Middle East settlement and that Egypt was abandoning its separate peace talks with Israel at the bidding of Saudi Arabia because the Saudis favor Arab unity in dealing with Israel.

#### STRONG APPEAL TO SAVE YIDDISH By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 2 (JTA)--A strong appeal to prevent Yiddish from becoming an obsolete language, of interest largely to research scholars, by a major effort to revive and develop Yiddish to make it again a cement between various Jewish groups and a dam against assimilation emerged from the first meeting of the World Council for Yiddish and Jewish Culture. The Council is the executive body of the World Bureau for Yiddish and Jewish

Culture established in 1977 at a world convention of Yiddish writers in Jerusalem. Evidence of a yearning for Yiddish was made manifest by the size of the audience which gathered for the festive opening at the large Ohel Shem Hall of Tel Aviv which was filled to capacity.

Itzhak Korn, chairman of the World Bureau, discussed various plans to promote Yiddish and reported that Habimah, the Israel National Theater, had been asked to create a Yiddish theater of high standards to perform six months in Israel and six months abroad. Korn said that, in preliminary talks, Habimah officials seemed ready to assist in such a project.

The Council also approved a decision to publish at least 10 books a year within the framework of the Good Yiddish Book Club. Other resolutions dealt with the need for helping the present Jewish press, which encounters economic problems. Some 45 delegates from 14 countries participated.

### HOUSE UNIT APPROVES AMENDMENT IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL'S MILITARY NEEDS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (JTA)--The House of Representatives today approved an amendment in support of Israel's military requirements while it was debating the Foreign Aid Authorization Bill. Approval was by a voice vote and without dissent.

The amendment, offered by Rep. Lester Wolff (D., N.Y.), a member of the House International Relations Committee, is much less comprehensive than the amendment adopted by an 87-0 vote in the Senate last week in support of Israel. The Senate amendment, in addition to calling for U.S. military equipment transfers to Israel, also advocated Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations without preconditions. A House-Senate conference committee will iron out the differences between the two versions when the bills come before it for adjustment.

The text of the Wolf Amendment is: "It is the sense of the Congress that the United States should be responsive to the defense requirements of Israel and sell Israel additional advance aircrafts in order to maintain Israel's defense capability, which is essential to peace."

### PROPOSE ABOLISHING MANDATORY LAW

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir submitted to the Knesset today a bill abolishing unlimited administrative detentions by the army. According to the new bill, administrative detentions by the Ministry of Defense will be carried out subject to their approval by a district court. Each detention will have to be approved within two months by the president of the district court. The president will have to review each such file once every three months.

Introducing the bill to the Knesset at its last meeting before the summer recess, Tamir said the existing regulations were used during the British Mandate period to hold Jews prisoners for unlimited periods of time, and it was high time to change them. The bill won praise from strong critics of the government, such as MKs Shulamit Aloni of the Civil Rights Movement and Meir Pailin of Sheli, who termed it liberal and progressive.

### 3000-YEAR-OLD TABLET FOUND

TEL AVIV, Aug. 2 (JTA)--A clay tablet believed to be 3000 years old was found by archae-

ologists digging at the site of a Canaanite royal city. The tablet, which is inscribed with greetings and a request for the immediate dispatch of grain, appears to be a letter from a Canaanite official in what is now northern Syria to a governor stationed in Egypt or at a site near present-day Tel Aviv. Scholars say that the royal Canaanite city was conquered by the Pharaohs in the 13th Century BCE and was later a Philistine stronghold. Fifteen of the 19 lines of script on the tablet have already been deciphered. The excavation at Tel Afek involves students and scholars from the United States and Israel.

### REPORT U.S. ENVOY SAID BEGIN IS BEST CHANCE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDEAST

NEW YORK, Aug. 2 (JTA)--U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis told several members of Vice President Walter Mondale's mission to Israel when they were there on the July 4 weekend that "Menachem Begin is the best chance for peace in the Middle East," it was reported by a member of the group, Howard Samuels, former member of President Lyndon Johnson's Cabinet and a prominent American Jew. He disclosed this on nationally syndicated columnist Victor Riesel's WEVD Radio program last weekend. The comment by Lewis was reported by Samuels during a discussion with Riesel of the controversy in Israel over Begin's ability to govern.

Samuels, a businessman and a former acting Secretary of Commerce in the Johnson Administration, also told Riesel that there are "good reasons" for the element of deep suspicion that exists in the American Jewish community regarding the Carter Administration's Middle East intentions. Nevertheless, he said he was confident that Carter "will not sell Israel down the river" and that the Administration has no plan to dump Begin, an allusion to reports earlier this year that some Administration forces preferred to see the Begin government toppled.

Comparing a visit he made to Israel in 1968 with the one last month, Samuels said he now found a lack of economic growth, a 30-40 percent inflation with 40 percent of the Gross National Product going to defense. He also noted that the lack of real managerial techniques is hampering Israel's economy.

### WALDHEIM CONCERNED ABOUT S. LEBANON By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 2 (JTA)--Secretary General Kurt Waldheim sent last night a personal cable to Premier Menachem Begin at Israel concerning the situation in south Lebanon, a United Nations spokesman said today. According to the spokesman, Waldheim's cable was part of the Secretary General's ongoing meetings and contacts with the parties.

The spokesman added that Waldheim described the situation in south Lebanon as being "extremely serious." There were clashes between Lebanese government forces, Christian troops and the United Nations peace-keeping forces in south Lebanon in the last few days. The spokesman added, however, that a Security Council meeting on the south Lebanese situation has not been requested by anybody so far.

### EARTHWORKS IN THE GOLAN

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund has completed ground-clearing work at five Golan Heights settlements: at Ortal, a Kibbutz Hameuchad settlement; Kibbutz Natur; Yanathan, a Mizrahi Kibbutz; and at Har Odem, a new Moshav collective. The fifth site was not identified.

**ALERT ISSUED ON MISSIONARY MATERIALS**

NEW YORK, Aug. 2 (JTA)—The Task Force on Missionary Activity of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) has issued an alert to Jewish educational institutions, camps, synagogues and Jewish organizations to be alert to a massive influx of missionary materials aimed at proselytization within the Jewish community. The JCRC reported that it has received reports from every borough in the metropolitan area indicating that Hebrew-Christian groups were engaging in a city-wide campaign to convert Jews, according to Dr. Seymour Lachman, chairman of the Task Force.

"Last year we witnessed the first such massive influx of personnel and materials. Clearly, during the past few weeks, the number of people in the streets is even greater than ever, with an all-out saturation campaign underway," Lachman said. "We must not dismiss the distribution of leaflets and material as unimportant. At the very least it is a means of establishing contact. Many of these publications are very clever and humorous drawing the attention especially of young people."

He reported that it has already been estimated that several hundred thousand brochures have already been distributed in New York, and that these efforts are likely to continue through the summer until Labor Day. Lachman urged people to report to the JCRC the location of Hebrew-Christian and other missionary groups, and all such activities directed at the Jewish community. He also encouraged parents and teachers who know of young people who may have been involved in these activities to contact the JCRC. The address is: Task Force on Missionary Activity, Jewish Community Relations Council, 111 West 40th Street, New York City.

**ISRAEL BONDS LAUNCHES 1978-5738 HIGH HOLYDAYS CAMPAIGN IN U.S., CANADA**

JERUSALEM, Aug. 2 (JTA)—The 1978-5738 State of Israel Bond Organization High Holydays campaign involving 2000 U.S. and Canadian synagogues was launched here by Israel Bond leaders from North America. This year's campaign effort utilizing the theme "From Holocaust to Redemption" was signaled by a special conference ceremony at Yad Vashem and the Western Wall. Those synagogues in North America conducting an Israel Bond High Holydays appeal will receive an especially engraved and handcrafted shofar made in Israel to be used during the religious service, it was announced here.

"The sound of the shofar will soon be heard once again in houses of worship across the land. Its message is clear: it is a rallying call for ever greater unity and effort in providing moral and economic aid to Israel," said Michael Aron, president and chief executive officer of the Israel Bond Organization.

During the Yad Vashem ceremony, Stanley Tannenbaum of Chicago re-kindled the eternal memorial flame, and Jeanne Levin of Rockland County (N.Y.) and Max Nosanchik of Detroit laid a memorial wreath on the entombed ashes of martyred Jews gathered from the crematoria of the infamous Nazi death camps.

Rabbi Irving Lehman of Miami told Bond leaders assembled for a special ceremony at the Western Wall that "we have chosen as our theme for the coming High Holydays campaign 'From Holocaust to Redemption,' enabling Jewish communities in North America to reaffirm their sacred bond with the destiny of the Jewish people through

the specific act of Israel Bond purchases."

Lehman read from a declaration of "Affirmation for Israel" to be signed by rabbis and laymen in the U.S. and Canada. The declaration contains a commitment to ensure that their congregations will participate in the Bond appeal effort and to urge every member through the purchase of an Israel Bond to declare: "Israel, you can count on me."

The delegation is visiting Israel under the leadership of Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israel 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.

**LOTTIE RIVEN DEAD AT 80**

MONTREAL, Aug. 2 (JTA)—Lottie Riven, who gave a lifetime of service to Canadian Jewry and the building of the State of Israel, died here at the age of 80. She served as national president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO from 1955-1960 after having served in many other important positions. She was honorary president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO and a member of the World WIZO Executive. She was the first Canadian woman to receive the Governor Herbert Lehman Award in recognition of her manifold contributions to humanitarian organizations.

Mrs. Riven was also a member of the National Council of Canadian Jewish Congress; National Council of the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Governor of the Board of the Jewish National Fund; and Governor of the National Board of the Canada-Israel Corporation.

She held membership in a variety of women's organizations and participated in various community endeavors, including the Jewish General Hospital, Women's Canadian Club, Canadian Consumer's League, Weizmann Institute (Canada) and many others.

**Recipient Of Many Honors**

In the international field, Mrs. Riven was elected to the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1957. In 1968 she was awarded the Hebrew University medal for distinguished service to the University. She represented Canada and participated as an executive member of several world-wide humanitarian organizations. In 1966 she was elected to the World WIZO Executive and until the time of her death served as an ad personam member of World WIZO.

The recipient of many honors, Mrs. Riven was decorated by King George VI in 1937 with the Commemoration medal on the occasion of their Majesties Coronation, and on the occasion of Canada's Centennial in 1967, she was awarded the Centennial Medal by Queen Elizabeth II. Among her most cherished tributes, however, was her selection in 1960 as the "Women of the Year" by the Jewish National Fund. A village was named for her at Yash Resh in Israel.

NEW YORK (JTA)—Menachem Begin, Golda Meir, and Thomas Havens are among the worldwide personalities in politics, the arts and sciences who will address the 64th annual National Convention of Hadassah in Israel, Sept. 19-25. Bernice S. Tannenbaum, national president of Hadassah, announced Wednesday. Over 3,000 delegates and guests from the United States and Puerto Rico will attend the seven-day convention.