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STRAUSS, IN ISRAEL, SAYS AUTONOMY TALKS READY TO SHIFT INTO SECOND GEAR By Gil Sedan and Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Robert Strauss, President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, arrived here today from meetings with President Anwar Sadat in Cairo exuding confidence that the Israeli-Egyptian autonomy talks are ready to "shift into second gear" and can be successfully concluded by May, 1980, the deadline set at Camp David.

Strauss, who went directly from Ben Gurion Airport to Jerusalem for a meeting with Premier Menachem Begin this afternoon, described his talks with Sadat as "most useful and constructive." He said the Egyptian leader was "extremely positive" about his meetings with Begin in Hafia last week.

"It appeared to me that President Sadat had come from a feeling of optimism and feeling of hope ... to a certainty that we would indeed be successful," Strauss said. He stressed that success was possible within the framework of the Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. Contrary to reports last week that Israel and Egypt had agreed to slow down the autonomy talks, Strauss said "Israel, Egypt and ourselves (the U.S.) share a common timetable and share a common approach, one that calls for shifting into second gear, if you wish."

Strauss was seconded in those remarks by Interior Minister Yosef Burg, head of the Israeli ministerial delegation in the autonomy talks. Burg said Israel had no intention of waiting until the last minute of the remaining eight months allotted for the negotiations over autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Strauss gave no indication of what factors may have contributed to Sadat's optimism. However, he said, "It was now possible to 'bring out on the table ... some of the more difficult, controversial and acrimonious issues.' He appeared to be referring to the question of Jerusalem and the scope of authority for the proposed autonomous councils, issues that have bogged down the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations up to now.

Autonomy Groups Continue To Differ

Those issues will be discussed by the autonomy working groups in the months ahead and by the full ministerial autonomy committees. The Israeli and Egyptian working groups meeting in Herzliya today adjourned without reaching any agreement but freely acknowledged their differences.

The major obstacle is Egypt's insistence that the 70,000 Arab inhabitants of East Jerusalem be permitted to vote in the autonomy elections. Israel adamantly refuses on grounds that East Jerusalem is an integral part of the capital and of Israel. The Egyptians also want broader powers for the autonomous council while Israel is prepared to give it only limited jurisdiction.

These matters will come up when the ministerial negotiations convene again in Alexandria in two weeks. Burg will head the Israeli team, Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil the Egyptian and Strauss is expected to represent the U.S.

Strauss and Begin, speaking to reporters after their meeting late today, said they hoped to

continue to work in compliance with the Camp David accords on autonomy. Begin said that "Ambassador Strauss and I had a very friendly discussion and we have decided that both sides will continue acting in accordance with the Camp David framework agreements." He added that he had briefed Strauss on his discussions with Sadat and that the U.S. envoy briefed Begin on his own talks with the Egyptian President.

Strauss said, "I have very little to add to what the Premier has said other than to amplify with respect to the Camp David accords." He added, "I suspect that now we can begin to look back at the beginning of the Camp David process and measure just what was accomplished in terms of what has happened since then." Earlier, Strauss said he planned to appoint a military advisor from the Pentagon to assist him at the autonomy negotiations.

Stanfield Arrives In Israel

Meanwhile, another special envoy has arrived in Israel. He is Robert Stanfield assigned by Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark to investigate the possibility of moving Canada's Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The move was promised by Clark during his election campaign this year but was deferred under pressure from the Arab states and Canadian business interests pending Stanfield's fact-finding mission. The Canadian emissary will also visit Arab countries. He is due to present his recommendations to Clark next year.

U.S. REPUDIATES HAVANA DECLARATION EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- The Carter Administration today "repudiated entirely" the declaration in Havana of the non-aligned nations that equated Zionism with racism. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter voiced the repudiation in response to a reporter's question that his comment yesterday on the declaration did not explicitly cover that element. His original comment was that the U.S. "profoundly disagrees" with elements in the declaration and he singled out the attack on Egypt while saying that the U.S. record indicates how it stands on other parts.

Carter also was asked whether the statements Sunday on national TV by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat, plus the declaration's call for "the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the liberation of all the occupied Arab territories" do not "require a re-examination" to dismantle the State of Israel. Carter replied that the U.S. position towards the PLO has not changed.

PRESSURE ON EEC TO EXTEND RECOGNITION TO THE PLO By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- When the Foreign Ministers of the European Economic Community (EEC) meet in Dublin tomorrow they will be under heavy pressure to extend political recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization as a rightful partner in Middle East peace talks.

But despite a pro-PLO shift by the British government, Israeli diplomats think there is a chance that the move will be defeated because of the opposition of West Germany and Holland. Israeli optimism about the attitudes of West Germany grew here today following the talks in Bonn between Israeli

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and his West German counterpart, Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

There have also been talks in Dublin between Israeli diplomats and Irish ministers, including Foreign Minister Michael O'Kennedy who is presiding at tomorrow's gathering of the nine EEC Ministers. Relations between the two countries have been exacerbated by Israeli military action in south Lebanon where 700 Irish troops serve with the United Nations force.

Last week, O'Kennedy told Israeli Charge d'Affaires Yoav Biran of his "grave concern" over Israeli policy in Lebanon. He asked Israel to restrain the Christian forces led by Maj. Saad Haddad from encroaching on land controlled by the Irish troops. On the same day, a similar attack on Israel was made at the United Nations by Irish representative Paul Keating.

The Israeli Embassy in London, which handles relations with Ireland, was so concerned by the mood in Dublin that it asked the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem for additional help in putting the Israeli case before the Irish government and public. Tomorrow, Eitan Ron, Deputy Director General in charge of United Nations Affairs and a senior officer of the Israeli army's northern command, will begin a two-day visit to Dublin to meet officials and journalists.

2 WEST BANK MAYORS SUPPORT SADAT INITIATIVE; 1 MAYOR DENIES SUPPORT

By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Two prominent Palestinian figures on the West Bank revealed their support for Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative but a third figure, who was also reported as supporting Sadat, has denied upholding the Egyptian leader's initiative. According to a report last Thursday in Yediot Achronot, the three Sadat supporters were Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa, Beit Jalla Mayor Farah Sabah al-Araj, and Hebron Village Union chairman Mustafa Dudin.

Al-Shawwa noted that Sadat's initiative would, in the final analysis, improve the status of the Palestine Liberation Organization in international circles. In fact, he said, the meeting between United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young and the PLO observer at the UN came directly as a result of the moves taken by Sadat. In response to Al-Shawwa's statement in the Israeli Arabic daily, Al Anba, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, headed by Naif Hawatma, issued a death threat to the Mayor.

In an interview last weekend in the East Jerusalem daily, Al Quds, al-Shawwa said his statement to Al Anba was grossly distorted. He maintained, in the Al Quds interview, that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Considered one of the most moderate public figures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, al-Shawwa's support for the autonomy plan is considered essential. It is especially significant if the self-rule scheme is to be tried in Gaza before the rest of the administered territories. Until now, the Gaza Mayor has refused to take part in the autonomy talks if they are not publicly linked to an eventual scheme of full determination. His statement issued over the weekend clearly reaffirms this position.

MORE IS NOT BETTER THAN LESS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Less is better than more. This is the main lesson from the

successful summit meeting between Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Premier Menachem Begin in Haifa last week. According to Gen. Ephraim Poran, Begin's military secretary, the summit suffered from an embarrassment of riches.

For example, there was an endless flow of gifts, especially cakes and flowers, which almost smothered Sadat. "Please," Poran said, "no more gifts in the future." He also called for a return to "normal dimensions" of official receptions instead of the "carnival" atmosphere during Sadat's visit. Poran said he thought Haifa "exaggerated a little with its reception ceremony for Sadat. Of course, we are all guilty for approving most of the requests, but we have learned the lesson, and in the future we shall ask that such ceremonies be more modest."

Aside from the excess of gifts and hoopla, there were also too many dignitaries invited to be on the receiving line. After drastic cuts, there were still 50 persons on the line waiting to shake Sadat's hand. This was much too much, Poran noted, adding that the custom elsewhere is for 15 or 20 dignitaries to receive the guest of honor.

Consequently, the ministerial ceremony committee will be asked to work out a permanent format for those invited to receive a head of state. "Once we have a permanent format," Poran said, "the number of those who feel insulted because they were not invited will be much smaller." Poran said that heavy pressure was exerted by those who wanted to be invited to the state dinners in honor of Sadat. These also will have to be limited in the future, he said.

Some 3500 policemen took part in the security operation that Sadat's visit involved. On top of this, almost the entire navy was on alert during his visit. It is not yet clear just how much the successful visit had cost.

BETHLEHEM MAYOR SUPPORTS FEDERATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij came out today in support of a confederation between a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Jordan. The idea was worked out between King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat, according to media reports abroad, although Hussein in Paris yesterday declined to say if he and Arafat favored a confederation.

Freij, in an interview with Israel Radio, said he believes the majority of the people in the administered territories accept the confederation idea. In a separate interview, another West Bank leader, former Jordanian Defense Minister Anwar Nusseiba, agreed with Freij that any such confederation would necessitate the prior establishment of a Palestinian entity.

"Jordan and the West Bank complete each other," Freij said. "The east bank is one lung, the West Bank is another lung. So we are two lungs in one body." Contrary to the situation until 1967, Freij suggested that each side of the Jordan River would have its own government but with one "police force, one army and one passport" for both states. Both states would function on an equal basis, he said.

NAACP URGES CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO REVIEW ITS POLICY ON THE PLO

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has called on the Carter Administration "to reexamine" the pledge given to Israel four years ago, barring the United States from negotiating a

with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) until the PLO recognized Israel's right to exist.

The appeal to the Administration was part of a statement issued here yesterday at the conclusion of the NAACP's fall annual board meeting at the Sheraton Centre. "The NAACP," the statement declared, "calls upon the U.S. government not to proscribe or limit the participation of any bona fide Middle East entity in the pursuit of a just and humane settlement of the conflict or causes of conflict in the region."

Four years after former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger entered into a secret agreement with Israel barring direct negotiations by the U.S. with Palestinian officials until the PLO recognized Israel's right to exist, the NAACP finds it imperative to question the continuing wisdom of such an arrangement given present developments and realities.

The NAACP, however, coupled its call to the Carter Administration with a call on the U.S. "never to relent in its commitment to the permanent existence of Israel with secure and recognized borders." The statement added that NAACP supports the right for "self-determination and a homeland for the Palestinian people."

Recalling the meeting of Black leaders in New York on Aug. 22 where they deplored the "double standard" used in judging Ambassador Andrew Young's meeting with Zehadi Labib Terzi, the PLO observer at the UN, and U.S. Ambassador to Austria Milton Wolf's meeting with a PLO official in Vienna, the NAACP board said it fully endorsed the statements adopted by the Black leaders.

The board's statement also endorsed an Aug. 22 statement which supported "the right of Black Americans to participate in the development and execution of U.S. foreign policy." The NAACP also supported the right of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and Black citizens and organizations "to engage in dialogue with individuals and groups whose actions have serious consequences for them." This was a reference to the meeting SCLC leaders held with Terzi prior to their meeting with Israeli Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum.

In-Search Of Mideast Peace

Continuing, the board statement declared: "The NAACP notes with grave concern the unending reality of warfare and violence in the Middle East. This continuing destruction of life and property daily not only threatens to engulf the region once more in full-scale warfare, but it also poses a severe danger to the economies of the U.S. and its principal allies and to world peace."

"The NAACP condemns violence of whatever source and calls upon those directly involved to begin immediate, direct contacts and negotiations in search of peace. In this pursuit of peace in the Middle East, the NAACP will, as in the past, work directly with the U.S. government and its representatives in promoting the interests of this nation and its people."

Benjamin L. Hooks, the NAACP's executive director, said, however, yesterday that while his organization had "no intention of initiating talks with the PLO," he would urge the State Department to talk with the PLO.

Black-Jewish Relations

Meanwhile, Hooks announced yesterday that steps were underway to initiate dialogue between the Black and Jewish communities under the aegis of the Kivie Kaplan Human Relations

Institute. The Institute was jointly established by the NAACP and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations with a grant from the Kaplan Family Charity Trust started by the late Kivie Kaplan, a Boston industrialist who served as national president of NAACP from 1966 until his death May 5, 1975.

The board's statement, which endorsed the dialogue, urged that Young's resignation not be permitted to become a vehicle for the increase of tension. To this end, we urge President Carter to immediately give a full and clear explanation of the reasons for the acceptance of that resignation. The NAACP feels that existing differences are not insurmountable. With conscientious effort and mutual respect, both groups would be able to pursue the goals of equal rights in strengthened cooperation.

EGYPT'S OPTIMISM CAUSES CONCERN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- The strong optimism of Egyptian leaders about prospects for a full agreement soon with Israel -- expressed Sunday by President Anwar Sadat on national TV and reiterated here today by Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak after meeting with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance -- was reported today to be evoking concerns among U.S. diplomats that the optimism might damage U.S. relations with Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria.

In a development reminiscent of reaction to Sadat's startling announcement of two years ago that he would go to Jerusalem in a quest for peace, U.S. diplomats in the Middle East were reported to be worried that Sadat's "go-it-alone" approach in the Arab world would affect U.S. interest in keeping clear channels open to other Arab nations, particularly Saudi Arabia. U.S. ambassadors in the region met with U.S. special Ambassador Robert Strauss in Cairo after he talked to Sadat to help negotiate an Israeli-Egyptian agreement on Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza.

Apparently it was from these U.S. diplomats that reporters learned that Sadat's "brazen tactics" -- as one report described them -- would, in their view, hurt U.S. interests. In 1977, when Sadat shattered U.S. initiatives by going to Jerusalem, U.S. diplomats threw cold water on that action because of their feeling it would disrupt the Arab world.

According to reports from Cairo, "Western diplomats" are now saying that U.S. failure to achieve an accommodation in the United Nations Security Council on the Palestinian issue has deeply dismayed Saudi leaders and created the possibility of a Saudi oil production cutback in October. The Saudis, it is widely understood, expected when they raised production in early July by one million barrels a day for three months, that the U.S. would reciprocate with actions favorable to "Palestinian rights."

In connection with strategy meetings of U.S. envoys to Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Israel, held at the residence of Alfred Atherton, U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, and with Strauss at the U.S. Chancery in Cairo, reports have emerged that the U.S. "failure" to achieve a breakthrough in the Security Council and Ambassador Andrew Young's resignation had so disturbed Saudi Crown Prince Fahd that he may cut back oil output to below what it was in June when gasoline shortages developed in the West.

Mubarak, in expressing optimism, said Jordan and Saudi Arabia would be involved in the autonomy negotiations by the end of this year. "When they (Egypt and Israel) reach the modalities for full autonomy, I think there will not be any excuse for them not to join."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW**HAIFA MAYOR SOLD ON SADAT**

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Only a week ago, before the arrival of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat for his summit meeting with Premier Menachem Begin in Haifa, Arye Gur-El, the mayor of the city, had doubts whether the Egyptian leader's new policy of peace with Israel was sincere. But today he is not only convinced that Sadat wants peace, he also is deeply impressed with the Egyptian "Rais" (President) and trusts his intentions.

"The truth is that after I spent a few hours hosting Sadat and his wife, I sincerely believe now that he wants peace," Gur-El told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview here before leaving for Columbus, Ohio to attend a meeting of the International Union of Local Authorities.

"Sadat is sincere," Gur-El continued, relaying his impressions. "He wants a genuine peace. He has a few problems, of course, with the other Arabs and with the Palestinians, but that he wants peace there is no doubt in my mind. This is my unequivocal impression of the man." And, as if to bolster his own impression, he added "My wife, Miriam, was also deeply impressed with the sincerity of Jihan, Sadat's wife."

According to Gur-El, both Sadat and his wife are very emotional people. Sadat was so touched by the reception tendered him by Haifa residents, Gur-El recalled, that he could not conceal the tears in his eyes once he returned to the car from which he stepped out to shake hands with the crowd. "My wife told me that Jihan literally cried, with tears streaming down her cheeks," Gur-El said. The Mayor was with Sadat and Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin in one car, while his wife, Jihan, and the Sadats' daughter, Maha, were in another.

Haifa And Alexandria As Sister Cities

Sadat was so enthusiastic over the reception accorded him that, still riding in the car, he agreed instantly that Alexandria and Haifa be declared twin cities. Gur-El said. He quoted Sadat as saying: "There are no barriers between us any more. We are friends. You want to forge a pact between Alexandria and Haifa -- you have it." Sadat also suggested that Gur-El extend an invitation to the Governor of Alexandria to visit the Mount-Camel city. In addition, according to Gur-El, Sadat invited him to visit Egypt.

Gur-El said that Sadat's visit to Haifa focused international attention on his city, with pictures and articles all over the world. "This attention underlined Haifa's assets as a tourist attraction and the fact that the city is an important scientific and industrial center, with good prospects for investment," he said.

In addition, he continued, "Jewish and Arab residents of Haifa have been living for many years in harmony and co-existence. The Haifa model of co-existence can serve as a paragon for future relations between Israel and the Arab states."

FUND ESTABLISHED FOR RESEARCH IN TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS IN MIDEAST

NEW YORK, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- The Henry Ford II Fund for Research in Transportation has been established by the American Technion Society (ATS). It was announced by Alexander Hassan of Washington, D.C., ATS president. The United States-based fund will focus on trans-

portation and related problems common to all countries of the Middle East.

Simultaneously, it was announced by Max Fisher of Detroit, that Ford would be the recipient of the first Technology for Peace Award at a dinner sponsored by the ATS Sept. 26 at the Waldorf-Astoria. Fisher is honorary chairman of the dinner committee with Evelyn de Rothschild of England, chairman of the International Board of Governors of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology at Haifa. Henry Taub, of New Jersey, is dinner chairman.

The fund, at the outset, will employ the multidisciplinary skills in the Technion departments of civil engineering; chemical engineering, architecture and town planning, and industrial and management engineering. The input of scientists in related fields at other institutions, in industry and in other countries will be solicited.

Areas Of Study

It was noted further by the Fund's originators that transportation problems, which will be under study, deal not only with improving communication in developing areas, but in combatting congestion, pollution and threats to personal safety in centuries-old urban sites. One matter of concern is planned transportation for workers in new industries.

The development of modern transportation systems in the Middle East is seen by the Fund originators as one instance of the need for technological development which could improve the standard of living and hopefully provide a cooling influence on the area's volatility. Supporters of the Technion in this country, who see this in the context of the accord reached at Camp David between Israel and Egypt and as a means of building permanent peace, created the award which Ford will receive.

ANDRE MEYER DEAD AT 81

NEW YORK, Sept. 11 (JTA) -- Andre Meyer, a legendary figure in international finance and for 33 years chairman of Lazard Freres, one of the world's foremost investment banks, died in Lausanne, Switzerland last Sunday at the age of 81, according to an announcement by a spokesman for Lazard Freres here. He was to be buried today in Paris, the city where he was born.

Meyer's fame rested on the scope and influence of his financial dealings and his many philanthropic activities in the United States and elsewhere. His personal fortune was estimated at between \$250-\$500 million. Jewish by birth, he was a Life Trustee of the American Technion Society and a member of the International Board of Governors of the Haifa Technion, Israel's principal technical college.

He was also a member of the board of the American Friends of the Alliance Israelite Universelle which operates networks of Jewish schools and other institutions throughout the world. He was a leading benefactor of the Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York and had a special interest in its department of physics-nuclear medicine. Meyer and his family fled Paris in advance of the Nazi occupation in 1940. He became an American citizen in 1948.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The Christians in south Lebanon have opened a new radio station called "The Voice of Hope." It commenced broadcasting Monday with remarks by Christian militia commander Maj. Saad Haddad, followed by music, the theme from the film "Exodus." The station is operated from Mari Ajoun, a Christian town north of Metul-la. It is heard both in south Lebanon and northern Israel.