ISRAEL ASSURED U.S. WILL NOT USE AID AS A FORM OF POLITICAL PRESSURE

By David Landa

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14 (JTA) — A top Carter Administration official assured Israel today that the U.S. will not use aid as a form of political pressure. James McIntyre Jr., director of the Office of Management and Budget, made that pledge after a meeting with Premier Menachem Begin at which the issue of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories was raised. The American official is understood to have reiterated the U.S. position that the settlements are an obstacle to peace.

McIntyre, accompanied by a delegation of four Congressmen, members of the House Budget Committee, are in Israel for a detailed study of its aid needs. He told reporters that "the U.S. does not intend to use its aid as a way to pressure things that should be handled through diplomatic means."

There was speculation here that punitive U.S. aid cuts may have been hinted in the apparently stiff letter Begin received from Secretary of State Cyrus Vance yesterday in connection with the Cabinet's decision in principle last Sunday favoring the establishment of a Jewish presence in Hebron.

The contents of the letter were not divulged by sources here said Begin took it home to mull over and Israel Radio said he would bring it to the Cabinet's attention this Sunday. At his meeting with the American delegation this morning, Begin reportedly defended his settlement policy on security grounds. Rep. Robert Gioimo (D. Conn.), chairman of the House Budget Committee, told reporters afterwards that the Hebron affair and settlements in general were regarded as prejudicial to peace. But he affirmed McIntyre's assurance that this would not affect U.S. aid to Israel.

However, Gioimo made it clear that Israel's requests for increased aid stood little chance of a favorable hearing because of the U.S. meeting its budgetary needs and a good portion of that aid budget involves the regular amount of money to Israel," the Congressman said. The Carter Administration has allocated $1.985 billion in economic and military aid for Israel in the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. Israel has asked for $3.45 billion.

Serious View Of U.S. Criticism

Regardless of the assurances that aid will not be used to pressure Israel, the Cabinet is expected to take a serious view of the public upbraiding Israel has received from Washington on the Hebron issue when it next meets on Sunday. The effects the American expressions of displeasure will have are unclear.

Conceivably, the U.S. attitude could strengthen the arguments of Cabinet moderates that a Jewish return to Hebron at this time would be provocative. It is considered more likely that the ministerial line will have been sobered to some extent by the tough American stand and the disapproval of American public opinion to any Hebron move. In that case, the Cabinet may find a way to quietly shelf the issue.

The government is under heavy pressure, meanwhile, from nationalist and religious militants to open Hebron to Jewish settlement forthwith. Leaders of Kiriya Arba, the Gush Emunim stronghold next to Hebron, have engaged an architect to draw plans for an extensive "Jewish quarter" in that West Bank Arab town consisting of about 100 new housing units and communal facilities at an estimated cost of IL 140 million.

Informed observers believe, however, that there is no Cabinet majority at this time for such an elaborate project or for settling any Jewish families in Hebron at present. A possible compromise that may be raised at Sunday's Cabinet meeting is the establishment of some form of institution of higher learning in Hebron as a symbolic Jewish presence.

REPORT ISRAEL, EGYPT SIGN AIR ACCORD

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The first air transport agreement between Israel and Egypt was initialled today in Cairo, according to reports reaching here from the official Middle East News Agency (MENA). The reports said that under the agreement, El Al would initiate regular flights from Tel Aviv to Cairo on March 3 and the Egyptian privately operated Lotus Travel Company would begin flights to Tel Aviv on March 5. After that, each company will operate two flights a week. The agreement, part of the normalization with Egypt and Israel, was signed by Ehad Shilo, director-general of Israel's Transport Ministry, and Maj. Gen. Yehia Shinarwi, chairman of Egypt's Civil Aviation Authority.

BRAZIL WARNS THE PLO

By David Markus

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 14 (JTA) — Fidel Sawan, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Arab League Office in Brasilia have been warned by the Brazilian Foreign Minister that they face possible expulsion for publishing and distributing a pamphlet offensive to Premier Menachem Begin of Israel, in violation of Brazilian law.

The pamphlet, titled "Menachem Begin: The Story of a Terrorist," was published by the Arab League Office in the capital to which Sawan is attached. Israel's Ambassador Moshe Ereli filed a protest with the Foreign Ministry demanding that "adequate measures" be taken against the PLO representative.

He said the pamphlet is not only offensive to Israel's Prime Minister but is "tendentious" and "an anti-Semitic presentation in the style of a certain great European power," an apparent reference to the Soviet Union. Ereli charged that the PLO "is operating as the right hand of that great power and is receiving instructions from it."

Foreign Minister Saravia Guerreiro warned the Arab League and Sawan that Brazilian law forbids offending heads of foreign governments and that foreign diplomats are subject to expulsion for breaking this law. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, Bernardo Vargas, said the Ministry is investigating the case.

Sawan circulated the pamphlets among students at the university in Brasilia after the president of the university cancelled a lecture he had been invited to give there by a leftist student group.
UN UNIT CONDEMNS ISRAEL

By Tomar Levy

GENEVA, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The United Nations Human Rights Commission adopted a two-part draft resolution yesterday that condemns Israeli policies and practices in the occupied Arab territories -- including East Jerusalem -- as "war crimes and an affront to human dignity," and demands the return of displaced Palestinians and others to their homes and property.

The second section of the resolution, Part B, was adopted by a 28-1 margin with 10 abstentions in the all-call-vote, and the first section, Part A, by a vote of 28-3 with eight abstentions. The United States was the only nation to vote against Part B and was one of three to vote against Part A. The others were Canada and Holland. Israel is not a member of the Human Rights Commission but has observer status.

The voting culminated a week-long debate on Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories. Part A of the resolution calls on Israel to take immediate steps for the return of the Palestinians and other displaced inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories to their homes and property. Part B concerns the application of the 1949 Geneva Convention to protect the Palestinian civilian population in time of war to all Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including East Jerusalem.

It expresses deep concern at the consequences of Israel's refusal to apply the Geneva Convention fully and effectively and its failure to acknowledge the applicability of the convention. It calls on Israel to abide by and respect the obligations arising from the UN Charter and other instruments and rules of international law, including the provisions of the convention.

Among the countries that supported Part B were: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Soviet Union, Syria and Yugoslavia. Abstaining were Canada, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Ivory Coast, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal and United Kingdom.

U.S. CONFIRMS PLO IN LEBANON IS ARMED WITH SOVIET WEAPONS

By Joseph Polanski

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The State Department has confirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon has Soviet tanks and armored vehicles and said this was "deplorable." It was unable to say whether the Soviets provided the equipment or by which "avenue" the PLO obtained it.

Israeli military sources reported earlier this week that the PLO has obtained 60 medium tanks and that they are concentrated in the Sidiq area of Lebanon. The State Department's chief spokesman, Hadding Carter, responding to questions yesterday, said:

"We are aware some Soviet tanks and armored vehicles have been seen in the hands of Palestinian armed elements in Lebanon. We don't know how many so I can't confirm the numbers. I also cannot confirm they were provided by the Soviets. They are Soviet tanks. I just can't confirm the avenue by which they fell into Palestinian hands. As far as we know, all this equipment is north of the Litani River." Beyond that, I can't give you deployments.

Carter added, "Our reaction to it is that the provision of such equipment is deplorable. There are already too many arms in the hands of the Palestinians, of private groups, of militias in Lebanon. All add to the high level of tension that already exists in that country."

The Israeli report of tanks in Palestinian hands in Lebanon followed by about two weeks the visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Damascus. The Syrian forces in Lebanon are equipped with Soviet-made weapons.

WZO BUDGET APPROVED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The World Zionist Organization Executive approved on Feb. 11 for the fiscal year 1980-81, it is the equivalent to this year's budget. The WZO budget will compensate for inflation and the devaluation of the Pound by cutting manpower by 15 percent and a 20 percent cut in expenditures on overseas emissaries, and other efficiency measures.

However, the new budget allows for a $1.2 million rise in the budgets of the diaspora Education Department and the Youth and Hechalutz Department. This will allow for some 10,000 overseas youth to participate in part-time summer and winter projects in Israel. The Jewish Agency budget is expected to be approved at the end of the month when the Board of Governors meets in Jerusalem.

HADASSAH-WIZO VOTES FINANCIAL INCREASES FOR ITS ISRAELI PROGRAMS

MONTREAL, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The 28th biennial convention of Hadassah-WIZO of Canada which met recently in Vancouver, voted a 20 percent increase in its 1980-81 budget to meet the financial needs of its numerous Israeli programs despite inflationary costs. Clara Belinsky, president of the organization, focusing on the convention's central theme of continued financial support of all Israeli projects, urged the close to 1000 delegates from around the country to complete the Founding Nation Builders $1 million program initiated at the last convention.

"More than half of the 40 necessary $25,000 contributions are in," Belinsky said. "A final push will enable us to continue our effort to aid Jewish and Christian children and to develop the educational institutions and aims." Miriam Small, honorary vice president of Hadassah-WIZO, who succeeded Belinsky as president for the next two years, emphasized self-fulfillment "through the voluntary acceptance of challenges" on behalf of the organization.

Raya Jaglom, president of World WIZO, warned the delegates that her organization will not be able to "expand or undertake necessary development plans" in Israel because of inflation and other economic problems. She stressed repeatedly the importance of Canadian financial support for WIZO which is now operating 200 day care centers in Israel as well as 200 schools, 70 youth clubs and 184 centers for women including nine in Arab villages.

Approves Hebrew University Project

The convention voted to help a new Hebrew University project which would establish a $250,000 permanent book endowment fund for faculty and departmental libraries at the university in Jerusalem. Bernard Cherrick, the university's vice president, told the convention that "an unprecedented inflation and a 70 percent devaluation of the Israeli Pound in the past year has caused book prices to soar beyond the university's capacity to supply these important technical and research books and journals.

One of the convention highlights was the
WEST GERMANY'S CDU OFFICIAL REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL
By Joseph Polakoff
WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The foreign affairs spokesman for West Germany's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) reaffirmed today his party's support for Israel and its people but indicated that it would not advocate direct German military support should Israel request it.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency asked Dr. Alois Mertes, if he agreed with the position of the European Parliament President Simone Veil of France, who said here two weeks ago that Western Europe should use "military force" if Israel's existence as a state was threatened. He replied that Germany's opposition prevented such action by the nation but indicated that individual Germans could help.

Mertes is in Washington to explain the views of the West German opposition party to American officials and members of Congress with respect to the defense of the West against the Soviet Union. He was asked by the JTA if he considered Israel to be a strategic asset in Western European defense and about the reportedly Anglo-French agreement to press for changes in Security Council Resolution 242 that would open the door to Palestinian Arab participation in Israel's negotiations with neighboring states. He did not respond directly to those questions.

Mertes, who presumably would become West Germany's Foreign Minister if his party took power in the next elections, spoke of the need for a "consistent" policy by the West toward the Soviet Union. Because "the Soviet Union wants a political victory and peace and control of Western Europe," he met here with diplomatic correspondents at a breakfast sponsored by Foreign Policy Magazine.

Two Principles On Israel

Responding to questions about Israel, Mertes spoke of two principles held by the CDU "since 1948." One, he said, is that Germany is in "a position of responsibility toward Israel" because Israel's people are made up of "Victims of the war and daughters of victims of Nazi persecution."

He said this "does not mean we are in accord with every step" taken by Israel. The other principle, he said, is the "rehabilitation of the Jews in the Middle East." The Palestine Liberation Organization and the Arabs must have a position of non-temporality," he stressed. "This is a universal principle. As long as the PLO uses terror and questions the existence of Israel, that threatens its very existence and ... may be decided," he added.

He added, "To be quite sincere, the relations of power has changed." He noted that "the West is threatened by blackmail possibilities of the Arabs" and quickly emphasized that "we are interested in the peace process now taking place." He observed that it would be "satisfactory" if Israel helped President Anwar Sadat of Egypt to assure chances of success for the Camp David accords. "We would be happy if Israel were to understand the importance of what Sadat is doing," he said on the West Bank. "But that is a matter for Israel and Sadat," he added.

Later, Mertes was asked by the JTA if Germany would contribute military force in Israel's defense. He replied that the German Constitution provides that Germany use its military only within the context of NATO and that Israel is not geographically part of that area.

"As the German government would permit the formation of a brigade of volunteers, say in Hamburg, to aid Israel, I thought that also would be in conflict with the Constitution. But individuals certainly were free to assist," he said that "in the Yom Kippur War" the CDU criticized elements in Germany that had criticized the use by the U.S. of German harbors and airports to transport supplies to Israel.

NEW EDITION OF WHO'S WHO IN WORLD JEWRY DUE IN FEB. 1981

NEW YORK, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The 25th anniversary edition of "Who's Who in World Jewry," the biographical dictionary of outstanding Jews, is now in preparation and will be out early next year, according to F. Josselin Karpman, chief editor of the anniversary edition. Karpman, a renowned lexicographer and co-founder of the Encyclopaedia Judaica, said this new edition, the sixth, will be completely revised, re-edited and recomposed.

The new edition will comprise the life histories of noteworthy Jewish men and women in all countries and will allocate adequate space to the younger generation now in the forefront of contributions to Jewish and general progress, according to Karpman. The edition, which may contain more than 1500 pages, will be published and distributed in February, 1981. "The new volume is planned to serve as a visible evidence of what a small minority of the world's people has been contributing to the betterment of all humanity," Karpman said.

U.S. NETTLED OVER ISRAELI MOVE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- The Carter Administration hinted today that the Israeli government drop its plans to allocated IL 50 million (about $12 million) for settlements on the West Bank. The State Department's chief spokesman, Hudding Carter, said that "such activity is contrary to international law, pre-judges the outcome of negotiations and is an obstacle to the peace process." He added, "therefore, we are obviously against Israeli actions by Knesset that are calculated to support the Israeli settlement policy.

Carter was alluding to the move yesterday by Israel's Knesset Finance Committee in appropriating the money for the purchase of land in the occupied territories from private Arab owners for Jewish settlement. Israeli TV reported that Ariel Sharon, the Agriculture Minister, told the Committee that land purchases in the West Bank last year totalized 75 acres.
A CONGRESS WINS SUPPORT IN CHALLENGE OF LAW ALLOWING PRAYERS IN SCHOOLS

BOSTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The Massachusetts Council of Churches and the Massachusetts Teachers Association yesterday announced their support of a suit brought by the American Jewish Congress challenging the constitutionality of a state law that allows ritual prayer in the public schools. The suit, a major test case, is expected to go to the United States Supreme Court.

The AJC, which has been joined by the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, has also named State Education Commissioner Gregory Anrig as a new defendant in the suit. State Attorney General Francis Bellotti is expected to intervene on behalf of the commissioner. The statute, which took effect Feb. 1, requires teachers throughout the state to invite student volunteers to lead their class in prayer. Children who do not wish to participate are entitled, under the measure, to leave the room.

The suit contends that the law violates the First Amendment provision guaranteeing the free exercise of religion. It asks the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court for a preliminary injunction barring enforcement of the measure pending a declaratory judgment that the statute is constitutional.

"A Cruel Dilemma"

According to the complaint, the implementation of the compulsory prayer period will cause immediate and irreparable harm to the plaintiff school children and others who object to participation by subjecting them to the cruel dilemma of either participating in a prayer period in a coercive/secular setting which is offensive to them or seeking excusal which sets them apart from their classmates and risks their becoming the objects of peer pressures, criticism, reproach, and insults on account of their religious beliefs.

"Such implementation," the complaint adds, "will also interfere with the freedom of the plaintiff school children and of their parents to select their own religious observances free of coercion by their peers, their neighbors and their government."

The plaintiffs in the cases are known as Warren v. Evans and Keitt v. Omnistan.

JDC TO ESTABLISH MENTAL HEALTH POLICY, PLANNING INSTITUTE IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), working in cooperation with the Israel Ministry of Health, will establish the Folk Mental Health Policy and Planning Institute in Israel, it was announced here by Donald Robinson, president of the JDC, and Philip Hallen, president of the Maurice Falk Medical Fund in Borough, Pa. The establishment of the Institute has been made possible by a $250,000 grant from the Maurice Falk Medical Fund.

In making the announcement, Robinson paid tribute to Leon Falk, Jr., Pittsburgh corporation executive and philanthropist, who is the chairman of the board of the Maurice Falk Medical Fund. Robinson called the establishment of the Institute "a meaningful contribution to the advancement of mental health services in Israel. There is a need," he added, "for long-range planning in this field in order to achieve the most beneficial services commensurate with the country's resources."

Ralph Goldman, JDC executive vice president, described the project as "a logical extension of the work 'Joint' has been doing in Israel through the Trust Fund for the Development of Mental Health Services, which, he noted, "is also a JDC program in cooperation with the Israel Ministry of Health."

Goldman observed that the Trust Fund for Mental Health in Israel has concentrated on the development of multipurpose community-based mental health programs to reduce over-reliance on hospital bed services."

He pointed to recent "radical changes in mental health services in the Western world, some of which have not yet had their full impact on Israel. The Institute will be of particular value in the planning of community services and manpower requirements and, he added, "the establishment of program goals and objectives on a national scale will be done on the basis of both present and potential needs."

CJC PROTESTS RESTITUTION LAW WHICH COUPLES NAZI VICTIMS WITH NAZIS

TORONTO, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has written to the West German Embassy in Canada complaining of certain legislation supporting reparation and restitution to Jewish victims of the Nazi regime. The CJC has complained about the report that the restitution "is encumbered by an attempt to restore pension rights of former civil servants who were disqualified from receiving pensions because of their Nazi past."

The debate on the proposal is scheduled in the West German Bundestag by March 31.

"It is difficult to comprehend," says the letter signed by Alton Rose, CJC executive vice president, "why the long delay in enacting reparations legislation which would lead to the introduction into the Bundestag during the incumbency of Chancellor (Willy) Brandt should be threatened by coupling the fate of the victims of Nazism with former members of the NSDAP, the SS and concentration camp guards. We believe that if such a development transpires, it will seriously undermine the moral aspect of material restitution which was an essential element of the policies of Chancellor (Konrad) Adenauer and Brandt and other leaders of the Federal Republic."

The letter continues: "We would be grateful if you would convey our sense of concern to your government. May I add that the Canadian Jewish Congress fully supports the payment of material restitution to European Gypsies, many of whom were murdered and sterilized during the Nazi era. We believe that such an act would be welcomed by all Canadians."

SPECIAL PUNISHMENT FOR YOUTH

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Feb. 14 (JTA) — An 18-year-old youth who admitted dabbing a swastika on a hanukkah menorah is to be given special punishment by the Onondaga County District Attorney. Louis B. Ouellette, who pleaded guilty to third-degree criminal mischief, a felony, was sentenced by Judge William Burke to attend an exhibit of "spiritual resistance" art by concentration camp survivors at a local museum. In addition, he must view "Night and Fog," a film about the Holocaust, and write a 500-word essay describing his feelings after seeing the film. The judge has recommended that Ouellette also be placed on probation for a number of years, subject to agreement of the County Probation Department.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated February 18 due to Washington's Birthday, a postal holiday.