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CARTER TO MEET SEPARATELY WITH BEGIN, SADAT IN WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH TO REVIEW PROGRESS OF AUTONOMY TALKS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA).-- The White House announced today that President Carter will meet separately with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel in Washington next month but the "exact dates are undecided." (Related story P. 3.)

Presidential Press Secretary Jody Powell, who made the announcement, said "The purpose is to review the progress and pace of the autonomy negotiations for the West Bank and Gaza. The negotiations are being conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Camp David accords signed by all three leaders on September 17, 1978."

A short time later, at a second briefing, Powell announced that special Ambassador Sol Linowitz, President Carter's envoy to the autonomy talks, will leave within a day or two for Egypt and Israel to meet with the leaders of those countries and will then go to Alexandria to attend the plenary session of the autonomy negotiations next week. The last plenary session was held in The Hague on Feb. 28-29.

Powell said "The purpose of his trip will be to pursue the negotiations and, of course, to that purpose has now been added the preparations for the meetings" of Carter with Sadat and Begin in April. Asked whether the President is averse to a summit meeting of all three leaders and why they will be meeting separately, Powell replied:

"The reason for these meetings is that all of the parties to the Camp David accords felt that the time was appropriate, given the importance of the issues under negotiation and the May 26 goal, and for the architects of the Camp David accords to discuss the progress made to date and explore means to move forward. It was the judgement of those involved that this would be best accomplished under the format I described."

Says May 26 Is 'Goal,' Not 'Deadline'

Pressed repeatedly as to whether progress in the autonomy talks has come to a halt and that the May 26 goal may not be reached, the White House spokesman pointed out that "These are meetings in support of the ongoing negotiations" and that it is "a different situation than what we faced in the summer of 1978" when "there was no framework for discussions, very little agreement on any issues and no peace" between Egypt and Israel.

Powell suggested to reporters that they should not lean in the direction that the upcoming meetings are a "process" toward a summit meeting between the three leaders. "These meetings are not to replace the negotiating process but to support the existing process," he said.

Powell also insisted that the May 26 date is a "goal," not "a deadline." But, he said, "every effort will be made to indeed meet that goal and that is the clear hope of those concerned." Earlier in the week Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Israel both made similar statements. Begin said that May 26 "is not a so-called deadline or ultimate date." Shamir also stated that May 26 is merely a desired date.

Powell emphasized several times that the

talks have not been deadlocked. Asked if they were stalled, he said, "No, I won't agree with that characterization." He said the talks in Washington "are not related" to the United Nations Security Council's anti-Israeli resolution of March 1 which the U.S. supported and which Carter later repudiated. Powell said the meetings have been under discussion "at least a couple of weeks" but the invitations were "formally" extended yesterday by Carter who spoke to Sadat and Begin.

Asked if the visits to Washington by the Israeli and Egyptian leaders might overlap, Powell said "No, that is not the scenario at all." He said he did not know whether Begin or Sadat would come to Washington first.

Jerusalem Not Mentioned

When it was pointed out that his announcement of the meeting referred to the West Bank and Gaza Strip but did not mention the issue of Jerusalem which had figured prominently in the Security Council's March 1 resolution, Powell said: "Jerusalem is not part of the autonomy talks except only in a potential way, regarding the status of the residents of East Jerusalem with respect to voting on the self-governing authority."

At that point, one of Powell's aides intervened to say that "Jerusalem is not part of the Camp David accords as such." Powell had mentioned earlier that the issues involved in the autonomy negotiations could be broken down into "two general areas." One is "how the self-governing authority will be selected or elected" and the other is "the power, authority and responsibilities of the self-governing authority."

Powell pointed out that "These issues are both extremely difficult and extremely important to both Egypt and Israel. These are issues everybody recognized would have to be dealt with at the highest level." Later, he added, "It has been understood these questions would have to be resolved by the leaders" and that "the possibility President Carter would be involved should be no great surprise to anybody."

In another development, it was disclosed today that President and Mrs. Carter will host a reception at the White House this Sunday to observe the first anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty which was signed in Washington last March 26. Some 700 guests have been invited, including delegations from the Egyptian and Israeli embassies. This is about half the number that attended the treaty-signing celebrations a year ago.

Observers noted that both the announcement of the Sadat and Begin visits in April and the reception came on the eve of the crucial New York Presidential primaries to be held March 25. The treaty celebration will take place three days before the actual anniversary date.

Another matter of interest to White House observers is that Carter is expected to announce in the near future the membership of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council which will consider recommendations by the President's Holocaust Commission of last October for a suitable Holocaust memorial.

SHAMIR URGES WEST EUROPEAN NATIONS TO REEXAMINE MOVE TOWARD THE PLO

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned the West European countries today that they could not profess friendship for

Israel and at the same time express support for the Palestine Liberation Organization and the creation of a Palestinian state. In his first speech in the Knesset since he became Foreign Minister a week ago, Shamir spoke in reply to four agenda motions which expressed concern over recent statements by West European governments, particularly West Germany and France, and Austria's extension of recognition to a PLO official in Vienna.

Shamir said that these countries which considered themselves friendly toward Israel were about to join the choir against Israel and aid those who want to end Israel's existence. "Europe should reexamine its policies and realize that such statements endanger peace," he said. He urged the Europeans to support the Camp David accords and to assist moderate forces in the Middle East.

According to Shamir, European support for the Palestinian cause was linked to Arab oil. He said that Israel had to improve its information campaign abroad to convince the world to support the peacemaking process and reject such groups as the PLO which want to destroy the Camp David accords. He praised the efforts of Jewish communities in West Europe in that connection. Last Sunday in London representatives of the largest Jewish communities of West Europe held a meeting in which they appealed to their governments and to the European Economic Community not to interfere in the Arab-Israeli peace process and expressed grave concern at the growing support for the PLO.

Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban of the opposition Labor Party, also accused the West European nations of "prejudicing the peace process" and "preferring their own particular interests to the general international welfare." But he blamed the Israeli government in part for the deterioration and urged it to suspend "those things which are provocative and superfluous." He suggested a freeze on settlements in the occupied territories for the next three months.

DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT TO CONSIDER LEAVING THE GOVERNMENT COALITION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- Deputy Premier Yigal Yadin, leader of the Democratic Movement (DM), has come under increasing pressure from a significant number of his colleagues to pull the party out of Premier Menachem Begin's coalition government. Yadin has resisted such a move at this time but he was overruled when the DM Secretariate agreed to meet this Sunday to consider proposals to quit the government.

Yisrael Granit, chairman of the Secretariate, and several other party leaders, met with Yadin last night. They urged him to leave the Likud-led coalition "in the national interest." They cited the government's failing popularity with the electorate and its settlement policy on the West Bank which the DM has consistently opposed with little effect. Another factor is the economic crisis which has contributed to the unpopularity of the present government.

Yadin used the argument of "national interest" to try to persuade his colleagues to postpone a decision. He stressed that the country faces very difficult times in the weeks and months ahead, at home and on the international diplomatic front. He said the DM should not be the factor which brings the government down thereby adding the impotency of a lame-duck caretaker regime to the nation's problems.

Under Israeli law, 100 days must elapse between the dissolution of the Knesset and new elections. In that period, the incumbent government continues to function as an interim administration. The secessionist-minded DM leaders were not impressed by Yadin's appeal and served notice that the Secretariate will discuss the issue on Sunday. Yadin immediately summoned home the DM's No. 2 man, Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir, who is presently visiting Canada.

Tamir shares Yadin's desire to remain in the coalition for the time being and the two party leaders are expected to rally others of like mind to head off the secessionist move. Some observers believe that the anti-coalition forces may win a majority in the Secretariate but it is not certain that they can prevail if the matter is presented for a vote to the party's much larger Central Committee, where Yadin and Tamir control a sizeable portion of the votes.

Guessing Who Will Benefit

With the possibility of a DM defection looming, Likud and the opposition Labor Party are each claiming that they will benefit. According to Likud circles, at least two DM members, Tamir and Akiva Nof, will join Likud and bring others with them, in which case the government would preserve its Knesset majority.

The Labor Party organ Davar claimed today that two DM Knesset members, Zaidan Atshe and Shlomo Eliahu, have already put out feelers to join the Labor Party. The DM presently has seven Knesset seats, less than half the 15 seats it won in the 1977 elections as the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC). The DMC split some time ago, the defectors forming the opposition Sha'i faction.

Meanwhile, rumblings of discontent have been heard from Begin's largest coalition partner, the National Religious Party. Its leader, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, spoke publicly last week about the prospect of early elections. But the NRP Knesset faction decided to defer further discussion. Like Yadin, the NRP does not want to take responsibility for bringing down the government.

VANDALS DEFACE TOMBSTONES

BONN, March 19 (JTA) -- Vandals defaced 74 gravestones with Nazi symbols and slogans in the non-Jewish Berlin-Frohmam cemetery last night. Police suspect that the perpetrators belong to neo-Nazi groups. Swastikas were smeared on 20 of the gravestones and others were painted with the characters SS in runic letters and such slogans as "Heil Hitler" and "Juden Raus" (Jews get out). Swastikas and other Nazi symbols were found carved on nearby trees.

Meanwhile, a number of West German newspapers published articles today on Albert Speer, who was Hitler's Minister for Armaments during World War II, on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Speer was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his part in the Nazis' forced labor program. He was released from Spandau prison in 1966 and has since published several volumes of memoirs.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Defense Ministry denied Wednesday reports that Defense Minister Ezer Weizman made a three-day secret visit to South Africa last weekend to discuss "security matters." The reports, based on one which first appeared in Maariv, claimed that Weizman was sent to South Africa by Premier Menachem Begin and only a few Cabinet ministers knew about it. Begin and Weizman reportedly held a lengthy meeting Tuesday but no details were given.

GOVERNMENT LOSES VOTE ON HEBRON

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) — The government was defeated by one vote in the Knesset yesterday on a motion related to the proposed settlement of Jews in Hebron. Likud Whip Pessach Grupper said later that the vote reflected widespread feeling within the Likud faction against the proposal to settle Jews in the heart of that West Bank Arab town. The motion was not one of confidence and therefore the government's defeat has no constitutional repercussions.

Labor Party dove Yossi Sarid presented the motion, calling on the government to evacuate the "Hadassah women," a group of Kiryat Arba women squatters in a Jewish-owned building in Hebron, and urging the government not to settle Jews in other Jewish-owned properties in the city. Sarid argued that Premier Menachem Begin's oratory influenced the Cabinet a month ago to affirm the "right in principle" of Jews to live in Hebron. Now, with many ministers firmly opposing actual settlement of Jewish families there, the Premier proposed to "climb halfway down" by suggesting the establishment of a Jewish museum or yeshiva in the city.

"Do not leave us scorched earth," Sarid declared. He contended that such a policy would provoke Jewish-Arab unrest and harm the peace process.

Motion Carried 36-35

Mordechai Wirshubski of Shai proposed that the motion be transferred to the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Nissim, replying for the government, insisted that it be struck off the agenda altogether. In the vote, several Likud MKs quietly absented themselves from the plenum and the Shai motion was carried by 36-35.

Defending the government's failure to carry out its own long-standing decision to evacuate the "Hadassah women," Nissim recalled that the Labor government too had failed to implement decisions they had taken to dismantle West Bank settlements, in particular the settlement of Kaddum.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet debate on Hebron resettlement, postponed for several weeks running and last scheduled for next Sunday, is expected to be postponed again. U.S. special Ambassador Sol Linowitz is due here this weekend and will meet with Begin Sunday evening. Under the circumstances, observers noted that Begin will not want either a decision for settlement — which will inevitably draw a stinging U.S. reaction — or a tough dispute in the Cabinet which would inevitably be leaked out before his meetings with the American diplomat.

HUSSEIN ALSO TO MEET WITH CARTER

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA) — A White House official said today that King Hussein of Jordan will meet with President Carter in Washington following the President's separate meetings with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel here next month. This statement was issued following the earlier announcement of the meetings between Begin and Sadat with Carter. The official, who asked not to be identified, said Hussein was invited last January and his visit probably would take place late in April or early in May.

He said the Jordanian ruler's visit does not tie in directly with the talks between Carter and Sadat and Carter and Begin which he described as "two consultative summits." He said those talks will include bilateral exchanges as well as discussions of the autonomy negotiations. According to the official, Carter decided to initiate the talks with Sadat and Begin at a meeting with his foreign policy advisors on Feb. 18.

YOUTH GROUP JOINS THE CZF

By Michael Solomon

TORONTO, March 19 (JTA) — The Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF) has approved as its 13th member a youth group which requires all of its members to make aliya within six years of joining the organization. The group, Telem, a Hebrew acronym for the Movement for Zionist Fulfillment, is dedicated to promote aliya, the Hebrew language, Jewish education and the absorption of immigrants into Israeli society.

Telem, whose representatives promised to "change the stagnant status quo of the Zionist movement," was admitted during the two-day CZF 15th national convention at the Harbour Castle Hotel. Philip Givens, chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Commission, was reelected to his third three-year term as CZF president.

Some CZF members said there was little need for the new group, which was founded last year, since aliya is fundamental to Zionism. But the Telem representatives replied that "the Zionist movement has lost sight of its original goals of education, Jewish identification and aliya." They said these goals had been replaced by politics, fund-raising and lack of commitment to Zionism.

"Maybe it is because we have lost this courage of pursuing aliya that we are so preoccupied with selling Israel to the world," Howard Weiss, a Telem representative, said.

Irwin Cotler, a law professor at McGill University in Montreal, warned the delegates that Zionism must face a new wave of anti-Jewish feeling at a time when they must also deal with internal problems. "The problem facing Jews is not the assault from without, that is a permanent part of Jewish history," he said. "The problem becomes a confrontation from within."

Cotler said that in the face of worldwide hostility, some Jews are beginning to debate whether a Jewish State is an obstruction to peace. He warned Zionists living outside Israel not to be content with an affluent lifestyle rather than accepting the rigorous life of Israel.

In resolutions adopted at the CZF policy-making session, members were urged to enroll their children in Zionist youth movements, establish scholarship funds for Zionist youths and send their children to Jewish day schools. The CZF commended the Israel government for its peace treaty with Egypt, condemned terrorism and asked the Canadian government to help bring to Israel the estimated 25,000 Falasha Jews living in Ethiopia.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The State Department cautioned Syria Wednesday to adhere to its 1974 agreement with Israel on disengagement on the Golan Heights. The caution came after it was reported that the Syrian government has agreed to allow the Palestine Liberation Organization to use the Golan Heights as a springboard for attacks on Israel. A Department spokesman said that raids across the disengagement area by armed groups or individuals would violate the agreement.

SOVIET JEWISH JOURNALIST GETS 5-YEAR JAIL TERM; HIS PROPERTY SEIZED

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) — Igor Guberman, the 44-year-old Jewish journalist and author, was sentenced to five years imprisonment and confiscation of his property at his trial on March 11, the National Council on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) reported it had learned today. The NCSJ said it had no information as to the fate of a Jewish photographer who refused last fall to incriminate Guberman. The Jewish photographer was one of three co-defendants who went on trial with Guberman. Two of them are convicted criminals, one of whom has served a jail sentence for larceny, and the third was the Jewish photographer.

Guberman was arrested last Aug. 13 and held incommunicado. He was sentenced on false charges of trafficking in stolen icons. Starting in 1973, Guberman, an active contributor to the underground publication, "Jews In the USSR," had been approached by KGB agents, who were seeking information on Moscow activists. The KGB harassment increased after December, 1978, when Igor, his wife Tatiana, and two children applied for exit visas to Israel.

After months of repeated refusals by Guberman to cooperate with the secret police, the KGB arrested Guberman on false charges of buying and selling of icons, the NCSJ said. He had, in fact, been collecting medieval relics for many years, a practice not forbidden by Soviet law, the NCSJ said.

The NCSJ said the trial of Guberman was held in Dimitrov, a town near Moscow. The agency said it had no information on what action the Dimitrov court took against the three co-defendants, or whether there had been any police action against Guberman's wife and two children.

Nature Of The Evidence

According to information made available to the NCSJ, evidence which surfaced during the trial demonstrated that the two hard-core criminals had been burglarizing homes since 1973. In connection with the burglaries, stolen goods from 29 homes were cited as being sold to various buyers, two of whom served as witnesses. One witness, Filipov, confessed buying 60 icons on several different occasions.

Other witnesses included alleged victims of the burglaries. They admitted during the trial that they never filed complaints against the defendants and, in fact, never saw any of the stolen property exhibited as evidence. Most of the so-called evidence against Guberman was carried in the testimony of the two convicted criminals who testified that in 1978 Guberman bought 10 or 11 icons, knowing that they were stolen. They also admitted that they were guaranteed shorter, more lenient sentences if Guberman were found guilty.

According to informed sources in the Soviet Union, the defending attorney asked that all charges against Guberman be dropped because of lack of evidence. In opposition, the prosecutor argued in his summation that Guberman organized the thefts and, in fact, enticed the others into committing the actual crimes. The NCSJ also said that according to reports from the USSR, the prosecutor said: "In spite of the fact that there is no concrete evidence against Guberman, I am sure the witnesses told the truth and Guberman is guilty of all the above crimes." He then asked the judge for a sentence of five years imprisonment, with an added penalty of property confiscation.

The NCSJ reported that the majority of Moscow Jewish activists say that authorities in their quest to keep Jewish emigration under tight control, are trying to stop the publication of "Jews In the USSR" and to discourage those now on the fringe from becoming emigration activists. They especially fear that Guberman's trial and subsequent sentence may become "the first step in a clamp-down on Jewish activists."

REPORT NEW RESTRICTIONS WILL BAR SOVIET JEWISH EXIT APPLICANTS FROM SOVIET OLYMPIC CITIES

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) — Reports of new regulations that would drive Jewish exit applicants out from the five Soviet Olympic cities for 2 1/2 months during the summer have reached the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ). A spokesman for the SSSJ explained that while the major Olympic Games will be held in Moscow, auxiliary Games will be held in four other cities.

According to the information first seen posted at a Moscow emigration office, exit applicants living in the capital, Leningrad, Kiev, Minsk and Tallin will be barred from these cities from June 19, a month before the Olympics begin, through Sept. 3, a month after the Games, the two groups reported. Applicants residing in other cities will not be permitted to enter any of these cities during this period.

The SSSJ and UCSJ said new regulations have taken effect in Moscow which legally allow authorities to exile from the capital anyone considered drunk. This is not only aimed at the USSR's chronic and embarrassing alcoholism problem. In the past, scores of Jewish activists have been hauled off from demonstrations and placed in drunk tanks. This may now provide the "record" needed to banish them.

Reports which reached the West several months ago also asserted that Moscow parents, Jew and non-Jew alike, were being pressured to remove their children and teenagers from the capital during the Games to avoid "contamination" from Western tourists, the two groups reported.

On another issue, the SSSJ and UCSJ said that in Leningrad, Jews seeking emigration applications must now write to the local emigration office chief and prove their immediate family relationship to the person sending the necessary "invitation" document from Israel. The potential applicant must state his desired date of departure and destination.

LEAP YEAR BAR MITZVAH AT AGE 52

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA) — At the age of 52, Gilbert Schrier celebrated his 13th birthday and his Bar Mitzvah in Temple Mount Sinai, the Reform synagogue in El Paso. How come? Schrier was born in a Leap Year — Feb. 29, 1928 — and therefore his birthday comes only once every four years. "My father was a deeply religious man," Schrier recalled in a telephone interview. "One of the disappointments of his life was that I wasn't Bar Mitzvah. This was a chance for me to make up for it."

Schrier, born in Chicago where his late father, Henry Israel Schrier, was a small dry goods merchant, is a member of Temple Mount Sinai where his two sons had their Bar Mitzvahs and his two daughters were confirmed. El Paso has a thousand Jewish families and two synagogues — Orthodox and Reform. Schrier, who has been living in the southwest since the end of World War II, heads an insurance company in El Paso.