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Notes

## KLUTZNICK: WJC CONGRESS READY TO HELP JEWS WISHING TO LEAVE IRAN

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Philip M. Klutznick, president of the World Jewish Congress, said today that the WJC stands ready to use its wide political connections on behalf of Jews wishing to leave Iran. Addressing a meeting of the WJC's Israeli Executive, here, both he and former WJC president Dr. Nahum Goldmann expressed dismay that until now most Iranian Jews have chosen to remain in their country despite the turmoil and their uncertain future.

Goldmann said that Jews do not tend to heed warnings. He said that if European Jews had listened to the warnings of the 1930s, millions would have been alive today. The situation in Iran is very similar, Goldmann said, but Jews there are waiting until the last moment when it may be too late to save themselves.

Klutznick agreed that Iranian Jews seem unaware of the dangers that lie in the present political upheaval, especially those in the smaller, remote communities. In spite of urgent calls and invitations from Israel, Jews do not come to Israel, he said. The Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency have readied the means for transferring Iranian Jews, yet they do not want to leave, Klutznick stated.

He noted that while the WJC is not a rescue organization and lacks the manpower and machinery for a rescue operation, it has access to influential political circles and every channel is open to act on behalf of Iranian Jews. He said he wanted to draw the attention of world Jewry to small Jewish communities scattered around the globe which are forgotten until an emergency arises.

Iranian Jews not only are not leaving for Israel in substantial numbers but some already here are returning, hoping that the new civilian government in Teheran will be able to restore law and order. An El-Al plane that left for Teheran this morning carried 80 Iranian Jews. There were some 200 passengers waiting for its return flight to Tel Aviv. But most of them are Israelis who are being evacuated. Solel Boneh, the Histadrut construction company, has suspended its work on three projects in Iran and is bringing home its workers and engineers. Only five supervisors will remain in Iran for the time being to look after the \$2 million-worth of equipment left behind.

## ISSUES OF SOVIET JEWRY, TRADE, ANTI-SEMITISM

Klutznick and Goldmann also discussed the situation of Soviet Jews. They agreed that signals from Moscow indicate that a larger number of Jews will be given exit permits in the near future. Klutznick urged Israelis to begin preparations for their absorption. He described the preparatory work done by the international committee headed by Baron Guy de Rothschild which is dealing with the problems and opportunities Israel will face once peace is concluded with Egypt.

Klutznick said there were ample potentials for trade, especially with the Far East and even

China should not be excluded from Israel's future plans. (See related story P.3). He observed that the development of Eilat and the Negev would depend on Israel's trade expansion toward the Far East. He urged Israel to shake off the stigma of isolation and take advantage of the wide range of development possibilities.

Dr. Gerhard Rieger, director general of the WJC, spoke of his recent visit to Latin America. He said there was an erosion of Jewish communal life and activity in Latin American countries and that Jewish schools there do not have enough teachers. He also reported signs of growing anti-Semitism in some parts of the world. He said the resurgence of anti-Semitism on the far-right in France was a disturbing phenomenon.

## ISRAEL, SWAZILAND SIGN TREATY OF COOPERATION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Premier Maphevo Dhlamini of Swaziland and Premier Menachem Begin signed a treaty of cooperation providing for stepped-up Israeli technological assistance to the southern African state, one of the few Black African countries that did not sever its ties with Israel after the Yom Kippur War.

The special effort made here by the government of Israel to see Dhlamini and his entourage of ministers and officials during their six-day state visit reflected, observers said, Israel's appreciation for Swaziland's independent stance regarding Israel, and perhaps, too, the hope that some of the major Black African states will reconsider their rupture of diplomatic ties with Israel when the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is signed.

At Ben-Gurion Airport, where Begin accompanied Dhlamini to say farewell, the Swazi Premier, who is also his country's foreign minister and army commander, revealed that Israel's Army Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan had given him a full Israel paratroop uniform as a gift, complete with the famous red beret and brown rubber-soled jump boots.

## CABINET AGREES TO ADMIT 100 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO ISRAEL

Also Discusses Problem Of The Falashas  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The Cabinet decided today to admit 100 Vietnamese refugees to Israel as a symbolic humanitarian gesture aimed at influencing other countries to take similar action. It also discussed the increasingly urgent problem of the Falashas, the Jews of Ethiopia, who are seeking to come to Israel, but no decisions, if any, were announced. Some 150 Falashas demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office while the Cabinet was in session, calling on the government's help to bring their persecuted brethren out of Ethiopia to Israel.

The decision on the Vietnamese was announced by Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor. He stressed that it was a symbolic act for other nations to follow. "We remember the experience of our brethren during World War II who were seeking in vain for shelter," he told reporters. He said that if the Vietnamese wished to apply for Israeli citizenship they would be welcome to do so.

There are presently some 5000 Vietnamese refugees who have spent the past several weeks aboard two freighters, one in Manila and the other anchored off Hong Kong. A government chartered plane will fly to Manila shortly to airlift the 100 selected refugees. A committee composed of the directors general of various ministries is making the technical arrangements, Noor said.

The government was apparently spurred to act by "peace pilot" Abie Nathan who has been conducting a world-wide campaign on behalf of the refugees from Vietnam. Nathan made a formal request to the government last week to admit 400 of the refugees from the ship in Manila. He said that several Dutch philanthropists had pledged \$200,000 to pay for the airlift. Nathan received today's Cabinet decision with mixed feelings. He said he had hoped that all 400 would be admitted to Israel but since the number was limited to a token 100 he would try to persuade various European governments to receive the others.

Noor insisted that there was "no connection" between Nathan's initiative and the Cabinet's decision. He said the issue had been raised at a Cabinet meeting about two months ago and referred also to a Parliamentary question on the subject by two Likud MKs six weeks ago. He said Nathan was "a good citizen" but appeared to disparage the "wide publicity" that, he said, Nathan had secured for his activities on behalf of the Vietnamese refugees.

The Cabinet vote was 11-2 with four abstentions, according to Noor. Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu Hatzeira of the National Religious Party and Housing Minister Gideon Paltz of Likud voted against the airlift on grounds that Israel should not become involved in a refugee problem that was beyond its ability to solve. Three of the four abstaining were Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Interior Minister Yosef Burg and Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon. The fourth minister abstaining was not identified. The majority of the Cabinet, however, felt Israel should set a moral example in this instance.

#### The Problem Of The Falashas

The problem of the Falashas is more trouble some to the government. According to reports from Ethiopia, the Falashas have been the principal victims of the internecine warfare in that country since Emperor Haile Selassie was deposed in 1974 and replaced by a military regime. Their communities have been pillaged, hundreds, if not thousands, have been massacred, and thousands more sold into slavery, according to the reports.

In 1975, the Israeli rabbinate decided that the Falashas, who are Black, are legitimate Jews. But, their spokesmen here charge, little effort was made to bring them to Israel. Meanwhile, the Israeli government supported the Ethiopian government in its war with the Arab-backed Somalis, they say.

Premier Menachem Begin met with leaders of the Falasha community in Israel last Friday. He told them that the government regarded the Falashas as Jews and expressed the hope that all will eventually immigrate to Israel. But for the time being, he urged them to keep a low profile in their campaign. The Falasha leaders rejected this. They charged that neither the government nor the Zionist institutions had done much to rescue Ethiopian Jews.

The demonstrators today shouted in Amharic: "Begin, hear our voice and save our brothers." They waved signs saying "S-O-S" and "Begin:

Let My People Come." One demonstrator told reporters, "We have done our share. We served in the army and now we want our families and people. The Israel government should assist us just as it does Jews all over the world."

Burg, for his part, called the demonstration "an inexplicable incitement." He said there was no religious reason why the Falashas could not immigrate to Israel and that, in fact, all who wanted to could have come when the political situation allowed it. Absorption Minister David Levy said the government "did, is doing and will continue to do" everything on behalf of Ethiopian Jews. He said he could not elaborate. Nathan, meanwhile, said the Falashas were next on his list of priorities. He said he would try to get permission to go to Ethiopia and bring them back to Israel.

#### Jewish Agency Statement On The Falashas

Last week, the Jewish Agency issued the following statement in response to charges by Falasha activists that it had been remiss in dealing with the plight of Ethiopian Jews:

"Without going into details of the possibilities of aliyah of Ethiopian Jews in the past, the Jewish Agency hereby clarifies that even during the period of the previous regime, that of Emperor Haile Selassie, the policy of the Ethiopian government was against Falasha aliyah, because the regime saw them as Ethiopian citizens in every way and therefore saw their future in Ethiopia. The few Falashas who did leave left in order to study abroad, and with a view to returning there."

"Regarding the more recent period, according to the rulings of the Chief Rabbis of Israel, there is no doubt that the Falashas are Jews and that the Law of Return applies to them. Therefore, the Jewish Agency deals with them in the same way that it deals with any other Jewish community."

"The present internal situation in Ethiopia, international circumstances, the cutoff of ties between Israel and Ethiopia, and other factors are all, of course, causes that make dealing with Falasha aliyah especially difficult. For those reasons, too, the Jewish Agency is not prepared to respond to reports and recent publications in the media regarding this issue."

#### MARCH AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

PARIS, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Some 2000 Jews marched through the Paris suburb of Drancy today in a peaceful demonstration against the resurgence of anti-Semitism in France. The marchers first attended a religious ceremony at the site of the Drancy synagogue, which was burned down last month in what French Jewish organizations termed an anti-Semitic attack.

Drancy holds particularly painful memories for French Jews: Thousands were held in a transit camp during World War II before being sent to their deaths in Nazi concentration camps. Drancy's Communist Mayor and several local members of Parliament participated in today's march, which organizers said was aimed at drawing attention to all forms of racism in France.

#### ISRAEL, CANADA IN AGRICULTURE PACT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The Agriculture Ministers of Israel and Canada today signed an agricultural cooperation pact here. The signing climaxed a week-long visit here by Canada's Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan as guest of Israel's Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon during which they toured rural areas and inspected Israel's latest agricultural techniques.

The "memorandum of understanding" signed today provides for exchanges of scientists and specialists, including visits to agricultural research institutes and laboratories; organization of bilateral symposia or topics of mutual interest; exchanges of scientific and technical information and development of joint research projects.

The two ministers also agreed to set up a joint agricultural committee comprising senior officials of their two departments to meet alternately in Israel and Canada. The memorandum also provides that delegations and individuals visiting either country under the terms of the memorandum "will pay their own expenses, including travel."

#### CHINA INDICATES POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The possibility that the People's Republic of China may be easing its stand of refusing to recognize Israel was seen in comments by Deputy Prime Minister Keng Piao in Peking to a delegation of visiting American civic affairs leaders, according to Howard Squadron, president of the American Jewish Congress, the only Jewish member of the delegation which had visited China at the invitation of the post-Mao leadership.

Squadron took notes of an interview Nov. 25 with Keng and read from them to reporters last Friday in his Manhattan law office. He also described his conversation with Keng in an interview Friday night with Victor Riesel on radio station WEVD.

Squadron, who returned recently from the visit, said he asked Keng if there could be any reconsideration of China's standing refusal to recognize Israel, in view of the recent movements between Israel and Egypt toward a peace agreement. Keng replied that "the Chinese people and the Jewish people have in common more love for country than any other people." Squadron also said Keng added that China agreed with the Egyptian position in the currently stalled Middle East talks and that Israel "must be responsive to the needs of the Egyptians" and that in any settlement, Israel "must withdraw from most of the territory it seized in the Six-Day War."

Squadron said in his office that his initial reaction was that Keng had not told him anything. Later Leonard Woodcock, head of the U.S. Mission to Peking, who had remained silent through the question-and-answer session with the visiting Americans, said there had been two important changes in Keng's comments.

One was the comment on the similarities of love of country of the Israelis and the Chinese. The other was the reference of partial withdrawal from occupied territories. Woodcock said that previously, the Chinese have insisted that Israel must withdraw from all occupied areas. Squadron said he had told Keng he believed peace was likely in the Middle East unless the Soviet Union caused "mischief." Keng responded, Squadron said, that China had watched the Camp David summit talks and hoped they would lead to peace, but was not in any position to help.

According to Squadron, Keng said the United States should decelerate its efforts to bring about an Egyptian-Israel peace because if it did not, the Soviet Union "would begin to deal with this situation through the rejectionist front," a reference to the Arab countries which have criticized Egypt's talks with Israel and have sought to persuade Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to call off the negotiations.

#### CONGRESSIONAL MISSION TO EGYPT: ISRAEL WILL MEET WITH BEGIN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- A group of seven U.S. Congressmen arrived here from Cairo today and will meet tomorrow with Premier Menachem Begin and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman before returning to Washington. The group, headed by Rep. Lawrence McDonald (D., Ga.), is on a mission to Egypt and Israel for the House Armed Services Committee.

Meanwhile, the Middle East News Agency reported from Cairo today that Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil presented U.S. Ambassador Hermon Felt with a letter for Secretary of State Cyrus Vance stating Egypt's views on the resumption of peace treaty negotiations with Israel.

(The State Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, told reporters in Washington last Friday that there would not be any new developments in the Middle East peace negotiations until "the first or middle part of next week," meaning the week beginning today.) He said "We have not received a letter from the Egyptians... We have had responses from the Israelis.... But nothing is set.")

One member of the Congressional group, Rep. Donald Mitchell (R., N.Y.), was reported to have said before he left Cairo that President Anwar Sadat made the following declaration to the delegation: "I'm ready to sign (a treaty with Israel) for this moment, right now. What is happening in Turkey and Iran make it vital that we act now." Sadat was also quoted as saying that Iran "has disappeared" as a buffer to Soviet influence in the Middle East and urged the U.S. to supply Egypt with new weapons to defend the region.

#### NEGEV ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN ADVANCE OF NEW DEFENSE LINES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The Cabinet earmarked IL 10 million today for an "emergency archeological survey" of the Negev in advance of the projected new military deployment there following peace with Egypt. The work will be done under the aegis of the Education Ministry.

Officials explained that Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, a leading archeologist, and a number of his academic and ministerial colleagues feared that archeological treasures would be irretrievably damaged or destroyed in the course of constructing Israel's new defense lines in the Negev as a substitute for the present lines in Sinai. No such survey had ever been undertaken in the past, Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor said today.

Naor said the announcement did not signal new optimism over the course of the still-stalled peace talks with Egypt. But, he said, the "assumption" was that a treaty would be signed and thus the survey was a matter of pressing urgency. He explained that the plans were to conduct quick digs at key sites unearthed by the survey to "salvage as much as possible that might otherwise be crushed forever by the bulldozers."

PARIS (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan of Israel will pay an official two-day visit to France this month during which he will meet President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and top French officials. Dayan, who is due to arrive here Jan. 29, will review Franco-Israeli ties and will also pave the way for Premier Menachem Begin's own official visit to France. Giscard reiterated his invitation to Begin shortly after his election in May 1977. Various difficulties have since prevented the visit from taking place.

**HUMPHREY PARKWAY DEDICATED**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- "This is just the type of memorial dad would have loved," said Minnesota State Senator Hubert Humphrey III, eldest son of the late Hubert Humphrey, Democratic Senator from Minnesota and one-time Vice President, as he surveyed the Humphrey Parkway through the American Bicentennial Forest in the Jerusalem hills last Friday.

Humphrey, his wife, his two brothers and their wives cut the ribbons opening the parkway after an impressive dedication ceremony in which Premier Menachem Begin praised their late father as a great man and a good man... One of the righteous gentiles.

Humphrey, in a warm and folksy speech reminiscent of his father's style, stressed that the parkway and the entire Bicentennial Park is developing as "a people's park" -- where residents of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv can come for rest and recreation. For that reason particularly, he said, it was a fitting memorial for Hubert Humphrey who had "loved people."

**Begin Extols Humphrey**

Begin, in a short and moving address, said Hubert Humphrey "loved liberty and justice and labored for them all his life. He wanted them to triumph not only in his great country but all over the world. All his life he was a friend of Israel, semper fidelis... always faithful... He stood by us through the most difficult times. He really loved Israel. The Jewish people never forgets the good bestowed by its friends. For many, many years he was the first, the best and the most devoted friend of the Jewish people and the State of Israel." Begin added this was not meant to diminish from the friendship of others.

The ceremony was held in brilliant sunshine or a scenic spot along the parkway. After days of rain and blustery winds, the Jewish National Fund, creators of the park, whose American section developed the Humphrey Parkway project, was relieved at the change in weather that came just in time for the ceremony. The Israeli police and played a lively medley of Israeli and American music before and after the speeches.

U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis recalled the last meeting between Humphrey and Begin, at which he had been present, only weeks before the Senator died. "The translucent quality of the man's life shone in his every word," the envoy said. "He loved Israel like he loved no other foreign nation" and he had been deeply buoyed by speaking with Begin who was bringing peace to the nation. The parkway, "said Lewis, was "a great memorial to a great American."

**Will Serve As Important Artery**

Apart from its function as a scenic driveway through the heart of the Bicentennial Park, the Humphrey Parkway will serve as an important artery linking half a dozen of the moshavim in the Jerusalem hills with the Tel Aviv area, reducing by some 30 kilometers the existing, winding roads.

As such, said JNF chairman Moshe Rivlin, in his address, the parkway will be a vital boon to the economic development of these villages. Rivlin recalled Humphrey's participation, in the early 1960s, of a JNF dedication of a Hubert Humphrey Forest not far from the parkway though at that time, neither the Bicentennial Park nor the parkway had been conceived. The Senator had

been truly moved by that experience, Rivlin said. Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization executive, said the parkway was a "debt of honor, love and respect for a leader who personified vision and action." Burton Joseph, former president of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, who led a delegation of American donors and friends for the dedication, said of Hubert Humphrey: "No one in public life ever made himself so close or so available to Israel and the Jewish community."

Shimon Ben-Shemesh, director general of the JNF, presented facsimiles of the parkway to the Humphrey family. Samuel Cohen, executive vice-president of the JNF in the United States, praised Paul Zuckerman of Detroit, Joseph and others for their efforts in realizing the parkway project. Yosef Getteuer, head of the JNF-American section here, conducted the ceremony. He pledged that the parkway would be finally paved and finished before the summer holiday period.

**REPORT ON SOVIET JEWRY**

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- Four Moscow refusnik women, Natalia Rosenstein, Galina Tsin-Hin, Natasha Khossin and Ludmilla Cherkassky, demonstrated last Thursday in front of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ). The women held signs reading, "Let Us Go To Israel." Their protest was broken up by police in minutes, but many foreign diplomats saw them, the Soviet Jewry groups said.

The SSSJ and UCSJ also reported that Leonid Slepak and his recent bride have received exit visas to Israel. Slepak's parents, Vladimir and Maria Slepak, have been banished to Siberia for five years for their protests.

Former Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Malmik and his wife, Lubia, received exit visas and left last Friday for Israel. Former POC Lev Roitbird, of Odessa, whose emigration was promised by Soviet officials to Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.), was again refused last week. Moscow refusnik Igor Gogos has reported that he has written over 1,000 letters to the KGB in recent months demanding an exit visa to rejoin his wife, Janella, who is about to give birth in Miami, the SSSJ and UCSJ reported.

**PROBE CONTINUES ON HOW PLANES SOLD BY ISRAEL TURNED UP IN RHODESIA**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA) -- The United States is still investigating how U.S.-made Bell-205 Helicopters which Israel sold to a private company in 1968 turned up in Rhodesia. Both U.S. and Israeli officials agree that when the copters left Haifa by freighter in October, 1968 they were supposed to go to Singapore. Instead they arrived in Rhodesia. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter confirmed Friday that the sale by Israel was approved by the U.S. Department of Commerce. He would not reveal what country was originally scheduled to receive the helicopters. He said the investigation is continuing.

**CORRECTION**

Due to a typographical error in the Jan. 5 Bulletin, the Israel Bond Organization was reported to have produced \$396.8 million in 1978 to help Israel. The correct figure of \$369.8 million appeared in the headline of the story, but incorrectly in the first paragraph.