

VANCE'S UPBEAT MOOD ABOUT CAIRO'S NEW REACTION TO PEACE TREATY STIRS SUSPICION OF NEW PRESSURES ON ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Cyrus Vance flew back to Israel this morning for a day of talks with Premier Menachem Begin and his ministers. The mood in political circles here was one of sober realization that the U.S. is seriously determined to try and meet the Dec. 17 deadline set by the Camp David accords for the conclusion of the treaty.

At the same time, there were expressions of rueful suspicion voiced in some quarters at the atmosphere of intense and optimistic expectancy that had been generated -- apparently deliberately -- by Vance and his party in their markedly upbeat statements from Cairo during the past 24 hours. The suspicion was that these statements -- "We have finished with these two issues" (linkage and Article VI); "We have made good progress" -- were designed to focus expectations on Israel now as a means of psychological pressure.

Vance met with Begin, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman this morning and later with the seven-member Ministerial Defense Committee. Dayan was scheduled to give a working dinner for Vance this evening. Officials said there might be more talks tomorrow before Vance returns to Cairo.

There was gratification here at reports that President Anwar Sadat is now prepared to accept the nine-article draft treaty intact, having apparently dropped his earlier demands for changes in Article VI, the priority of obligations clause. One highly placed source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency before Vance's arrival that the U.S. might propose letters setting out the differing interpretations of Article VI by the two sides as a way to overcome the dispute on this key issue.

Egypt insists that its obligations under the 1950 Arab League defense pact would take precedence over its peace treaty with Israel in the event that Israel attacked a sister Arab state. Egypt argues that Article VI, even as presently phrased in the draft treaty, clearly implies that interpretation, because it says "subject to the UN Charter" and in that Charter the right of collective self-defense is considered inalienable.

In practice, of course, the legal-political difficulty would arise over the meaning of the word "attack." Conceivably, Egypt could argue in the future that Israel's continuing presence on the Golan Heights represents an ongoing attack against Syria, justifying Egypt's intervention on Syria's behalf. The U.S. may well be offering Israel separate assurance, also linked to the overall treaty package, on the question of defining "attack."

ISRAEL READY TO HELP RESCUE AND REHABILITATE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

GENEVA, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Israel said here that it was prepared to offer its experience in the rescue and rehabilitation of refugees to assist in international efforts to aid the homeless refugees ("Boat People") from Vietnam. Joel Barzani, Is-

rael's Ambassador to the United Nations here, made that statement during the special conference on refugees in Southeast Asia convened by the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees.

Barzani noted that Israel is "a country built by refugees and we are certainly sensitive to the suffering of desperate human beings in search of a home." He recalled that Israel was instrumental in rescuing a group of Vietnamese refugees at sea and "a small community of Vietnamese refugees was admitted to our country last year and was rapidly integrated in Israel's life."

The envoy said that "Israel is ready to assist refugees who have reached countries of temporary asylum through the supply of medications. Our experience in resettlement and productivization of refugees could also be instrumental for the development of self-supporting projects."

However, Barzani stressed, "This could be done only within the framework and financing of established international aid. Perhaps more could be done later as now Israel envisages a difficult transition period on the way to peace in our area. Let us hope that the new hoped for situation will enable us to give in the future larger assistance."

2 SOVIET JEWRY GROUPS REJECT CHARGES OF MISREPRESENTATION IN KATZ CASE

BOSTON, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Two organizations working for Soviet Jews today rejected charges by Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, that they had misrepresented facts in the case of Jessica Katz. Dulzin made his charge in an address on Soviet Jewry to the United Jewish Appeal 40th anniversary conference in New York last weekend. Robert Gordon, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ), stated:

"Action for Soviet Jews and the UCSJ reject Mr. Dulzin's claim that misrepresentations were made by Boston activist groups with regard to Jessica Katz. The facts of the Jessica Katz case were always accurately presented by the AFSJ and UCSJ. Mr. Dulzin's claim that the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) is the 'official spokesman for American Jewry' on Soviet Jewish affairs is meaningless in that the UCSJ is composed of organizations in 23 American cities representing roughly 1 1/2 million American Jews. His statement that the NCSJ had ever warned Boston activist groups against 'exaggerating claims' and 'misrepresentation of facts' is both untrue and presumptuous."

The controversy arose over the reported serious illness of Jessica Katz, the 14-month-old daughter of Boris and Natasha Katz of Moscow who arrived in Boston recently from the Soviet Union. The child appeared to be in good health when she arrived although reports in the press, some of them based on information from Soviet Jewry activists, and some based on the newspapers' own correspondents in Moscow, stated that she was gravely ill and was brought to the U.S. for medical treatment unavailable in the Soviet Union. The child had been ill last spring but apparently recovered.

ADMINISTRATION DIFFERS WITH BYRD

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- The Carter Administration differed today with Democratic

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd of West Virginia who warned yesterday that the new Congress "will be reluctant to increase Israeli aid while Israel continues to spend on the proliferation of new settlements" on the West Bank. "The Senator was speaking as Senator Byrd," the State Department's chief spokesman Hodding Carter said when asked about Byrd's remarks following his return from visits to Israel and Egypt as an emissary of President Carter.

The spokesman said that while Byrd made a report to the President on his trip, "I assume" that he stopped being the President's envoy "when he left the Middle East." He said that he would not "interpret" Byrd's remarks. However, he stressed that "we have never made linkage" between aid to Israel and Israel's settlements in the occupied territories. Asked if aid to Israel was conditional on the settlements issue, Carter replied, "No."

He repeated that there is "no linkage" and said the aid issue "is not in that direction at all." He added, "It is fundamental that Israel's security needs stand in and of themselves and are approached in and of themselves. Our commitment to those needs is a commitment we have undertaken for three decades -- at least to its security -- and we would not abandon that overall commitment."

Asked about Israel's establishment of settlements in the occupied territories and its security requirements, Carter noted that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has spoken on the settlements which the U.S. regards as illegal. But, he added, "there is nothing new on Israel's settlements nor on Israel's security needs in that whole area, which are not necessarily the same thing at all."

Regarding the matter of U.S. support to Israel for the construction of new bases in the Negrev to replace those to be abandoned when Israel withdraws from Sinai, Carter said the subject was continuing "in our internal discussions." He referred to the letters exchanged between Defense Secretary Harold Brown and Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman after the Camp David conference. He also reported that the American team that visited Israel on that matter has returned to Washington.

NAZI IDEAS ALIVE IN LATIN AMERICA

CHICAGO, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Nazi ideology is alive and competing in the marketplace of ideas in Latin America, Rabbi Morton M. Rosenthal told a Midwest regional meeting of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Rosenthal, who heads the ADL's Latin American affairs department, has just returned from a visit to Brazil, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. Although hopeful that democracy will gain strength in Latin America, Rosenthal asserted that the Nazi war criminals who found haven in the region and their supporters pose a continuing threat to efforts to reestablish democracy in the Southern Hemisphere.

He expressed his concern that if the German government permits the statute of limitations on war crimes to expire at the end of 1979, the Nazis who have found refuge there will be emboldened to act more aggressively.

Speaking of the former commander of the Sobibor concentration camp, Gustav Franz Wagner, Rosenthal expressed optimism that the Supreme Court of Brazil would grant the German government's request for his extradition. Wagner, who has lived in Sao Paulo since fleeing Germany, was arrested earlier this year after a Nazi meet-

ing outside Rio de Janeiro.

Political Prisoners In Argentina

Rosenthal told the group that the most vexing problem with which the ADL's Latin American affairs department is now confronted is that of political prisoners in Argentina and those who have disappeared in that country.

Relatives and friends of Jews in Argentina have been appealing to ADL for help in locating the disappeared and securing the release of those detained without charges. More than 1000 such cases have been registered with the ADL. Rosenthal indicated that the problems of disappearances and political detentions are affecting all segments of the Argentine society and are not specifically Jewish problems.

The leading human rights group in Argentina (The Permanent Assembly on Human Rights) has submitted to the government more than 3000 names of documented cases of disappeared persons, he said. Newspaper advertisements appear with some frequency requesting that the government explain the disappearance of specifically named Argentine citizens.

UNIONS SUPPORT ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- The American labor movement will continue to stand with Israel, Lane Kirkland, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, told more than 1500 labor and industry leaders from across the United States gathered here at a State of Israel Bonds meeting. "Too much of what we believe in is at stake there for us to change. We won't shift with the public opinion polls or modify our support depending on which party is in power."

The occasion of the meeting was a tribute dinner several nights ago for William H. Wynn, president of the Retail Clerks International Union, AFL-CIO. The 1500 leaders registered \$15 million in Israel Bonds purchases. This represented purchases made at 18 prior events throughout the United States and Canada in the past several months. Gen. Aharon Yariv, former head of Israel military intelligence and director of the Institute for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, presented Wynn with the Prime Minister's Medal. Wynn headed a delegation of his union on a visit to Israel last June.

Kirkland, in his address, affirmed that the AFL-CIO has been disturbed "at the short-sighted views of some American policy makers who have chosen to demonstrate their even-handedness by strengthening the hand of Israel's enemies and by demanding concessions on the part of Israel that increase, rather than lessen, the dangers of another Holocaust."

In his view, Kirkland said, America's role in current peace negotiations should be "that of an 'honest broker' -- not showing 'goodwill' by supplying Arab countries with more efficient implements of war. It is not to join the Arab chorus of demands for impossible concessions that would leave Israel more vulnerable to internal terrorism and external attack."

AHARON KATZENELLENBOGEN DEAD AT 85

JERUSALEM, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Rabbi Aharon Katzenellenbogen, the leader of Jerusalem's Neturei Karta anti-Zionist zealot sect, died here Monday at the age of 85. Together with the late Rabbi Amram Blau, Katzenellenbogen was a principal founder of the sect, which forswears allegiance to the Jewish State on the grounds that it is wrong to set up a State before the advent of the Messiah. Katzenellenbogen reputedly never left his beloved Jerusalem throughout his life.

U.S. RAPS UN COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- The United States said today that it "strongly opposes" the resolution approved yesterday by the Economic and Financial Committee of the United Nations General Assembly that implied financial support for the Palestine Liberation Organization. "We see it as an effort to use UN assistance programs for the political benefit of the PLO," the State Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, said.

"While we support assistance to the Palestinian people through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and other UN programs, we believe that any effort to twist these programs for partisan aims undermines support for them," Carter added.

The resolution was approved by the committee by a vote of 93-5 with 33 abstentions, including the nine member states of the European Economic Community (EEC). The five opposing votes were cast by the U.S., Israel, Australia, Canada and Malawi. The resolution requires the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to render assistance and cooperation to the PLO in carrying out projects to improve the social and economic conditions of the Palestinians.

Will Oppose Making PLO A Conduit

Hodding Carter, who made his remarks in reply to questions from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, was asked whether the U.S. would cut off funds from the UN agency supporting this program. He said that was "an if question" and "premature." He explained that "the resolution constitutes a recommendation to the governing body of the United Nations development program. It does not mention the PLO or specifically define a role for the PLO in deciding on the implementation of assistance to the Palestinian people."

"We will oppose any move in the UNDP governing council to make the PLO a conduit for UN assistance in an effort to buttress its political position. UNDP has not given this role to the PLO in response to earlier resolutions of the Economic and Social Council which this resolution simply endorses. We do not believe they should change their practice pursuant to this resolution."

The U.S. delegation to the UN warned, meanwhile, that the committee's decision could lead to a cut-off of American financial support to UNDP. Last year the U.S. contribution amounted to \$230 million for UN assistance projects.

ZOA LEADER QUESTIONS ADMINISTRATION'S EARNESTNESS IN BRINGING ABOUT PEACE

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Ivan J. Novick, president of the Zionist Organization of America, expressed doubts about "the impartiality of the American 'moderators' and the earnestness of the Administration to actually bring about peace between Israel and Egypt."

Addressing the ZOA's national executive committee, he also said that claims have been made, and not without cause, that (Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat's demands for changing the agreements reached at Camp David emanated from the White House and the State Department who seek to placate the (Arab) rejectionist front which recently assembled in Baghdad and declared war on the Camp David decisions.

Novick noted that a number of events in the Mideast have played a role "in cautioning Sadat to move more slowly towards peace with Israel, if

he should not get the concessions to placate the Islamic fundamentalists." Among these events, Novick referred to the situation in Iran and the unsettling developments in Iraq, South Yemen and Afghanistan.

"The effect of all this on the Israel-Egypt situation is quite obvious," he observed. "Sadat no doubt has reason to fear a rebellion of the Moslem brethren in Egypt, which would seriously threaten his government.... On the other hand, Israel must also be cautious in any agreement she makes with Sadat, and whether they will be honored by those who may follow him."

CARTER URGED TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL'S IMPORTANCE TO WESTERN DEFENSES

BOSTON, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- A group of more than 170 retired U.S. generals and admirals sent an "open letter" to President Carter urging him to recognize Israel's importance to Western defenses in the Middle East "and to reinforce Israel's military capability so that we will not be forced to deploy our own armed forces to the Middle East."

The letter, released Monday by Foreign Policy Perspectives here, expressed the view held in some military and political quarters that the Soviet Union poses an immediate menace to vital American interests, especially in Africa, Western Europe and the Middle East, made all the more dangerous by alleged Soviet superiority in the military sphere. The signatories included Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt, former Chief of Naval Operations, Maj. Gen. John K. Singlaub, U.S. Army and Maj. Gen. George J. Keegan Jr., U.S. Air Force.

According to the writers, Soviet objectives include neutralization of Western Europe, in part by denying it access to critical raw materials, the encirclement of China and the isolation of the U.S. "The Soviet focus on the Middle East, as a way of obtaining these aims, represents a real and growing threat to Western security," they wrote.

"We strongly support the pursuit of friendship and improved relations with all responsible governments in the Middle East. However, the ability of the U.S. to protect its security interests in the Middle East is closely linked, if not dependent on, the maintenance of a potent Israeli military capability in the area."

The letter said a recent "U.S. Interagency study on the global military balance" supported the conclusion "that, in the event of a non-nuclear superpower conflict in the Middle East, Israel, by itself, 'might deter Soviet combat forces intervention or prevent the completion of such deployment.' At this stage, no other society in the area can be counted on to mobilize reliable, battle-tested ground and air units, or to make available secure access points. In brief, if not for the proven capability of the Israeli armed forces, we would be forced now to station a significant number of men and substantial materiel in that region."

LATE NEWS BULLETIN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will return to Washington Friday after his visit to Cairo tomorrow, Israel Radio reported today. State Department spokesman George Sherman said that Vance had done his utmost in trying to bridge the gap between the two parties, "and it was now time for him to return home and attend to other business." Sherman added that Vance spoke today for 15 minutes on the phone with President Carter following his talks here. The report of Vance's early return to Washington came amidst growing speculation here that there was no immediate breakthrough in the talks.

SPECIAL REPORT**'CALIFORNIA REICH' ON 146 PBS STATIONS**

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- WNET of New York, the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) affiliate whose audience includes the largest Jewish community in the world, became last night the 146th PBS station to carry "California Reich," a 58-minute documentary on the psychology and lifestyles of some working class members of the National Socialist White People's Party in four California communities.

A spokesperson for the national PBS office in Washington told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that 67 of the 270 PBS stations carried the documentary on its scheduled announced date of Oct. 22 at 8 p.m.; that 78 stations telecast it on a delayed schedule after that date during October and November, and that 124 stations have not shown it. But the spokesperson said some of the 124 stations might still carry the documentary.

She explained that each of the 270 affiliates was free to use or reject any programs offered by PBS and that while the national PBS office eventually received reports on which of its affiliates carried a particular program offered through the national office, they were not required to report in advance what nationally-offered programs they planned to telecast.

A spokesman for WNET (Channel 13) told the JTA early in October that "out of concern" for the "sensibilities" of Jewish viewers, it would not show the documentary on Oct. 22 because that date was part of the Succot holiday but declined to say when the documentary would be shown.

Very Few Protests Or Praise

The spokesperson in the Washington PBS office said that office had been informed by stations showing the documentary that there had been very few protests in the form of telephone calls or telegrams, either in praise or protest.

But in New York, according to a WNET spokesman, the station received 110 telephone calls before the documentary was shown at 10 p.m. and that 14 members of the Zionist Organization of America picketed the station's offices in upper Manhattan from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. when, he said, the pickets peacefully dispersed. He said there had been no protests of any kind today. The spokesman added that "we have a very activist audience. We get lots of calls on practically everything viewers like or dislike."

Robert Kotlowitz, vice-president and director of programming for WNET, issued a statement before the program went on the air in which he said "it is precisely because of the history of Nazism and the insidious growth of certain forms of political expression in our time that we have decided to broadcast this documentary."

He added that the documentary "is not propaganda, nor is it a defense of the subject. We strongly believe that it throws a clear light on the ugly behavior of American Nazis and that such light brings understanding and the ability to resist subversive movements."

Albert Chernin, executive vice-chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, in response to a JTA request for comment said the agency had viewed the program "long before it was shown on WNET last night. We alerted our 102 Jewish community relations council members as to its content. We also voiced our concern to PBS which responded by adding an introduction and conclusion putting the program

into context" in reference to the numbers and impact of the American Nazis. "Therefore, we did not anticipate any reaction to its showing last night and we have not received any."

Nothing Unusual In Decision

The Washington PBS office spokesperson said there was no significant difference as to geography or population between the areas served by PBS stations relative to those which carried "California Reich" and those which did not. The spokesperson said that there was nothing unusual in the decision of a large number of the 270 affiliated stations not to carry "California Reich." She said many stations in large Jewish communities carried the program, including San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago.

She said PBS uses the services of the Nielsen rating company in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago and that the Nielsen findings were that audiences were substantially higher than for any other documentary shown during October. She said WETA in Washington repeated the showing in response to audience requests.

The documentary was made by two young college graduates, Walter F. Parkes, 24, and Keith Critchlow, 30. They decided to try to make a film about the everyday life and party activities of local members of the Nazi Party. The documentary is done without any commentary, except for statements at the opening and close of the program, referred to by Chernin.

Those statements were made by Clete Roberts, an anchorman-reporter for PBS station KCET in Los Angeles, which purchased the documentary. Commenting that the subjects tell their own story, Roberts said the result of that approach is "perhaps an even more eloquent testimony to the ever-present threat of racism, ignorance and hatred," a "disturbing reflection of America today." The film, completed in 1976, attracted PBS attention when it was nominated for an Academy Award. The national PBS spokesperson told the JTA the young producers were paid for the documentary but that she did not know the amount.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- A public memorial service for Golda Meir will be held Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. at the New York Hilton. The service is sponsored by the Labor Zionist Alliance in cooperation with the World Zionist Organization-American Section, American Zionist Federation and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- The Israel Embassy announced that a memorial service for Golda Meir will be held Friday morning at Adas Israel Congregation and that a register of condolences has been opened at the chancery for signatures.

MONTREAL (JTA) -- The Interfaith Task Force on Soviet Jewry marked Human Rights Week-end here with prayers on behalf of Prisoners of Conscience in the Soviet Union and a special call for the release of jailed activist Anatoly Shcharansky. The Task Force, comprised of various church and synagogue groups, also appealed to the World Council of Churches to register a protest against Soviet violations of the Helsinki agreements and the rights of Soviet Jews. The Task Force was responding to an appeal by McGill University professor Irving Cotler who has been acting as Shcharansky's legal counsel.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Nobel Laureate Isaac Bashevis Singer is invited to attend the World Federation of Polish Jews Conference in Israel in February.