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CARTER'S MIDEAST ENVOY STRESSES 'POLITICAL SENSITIVITY' BY ALL PARTIES IN AUTONOMY TALKS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA) -- Ambassador Robert Strauss, addressing his first Jewish audience since his appointment as President Carter's chief negotiator in the Israeli-Egyptian peace process, cautioned tonight that "for this peace treaty to develop into a true peace during this critical year, there must be extraordinary mutual political sensitivity to the problems of others." Strauss, who expects to go to the Middle East July 1, addressed the Scopus Awards Dinner of the American Friends of the Hebrew University in New York. The text of his speech was made available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by his office here.

The American envoy stressed that "For this peace to become real peace, all sides must refrain from provocations and actions that those not committed to peace can manipulate to undermine the foundation of peace that we have already built."

Strauss, the recipient of tonight's Scopus Award, outlined his personal approaches to the negotiations. "Everything that has come before in my personal and professional life serves as a mere prelude, an overture, to this ultimate test of my talents," he said. "Saying I was aware of the issues, the emotions, complexities and international ramifications, Strauss asserted, "I am also aware that we cannot afford to fail." He said that President Carter "knows and I know that this chance for the nations of the Middle East may not come again in our lifetime and thus we must seize the day and seize the opportunity. ... For this treaty to develop and bloom, there must be a spirit of compromise by all sides," he said.

Will Not Advocate One Position Over Another

Strauss warned against public relations tactics. "This arduous process of negotiations cannot be successfully implemented in a public process," he said. "The issues will not be solved by public posturing to the Washington Post, the New York Times, Al Ahram or Maariv. Issues will be negotiated at the peace table, not at the newspaper typesetting table."

He told his audience "I am not and do not intend to become an advocate of any one position against another. It is not my style to reassure -- it is my style to influence," not to "threaten or to use leverage. I have no partisan bias." He added: "My only bias is toward peace. ... My true reward will not be in the form of a statue or a plaque or a scholarship; My true reward will come through helping by discharging the responsibility placed in my hands by a great strong and compassionate American President, Jimmy Carter, whose personal and Presidential commitment is to insure that our people will achieve in this decade what has so long eluded us, and to ensure that our children will celebrate the anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty on March 26, 1979 as a holy day, that very special day different from all others, a day of peace," Strauss said.

MANN SAYS U.S. PRESSURE ON CANADA OVER EMBASSY MOVE WOULD BE 'IMPROPER'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA) -- Theodore Mann, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said here today that it would be "very improper" for the Carter Administration to pressure the Canadian government to renege on Prime Minister Joe Clark's election campaign promise to move Canada's Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Mann said that if rumors to that effect proved to be true, he would express his feelings to the Administration "in the most effective possible way."

Mann arrived here today at the head of a group of eight American-Jewish leaders on a three-day visit mainly to study the issue of Israeli settlements on the West Bank. The Prime Minister's Office said Premier Menachem Begin will brief the group on recent developments including the talks with Egypt on Palestinian autonomy and the settlements issue. The Americans will also meet with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, Minister of Agriculture Ariel Sharon and Interior Minister Yosef Burg who heads the Israeli delegation to the autonomy talks. They are expected to tour the West Bank and visit the site of Alon Moreh, the controversial settlement near the Arab town of Nablus.

Questioned by reporters at Ben Gurion Airport, Mann refused to describe the attitude of American-Jewry on the settlements issue or to say whether his group was bringing a message to Israeli leaders from the U.S. government. According to a Jerusalem Post report from Washington today, the Carter Administration has been urging friends of Israel in Congress and elsewhere to try to influence the Israeli government to soften its present hard-line policies toward the West Bank inhabitants.

American sources here said privately that the recent clashes between Jewish settlers and West Bank Arabs and tightened security measures by the Israeli Army have severely damaged the atmosphere on the West Bank at a delicate stage in the diplomatic process.

WALDHEIM SAYS ISRAEL HAMPERS UNIFIL FUNCTIONS; MANDATE EXPECTED TO BE EXTENDED

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, June 12 (JTA) -- The Security Council is scheduled to meet here this evening to discuss the mandate of the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Sources here said they expected the Council will approve its extension for an additional six-month period after June 19 when the current mandate of the force expires.

Meanwhile, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim recommended here last night the extension of the UNIFIL mandate in a report to the Security Council. But, Waldheim said, UNIFIL could not function without Israeli cooperation. He charged that continued appeals to the Israelis "have as yet failed to achieve the change of position required for a significant improvement in the deployment of UNIFIL." Waldheim also pointed out in his report that opposition by the de facto forces (Christian militia) has continued to prevent the full deployment of UN forces in south Lebanon.

In addition, the Secretary General said the

attitude of some factions of the "armed elements" (Palestinians) has also posed serious problems for UNIFIL. Increased attempts at infiltration of the UNIFIL area, hijacking of UNIFIL vehicles and firing at UNIFIL positions were also cited by Waldheim. But he maintained that the overall policy of cooperation adopted by the Palestine Liberation Organization had kept such incidents "in check." UNIFIL is composed of 5800 troops from The Netherlands, Nigeria, Fiji, Norway, Ireland, Nepal, Senegal and France.

SQUADRON CHARGES U.S. CREATES 'FRICTION' BY CALLING WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS 'ILLEGAL'

* NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA) -- Howard M. Squadron, president of the American Jewish Congress, criticized the State Department tonight for insisting that Israel's West Bank settlements were "illegal," and said Washington's position "creates an unnecessary cause of friction between the United States and Israel." Squadron told a national conference of the organization's Women Division in the Roosevelt Hotel here that "it is not illegal as a matter of international law for Jews to settle on the West Bank and it is unfortunate that the State Department continues to argue that it is."

He also said it was "counterproductive to continue to urge participation in the autonomy discussions by Jordan, Saudi Arabia and resident Palestinians." He predicted that Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the West Bank Palestinians would not participate in discussions over Prime Minister Begin's autonomy plan for another four years, despite an open invitation to join the talks at any time. "Whatever autonomy configuration results will only be criticized by the rest of the Arab world because it will not resolve ultimate questions of West Bank sovereignty and the status of Jerusalem," the AJCongress leader said, adding, "Israel is the only one of the three negotiating partners that has a tangible stake in the territory itself. Neither Egypt nor the United States has a direct interest in the West Bank. Israel's security needs must be paramount in any discussion concerning the West Bank."

HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS REPORTED BETWEEN ISRAEL, INDIA

By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA) -- High-level contacts have taken place between Israel and India in an attempt to clarify the long chill that has characterized India-Israel relations since the establishment of the State. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has learned from a reliable source that such contacts included an incognito visit by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan to India in 1977 and attempts at arranging a similar visit during Dayan's trip to the Far East last month.

The source, a high-ranking member of the ruling Janata Party and one of Israel's most fervent supporters in New Delhi, contends that Dayan's trip to India during which he secretly met with high-level Indian officials, came as an attempt to further the diplomatic relations between the two countries which have never had full diplomatic ties. At present, an Israeli Consul is stationed in Bombay and India's interests in Israel are handled through the British Embassy in Tel Aviv. The source added that although efforts were made last month to arrange an additional meeting, Dayan apparently refused to visit India incognito again. The Foreign Ministry has

declined to comment.

KNESSET PONDERS IMMUNITY WAIVER FOR MK ACCUSED OF BUYING VOTES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA) -- The Knesset, currently trying to persuade one of its members, presently in jail, to resign is pondering the question of whether to waive parliamentary immunity for another, Samuel Flatto-Sharon, who the Attorney General wants to prosecute for allegedly buying the votes that elected him in 1977.

The Knesset House Committee is expected to take up Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir's request shortly. Zamir believes he has sufficient evidence to press charges against Flatto and certain of his aides whose job was to round up voters and transport them to the polls. But at a House Committee session today, several MKs indicated that they would have to think long and hard before voting to expose Flatto to prosecution for actions that may not be far removed from those engaged in by other, less controversial candidates in election campaigns.

It was pointed out by some that many political parties hire election day helpers who are expected to vote for the party and get others to do so. Several members said they have yet to be convinced that there is a prima facie case against Flatto. The latter's attorney will appear before the committee later this week after which the members will deliberate whether or not to recommend a waiver of immunity to the Knesset plenum.

MK Entertains Supporters

Flatto, who possesses a large personal fortune, is fighting hard to retain his immunity. If it is lifted he could face extradition to France where he is wanted on several counts of fraud and tax evasion, offenses allegedly committed before he fled to Israel several years ago. On Sunday, he invited more than 1000 of his supporters to a gala reception at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel. "Have you received any money for electing me?" he asked. The answer was a resounding "no." His supporters also agreed that Flatto was doing a good job in the Knesset where he constitutes a one-man faction.

Meanwhile, Likud party Whip Avraham Shari and coalition chairman Haim Corfu said they plan to visit Likud MK Shmuel Rechtmann in prison this week to try to persuade him to resign for the good of the party and the Knesset. Rechtmann was sentenced last December to 3 1/2 years in jail for accepting bribes from a building contractor while he was Mayor of Rehovoth but continues to hold his Knesset seat because there is no legal machinery to remove him.

DUTCH WON'T MOVE EMBASSY FROM JERUSALEM

AMSTERDAM, June 12 (JTA) -- The Netherlands, which has had its Embassy in Jerusalem since February, 1949, has no intention of moving it to Tel Aviv. Foreign Minister Christoph Van Der Klaauw is determined in that matter, according to a report by the diplomatic correspondent of the daily NRC Handelsblad. There have been no Arab threats in this respect, the report stated. The Arabs have brought pressure on governments whose embassies are located in Tel Aviv not to transfer them to Jerusalem but have not, as yet, approached countries that have maintained embassies in Jerusalem from the time they established diplomatic relations with Israel. According to the report, the Arabs do not want to disrupt Holland's good relations with Israel which may be valuable to themselves some day as a third party.

U.S. SUPPORTS EGYPT'S OPPOSITION TO WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA) -- Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak received personal assurances from President Carter today that the U.S. will assist Egypt with its "legitimate defense needs." At the same time, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance supported the Egyptian government's bitter opposition to Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

Mubarak, in Washington for a four-day visit shortly before President Carter and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev meet in Vienna where the Middle East will be on their agenda, also met with Ambassador Robert Strauss, Carter's special envoy to the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations on autonomy, Defense Secretary Harold Brown, Vice President Walter Mondale and other American officials involved in Middle East diplomatic and military discussions. The White House said Carter and Mubarak reviewed the status of American-Egyptian cooperation "in a number of fields." The President expressed "great interest in Egypt's priority efforts to expand its economic and social development," the White House statement said. Mubarak brought a special message for Carter from President Anwar Sadat but its contents were not disclosed.

After his meeting with Mubarak, Vance told reporters that Israel's "continuation of the building of Jewish settlements in occupied territory" is a hindrance to the peace process. "With the Egyptian official at his side, the Secretary of State said the new Israeli settlements are 'particularly inappropriate at this time' when Israel and Egypt are engaged in the initial phases of negotiations for autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Mubarak told the reporters that the Egyptian government feels the statements by Premier Menachem Begin of Israel about the right to establish Jewish settlements are 'going to hinder the peace process.'" He said that Egypt is "doing" the "maximum to reach full peace in the area but we are sorry to say that every now and then... we hear statements which are going to put obstacles in the peace process."

Blum Defends Right Of Jews On West Bank

At the State Department today, chief spokesman Hodding Carter said the issue of Saudi Arabia's pledge to pay for 55 U.S.-built warplanes for Egypt is "not resolved." The first payment on the \$520 million bill is due July 1 but there is no indication that the Saudis will pay it.

Meanwhile, Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, passionately defended Israel's right to settle the West Bank. Addressing a dinner here last night of the Louis D. Brandeis District of the Zionist Organization of America, Blum declared that the Jewish people have "the inalienable right" to its land and "the right to live in any part of Eretz Israel, including Judea and Samaria which are an integral part of Eretz Israel." He said that "Jews are not foreigners anywhere in the land of Israel" and "anyone who asserts it is illegal for a Jew to live in Judea and Samaria just because he is a Jew is, in fact, advocating a concept disturbingly reminiscent of the 'Judenrein' policies of Nazi Germany."

SKYLAB DANGER SEEN REMOTE IN ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA) -- At the suggestion of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space

Administration (NASA), Israel's civil aviation authorities have agreed to close Israeli air space in the event that the American Skylab, now dropping toward earth, disintegrates over Israel.

But Israeli experts say there is only a remote possibility that debris from the 77-ton space vehicle will fall in this region. U.S. authorities, keeping a close watch on Skylab's deteriorating orbit, have promised to issue three advance warnings -- 24 hours, 12 hours and six hours -- before the predicted fall. The Americans have mapped a globe-girdling path in which debris might fall and are issuing warnings to all countries located in possible impact regions. The fall is estimated to occur on or about July 16. Skylab was placed in orbit six years ago.

Prof. Giora Shaviv, a Haifa Technion geophysicist, has ruled out any possibility that Israel will be bombarded with fragments. In fact, according to Shaviv, the debris will burn out on entering the dense lower atmosphere, just as most meteors do. The chances that it will fall on populated areas or hit people is zero, Shaviv said.

JEWISH MILITANTS CHARGED WITH TERRORIZING ARABS IN HEBRON

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA) -- Two members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's "Kach" group appeared in a Jerusalem district court today to hear charges that they broke into Arab homes in Hebron last May 26 and terrorized the occupants in an act of vengeance for the Arab expulsion of Jews from Hebron 50 years ago. The accused, Avigdor Eskin and Eli HaZeev, an American, were remanded in custody pending trial.

According to the charges, the two entered the home of Erta Asa where there were four children. They kicked one of the children and tore the books one girl was holding. They told the occupants that HaZeev's father was killed in the same house during the Arab uprising in 1929. Later, according to the charges, the pair entered another Arab home, posing as police. They smashed furniture and household articles and beat up two occupants at gunpoint. HaZeev denied the charges, claiming he was at Neve Yaacov in Jerusalem at the time. Eskin admitted to every detail but insisted he did not have a pistol in his possession. Police said they have ample evidence for an indictment. HaZeev and Eskin were identified by the victims. Several other Jewish militants were also detained in connection with the May 26 events in Hebron.

ISRAEL TEAM WINS, FANS GO WILD

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA) -- Israelis went into a frenzy of jubilation after their national basketball team defeated the world champion Yugoslavians by a one-point margin in the European championship semi-finals at Gortzia, Italy last night. The explosion of pent-up emotions that sent cheering fans racing through the streets here was attributable, in part, to the suspense of the contest.

Until the last few seconds of the game, Yugoslavia was leading Israel 75-76. Then Miki Berkowitz, of the Tel Aviv Maccabi club scored two points in rapid succession to give Israel a 77-76 victory. It came after a severe disappointment the night before when the Israelis, who had been leading the French team by 14 points, lost at the final whistle by a score of 92-83. The dejected hoopsters were convinced that they would have to fight it out thereafter with other losing teams. But last night's victory qualified the Israelis for the championship finals that begin in Torino tomorrow where Israel will play Italy. The biggest game will take place Sunday when the Israelis are matched against the Soviet team. (By Yitzhak Shargil)

PRESIDENT'S HOLOCAUST COMMISSION ADOPTS PROPOSALS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA) -- The President's Commission on the Holocaust will recommend to President Carter that financing the overall permanent national program combining a physical memorial and an education foundation to memorialize the Holocaust victims should be a "public-private partnership" of government and private funds.

This was one of a series of recommendations adopted by the Commission last Thursday in its last "voting" meeting before it reports formally to President Carter on Aug. 15. After rendering its report, the Commission will automatically dissolve in accordance with the terms of its establishment last year with author Elie Wiesel as chairman. Acting on a subcommittee's conclusions, the Commission deliberately left undetermined the amount of money that might be allocated for the museum and "a broad range of programs and joint projects" that would flow from the foundation.

The Commission had previously voted that the museum be located in Washington to "appropriately incorporate exhibits reflecting the Holocaust with primary focus on the six million Jews -- the uniquely total fury singled out the Jews -- as well as the other millions of victims of the Holocaust" by the Nazis before and during World War II.

The Commission recommends that funding be carried out by a public-private partnership involving both government participation and private sector fund-raising such as was done for the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and other major memorials, the Commission said. Government participation should be in the form of seed money up to \$1 million for broad design of facilities as well as program and a challenge grant to be matched by fund-raising in the private sector, phased in over a three-year period. The Commission requested "direct moral support, endorsement and involvement of the White House for its fund-raising efforts."

Link To Smithsonian Proposed

The museum, the Commission proposed, would be an "autonomous bureau" of the Smithsonian Institution, a federal agency. "Like the Smithsonian, it would offer extension services to the public, to scholars, to other institutions."

Other recommendations adopted included a request that the President appoint a "Committee of Conscience" to meet regularly at the National Memorial to receive reports of genocide or potential genocide anywhere in the world; that the U.S. government "by direct intervention and executive action take steps" to provide adequate funds and staffing for investigating and prosecuting accused Nazi war criminals in the U.S.

STATE DEPT. CHALLENGED ON PLIGHT OF SYRIAN JEWS

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA) -- The Committee for the Rescue of Syrian Jewry has challenged a recent assertion by the State Department that there is "no verified instance of torture against a member of the Syrian Jewish community and that there are no Syrian Jews presently in detention." Abe Dwek, president of the Brooklyn-based group, said that in fact, "since 1976 when some restrictions were lifted, no improvement has occurred in the general situation

of the Jewish community in Syria, quite to the contrary, the situation has recently been worsening."

Dwek made his remarks in a letter to Sen. William Bradley (D. N.J.), who had conveyed the State Department's report to the rescue committee. He wrote: "Please be advised that the arrests, detention and torture are continuing. A Jewish man was released from jail with a broken jaw and another with back injuries and mentally deranged. At present there are at least five Jews in jail (Kabariti and Bukai in Damascus, Khafif and a Qamishli Jew, and Joseph Gindi in Aleppo). The latter's two brothers have just been released after paying \$1800 fine each, which constitutes a new penalty in addition to the torture and beatings of relatives and friends for their failure to report to the authorities in advance of the attempted escape." The State Department report spoke of an "investigation" by the Syrian authorities of the unauthorized departure of a sizeable number of Jews from Syria in the latter months of 1978.

Dwek said his group was "deeply concerned that the Administration's low key approach to the issue of Syrian Jewry has apparently been interpreted by the Syrian authorities as U.S. acquiescence to the Syrian policy of holding 6000 helpless Jews as hostages in the conflict with Israel."

7-YEAR REFUSNIK REUNITED WITH FAMILY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, June 12 (JTA) -- A seven-year struggle for permission to leave the Soviet Union ended with the joyous, tearful reunion of Leningrad refusnik Felix Aronovich with his family at O'Hare International Airport here Sunday. Greeted by his wife, Alla, who left the USSR in 1976, their three-year-old son David, whom he had never seen, his mother, Lubov Dinenzon and his brother, Victor Aronovich, smiled and wept as they embraced.

Also at the airport to share in the family's joy were representatives of the Jewish United Fund (JUF) of Chicago, State Attorney Bernard Carey and Jean Merle, an aide of Rep. Sidney Yates (D. Ill.). Yates, Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) and Carey had been instrumental in advancing Aronovich's efforts to secure an exit visa. They worked closely with David Smerling, president of the JUF and the Jewish Federation, James P. Rice, executive vice president and the JUF's public affairs committee. Their efforts also helped expedite U.S. entry requirements so that Aronovich, who left the Soviet Union on May 14, was able to fly directly from Vienna to Chicago, avoiding lengthy processing in Rome. In that endeavor they had the close cooperation of HIAS.

At an impromptu airport press conference, Aronovich, 48, said he had no idea why he was finally granted freedom by the Soviet authorities while so many others still seek exit visas in vain. "Emigration is like a game," he said. "Nobody knows the end of the game. I am here but my friends are still there."

PARIS (JTA) -- King Hussein of Jordan said here Tuesday that Jordan will soon buy French-made Mirage combat planes including the Delta winged Mirage-2000 and 4000 models, believed to be among the world's most sophisticated aircraft. The King, who watched an overflight demonstration of Mirages, said the Jordanian Air Force will first acquire the F-1 and later the newer models. The manufacturers of the 2000 and 4000 models, the Marcel Dassault group, say the two planes can outmatch any model within their category existing or on the drawing boards. French officials believe that unless Jordan obtains large-scale financial assistance from Saudi Arabia and the other Arab oil producing countries, it will not be able to afford more than a token Mirage force.