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BEGIN: AUTONOMY ACCORD ATTAINABLE IF PARTIES ADHERE TO CAMP DAVID

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin departed for the U.S. this morning for two days of talks with President Carter, saying he was convinced that an agreement could be reached on autonomy if all parties adhere to the letter of the Camp David agreements. But in remarks to reporters at Ben Gurion Airport, Begin was unyielding on a suspension of settlements on the West Bank for the duration of the autonomy talks, a gesture sought by the U.S. and Egypt.

"We cannot freeze the settlement plans as was done during the Camp David talks. Settlement is our unchallenged right and important for our security," Begin declared. He said that to the best of his knowledge no proposal exists to implement autonomy on the Gaza Strip before it is applied to the West Bank.

According to Begin, that subject could be discussed only after the negotiations on the nature and scope of autonomy are completed. He said nothing would be amiss if the negotiations continued beyond the May 26 target date.

'White House Is Waiting For Us'

Begin stressed that he has been notified by Carter that no conclusions or decisions were reached during his talks with President Anwar Sadat in Washington last week. "The White House is waiting for us," he said. The Premier stated that he would propose to Carter that the talks continue to be held alternately in Tel Aviv and Cairo although the negotiators could meet in Washington from time to time. This is the view of the Israeli Cabinet. The U.S. was expected to suggest that all parties convene in Washington for marathon sessions until an agreement on autonomy is achieved.

Speaking on other matters, Begin insisted that Israel is pulling its forces out of south Lebanon at its own volition, not under pressure from the U.S., although there were contacts with the Americans on that issue.

He indicated that he expected Israel to boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow this summer. "We cannot continue to do business as usual after what happened in Afghanistan," he said. "The final decision rests with the (Israel) Olympic Committee but I shall meet with its members as soon as I return from the U.S." The Olympic Committee has until May 23 to decide but Begin said that as far as he is concerned, Israel should not participate in the Moscow events. (Related story P.4.)

ISRAEL SOOTHES ANXIETIES OVER SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 14 (JTA) -- Officials here have been hard pressed by several foreign ambassadors -- as have Israeli ambassadors in a number of European countries -- over the recent violent clashes in south Lebanon between Maj. Saad Haddad's Christian militia and units of the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The Irish ambassador to Israel, a non-resident stationed in Athens, was hurriedly ordered to Jerusalem last week and is still here,

making anxious representations to the Foreign Ministry, Norway, which also has a unit in UNIFIL, has been among the most forceful of the countries expressing concern over the south Lebanon situation. Norway's protest was focussed on the alleged shelling by Haddad's artillery of a field hospital manned by Norwegian personnel.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir told the Irish envoy, Sean Ronan, yesterday that Israel was doing its utmost to restore quiet in the areas held by Haddad which are just across the border from Israel. The same message has been conveyed to the other countries that have expressed their anxiety.

Report Disenchantment With Haddad

Some well placed sources in Jerusalem indicated today that Israel had become somewhat disenchanting with Haddad in view of his recent behavior towards UNIFIL. Despite Israel's many complaints that UNIFIL is soft in dealing with the Palestine Liberation Organization in keeping PLO terrorists out of the area under its control, there is apparently a feeling in some government quarters here that Haddad's repeated violent clashes with various UNIFIL units is causing Israel grave harm abroad.

These sources said that the army's entry into south Lebanon last week should be seen, among other things, as a signal to Haddad that Jerusalem no longer has full confidence in his running of the enclaves under his command.

BEGIN WOULD MEET WITH REAGAN

JERUSALEM, April 14 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin would not turn down an opportunity to meet with Republican Presidential frontrunner Ronald Reagan if Reagan made an overture during Begin's U.S. visit. This was clearly indicated to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today by a senior aide in Jerusalem who is close to the Premier.

The aide indicated that there had been some discussion within Begin's staff on the possibility of a meeting with Reagan. But no arrangements had been made. It was not clear from the aide whether there had been contacts between Jerusalem and Reagan's campaign headquarters.

BLUM TELLS UN COUNCIL ISRAEL HAS DUTY TO TAKE ALL MEASURES TO PROTECT LIVES AND SAFETY OF ITS PEOPLE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, April 14 (JTA) -- "The government of Israel, like any other government, has the right, indeed the duty, to take all measures necessary to protect the lives and safety of its citizens," Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Yehuda Blum, told the Security Council today. The Council met for the second time to discuss the situation in south Lebanon after a brief meeting yesterday on the subject at the request of the Lebanese government.

Yesterday's meeting was to discuss Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's special report on the current situation in Lebanon and followed consultations among Council members earlier in the day. The Lebanese request for the meeting was prompted by the entry of Israeli forces into south Lebanon last Wednesday in the aftermath of a terrorist attack on Kibbutz Misgav Am in upper Galilee last Monday.

"In the wake of the attack on Misgav Am and in light of information that the terrorist PLO was planning further outrages of this kind, the Israel Defense

force took certain limited measures, the purpose of which was to foil these plans," Blum declared. "The steps taken have been completed and all Israeli soldiers have completely withdrawn behind the border with Lebanon," he said.

Act Of Self-Defense

The Israeli envoy stated that Israel's action in south Lebanon was an act of "self-defense," a right which is recognized by the UN Charter. Blum told the Security Council that in the course of the last year, Israel has failed at least 10 attempts by PLO terrorists to cross the border into Israel from the area of operations of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Blum stated that the PLO in south Lebanon is threatening not only Israel but also the villagers in the area and the UNIFIL forces. "We fail to be persuaded that UNIFIL is prevented from doing more to stem PLO incursions because its attention is occasionally diverted to altercations with the local Lebanese forces. Such an argument is indeed a case of putting the cart before the horse," Blum said.

Noting that in the last decade, PLO terrorists and "thugs" have committed many atrocities and slaughtered Israeli children, Blum said "Israel has brought all these incidents to the attention of the Security Council and the Secretary General, but to no avail." He said that the local Lebanese forces in south Lebanon are the only protection of the villagers and villages in that area. "No credible alternative to those local forces has yet been presented," he said.

Blum maintained, however, that Israel cannot assume responsibility for the actions of the villagers in south Lebanon. "They act in accordance with what they judge to be a matter of their own survival!" he said.

Blum warned that there will be no long-term improvement in south Lebanon "until the PLO and all alien forces remove themselves or have been removed from Lebanese soil so that Lebanese independence, sovereignty and unity can be restored."

CARTER NAMES WASHINGTON LAWYER AS HIS LIAISON TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 14 (JTA) — President Carter has appointed Alfred Moses, a Washington lawyer who is chairman-designate of the American Jewish Committee's executive committee, as his new liaison with the American Jewish community, the White House has announced.

Moses, vice president for the past three years of the AJ Committee and a member of it for 15 years, will serve as an unpaid consultant to the President and continue his law practice. He is a trial lawyer and partner in the firm of Covington and Burling.

While filling the vacancy caused by the departure two months ago of Edward Sanders, who returned to Los Angeles where he has resumed his law practice, Moses will not, as Sanders did, also serve as a consultant to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance or receive a salary. His office will be in the White House. This position is his first experience in a federal civilian capacity.

Moses, who is 50 years old and a native of Baltimore, will consult with the President, Vance and other officials regarding matters of concern and interest to Jews but he will not take part in negotiations. In this connection, he will begin

his services with the discussions here tomorrow and Wednesday between Carter and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel.

For the past 20 years, Moses has been a member of the Keshet Israel Synagogue, an old-Orthodox congregation in Georgetown, and also for 10 years of the Conservative Congregation Tifereth Israel in Washington. Moses was graduated from Dartmouth in 1951 with a Bachelor's Degree in international relations. While serving as a Lieutenant in naval intelligence during the Korean War, he studied at Georgetown Law School where he was graduated in 1956.

FRENCH SOCIALIST LEADER FAVORS A PALESTINIAN STATE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 15 (JTA) — Socialist Michel Rocard, a serious challenger to Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in France's forthcoming Presidential elections, came out in favor of a Palestinian state today. Rocard said: "There can be no peace in the Middle East until a Palestinian state exists." He added that such a solution is, however, unlikely as "long as Israeli fears for its own existence."

Rocard told a press conference that while he personally welcomed the Camp David agreements he did not believe that they would provide a solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict. The Socialist leader, who is currently challenging party Secretary General François Mitterrand for the Socialist nomination for President, had hard words about Israel's diplomacy. He said it has "lacked imagination" and has often given the impression that "Israel rather welcomes tension as a method of unifying its people."

The Rocard declaration was a hard blow to Israel's friends in France who had hoped to counter the government's pro-Arab policy by threatening that the Jewish vote would go to the Socialist opposition. Rocard rapped Giscard for having made his statement about Palestinian self-determination abroad and for having failed to visit Israel as well. But he expressed himself in general agreement with the gist of the French President's declaration.

LEVI GRUNWALD DEAD AT 87

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) — An estimated 12,000 persons attended the funeral yesterday of Rabbi Levi Grunwald, who in 1941 established the first Hasidic congregation in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. Grunwald remained rabbi of the synagogue, Arugath Habasem, until his death Saturday at the age of 87.

Grunwald also founded the Arugath Habasem Yeshiva and Mesitha in Williamsburg. He is credited with Hasidic leaders with pressing for the establishment of kosher-processing laws in the United States. Born in Khust, then in Austria-Hungary, now in the Ukraine, Grunwald received his religious training from his father, Rabbi Moshe Grunwald. After serving as rabbi in Orsawa, Rumania, he became the leader of a congregation in Tzelemmer, Austria, and was known since then as the "Tzelemmer Rebbe." He came to Brooklyn in 1938.

NEW YORK (JTA) — The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee provided matzah to the some 100 Jews in Kabul, Afghanistan to enable them to celebrate the holiday of Passover, according to JDC executive vice president Ralph Goldman. He said the matzah, which is not available locally, was shipped from Europe.

WARNING SOUNDED AGAINST PALESTINIAN STATE AND PRESSURING ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 14 (JTA) — Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger strongly warned this week-end against moves that would establish a Palestinian state. Kissinger suggested quick negotiations for an agreement between Israel and Jordan that would forestall a Palestinian state that he and Jackson saw as disastrous for Israel.

In other discussions on the eve of the meetings here tomorrow and Wednesday between President Carter and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel, Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho) specifically warned against attempts to pressure Israel into surrendering positions essential to her nationhood, "including settlements."

Appearing on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation," Church was asked whether the Arab nations would "sell us enough oil" if, when Begin is in Washington, "we don't put some kind of pressure for a solution in the Middle East." The Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman replied:

"You know, that is another notion that just makes me wonder about the state of reality in this capital. When it comes to protecting their vital interests, the Israelis will not bend to pressure. Now, if we can demonstrate to Israel that the U.S. will stand with them in the future, as we have in the past, and there is no real basis for concern that they will be left isolated and alone, that is the way we can influence them the best, and in the past they have gone quite far to get peace."

Asked, "Is your answer no?" Church responded: "My answer is that you cannot pressure the Israelis into giving up items that they regard as essential to their survival as a free and independent nation. And therefore, our influence is best exercised when we are sensitive to their concern."

Issue Of Settlements

Jackson, appearing on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press," was asked whether he would use his influence with Begin to "persuade him to change his settlement policy" which, "President Carter and Sadat and a substantial section of Israeli opinion agree" is "an obstacle to peace."

Jackson replied: "I think the Israelis made a serious mistake in over-emphasizing the issue of settlements," but he said "clearly anyone has a right to settle in the West Bank area. That goes back to the Treaty of Versailles and the British Mandate."

Jackson added that "the key issue here is not the settlements," but "defensible borders." He continued: "If you have a completely sovereign and independent Palestinian state on the West Bank, obviously you run a dagger into the heart of the State of Israel. No way it can survive. And soon they (the Palestinians) could enter into a sovereign state, invite the Russians in. That's the end of Israel."

"So the issue should be how do you provide for local participation in government in the West Bank, and at the same time give to the State of Israel the security responsibility, to have defensible borders. Now that is the heart of it. And I regret that it has become a key issue on the part of some of the Israelis. And it's a mistake."

Addressing some 350 American, Canadian and British Jews behind closed doors Saturday night,

Kissinger said that a Palestinian state would be a disaster for Israel and the Middle East, for it would be another radical state tied to Iran. The Middle East, he said, is near collapse today and the only hope is rapid negotiations between Israel and Jordan, which would result in the transfer of Arab population and permit Israel to retain its security. He advised that the U.S. provide the credibility to give backup to Jordan, noting that in the last few years Jordan had no reason to trust U.S. words and support. He did not elaborate on the meaning of transfer.

Kissinger spoke at a dinner at the Kennedy Center sponsored by the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science. Reporters were barred from the dinner, but the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was able to obtain the gist of his remarks from among those attending.

Kissinger, who has been consistent since his services in the Nixon and Ford Administrations against Palestinian statehood, predicted the current autonomy process for the West Bank will lead to one demand after another upon Israel. To go further along on the present course of autonomy will mean Israel will face disaster, he observed.

Apart from recommending a speedy agreement between Israel and Jordan, Kissinger said he felt a new framework and definition of the Camp David formula is necessary. While critical of President Carter's foreign policy, Kissinger said that the Camp David agreement was an accomplishment, but that it required a new framework now. He said that a new definition of Camp David would mean the PLO would be seen as an Arab problem, not an Israeli problem.

RELIGIOUS LAWYERS TO CONSIDER LEGAL STATUS OF SETTLEMENTS

JERUSALEM, April 14 (JTA) — The National Religious Party (NRP) will form a select panel of "nationalist religious lawyers" to consider the legal status of the West Bank Jewish settlements and make recommendations to the party ministers on any required changes in the law. This was announced by NRP leader Yosef Burg, the Interior Minister, who is Israel's chief negotiator in the autonomy talks. The party is under increased pressure on the settlements issue in part due to the continuing hunger strike by the heads of the Jewish district councils on the West Bank. The West Bank settlers demand legal changes that would prevent future court challenges to settlements on Arab lands, as was the case with Elon Moreh. Burg stressed that the lawyers chosen to consider the settlements problem would be "national" and "religious" minded.

SHOCKED AT DESECRATION OF CEMETERY

TORONTO, April 14 (JTA) — The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has cabled Pierre Maillard, the French Ambassador to Canada, expressing shock at the desecration last week of 22 Canadian Jewish graves in the military cemetery in Normandy. The 22 Jewish soldiers were among 1000 Canadian soldiers who were killed in the Allied landings in Normandy which heralded the liberation of France from Nazi occupation. The 22 tombstones were overturned and smashed and vandals scrawled anti-Semitic slogans on them.

Robbi W. Gunther Plaut, CJC president, and Alan Rose, CJC executive vice president, in their cable to Maillard, expressed the hope that an investigation will expose the culprits and bring them to justice. The cable was also sent to Daniel MacDonald, Canada's Veterans Affairs Minister, urging that restoration and repair of the graves be undertaken.

ISRAEL HAS TILL MAY 23 TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO BOYCOTT OLYMPICS By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) — Israel has until May 23 to decide whether or not to boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow this summer. The decision will have political ramifications and could possibly affect Israel's future participation in international sports events, according to Yitzhak Ofek, chairman of the Israel Olympic Committee.

The decision by the American Olympic Committee to stay out of the Games at President Carter's behest because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is bound to be a factor in the Israeli decision. Ofek noted that Israel will have to take into consideration the U.S. attitude and that of the West European countries.

On the other hand, he said, Israel has fought consistently against attempts to inject politics into sports. It would be difficult, therefore, for it to explain a boycott of the Olympics. A boycott may also endanger Israel's precarious position in the sports world which has come increasingly under the grip of politicians, he noted. Many attempts have been made by the Arab countries and some of their Third World and Communist allies to keep Israel out of international events.

Israel must also take into consideration the fact that the presence of Israeli athletes in Moscow would be of great importance to Soviet Jews and could encourage aliyah, Ofek said.

YOM HASHOAH OBSERVED

WASHINGTON, April 14 (JTA) — Carrying out a custom in the Washington area, numerous homes lighted yartzheit candles Saturday night in observance of Yom Hashoah. At the Washington Hebrew Congregation Saturday night, 1000 persons gathered for a program sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington. Michael Berenbaum, the new executive director of the Council, Abe Malnik, a past president of Club Shalom, which comprises survivors of Nazi death camps, and Frances Rogala, a daughter of a survivor, spoke.

Yesterday, at the Washington Hebrew Congregation, Nazi-hunters Beate and Serge Klarsfeld of France spoke of their direct encounters with Nazis in the Middle East and Europe and called on governments to bring Nazis to justice. (In Toronto yesterday, Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, described to a gathering at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue his experiences in liberating the death camp at Nordhausen with U.S. forces on April 12, 1945.)

(In Amsterdam, Queen Juliana attended two ceremonies in memory of the more than 100,000 Dutch Jews who died in the Holocaust.)

GROUP OF SOVIET JEWS IN ISRAEL HIT ALLEGED MISHANDLING OF ABSORPTION By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) — Ma'oz, the organization of Soviet-Jewish immigrants in Israel, has demanded the resignation of Jewish-Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives chairman Leon Dulzin and the entire Jewish Agency staff for their alleged mishandling of the immigration and absorption of Soviet Jews. The Ma'oz leaders also demanded the resignation of Foreign Ministry officials involved in immigration matters.

Golda Yelin, secretary of Ma'oz, said at a

press conference here yesterday that a telegram calling for the resignations has been sent to Premier Menachem Begin. She said the organization is asking the government to investigate "gross failures" in the absorption of Soviet Jews, mainly academicians. She charged that this gave rise to the phenomenon of dropouts — Jews who leave the Soviet Union to go to countries other than Israel.

According to Yelin, the situation is as grave for Israel as was the Yom Kippur War, and those responsible for it should bear the consequences. She held her press conference on the eve of the latest Brussels Conference on Soviet Jewry which opens in Paris this week.

At the same time, Dulzin has asked Begin to use his good offices to see to it that new immigrants are not among the large numbers of workers being dismissed from their jobs as a consequence of the current economic retrenchment.

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE AWARD TO CARTER

WASHINGTON, April 14 (JTA) — Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science presented an honorary Ph.D. to President Carter in recognition of his role in bringing the heads of Egypt and Israel together at the peace table at Camp David. The presentation last Friday marked the opening of a three-day scientific conference of the Institute attended by some 400 persons which included delegations from Israel, Britain, West Europe, the United States and Canada.

In accepting the award, Carter noted that Chaim Weizmann, the British scientist and Zionist leader in whose name the Institute was founded in 1949, contributed to "the whole world." The President noted that "it is not a coincidence that two of Israel's Presidents — Weizmann and Ephraim Katzir — were scientists. Urging that morality be associated with science, Carter observed that the Nazis had scientific advantages but without morality, thus the Holocaust resulted.

Speaking of the just concluded visit by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Premier Menachem Begin's visit this week, Carter said the issues at stake "are indeed momentous." Carter also spoke of "the preservation of Israel and its security and the hope that Israel can hope to live in a spirit of brotherhood with all her neighbors."

Prof. Michael Sela, chairman of the Institute's International Board of Governors, said the "Weizmann Institute will do its best to serve the cause of peace through scientific exchange of genuine and concrete benefits to Israel, to Egypt and to those of the Arab states that may, one day, join us both." He noted that among the 400-odd basic and applied research projects now underway at the Weizmann Institute are some dealing with solar energy, the possible use of plants for the production of fuel, research in water resources and management and distribution, and most effective uses of desalination.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The cold attitude of the People's Republic of China toward Israel was displayed in a volleyball championship tournament between Israeli and Chinese high school girls in Bristol, England over the weekend. The contestants were the Israeli champions from the Khashmonayim school in Bat Yam and the champions of Shantung province. The latter demonstrated unsportsmanlike behavior when, after defeating the Israeli team 2-0, they refused to shake hands with their opponents, turned their backs and walked away.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's trade gap narrowed by 12% in the first quarter of 1980, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced.