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CARTER EXTENDS STAY FOR ADDITIONAL DAY; BREAKTHROUGH SEEN

By Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA) -- President Carter has extended his stay for another day, leaving tomorrow instead of today as originally scheduled. This was taken here as a breakthrough by the Israeli government to which Carter reacted by reportedly stating, "You have done a great job, you have gone a long way towards achieving peace." Earlier in the day, Premier Menachem Begin announced that "very great progress" had been made since Carter arrived in Israel Saturday night.

The announcement of the President's delayed departure, which appeared to pull Carter's Middle East peace mission back from the brink of failure, followed an afternoon meeting between Israeli and American delegations on further aspects of the problems blocking a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

In a late development tonight, it was reported from Cairo that Carter will fly there tomorrow for talks with President Anwar Sadat. According to the report, a spokesman for Sadat said Carter telephoned Sadat today and told him that he will be coming tomorrow for talks at Cairo Airport during a brief stopover on his return to Washington.

Meanwhile, the government of Israel late tonight delegated Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir to draw up the papers necessary for an American-Israeli accord that will be signed after the Israeli-Egyptian agreement is reached. The U.S.-Israeli accord, it was reported, would deal mainly with American aid to Israel, as Carter promised in his Knesset speech this morning.

IN KNESSET SPEECHES CARTER, BEGIN STRESS PEACE BUT EXPRESS STARKLY DIFFERENT PERCEPTIONS OF HOW TO ATTAIN IT

By David Landau, Joseph Polakoff, Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA) -- President Carter and Premier Menachem Begin addressed the Knesset this morning in speeches that proclaimed their unflinching desire to bring the Israeli-Egyptian peace process to a successful conclusion but made starkly evident their different perceptions of how this can be achieved.

The President said he valued the "enormous sacrifices and great risks for peace" that Israel has already made but declared, "We have not yet fully met our challenge, despite our unflagging determination. . . . We still fall short. He urged Israel to undertake "the somber responsibility. . . to contemplate the tragedy of failure and the legitimate exaltation of making peace."

Begin, referring repeatedly to "serious problems" and "serious issues and difficult problems" that must be solved, stressed that Israel would never compromise its security for a peace treaty that is not "a real peace" and "can be broken."

He declared: "We have to care for the security and future of our people. This is our responsibility. We shall carry it out under any

circumstances. Never again should a foul or blood-thirsty enemy be capable of killing Jewish children and we shall do whatever is humanity possible to make their life secure, not only in this generation but for all generations to come, in this land of our forefathers."

Around The Clock Meetings

The speeches, before a packed special session of the Knesset followed a grueling all-night Cabinet meeting that ended in the early hours of this morning with decisions, undisclosed, that appeared to put the stamp of failure on Carter's current mission to remove the obstacles blocking an Israeli-Egyptian treaty. But a series of developments late in the day revived hopes that the President's exhausting personal efforts might not be entirely fruitless.

A weary Cabinet, meeting again for two hours this afternoon, adjourned at 5 p. m. local time and summoned the American delegation, headed by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance for a further meeting. The President remained at his hotel. Begin emerged from that meeting to announce that "very great progress" has been made, "the progress is fundamental." He said a joint U.S.-Israeli statement would be issued later. It was announced that Carter, who earlier had postponed his departure from Israel for two hours, decided to remain in Jerusalem overnight.

Even before the Cabinet went into its marathon session late last night, hopes were slim that it would assent to changes proposed by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt to Carter's peace treaty proposal which Israel accepted a week ago. At a festive State dinner at the Knesset last night honoring the President and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, the President expressed confidence that once "a few remaining differences" were solved, the signing of an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty would be imminent. But a somber Begin contradicted him. "Here and now it is my duty to say that we have serious problems to solve until we can sign the peace treaty," he said, a remark that visibly shook the President.

Criticism Of Israel's, Egypt's Leadership

Carter received a warm reception in the Knesset but there was no applause during his speech. At the outset he told the Knesset that for the past 24 hours he had been drafting different versions of his speech. "I have discarded the speech of despair. I have discarded the speech of glad tidings and celebration. I have decided to deliver the speech of concern and caution and hope," the President said.

In what was widely viewed as a thinly veiled criticism of the leadership of Israel and Egypt for delaying a treaty for so long, Carter said: "The people of the two nations are ready now for peace." He repeated that sentence, saying, however, that "The leaders have not yet proven that we are also ready for peace, enough to take a chance. We must persevere but with or without a peace treaty, the United States will always be at Israel's side."

Carter's use of the editorial "we" and his general reference to "leaders" was seen as intended to soften the criticism most observers believe was directed primarily at Begin.

Carter Pledges Security For Israel

"The treaty between Egypt and Israel that we hope may be placed before you for approval

promises to be the cornerstone of a comprehensive structure of peace for this entire region," Carter told the Knesset.

"We all recognize this structure will be incomplete until the peace can be extended to include all the people who have been involved in the conflict. I know, and I understand the concerns you feel as you consider the magnitude of the choices that will remain to be faced even after a peace treaty is concluded between Israel and Egypt. And as the time for these choices approaches, remember this pledge I make to you again today: the United States will never support any agreement or any action that places Israel's security in jeopardy."

Carter recalled that "at Camp David, Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat forged two frameworks for the building of that comprehensive peace. The genius of that accomplishment is that negotiations under the frameworks can go forward independently of each other without destroying the obvious relationship between them."

The President observed, "They are designed to be mutually reinforcing with the intrinsic flexibility necessary to promote the comprehensive peace that we all desire. Both will be fulfilled only when others of your Arab neighbors follow the visionary example of President Sadat, when they put ancient animosities behind them and agree to negotiate, as you desire, as you have already done with President Sadat, an honorable solution to the differences between you."

Carter said "it is important that the door be kept open to all the parties in the conflict, including the Palestinians with whom above all, Israel shares a common interest in living in peace and living with mutual respect."

Carter acknowledged that "the risks of peace between you and your Egyptian neighbors are real. But America is ready to reduce any risks and to balance them within the bound of our strength and our influence. I come to Israel representing the most powerful country on earth. And I can assure you that the United States intends to use that power in the pursuit of a stable and peaceful Middle East."

Begin: "We Want A Real Peace Treaty"

Begin, who mounted the podium after Carter's address, was subjected to severe heckling from die-hard members of his own Likud coalition who are opposed to a treaty with Egypt and from left-wing elements. The shouts and cat-calls continued as he delivered his address and one MK was ejected from the chamber. (See separate story.) Although the Knesset's Steering Committee had authorized Begin to respond to Carter in English, the Premier delivered his speech in Hebrew with simultaneous translation by earphone.

The Premier stressed: "We want a real peace treaty. It must be real: It cannot last a few months or even a few years. It must last for generations, actually forever. Therefore, we must care for its wording because it has to be clear that this is going to be a real peace. And with the peace must come security. Therefore, we cannot and we shall not put under jeopardy and danger our civilian population. We shall defend it under any circumstances, even with our lives if necessary as we have done."

Begin reiterated that "a peace treaty is not a scrap of paper. A peace treaty is, as it must be, a serious document which should be carried out. It can be broken by cynics, by enemies of peace, by enemies of mankind. But, of course,

our nation, with our experience, cannot be asked to sign any document which would make legitimate a breach of the peace treaty. Therefore, we have problems."

Serious Problems To Solve

The Premier asserted: "I will tell our peoples the truth, here and now, and therefore it is my duty to say that we have serious problems to solve until we can sign the peace treaty with Egypt -- and we want so much to have this serious document signed. And today we dealt with the serious problems," a reference to the Cabinet meeting.

"We only hope we shall be able to solve them," Begin said. "But there are serious issues and difficult problems. This is what it is my duty to say, at this juncture, at this moment. Hopefully, we shall overcome the difficulties and be able to sign the peace treaty -- a real peace treaty -- between Egypt and Israel as a first step toward a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East."

Begin insisted, "We wouldn't like to have a separate treaty with Egypt and have on the eastern and northern fronts a combination of 5600 tanks and more than 6000 heavy guns, more than a thousand fighting first-line planes, etc.: It's a great danger to us."

He acknowledged that Israel could not force its other neighbors to negotiate with it. But, he said, "In God's time they will, I believe with all my heart. In God's good time. Until then, of course, the peace treaty with Egypt is the first step and it must be a real document."

Peres Focuses On Palestinians

Shimon Peres, chairman of the Labor Party, who addressed the Knesset on behalf of the opposition, surprised the chamber and many of his Labor colleagues when he called for a "positive understanding" with the Palestinian Arabs. Responding to President Carter, he declared, "We are aware that the Egyptian leaders to whom you have just spoken are concerned with the future of the still-unresolved Palestinian issue, so are we."

The Labor movement, he said, "has and will continue to support a full and fair dialogue with Palestinian leaders who recognize Israel's statehood, who would show a readiness to negotiate a permanent peace, and who would understand that mutual compromise is necessary to gain a just peace."

It was learned that the advance text of Peres' address created discord within the Labor Party leadership and he was forced to bow to the demands of party hawks to delete the phrase "just rights of the Palestinians." Peres, like Begin, was interrupted many times during his speech by angry heckling from extreme right-wing and extreme leftist MKs.

He reiterated his long held view that a settlement of the Palestinian issue can be accomplished only within the framework of negotiations with Jordan. He urged King Hussein to join in the peace process and appealed to moderate Palestinians to participate as well in discussion of their problems with Israel. He acknowledged that while meetings in the past -- under Labor-led governments -- with Hussein had not produced a treaty, they were not wasted. Their result has been a quiet border and an open border, Peres said.

But he ruled out unequivocally any contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization, "an organization which has written a charter of hatred" and is "connected with a superpower (the Soviet Union) that could contribute to the well-being of the Middle East but which has preferred to feed them with deadly weapons which stimulate their appetite

for terror and death."

Major Issues Impeding Treaty Signing

With the outcome of Carter's mission still in the balance, observers here noted some of the major issues that are holding up completion of an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. One of the toughest seems to be the question of an Egyptian presence in the Gaza Strip. Begin agreed during his meetings in Washington a week ago that autonomy should be implemented in the Gaza Strip first. But he rejected the idea of Egyptian police and liaison officers in that territory.

The future of the Gaza Strip is understood to have been a focal issue in Carter's recent talks with the Israelis and may well have been on the agenda of today's Cabinet session. The issue boils down to the Egyptian desire to assist in the transition to autonomy there and Israel's suspicion that Cairo wants to re-establish a political presence in the region that was governed by Egypt until 1967.

Two other knotty issues that remain unresolved are the exchange of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt and the question of Israeli access to Sinai oil. Israel insists that Egypt commit itself in the peace treaty to supply Israel with oil from the Sinai fields on a preferential basis. Carter raised the oil issue in his Knesset speech, disagreeing with the Israeli view. He explained that the international oil market was flexible and Egypt therefore could not be expected to make long-term commitments to Israel.

From Begin's Knesset speech it appeared that there is a substantial agreement between Israel and the U.S. on Article VI, paragraphs 2 and 5 of the draft peace treaty. These concern linkage between autonomy and the treaty and the priority of obligations. There also appeared to be agreement on a proposed side letter accompanying the treaty. According to an understanding reached between the U.S. and Israel, the latter now agrees to a 12-month target date for the conclusion of negotiations over autonomy which should be implemented "expeditiously."

ISRAELI DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

By Joseph Polakoff

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA) — Extremists of the right and left of Israel's political spectrum treated President Carter and his principal foreign policy advisors today to a sample of their explosive feelings on Israel's negotiations for a treaty with Egypt.

Carter, seated on the dais during the verbal machine-gunning of speeches by Premier Menachem Begin and Labor Party leader Shimon Peres, who heads the opposition in the Knesset, appeared to have mixed reactions to the outbursts from the benches. His own address, which was the first of the three in the Knesset chamber, was heard with silent respect. He was warmly applauded by the Knesset membership as a whole and the crowded galleries as they rose to greet him and bid him farewell.

Other Americans present appeared to react similarly, including Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Defense Secretary Harold Brown, and National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, who sat in the front row of the gallery. Veteran Middle East specialists such as Ambassador at Large Alfred Atherton and Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis had seen such scenes before and seemed relaxed from the start.

At one point, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan rose from his seat on the front bench and went

upstairs to talk with Vance. Lewis frequently spoke to Vance and Brown during the speeches and the interruptions. Americans in attendance included Edward Sanders, the President's advisor on Jewish affairs who is a member of his delegation on this visit to Egypt and Israel.

Present also were Theodore Mann, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Maxwell Greenberg, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, George Klein, vice president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and chairman of its committee on international affairs, Bernice Tannenbaum, president of Hadassah, and Elmer Winter, former president of the American Jewish Committee.

After being interrupted several times by Likud MK Geula Cohen, a constant critic of Begin's handling of the negotiations with the Egyptians, Begin turned to Carter and said in Hebrew, which was simultaneously translated into English:

"Mr. President, before you is the Israeli Knesset. It contains various parties and various views. As you see, our democracy is beautiful. No Knesset member from any faction interrupted your address with even one word. (Here an interjection ensued.) But they have interrupted me -- and I want to say that it is perfectly legitimate to interrupt the Prime Minister during his speech in this House. I only hope they let me have my say. I trust that if any attempt is made to block this right of mine, that the Speaker of the Knesset will afford me his protection. That, too, is legitimate."

Following further interjections, Begin said in English: "How beautiful is our democracy, Mr. President." Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir, after demonstrating infinite patience, finally called for a vote which was affirmative to expel Cohen from the chamber. As guards, two women and two men reached her seat, she waved them aside and got up and walked out of the chamber.

GUSH ACTIVISTS ARRESTED

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA) — Police arrested a number of Gush Emunim activists last night after they tried unsuccessfully to block President Carter's motorcade en route to a State dinner in the President's honor at the Knesset. Gush leader Haiman Porat was among the detainees. The demonstrators tried to set up a barrier on the main road to downtown Jerusalem. One of them lunged at the President's limousine and was pulled back by border police. The police used force to disperse the others.

Several hundred members of the Peace Now movement stood by, apparently intending to move against the Gush if the police failed to do so. Meanwhile, 21 Gush leaders who were rounded up by police earlier to prevent a threatened anti-Carter demonstration in the heart of the capital, went on a hunger strike in their jail cells. They claimed they had not broken the law and that their detention was illegal. Likud MK Moshe Shamir presented an urgent motion in the Knesset protesting the police action.

The preventive arrests were prompted by an announcement by the Gush last week that they would demonstrate against Carter and try to disrupt his visit. Some Gush tried to close the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road Saturday to block Carter's motorcade from Ben Gurion Airport from entering the city. Gush leaders denounced the arrests as "brutal behavior" on the part of the government and prompted the many outbursts in the Knesset by Likud MK Geula Cohen during Premier Menachem Begin's address. Taking the Premier to task for jailing them, she emotionally called on him to order their release.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES BETWEEN THE FIRE AND THE DESIRE

By Joseph Polakoff

CAIRO, March 10 (JTA) -- The furor raised in the Arab rejectionist camp against President Carter's Cairo visit and the threats of a political and economic boycott of Egypt for welcoming him will not deter Egyptian President Anwar Sadat from reaching a peace treaty with Israel, Western diplomats said here last Friday.

"Sadat has gone too far for him to turn back now from his de facto alliance with America and the West," a diplomat well seasoned in Egyptian affairs said. "Even if he stopped negotiations completely today with America he would never be acceptable again in the Arab circles that are cursing him now. But it is possible that Sadat may delay a final agreement with Israel for some time to let his enemies cool off a bit."

When the question was put about the failure of Sadat to follow through in December 1977 at Ismailia with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and again after the Camp David success last September, one European diplomat said, "You have to consider Sadat knows best how to proceed and keep his own political equilibrium."

Sadat may not see fit even now, in the face of the uproar from Damascus and Baghdad, and also the Palestine Liberation Organization, to conclude a treaty with Israel in the current period. Instead, he may seek a respite even though he recognizes Carter's need for a political success to raise his political fortunes in America. But, a diplomat observed, there are ways to have a treaty and not have it, too, by the tactics of promising now and initialing and signing later.

Sadat Has The Backing

Here in Egypt, it was pointed out, Sadat has the backing of industrial and commercial leaders, military commanders and others who make up most of the political power bloc. They are described as seeing the necessity of peace to bring Egypt into the modern economic sphere and prevent an explosion, therefore they see Sadat as being on the right track in foreign policy.

Nervous about Sadat's venture are middle-grade military officers -- colonels and majors who entered the service during the rule of the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser. These officers were trained when the Soviet government was strongly entrenched in Egypt. Many have retained Soviet methods and policies and they may be sympathetic to supporting Arab radicalism against both Israel and the West.

How does a Cairo citizen going about his personal affairs react to the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations? A casual conversation, or two does not make a consensus but incidents that befall this correspondent do give a small indication.

When this correspondent asked a pedestrian for directions in the area of Cairo's famous museum, the man, who identified himself as a medical doctor, volunteered: "I hope we have peace soon for everybody."

Another pedestrian, perhaps only practicing his English, approached this correspondent and engaged him in conversation by expressing hopes for peace. "When do you think it will come?" he was asked. "I am bored with all this talk already. I want peace right now," he replied.

A top Egyptian journalist, Ali Rashad, who is the foreign editor of the Middle East News Agency, told JTA that Egypt wants peace. When he was asked if that meant peace for Israel, too,

with an Egyptian-Israeli treaty, he replied: "How can you have peace without a treaty with Israel?"

Al Ahrām Blames Begin, 'Zionist-Led Media'

However, discordant notes were sounded in Al Ahrām, the semi-official daily that frequently speaks for the Egyptian government. In an editorial last Friday, the paper claimed that Sadat and President Carter would have "more than likely" reached an agreement on an Israel-Egypt peace treaty if not for Begin tossing obstacles in its way.

"It has been Begin's conventional tactic to clash with the U.S. government and President Carter and then resort to the Jewish lobby within the U.S. so that it may pressure the Administration and in the meantime make use of Zionist-led media to influence and hence mislead American public opinion," Al Ahrām said.

Begin changed his "extreme position" last weekend in Washington for four reasons, Al Ahrām said. The first is that "Begin has realized that the U.S. is adamant in its position and that it will not succumb to his pressure." Secondly, Begin has "found that his friends in the U.S. and the leaders of the pressure groups are backing Mr. Carter's stand."

Next, Iran's new rulers have severed their relations with Israel "and Turkey is on its way to do the same," and "moreover, the U.S. would give priority to its already staked interests in the area should these interests clash with its 'special relations' with Israel."

Continuing, Al Ahrām stated: "The fact is that Israeli public opinion and Israel's supporters abroad are keen on not letting the chances of peace slip by whatever the reasons or motives especially in view of the general impression inside and outside Israel that Begin will be personally to blame should peace chances be missed." The newspaper did not mention that Begin and the Israeli Cabinet had accepted Carter's suggestions.

DISTURBANCES ON THE WEST BANK

TEL AVIV, March 12 (JTA) -- High school students blocked roads, burned tires and stoned Israeli soldiers and vehicles in a series of disturbances that swept the West Bank over the weekend aimed against President Carter's efforts to achieve an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. The worst incidents occurred in Ramallah where security forces intervened to disperse rioters. Violence was also reported in Nablus, Hebron and Bethlehem. One student was reported injured during a Ramallah demonstration. Students at the girls' seminary hoisted a Palestinian flag over the building.

The uncontrolled demonstrations by the students were attributed to extremist elements. But West Bank leaders considered moderate by the Israelis added their voices to the general protest against a treaty. Many mayors of West Bank towns and villages signed a statement aimed mainly against Egypt which they accused of shutting its eyes to the Palestinian problem.

Elements supporting the Palestine Liberation Organization appeared to have succeeded in forming a united front against a bilateral Israeli-Egyptian agreement. They have accused President Carter of promoting such an agreement to enhance his own political fortunes. The East Jerusalem newspaper Al Kuds, frequently a voice of Arab moderation, published an open letter to Carter warning that an Israeli-Egyptian peace must not be concluded without Palestinian participation in the negotiations and a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem.