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## SPECIAL TO THE JTA

### WEST EUROPEAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES

#### APPEAL TO EEC NOT TO INTERFERE IN THE ISRAEL-ARAB PEACE PROCESS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 16 (JTA) — The largest Jewish communities of Western Europe appealed today to their governments and to the European Economic Community (EEC) not to interfere in the Arab-Israeli peace process and expressed grave concern at growing EEC support for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The appeal was made at an emergency conference here of Jewish representatives from all the EEC countries, except West Germany. The meeting issued an "urgent appeal" to the EEC to abstain from further declarations and initiatives that could preempt the successful conclusion of current negotiations.

Expressing "concern and consternation" at proposed EEC moves to involve the PLO in Middle East negotiations, the meeting said that this would jeopardize the stability of the region and threaten Israel's security. EEC governments were urged to refrain from trying to change the basis of the negotiations. Instead, the resolution said, Europe should play its part by supporting the Camp David peace framework which had already shown results.

The meeting was held in the framework of the World Jewish Congress' EEC Committee, which convened here for the first time. France sent the biggest delegation, headed by Alain de Rothschild and Claude Kelman. The seven-member team represented the Representative Council of Jewish Organizations of France (CRIF).

Earlier the European visitors attended the monthly meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, which passed a similar unanimous motion of concern over the shift in Britain's Middle East policy. It said that British proposals to supplement the UN Security Council Resolution 242 with a new UN document was already hampering the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations.

Anglo-Jewish leaders led by MP Greville Jenner, the Board's president, will call on Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington tomorrow to seek assurances about Britain's Middle East policy.

#### PROTESTS IN ISRAEL AND THE U.S. AGAINST AUSTRIA'S MOVE ON THE PLO

(From Combined JTA Bureau Dispatches)

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) — Israel has protested sharply to Austria against Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's decision to extend a form of diplomatic recognition to a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The Austrian government announced last Thursday it was granting official status to Palestine-born Ghazi Husaini who has been accredited to various United Nations agencies in Vienna as a PLO observer.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry issued a bitterly-worded protest Friday, referring to the heavy responsibility Austria was taking on itself and to the PLO's ultimate aim which remained the de-

struction of Israel. Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres also cabled Kreisky to protest the Austrian move, the first such action by a non-Communist European government. Peres and Kreisky are both members of the Socialist International.

In Vienna Friday, Israel Ambassador Yissakov Ben-Yaacov protested to the Austrian government saying the move contradicts the Austrian policy of recognizing governments not organizations. "This is even more deplorable when you take into account that the PLO is an organization that aims to destroy Israel," he said.

Husaini, meanwhile, called on other West European countries to follow Austria's example and recognize the PLO. Austrian Foreign Ministry sources said the recognition of the PLO is a direct consequence of Kreisky's speech before the United Nations General Assembly last fall in which he said Austria recognizes the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people.

#### State Department Withholds Immediate Comment

In Washington, the State Department withheld comment on the Austrian move. "The Austrian government is well aware of what our position is regarding the PLO," Department spokesman Tom Reston said. He repeated President Carter's statement to the United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Conference in Washington three weeks ago that the U.S. will not negotiate with the PLO until it accepts UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and Israel's right to exist.

Meanwhile, the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles sent a cable to Kreisky declaring that "Jews the world over are outraged" at the Austrian action. "Our indignation is only deepened by the fact that this move took place on the 42nd anniversary of the Anschluss, the unification of Austria with Nazi Germany," the cable declared.

Robbi Marvin Hier, the Center's dean, who signed the cable, added that the Austrian recognition of the PLO "must surely warm the hearts of the Soviets as they witness the bankruptcy of the Western world's moral posture in the name of a barrel of oil. Surely the terrorists" in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the Dominican Republic Embassy in Bogota "will take heart in the knowledge that in the end, terrorism does pay," Hier said.

#### BONN WOOLING PALESTINIANS

By David Kantor

BONN, March 16 (JTA) — The West German government is seeking to demonstrate to the Arabs that its position in the Middle East conflict is no less favorable to the Palestinian cause than that of France, although Bonn has stopped short of extending official recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

During the past 48 hours, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher have reiterated their support for Palestinian self-determination. The Foreign Ministry released a paper citing more than 30 occasions when that position was stated by German officials, beginning with the first such affirmation by the German Ambassador to the United Nations in November, 1974.

Meanwhile, Schmidt's top aide in the ruling Social Democratic Party, Hans-Juergen Wischniewski, sharply criticized Israel's settlement policy which he called the main obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

Schmidt and President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing were due to meet in Hamburg today to discuss international problems, notably the Middle East. They are expected to review preparations for a Middle East initiative by the nine member states of the European Economic Community (EEC) which probably will be launched if no progress is made in the autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. by the May 26 deadline. The initiative is expected to take the form of a move to alter Security Council Resolution 242 in a way that would recognize the Palestinians as a political entity rather than a refugee problem.

Born's intentions with respect to the PLO have become the subject of new speculation in light of the Austrian government's extension of recognition to a PLO official in Vienna as a spokesman for the Palestinian people. Genscher said today that the question was not an acute one for Germany. A government spokesman told a reporter that Austria's recognition of the PLO is not a model for West Germany.

#### THOUSANDS RALLY AGAINST SETTLING JEWS IN HEBRON

By Gil Sedar

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) — About 20,000 people demonstrated here last night against proposals now before the government to settle Jews in the West Bank Arab town of Hebron. The demonstration was the first instance of cooperation between Peace Now activists and representatives of the city's poverty neighborhoods. Similar rallies took place in Tel Aviv and Haifa, the latter marked by an outpouring of kibbutz members from the entire northern region of Israel.

Yemin Swissa, a leader of Jerusalem's low income Katamon quarter, charged that "While thousands of couples have no home to live in, David Levy, the leader of the poor, proposes to settle Hebron." The sarcastic reference was to Housing Minister David Levy who is one of the leading advocates of populating Hebron with Jews. Swissa also accused the government of pouring money into settlements on the West Bank that could better be used to rehabilitate slum neighborhoods. At the Haifa rally, writer A. B. Yehoshua called for "resistance by force" if the government decides to settle Jews in Hebron.

Meanwhile, Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem repeated his strong criticism of the government's expropriation of some 1000 acres of land in East Jerusalem to build housing projects for Jews. The land lies between the Jewish quarters of Neve Yaacov and French Hill. Kollek said that the project would cost some IL 30 billion out of a national budget of IL 405 billion.

Kollek also accused the government of developing settlements on the West Bank instead of Jerusalem. While he is not opposed in principle to the planned housing project, he has argued that the land expropriation order signed last week was ill-timed and an unnecessary, provocative gesture since the resources to build the housing is not now available. Meanwhile, the Cabinet postponed again a discussion of the Hebron issue.

#### CARTER RESTATES U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

WASHINGTON, March 16 (JTA) — President Carter reiterated last Friday night that he was "the one who set the policy" and that U.S. approval March 1 of the anti-Israel resolution in the United Nations Security Council was due to "an honest breakdown in communications between me and the United Nations."

Responding to questions at a press conference, he also repeated his Administration's opposition to Israeli settlements in occupied territories. He said that, during the negotiations at Camp David, between President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and himself, "we had agreed among us that we did not approve, as an American government, of the settlements on the West Bank and Gaza area; that they were an obstacle to peace."

Carter added, however, that "we also had agreed that during the time of the negotiations we would not call for the dismantling of existing settlements. That was to be resolved as an issue in the on-going negotiations." The March 1 Security Council resolution contained a clause calling for dismantling of Israeli settlements. The President said "there is nothing specifically in the Camp David accords concerning the settlements themselves," adding that there was "an agreement about settlements established in Sinai," which Israel agreed to dismantle as part of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

Reiterating also there had been no change in U.S. policy on the Middle East, Carter said "that policy is guided by Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338" and by "every word in the Camp David accords signed by me on behalf of our nation and by Begin and Sadat on behalf of Israel and Egypt. We intend to carry out that agreement."

He also said that he believed that "we will have peace in the Middle East with a secure Israel behind recognized borders, with the Palestinian question being resolved in all its aspects and with peace between Israel and her neighbors."

#### Issue Of The UN Vote

The issue of responsibility for the affirmative U.S. vote on the March 1 resolution was raised by one of the reporters who asked, "Are you the only one who can determine that it's not the resolution you want?" The President also was asked whether it was "possible that some of your foreign policy advisers are trying to make policy for you."

Carter replied, "I don't think anybody in my Administration doubts that I'm the one who sets the policy." He noted that he, Begin and Sadat had agreed on "a paragraph in the Camp David accords concerning Jerusalem" which called for "an undivided Jerusalem." The March 1 resolution referred repeatedly to "East Jerusalem" as part of the occupied Arab areas.

The President also stressed that there was nothing in the March 1 resolution "that established the permanent status of the West Bank and Gaza areas. That will be established after a five-year interval period, during which full autonomy is enjoyed by residents of the area."

Accordingly, he said, the March 1 resolution was "in violation of my policy." He added that he had "absolute confidence in Secretary (of State) Cyrus Vance," adding that he had observed Vance negotiating "days and days and weeks" to achieve "the security of Israel and the peace of Israel. It

was an honest breakdown in communications between me and the United Nations." I'm responsible for anything that goes wrong in this government and I'm also responsible, on occasion, for things that go right.

He said it was very difficult to say exactly how the communications breakdown occurred "but I made it known as quickly as I discovered it, that this resolution did violate policy and disavowed our vote for it."

### STRAINS BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL APPEAR TO BE DEVELOPING

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) — Strains appeared to be developing in Israeli-Egyptian relations over the weekend following President Anwar Sadat's complaint that Israel was dragging its feet in the autonomy negotiations and the sharp response by Israel's chief negotiator, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, who suggested that the delegations start dealing with the "difficult problems pertaining to the character and substance of proposed autonomy."

Sadat said, in an interview with writer Amos Elon published in Haaretz last Friday, that he was "partly disappointed" with Israel because of the failure to make progress in the autonomy talks and the Israel lobby's efforts in Washington to thwart the supply of advanced American arms to Egypt. Sadat also warned that if there is no progress on autonomy by the May 26 deadline set by the Camp David accords, "a new situation" would arise. He would not elaborate.

Burg, for his part, sent cables over the weekend to his negotiating partners, Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil of Egypt, and U.S. Special Ambassador Sol Linowitz, suggesting that they step up the pace of the autonomy talks by scheduling weekly plenary sessions while the lower-level working groups continue their meetings as before. The three top negotiators last met at The Hague on February 28-29 but little progress was reported.

### Trade Talks Break Off

Another sign that Israeli-Egyptian relations were not running smoothly less than a month after the two countries exchanged ambassadors was the break-off in trade negotiations in Tel Aviv today. The Egyptian delegation left the country without reaching a trade agreement with Israel. The parties decided to continue their talks but no time or place were set. The negotiations are concerned with a customs agreement, the transfer of goods from one country to the other and procedures for issuing import and export licenses.

Sadat referred indirectly to trade relations in his Haaretz interview. When asked about the prospects for joint economic projects with Israel, he said they would have to wait until a comprehensive peace settlement is achieved, meaning a solution of the Palestinian problem.

The Egyptian leader insisted that while the autonomy talks have bogged down they have not broken down. "We have stopped half way toward the cornerstone of an overall peace settlement in the Palestinian issue. But we have made progress on this. I am very sorry, very, very sorry. But the autonomy talks are not a failure yet. No, no, not that. But there has been no progress, no progress," Sadat said.

He said that Egypt, for its part, has implemented the normalization of relations fully and more quickly than expected. He conceded that Israel, too, has fulfilled its part of the peace treaty pertaining to the withdrawal of forces from Sinai to the letter. With respect to a "new situation" if the May 26 deadline is not met, Sadat said he "never crosses bridges until I come to them."

Sadat noted that as part of the normalization process Israelis and Egyptians can now visit each other's country. Israelis can drive their cars across Sinai into Egypt, he said. Last night Israel and Egypt initiated an air agreement, effective today, providing for six flights a week between Tel Aviv and Cairo, three by El Al and three by Nefertiti, the new Egyptian airline established to fly the route. Actually, the flights began two weeks ago.

Sadat appeared to be particularly disturbed by Israeli objections to the supply of American arms to Egypt. He insisted that Egypt has no intention to use them against Israel but pro-Israel and Jewish spokesmen in Washington are working against them. "Why is this? Does Begin not trust me?" the Egyptian leader asked. He suggested that the psychological barriers have not yet come down in Israel. He asserted that 99 percent of the Egyptian people supported normalization and his policies.

### KENNEDY RAPS U.S. POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 16 (JTA) — Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) charged today that the Carter Administration has shifted its policy toward Israel and cited as evidence of this the U.S. support of the UN Security Council's anti-Israel resolution of March 1, even though it was subsequently disavowed by President Carter.

Kennedy declared that the U.S. vote was not only a "blunder of major significance and proportions" but also a reversal of U.S. policy that extended far beyond the Jerusalem issue. Speaking to Jewish journalists at the Sheraton Inn at LaGuardia Airport this afternoon, he challenged Carter's explanation that the vote was a "mistake" due to a failure in communications. "Why did they have to wait two days to decide it was a mistake?" he asked.

He called on the Administration to waive executive privilege in a Congressional inquiry on this issue scheduled for this week, so that the facts of the episode can be made available to the American people and so that the American people will know whether there has been a major shift in U.S. policy.

"This is not just a Jewish issue," he said, "but a foreign policy issue in the area of the world that is vital to American security. So every American should be concerned with Carter's apparent shift in policy toward Israel as contained in the UN resolution."

Kennedy was joined at the press conference by Dr. Benjamin Levich, the highest ranking Jewish scientist ever allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union. Levich left the USSR on November 30, 1978 following intervention by Kennedy on his behalf. Levich said Kennedy's "concern and the persistence of his efforts on my behalf resulted in my being allowed to leave." Kennedy said in response that he regards the Soviet Jewry issue as one of "highest priority" and "in a Kennedy Administration we will continue to make this a major concern."

## UJA LEADER SAYS TREND IN U.S.

### JEWISH GIVING IS UP, NOT DOWN

PHILADELPHIA, March 16 (JTA) — American Jewish fundraising has reached new heights and shows every sign of achieving even greater gains in the decade of the 1980's, Iwin Field, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal declared here.

In a meeting of UJA national officers and regional chairmen hosted by Philadelphia's campaign and community leaders, Field reported that the nationwide 1980 campaign, now past the half-way mark, was continuing to register an increase of more than 17 percent over 1979 campaign pledges.

Results to date represent the largest sums raised, at the earliest date, with the active participation of more communities, than at any time since the 1974 campaign which began with the Yom Kippur War, he reported. For the first time since 1974, Field stated, a campaign total of more than \$500 million is assured.

"This unprecedented flow of peacetime pledges," he said, "is a reality that must sweep aside all unfounded predictions of reduced American philanthropic giving. The majority of our communities are in the midst of their most productive and fastest-paced campaigns in six years. The potential of American Jewry — despite any and all psychological and pseudo-demographic prophecies of doom and gloom — is unlimited. I fully expect that new records in giving will be established year after year, throughout this decade."

### Signs Of Success

An immediate test of Field's projection of escalating campaigns was posed by guest speaker Akiva Lewinsky, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, in a graphic presentation of the Agency's budget of needs in the coming year. Campaign income at current levels, he indicated, would not meet the cost of already reduced programs and services. A campaign exceeding this year's, the assembled leaders agreed, would have to be achieved in 1981.

Responding, UJA national chairman-designate Herschel Blumberg outlined a comprehensive planning process, already under way, for structuring and carrying out the 1981 campaign. Field pointed to this vigorous early pre-campaign activity as evidence that the spirit of American Jewish philanthropy was "energized, not enervated." He credited much of the resurgence to intensively increased cooperation between UJA and Council of Jewish Federation leadership in planning, implementing and communicating the issues of the 1980 campaign.

Other indications of this positive climate included significant gains in participation and pledges for Project Renewal, it was reported by Robert Russell, chairman of the UJA Project Renewal Coordinating Committee. A pilot project for a sweeping new national program for obtaining new campaign gifts was introduced by UJA national vice chairman Herbert Solomon. Marvin Demchick, campaign chairman, forecast a peak peace-year campaign in 1980 and an even better showing in 1981.

The meeting here was the latest in a series initiated by Field, bringing UJA's national and

regional leadership together in major American communities.

## AJ CONGRESS HAILS MASSACHUSETTS COURT RULING ON SCHOOL PRAYER

BOSTON, March 16 (JTA) — The American Jewish Congress hailed an order of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts declaring unconstitutional a state law requiring public school teachers to set aside a period at the beginning of each school day for "voluntary prayer."

Lawyers for the AJ Congress, joined by attorneys from the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, challenged the constitutionality of the statute on Feb. 5, the day it went into effect, in behalf of public school children and their parents in Framingham and Marblehead, Mass.

The court last Thursday issued a brief order striking down the statute and enjoining the state Commissioner of Education and local school officials from enforcing it. A brief statement accompanying the order said a more formal opinion or opinions would follow. The order did present a brief explanation of the ruling.

The court observed that prayer was an invocation of the deity, whether the applicant sought a spiritual or secular end. The court also cited a 1963 U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Schempp case, which outlawed the practice of Bible-reading in public schools, and the 1962 ruling in the case of Engel v. Vitale. In accordance with that decision, the Massachusetts court said it was irrelevant that those reciting the prayer were volunteers and that students who decided to be excused were afforded an opportunity to do so.

Alexandra Moses of Boston, president of the New England Region of the AJ Congress, said: "The decision of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts in striking down the state law requiring prayers in public schools as unconstitutional is a major victory for religious liberty and separation of church and state...."

"Unfortunately, state legislatures from time to time accede to the views of those who seek to circumvent the First Amendment. Today's (Thursday's) decision is a welcome sign that one state court, at least, recognizes its constitutional duty to follow the U.S. Supreme Court, which nearly 20 years ago prohibited praying and Bible-reading in the public schools."

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Tel Aviv municipal awards for Yiddish literature named after Mendel Mocher Sefonim were given last week by Deputy Mayor Yitzhak Artzi to the monthly, Di Goldene Keit, for its contribution to Yiddish literature and marking the publication of its 100th issue, and to the Yiddish daily, Letzte Noyes, for its contribution towards the integration of Yiddish-speaking immigrants in Israel and marking its 30th anniversary.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Jewish National Fund announced this weekend the annual youth Bible quiz. Winners in the quiz will comprise Israel's youth Bible team who will compete on Independence Day with teams representing Jewish youth from abroad for the title of world Bible champion. The chairman of the quiz's judicial board is Moshe Rivlin, who is also the chairman of the JNF. Other judges will be writer Yosef Shoar and Prof. Haim Gevaryahu, chairman of the Israel Biblical Society.