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LINOWITZ SEES 'REAL PROGRESS' IN AUTONOMY TALKS; ISRAEL, MEANWHILE, REBUTS EGYPTIAN AUTONOMY PROPOSALS

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29 (JTA) — Sol Linowitz, President Carter's special Ambassador to the Middle East, arrived in Israel from Egypt today and declared he sees "real progress" being made in the autonomy talks.

Linowitz, who is scheduled to represent the U.S. at the next round of negotiations between the Israel and Egyptian ministerial teams to be held at Herzliya Thursday and Friday, "is trying to bridge the wide gap between the Israeli and Egyptian blueprints for autonomy on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The American envoy conferred in Cairo over the weekend with President Anwar Sadat, Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil and Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali. He met in London last Saturday with King Hussein of Jordan but was apparently unable to persuade him to join in any talks based on the Camp David accords.

Linowitz was scheduled to meet tonight with Interior Minister Yosef Burg, head of the Israeli negotiating team, and tomorrow morning with Premier Menachem Begin. Earlier today in Cairo, an American official reportedly said the U.S. was beginning to play a more active role in the negotiations and was presenting its own ideas to Egypt and Israel. "It was time for the 'necessary political decision,'" the official was reported as saying.

Point-By-Point Rebuttal

Meanwhile, the Israeli working group on autonomy was occupied today drafting a point-by-point rebuttal to the Egyptian autonomy proposals submitted last night by Ezzat Abdul-Latif, head of the Egyptian working group. The Israeli team is headed by Haim Kubersky, Director General of the Interior Ministry, and Ruth Lapidot, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry.

While rejecting the Egyptian blueprint, the Israeli team has avoided the totally negative language that characterized Egypt's rejection of Israel's autonomy "model" last week. Their chief argument is that the Egyptian proposals deviate sharply from the Camp David framework and, in several aspects, endanger Israel's security.

The Egyptian plan calls for an autonomous authority composed of legislative, executive and judiciary branches. Israel regards these as essential attributes of a sovereign state for the Palestinians which it categorically rejects. The Israeli autonomy scheme calls for an administrative council with strictly limited functions and no parliamentary type body.

Elements Of Egyptian Plan

The plan submitted by Egypt would require the Israeli army to obtain permission from the autonomous authority to move troops into the autonomous territory, or from the "specified security locations" into which the Israeli forces must withdraw under the Camp David framework. Egypt also demands the immediate annulment of Israel's annex-

ation of East Jerusalem which, it insists, must serve as the "seat" of the autonomous institutions.

The proposal leaves no "residual" powers to the Israelis. State lands and water resources would be administered by the autonomous authority. The Egyptian plan implies that foreign policy for the territories would not be controlled by the autonomous authority but neither would it be controlled exclusively by Israel. The autonomous regions would have no defense forces but would command a police force solely responsible for internal security.

Abdul-Latif said in an interview that Egypt took it for granted that there would be coordination between Israel and the autonomous authority in many areas such as water resources. But this would have to be determined through negotiations, not by dictation, he said.

Under the Israel model, Israel would retain exclusive control of defense, security, foreign policy, state lands, natural resources, currency, postage stamps, communications, radio and television. The use of water resources would be a "shared" responsibility under the Israeli plan.

Position On Jewish Settlements

The Egyptian plan calls for the eventual dismemberment of Jewish settlement in the territories within the context of a final settlement. In the interim, the Egyptians want a freeze on new settlements and insist that existing settlements and their inhabitants must come under the jurisdiction of the autonomous authority. The Israeli scheme specifically excludes the settlements from any but Israeli jurisdiction.

Abdul-Latif acknowledged that the differences between the Egyptian and Israeli proposals are vast but said making them public in advance of the next round of talks was useful in "articulating and clarifying" the areas of dispute. He said it will be up to American diplomats to seek a common ground. But he seemed to feel that a summit level input by Sadat and Begin will be necessary if the logjam is to be broken.

KNESSET CALLS ON PARLIAMENTS TO ACT AGAINST SAKHAROV'S EXILE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29 (JTA) — The Knesset called today on other national parliaments to join in action against the exile of Soviet civil rights leader Andrei Sakharov. All factions — with the obvious exception of the Communists — voted in favor of the resolution.

The speakers sharply criticized the USSR for having exiled Sakharov. They also discussed the issue of a possible boycott of the Olympic Games in Moscow. Likud Knesseter Ronni Milo compared the Moscow games to those of Berlin in 1936, which was designed to glorify the Nazi regime.

Labor Alignment Knesseter Uzi Baram noted that Sakharov himself called on countries of the free world to boycott the Olympics. The call was also shared by Shlomo Gross of the Aguda and Geula Cohen of the nationalist Tehiya movement. However, Cohen expressed disappointment that Israel was actually following an American initiative. Instead, she said, it was Israel which should have

initiated the boycott in protest against the repression of human rights in the Soviet Union.

ONE KILLED, SEVEN WOUNDED IN BOMBING OF SYRIAN EMBASSY

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 29 (JTA) -- Two powerful bombs ripped through the Syrian Embassy here today killing a Syrian diplomat and seriously wounding eight people, seven of them women. The explosion occurred less than an hour before Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam arrived in France for talks with French officials and to address the Council of Europe plenary in Strasbourg later this week.

An anonymous caller told French radio stations that the attack was carried out by a Lebanese underground organization to protest the continued presence of Syrian troops in Lebanon.

The two bombs went off shortly before noon in the Embassy's Consular section which was crowded with Consular officials and people on business. The Ambassador's office, located above the Consulate, was severely damaged but the Ambassador himself was unhurt.

Police identified the dead man as Third Secretary Marwan Mammy, 34, and the wounded as seven women working in the Consular section, two Syrians and five French, and a French passer-by. Four of the wounded are reported in serious condition.

The Embassy is guarded by Syrian security agents and French police but none of the guards noticed any possible suspect. The Paris Commissioner of Police is personally supervising the investigation but police officials say they have no clues as yet as to the identity of the assailants.

Previous Killings Recalled

Less than two weeks ago, a pro-Palestinian activist was shot to death in central Paris. Pro-Iraqi Palestinians reportedly assumed responsibility for the killing. The head of the Palestine Liberation Organization's military department, Zuhair Mohsen, was shot to death last summer while vacationing on the Riviera in the south of France. In neither of these killings has the police managed to identify or arrest the culprits.

Halim Khaddam is due to meet tomorrow with his French counterpart Jean Francois-Poncet, and with other top French officials. Syria is one of the handful of Moslem countries which did not attend the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan, and which continues to defend the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan.

SCHINDLER ENDORSES KENNEDY FOR PREZ

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (JTA) -- Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, today became the first national Jewish leader to endorse a Presidential candidate when he announced his support for Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.).

Asserting that Kennedy "recognizes Israel as a strategic asset to our country," Schindler told a news conference the Senator's "unwavering support for Israel attests to the security and depth of his convictions."

The rabbi, in a prepared statement, said that his support "is personal, not organizational; the Union of American Hebrew Congregations never makes partisan endorsements. Our members hold diverse views, but I am not constrained from ex-

pressing my own convictions, and I do so now with pride."

Schindler said that on the Middle East, Kennedy "recognizes Israel as a strategic asset to our country and a strategic ally, bound to us by a mutuality of national interest no less than of ideals, the very cornerstone of our national defense in that critical region." Schindler also lauded Kennedy's domestic position as "compassionate and congruent with the ideals of our faith."

ECONOMISTS FOR IDA NUDEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA) -- Two nationally renowned economists, Drs. Robert Lekachman and Herbert Bienstock have announced the formation of "Economists for Ida Nudel," a professional coalition of some 20 prominent peers of the Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience. Ms. Nudel, who was imprisoned in June 1978, is serving a four-year sentence of exile in Siberia.

Lekachman, distinguished Professor of Economics of Lehman College and the Graduate School of the City University of New York, and Bienstock, former Regional Commissioner of Labor Statistics, noted that their efforts as co-chairmen of the committee are part of a concerted campaign to "keep human rights central to any U.S.-USSR priorities during these uncertain times." Economists for Ida Nudel is an affiliated group of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Among the members of the committee are Fritz Machlup, Princeton University; Solomon Fabricant, National Bureau of Economic Research; Roy Helfgott, New Jersey Institute of Technology; William Hamovitch, Provost of Queens College; Robert Heilbroner, New School of Social Research; and Lazar Teper, director of research, International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Lekachman, affirming the economists' commitment to Ms. Nudel's cause, said "Ms. Nudel's courageous campaign has sought to secure a right to emigrate guaranteed by Soviet and international law. Her profession has been used to deny this right on the specious grounds of 'state security' in a way which puts every professional or intellectual in jeopardy. We cannot countenance this threat in silence."

The economists noted that despite the recent chilling in U.S.-Soviet relations, "There is never a wrong time to speak out for individual rights and human freedoms." They expressed their hope that "Ms. Nudel will be freed by the Soviets as they attempt to prove their right to continue as a member of the international civilized community."

ORTHODOX RABBI DENOUNCES REFORM RABBI'S PROPOSAL TO CHANGE HALACHA

ASBURY PARK, N.J., Jan. 29 (JTA) -- Rabbi Bernard Rosensweig, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, sharply denounced a recent proposal by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, that Jewish religious identity be extended to persons born of a non-Jewish mother if the father is Jewish.

Addressing the opening session yesterday of the mid-winter conference of the Rabbinical Council which represents more than 1000 Orthodox rabbis in the U.S. and Canada, Rosensweig said these new guidelines proposed by Schindler "threaten the unity of the Jewish people and will have a disastrous and catastrophic impact upon

world Jewry," Rosensweig warned that "To create a sect of pseudo Jews and to introduce such havoc and confusion into Jewish ranks is an act of wanton irresponsibility which will inflict irreparable harm upon the Jewish people." He observed that "It is tragic and ironic that Reform leaders are seeking legitimacy and recognition in Israel precisely at a time when they are initiating this policy of destructiveness. Such contempt for Jewish unity and survival warrants our sharpest denunciation and we call upon the rank and file to protest sharply and to thwart the implementation of a program which can only cause confusion, heartache and intra-group hostility among the Jewish people," Rosensweig said.

EVACUATION OF ELON MOREH BEGINS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 29 (JTA) -- The evacuation of Elon Moreh began today, more than three months after the Supreme Court declared the Gush Emunim settlement on the West Bank illegal and ordered its removal within 30 days. The first families were settled tonight in new, more spacious houses built for them by the government at Djebil Kebir. The remainder are expected to move tomorrow. Four families refused to budge from Elon Moreh but indicated that they would not resist evacuation by force.

The new site at Djebil Kebir is six miles from Elon Moreh but closer to Nablus, the largest Arab town on the West Bank. Benny Katzover, secretary of Elon Moreh, said he was satisfied with the new settlement on which the government reportedly spent more than \$1 million to house 17 families. He said he still hoped that the abandoned site at Elon Moreh would eventually be resettled by Jews. The other settlers appeared gloomy and refused to be interviewed by the press.

The peaceful evacuation of Elon Moreh ended, for the time being, a bitter controversy that began when the Gush Emunim seized the site in the Samaria district of the West Bank last June, claiming it was part of Israel's Biblical heritage. The government justified the settlement on security grounds. But the Supreme Court, acting on an appeal by local Arabs whose lands were seized, ruled last Oct. 22 that there was no evidence to support the security argument.

Elon Moreh is the first Jewish settlement on the West Bank to be dismantled since Israel occupied the territory in 1967.

MOFFETT TRACES SOURCE OF LEBANON'S CURRENT PROBLEMS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (JTA) -- Rep. Toby Moffett (D.Conn.), told the House yesterday that Lebanon's "suffering began" after King Hussein of Jordan "expelled" a half million Palestinians who found haven in Lebanon. He also reported that on a recent Congressional fact-finding mission to the Middle East which he headed, he found some Palestinian mayors and professionals on the West Bank who would like to join in the Camp David peace process.

Moffett, who is himself of Lebanese descent, headed the first Congressional mission to the Middle East to focus on Lebanon's problems. The group visited Syria and Israel in addition to Lebanon. Describing the situation he found in Lebanon, Moffett said that Christian rule, mandated by the Lebanese constitution, "caused deep resentment

in Lebanon's Moslem circles long before the current strife. Then," he added, "a half million Palestinians expelled by Jordan's King Hussein landed on Lebanon's doorstep. And the country's suffering began, the consequence of its own openness, its generosity and its free society."

The Congressman noted that "In 1975 the battles erupted, Palestinians against Christians. Then Syria bent in its 'peace-keeping force,' fighting first with the Palestinians and later with the Christians. So far it has cost more than 70,000 lives. Some of them, I found, were my relatives."

Communications Gap In The Mideast

Moffett emphasized that a communications gap exists in the Middle East. "What is probably our most lasting impression," he said referring to his delegation's 16-day tour of Lebanon, Syria and Israel, "is the lack of communication. The isolation of one country from another -- not just geographically but leader-to-leader. The Syrians do not seem to realize the bitterness against them in Lebanon; the Israeli leaders and citizens show incredible curiosity about Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat. There is a wide gulf between the Palestinians and Israelis on the West Bank," he said.

Moffett said he believed that Israel Defense Minister Ezer Weizman would be willing to meet with President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon and President Hafez Assad of Syria "but he cannot."

Moffett said that the "Palestinians must stop their opposition to the Camp David process." He said that "privately, some of the Palestinian mayors and professionals with whom we met on the West Bank hinted that they would like to join the process but feel too isolated." That finding contradicts news reports from the Middle East that there is solid opposition to the peace process on the part of West Bank politicians and others.

"Obviously, there's a great need for some basic groundwork," Moffett said. In addition to urging "the gradual withdrawal of Syrian forces" from Lebanon, "and some solution to the Palestinian problem," Moffett said "Arafat and his PLO must renounce violence and recognize Israel's right to exist and there must begin a national dialogue within Lebanon itself, unhampered by outside elements."

NEW YORK (JTA) -- One hundred twenty-two college students, representing 92 American campuses, climaxed the United Jewish Appeal December Students' Leadership Mission to Israel by pledging \$13,117 to the UJA Campaign, Judy Flumenbaum, director of the UJA University Programs Department, said. This figure, the most ever pledged during a UJA Student Mission, included \$2,848 for Project Renewal.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Columbia University's president-designate Michael Sovern has "most warmly" invited Andrei Sakharov, who was exiled last week from Moscow to Gorky in retaliation for his human rights advocacy, "to join the institution during the balance of 1980 as a Visiting Scholar." This was announced at a campus rally for the banished Nobel Peace Prize winner organized by the university's chapter of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

CORRECTION: The report on Mercaz in the Jan. 28 Bulletin listed its membership as over 200. The correct figure is over 2000.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: A HAVEN FOR JEWISH REFUGEES FROM NAZISM

By Simeon Baker

(Part Two Of A Two-Part Series)

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA) — Eric Benjamin, born in the formerly German city of Breslau (now Wroclaw, in Poland), where he was a carpenter and is now the owner of a 360-acre farm and 100 cows, is engaged in the renovation of the synagogue which was built shortly after the arrival of the refugees in Sosua. The \$20,000 required for this project will be raised in the Jewish community of whose center Benjamin is the treasurer.

The special occasions during which the colonists gather in the synagogue are the Passover sederim, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and bar mitzvahs, which are observed even in intermarried families. Although the remaining Jews in the area are far from Orthodox, they use prayer books of the Orthodox version. While in the synagogue, I accidentally came across a slichot book (penitential prayers), printed in the German city of Redenheim in 1865.

There are many more rare antique items in this place than are congregants to appreciate them. The president of the synagogue, Manfred Newman, who is a farmer and insurance agent, is more hopeful regarding the future of the community than are the rest of the Jewish residents of Sosua. He bases his optimism on the fact that many of the younger people are returning to the farms. He, his wife and family came to Sosua in 1954 from Israel, where they resided for 20 years.

The Jewish leaders plan to erect a museum near the synagogue that will depict and house the story of the arrival and life of the Jewish refugees in Sosua. This will be accomplished through exhibits of photographs, machinery, as well as other memorabilia. The object of this museum will be to portray the creativity and contribution of the Jewish settlers to the Dominican Republic, as well as to express their appreciation to its people and government for the opportunities extended to them in their hour of need.

According to an interview I had with Minister Victor Cabral, former diplomat, present member of the Cabinet and very prominent personality of Santo Domingo, I was informed that the government is highly in favor of the museum project undertaking in Sosua.

Some Of The Prominent Jews

Of the 50 Jewish families now residing in Santo Domingo, there may be only about ten of them who have not intermarried. Their 80-seat synagogue, built in 1954, is located in the vicinity of the Israel Embassy and is used mainly on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As in Sosua, this community, too, has no rabbi, no ritual slaughterer or circumciser. Also, their prayers are conducted in the Orthodox manner. The president of this group is the 58-year-old Rudolph Frankenberg, who came from Palestine in 1947.

The 89-year-old Bruno Philipp, owner of a furniture factory and real estate man, is considered the elder statesman of the colony and is the Honorary Consul General of Israel in the Dominican Republic. I met him in his luxurious quarter-million dollar home in the presence of Nachemia Tevell, First Secretary of the Israel Embassy in

Santo Domingo. There I was informed that Philipp came to Santo Domingo in 1939, before the outbreak of World War II from Germany where he was a successful banker. Shortly after his arrival in the Dominican Republic, he became the advisor to dictator Rafael Trujillo on the institution of a viable bank system in his new land.

Among the most highly esteemed and prominent Jewish residents in this area is the industrialist, Samuel Bild, president of the Keren Hayesod for the Dominican Republic; who is in constant touch with Miami because of the important and vibrant activities of its Jewish residents in behalf of all vital Jewish causes.

Excellent Relations Noted

The relationship between the Jewish community and the government is excellent, as are the diplomatic relations between the Dominican Republic and Israel. Unlike most foreign governments, whose embassies are located in Tel Aviv, the Dominicans have their embassy in Jerusalem. This republic's friendship towards Israel is often demonstrated by its posture in the United Nations in its voting on matters concerning the Jewish State.

The attitude of the entire Dominican society is most friendly toward Israel and Jewry as a whole. President Antonio Guzman is a staunch friend of the Jewish people and his government is particularly grateful to Israel for the help of its agricultural experts, who have contributed so much to its land development. With very few exceptions, the Dominican Republic has no diplomatic relations with any of the Communist or Arab countries.

Jordan has an Honorary Consul in Santo Domingo and Lebanon is represented by its Ambassador in Venezuela. At present there is an accord with Egypt on being represented diplomatically by its Venezuelan Ambassador. The Foreign Ministry of Santo Domingo declared that in view of the new developments between Egypt and Israel it, too, is ready to resume friendly relations with that country.

The Santo Domingo telephone directory abounds in Jewish names, such as Cohen and Levi. However, none of these are names of Jews. They are just the result of romantic involvements of young Jewish men with Gentile women whose offspring carry the Jewish names.

PLO OFFICE IN ATHENS

PARIS, Jan. 29 (JTA) — An agreement in principle has been reached between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Greek government to establish a PLO office in Athens, according to reports reaching here. The announcement was made after talks between Greek Foreign Minister George Rallis and the head of the PLO's political department, Farouk Kaddoumi.

Further statements by the Greek government said that although the exact nature of the PLO office would be worked out later, to decide whether it will be a diplomatic outpost or merely an information bureau, Greek support for the national aspirations of the Palestinian people was in line with policies based on traditional Greek-Arab friendship.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Premier Menachem Begin is expected to announce on Sunday the appointment of Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir as Foreign Minister. The post of the Foreign Minister has been vacant for four months since the resignation of Moshe Dayan.