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CARTER, IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE, PLEDGES TO WORK VIGOROUSLY FOR A COMPREHENSIVE MIDEAST PEACE

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- President Carter pledged to "continue to work vigorously for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East" in his State of the Union message. He also said he would urge Congress to ratify outstanding human-rights treaties and conventions and would proceed, in cooperation with Congress, to "establish an appropriate memorial" to the six million Jews and other victims of the Nazi Holocaust.

The President made those points in his 75-page message, submitted to Congress yesterday. He will deliver his State of the Union message, in abbreviated form, to a joint session of Congress tomorrow night.

With respect to the Middle East, the President noted that at the ceremonies that followed the Camp David agreements in September, 1978, Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt repeated their "pledge to work for autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza."

In that connection he observed that since the Camp David accords, "Egypt and Israel have been working to complete this part of the Camp David framework and to provide an opportunity for the Palestinian people to participate in determining their future. I strongly support these efforts and have pledged that we will be a full partner in the autonomy negotiations. We will continue to work vigorously for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, building on the unprecedented achievements at Camp David."

The President added, "At the same time, I have reinforced America's commitment to Israel's security and to the right of all nations in the area to live in peace with their neighbors within secure and recognized frontiers."

On human rights, Carter said: "I will continue to press the Senate to ratify five key human rights treaties: the American Convention on Human Rights; the Convention on Racial Discrimination; the United Nations Convention on Civil and Political Rights; Economic and Social Rights; and the Genocide Convention."

Will Implement Holocaust Committee's Proposals

The President referred to the Holocaust memorial in the section of his message dealing with the District of Columbia. He said: "Last year I received and approved the recommendations of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, which I established to assess how our government might officially recognize, for the first time, the tragedy of the Holocaust. I will shortly be developing a council of distinguished Americans to develop ways to implement the Commission's proposals. The council and my Administration will work closely with the Congress as we establish an appropriate memorial to the six million Jews and the millions of other victims of Nazism during World War II."

SAKHAROV'S ARREST SEEN AS START OF NEW DRIVE AGAINST DISSIDENTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Jewish circles active on behalf of Soviet Jewry expressed

concern that the reported arrest of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov in Moscow today may herald a new drive against dissidents generally in the Soviet Union. This concern seemed to be shared by the State Department.

The Department's chief spokesman, Hoddging Carter, commenting on Sakharov's arrest, said that "a number of reports from other sources, including Amnesty International, suggest that there has been a heightening crackdown against dissidents including several who have been closely associated with human rights activities in recent months."

According to a radio report this morning, Sakharov, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist and human rights activist, was arrested in a Moscow street. Carter said the arrest was reported in a Tass dispatch in the newspaper *Izvestia* which said Sakharov had been stripped of his state awards for alleged subversive activities.

"We cannot absolutely confirm the report at this time though every indication in a rapidly moving story seems to be that he has been arrested and that they (the Soviet authorities) are moving toward more drastic action," Carter said. He added, "Obviously, Dr. Sakharov's well-being is of great concern to us." Asked if Sakharov's arrest might be in response to the proposed U.S. boycott of the Olympics or the grain sale embargo, Carter replied, "I cannot speak for Soviet reactions." Meanwhile, reports here and abroad stated that Soviet authorities had started a widespread roundup of human rights activists to keep them out of public sight during the Olympics, should they take place as scheduled.

OFFICIAL SAYS AUTONOMY CAN BE ISRAEL'S BARGAINING CHIP IN PROCESS OF RETURNING SINAI TO EGYPT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- A government official said today that autonomy must begin to function on the West Bank and Gaza Strip before the final phase of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai is completed late next year. Dr. Chaim Kubersky, Director General of the Interior Ministry, told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that this was necessary because once the entire Sinai peninsula is returned to Egypt, Israel will be left without bargaining chips.

Kubersky, who has been involved in the autonomy talks with Egypt, addressed the committee as Israel prepared to hand back Area Five, the largest portion of Sinai, to the Egyptians this Friday. He noted that in the autonomy talks, the Egyptians did not raise the issue of Jewish settlements on the West Bank because they take for granted that the Sinai solution will eventually be applied to that territory.

Israel agreed to remove all Jewish settlements from Sinai under terms of the peace treaty with Egypt. According to Kubersky, Cairo is convinced that the West Bank settlements also will have to be abandoned. The problem, he said, is that while Israel is carrying out its part of the peace agreement, it will "soon be left without any cards in the game."

After the Israeli pull-back to the El Arish-Ras Mohammed line at the end of this week, Egypt will be in possession of two-thirds of the peninsula. Israel will retain only 19,400 square kilometers.

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman flew to Cairo today to make the final arrangements for the pull-back. He was greeted at the airport by the Egyptian Defense

Minister, Kamal Hassan Ali. Weizman told Ali that everything was ready for the hand-over to Egypt of the main Israeli base in Sinai at Refidim which will revert to its Egyptian name of Bir Gafgafa.

The Israeli defense chief's latest visit to the Egyptian capital is intended in part to ease the tension that has developed between Israel and Egypt because of the deadlock in the autonomy talks. Weizman was accompanied by his wife as well as by his personal aide, Lt. Col. Ilan Tehila and Gen. Abraham Tamir, head of the planning division at General Headquarters. He may meet with President Anwar Sadat during his two-day stay in Cairo although no such meeting has been announced as yet.

Before leaving Israel this morning, Weizman noted that for the first time Israel and Egypt will face each other in Sinai without a United Nations force between them in the buffer zone. "I truly hope that we shall live together a good life. The way of life in this buffer zone and along the new deployment lines on the El Arish-Ras Mohammed axis, will be the subject of my talks in Cairo," he said.

Redeployment Of Troops, Withdrawal From Areas

Under the terms of the peace treaty, Egypt will be permitted four border units along the new line with light arms and wheeled vehicles. They will be permitted one mechanized infantry division between the Suez Canal and the new buffer zone. It will include one armored brigade of 230 tanks and 480 armored personnel carriers of all types, 126 artillery pieces and seven anti-aircraft battalions. This force will total 22,000 men.

Israel is giving up areas of vital strategic importance as well as the oilfields, returned to Egypt last month, which experts believe could have made Israel self-sufficient in petroleum within 1-3 years. Israel has also given up the town of El Arish with its airfield and thriving fishing industry which it did much to develop.

It is relinquishing this Friday not only Refidim and its airfield but the Jabal Libneh airstrip, the Bir Thaidoo military camp, the Um Khashiba early warning station and command control and communications systems. Israel is also withdrawing from strategic points that dominate the Gulf of Suez and the approaches to the Gulf of Eilat; the roads leading to the strategic Mitle and Gidi passes; telephone lines, pipelines and cables.

Civilian installations to be turned over to the Egyptians include infirmaries and schools that were attended by 400 Bedouin children. Israeli circles expressed hope that the Bedouins, monks, peasants and laborers who had lived and worked side by side with them since 1967 will serve as a bridge of peace and mutual understanding in the new situation.

Meanwhile, Premier Menachem Begin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that Israel's Embassy and Ambassador Eliahu Ben-Elissar's residence in Egypt will be located in the Cairo Hilton until a suitable site is found for both. A special Israeli location-search committee that is still in Cairo was unable to immediately find a proper site for the Embassy and the Ambassador's residence. Ben-Elissar, himself, said today that he would have been prepared to stay in a tent on the Nile just to make certain that the Embassy will be opened on schedule. There was mounting criticism here, however, over locating the Embassy in a hotel which implied that the establish-

ment of Israel's legation in Cairo was only a transient event.

BEGIN SUPPORTS BOYCOTT OF OLYMPICS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Premier Menachem Begin said last night that he would ask his Cabinet to recommend that Israel boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow and press for their transfer to a site outside the Soviet Union. He made his statement to reporters following a 40-minute meeting in Jerusalem with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis.

Begin said he understood President Carter's position on the Olympic Games and in fact supported it. But he pointed out that the decisions on this issue are made by the Olympic committees and governments can only make recommendations. He said he would propose that his government recommend a boycott to the Israel Olympic Committee. Carter announced Sunday that he had informed the U.S. Olympic Committee that he would not support sending the American team to Moscow unless the Soviets pulled their forces out of Afghanistan.

JEWISH BIOLOGIST GETS COVETED PRIZE

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Dr. Rita Levi-Montalcini, a 70-year-old Italian Jewish biologist, received the Saint Vincent Prize for Medicine, generally considered second in worldwide prestige after the Nobel Prize for which she is also a candidate.

She discovered a protein called the NGF (nerve growth factor) which provokes the growth and differentiation of nerve cells, considered of primary importance for cancer research along with the discovery she co-authored, in 1960, of an antibody that irreversibly destroys the neurons of the sympathetic nervous system.

Levi-Montalcini directs the laboratory of cellular biology of the National Council for Research in Rome, Italy's most important research center, has a Chair in Neurobiology at Washington University in St. Louis and is a member of several academies.

RABBIS RAP NCC FOR TRYING TO UNDERMINE CHRISTIAN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today criticized the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCC) for distributing a press kit with the "unmistakable thrust" of trying "to undermine and reverse Christian support of Israel."

The kit, entitled "American Churches and the Arab-Israeli Conflict," and sent last month to editors and reporters by Warren Day, executive director of the NCC's Office of News and Information, purports to be a summary of trends, comments and positions.

In a letter to the Rev. M. William Howard, NCC president, the ADL said it was "dismayed and disheartened" by the 20 items assembled in the package. "Instead of presenting a summary of this very complex issue that is balanced, fair and comprehensive," the letter said, the NCC's so-called "overall view" is "imbalanced, unfair and highly selective."

The letter was signed by five rabbis: Ronald Sobel, vice chairman of the ADL's national program committee; Martin Cohen and David Panitz, co-chairmen of ADL's interfaith affairs committee; Solomon Bernards and Leon Klenicki, co-directors of ADL's interfaith affairs department.

"We are deeply concerned," they stated, "that the one-sidedness . . . may also signal the direction of the NCC Middle East Policy Review Committee

and the newly-constituted Special Panel on the Middle East toward a continuing anti-Israel position." The rabbis cited the following as examples of how the packet is heavily weighted against Israel:

-- An enclosure which stressed that virtually all church bodies are "on record supporting some form of Palestinian right to self-determination" but makes no mention of current and unprecedented discussions between Israel and Egypt to achieve Palestinian autonomy.

"It is as if," the rabbis stated, "that brand of self-determination has been ruled out in advance as a viable possibility." One wonders, they asked, parenthetically, "if this is not considered because of opposition by the rejectionist states";

-- An NCC roundup "comment" on the enclosures which is weighted toward the Arab viewpoint; thereby buttressing the implied assumption that most church leaders are anti-Israel.

-- "A shameful omission" of the names of Christian supporters of Israel in the list of contact persons; a "glaring absence" of writings and statements from American Christians who have revealed "sensitivity to the historic Jewish anguish and appreciation of Israel's special place in Jewish consciousness"; lack of any sampling of churchgoers -- "the hundreds of thousands of persons who want to see the Camp David initiative spread beyond Israel and Egypt."

In addition to their ADL affiliation, Sobel is senior rabbi of Congregation Emanu-El in New York City, Cohen is professor of Jewish history at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and Panitz is spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel, Paterson, N.J.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA **KENYA MP PREDICTS HIS COUNTRY** **OTHER BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILL** **RESUME DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL** By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- A member of Kenya's Parliament predicted last night that his country and most other Black African countries would resume diplomatic relations with Israel after Egypt and Israel exchange ambassadors on Feb. 26. But the MP, Abdallah Mwidau, said he could not estimate when the resumption of relations would actually begin.

Mwidau, who spoke to a leadership group of the North American Jewish Students' Network, stressed that he was speaking for himself and not his government. He arrived in the United States yesterday after three days in Israel and is scheduled to make a three-week speaking tour of the U.S. under the auspices of the Youth Institute for Peace in the Middle East.

Kenya, which was one of the Black African nations to break diplomatic relations with Israel in 1973, nevertheless has continued to maintain friendly ties with Israel. Kenya was used as a re-fueling base by Israel during its rescue of hostages in Entebbe, Uganda, in 1976.

Mwidau said that the two countries have commercial and other ties and about 15 students from Kenya are presently studying in Israel. He said that if the Nairobi government decided to resume diplomatic relations with Israel it would have the overwhelming support of Parliament with perhaps only three or four votes against it.

Arabs Have Not Helped Black Africa

Mwidau indicated that when the majority of Black African nations broke diplomatic relations

with Israel in 1973 they expected to receive economic benefits from the Arab oil producing states.

"Most African countries do not benefit from the Arab countries," he declared. "The same price they sell oil to you (U.S.) they sell to Kenya." He pointed out that the high oil prices and the world inflation which has hiked the prices of imports has especially hurt Kenya and other Black African nations.

"They (the Arabs) do not invest in our country," Mwidau declared. He said all of the investments in Black Africa are by the U.S., Britain, other Western countries and Israel.

Mwidau, a Moslem, urged Jews not to look or all Moslems as their enemies. He said the Arabs are using Islam as a weapon, but "we African Moslems are not enemies of the Jewish community" and of Israel. He said that Jews, Moslems and Christians should join together in improving conditions for Africa. He said that if a Jewish community or organization would provide scholarships for Kenyan children to study in the U.S. or Israel this would have more effect than propaganda or international aid programs.

Felt At Home In Israel

Mwidau, the former mayor of Mombasa, one of Kenya's major cities, said that he has always been a friend of the Jewish community in Kenya and of Israel. There are an estimated 400 Jews in Kenya out of a total population of 14,340,000. He said that on his visit to Israel last week he felt at home. "I didn't feel I was in a foreign country," he said.

He spoke of praying at the Al Aqsa Mosque last Friday and how "happy" he was to see it well taken care of. He also mentioned his delight at seeing Arab and Jewish children playing together in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem must never be divided, Mwidau said. He said Mecca is governed by a single country and Jerusalem should have only one government responsible for its administration, namely, Israel. He added that Jerusalem has been the capital of the Jewish State since the time of King David.

300 JEWISH LEADERS TO ATTEND **ISRAEL BONDS PRIME MINISTER'S CONFAB**

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Israel's economic requirements for the immediate future will be studied and reviewed by 300 Jewish leaders from 59 communities in the United States and Canada who will attend the Israel Bond Prime Minister's Conference in Israel and Paris Jan. 27 to Feb. 3. Sam Rothberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization, who made the announcement, said he would urge the conference to set a goal of providing Israel with \$525 million in 1980. This sum, he said, would exceed the record-breaking year of 1973, the year of the Yom Kippur War, when the Bond Organization produced \$515 million for Israel's economy.

While in Israel, the delegates will visit the new Negev development projects and meet with industrial and political leaders in the Negev to discuss programs now being put into effect. They will also participate in ceremonies dedicating the new plants and factories to be built in the Negev in order to absorb thousands of newcomers in the years ahead.

Meetings with European Bond leaders will be held during a three-day stopover in Paris, Jan. 28-30, prior to arrival in Israel. In Paris, the delegates will participate in a ceremony at the Memorial of the Martyrs and visit the Rothschild Synagogue for a service conducted by Grand Rabbi Jacob Kaplan. There will be ceremonies in honor of Alfred Dreyfus, the French-Jewish officer who had been falsely accused of treason in 1892 and finally exonerated.

BACKGROUND REPORT POSITIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

By Rochelle Sidel Walk

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- President Carter reaffirmed the "moral and strategic" value of close U.S.-Israel ties and said he was committed to "an undivided Jerusalem" and opposed to a Palestinian state in response to questions submitted to him and seven other Presidential candidates by the magazine, *Jewish Living*.

The questionnaire was compiled by the editors of the bi-monthly and by Rabbis Abraham Cooper and Daniel Landes of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University in Los Angeles. The replies appear in the January-February issue due out this week.

The questionnaire covered a wide range of subjects, including affirmative action, state aid to parochial schools, and Soviet Jewry. But they focused primarily on the Middle East. Neither Carter nor those seeking to replace him in the White House responded directly to the entire questionnaire. They sent the magazine supplementary statements and prepared texts.

Views Of Carter and Kennedy

Carter said he "will work diligently to bring us still closer to Israel because close U.S.-Israel ties are in the moral and strategic interest of both our nations." While asserting his commitment to "an undivided Jerusalem" he did not indicate whether this meant that Jerusalem should be Israel's capital or if it should belong to Israel.

On a Palestinian state, he reiterated what he has stated on previous occasions -- that such a state would be "a destabilizing factor in the Middle East and would not serve the interests of the United States."

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.), who is challenging Carter for the Democratic Presidential nomination, also advocated close U.S. ties. In his statement to *Jewish Living*, Kennedy observed that "The security of Israel is indispensable to the security of the United States." He cautioned that "We cannot and must not trade the security of Israel for a barrel of oil" and called for \$350 million more in economic assistance to Israel in the coming fiscal year.

Connally Reiterates His Controversial View

Of the eight Presidential hopefuls queried, only former Texas Gov. John Connally expressed viewpoints not calculated to appeal to Jewish voters. Connally replied to the questionnaire by submitting the text of the controversial address he delivered at the Washington Press Club last fall which infuriated Jews by linking a solution of the Palestinian problem to America's need for an assured oil supply from the Middle East.

Connally said, "Except for minor border rectifications, Israel must withdraw from the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights, all of which would be demilitarized. According to Connally's plan, Israel will be permitted to lease military strongpoints in each of these areas." He added that "the United States should maintain a strong military presence in the vital area, including major Air Force components...."

In discussing the future of Jerusalem, Connally mentioned several "workable alternatives," including "Arab or Israeli sovereignty based in residential patterns (or) a dual sovereignty for the entire municipal region, with individuals deciding which passport they prefer to carry...." He

cited acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 242 as the criterion for talking with "the Palestinian leadership."

Of all the candidates, only former California Gov. Ronald Reagan had no answer for the question "Should U.S. officials have formal contact with Yasser Arafat's PLO." Six others either answered "no" or said the U.S. should not negotiate with the PLO unless it recognizes Israel's right to exist. The six are Rep. John Anderson (R. Ill.); Sen. Howard Baker (R. Tenn.); Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. of California, a Democrat; former UN Ambassador George Bush, a Republican; Kennedy and Carter.

Views On The Middle East

Anderson stressed that the U.S. should not try to impose a solution in the Middle East because such a solution would "tend to unravel, leaving all the parties worse off." On the question of moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, he said he does not presently support such a move but could see it as part of a future "larger set of actions."

Discussing arms sales, Anderson said that weapons should be sold to Middle East countries "only if there is a compelling military requirement consistent with our own national security interest." He added that Israel's ability "to maintain the regional military balance" must be considered.

Baker said the U.S. commitment to the security of Israel is fundamental to the security of the U.S. He added that he strongly supports the Camp David process and that the U.S. can assist the maintenance of peace by fostering economic development in the Middle East. On the matter of arms sales, Baker said his decision would be based on "the degree of commonality of interest between the United States and the recipient country and whether the sale will enhance or degrade the stability of the region."

Brown mentioned the relationship between energy and the U.S. role in the Middle East. "Until the U.S. can develop its energy independence, the country's leadership must recognize that Israel is the foremost democratic and stabilizing political and military presence in the Middle East," he said. Brown added that on both "moral grounds" and "the self-interest of the United States," he advocated continuing and strengthening the commitment to Israel.

Reagan, who presented his views in the form of a xeroxed copy of an article published in *The Washington Post*, expressed the need for close U.S.-Israel ties. He observed that Israel is "perhaps the only remaining strategic asset in the region on which the United States can truly rely." He added that "...if Administration policies should serve to weaken Israel -- a determined barrier to Soviet expansion in the region would have been withdrawn...."

LONDON (JTA) -- John Tyndall is resigning as chairman of Britain's racist National Front Movement, which he has headed for the past eight years. He was ousted in a power struggle which has shaken the party ever since its abysmal showing in last year's general elections. However, Tyndall, a former member of the British National Socialist Movement which used to wear Nazi uniforms in the 1950s, remains on the Front's directorate and may yet stage a comeback. The Front opposes colored immigration and Britain's membership in the European Economic Community and is regarded by the Board of Deputies of British Jews as viciously anti-Semitic.

LONDON (JTA) -- Andrew Balcombe, a Manchester businessman, has been elected chairman of the National Council for Soviet Jewry, succeeding June Jacobs who held the post since 1976.