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BEGIN BLASTS CRITICS OF HIS SETTLEMENT POLICIES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 11 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin lashed out today against critics at home and abroad of his settlement policy on the West Bank. In a lengthy statement, penned by his own hand, and released to the media in Hebrew and English at noon, the Premier reiterated his insistence on Israel's "full right to settle in all parts of Eretz Israel" and accused Israelis who call that "provocation" of adopting "the evil path of the enemies of our people."

Begin fired his verbal broadside as the Israeli, Egyptian and American delegations held their first business meeting in Alexandria in the negotiations for autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. His words were directed specifically at the Peace Now Movement which held mass demonstrations over the weekend against the controversial Alon Moreh settlement near Nablus; U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, who said on a Washington television interview yesterday that the settlement "could contribute to a reversal" of the peace process (See separate story); and the New York Times, which has accused Begin editorially of breaking a pledge made at Camp David to freeze settlements.

Begin also reacted to a bitter personal attack against him published in the Cairo newspaper Al Akhbar yesterday by its editor, Mousa Sabry, who accused the Premier of a desire "to kill the autonomy talks at their inception." He declared, "We shall pay no heed to the invective or abuse spoken or written in Israel or abroad. We shall ensure, as the elected representatives and spokesmen of the nation, the peace of the people of Israel in the land of Israel."

Freeze Was For Three Months Only

Begin said that the use by opposition circles in Israel of the word "provocation" was "perhaps the most distasteful element of the whole incitement campaign... If now there be Israelis of certain outlooks who accept the assumption that the presence of Jews alongside Arabs in our historic homeland, Eretz Israel, constitutes a provocation -- then shame on them. By doing so they adopt the evil path of the enemies of our people."

Begin called the New York Times' criticism "distortions originating either in cynicism or in ignorance." He said that assertions "that I allegedly promised somebody that we would never carry out settlement activity in areas of Eretz Israel, seized, so the paper writes, from the Arabs" have "absolutely no foundation." Begin said he had committed himself at Camp David to freeze settlement activity for a period of three months that expired on Dec. 17, 1978. He said Secretary of State Cyrus Vance had in fact confirmed this in recent testimony before a Congressional committee.

BRZEZINSKI; SETTLEMENT TROUBLES U.S.

By Joseph Polakoff

Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski said yesterday that he welcomed the protests by many Israelis against the establishment of a new settlement on the West Bank near Nablus, a move that, he observed, "troubles" the United States. "We are troubled by it and I am very encouraged that so many Israelis are now troubled by this too," Brzezinski said in response to questions on the ABC-TV program "Issues and Answers" yesterday.

He was referring to Alon Moreh, a settlement of the Gush Emunim movement sanctioned by a majority of the Cabinet. About 3000 members of Israel's Peace Now Movement encircled the site over the weekend to protest its establishment and the expropriation of Arab-owned land for that purpose. Brzezinski, who is President Carter's chief advisor on foreign affairs, said the new settlement "troubles us because it could contribute to a reversal" of the peace process. "We want the momentum" of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty "to be continued and not to be reversed," he said.

Declines To Guess Begin's Rationale

He opened his comment, in response to a question as to why the Israelis are building the settlement, by remarking, "You probably noticed that yesterday a large number of Israelis protested the setting up of that settlement." He noted that "This particular settlement is built on private land in an Arab-populated area and distant from actual security zones." The settlement "certainly needlessly exacerbates" Arab-Israeli relations," he added.

Pressed to comment on what rationale Premier Menachem Begin is giving the U.S. government for the settlement, Brzezinski said, "I don't think I should really be setting his position for him. He is, as you know, a very eloquent person and he makes a strong case for himself." He added, "Our hope is that Israeli-Egyptian negotiations can now gain momentum and begin to engage the Palestinians in discussion of their own future and we're going to be encouraging the parties to move in that direction."

DULZIN SAID WZO AWAITING GOVERNMENT ORDERS TO BUILD GUSH SETTLEMENT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 11 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, said today that the WZO would immediately obey any instructions the government gave regarding construction of Alon Moreh, the controversial Gush Emunim settlement on the West Bank near Nablus. His position, stated to reporters after the weekly meeting of the WZO Executive today, overruled Raanan Weitz, co-chairman of the WZO's settlement department, who appealed against the decision to proceed with the work at Alon Moreh.

Weitz argued that the objective conditions -- the nature of the land and the available water supply at the site -- made it unsuitable as an agricultural settlement. Weitz has long opposed the government's policy of planting settlements in heavily Arab-populated areas of the West Bank and has argued instead that the focus of settlement activity should be in the Jordan Valley where security interests are best served. His position has brought him into collision with his settlement department co-chairman Matityahu Drobless of Herut, an advocate of massive Jewish colonization of the occupied territories. Drobless accused Weitz, a Labor Party member, of opposing

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Alon Moreh for political, not professional reasons. Dulzin today appeared to disregard their argument. He said, however, that before the WZO begins work on the site, it must have clear instructions from the government as to whether Alon Moreh is to be a "rural" settlement, which would come within the purview of the settlement department, or an "urban" settlement that would make it the responsibility of the Housing Ministry. He indicated that the WZO's bulldozers would move only after a decision is taken to classify Alon Moreh as "rural." If that is the government's intention.

SEN. CHURCH URGES U.S. NOT TO INTERFERE IN ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TALKS ON AUTONOMY

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 11 (JTA) -- Sen. Frank Church (D. Idaho), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called on the United States not to interfere in the current negotiations between Egypt and Israel over autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

"We have a duty to encourage that process without interference," Church said in a speech prepared for delivery tonight at the annual dinner and convocation of Bar Ilan University at the Pierre Hotel here. He added: "Admittedly, the opening positions are far apart, but compromise is the meat of negotiations. To try to force any proposal upon Israel or Egypt would surely redound to our detriment -- as happened during the one nearly fatal phase of the post-Camp David talks. It is imperative that we allow the negotiations to proceed unhindered by any suspicion of partiality. Let us respect," Church continued, "not denigrate, the political process in Israel where major political decisions cannot be taken by simple fiat."

Proposes U.S., Allies Help Sadat

But Church, noting the "serious problem" facing Egyptian President Anwar Sadat who has been a subject of political and economic pressures by the Arab world as a result of Egypt's peace agreement with Israel, said that it is urgent that the U.S. will solicit help "on a global scale" for Egypt. "Our allies in Europe and Japan should be pressed to shoulder part of the load," Church declared. Church said that although the negotiations in Beersheba and El Arish have been in progress for less than two weeks, "the possibility of failure looms on the horizon, threatening at the very least, to reverse the remarkable progress achieved thus far, and at the very worst, to engulf the Middle East in an Amageddon."

Predicting that the negotiations over West Bank autonomy will be "most difficult," Church stated: "There is no magical potion that could produce an easy accord; in fact, the subject of the current negotiations was deliberately put on the back burner in order to realize the less difficult priority -- the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty." In view of the circumstances "When supposed Arab moderates have joined the radical camp; when some of our West European allies have hopped aboard their bandwagon, and when Israel is being used once again as the pawn in the despicable game of oil blackmail" the temptation to force a settlement in the autonomy negotiations "will be great," Church observed. Any attempt by the U.S. to force a solution would be a mistake, he said.

Earlier today, at a press conference, Church

said he would not support the opening of a Libyan trade mission in Idaho as he has been asked to do by the Idaho Farmers Association after a delegation from his state visited Libya. "I will not lend my personal endorsement" to the request, Church said. He added that he will also continue to oppose the sale of military planes by the U.S. to Libya, noting that Libya supports international terrorism and also supported Idi Amin, the recently deposed President of Uganda, who Church described as "the equivalent of Hitler in our time."

FRIENDS OF ISRAELI LABOR BLAST ATTACK ON HISTADRUT

NEW YORK, June 11 (JTA) -- Three American groups associated with the Labor movement in Israel have blasted Israel's Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zipori for his attack on Histadrut during the Herut national convention in Tel Aviv last week. Zipori, who later retracted his remark, called Israel's labor federation a "Mafia" that "protects parasites."

"The attack on Histadrut" by Zipori was called "an unprecedented assault on Israel's working population" and "on the free trade union movement" in a joint statement issued here today by Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, president of the National Committee for Labor Israel and Matthew Schoenwald, chairman of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut. The statement expressed shock at "the irresponsible anti-labor union-busting statement of a high Israeli government official" and "concern" that it was made "at the official convention of the major party in the ruling coalition."

Shocked And Dismayed

The National Executive Committee of the Labor Zionist Alliance expressed "profound shock and dismay" over the attack. In a statement issued at its meeting here over the weekend, the LZA Executive declared that the attack on Histadrut "signals an all-out attempt by Herut and therefore the government of Israel, to blame the Histadrut for the disastrous economic situation in Israel which in reality is the result of the inept bungling economic policy of the present government." According to the LZA: "This attempt is doomed to failure as was clearly indicated by the violent dissent expressed by substantial elements of the Herut convention who are members of Histadrut and who, along with all the workers in Israel, are bearing the brunt of the catastrophic inflation and favoritism shown to the entrepreneurs and monied elements in the population."

POLISH JEWS THANK POPE FOR AUSCHWITZ WORDS

TEL AVIV, June 11 (JTA) -- The Federation of Polish Jews has expressed its "profound appreciation" and thanks to Pope John Paul II for his compassionate words about the Holocaust victims when he was at Auschwitz during his visit to Poland last week. The Pope, viewing the Hebrew inscription on the memorial wall at the former Nazi death camp, condemned the murder of millions, including Jews, and the destruction of the world-famous spiritual creativity in the horrible tragedy that befell Polish Jewry and the Jewish people of the entire world.

Ansel Reiss, president of the World Federation of Polish Jews, said in a cable to the Holy See that the Pontiff's words at Auschwitz "will be inscribed in the annals of the world as an echo of a pure conscience, caring for truth, justice and solidarity with the oppressed and sufferers."

PARIS (JTA) -- Israel Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich will visit the Paris air show this week. Israel Aircraft Industries is a main exhibitor.

B'NAI B'RITH EXPERT SEES NO FUTURE FOR JEWS IN USSR

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 11 (JTA) -- William Korey, the B'nai B'rith's director of international policy research, predicted today a grim future for Jewish survival in the Soviet Union. "The likelihood of a Jewish future in the USSR is exceedingly dim, probably non-existent," he said.

Speaking at the annual three-day policy conference of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ), Korey explained that since 1948 the Kremlin has been successful in assimilating or eliminating its remaining two million Jews. While Jewish activists approve the recent increase in the emigration of Soviet Jews, Korey maintained that this emigration "required the acquiescence of the Soviet government" and is leading to the fulfillment of Moscow's objective of solving its "Jewish problem." Korey said that the Soviet government's pervasive official harassment created an activist movement which sought to "get out of the Soviet system" rather than change it.

Awards To Sen. Jackson, Eugene Gold

At last night's opening dinner, the NCSJ presented its Solidarity Award to Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), co-author of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, and Brooklyn District Attorney Eugene Gold, NCSJ chairman for the last three years. Gold is to be succeeded by Burton S. Levinson, a Los Angeles attorney and chairman of the Commission of Soviet Jewry of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles. In 1974, Levinson was in Moscow and became one of the only two Western lawyers to witness a Soviet political trial in more than 30 years. Jackson and his wife were also presented a silver Chanukah candelabra for their support of Soviet Jewry. Mrs. Jackson is co-chairperson of the U.S. Congressional Wives Committee for Soviet Jewry. In accepting the award, Jackson credited the Jewish people with "alerting the world" to the cause of freedom by their movement for Soviet Jewry.

FIVE FRENCH JEWS ELECTED TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

PARIS, June 11 (JTA) -- Simone Veil and at least four other Jews were elected to the European Parliament in France yesterday. Mrs. Veil, who is France's Health Minister and a serious contender for the presidency of the European Assembly, headed the pro-government list backed by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. Public opinion pollsters said Mrs. Veil's personal appeal was mainly responsible for his list's victory.

Two other Jews, Claude Estier and Roger-Gérard Schwartzberg, were elected on the Socialist ticket. One Jew, Mrs. Nicole Chouraqui, was elected for the Gaullists and one, Georges Frishmann, for the Communists. Only Schwartzberg, a university professor, and Mrs. Chouraqui, an economist, are active in communal affairs. France's 700,000-strong Jewish community represents about 1.5 percent of the country's total population. France will have 81 representatives in the newly elected European Parliament.

THREE TERRORIST CELLS UNCOVERED

TEL AVIV, June 11 (JTA) -- Israeli security sources disclosed tonight that the members of three terrorist cells have been arrested, all of

them involved in acts that have taken several lives and injured many civilians. Two of the cells, affiliated with El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization, are held responsible for placing a bomb on a Jerusalem bus in which 22 persons were injured and a bomb in the Lydda marketplace which killed one woman and injured 40 persons.

The third cell was said to belong to a newly formed terrorist group called the Popular Struggle for the Liberation of Palestine Front, headed by a Dr. Samir Rasha. Most of its members are from East Jerusalem. They are responsible for placing bombs in one bus in service and in another on a parking lot, the security sources said. In addition to the arrests, large quantities of arms and explosives were seized.

DENY BEGIN PLANS EARLY ELECTIONS

JERUSALEM, June 11 (JTA) -- Sources close to Premier Menachem Begin today flatly rejected an assertion by Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres that Begin may be planning to call a general election before his government's term of office expires in 1981. Peres said he believes Begin wants to reap the fruits of the peace treaty with Egypt before public dissatisfaction with Israel's deteriorating economy overtakes the Likud government.

Begin's aides said Peres' calculations were "dead wrong." They said that the normalization of relations with Egypt has just started as have the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy and for those reasons alone Begin intends to serve out his full term. "The government is determined to fulfill its obligations, even if it disappoints the leader of the opposition," they said.

NEO-NAZI ASSAULTS REPORTED ON JEWS IN SPAIN

By Judith Rosen

NEW YORK, June 11 (JTA) -- Disquieting reports of neo-Nazi assaults on Jewish property in Spain and recent manifestations of anti-Semitism in that country have prompted the International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW) to alert its membership for petition drives to the Spanish ambassadors in their respective countries. Eleanor Marvin, president of the ICJW, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a letter from her organization's Spanish affiliate reported wide-spread destruction including three Jewish-owned warehouses in Madrid.

The letter also reported the proliferation of anti-Semitic graffiti in the form of swastikas and crosses all over the Spanish capital. Tension between Madrid's 3,000-member Jewish community and neo-Nazi elements was heightened last month when a mass was called at the Almudena Cathedral to mark the anniversary of Hitler's birth. The mass was cancelled at the last minute.

Marvin and Shirley Leviton, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, told the JTA that they did not know to what if any degree the Spanish government and the church were in complicity with the neo-Nazi acts. But it is clear, they said, that Madrid's Jewish community intends to fight back and wants its situation brought to the attention of Jews throughout the world. Leviton commented on the courage of the small Spanish-Jewish community in its determination to protest neo-Nazism in their country. She quoted a passage from the letter to Marvin which said: "We have become an echo of Prime Minister Menachem Begin's words in his speech at the celebration of Yom Haatzmaut (Israel Independence Day) -- 'The period of the Masada is gone. We have returned to the Maccabean'."

GENEVA (JTA) -- The city of Berne dedicated a monument Sunday in memory of Albert Einstein who once worked in the local patent office there.

DISPUTE OVER NAMING OF ISRAELI TO HEAD TEXAS U. CENTER FOR MIDEAST STUDIES

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, June 11 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee said today it is closely watching a dispute at the University of Texas at Austin over the proposed appointment of an Israeli-born historian to the university's Center for Middle Eastern Studies this fall.

The squabble, which has been going on for a month, started when the university's history department recommended that the Center appoint Abraham Marcus, a 31-year-old Tel Aviv University graduate now completing work on a doctorate at Columbia University. The proposal calls for Marcus, whose field is modern Arab history, to be appointed jointly to the history department and the Center.

The Center rejected the proposal saying that Marcus is not qualified for the position which includes supervision of advanced graduate students and running the center's freshman program. The history faculty, which was asked by the Center to find a historian, maintains that Marcus is a qualified scholar of great promise.

This view is shared by Ira Silberman, who, as director of the special programs for the AJ Committee, heads a project urging American colleges and universities to establish guidelines in accepting grants and other funds from foreign countries. The University of Texas Center is partially supported by funds from Arab governments.

Compromise Would Be Acceptable

Silberman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it would be "shocking" if Marcus or any other qualified applicant was denied an academic position because of national origin. He said he believes Marcus "is well qualified" for the position. At the university, a compromise is being mentioned which would have Marcus appointed to the history faculty but not to the Center. Silberman said that while this could be acceptable it would "highlight the moral bankruptcy" of having academic decisions made for political reasons.

He added that if the university fails to appoint Marcus it would be "selling out cheap." He noted that the University of Texas is one of the richest universities in the country with a steady infusion of Texas oil money. The Center reportedly receives about \$100,000 a year from Arab governments. Silberman stressed that Marcus has not engaged in the public controversy over the appointment and is waiting for it to go through "channels."

In proposing guidelines for schools receiving foreign money last March, Silberman said that some programs displayed an anti-Israel slant, were funded with the provision that Middle East studies not include Israel, or that Jews be excluded as instructors or students. The AJ Committee guidelines, which were aimed at preventing universities and colleges from agreeing to discriminatory practices or biased courses when accepting foreign money, went to 187 schools, including the University of Texas. Silberman said the University of Texas had not approved the guidelines as yet but has been approached by AJ Committee chapters in the area.

AGUDA THREATENS TO QUIT OVER ARENA

By Gil Sedán

JERUSALEM, June 11 (JTA) -- The Aguda

Israel demanded an immediate halt to the construction of a new sports stadium near a heavily Orthodox section of north Jerusalem and threatened to quit Mayor Teddy Kollek's City Council coalition unless Kollek announces forthwith that the stadium will not be built.

Kollek refused and, at a stormy Council meeting yesterday, the Aguda members said they would not sit at the same table with those who help "desecrate the Sabbath." The Aguda faction leader, Rabbi Shmuel Shaulson, warned "There will be Jewish blood spilled."

The two Orthodox factions, Aguda and Poale Aguda Israel, oppose the stadium because sports events are held on Saturdays, the only day off for most Israeli fans because they claim the traffic to and from the stadium would disturb the Sabbath observance of the local residents. Nevertheless, both factions joined the coalition, albeit under protest, and, according to Kollek, indicated that they would not take any action to block the actual construction. Work on the stadium has been proceeding at full speed as Jerusalem presently has only two small sports arenas.

Pressured By Ultra-Orthodox

The two Aguda factions, which together hold only five seats in the 31-member Council, have become more militant on the stadium issue of late. Political observers say that although the factions themselves would prefer to remain in the coalition to preserve their considerable bargaining power over funding for religious institutions, they have come under mounting pressure from the increasingly assertive ultra-Orthodox elements in the capital. Kollek himself is anxious to preserve his broad coalition.

He explained, at yesterday's Council meeting, that "Just as I have to attend to the needs of the religious community, so do I have to assure that the needs of the secular community are covered." He added, "I have tried for 13 years to keep the religious and secular communities in a spirit of co-existence. If the stadium issue leads to a break, it would be the toughest thing to happen in the city. I see this as a serious crisis," the Mayor said.

AIR CANADA SIGNED CONTRACT WITH ANTI-ISRAEL CLAUSE

By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, June 11 (JTA) -- Government sources affirmed today that the state-owned airline, Air Canada, has signed a contract with Saudi Arabia for the maintenance of Saudi aircraft that includes a clause barring the employment of Israeli nationals for such maintenance work. An Air Canada spokesman said that before signing the contract, the carrier checked it with Canada's Ministry for External Affairs, which did not find anything at variance with present Canadian legislation aimed against the Arab boycott of Israel.

Robert de Corred, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, said on a Canadian Broadcasting Co. interview this morning that "the Canadian government will strengthen anti-boycott legislation. He said "Not enough has been done before to make the foreign affairs department more independent from external pressures and efficient in respect to the defense of human rights."

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- New immigrants arriving in Israel will benefit from a recent Cabinet decision to link government mortgages partially to the cost-of-living index. This will permit them to take out larger mortgages at low rates of interest, repayable between 20-25 years. The scheme, approved for young couples and large families, will apply to immigrants as of July 1.