

JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. XLVII - 62nd Year

Friday, October 19, 1979

No. 199

SPECIAL TO THE JTA SANDERS LEAVING POST AS SENIOR ADVISOR TO CARTER TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS POST AS HIS CONSULTANT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Edward Sanders, a prominent Los Angeles lawyer who was senior advisor to President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on Jewish affairs and other matters for the past 15 months, is leaving that post to return to his previous status as consultant to the President in the same area.

Sanders disclosed this to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today following a 45-minute meeting with the President. It has not yet been determined whether a successor will be named. Sanders resigned as president of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) in 1976 to assist Carter in his election campaign.

The importance that the President placed in him was indicated when offices were set up for Sanders at both the White House and State Department. He accompanied the President at some of his most important meetings on Middle Eastern affairs, including Carter's trip to Cairo and Jerusalem last March which resulted in the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. He also attended the negotiating sessions at Camp David in September, 1978.

Sanders told the JTA that he believed he will be "more effective in the coming months" by returning to his previous position as a consultant because it will allow him "a lot more flexibility" than as a full-time government employee. "I have nothing but affirmative feelings for President Carter and I continue to believe in him for his leadership for the U.S. and for the good of Israel," Sanders said.

Not Leaving The President!

He said "I will do all I can to help him but being in government inhibits me more than anything else. I am not leaving the President. This is not any kind of goodbye. This is only a change in status. I still am going to be close to the Administration and to the President. I have only affirmative feelings for them and they, I believe, for me," he said.

Sanders told the JTA that he will remain in Washington "for a couple more months" and indicated that he would be speaking on behalf of the President. But, he said, his future is "all in formative stages." He indicated that his change in status would take effect some time next month.

During his 15 months as Presidential advisor, Sanders attended numerous Jewish community events and was frequently visited by Jewish leaders. His departure from the White House staff follows by less than a month the resignation of Robert Lipshutz as the President's Counsel. Lipshutz had also served as the White House senior liaison to the Jewish community. He has returned to Atlanta where he will assist the President on a library project.

ISRAEL FREES GROUP OF ARAB PRISONERS

By Gil Sedag

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Israel today freed the first group of Arab prisoners in northern

Sinai, honoring an agreement reached between Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat at their summit meeting in Haifa last month. A second group will be released shortly. All will be deported to Egypt.

Israeli authorities stressed that the majority of the prisoners were serving sentences for criminal offenses and the few who were jailed for membership in terrorist organizations had not participated directly in terrorist acts. This point was made to forestall the flood of criticism that greeted the release of a large number of convicted terrorists earlier this year in exchange for a single Israeli soldier held by terrorists in Lebanon.

It was learned, meanwhile, that an Israeli army team will soon begin a search in the Egyptian held zones of western Sinai for the remains of Yom Kippur War soldiers still listed as missing. The Israelis will be assisted by Egyptian army officers who fought in the region in 1973.

321 RUMANIAN FAMILIES REGISTER FOR IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

BUCHAREST, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen reported here that 321 families representing 729 people have registered for immigration to Israel. The immigration lists were opened by the Rumanian authorities Sept. 2 at the request of Israel and Jewish organizations.

Moses said that the actual registration is still going on but that these figures "give a general picture" of the situation. The possibility of emigrating has been widely publicized in the local Jewish paper and in the country's synagogues.

Rosen said the Rumanian authorities have granted 936 passports to Jews wishing to go to Israel during the first nine months of the year, 319 other passports are about to be issued and 296 more will probably be also approved before the end of 1979.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI STUMBLING BLOCK

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Egypt's Premier Mustapha Khalil, Israel's Interior Minister Yosef Burg and America's special Middle East envoy Robert Strauss will meet next week in London, to try to break the deadlock in the negotiations on the Palestinian autonomy plan provided by the Camp David agreements and give a new boost to the Israeli-Egyptian peace process.

The optimism, and even euphoria, which marked the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty last March, have been seriously eroded by six months of hard bargaining on the autonomy issue, with no visible progress in sight. Many diplomats involved in the negotiations believe that the autonomy plan is the main stumbling block to a better Israeli-Egyptian understanding and that a solution on this issue would mark the beginning of a new era.

The first public Israeli-Egyptian debate ever to be held at ministerial level -- a joint appearance by Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali before the Council of Europe, which comprises the representatives of 21 West European countries, in Strasbourg, France, last week -- showed that the split between Cairo and Jerusalem

is deeper and wider than it had appeared to be.

The two Foreign Ministers revealed that Israel's and Egypt's views on the peace process, the aims to be pursued, the tactics to be used, and even their interpretations of the Camp David agreements are diametrically opposed. They agreed on only two points: their determination to implement the Camp David agreements and to rule out any recourse to war. On everything else, they were in total disagreement.

Differences On Basic Approach

Ghali told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the differences between the two countries "are as serious and fundamental as those which existed at the beginning of the (Israeli-Egyptian) negotiations." Other Egyptian diplomats said privately that in their view current differences "are far more serious than what they were a year ago," in September 1978 when the Camp David negotiations started. "Then," the Egyptians said, "we still had illusions. Now we have none."

The Ghali-Dayan "duel" in Strasbourg revealed some of these differences. The fundamental problem is the view which each of the countries, Israel and Egypt, takes of the agreements themselves. For Egypt, what matters is "the spirit of the treaty which should take precedence over the letter." For Israel, as Dayan repeated several times, "an agreement is an agreement. If you (Egypt) did not like it, you should not have signed it."

This difference in basic approach is most evident on the Palestinian autonomy issue. Egypt, as Ghali made it crystal clear, sees the agreements as providing for "Palestinian self-determination" with all that this implies. Israel, Dayan made just as clear, intends to stick to the agreements paragraph which only provides that the Palestinians will have a voice in deciding their own future.

"Nowhere in the agreements are the words self-determination written," Dayan said. "Had Egypt wanted something else than what we signed, it should have held out for more and refused to sign the final treaty."

Tactical Differences Outlined

But besides the differences on this basic approach, the two countries also differ on tactics, rhythm and speed of the negotiations.

Egypt wants to obtain the Palestine Liberation Organization's agreement to a Palestinian participation in the talks even if the PLO itself remains absent in a first, and what Cairo considers, a preliminary phase. The Egyptians believe that no Palestinian leader will accept to join the negotiations without at least tacit PLO approval, and the Egyptians want the talks to succeed rapidly.

The Egyptian desire for "fast action" was stressed time and time again by Ghali. He went as far as to warn that in case of failure "we shall have to seek a solution elsewhere, either through an international conference specially convened for this purpose or by having to return to the UN Security Council."

For Israel, there is no rush. "President (Anwar) Sadat himself said that the Palestinians can join the talks at a later date, even in three years from now," Dayan retorted. Egyptian diplomats explained later that Cairo increasingly feels its isolation within the Arab world. The Egyptians accused Israel of "wanting to isolate us so as to deal with a weak and docile partner."

On the actual interpretations of the Camp

David agreement, the two countries are also in complete disagreement. Israel, Dayan stressed, feels authorized by the agreements to re-enter the territories from which it will withdraw as a result of the autonomy talks "should it feel threatened or should the PLO manage to establish a foothold there." Egypt's interpretation is that any Israeli withdrawal is final.

"In no circumstances would Israel troops be allowed to re-enter the territories from which they will have been withdrawn," Ghali said. "Israel will not even have a right of pursuit and will have to stop at the border between its frontiers and the newly liberated territories."

According to the Egyptians, the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty "shows that our (Arab) interpretation of Security Council Resolution 242 is the right one: withdrawal from (all) the occupied territories." Egypt also believes that the treaty "spirit" demands certain Israeli unilateral concessions, such as halting new settlements, no acquisition of Arab-owned land and a general amnesty for all Arab political prisoners detained in Israel.

Israel, Dayan replied, will implement the Camp David agreements to the letter, but added: "Nowhere in the documents are these demands mentioned. It is up to us to decide what gesture we want to make and which we want to turn down. Gestures are free willing and not a question of obligations."

The Ultimate Aim

The basic difference between the two countries, the root of most of the problems with which they have to cope, is the ultimate aim they pursue. Israel believes that a bilateral treaty has been signed with Egypt and favors a comprehensive peace for the area based on similar terms, namely, negotiations with each of its neighbors followed by separate peace agreements.

Egypt, on the other hand, sees the peace treaty with Israel as the first step of a vast and comprehensive peace plan in which Israel will ultimately have to negotiate with all its Arab neighbors on the basis of the Camp David agreements.

Ghali barely hinted in his statements before the Council of Europe that what Egypt really wants is peace with Israel, return of its lost territories and acceptance by the other Arab states. Even today, six months after the signing of the peace treaty, Egypt does not consider it as a bilateral agreement but continues to view it as part of a larger Middle East peace plan. Everything else ensues from this starting point.

EL AL GROUNDED BY STRIKE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- A dispute over a new labor contract grounded El Al today as maintenance workers and clerks walked off the job at midnight and said they would not resume their duties until 4 p.m. local time. Fifteen flights were cancelled and some 2500 passengers were transferred to other carriers.

The work stoppage, referred to by the employees as "sanctions," stemmed from a disagreement over a clause in the new contracts that gives management the sole right of dismissal. The workers contend that they should be consulted before anyone is fired. Histadrut had sought unsuccessfully to postpone the walkout to allow further negotiations. Minister of Transport Hajim Landau condemned the strikers for defying Histadrut. He called their action a "demonstration of power" in disregard of "the company's difficult economic situation."

FISHER SAYS HE HAS NOT ENDORSED ANY GOP CANDIDATE; REAFFIRMS OPPOSITION TO MIDEAST PEACE-OIL SUPPLY LINK

DETROIT, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Max Fisher, prominent Detroit industrialist and Jewish leader, stated here today that despite allusions in the press to the contrary, he has not endorsed any Republican aspirant for the Presidency.

Fisher stated: "The various Republican candidates, declared and undeclared, and the chairman of the Republican National Committee, have been in touch with me over these last several months for advice and consultation. While I have not endorsed the position of any candidate, I want to reiterate my stand in opposition to any linkage of the prices and availability of oil to the issue of peace in the Middle East."

Fisher emphasized that "I consider this stand to be basic to our country's national interest and our long-range vital position in this volatile area. He concluded: "I shall continue to be available for consultation to the various Republican candidates and shall announce my endorsement at the proper time."

Earlier this week, Rita Hauser who resigned from former Texas Governor John Connally's Presidential campaign committee, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Fisher had called her to ask about Connally's speech before the National Press Club in Washington last week in which he proposed a linkage between oil supply and a solution of the Middle East conflict. In his speech, Connally, a declared candidate for the 1980 Republican Presidential nomination, called on the Arab states to forsake their oil weapon in return for Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

MIDEAST ISSUES AROUND AT NCJW CONFAB

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Middle East issues were prominent at the 10th Biennial Joint Program Institute of the National Council of Jewish Women attended by 500 delegates from 36 states at the Shoreham Americana Hotel here this week. The opening dinner was addressed by Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Yehuda Blum, who castigated the anti-Israel speech of Cuban President Fidel Castro to the UN General Assembly last week.

The NCJW also issued a statement deploring former Texas Governor John Connally's Middle East plan that would trade Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories for an assured supply of Arab oil at stable prices.

Blum condemned Castro's comparison of Israel's actions toward the Palestinians with the treatment of Jews by the Nazis during World War II. He called the juxtaposition "an outrageous desecration against the victims of the Holocaust" and observed that the absence of a public outcry against it showed to what degree attitudes toward Israel have eroded under the impact of Arab propaganda.

Blum also explained why Israel will never deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He called it an invention by which the Arabs hope to achieve the destruction of Israel. If the goal of the PLO should change, so would the situation in the Middle East, Blum said. But he doubted that would happen for then the PLO would not be the PLO.

Statement On Connally

In a reaction to Connally's speech last week at the Washington Press Club, the NCJW

said: "He called for Israeli territorial withdrawal before calling for an end to terrorism. And, most significantly, he mistakenly linked U.S. oil shortages with American support of Israel, a view not shared by this government or by responsible authorities in the field. If there were no Israel, the OPEC (Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries) nations would still control the flow of oil to the West on their own terms. We cannot help wondering if Connally's extensive business dealings with Saudi Arabia and a number of Arab interest groups have both colored and flawed his judgement of the true situation in the Middle East."

The Institute delegation went to the White House for a special reception hosted by Rosalynn Carter. NCJW president Shirley L. Leviton presented the First Lady with an award for her efforts in the field of voluntarism. Mrs. Carter said, in her response, that she looks upon the NCJW "as a model for international voluntarism and involvement." Yesterday, the 500 NCJW delegates held a vigil at the Soviet Embassy for the release of prisoner of conscience Ida Nudel.

DAYAN SAYS THE PALESTINIANS WILL SOONER OR LATER JOIN THE PEACE TALKS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said he believes that sooner or later the Palestinians will join the negotiations now going on between Israel, Egypt and the United States. Speaking to some 200 members of a United Jewish Appeal mission from New York at his home in Zahalah, Dayan said that his talks with supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization have convinced him that even the most extreme PLO sympathizer does not want another war with Israel.

"The Palestinians know too well that in any new war it will be them, the Palestinians, that will be caught between the guns of Israel and those of Jordan or Egypt," Dayan explained. "They will become refugees even before the war is decided."

Dayan said in his meetings with PLO supporters in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip he was told they did not want Israel to control them. "But they don't want any barriers between them and Israel," he said, "and after 11 years of living together, none of them want to go back to the time when they were not allowed to come to Tel-Aviv, or we were not allowed to go to Gaza."

The mission, the largest UJA group ever to come from New York, was organized at the invitation of William Rosenwald, honorary president of the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Joint Campaign. It is led by Stephen Peck, a campaign leader and Wall Street stockbroker.

"After arriving here last Sunday the group met with President Yitzhak Navon, who told them that American Jewish leaders should no longer be surprised when they are met with the "demand" that they personally make aliya. Israel's greatest need is "people," Navon declared. "Come with your money, or without your money, but come." Aliya does not mean that American Jews should give money for Jews to come to Israel from Iran and Turkey, but they should immigrate themselves, the President added.

Leon Dulzín, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, also stressed the need for aliya. Israel's security will not be achieved just by securing its borders but increasing the Jewish population until it reaches "six, even, eight million," he said. Dulzín said the Soviet Union was the largest reservoir of future immigrants here and said he believed that large numbers of Soviet Jews would come to Israel.

74 WOMEN STUDYING FOR RABBINATE UNDER REFORM, RECONSTRUCTIONIST AUSPICES

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- The number of women studying for the rabbinate under Reform and Reconstructionist auspices during the 1979-80 academic year is 74, one less than the record total of 75 enrolled during the prior academic year, according to a Jewish Telegraphic Agency survey.

However, unlike the 1978-79 year, when, out of a total of 13 women candidates at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, two were in the senior class and received the title of rabbi last June 10, there are no women in the senior class this year, according to Rabbi Ludwig Nadelmann, executive vice president of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation. He said there are 27 men and 12 women studying at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College this year.

There are 208 rabbinical candidates studying under Reform auspices this year, including 146 men and 62 women, according to Stanley Saplin, associate information director for the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR). The total of Reform rabbinical students during the prior academic year was 209, with 63 women, Saplin said. The number of anticipated Reform ordainees -- those expected to be named rabbis next June -- is 32, he reported, 23 men and nine women.

Sites Of Reform Rabbinical Studies

Noting that all Reform candidates must spend their first year in Jerusalem, at the School of Jewish Studies and the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology, Saplin provided a breakdown of the sites of Reform rabbinical studies as follows: The HUC in Cincinnati has 16 women among its 83 rabbinical students; the JIR in New York City has 26 women among its 61 candidates; the Los Angeles school has seven women students among its 23 candidates, and the candidates studying in Jerusalem total 41, of whom 13 are women.

Because no Reconstructionist women candidates are in the senior class this year, all of the new women rabbis ordained next June will be Reform -- nine, the same number as those named rabbi last June.

Assuming the nine women Reform candidates complete their studies and become rabbis next June, the total number of women ordained as rabbis under Reform and Reconstructionist auspices will be 31 -- 25 Reform and six Reconstructionist. The process of ordaining women as rabbis began in 1972, when Sally Preisand became the first woman rabbi in America.

Currently, 10 of the 22 women rabbis hold pulpits posts, including Preisand whose first pulpit position was that of assistant rabbi at the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue in New York City from which she was promoted to associate rabbi before she suddenly resigned last July, declining to publicly state her reasons for doing so. Subsequently, she took a position as part-time rabbi at Temple Beth-El in Elizabeth, N.J.

The women rabbis not in pulpits are in education, administration and Hillel posts. Of the 10 women rabbis in pulpits, eight are Reform and two are Reconstructionist.

AT HOFSTRA: THE RABBI IS A WOMAN

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- Jewish students at Hofstra University in Hempstead, Long

Island, have a new chaplain. She is Rabbi Bonnie Steinberg, a 27-year-old alumna of Brandeis University and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR). Steinberg is the second woman rabbi to become director of a B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at a university campus. The first woman to hold such a position serves at the University of Southern California. Only 22 women in the nation have been ordained as rabbis.

A native of Belmont, Mass., Steinberg attended Lake Forest College (Ill.) and the Longy School of Music (Cambridge, Mass.) before studying for her Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University. At HUC-JIR she received the Hebrew Prize in 1976. She studied for one year in the college's Jerusalem rabbinic program. Steinberg taught Hebrew at Temple Beth-El in Chappaqua, New York and at Temple Rodeph Shalom in Manhattan, and was a student rabbi at Congregation Beth Hillel in Jackson Heights, New York, and for the Jewish Community of St. Johnsbury, Vermont. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Hebrew literature from HUC-JIR and was ordained earlier this year. Steinberg succeeded Rabbi Frank Fischer, who left Hofstra last June to become coordinator of B'nai B'rith-Hillel organizations at the 14 university campuses in Florida.

PLIGHT OF DUTCH JEWISH DEPORTEES DOCUMENTED IN HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 18 (JTA) -- The failure of both the Dutch government-in-exile and the Dutch Red Cross to offer any support or succor to the more than 100,000 Dutch Jews deported by the Nazis during the German occupation of Holland in World War II, was documented in the ninth volume of a 12-volume history of the war years by Prof. Louis de Jong, former director of The Netherlands State Institute for World War II Documentation.

Volume Nine, just published here, devotes most of its nearly 1600 pages to the activities of The Netherlands Government-in-Exile in London and the Dutch Red Cross and its activities in unoccupied parts of Europe and other free countries. About 100 pages are concerned with the Jews in occupied Holland and those who managed to escape. According to de Jong, the Dutch authorities in London seemed hardly aware of the mass deportation of Jews and did virtually nothing in its broadcasts from London to urge the non-Jewish population to help them.

The Netherlands Red Cross, in contrast to the Red Cross societies of other occupied countries, provided very little assistance to Jews. Dutch representatives in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal were likewise unhelpful, de Jong stated.

De Jong, who retired upon reaching the age of 65 last May, is of Jewish origin. His report of the indifference of Dutch authorities to the suffering of Jews in Holland during the war differs sharply with the widespread belief to the contrary held in many countries, especially the United States.

TORONTO (JTA) -- Nathan Nurgetz, a 43-year-old Winnipeg lawyer, has been appointed to the Canadian Senate by Prime Minister Joe Clark. He was formerly president of the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada. This appointment makes Nurgetz the sixth Jewish senator. The others are David Croll, Carl Goldenberg, Sidney Buckwald, Jack Austin and Jack Marshall. Nurgetz has 32 years to serve until he reaches the retirement age of 75. Heath MacQuarrie, 59, of Prince Edward Island, an outspoken advocate of Arab causes, was also appointed to the Senate. A Progressive Conservative Party member, he was in the House of Commons.