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CABINET ALLOWS WEIZMAN TO RESIGN FROM AUTONOMY TALKS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) — Defense Minister Ezer Weizman resigned, with the approval of the Cabinet today, from the six-man Israeli ministerial delegation negotiating with Egypt and the U.S. on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Weizman, who has been at odds with Premier Menachem Begin over the government's settlement policy and other issues, said he wanted to leave the negotiating team because he felt it was too large.

His formal request to be relieved of that duty was presented to the Cabinet by Begin and approved without rancor. The atmosphere at today's session was said to be free of the tensions between ministers that characterized last week's Cabinet meeting.

Earlier, Weizman and Begin conferred privately. No details of their conversation were disclosed but the Prime Minister's Office issued a statement later saying that Begin did not ask the Defense Minister to carry out the government's decisions because he has been doing that as a matter of course. It is understood that Weizman reiterated his opposition to the controversial Gush Emmunim settlement of Alon Moreh near Nablus and also complained that the autonomy committee did not function efficiently. He did not, however, resign from the government as some rumors predicted he would.

Weizman reportedly stressed that he would continue to carry out government decisions even if he disagreed with them. He cited as proof the assistance the army rendered the Alon Moreh settlers as soon as the government approved the settlement.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg, chairman of the autonomy committee, told reporters after the Cabinet meeting that he did not believe Weizman's departure would have much effect on the delegation's tasks. "If there are questions of security and defense, Ezer Weizman promised he would participate," Burg said.

ISRAEL ATTACKS TERRORIST BASES AFTER BOMB EXPLODES IN TEL AVIV

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA) — Israel Air Force planes attacked terrorist bases in south Lebanon this afternoon in retaliation for a bomb outrage at the central bus station in Tel Aviv. This morning which killed two Israeli Arabs and sent three passersby to the hospital with slight injuries. Nearby shops were damaged and many windows were shattered by the blast. El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization, claimed credit for the bombing.

A military communique said terrorist targets were hit in the Sidon area, including the Zaharani region where oil refineries are located and further inland. There was no information as to how many hits were scored. All aircraft returned safely to their bases. The Israeli air raids were anticipated in the aftermath of the bombing, according to reports from Lebanon today and the terrorists apparently took to their shelters.

The bomb totally destroyed a pick-up truck parked outside the bus terminal and hurled its two occupants onto the street. They were identified as Israeli Arabs but their names were not disclosed. It was not immediately clear whether they were innocent victims or whether they had intended to plant the bomb in the bus station when it exploded prematurely. Police rounded up about 60 Arabs in the vicinity for questioning and to protect them from possible violence by outraged citizens.

Police, fire-fighters and ambulances reached the scene of the bombing within minutes despite heavy morning rush hour traffic. The area was closed while searches were conducted for additional bombs. It was re-opened later in the morning and traffic at the bus terminal returned to normal.

DAYAN UNDERGOES OPERATION

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) — Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan was operated on today for the removal of an intestinal polyp and was reported resting comfortably at the Tel Hashomer Medical Center near Tel Aviv. According to his close aide, Naftali Lavi, the doctors were encouraged by the results of the surgery. Lavi, in a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, seemed to imply that the polyp was found to be non-malignant.

He said Dayan would be discharged by next week-end or shortly afterwards and would spend the following week to 10 days convalescing at his home. The 64-year-old Foreign Minister was admitted to the hospital last night after having undergone a series of tests during the preceding weeks. There appeared to have been some concern in circles close to him that the polyp might be malignant. But Lavi sounded relieved and optimistic on the telephone today.

CANADA'S DECISION TO MOVE EMBASSY PUT OFF FOR YEAR WHILE STUDY IS UNDERTAKEN

By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, June 24 (JTA) — Prime Minister Joe Clark announced late last night that he has appointed Robert Stanfield, former leader of the governing Progressive Conservative Party, to serve as a one-man task force to study the matter of moving Canada's embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He said that Stanfield will take into consideration "efforts that are being made to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East," and has a one-year time limit to complete his mission and make his recommendations to the government.

Clark made his announcement after a full day of meetings and consultations of the Prime Minister's Residence here, first with the ambassadors of 11 Arab states, then separately with Egyptian Ambassador Hassan Fahmy and finally, late in the evening, with Israeli Ambassador Mordechai Shalev for more than an hour.

Clark said that Stanfield will begin working this summer in Ottawa on all questions pertinent to relations between Canada and the Middle East Arab countries and Canada and Israel. Later in the fall, he will visit the Arab countries and Israel on a goodwill, fact-finding mission in order to examine, on the spot, possibilities of developing cultural, economic and political relations between all the countries concerned and Canada, Clark said. Official circles here believe Stanfield will present

his report and recommendations in April or May, 1980.

Arabs Leave Smiling

Clark began his announcement with the statement, "I set up a fact-finding mission covering the wide range of questions we face with regard to the implementation of our promise to move the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem." The Arab envoys who conferred with him yesterday left his residence smiling. They told reporters they were "satisfied with the position adopted by the Canadian government."

Shalev told reporters after meeting with Clark, that he was "very pleased to hear the Prime Minister reiterate Canada's policy to move the Canadian embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem." He added, however, "I cannot go into the details before reporting to my government in Jerusalem." The Prime Minister stressed once again the indefectable friendship of the Canadian government and the people for the State of Israel.

Minister of External Affairs Flora MacDonald refused last night to comment on the Prime Minister's announcement nor would Clark himself elaborate. Abdullah Abdullah, the representative of the Arab League in Ottawa, told reporters, "Anyone who recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel goes against the resolutions of the United Nations and helps our enemy."

Levesque Raps Proposal

In Quebec City last week, Quebec Premier Rene Levesque told the National Assembly, the Quebec provincial parliament, that the proposal to move the Canadian Embassy was like "diving into the pool without even checking for water." He said the Quebec government was "a bit flabbergasted" by Clark's proposal which he called "amateurish."

Levesque later told a press conference that his government believed "the brunt of the fallout" from the move would fall on Quebec and Quebec businessmen active in Arab countries. He said "the idea of moving the embassy 'is certainly not a diplomatic masterpiece.'"

Statistics Canada, the government bureau, declared in its monthly report last week on Canadian foreign trade that only one percent of all Canadian exports go to Arab countries. The report said that "last year, Canada sold \$718 million worth of goods to the 18 Moslem countries of the Middle East, including Egypt, Iran and Turkey," which it described as 1.4 percent of Canada's total exports in 1978 of \$52 billion.

The bureau said that in the first three months of this year, exports to those Mideast countries fell to just one percent of all Canadian exports, mainly because of a sharp drop in shipments to Iran. The report said Canada's imports from those countries in 1978 amounted to \$1.6 billion, about three percent of total Canadian imports, almost all of it in the form of crude oil imports from Saudi Arabia, Iran and Kuwait.

In the first three months of this year, according to the report, the proportion of Canadian imports from the Arab Moslem countries dropped to 2.5 percent of all Canadian imports, again mainly because of the cutoff of oil from Iran. Currently Canada uses about 1.8 million barrels of crude oil daily and 1.3 million barrels is produced in Canada. Most of the imported oil comes from Venezuela but 90,000 barrels a day comes from Arab countries.

U.S. MOVING TOWARD INCLUDING PALESTINIANS IN PEACE TALKS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA).-- The Carter Administration has officially opened the door for "Palestinians" in Jerusalem, Lebanon and wherever else they may be living to enter the Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. peace process related to the West Bank and Gaza. The Administration did not specifically name Jerusalem in making known its decision Friday but said that talks are to begin by the U.S. officials with "a number of Palestinians both inside and outside of the West Bank and Gaza."

Since all of Jerusalem -- including East Jerusalem -- has been part of Israel since 1967, the U.S. decision not to exclude the holy city explicitly is certain to create serious U.S.-Israeli difficulties.

The Carter Administration decision came in response to an "urgent" Saudi Arabian call in Riyadh for the U.S. to start "an immediate dialogue" with the Palestine Liberation Organization. The Administration reiterated, however, it will continue its long-standing conditions against talk with the PLO itself. The U.S. decision on the widened scope of its "talks" became known when the Jewish Telegraphic Agency inquired at the State Department about the Saudi suggestion in a newspaper report.

Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd suggested in Riyadh that U.S.-PLO talks could lead to the PLO accepting Security Council Resolution 242 and acknowledge Israel's right to exist. These are requirements set down by President Carter before U.S. talks begin with the PLO. The PLO receives major financial support from Saudi Arabia where tens of thousands of Palestinians occupy important positions in the oil rich country's petroleum industry and thus have a grip on the country's economy and security.

In an interview with New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis, Fahd stated "it is incumbent on the U.S. to talk to the PLO because it is, if not the, political fact in the conflict. It is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

U.S. Understands Fahd's Concern

"We understand Crown Prince Fahd's concern that the legitimate rights of the Palestinians must be dealt with as part of any comprehensive peace," the State Department said in a prepared statement in response to questions from the JTA.

"The question is the central focus in the negotiations now underway," the Department added. "As you know, both the Camp David frameworks and the letters by President (Anwar) Sadat and Prime Minister Begin sent to President Carter March 26 call for Palestinian participation in these negotiations."

"We desire that participation and will continue to work for it in the days ahead," the State Department added. "In this conjunction, obviously we will be talking to a number of Palestinians both inside and outside the West Bank and Gaza."

Asked whether going "outside" the areas under Israel's administration would include the PLO, the State Department said, "we understand the role of the PLO in the Arab world. Our position has been spelled out a number of times by the President and Secretary of State. It remains as we have stated it."

JERUSALEM (JTA).-- A Ramallah military court released Rabbi Meir Kahane on IL 50,000 bail Sunday for illegally entering Hebron.

LABOR PARTY KIBBUTZ GROUPS**UNITE AFTER 28-YEAR SPLIT**

By Yitzhak Shargil.

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA) — The two major Labor-oriented kibbutz movements in Israel agreed to reunite over the weekend ending a 28-year-old schism that occurred over issues which have long ceased to have any relevance for a majority of the members. The consolidation of Kibbutz Hameuchad with the Ichud Hakvutzot VeHakibbutzim, was decided at their respective conventions, the former held at Kibbutz Na'an in Galilee and the latter at Yifat. Both called on the Kibbutz Haartzim movement of Mapam to join with them to create a solid Labor kibbutz front. The new movement is called Hatenuah Hakibbutzim Hameuchedet—United Kibbutz Movement. Its constituent assembly will convene in October.

The split came about in 1951 when Mapai kibbutzim broke with Kibbutz Hameuchad and merged with the Chever Hakvutzim to form the Ichud Hakvutzot VeHakibbutzim. Pro-Achdut Avodah kibbutzim remained in the framework of the original movement. Those events sent shockwaves through the young state, then barely three years old. Families were divided by conflicting loyalties and many kibbutz financial enterprises had to be split. Eventually, Mapai and Achdut Haavodah settled their differences and merged to form the present Labor Party. But their respective kibbutz movements remained separated for the next 15 years.

At both conventions it was the younger generation — many unborn when the split took place — who pressed for reunification. The decision was nearly unanimous, with only a handful of die-hards holding out. As a result, the 64 kibbutzim of Kibbutz Hameuchad, with a population of 30,000 will join with Ichud to form a strong movement of 160 kibbutzim with a combined population of 175,000.

Both conventions dealt with current political issues. Resolutions were adopted to topple the present Likud government, proceed cautiously on the issue of settlements in the occupied Arab territories and to oppose any yielding to the Gush Emunim on that issue.

ISRAELIS LEAVE NICARAGUA

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA) — Tahal, Israel's water resources planning company announced today that it has pulled all of its personnel and their families out of Managua, the capital of Nicaragua which is now a battlefield between the Sandinista rebels and the Somoza government. The move means abandonment of an eight-year irrigation and water systems contract granted the Israeli firm by the Somoza regime three years ago.

The contract brought Tahal revenue of more than \$1.5 million a year and still had five years to go. The company has also abandoned its heavy machinery and other equipment in Nicaragua but that loss is insured. What it fears most is that the revolt in Nicaragua may spark similar uprisings in other Central and South American countries where Tahal is working under contract.

KHALIL ARRIVAL UNCERTAIN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) — Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil may not come to Israel tomorrow as head of his country's autonomy negotiating team if he is not assured that Premier Menachem Begin will see him. And if this after-

noon it was not yet clear whether Begin would do that. The next session of the autonomy talks will be held in Herakya tomorrow and Tuesday.

One of the Premier's spokesmen said last week that Begin would call on Khalil, but another spokesman said over the weekend, "the possibility of a meeting is still being studied." Begin is scheduled to go on a two-day tour of the Galilee tomorrow and Tuesday. Hopefully, he will be able to see Khalil Tuesday on his return from Galilee. Shlomo Nakdimon, the Premier's spokesman said, he noted, however, that the "Premier's schedule is very tight." Every minute is accounted for. He made many promises to settlements and kibbutzim up there weeks ago.

There is a history of personal ill-feeling and sensitivity between the two men. It began when Begin refused to meet with Khalil and President Carter at Camp David last February, insisting that President Anwar Sadat himself attend the summit. The summit did not take place and was followed by Carter's visit to the Middle East and eventually to the signing of the peace agreement.

But Khalil stayed away with a "diplomatic illness" when Begin visited Cairo last April and Khalil declined to attend the opening session of the autonomy talks at Beersheba on May 25, arguing that the Israeli chairman, Dr. Yosef Burg, held a lower rank than himself and therefore ought not to be chairman of the session.

ECONOMICS ADVISOR FIRED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) — The Cabinet today fired Prof. Assaf Rasnín, director of the government's economic planning authority, because of his strong public criticism of the government's economic policy. The Cabinet acted unanimously at the request of Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich who claimed that Rasnín had reneged on a promise not to attack the government at public forums.

Rasnín, who is presently visiting the U.S., was not available for comment. His relations with the government and especially Ehrlich, began to deteriorate last month after the Cabinet was unable to agree on budget cuts.

He told a newspaper interviewer at the time that "the government and the Premier are not serious" about solving economic problems and charged that Premier Menachem Begin "is completely out of the economic problems." Asked how he could attack the government that employed him, Rasnín said he was hired to give economic advice and that was exactly what he was doing.

WHERE DO YOU PARK A CAMEL?

Eilat, June 24 (JTA) — The Josephthal Hospital here, one of Israel's most modern and best equipped medical institutions, boasts a large parking lot and a helicopter landing pad but lacks facilities for the mode of transportation used by its many Bedouin patients — camels and donkeys. The hospital, the southernmost in Israel, treats Bedouins from the desert reaches of the deep Negev who travel on four legs instead of four wheels. An ill, elderly Bedouin arrived at the admissions building the other day on camel back. But there was no place to "park" his beast and no one to water and feed it. The hospital authorities are seriously considering building a "dock" for the "ship of the desert." (By Yitzhak Shargil).

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Robert Strauss will leave for the Middle East to participate in the Israeli-Egyptian autonomy talks. He leaves July 1.

CONTINUED TRADE BENEFITS FOR HUNGARY, ROMANIA URGED

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) — Congress was urged by Carter Administration officials last week to continue the waivers in the trade laws to permit most-favored-nation tariff treatment for Rumania and Hungary. They claimed, in a hearing before the subcommittee on trade of the House Ways and Means Committee that relations with these two countries are very important to U.S. interests in Eastern Europe.

Jewish communal organizations are expected to present testimony to the subcommittee led by Charles Vanik (D. Ohio) after the July 4 Congressional recess. According to evidence which the subcommittee made available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Rumanian Jewish emigration has been decreasing steadily in recent years and sharply this year while the Rumanian government has made receiving exit visas continuously more difficult to obtain.

Thus far this year, Jewish emigration to Israel has fallen more than 40 percent compared with last year which was the lowest annual outflow since Rumania was first granted most-favored-nation benefits in 1975. In the first five months of this year only 260 Jews have been allowed to emigrate, the subcommittee informed the JTA. Last year, 1,112 Jews were allowed to emigrate.

Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D. NY) appeared before the Vanik panel to point out that lack of cooperation by the Rumanian government is hampering the legal proceedings to deport Bishop Valerian Trifa who is accused of falsifying his background in obtaining U.S. citizenship. Trifa was a leader in the Rumanian Iron Guard, which caused the deaths of numerous Jews in Rumania during World War II.

Officials of the Departments of Treasury and Commerce and from the office of Special Trade Ambassador Robert Strauss joined Matthew Nimetz, the State Department's counselor, in urging trade benefits for Rumania and Hungary.

Nimetz said, "the establishment of non-discriminatory trade relations with Rumania in 1975 and with Hungary in 1978 was a watershed in our relations with both countries." He said that "our paramount interest in keeping this close relationship is based on Rumania's considerable independence on foreign policy issues," and he noted that "alone among Warsaw Pact countries, Rumania supported the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty and U.S. efforts in that area."

STUDY FINDS INADEQUATE TREATMENT OF HOLOCAUST IN HS TEXTBOOKS

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) — Not a single textbook in current use by high schools in the United States adequately covers the subject of the Nazi Holocaust, according to a report released by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which sponsored an "analytical examination" of 43 such texts.

"The failure is quantitative as well as qualitative," said Theodore Freedman, ADL's program director, in presenting the study to the ADL's 66th National Commission meeting here. The study was conducted during the past year by Glen S. Pate, an assistant professor in the Department of Secondary Education at the University of Arizona.

Pointing out that even the five books with the most extensive coverage on the subject were found wanting, Freedman declared that "this

woeful deficiency spurs us to raise serious questions about the kind of education our children are receiving."

He went on to say that "even among these five — the best of the lot — none deals satisfactorily with the causes of the Holocaust or the role of the United States; none has suggested reading for students; only one refers to resistance; (one uses the term 'genocide,' and one the term 'Holocaust'); three do not mention the Nuremberg trials; and none refers to the survivors."

The study by Pate was made under the auspices of ADL's Center for Studies on the Holocaust. Pate examined the texts exhaustively to determine objectively the extent and content of their treatment of the Holocaust. He said that "authors and textbook companies have not seen the Holocaust as relevant to American history or contemporary society."

Disagreeing with this attitude, he declared: "We need to learn the lessons of the Holocaust not only to improve our society today, but to safeguard the future. Some of the lessons of the Holocaust could help us recognize the harbingers of tragedy. To continue to ignore, or gloss over, this painful period of history is not only unwise, it is dangerous. It did happen; it must not happen again."

JEWISH FRATERNAL GROUPS MERGE

KIAMESHA LAKE, NY, June 24 (JTA) — President Carter, in a message read today at the opening session of the four-day Brith Abraham-Bnai Zion convention here, declared "That as long as a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East eludes us, as long as simple justice is denied to one individual anywhere on the face of this world, the rest of us enjoy an uneasy peace and an uneasy justice."

Saul Davis, grandmaster of Brith Abraham, before reading the President's message, announced that the order has merged with Bnai Zion recently to work together on programs designed to help Israel, Soviet Jewry, Jewish education, combat anti-Semitism, support worthy charities, etc. The affiliation will bring together two of the oldest fraternal orders in the country — the 92-year-old Brith Abraham, and the 71-year-old Bnai Zion.

President Carter, in congratulating them on the merger said it "signifies a spirit of unity and brotherhood that is essential in our world today. I appreciate the support members of your organization have given to my efforts to help establish peace in the Middle East. Despite the notable breakthroughs, there is more to be done." The President added that "I count on your continued commitment to these basic ideals — peace and justice — and at the same time I pledge to you my own continued determination to pursue these goals."

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The World Bank announced Friday approval of a loan of \$75 million to Egypt to help finance the foreign exchange cost of the Gulf of Suez gas project. This project will gather, process and transport gas from the oil fields in the Gulf of Suez.

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — A Gallup Poll on the viewing of "Holocaust" on TV in Holland has shown that over half of all Dutch persons of 12 years and over saw one or more installments. The frequency was strongest among teenagers from 12 to 19 years and smallest among those of 55 years and older. Also, those between 20 and 24 watched little of the series.