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BEGIN TO HAVE THREE-DAY MEETING WITH SADAT IN ALEXANDRIA

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 8 (JTA) — The Cabinet approved today the forthcoming visit of Premier Menachem Begin to Alexandria for a meeting with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Begin's visit will begin Tuesday and will last until Thursday. Begin will probably have two or three meetings with Sadat although Sadat has not yet forwarded a list of issues he wanted to discuss with his guest.

Egypt is expected to ask for additional "gestures" such as the release of political prisoners, and perhaps even concessions on Israel's settlement plans. Israel, on the other hand, is expected to ask to speed up the process of normalization.

The climax of the last summit between Begin and Sadat was the announcement of opening the borders between the two countries — which was followed by a limited exchange of tourist visas. Egypt so far has approved 10 of the 310 visa applications received from Israel. Israel approved the only 10 applications which arrived.

At this stage, therefore, it seems that the two leaders may discuss any of the outstanding issues between the two countries. The Cabinet made a point, anyway, of stating today that the Premier should not discuss any issues which go beyond the terms of reference of the Camp David agreements — such as the settlements and the status of Jerusalem. Thus, even if Sadat raises these issues, he is likely to hear from Begin the reply he had often heard in the past: this is up to the government to decide.

Significance Of "Working Groups"

Meanwhile, last Thursday night, in Alexandria, Israeli and Egyptian negotiators agreed under the prodding of Robert Strauss, President Carter's special Middle East envoy, to set up a number of "working groups" which will focus on the various aspects of the autonomy negotiations. The difference of approach between Egypt and Israel, over whether to negotiate a declarative agenda or plunge straight into the practical issues of the autonomy, surfaced Thursday.

Israel's chief negotiator, Dr. Yosef Burg, once again stressed the Israeli view that a political-ideological debate on aims and objectives was a sure recipe for paralysis. He said that Israel would be prepared, in principle, to discuss the Egyptian proposal for a declarative agenda — but only on the clear understanding that this meant reopening the Camp David "framework," since Israel regarded many of Egypt's suggested points as contravening the "letter or spirit of the framework."

Egypt's Premier Mustapha Khalil maintained that the 17 points which he had suggested at Herzliya a week earlier as components of an agenda did not contravene or go beyond the Camp David "framework" — but were merely an elaboration of it.

Israel Gets Strauss' Support

But the Israeli position received the powerful and energetic support of Strauss who said he would not want to challenge Khalil's argument — but he was by nature an "active negotiator" and be-

lieved in frontal assault on the specifics of the issues. He therefore recommended that the talks focus on the specifics — for if they were sidetracked into ideology and philosophy, they could go on for two years, not one.

Strauss said expressly that he was against having an agenda altogether — and it was plain that his proposal to set up "working groups" was intended to ease Egypt's way towards shelving its demand for a declarative agenda at this stage.

Strauss had already outlined his proposal to Burg in a private meeting before the formal Thursday morning session began, and the initial Israeli reaction was positive. The Egyptian team also indicated their agreement to the principle of working groups as soon as Strauss raised the subject: presumably he had discussed it privately in advance with Khalil, too.

Strauss' department, and the position he took on the agenda, clearly pointed, a senior Israeli negotiator said, to his determination to achieve progress — and achieve it fast.

KREISKY-ARAFAT MEETING CAUSES INDIGNATION, DISMAY IN ISRAEL

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, July 8 (JTA) — The mainstream political community in Israel, embracing the government and the Labor Party opposition, reacted with uniform indignation and dismay over the meeting that Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria and Willy Brandt, chairman of West Germany's ruling Social Democratic Party, had with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat in Vienna this weekend. Kreisky told a news conference in Vienna today that the 10 hours of discussion over a period of three days between the three men had been "very, very informative."

Arafat was invited by Kreisky in the Chancellor's capacity as vice president of the Socialist International. Brandt, former Chancellor of West Germany, is president of the Socialist International. Arafat's visit was not announced in advance and was a surprise to reporters in Vienna. It was his first official visit to the West since he addressed the United Nations General Assembly in 1974.

The Cabinet today "empowered the Foreign Ministry" to summon home Israel's Ambassador to Austria "for consultations" as a mark of protest. Yosef Cecharover, the Director General of the Foreign Ministry, called in the Austrian chargé d'affaires to deliver an expression of Israel's strong protest at Kreisky's action.

Begin, Peres Draft Statement

Shimon Peres, chairman of the opposition Labor Party, joined with Premier Menachem Begin in drafting a statement condemning the meeting, which will be presented to a special session of the Knesset tomorrow. Peres noted that negotiation of the PLO is the national consensus in Israel. He told a meeting of the Labor Party Bureau this afternoon that the party would raise the matter at the next meeting of the Socialist International. Meanwhile, Kreisky and Brandt stated that the Socialist International will have more talks with the PLO irrespective of previous decisions to the contrary.

Only the leftist two-man Sheti faction, consisting of Meir Pavlin and Uri Avnery, welcomed

the Vienna meeting as a possible breakthrough in the comprehensive peace process. Another Sheli leader, Gen. (res.) Mattityahu Peled, who has himself met with PLO leaders at various times in Europe, said that what transpired in Vienna was beyond proper proportions.

But Peled said on a radio interview today that he assumed the Kreisky-Brandt meeting with Arafat had been arranged on the basis of new pledges by Arafat to make public statements either recognizing Israel or accepting UN Security Council Resolution 242. For that reason, Peled said he welcomed the meeting as a hopeful sign.

Kreisky Attacks Israel

Maariv published an interview today with Kreisky from its Vienna correspondent, Menahem Oberbaum, in which the Austrian Chancellor asserted that the analogy between Israel's policies and those of South Africa was at the focus of the tripartite meeting in Vienna.

"At a meeting like this, one discusses a broad spectrum of issues," Kreisky said. "One speaks of the moral bases of Judaism and to the same extent one speaks of the bombing of Lebanese villages and its consequences. One speaks of the extraordinary arrogance with which Israel behaves. Obviously — and this should be clear to you — the central idea of these talks tends towards the comparison between Israel and South Africa. There is a position (which maintains) that Israel intends to set up a 'Banatstan' on the West Bank — i.e., an area of Arab population which would in effect be bereft of rights, with Israeli control over all the area's resources."

Kreisky said that he personally was convinced that the PLO leadership did not (still) hold the view that Israel had no right to exist. "I am sure the PLO does not believe in the destruction of Israel," he said. He said the meeting had evolved out of a prolonged correspondence between himself and Arafat, a correspondence during which he had written his own unequivocally negative opinion regarding some of the PLO positions.

Arafat was welcomed by Kreisky and Minister of Interior Erwin Lankl on his arrival from Sofia in a special plane of the Bulgarian Airline. In a short statement Arafat rejected the idea of negotiations with Israel and said the Palestinian problem can only be solved within the United Nations.

Political commentators in Jerusalem believe that Brandt and Kreisky will launch a new initiative to spur the current round of negotiations on Palestinian autonomy between Israel, Egypt and the United States.

Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan met Kreisky on Friday during a stop in Vienna. Jordan and the Palestinians have declined to take part in the autonomy talks on grounds that the Camp David agreements do not meet their demand for total Israeli withdrawal.

QUAKERS GIVING LEGAL AID TO WEST BANK, GAZA STRIP ARABS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 8 (JTA) -- The State Department has declined to intervene in the Israeli government's request to the American Friends Service Committee to end its legal services to Arabs on the West Bank and Gaza Strip accused of security offenses. Department spokesman Tom Reston, asked to define the U.S. position, said "It is really a matter between the Committee and the Israeli government."

Reston said that "we understand" the Committee's legal aid center in Israel "has been told by the Israeli government it can handle cases already in hand but not to undertake new cases because the Israeli government believes the Quakers' legal services duplicate services already provided by the Israeli government."

"For our part," Reston said, speaking of the Israeli government's position, "we certainly hope it can be resolved to the satisfaction of both sides."

Without being prompted by questions, he added that "overall, I want to say that it is our belief that various non-government organizations — U.S. voluntary organizations — operating in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have done a fine job and have made many useful contributions." Whether the Logan Act, which forbids Americans from engaging in activities inimical to U.S. foreign policy, is involved in this case was not cleared up in Reston's remarks.

Israel Asked Committee To Stop

According to information received here, the Committee was "requested" by Israel's Social Welfare Deputy Director General Mordechai Avistour on June 4 to stop providing lawyers for Arabs arrested on security charges because the assistance gets beyond "humanitarian" functions. The Committee has been conducting the legal aid program for five years.

The Committee was reported as saying it has been providing legal aid in about 20 new cases for West Bank Arabs who could not afford lawyers. Gail Pressberg, director of the Committee's Mideast programs, was reported as saying the legal aid office was accused of engaging in political activities "inappropriate" to the humanitarian cause.

The Committee's program helped West Bank Arab landowners bring civil suits against the Israeli government in issues involving Jewish civilian settlements. In the U.S., the Committee has been supportive of Arab perceptions in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

JEWISH WRITER WINS TOP

ITALIAN LITERARY PRIZE

ROME, July 8 (JTA) -- Primo Levi, one of the few Italian Jewish concentration camp survivors, well-known for his novels and his personal account of Nazi horrors in the documentary work, "If This Be a Man," won one of Italy's most distinguished literary awards last Thursday, the Premio Strega, for his novel, "La Chiave a Stella." The work deals with the Broad theme of man versus technology and zooms in on the mechanized existence of a factory worker. The title refers to a tool used in the factory production line. This is Levi's first novel on a non-Jewish theme. Levi, who still bears his concentration camp number tattooed on his arm, is, unlike other Italian Jewish writers, very much committed to his Jewish heritage.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT SITTING

ON ITS HANDS ON ARAB BOYCOTT

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 8 (JTA) -- The British government has clearly signalled that it is likely to be even less energetic than the previous Labor administration in acting against the Arab boycott. Exchanges in the House of Lords have confirmed that the Foreign Office has made no headway in meeting two of the key suggestions of a House of Lords select committee.

One of them was to scrap the practice whereby the Foreign Office authenticates signatures on

negative certificates of origin. The other was to explore the possibility of joint action within the European Economic Community (EEC).

The negative certificates which state that goods destined for an Arab customer do not originate in Israel, have been criticized as discriminating against a country with which Britain is friendly. Similar documents have been banned in the United States and in Britain they are required by only a few Arab countries — Iraq, Libya, Syria, the two Yemens and Bahrain.

Lord Refsgaard, on behalf of the Foreign Office, claimed that in authenticating these documents, the government was in no way condoning their content. However, to cease processing them involved "a difficult point of principle and a grave risk to our exports," he said.

This was strongly rejected by several peers, including Lord Redcliffe-Maud, chairman of the Select Committee which studied the Arab boycott last year. He said that the government's signature on such documents gave the "very strong impression" that it was involved in the boycott process. The government spokesman was also unenthusiastic about the Select Committee's call for joint action in the EEC.

The discussion on this issue last Thursday was prompted by Lord Janner, veteran president of the Zionist Federation, who criticized the government's failure to reach a decision on negative certificates of origin, even though they had been under review for a long time.

3 ARAB TERRORISTS KILLED

TEL AVIV, July 8 (JTA) — An Israeli patrol killed three Arab terrorists today, apparently on a mission to seize hostages in Israel. The clash occurred at noon in the Har Dov area on the western slopes of Mt. Hermon. A military spokesman said the terrorists were well armed and carried explosives, ropes and other equipment indicating that they intended to capture hostages and commit acts of violence. There were no Israeli casualties.

The gang approached the Israeli border in broad daylight after crossing territory controlled by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) without detection by UNIFIL units. Israeli sources noted increasing terrorist activity against the Christian enclaves in south Lebanon from bases within the UNIFIL-controlled area. Israel estimates that there are about 400-500 terrorists in that territory.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS URGED TO UNITE TO COMBAT GLOBAL TERRORISM

By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, July 8 (JTA) — A united front of democratic governments to combat global terrorism was urged in a statement adopted at the closing session of a four-day conference on international terrorism here last Thursday night, attended by leading public figures from Israel, the United States and other countries. One of the participants, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D., Wash.), proposed after the conference closed, that America's Freedom of Information Act be revised.

"We need to revise certain excesses in the American law to build up the acquiring of effective information and the ability to disseminate it in a timely way," Jackson said. During the discussion, Maj. Gen. George Keegan, former chief of Air Force intelligence, and George Bush, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, warned that if terrorism is to be eradicated,

sources of intelligence, notably the CIA and FBI, must be protected and given free rein in their activities.

The conference was sponsored by the Jonathan Institute, created in memory of the late Lt. Col. Yonatan Netanyahu who commanded the Israeli force that rescued 100 Air France hijack hostages at Entebbe Airport, Uganda, on July 3-4, 1976 and was killed in that operation.

One theme sounded by many of the participants was that the Soviet Union is the motivating force and instigator of many world-wide terrorist movements. That charge was leveled at the opening session by a British defense writer, Brian Cribzier, who said the Soviets were behind the Portuguese Communist Party's activities on behalf of various African guerrilla movements, and by Robert Mass, of the Economist, who claimed that the Kremlin was deeply involved in every stage of the Iranian revolution and was now helping the Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua and stirring trouble in Turkey.

Mass Media Under Fire

Most of the participants attacked the mass media as being in indirect collusion with terrorism and one observed that "The free press cannot be neutral or objective." Although an aura of political conservatism prevailed at the conference, there was some lively dissent from statements such as one that "To understand terrorism you must understand that it is part of a 60 year commitment on the part of the Soviet leadership, which as far back as 1919 documented the guidelines for world-wide revolutionary terrorism."

Asked later if the absence of "leftist" representation at the conference did not in some way taint it, Jackson replied, "If I'm hardline in foreign policy it's because I'm committed to freedom and on the issue of freedom there has never been a division" between liberals and conservatives. Significantly, however, the conference declined to adopt a resolution at its close but issued a "statement attesting to the views of the majority."

It called for a unanimous condemnation of terrorism by all leading democratic nations, the enforcement of an international convention against terrorism which would deny political status to terrorists and permit implementation of diplomatic and economic sanctions against states that aided in terrorist activities. The statement called for legislation by the democracies to enforce The Hague, Tokyo and Montreal Conventions dealing with aerial piracy.

While many of the key participants praised the conference for bringing the problem of terrorism into international focus, others found fault with it on precisely that point. "This was more an exercise in public relations than anything else," we've taken no practical decisions," one delegate said. Another told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "The way to deal with terrorism is through a closed forum or a panel of experts who can deal with terrorists in a concrete fashion. What we've done through this conference is give the terrorists exactly what they thrive on — media coverage."

During the course of the conference, many of the delegates attended graveside ceremonies memorializing Netanyahu on the third anniversary of his death. Premier Menachem Begin, Labor Party opposition leader Shimon Peres, and Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir were also present, as was Jackson. The Senator, who received an honorary degree from the Hebrew University last Monday, had earlier denounced the Palestine Liberation Organization.

U.S.: JEWS CAUTIONED ABOUT COMMENTS WHICH WOULD HARM ROMANIA'S JEWS EMIGRATION CHANCES

BUCHAREST, July 8 (JTA) -- Romanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen has urged American Jews not to make any statements in the upcoming U.S. Congressional hearings on most-favored-nation trade status for Rumania which might "damage" the "vital interests" of Rumanian Jews and their right to emigrate to Israel.

In a cable sent last Friday to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Rosen said that "nobody has the right to give statements on our behalf without consulting us." He said he has invited Theodore Mann, chairman of the Presidents Conference, and other American Jewish leaders to come to Rumania.

Rosen was apparently referring to the scheduled testimony by American Jewish leaders before the House Ways and Means subcommittee on trade which will be holding hearings soon on the special U.S. trade status for Rumania and Hungary. According to reports from the subcommittee, headed by Rep. Charles Vanik (D. Ohio), Jewish emigration from Rumania was down by 40 percent since last year, the lowest number since most-favored-nation status was granted Rumania in 1975.

The Chief Rabbi also issued a statement here last Friday declaring that more than 90 percent of Rumania's Jews have emigrated to Israel in the last 35 years. "There are 350,000 Rumanian Jews in Israel and 38,000 left in Rumania," he said.

Rosen stressed that no one who has registered for aliyah has lost his job or encountered any other difficulties. The exit visa is issued "sooner or later," he added.

"I am authorized to say that every Jew who wants to emigrate to Israel can register for emigration through (Jewish) federation communities while he uses the usual legal ways," Rosen said. "Rumanian Jewry is grateful to the Rumanian government for full religious freedom and equality of rights and for treating all their problems with humanitarian feelings. Over 10,000 old and ill Jews, remnants of Auschwitz, are helped by the Joint Distribution Committee through the goodwill of the Rumanian government."

Rosen stressed in his statement that in contacts with "important leaders of American Jewry" he was assured they support the most-favored-nation trade status for Rumania as well as the Rumanian Jewish community's position.

NCJW OFFERS ASSISTANCE IN RESETTLING BOAT PEOPLE

NEW YORK, July 8 (JTA) -- Shirley Leviton, president of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), has written to President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance offering the services of NCJW members in 200 cities across the country to help in the resettlement of Indochinese "boat people" who will be coming into the U.S. in growing numbers. This action came on the heels of an alert sent out by the International Council of Jewish Women -- of which NCJW is the largest affiliate -- urging that all 32 member groups encourage their governments to help ease the plight of these refugees.

"With the rest of the world we are horrified at the harsh treatment being dealt to these innocent men, women and children," wrote Mrs. Leviton in her letter, "and we wish to express our concern in a tangible way. Since many of our Sections already have extensive programs for the resettlement of Soviet Jewish immigrants, we feel that the way in which we can offer the most meaningful assistance

is to adapt some of these services for the Indochinese refugees."

Continuing, she stated: "We have womanpower of 100,000 and we would be happy to offer the Indochinese many of the services we perform for the Russian immigrants. These might include meeting new arrivals at airports, finding housing and furniture, arranging for medical and legal appointments, bringing immigrants to social security appointments and job interviews, enrolling children in school, arranging for English classes and generally overseeing the acclimatization to life in America."

NCJW has been involved in resettlement for its entire 85-year history, and has recently geared up its programs due to the large influx of Soviet Jews. In many cities, NCJW is the only volunteer organization working with professional agencies in the resettlement of these immigrants, and in a number of cases has already been involved in helping to resettle other immigrant groups, a NCJW spokesperson said.

In Dallas, Texas, for example, the NCJW Evening Branch developed a guidebook to the city in Russian and about a year ago, at the request of the mayor, had it translated into Vietnamese, the spokesperson noted. And in Worcester, Mass., where NCJW runs its own Office of Immigration and Naturalization, the services of the offices have been heavily used by other immigrant groups, as well as by the Soviet Jews.

EXHIBIT OF JEWISH BOOKS DUE AT MOSCOW BOOK FAIR IN SEPTEMBER

NEW YORK, July 8 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee, in conjunction with the Association of Jewish Book Publishers and the Jewish Book Council, will sponsor an exhibit of books of Jewish interest at the Second International Moscow Book Fair this fall, it was announced here.

The exhibit will feature 700 book titles of volumes published in the United States, including both fiction and non-fiction works. Books in English, Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian, as well as prayer books, will be included in the display. Titles issued by publishers specializing in Jewish volumes, as well as books of interest to Jewish audiences issued by general publishers, will be featured.

The Moscow Book Fair will be held Sept. 4-10. A similar fair was held in Moscow in 1977, at which a comparable exhibition of Jewish volumes was displayed. Part of the costs of the Jewish book exhibition are being defrayed by the Joseph Meyerhoff Foundation of Baltimore.

Representing the sponsors at the Moscow Fair will be Robert B. Goldmann, Chairman of the AJC committee planning the book fair exhibition; Ruth Septee, Vice President of the AJC Philadelphia Chapter; and Bernard Scharfstein, of Ktav Publishing House.

The exhibit will be open to the general public in the Soviet capital, as well as to publishers, librarians, and others in the Soviet Union concerned with book matters. Visitors will be provided, free with lists of books being displayed, Jewish calendars, notes on Jewish holidays, and recordings of children's music.

Among the publishers who will be represented at the Jewish exhibit are: The American Jewish Committee, Avon, Bookazine, Doubleday, Farrar Straus and Giroux, Jewish Book Council, Jewish Publication Society, Putnam, Random House, Knopf-Pantheon, Ktav Publishing House, Schocken Books, Hebrew Publishing Co., Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Jacob Steinberg is President of the Association of Jewish Book Publishers.