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JNESCO CONFERENCE CONDEMNS ISRAEL

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) conference today adopted an Arab-sponsored resolution condemning Israel for allegedly depriving Palestinian Arabs in the Israeli administered territories of their rights to culture and education. After the vote was taken confirming a resolution adopted in commission earlier this month, the Israeli delegate, Ambassador Amiel Najar, told the conference: "This has nothing to do with culture or education. It is part of the Arab political war against Israel."

The conference, which voted 55-6 with 27 abstaining, also reintroduced the earlier 1974 and 1976 resolutions blaming Israel. It also called on the organization's Director General, Amadou Mukhtar M'Bow, to send a UNESCO mission to investigate Israeli-sponsored educational and cultural facilities in the West Bank, Gaza and "occupied Jerusalem."

The Israeli delegation had earlier said that Israel will not allow another UNESCO mission to investigate inside Israel and Israeli administered territories. The Israeli stand was upheld by the Canadian delegate, Yvon Beaulne, who said "the resolution is so harsh as to make it virtually impossible for Israel to carry out."

The general conference is expected to approve tomorrow another Arab-sponsored resolution accusing Israel of damaging the Arab character of Jerusalem and of carrying out "illegal" archaeological diggings.

Explanation Deemed Unsatisfactory

M'Bow admitted to the conference today that he withheld a report of a previous mission sent to investigate educational conditions in Israel. He said the six-member mission returned with five reports and a covering letter from its chief, Paul Marc Henry. M'Bow said he did not release Henry's letter because it was "mainly political," adding:

"For two years UNESCO has been harangued and attacked for having become a political organization. The same people who attacked us then, attack us now because I did not submit a paper that had a definite political coloration. Political matters are for the United Nations not for UNESCO." M'Bow concluded: "Never have I approached this matter from a political standpoint."

The United States and most Western delegations had supported earlier Israeli accusations charging M'Bow with having edited pro-Israeli findings out of the report. These delegations privately said after the Director General's speech that they were not satisfied with his explanations.

BEGIN TO OSLO NEXT WEEKEND

JERUSALEM, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin will leave for Oslo next weekend to accept the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize at ceremonies there Dec. 10. President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is the co-recipient. Begin will remain in Oslo for 3-4 days. He will be accompanied by a small entourage. The Prize Committee has granted the Premier only 30 seats for guests at the cer-

emony and some of these will be occupied by Jewish leaders from around the world. Among the activities planned for the Premier's stay are a festive dinner in honor of him and Sadat and a press conference.

AUTHOR OF WINNING FILM WAS A NAZI

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- Anton Roothaert, the author of the Dutch novel, "Doctor Vlimmen," now a Dutch film which has just won a Gold Award at the Miami Film Festival, was notorious for his Nazi sympathies both before and during World War II. From the early 1930s till his death in 1967, Roothaert lived in Belgium as he was persona non grata in The Netherlands. In addition to his "Doctor Vlimmen" series he also wrote some novels that are outspokenly anti-Semitic.

ILO DIRECTOR LAUDS ISRAEL'S LABOR LAWS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- Bertal Bolin, the director general of the International Labor Organization (ILO), lauded the labor laws in Israel, praising its educational programs for workers and assistance to developing nations. Bolin, who is visiting Israel, noted that the international labor community admired Israel, both because of its labor laws and because it did not leave the ILO following its 1974 ruling which denounced Israel's policies in the occupied territories.

"Israel possesses a good name in the organization due to its labor laws," Bolin said, adding that a similar resolution denouncing Israel was not brought up at the 1978 meeting of the ILO. Bolin, of Switzerland, is presently in Israel to celebrate the establishment of the Afro-Asian Institute and for talks with Israel's Minister of Labor, Israel Katz.

WEST BANK, EAST JERUSALEM ARABS REJECT INVITATION TO VISIT CAIRO

JERUSALEM, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- West Bank public figures recently rejected an Egyptian invitation to visit Cairo in order to discuss the future of the West Bank and East Jerusalem, it was reported yesterday in Maariv. It was revealed that the invitation, conveyed to leading Arab personalities on the West Bank and in East Jerusalem, came from Egyptian diplomats stationed in Western Europe, in an attempt to increase the participation of West Bank residents in their future.

The West Bank and East Jerusalem figures rejected the invitation because they felt the Israeli autonomy plan does not sufficiently deal with their needs. Israeli sources, however, noted that while there is little support for the plan among West Bank personalities, implementation of it will alter the negative stand assumed by many of the West Bankers till now.

U.S. REEMPHASIZES ITS 'COMPROMISE' VIEW ON WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- The United States reemphasized today its "compromise" view that Israel and Egypt should join in a commitment for Palestinian elections for an administrative council on the West Bank and Gaza Strip that would be tied to an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. This view emerged again when the State Department's

chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, said that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's interview published in The New York Times' Saturday represented the U.S. position.

Carter also reiterated the Department's assertion, made twice last week, that Israel has not accepted "one element" in the U.S. compromise proposal, meaning "linkage." In reporting the Vance-interview, The Times said "it is understood that the American proposal, in the form of a page and a quarter 'side letter' to the treaty text, calls on Egypt and Israel to negotiate in good faith and continuously with the objective of holding elections not later than the end of 1979."

Carter told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that no transcript of the interview was available but he did not deny or amend any of the statements in it, either attributed to Vance or made by The Times reporter. The Times story said that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan had "accepted" the "American compromise proposal" on Nov. 11.

Israeli sources here, asked about the interview, denied this and explained that it was not up to Dayan to accept or reject the U.S. proposal. They noted that the Israeli Cabinet determines Israel's position and that it has rejected any linkage of the Palestinian elections with the peace treaty. The sources said the Cabinet accepted the American treaty draft, including the preamble and three annexes but not a "side letter" or any other committing text on linkage.

Egyptian sources are continuing to insist on a linkage timetable although the Camp David accords specifically set forth two frameworks that President Carter has declared are "not legally related." The U.S. compromise is seen as a "bridge" to enable Egypt to have its way and thereby help appease Arab elements antagonistic to peace negotiations.

U.S. Waiting For Sadat's Answer

Hodding Carter said that the U.S. is waiting for President Anwar Sadat's "answer" to the American "compromise" which may be delivered to U.S. officials tomorrow. After that, he said, the U.S. will consult with both Israel and Egypt on how "next to proceed with both sides." He refused to accept a suggestion that the Blair House talks are "suspended."

Carter had no comment on a Damascus report that PLO leader Yasir Arafat told a visiting American Congressman that he was prepared to give Israel tacit de facto recognition if Israel agreed to a Palestinian state. Carter repeated, when asked, that the U.S. position toward the PLO remains unchanged.

BLUM SAYS APARTHEID ISSUE USED AS SMOKESCREEN TO ATTACK ISRAEL

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, charged here that the issue of apartheid is being used to single out Israel for condemnation over allegations of military and commercial involvements with South Africa that have been shown by Israel, time and again, to be groundless.

Addressing the 33rd General Assembly last Friday "On the Question of Apartheid," Blum referred to the Nov. 20th report by the Special Committee Against Apartheid which contains a paragraph entitled "Recent Developments in the Relations Between Israel and South Africa."

In his speech, the Israeli envoy recalled that "in 1976, against the strong opposition of many members here, the Arab states and their

supporters forced through a special resolution singling out Israel for having relations with South Africa, a proposition so absurd and devisive that it severely undermined the very purpose of the annual debate on apartheid."

"But the issue of apartheid was not then, nor is it now, the real concern of the sponsors of that special resolution," Blum declared. "Over the opposition of many African members and others throughout the world, they subverted every forum and debate in their frenzied campaign to accumulate as many anti-Israel resolutions as they could."

Blum stated that "it should not be necessary to reaffirm our credentials. For the position of the government of Israel with regard to apartheid remains unchanged and indeed our position as a people has remained consistent for more than 3000 years. The basic tenets of Judaism as enshrined in the Bible are totally irreconcilable with any form of racism and racial discrimination," he said.

No Nuclear Collaboration

The Israeli diplomat said that Israel has denied, in the past and "for the record...again categorically denied the implied allegation about nuclear collaboration" with South Africa. He noted that while Section III of the report is entitled "Military and Nuclear Collaboration," there is "not a word" about nuclear collaboration in that section "for the simple reason that such collaboration does not exist."

With respect to charges that Israel trades with South Africa, Blum observed that "we have never hidden or denied our policy and we have always maintained that (trade) relations with governments which have different policies and ideologies in no way imply acquiescence in those ideologies." He pointed out that "figures relating to trade can be learned from official international publications which reveal that Israel's trade with South Africa still constitutes no more than 2/5 of 1 percent of the latter's foreign trade."

Blum said that Israel would be prepared to discuss its economic links with South Africa "on the simple proviso that precisely the same standards be applied to every state represented here. If it is economic ties to South Africa that are at issue, let us receive a full account of all trade, investment, tourism, gold purchases, oil supplies and visits; both overt and covert and let us then vote on a separate resolution for every country found to maintain such links."

SPECIAL ANALYSIS

THE LINKAGE-TIMETABLE ISSUE

By David Landau

CAIRO, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- How did the issue of the linkage-timetable emerge to bedevil the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks just when it seemed that a treaty was at the point of conclusion? A visit to Cairo frankly has not enabled this reporter to understand any better, how the problem evolved. But it has helped to underscore the complexities of the issue, of Egypt's position and of the inter-Arab pressures and considerations that affect it.

Israelis have certain theories as to why President Anwar Sadat felt obliged at this time to jack up his demands and is now pressing for a specific timetable for implementation of the Palestinian autonomy scheme. They cite the Baghdad summit meeting of the rejectionist states at which Saudi Arabia unexpectedly threw its weight behind the hardliners. Some Israelis, like former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, are also criticizing their own government for rejecting, a month ago, the loose linkage language in the preamble of the draft treaty that it accepted belatedly last week.

Egypt's Foreign Minister, Butros Ghali, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency over the weekend that the timetable-linkage issue was, in fact, discussed at Camp David and that it figured in the Blair House talks in Washington from their outset more than a month ago. Other Egyptian diplomats in a position to know affirm with utter conviction that the timetable was not a last-minute escalation but a concept that was present throughout the negotiations.

The Israeli negotiators, on the other hand, expressed astonishment when Egypt raised the issue publicly last month. A timetable is nowhere mentioned in the Camp David frameworks for peace and to that extent Israel is correct in branding it a "deviation" from Camp David. But, assuming it was discussed at Camp David, did the Israeli negotiators believe the issue would simply fade away if they ignored it? Or perhaps they felt that its omission from the frameworks, which Egypt signed, meant the Egyptians were prepared to drop it.

Cairo says it needs the timetable in order to coax the Palestinians to the negotiating table by proving to them that Israel is sincere about autonomy. The initial negative reactions and suspicions of most West Bankers to the autonomy scheme was "predictable," top Egyptian officials say.

But the Egyptians say, if they can present a specific timetable by which Israel commits itself to establish autonomy by a definite date, this would go a long way toward allaying the suspicions. The Palestinians would then be forced to concede that Camp David was not just a cover for a separate peace with Israel, as the Arab hardliners allege, but provided a genuine opportunity for them to advance toward political self-expression.

The Egyptian scenario appears to sound cogent and convincing, especially when it is accompanied by the knowing assurance that "just give us the timetable and leave it to us--we have the power to institute autonomy against the opposition of die-hard Palestinian extremists." But Ghali himself is forced to concede that the Egyptians believed at Camp David--as did the U.S. and the Israelis--that the autonomy scheme could be set up and functioning within three months. Top U.S. policymakers briefed reporters to that effect the day after the Camp David conference ended.

Two Ready Responses

The distinct lack of enthusiasm displayed on the West Bank in fact took Egypt and the U.S. by surprise. Washington would not have dispatched special Ambassador Alfred L. Atherton, followed by Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders, to the West Bank had it expected so cool and even hostile a reception to the Camp David accords.

But if the three-month prognosis proved so ill-founded, does this not augur badly for the nine-month or 12-month forecast now made by Egypt in its linkage-timetable demands? There are two ready responses given in Cairo to this question, neither of them very reassuring from Israel's standpoint.

The first is that it was Israel's fault that the Camp David accords were so ungraciously received on the West Bank. Premier Menachem Begin's statements about the future of that territory and his squabble with the U.S. over the duration of the freeze on settlements had the effect of reinforcing Palestinian suspicions which the "framework for peace" and the autonomy agreement might have otherwise eased, the Egyptians contend.

The second response is that if, despite the timetable as evidence of the good intentions of Israel and Egypt, the West Bank still rejects the autonomy scheme, "then we (Egyptians) shall have done our best in our own eyes and the eyes of the Arab world."

The rider often attached to this second line of reasoning is that the autonomy scheme should at least be implemented promptly in the Gaza Strip where Egypt, without question, has the necessary influence to gain its adoption by the local leadership and populace. This reasoning is further recommended for Israeli consideration by the added suggestion of some form of "insurance clause," to be formulated by Israel, Egypt and the U.S., that would effectively prevent the peace treaty from being prejudiced if it proves impossible for objective reasons to apply autonomy on the West Bank.

Sadat's former spokesman, Tahsin Basir, asserted yesterday that "man is not bound by texts, only by will and imagination." Basir, currently Egypt's Ambassador to the Arab League, was seeking to explain why Israel's fear of a linkage-timetable was groundless. Probably -- hopefully -- the two sides, prodded by the Americans, will devise some "insurance clause" that, together with a whittled down form of timetable -- perhaps couched in supportive rather than imperative terms -- will be found acceptable.

The Saudi Arabian Factor

Adding to the complexity of the linkage-timetable crisis is the Saudi Arabian factor, its mystery by no means elucidated by the soothing reassurances one hears from the Egyptians. Sadat, it is said, "laughed off" the Baghdad summit. But other sources say he was angered and disturbed by the spectacle of the Saudi Crown Prince Fahd lining up with the Iraqis and Syrians in condemnation of Egypt. The Iraqis themselves, it is widely conceded here, dealt Sadat an uncomfortable blow by their relative moderation at the summit meeting. He would have been better served, at least in the tactical short term, by a reiteration of their traditional fundamentalism.

In the long run, however, an Egyptian official observed wryly, Baghdad was a vindication of the Sadat peace initiative. It represented a recognition by the Arab world -- including its most intransigent elements -- that a political settlement is the only feasible solution of the Middle East conflict. But, meanwhile, the Saudis seem to have been influenced more by hardliners than the hardliners by them.

Every Egyptian in an official or semi-official capacity insists that the Baghdad meeting did not trigger a stiffening of Egypt's negotiating demands. At the same time, officials here maintain that a linkage-timetable would assuage Saudi misgivings and bring them back behind the Camp David accords. A visitor familiar only from afar with inter-Arab statecraft, can only listen, report and try to understand.

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) -- The General Assembly's Political Committee (First Committee) adopted Monday an Iraqi sponsored draft resolution which calls on the Security Council to impose an arms embargo on Israel. The vote was 68-24 with 33 abstentions. The United States, the European Economic Community countries and Israel were among the countries that voted against the draft resolution. Yehuda Blum, Israel's UN Ambassador, denounced the resolution in a speech before the Committee. The resolution will be presented for a vote in the General Assembly. Diplomats here said the Security Council is not likely to adopt the anti-Israel measure because it will probably be vetoed by the U.S.

ORTHODOX JEWISH LEADERS SUGGEST ESTABLISHING MECHANISM TO ENFORCE ETHICS IN THE ORTHODOX COMMUNITY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- Orthodox Jewish leaders discussed the suggestion of establishing a self-policing mechanism to enforce ethics within the Orthodox Jewish community at a Sabbath evening forum of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (UOJCA) national convention here. The session was one aspect of the convention's theme, "Jewish Priorities for the Eighties: Towards an Orthodox Renaissance," whose aim was to launch a massive, two-year effort to draft a master plan for the Jewish community in the decades ahead.

Rabbi Maurice Lamm, of Congregation Beth Jacob, Beverly Hills, California, stated that "the Jewish community must develop a built-in mechanism designed to prevent those who are proven of civil and moral crimes from holding positions of trust in the community." He suggested two specific measures to deal with the problem, which he described as "pragmatic" and "educational."

The pragmatic approach calls for the incorporation of "a specific by-law or amendment, which would automatically remove any officer or member of a governing body upon conviction of a felony, even before sentencing." Lamm explained that the main advantage of this approach is that "since it would not be directed against any specific individual, it would likely be adopted unanimously by virtually all Jewish organizations."

Lamm's educational approach calls for "a special intensive curriculum of "mussar" (traditional Jewish ethics) studies to be instituted in all of our schools, with added incentives and rewards for students whose "midos" (personal ethical standards of behavior) excel." He expressed the hope that through such an intensive educational program further ethical embarrassments in the Jewish community can be avoided.

Calls For National Bet Din

Rabbi J. David Bleich, of the Yorkville Synagogue and Yeshiva University in New York, called for the establishment of a national Bet Din (ecclesiastic court) composed of rabbinic authorities designated by each of the four major Orthodox rabbinic organizations in the United States. This body would be empowered to deal authoritatively with the many halachic and ethical issues facing the Jewish community.

Noting that each of these Orthodox rabbinic bodies sponsors its own Bet Din, Bleich pointed out that the activities of presently existing rabbinic courts are limited to execution of "gitten" (bills of divorce) and sitting in judgments with regard to financial disputes when all parties accept the jurisdiction of the Bet Din. Precisely because of the plurality of such bodies, no one can speak on behalf of the community as an entirety, he said.

Bleich deplored those symptoms which he said indicate a lack of ethical sensitivity within the Orthodox community. He pointed to instances in which husbands cannot be compelled to issue a religious divorce even after the marriage has irrevocably deteriorated, unethical business practices on the part of individuals and the issuing of fraudulent kashruth certification.

Bleich emphasized that "this situation can be corrected. Judaism does provide for social and religious sanctions designed to enforce compliance with the dictates of Jewish law. Yet no individual rabbi or group of rabbis feels authorized to employ

such sanctions because no person or group represents the community as a whole."

Emphasizing the need for all segments of the Orthodox community to be represented on a single Bet Din, Bleich said: "Such a Bet Din would be empowered to compel individuals and organizations to appear before it, to defend actions and policies and would have 'subpoena power' to compel surrender of financial records and documents."

NATIONAL HEBREW DAY SCHOOL GROUP TO INCREASE SCHOOLS IN NORTH AMERICA, EXPAND MOVEMENT TO SOUTH AMERICA

NEW YORK, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- An increase in the number of Hebrew day schools on a high school level in North America and an outreach program for Jewish communities in Central and South America were the two major commitments advanced by the nearly 1000 delegates and guests who attended the 35th annual Torah Umesorah Awards Dinner at the New York Hilton last week.

The South America component will include both Ashkenazic and Sephardic communities in Argentina, Brazil, Panama and Venezuela. North American task forces and educational survey teams under Torah Umesorah's direction will be involved, according to plans announced at the annual function of the Hebrew day school movement by Kenneth Spetner, dinner chairman.

The delegates and guests, which included educators, seminary deans and prominent rabbis and representatives of the 170 communities in North America which now have Hebrew day schools, paid tribute to Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, internationally known educator and scholar who has served for more than three decades as national director of Torah Umesorah. Kaminetsky received a sacred scroll (Sefer Torah) on behalf of the 92,000 children now studying at some 516 Hebrew day schools in North America.

The annual Torah Umesorah report just issued pointed out that in the 35 years of Torah Umesorah's existence, day school enrollment grew from 7500 pupils to 93,000 and from 30 schools to 516 schools in the United States and Canada.

NO VISA FOR ROITBURD

NEW YORK, Nov. 27 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has reneged on a promise it made to Senator Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) in September and has decided not to grant an exit visa to Lev Roitburd, according to information received today by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Roitburd, 42, was one of 18 refuseniks whose application Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev had agreed to expedite during talks with Kennedy.

An engineer from Odessa, Roitburd is a former Prisoner of Conscience who served a two-year sentence of internal exile for "resisting arrest." His arrest occurred in 1975 while on his way to a meeting in Moscow with Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D. Conn.) and several other U.S. Senators. During his trip to the Soviet Union earlier this month, Ribicoff did not discuss Roitburd with Soviet authorities because it appeared that the promise to Kennedy was being met. * * *

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The exchange rate of the U.S. dollar will reach IL 26 at the end of the next fiscal year, according to the draft budget prepared by the Treasury. The dollar now stands at 19 Israel Pounds. But with an expected devaluation rate of some 40 percent until April, 1980, the dollar will cost seven more Pounds. By April, 1979, the Treasury expects the dollar to stand at IL 22, a devaluation of 15 percent.