

ISRAEL TRYING TO HEAD OFF UN ASSEMBLY SESSION ON PALESTINE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, July 15 (JTA) -- Israel is engaged in a last-minute effort in major capitals around the world to head off a special emergency session of the United Nations General Assembly on Palestine, scheduled to begin next week, sources here told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

But, the sources said, Israel stands no chance of avoiding the meeting which the Arab states and their supporters have been planning for some time and which they intend to use as a major offensive against Israel. According to these sources, the foreign ministers of leading Third World countries will participate in the special session in support of Arab and Palestine Liberation Organization claims against Israel.

The session was requested by the Arabs after a similar bid in the Security Council was vetoed by the United States. It will be held under a "united for peace" procedure which allows the General Assembly to assume some of the tasks of the Security Council when the latter is deadlocked by a veto.

Working Paper In Preparation

A working paper in preparation for the upcoming debate, inspired by the PLO, was circulated here. It calls on Israel "to completely withdraw its forces from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and urges that such withdrawal from all occupied areas should start no later than 15 November, 1980."

The working paper, which is a prelude to a draft resolution, also requests the Secretary General "to establish the necessary UN force to supervise and confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem." It calls further for the implementation of the right of the Palestinians for statehood and their return to their homes and property which they left or to receive compensation.

Says Session Is Illegal

An Israeli spokesman at the UN said that Israel will charge that the special meeting of the General Assembly is "illegal" and ignores the rules of procedure of the UN. The spokesman said, "We see in this upcoming session a continuation of the exploitation of the UN by the Arabs in their war against Israel." He noted that in the last few months, Israel has been condemned at the UN at least seven times.

Under UN rules, the Secretary General is required to canvass all member states before a special session can be called. A majority of 77 countries is necessary. So far only 10 have responded, nine of them supporting a special session. A UN spokesman said today that the U.S. replied in the negative.

KISSINGER IN ACCORD WITH GOP PLANKS ON MIDEAST, PLO, USSR

By Joseph Polakoff

DETROIT, July 15 (JTA) -- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said today, following a

45-minute private meeting with the expected Republican Presidential nominee Ronald Reagan, that "there is no disagreement between us on the Middle East."

"My views are compatible with the Republican platform," Kissinger told a press conference attended by some 300 reporters from around the world. He sharply criticized "the declaration of Venice" by the European Economic Community (EEC) heads of state last month which, among other things, maintained that the Palestine Liberation Organization must be associated with the Middle East peace process.

Kissinger reiterated the position he had taken as Secretary of State during the Nixon and Ford Administrations, in opposition to PLO participation in negotiations for a Mideast settlement and to a Palestinian state adjoining Israel. In response to questions about the Republican Party's foreign policy platform plank, Kissinger said, "I agree that the aim of the Soviet Union is to establish a predominant political position in the Persian Gulf area, and added, "I am opposed to a PLO state and to the PLO participating" in the autonomy talks.

The foreign policy plank, adopted by the GOP convention yesterday without dissent, rejected any call for PLO involvement in "an ultimate peace settlement," warned the Arab states that an oil embargo would be regarded as "a hostile act," and opposed Saudi Arabia's request for equipment to improve the range and offensive capabilities of its American F-15 jets.

With respect to the EEC, Kissinger said "I expressed my own views in Europe" about the Venice declaration. It "did not contribute to a solution of the issues between Israel and the Arab states."

PLO, ARAB, THIRD WORLD DELEGATES AT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE WALK OUT AS JIHAN SADAT TAKES THE ROSTRUM

By Edwin Eytan

COPENHAGEN, July 15 (JTA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization delegation to the world conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and most Arab delegates walked out today when Mrs. Jihan Sadat, wife of the Egyptian President, began to speak. The PLO and Arab rejectionist states' delegations were joined by delegates from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Cuba in the walkout which began as Mrs. Sadat started talking about "Arab Palestine."

(Meanwhile, it was disclosed in Israel today that a group of PLO and Swedish terrorists was "detained a few days ago by Swedish authorities while it was on its way to Copenhagen. It was learned that the gang intended to attack a hotel where El Al crews are staying and take them hostage. It was also learned that several Swedish members of the gang had spent some time in Israel disguised as volunteers in kibbutzim in order to collect information for the Arab terrorists. Another report said the gang was on its way to carry out several terrorist acts in Europe against Israeli installations.)

Mrs. Sadat, who heads the Egyptian delegation, looked nonplussed as the walkout began but continued reading from her prepared text during the disturbance which lasted several minutes. She said the Egyptian delegation is in favor of a resolution "demanding that Israel withdraw from the Arab lands occupied in 1967."

Egypt's First Lady also called for a resolution making "recommendations for specific measures to be taken to assist and support Palestinian women. Such

a resolution providing for international aid to be channeled through the PLO has been approved and submitted to the conference by the 77 Group, the organization of nonaligned states. Mrs. Sadat made no mention of a proposed Cuban amendment to the resolution which lists Zionism "as one of the major evils of the world."

In her speech, Mrs. Sadat said that "this task should be undertaken until the time comes when we see the success of the efforts made by Egypt, on its part in a spirit of honor, courage and honesty, for the affirmation of the rights of the Palestinian people to manage their own affairs on the way to self-determination. Thus, establishing a just and comprehensive peace for all the nations of the area."

At this point, she stopped reading from her text and taking off her glasses, added: "We (the Egyptian delegation) also want to reassert the right of all nations in countries in the area to live in peace and security within safe and recognized borders." The audience, which in spite of the walkout by some 100 delegates still consisted of over 2,000 women from over 120 countries, broke out into applause and cheers. The Israeli delegation, which by alphabetical order sits in the front row, joined in and Mrs. Sadat looked at them with a slight smile.

Before the conference formally started yesterday, she invited the head of the Israeli delegation, Israel's Ambassador to Norway Chava Hareli, to a brief "courtesy" meeting. Israeli and Egyptian sources say that no political issues were discussed.

Growing Danger Of New Anti-Zionist Measure

The Israeli delegation, consisting of half a dozen prominent women representing both the Knesset and major women's organizations, last night met with the delegates of major American Jewish women's organizations. Among those present were Hadassah president Bernice Tannenbaum and Betty Shabo of B'nai B'rith Women. The meeting was held in view of the growing danger of a new anti-Zionist declaration to be known as "the Copenhagen Declaration."

The Western powers on whom Israel counted for diplomatic support are currently trying to find a compromise solution which would maintain the proposed program of action, which provides for technical and economic assistance to women, especially in the Third World, while including the Cuban anti-Zionist amendment in a special preliminary declaration which they would oppose. The Western compromise would thus enable these countries to vote against the anti-Zionist declaration which would nonetheless be carried by a large majority and vote in favor of the program of action.

The Israeli delegation, as well as the representatives of the various American Jewish women's organizations had hoped for a more energetic Western response. The diplomatic advisor of the Israeli delegation, former Ambassador to the UN Dr. Ovadia Sofer, today met at length with the co-chairman of the U.S. delegation, UN Ambassador Donald McHenry.

Sofer and Hareli also called today on the conference chairman, Danish Education Minister Lise Oestergaard, to draw her attention to the psychological and moral implications for Denmark a country which had actively saved Jews during the Nazi occupation of Europe, for an anti-Zionist declaration to be made under the name "the Copenhagen Declaration." Mrs. Oester-

garde reportedly promised to do her best to try and tone down the Cuban amendment.

Holding Multilateral Talks

McHenry later told a press briefing that his delegation is holding permanent multilateral talks on this issue. "I hope that the final document would be very different from the suggestions now being made," he said. McHenry, who was answering a question from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said it would be inadvisable if the 1980 Copenhagen conference were to be remembered for its anti-Zionist stand. "I hope and trust that something more productive can emerge from here," he said. "The place where the Palestinian question should be debated and will be debated ad nauseum in a few days, is the General Assembly, not Copenhagen."

McHenry and the other U.S. co-chairperson, Sarah Weddington, an assistant to President Carter, met with representatives of the nonaligned nations late today to explain the American position. Israeli diplomats, who have been concerned about the anti-Israel resolution, expressed satisfaction with the American opposition to the move. Several Israelis said they had worked throughout the day closely with the Americans on the issue.

BEN-ELISSAR DISSATISFIED WITH THE PACE OF NORMALIZATION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 15 (JTA) -- Israel's Ambassador to Egypt, Eliahu Ben-Elissar, said he was dissatisfied with the pace of normalization in relations between Egypt and Israel. He said, in an interview here, that it was proceeding much more slowly than Israel had hoped or expected. But he maintained that he is still confident that Israel's expectations would be met.

The envoy returned to his post in Cairo today after a long weekend in Jerusalem during which he briefed Premier Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Chief of Staff Raphael Eitan and other officials on his perception of the current political situation in Egypt. Ben-Elissar, accompanied by his wife, Nitza, drove here from Cairo and back in his own car. It was the first time a car with Egyptian diplomatic license plates was seen in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, according to reports from Cairo, Israeli and Egyptian delegates ended three days of talks and remained deadlocked in their efforts to reach agreement on an agenda for the autonomy talks. The negotiations were resumed Sunday after being suspended for more than two months. The current talks are on the committee level. Israeli Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir and the Egyptian Minister of State, Butros Ghali, head their respective delegations. Tamir told reporters last night that a serious gap exists between the two sides but they agreed to hold the next committee meeting in Israel on July 28. Ghali said yesterday that agreement had been reached on only one agenda item out of some 30 items under consideration.

CHAIM SLAVIN DEAD AT 72

TEL AVIV, July 15 (JTA) -- Chaim Slavin, a Russian-born electrical engineer widely regarded as the father of Israel's military industries, died of a heart attack last week at the age of 72. He came to Palestine 56 years ago and was employed in hydroelectric projects until the late David Ben Gurion assigned him to organize underground arms production in the period before World War II.

Slavin, always a Zionist activist, was ordered out of the USSR in 1924 and arrived in Palestine penniless. His first regular job was at the Haifa

electric power station, a steam-generating plant. His abilities soon made him assistant to Pinchas Rutenberg who was then developing hydro-electric plants and eventually Slavin was placed in charge of the Tel Aviv power station, generating electricity for what was the largest city in Palestine.

When Ben Gurion summoned him to head the infant arms industry to produce weapons for Haganah, the Jewish defense force, Slavin converted what was largely a manual operation into an industrial production line, utilizing whatever obsolete machinery he could acquire. He left that work in the early 1940s, only to be recalled by Ben Gurion after World War II to acquire surplus arms and machinery in Europe and the U.S.

He came to America knowing no English. But with the help of friends he managed to purchase entire war surplus arms and ammunition factories at scrap iron prices. These were dismantled and shipped to Mandatory Palestine in crates falsely labeled "textile machinery."

Slavin personally supervised their reassembly in secret. After the State was founded, Slavin, an individualist who abhorred bureaucracy and red tape, left the military industry for the second time and turned his talents toward producing prefabricated housing. The innovations he introduced resulted in houses leaving the assembly plant 95 percent completed with only minimal work required at the building site.

SECURITY FORCES ARREST 4 ARABS IN ASSASSINATION PLOT AGAINST SHARON By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 15 (JTA) -- Security forces have arrested four Arabs from the Gaza Strip and charged them with a plot to assassinate Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon at his farm in the Negev. The four reportedly confessed they were recruited for the task by the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Sharon was apparently chosen because he is in charge of the Ministerial Settlement Committee and is the leading advocate in the Cabinet of increasing Jewish settlements in the West Bank. A reserve general, he is also a war hero, especially of the Yom Kippur War where he led the Israeli forces across the Suez Canal into Egypt.

The terrorists had apparently been planning the attack for a year. They had people working in packing houses near the Sharon farm where they could observe his habits.

According to reports, the four men arrested had planned to get jobs as farmhands on Sharon's farm. The terrorists had earlier stockpiled arms near one of the fruit-packing plants. They reportedly planned to attack the minister with explosives and firearms while he was in his house, thus circumventing his bodyguard and the electronic warning devices which surround the farm.

BEGIN REACTS STRONGLY TO CHARGES BY SADAT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 15 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin reacted strongly today to an interview by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat blaming Begin for the deadlock in the autonomy negotiations. Begin responded to Sadat in language similar to what Sadat used in an interview in the August issue of Readers Digest, saying the negotiations could be successfully completed within a matter of hours if the Egyptian President would "stick to the Camp David accords."

In the interview, Sadat said that "more than 90 percent of the Israeli people want peace. But it appears that Mr. Begin cannot bring himself to leave what he calls Judaea and Samaria because ... it is Biblical."

In a statement that he dictated at his home, where he is now recovering from a mild heart attack, Begin said that if Sadat wanted an agreement on the autonomy, he had to instruct his officials not to make proposals which contradicted the Camp David accords. These proposals constituted a threat to the security of Israel and its future, Begin said.

"I, too, could have said that 95 percent of the Egyptian people want peace unlike the Egyptian government," Begin said. "But there is no need for that."

Begin rejected Sadat's complaint that if he, Begin, would have given different instructions to the autonomy delegation, they could have reached a quick agreement. He said the difference between the Israeli and Egyptian regimes was that in Egypt Sadat could instruct his officials whatever he liked, in Israel the Premier had no such authority. Only the Cabinet could make decisions, which guide the Israeli delegation to the negotiations, Begin stressed.

Egyptian Proposals Contradict Camp David

Begin outlined the Egyptian proposals which contradicted the Camp David accords: the redivision of Jerusalem, the nature of autonomy, and the security question. Begin concluded his reaction as follows:

"President Sadat expects from me that I should go back on my conviction that Eretz Yisrael is the land of my forefathers. It is my duty to reply to him -- with respect, friendship and calmness -- that this expectation is but an illusion. Eretz Yisrael is the land of our forefathers. Every Jew, Christian and Moslem knows this truth."

TED MANN FOR CARTER

JERUSALEM, July 15 (JTA) -- Theodore Mann, immediate past chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, has come out publicly in support of President Carter's reelection. Speaking at a public debate here organized by the American Jewish Congress, Mann said: "We are not trying to choose the perfect President, but only the best one. With all his weaknesses and mistakes, Jimmy Carter comes out first -- as the best candidate by far -- as I weigh all the factors in the balance."

Howard Squadron, Mann's successor at the Presidents Conference, predicted that Jews would play a crucial role in determining the outcome of the American Presidential election because of their heavy representation in New York State which Carter "must win" to gain reelection. No Democrat in this century had been elected without winning either N.Y. or California, he noted, and it was to be assumed that Ronald Reagan, a local man and a former governor, would top Carter in California.

Squadron warned that unless there were progress soon in the autonomy talks, the pressure on Israel "will be so strong that it may not matter who is elected President of the U.S.," Richard Cohen, a New York City public relations consultant, spoke in the debate in support of John Anderson's candidacy. He has "the keenest intelligence, the richest power of articulation, and surest qualities of leadership and an unsurpassed pro-Israel record," Cohen said of Anderson.

The debate preceded the AJCongress annual Israel-American Dialogue here which this year is devoted to "Israel and America: The Right to Participate in Each Others Affairs."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

ARAB MAYOR'S SNUB OF ANDERSON CASTS LIGHT ON U.S. POLITICS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 15 (JTA) — Bethlehem Arab Mayor Elias Freij's refusal to meet Congressman John Anderson during his four-day visit to Israel last week is seen here as casting political implications far beyond the West Bank as the presidential election campaign advances.

Freij spurned an interview requested for Anderson, the first candidate to visit Israel during a presidential campaign. A wily politician touted as "a moderate" Arab, Freij charged Anderson with being "prejudiced" for Israel and "against Arab interests" although Anderson has not yet said anything that President Carter or former Governor Ronald Reagan has not espoused or could not generally declare as their own views towards Israel, its neighbors and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Freij snub followed two unique developments in Washington. One was the Carter-Mondale Campaign Committee's appointment of Richard Shadyac, a Washington lawyer, to head the Arab-American Committee to reelect Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale. Never before have U.S. citizens of Arab descent been established as a minority group with political influence.

Another development was the reaction to Shadyac by the American Lebanese League's head Robert Basil, a physicist and former Pentagon official who was graduated from West Point. Basil charged Shadyac had distorted facts about Americans of Middle East origin and the importance of his organization with which, Basil said, he will have no part whatever.

Shadyac, who is a Maronite Christian and whose father is Lebanese, formerly was president of the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA), whose leaders have been in the forefront against Israel and supportive of the Arab states opposed to the Camp David agreements.

When the Carter-Mondale Committee appointed Shadyac, he was honored at a plush dinner given by Helen Hoje, head of Dialogues, a Middle East consultant and public relations organization. Guests included Saudi Arabian Ambassador Faisal Alhagolan, Clovis Maksoud, who represents the Arab League in New York and supports the PLO, Lebanese Ambassador Khalil Itani, and Ali al-Sabah, a top Kuwait Embassy official.

Attacks American Jewish Community

Shadyac confirmed to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he has said "there are three and a half million Arab Americans in the United States now and with luck I would say that 85 to 90 percent of them will vote for Carter." He also confirmed that his group would try to achieve "rights" for Palestinians.

Although members of the NAAA have taken extreme anti-Israel and pro-Arab positions over the years, Shadyac alleged "Arab Americans are not as committed to the Arab side as the Jews are in the preservation of Israel." Attacking the American Jewish community, Shadyac said "we are concerned about America. We are not willing to compromise American interests for any reason. I think you will find a lot of Jewish American people who care more for Israel than they do for the United States. Arab Americans are totally assimilated."

Political observers wondered whether the

Carter-Mondale Committee will stand for the insults and innuendos he hurled at American Jews.

Asked by the JTA how he looked upon Shadyac's assertions, Basil said "Shadyac doesn't have an organization but he has convinced somebody in the Democratic Party he has. I was asked to be the chairman of that group but I declined." Continuing, he stated:

"We have an organization of American Lebanese and we don't want to be identified in the Arab-American context. Most American Lebanese are not interested in the 'Arab American' context which is a fiction. Ninety percent of the people of the Middle East descent who are American citizens are Lebanese. The American Lebanese are almost exclusively preoccupied, insofar as the Middle East is concerned, with the salvation and resurrection of a free, sovereign, democratic, Western-oriented Lebanon that will strongly support the U.S. national interest."

Feels Carter Let Lebanon Down

Basil, who heads an engineering and research firm here and had served for six years in the Department of Defense after being graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1960, declared: "We will not participate at all with Shadyac's group in any way, shape or form. My impression is that the NAAA will not be formally part of Shadyac's group. Our reason for being is philosophical. The NAAA looks to be a counter-weight to the Jewish lobby and supports the interests of the Arab League at large. It's not at all clear American Lebanese will vote for Carter. Many feel Carter has let Lebanon down very much and I expect the bulk will vote against Carter."

Basil denounced the actions of Palestinian Arabs who are dominated by the PLO and also criticized the State Department's policy towards Lebanon as "very shallow." He said its officials "don't believe what they say."

While the State Department has severely condemned the forces of Maj. Saad Haddad, the leader of the Christian militia in south Lebanon, as "brigands," Basil said he looks on Haddad by "his role and not the man." He added that Haddad "came about because the Palestinians were brutalizing the population" in south Lebanon -- "Christians and Shiites, both."

Haddad, Basil noted, "has the support of all the people except the Palestinians who should not be there." While President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon "has called Haddad an outlaw," Basil added, "he is doing what has to be considered very constructive and what the people in the south say he should be doing. In the struggle for their elemental survival, certain dimensions of the man (Haddad) are heroic."

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The government has adopted a non-committal stand with regard to the controversial draft bill affirming united Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The measure, submitted to the Knesset last May by Geula Cohen of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya faction, is scheduled for its first reading July 23. Interior Minister Yosef Burg refused to take a position on the bill when he appeared before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Monday. Asked by Labor Party leader Shimon Peres precisely where the government stands, Burg said he would advise Knesset members to vote "according to your conscience and your common sense." Knesset sources were uncertain Monday whether the bill would go through the required three readings before the Knesset adjourns for its summer recess at the end of this month. The Speaker's office has stressed that the measure is being processed the same way as any other pending legislation.