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BEHIND THE HEADLINES

MOST JEWS IN CONGRESS REMAIN LIBERAL DESPITE SHIFT TO THE RIGHT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- Despite the shift to conservative positions by many members in both houses of Congress, the 23 Jewish Representatives and seven Senators mostly remain in the ranks of the liberals or in the center of the political spectrum.

This conclusion is drawn from the voting record for 1979 of the 435 House members and 100 Senators on 19 issues reported by the liberal Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) which observed "Congress continued to move to the right" in domestic policy and "the fraying of progressive initiatives" in foreign affairs.

Domestic issues about which ADA conducted its annual survey included busing, assisted housing, nuclear power, abortion, food stamps, low-income energy assistance, windfall profits tax. Foreign policy matters concerned relations with the People's Republic of China, Rhodesian sanctions, foreign economic aid, a nuclear aircraft carrier and the M-X missile.

Of the 12 Senators who supported ADA positions three out of four times, two are Jewish -- Howard Metzenbaum (D., Ohio) and Carl Levin (D., Mich.). Among the 65 Senators who approved ADA positions less than half the time were Richard Stone (D., Fla.), Rudy Boschwitz (R., Minn.) and Edward Zorinsky (D., Neb.).

Metzenbaum ranks third among the Senate's members in support of liberal viewpoints. With a record of 84 percent, Metzenbaum trails only Senator George McGovern (D., S.D.) who has a perfect record, and Patrick Leahy (D., Vt.) with 89 percent. Second to Metzenbaum among the seven Jewish Senators is Levin with 74 percent, while third is Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.) with 63 percent. Other Senatorial records as reported by ADA: Abraham Ribicoff (D., Conn.) 53 percent, and Stone, Boschwitz and Zorinsky, each with 21 percent.

In the House, four of the 14 Congressmen achieving perfect records in the ADA scoring are Democrats Richard Ottinger and Ted Weiss, both of New York; Anthony Beilenson (Calif.) and Howard Wolpe (Mich.). In second place were seven Congressmen with 95 percent. Of these, four are Jewish -- Democrats Henry Waxman (Calif.), Sidney Yates (Ill.) and Frederick Richmond and Stephen Solarz, both of New York.

Records Of Other Congressmen

The records of other Jewish Congressmen are: Ken Kramer (R., Colo.) 5 percent; William Lehman (D., Fla.) 89; Elliott Levitas (D., Ga.) 68; Abner Mikva (D., Ill.) who retired in September, 91; Dan Glickman (D., Kans.) 47; Gladys Spellman (D., Md.) 63; Lester Wolff (D., N.Y.) 74; Benjamin Rosenthal (D., N.Y.) 68; James Scheuer (D., N.Y.) 84; Elizabeth Holtzman (D., N.Y.) 84; Benjamin Gilman (R., N.Y.) 53; William Green (R., N.Y.) 68; Willis Gradison (R., Ohio) 16; Marc Marks (R., Pa.) 32; and Martin Frost (D., Tex.) 37 percent.

Of the 127 House members -- about two-sevenths of the chamber's total -- who voted pro-ADA at least two out of three times, 16 are Jew-

ish -- a factor of about two-thirds of their total membership. No Jewish member was among the 24 recorded in the House having a zero record by ADA's standards. Only five voted less than half the time for ADA points of view.

No Jewish Senator was included among the 30 -- close to a third of the Senate's membership -- whose record was less than 21 percent by ADA reckoning. Among the 19 domestic measures surveyed was Metzenbaum's amendment to increase budget authority in fiscal year 1980, 1981 and 1982 for nutritional programs for older Americans. His amendment was approved 68-21.

In the House, Kramer introduced the amendment to allow elected officials to veto VISTA projects within their jurisdictions. Kramer's amendment, opposed by ADA, carried 229-178. The ADA-backed offer by Weiss to reduce the fiscal year 1980 defense spending by \$1 billion in budget authority and \$355 million in outlays and to transfer those funds to selected human needs programs was rejected 92-321.

The ADA report noted that Zorinsky supported the bipartisan effort in the Senate to block restoration of U.S. military training to Guatemala, while Wolff held "a major hearing on the continuing famine" in Indonesia related to opposition to military aid to that southeast Asian country which is warring against East Timor. The ADA supported both the Zorinsky and Wolff actions.

LITTLE PROGRESS IN AUTONOMY TALKS

By Henriette Boas

THE HAGUE, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- Little progress appears to have been made at the tripartite autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. which opened here yesterday. A spokesman for the Egyptian delegation said they have been "constructive" but an Israeli spokesman said he was "not optimistic."

Sol Linowitz, President Carter's special Ambassador to the Middle East, who represents the U.S. at the talks, was reported to be meeting separately with Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, head of the Egyptian delegation and Interior Minister Yosef Burg who heads the Israeli negotiating team.

Meanwhile, 16 pro-Palestinian men and women demonstrated outside the Kurhaus Hotel at Scheveningen beach where the talks are being held. The demonstrators, including several Dutch nationals and Palestinians and one Egyptian, are staging a sit-down and hunger strike for the duration of the tripartite meeting. They carried signs in Dutch and English reading "Today's Talks are About the Palestinians but Without the Palestinians," and "Autonomy Means Bantustan." The group has protested to the Dutch government for hosting the meeting.

The Netherlands Palestine Committee has organized a public forum in Amsterdam for tonight on the theme of "Palestinian Autonomy?" Several prominent members of Parliament known for their pro-Palestinian views are participating along with the local representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization. A counter event, less heralded in the media, is a forum organized by the pro-Israel "Working Group for Israel" which will be addressed by both Israelis and pro-Palestinians. That meeting was announced a week ago but has been overshadowed by the larger Palestine Committee forum.

ARAB PROPERTY VANDALIZED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28 (JTA)—A resident of Kiryat Arba was questioned by police today in connection with the large-scale vandalizing of Arab property in the nearby town of Halhoul on the West Bank early yesterday morning. According to witnesses, four unidentified men driving a white pick-up truck systematically smashed the windows and slashed the tires of 27 motor vehicles, virtually all that are owned in Halhoul. Headlights were also smashed and in some cases motors were deliberately damaged.

The suspect, Yossi Dayan, reportedly a member of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement, denied taking part in the assault but said he was "in favor" of such action. The police are seeking other suspects but the residents of Kiryat Arba, a Gush Emunim stronghold, have refused to cooperate.

The mayors of three large West Bank towns -- Karim Khalif of Ramallah, Ibrahim Tawil of El Bireh, and Fahed Kawasme of Hebron -- sent protest telegrams to Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Brig. Gen. Binyamin Ben Eliezer, the area commander, after visiting Halhoul today. The mayors said they cabled United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to add the Halhoul incident to the current Security Council discussion of the Hebron issue. They accused the Israeli authorities of covering up for vandalism against Arabs on the West Bank.

Only four Halhoul residents lodged complaints. They told reporters that the assault occurred between 1-2 a.m. Wednesday. One car owner said he was awakened by noise and saw armed men damaging his car. He said they cursed him in Arabic and warned him to get back to his home.

Meanwhile, Israeli security forces fenced off an Arab school in the Jalazoun refugee camp near Ramallah today. No official explanation was offered but the measure appeared to be connected with Weizman's recent promise of increased protection for Jewish settlers on the West Bank. Jalazoun residents have regularly stoned passing Jewish vehicles.

AUSTERITY BUDGET PASSES FIRST READING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28 (JTA) — Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz's austerity budget passed its first reading in the Knesset by a vote of 56-44 yesterday and was sent to the Knesset Finance Committee where committee chairman Shlomo Lorincz of the Aguda Israel faction promised speedy action. The budget is expected to be approved by the committee in one month instead of the usual three months.

The budget sets a ceiling of 63.5 billion Shekels (IL 653 billion) on government expenditures during the 1980-81 fiscal year. Treasury sources announced after the vote that Hurwitz will meet shortly with Histadrut Secretary General Yehoram Meshel and Avraham Shavit, chairman of the Manufacturers Association, to discuss wage policy for the coming year.

Hurwitz hopes to persuade the unions to extend the wage contracts that expire in April for another year. He has pledged to try to keep real wages steady through the periodic cost-of-living compensation. The Histadrut position has been negative so far but Meshel's apparent willingness to discuss the matter with Hurwitz indicates some flexibility on his part.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA**ELIE WIESEL: A JOURNEY TO CAMBODIA**

By Adena Berkowitz

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA) — Elie Wiesel, the chairman of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, returned last week from a visit to Cambodian refugee camps as part of a delegation organized by the International Rescue Committee.

In an exclusive interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the world famous author and lecturer described the scenes which he, together with more than 100 leading personalities, including civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, folksinger Joan Baez, actress Liv Ullmann, and Rabbi Mark Tanenbaum who is the head of the interreligious affairs department of the American Jewish Committee saw as they journeyed to the Thailand border to see firsthand the condition and plight of the Cambodian refugees.

Characterizing the three refugee camps as "spectacles of horror," Wiesel depicted them as resembling "pictures taken of DP camps after World War II" with scenes of "hunger, illness, misery, death and of children with emaciated bodies and wounded men and women."

Noting that the foreign visitors were "deeply shaken" by the situation, Wiesel recalled that "the Cambodian children sensed our compassion and viewed us as representing salvation and so they jumped into our arms." Nevertheless, the adult refugees responded to the International Committee very differently. "Some were very dignified in their misery, yet others resented our presence," Wiesel said.

A Touching Personal Moment

With estimates running as high as 1-3 million Cambodians murdered, Wiesel pointed out that what was particularly heartbreaking to him was that "the refugees had resigned themselves to the idea that the Cambodian people had come to an end."

While the entire visit was an exhaustive and possibly dangerous experience, a touching personal moment for Wiesel occurred when he had to say Kaddish for his father, whose yahrzeit fell during the journey. Wiesel, whose father died in Auschwitz, set out "to find 10 Jews at the border of Cambodia. I went from one group to another looking for a Jew here and a Jew there. Finally I got a minyan together to say Kaddish." It was, he recalled, "a symbolic and very moving moment."

When asked why he had decided to make this trip, Wiesel responded that "while I am not a representative of any group," he felt that "as a Jew I had to be there and see first hand what is happening and whether I could be of any help." Citing the dire reports which had emerged about Cambodia, he noted that "if these reports that we have read in the last couple of months, the last couple of years, about the end of the Cambodian people were true, then we had to do something to prevent the end of the people."

Another element which moved the famous Holocaust survivor to make the trip was "the fact that so many people use the word 'Holocaust' with regard to Cambodia." Wiesel, who himself is a survivor of two concentration camps, noted that "I am always advocating the utmost care and prudence when one uses that word." The term "Holocaust" is copyrighted by the Jewish people and by Jewish destiny," he said. And while he noted that the events taking place in Cambodia were "coming very close to a total disaster," the situation "is more like a civil war than genocide since Pol Pot is killing its own people."

Wiesel also recounted his own pleading with

fellow members of the delegation not to use the word "Holocaust" to describe the events taking place in Cambodia. "No one should ever make such analogies with regard to any event.... Every tragedy deserves to have its own words and Cambodia does too. It is horribly tragic," yet he added that whenever events are studied in the light of the Holocaust, "they can be related but never compared."

Wiesel, who noted that he made this trip because "no one came for me when I was there," was asked whether as a Holocaust survivor he had ever imagined that after the end of World War II anything ever resembling or approximating the violence and death of the Nazi period would ever occur again.

Speaking in a sad, hushed tone, Wiesel replied, "Of course not" and added that "on that point we survivors were always convinced that there would be no more hate, no more war, no more violence, no more bitterness, no more bloodshed, or hunger. That these things could happen again simply means that the world didn't learn -- or that the world didn't want to learn."

AIDING SOVIET JEWISH REFUSNIKS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- A seminar to demonstrate how American lawyers can intervene in individual cases of Soviet Jews who are arbitrarily denied emigration visas in contravention of international law and the Soviet Constitution, was held at the New York Bar Association yesterday with the participation of 80 practicing attorneys from the New York area and professors of law from leading law schools in the U.S. and Canada.

The seminar was sponsored jointly by the New York Legal Coalition for Soviet Jewry, an affiliate of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry; Bnai Zion, the Zionist fraternal order; and the deans of six law schools.

Speakers included Prof. Leon Lipson, Henry R. Luce Professor of Jurisprudence at Yale Law School; Prof. Louis Henkin of Columbia University Law School; Prof. of Law Irwin Cotler of McGill University, Montreal; and Robert McKay, director of the Aspen Institute Program for Justice, who is co-chairman of the Legal Coalition. Prof. Howard Greenberger, of New York University Law School, co-chairman of the Legal Coalition, presided.

Cotler, who reviewed his legal defense of Anatoly Shcharansky, pointed out that Soviet Jews are unique because they seek to test the Soviet Constitution and international law. "It is up to us to support them," he said. According to McKay, lawyers can and should help define international statutes which pertain to Soviet Jews and shape the policies that can aid them. Henkin cited United Nations covenants which pertain to the emigration movement. But he cautioned against any move that would cause the Soviets to lose face in the international arena.

"The Soviet Union does not like to be called international outlaws," he said. He suggested that any effort to aid Soviet Jews include extensive notations of how the USSR would best be in compliance with international standards.

Lipson spoke of the discriminatory aspects of Soviet emigration policies and referred to individual cases to illustrate the wide variety of tools used by Soviet emigration officials to cut back on emigration. He discussed the difficulties of obtaining legal redress in a system which does not give the courts jurisdiction over matters of emigration.

2 LUBAVITCHER HASIDIM ACQUITTED

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- A Lubavitch official expressed today the hope that the acquittal last night of two visiting British Lubavitcher Hasidim in the 1978 assault on a Black teenager would be helpful in reducing inter-group tensions in Brooklyn's Crown Heights section, the international center of the movement.

The incident, in which Victor Rhodes, then 16, was beaten into a coma, led to the arrest and indictment on charges of attempted murder and assault of Lewis Brennan, 25, and Jonathan Hackner, 23. After a two-month trial and two days of deliberation, a State Supreme Court jury brought in the acquittal verdict.

Rabbi Shmuel Butman, director of the Lubavitch Youth Organization, also told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it was "notable" that the acquittal took place just before Purim, March 2, and that, "just like in olden days," Jews had been victorious over "malicious slanderers."

The two Hasidim had denied participating in the assault on Rhodes which left him semi-conscious for more than two months before he recovered. The defense attorneys had contended that the British Hasidim had been victims of "mistaken identity" and that, if the police investigation of the incident had been more effective, the two Hasidim would not have been charged in the assault.

The Hasidim contended that the youth had been beaten by yeshiva students who had "overreacted" when the youth allegedly deliberately knocked off the hat of an elderly Jewish man. None of the prosecution witnesses could identify the defendants in court as among the men they had seen at the site of the assault.

Butman disclosed that, during the period in which the two Hasidim had been forced to remain in Crown Heights pending the trial, Hackner had become engaged, married and father of a new-born daughter. He said he did not know what the plans of the two Hasidim were, now that they were free to leave the United States.

FRED BERK DEAD AT 69

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- Fred Berk, founder and for 28 years director of the Jewish Dance Division of the 92nd Street YMHA, died Tuesday at the age of 69 of heart failure at the Metropolitan Hospital. Berk, born in Austria, was a modern dancer and an authority on Israeli folk dances. He was teaching at the Y at the time of his death.

As well as being the editor of a bibliography entitled "Jewish Dance," Berk was the director of the Hebraica Dancers, the Israeli Folk Dance Festival and the Israeli Folk Dance Institute of the American Zionist Youth Foundation. At the time of his death, Berk was at work on a project with the Dance Collection of the New York Public Library, indexing all the research collection's Jewish dance materials. A memorial folk dance festival will be held on March 23 at Town Hall, to be followed by a memorial service on April 6 at the Y.

MEXICO CITY (JTA) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo unveiled a bust of Albert Einstein in Gen. San Martin Park Thursday. The ceremony culminated a series of lectures and symposiums organized by the Central Jewish Committee to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Einstein's birth. The unveiling was attended by Cabinet ministers, high ranking military and civilian officials and leaders of the Jewish community.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW**UJA CASH FLOW UP SHARPLY**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28 (JTA) — After a period in the doldrums last year, the flow of cash dollars from the United Jewish Appeal, through the United Israel Appeal to Israel has picked up sharply in recent months. Figures for the first two months of 1980 show an increase of \$4.5 million compared to the same period last year.

The turnaround has coincided with the appointment to the post of National Cash Chairman of Edward Cadden, 53, of Chicago. Because of the success-story told by the figures, Cadden, who grew to UJA prominence as chairman of the Chicago campaign, has been hailed in national UJA circles as something of a whizz-kid, and observers predict a central role for him in national UJA affairs in the future.

Cadden himself modest and businesslike, attributes the upswing in cash-flow figures to hard work by himself and his cash committee in cooperation with regional committees across the country. An auto spare parts agent with solid business success behind him, Cadden recalls how he was telephoned in London "at one a.m. one night" by UJA national chairman Irwin Field and asked to take on the cash job.

When he took over in September, 1978, cash flow was \$13 million down from the previous year. The turnaround in five months has been in the order of \$18 million. In practical terms this means that a looming Jewish Agency deficit of some \$44 million could be substantially cut.

Cadden speaks earnestly of the "partnership" between the UJA and Keren Hayesod and the Jewish Agency. He believes in it, and believes it is working. Being a big giver, or being involved in national UJA work gives him, and others, no right whatever to interfere in Israeli government policymaking, Cadden says firmly. "I don't buy a place in the Israeli Cabinet" Thus he steers clear of commenting, in his UJA capacity, on Israeli government policy regarding settlements or other controversial issues.

Diaspora Side Of The Partnership

But regarding the Jewish Agency, Cadden is equally firm in favoring close and constant involvement between the UJA and the Agency. He has attended in Jerusalem this week the Agency Board of Governors meetings and the budgetary committee sessions that preceded them, and is satisfied that the diaspora side of the "partnership" is sufficiently informed and involved in setting priorities and shaping the broad policies. He notes that the Jerusalem meetings themselves followed preliminary consultations between the diaspora and Israeli sides.

It is to underscore this "partnership" reality that Cadden has initiated a visit to the U.S. shortly for a two-week across-the-nation tour of Jewish Agency Treasurer Akiva Levinsky. Cadden, like other top UJA lay leaders, finds former Bank Hapoalim director Levinsky immensely impressive, efficient and straightforward.

He says that direct meetings between the man in charge of Agency expenditure and the major UJA centers will serve better than any other means to convince contributors and Federations of the importance of transferring pledges into cash and of shifting the cash speedily to the UJA and on to Israel.

Cadden denies rumors rampant in Israel that

a trend is developing among American Federations whereby a greater proportion of UJA funds is being allocated to local needs and lesser sums for Israel.

"There may be isolated instances which I do not know of," he said, "but there is no such trend."

Similarly, Cadden scotches another Israeli rumor -- that past givers have cancelled pledges or ceased giving because they disapprove of Israeli settlement policy. The cases where he comes across such arguments are "very rare," says Cadden. "And usually this is an excuse for not giving I know there is worry about this in Israel and among some UJA circles. But I myself don't feel political views affect giving."

Cadden also reports heartening news that campaign pledges are up this year by 18 percent over last year, comparing the sums the same contributors pledged this year and last. Unfulfilled pledges remain constant at the UJA's longtime low level of 4-5 percent.

NATIONAL JEWISH ARCHIVES OF FILM AND BROADCASTING TO BE CREATED

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA) — The Charles H. Revson Foundation and The Jewish Museum, which is under the auspices of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, have jointly announced the creation of the National Jewish Archives of Film and Broadcasting. A grant of \$550,000 over three years from the Revson Foundation will launch the project as part of the Museum in Manhattan. The Archives will enable young people, scholars and individuals of all religious and cultural backgrounds to look at and listen to the records of Jewish experience preserved in the modern media.

Creation of the Archives follows a year-long study by the Revson Foundation and its consultants, who explored the idea with broadcasting executives, media experts and educators. A report on this study, released today, lists more than 700 films and television programs identified in the preliminary search. The television programs include dramas, interviews, news and documentaries.

Agreements in principle have been reached with the three commercial networks -- ABC, CBS and NBC -- and the Public Broadcasting Service to obtain copies of the selected programs, with details to be worked out in the next few months. A core film collection will be drawn from some 1000 feature films of Jewish interest produced in the United States and abroad since the turn of the century, and research is underway to identify relevant radio programs.

According to the Revson Foundation report, the Archives is being established "to make sure that this unparalleled primary source on the Jewish experience is not lost and that it is accessible to the widest possible audience." The Revson Foundation grant supports the initial development and operation of the Archives, which is scheduled to open by the end of 1980.

Dr. Gerson Cohen, Chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, stated, "It is vital that we gather the precious Jewish material that has been created by the modern media in recent generations for the inspiration and enrichment of future generations. For many young people today, the founding of the State of Israel and the Holocaust are events of the remote past The National Jewish Archives can make them real."

While the initial collection will concentrate on programs produced in the United States, eventually the Archives may include material from other countries as well.