

# JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. LVIII -- 63rd Year

Monday, August 18, 1980

No. 158

## BEGIN CRITICIZES SADAT'S PROPOSAL FOR NEW SUMMIT AFTER THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON NOV. 4

By Gil Sedan

**JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) --** Premier Menachem Begin criticized today, at the regular Cabinet meeting, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's proposal for a new summit meeting of Begin, Sadat and President Carter to be held after the American Presidential election on Nov. 4.

The proposal was contained in a 35-page letter to Begin and observers here said the effect of such a proposal, if implemented, would be to freeze the soggy West Bank/Gaza talks until the end of this year. The observers also declared that the proposal reflected Sadat's apparent assessment that no progress in the autonomy talks was likely until Carter is re-elected President or replaced by one of his rivals who would hopefully make a fresh start on the presently dormant negotiations.

Begin criticized the proposal mainly because Sadat did not consult either Israeli or United States officials before making the proposal public. Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said at the Cabinet meeting that there had been a negative reaction in Washington to Sadat's new summit idea. Shamir also reported that Alfred Atherton, the U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, and special U.S. Mideast envoy Sol Linowitz would be coming to the area in the next few weeks.

### Elements In Sadat's Letter

Although the content of the Sadat letter to Begin was not made public, information from Cairo indicated that the letter was sharply worded and that, in it, Sadat chided Begin for refusing to remove what Sadat considered were Israeli-made obstacles to peace.

In the letter, Sadat proposed the new summit meeting because he felt the negotiations had been made meaningless by the new Israeli law on the status of undivided Jerusalem. Sadat's suggestion that the new summit be held after Nov. 4, the Egyptian President wrote, was made out of courtesy to President Carter. Sadat also was understood to have complained about Israel's continuing policy of establishing new settlements on the West Bank.

Sadat reportedly said in the letter that it would be best to hold a new summit "to stem these lingering differences before they jeopardize our mission" for Middle East peace.

The Cabinet also held a thorough discussion of the currently troubled Israeli relations with Egypt and the suspension of the autonomy talks, imposed by Sadat after the Knesset approved a law formally making undivided Jerusalem Israel's capital. The Ministerial Advisory Committee was instructed to meet tomorrow to prepare the Israeli reply to Sadat's proposal. Begin has already prepared a draft of his reply.

The Cabinet also discussed the anti-Begin campaign in Egyptian news media, with several ministers expressing dissatisfaction and annoyance. One Minister reportedly said "we are

giving back territory to the Egyptians and what we are getting in return are insulting caricatures of Israel's Premier."

### Cool Reaction To Rumanian Initiative

Meanwhile, political circles in Jerusalem reacted coolly to a report from Bucharest also proposing a new summit meeting, but this one a United Nations-sponsored international conference. The report from Bucharest, where Buto's Ghali, Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, met for four days with Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, indicated that the two leaders had discussed the possibility of such a UN-sponsored conference.

The sources here said "we did not know that our partners to the Camp David accords decided to change the forum of negotiations." However, it was noted here that the joint statement from Bucharest referred to the idea of "considering" the option of a new Mideast conference and did not set out any specifics for the idea. The President of Rumania, the only Soviet-bloc country to maintain diplomatic relations with Israel, was scheduled to go today to Amman for a three-day visit and talks with Jordan's King Hussein.

### FOCUS ON ISSUES

#### THE HOOPLA IS OVER,

#### THE CAMPAIGNING BEGINS

Both The Democrats And The Republicans  
In All-Out Effort To Woo Jewish Voters  
By David Friedman

**NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) --** Israel and the Middle East, as well as most foreign policy issues, were hardly heard about during the four-day Democratic National Convention which ended last Thursday night. (See related story from Washington, P.4.)

Although President Carter was reassured of re-nomination after the first day's activities, the focus was on the economy, as the President sought to win the support of Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and his large group of delegates at the convention. Disputes over foreign policy had been fought over in the platform committee discussions in June and presumably ironed out before the convention opened.

Carter promised the convention a program to provide more jobs for Americans, "not in make-work, but in real work," although he did not endorse the specific \$12 billion job program Kennedy demanded. For this Carter received Kennedy's endorsement and the Massachusetts Senator's perfunctory appearance with him and Vice President Walter Mondale on the podium at Madison Square Garden Thursday night.

The highly partisan acceptance speeches of Carter and Mondale also stressed domestic issues. But both also promised that the United States will continue to support the security of Israel. Both noted that the Carter Administration has provided Israel with half of the U.S. aid given the Jewish State in its 32 years.

### Record On Israel, Mideast Peace Stressed

"Unlike our Republican predecessors, we have never stopped nor slowed that aid," Carter declared. "And as long as I am President, we will not do so. Our commitment is clear: security and peace for

Israel, peace, for all the peoples of the Middle East."

Mondale, who said he was adding a "special word about Israel," stressed that "Israel is our friend, our conscience, our partner. Its well-being is in our moral, political and strategic interests. I stand before you and say that the people of the United States stand by Israel — in this term, in the next term, and always."

Both Carter and Mondale also stressed the Administration's efforts in bringing about the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

"Some have criticized the Camp David accords and delays in the implementation of the Middle East peace treaty," Carter said. "Before I became President there was no Camp David accord and there was no peace treaty. Before Israel and Egypt were poised across barbed wire, confronting each other with guns and tanks and planes. Afterward, they talked face-to-face with each other across a peace table — and now they also communicate through their own ambassadors in Cairo and Tel Aviv. That is the kind of future we Democrats are working to bring to the Middle East."

Mondale also credited Carter with having "brought" Israel and Egypt, after four wars between them, "to Camp David to build a peace treaty between them. Today Israel and Egypt aren't exchanging bullets; they're exchanging ambassadors." Carter's Mideast efforts were also lauded in a film about the President which showed him witnessing the peace agreement between Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and also showed former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance commenting how the President believed during the difficult negotiations at Camp David that an agreement would be reached.

#### Jerusalem Not Mentioned In Speeches

But neither Carter nor Mondale mentioned Jerusalem in their speeches Thursday night. The Democratic Party's platform adopted last week includes a call to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and Sen. Daniel Moynihan of New York, in an address to the convention, declared the shift will be carried out. But the President, in a written message to the delegates last Wednesday night on his acceptance of the platform, said that the "ultimate status of Jerusalem should be a matter of negotiations between the parties."

It remains to be seen whether the question of moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem becomes a major campaign issue. The Republican platform does not endorse an embassy move. Like the Democratic platform, it supports a policy that Jerusalem should remain undivided. Republican candidate Ronald Reagan, however, has said that unified Jerusalem should be under Israeli sovereignty.

But the Democrats, like the Republicans and independent candidate John Anderson, are expected to make a major drive in the Jewish community. Political experts believe that Carter must win in New York and the other major industrial states of the Northeast and Midwest to win reelection.

To do that he must stem an erosion of normally Democratic Jewish votes to Reagan. Perhaps even more worrisome to the Carter forces

is that many Jews, along with liberals and union members, many of whom are also Jews, will support Anderson's independent campaign.

As the convention was opening last Monday, Carter's special advisor on Jewish affairs, Alfred Moses, flew here from Washington to join Commerce Secretary Philip Klutznick in a press conference for the Jewish media at the Carter-Mondale headquarters. They contended that Carter had done more for Israel than any other U.S. President. They rejected the fears in the Jewish community that once re-elected, Carter would feel free to exert pressure on Israel and give more support to the Palestinians. The President in his message to the delegates on the platform pledged never to put pressure on Israel.

Klutznick and Moses also said they knew Carter has problems in the Jewish community but they "hope to remove some of the misapprehensions" about the President.

#### Committee To Be Formed To Seek Jewish Support

A committee aimed specifically at seeking support for the Carter-Mondale ticket in the Jewish community is scheduled to be formed soon and the President is expected to host Jewish leaders at the White House at the end of this month. Carter is also expected to make several appearances before Jewish audiences, starting with the B'nai B'rith International biennial convention in Washington in September, at which Reagan and Anderson will also speak on separate days.

But as in the 1976 campaign, and as has been true throughout the Carter Administration, the major effort to win support in the Jewish community may fall on Mondale, who is very popular among Jews as well as with labor, liberals and other groups whose support the Democrats must retain if the President is to be reelected.

As Carter and Mondale stood on the podium in Madison Square Garden to the cheers of the 3331 delegates and others who packed the convention center Thursday night, after both had delivered their acceptance speeches, the band played "Happy Days Are Here Again" and then offered a lusty rendition of "Hava Nagila." Freely translated it means "Let's Rejoice," something Carter hopes he and the Jewish community can do together this year.

#### CABINET APPROVES IN-PRINCIPLE NAVON'S VISIT TO EGYPT

By Gil Sedon

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) — The Cabinet today approved in principle the visit of President Yitzhak Navon to Egypt at the invitation of President Anwar Sadat. However, the date for his visit has not yet been fixed. The invitation was presented to Navon last Thursday by Egyptian Ambassador Saad Mortada. Sadat, in his letter of invitation, thanked Navon for his message of congratulations on the occasion of Egypt's Revolutionary Day last month and expressed the hope that Navon's visit would contribute to strengthening the peace process, security and stability in the region.

Navon used the opportunity in his meeting with Mortada to complain about the attacks against Premier Menachem Begin in the Egyptian press and said such attacks are an insult to every Israeli regardless of his political position. He also told Mortada that his acceptance of the invitation

would be subject to Cabinet approval. Several Cabinet ministers had questioned the necessity for accepting the invitation at this time.

There is a strong feeling in Jerusalem that the Egyptians have brought relations with Israel to a new low. The immediate manifestations of this deterioration are the suspension of the autonomy talks, the Egyptian-Rumanian agreement for a new Mideast peace initiative and the anti-Begin campaign in the Egyptian press, especially the cartoon last week in the Cairo newspaper, Al-Gumhuriya, depicting Hitler handing a medal to Begin and then, after Israel protested this as a disgrace and as shameful, publishing an apology — to Hitler.

Viewed against this background, the invitation to Navon is seen as yet another anti-Begin gesture. Begin is still waiting for an invitation from Sadat to address Egypt's Parliament in return for Sadat's address to the Knesset in November 1977.

#### COSTA RICA DENIES PLANS TO MOVE ITS EMBASSY FROM JERUSALEM TO TEL AVIV

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) — Costa Rica's Ambassador to Israel, Fernandes Pinto, denied today that his country has decided to join other Latin American countries and move its embassy from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. The envoy was reacting to media reports that his country would follow Venezuela and Uruguay, which have already decided to move their embassies in protest against the Jerusalem law and the decision to move the Prime Minister's Office to East Jerusalem.

The Foreign Ministry also said it was not aware that Costa Rica was planning to move its embassy. According to rumors here, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Colombia were also planning to move their embassies, but there was no confirmation of that rumor.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir blamed Arab oil pressure for triggering Uruguay's decision to move its embassy. Arab oil pressure is a danger to the entire civilized world, Shamir said in a radio interview, not just to Israel. Very few countries can resist this intense pressure, which is becoming stronger every day, he said.

After Venezuela and Uruguay move their embassies to Tel Aviv only 11 embassies will remain in Jerusalem, with Holland the only non-Latin American country among them. Holland is expected to discuss the issue this week.

Uruguay's Ambassador in Jerusalem, Prof. Bautista Etcheverry Boggio, told reporters over the weekend that recent Israeli moves in Jerusalem, particularly the new law, "unilaterally change the legal status of Jerusalem and have introduced new factors which forced Uruguay to assess with greater care the continued location of the embassy in the city."

#### Difficulty With Switzerland

An unexpected diplomatic difficulty arose today with Switzerland. That country postponed the signing of a financial agreement with Israel. The signing ceremony was to take place at the office of the Welfare Minister this week — but the Swiss have asked to postpone the ceremony

due "to a technical delay." However, sources in Jerusalem expressed concern that Switzerland, too, was waiting for the outcome of the Jerusalem debate in the United Nations Security Council before taking any step that could be interpreted as indirect support for Israel.

#### UN COUNCIL POSTPONES VOTE ON JERUSALEM ISSUE FOLLOWING PLO MOVE

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 17 (JTA) — A last minute effort by the Palestine Liberation Organization to change a Security Council draft version on Jerusalem from a request to the countries which have embassies in Jerusalem to an order to move them out led to a postponement of a Council vote on the issue.

The Council had been expected to vote Friday night on a resolution calling on the 12 countries to remove their embassies from Jerusalem after Arab states dropped an effort to include trade sanctions against Israel and agreed to accept a resolution calling on the nations to remove their embassies from Jerusalem.

The result of the PLO effort was to bring about a postponement on a vote until this week. Had the vote been held as scheduled Friday night, the Council had been expected to endorse it 14-0, with the United States abstaining.

The draft resolution being considered by the Council is a follow-up to one approved by the Council on June 30, by a vote of 14-0 with the United States abstaining. That resolution urged Israel not to change the status of Jerusalem. On July 23, the Knesset adopted a bill proclaiming united Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Less than a week later, on July 29, the General Assembly adopted a resolution by a vote of 112-7 with 24 abstentions demanding that Israel withdraw from all occupied territories "including Jerusalem" and that this start by Nov. 15, 1980.

#### Draft Resolution Censures Israel

The draft resolution expected to be approved this week "strongly censures" Israel for changing Jerusalem's status and calls on the 10 nations to take their embassies out of Jerusalem. Almost all UN-member nations, including the United States, criticized the new Israeli law and argued the status of Jerusalem should be negotiated.

There were reports here that earlier in the negotiations, that the PLO and other headline Arabs pressed for a worldwide embargo on trade with Israel, a proposal virtually certain to be vetoed by the United States. Sources said the expected veto was part of a strategy to isolate the U.S. and Israel and to get Arab oil-producing countries to cut off shipments to the United States a second time. The first oil embargo came shortly after the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

That Arab effort, it was reported, fell apart when the radical Arab states learned it would be impossible to get the nine Council votes needed to adopt a sanctions resolution. Reportedly, Britain, France, Portugal, Norway, the Philippines, and Mexico indicated they would refuse to support a sanctions resolution.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Red Magen David has sent some 700 pounds of medicines and first aid kits for earthquake victims in Nepal. The request for the material came from Israel's Embassy at Kathmandu and the Nepalese Red Cross.

# **STATE DEPARTMENT SETS ASIDE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM ON JERUSALEM AND MOVING U.S. EMBASSY AS NOT BINDING ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- The Democratic Party's platform describing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and recommending transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was set aside by the State Department Friday.

"The President makes foreign policy; it is not made by party platforms," State Department David Passage said. He also said the State Department is not "legally bound" by platforms and he would not discuss the plank. "The State Department does not speak about party platforms," he said.

Passage referred to President Carter's Aug. 13 written message to the Democratic National Convention in New York regarding the party's platform in which he stated that "Jerusalem should remain forever undivided, with free access to the holy places for people of all faiths."

## **Muskie's View Of Jerusalem Law**

The President and the State Department have said that the ultimate status of Jerusalem is to be negotiated. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, in an interview at the convention with ABC-TV, said with respect to Israel's Jerusalem law that the Jerusalem issue "obviously is part of the Camp David process."

Muskie added, "But there is a feeling in the Arab world that Israel is seeking to foreclose on any meaningful debate of that issue in the Camp David accords... The reaction in the Arab world, and indeed in the rest of the world, is very negative on that. It has sparked an emotional reaction in the Arab world which has resulted in the Saudi statement." This was in reference to Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd's call for "holy war" by Islamic nations against Israel.

Jerusalem is not mentioned in the Camp David agreements but is in side letters accompanying the accords. By insisting that Jerusalem is in the "Camp David process," the Carter Administration is apparently stretching the meaning and letter of the accords since Israel stated at the time of the accords to the U.S. and Egypt, as well as previously and since, that unified Jerusalem is Israel's capital. Within the West Bank/Gaza autonomy talks, the immediate issue is whether the Arabs in Jerusalem should vote in the West Bank/Gaza elections as Egypt insists, reportedly with U.S. support.

## **Separating East Jerusalem From Israel**

How the State Department is moving to separate East Jerusalem from Israel was indicated in a reply by the State Department to a reporter's question. Following are the questions and answers posted by the Department Aug. 14 for the media:

"Q. Doesn't the status of Jerusalem come into direct question when you talk about whether the people living there, on the east side of the city, should be allowed to vote as part of the West Bank autonomy plan?"

"A. No. The participation of Arabs living in East Jerusalem in the autonomy elections would not determine the final status of East Jerusalem. The final status of Jerusalem can only be

determined through negotiations among the parties concerned."

With the talks at a standstill, the State Department said Friday that special negotiator Sol Linowitz may go to Cairo and Jerusalem the first week in September to seek their resumption but no date has been set. Passage said that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's call for a summit conference with Carter, Sadat and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin "underscores the desirability to start the talks again", but he would not comment on the proposal itself.

Passage said that whether the talks start on a lower committee level, among ministers or at the summit is up to Israel and Egypt. "They are the principal actors and need to make the decision for the best procedure," he said. Passage rejected the view that the talks be resumed after the Presidential election Nov. 4, saying, "It is desirable for negotiations to resume as soon as possible."

Passage reiterated that Jewish settlements on the West Bank are "illegal under international law" when asked about reports that Israel plans to build four new settlements. He also deplored Israel's attack last Thursday on Palestinian terrorist posts in southern Lebanon as "continuing the cycle of violence. Tension is again on the rise," he said, and the U.S. "asks all to act with restraint."

(Israel launched a three-pronged raid — by land, air and sea — against two terrorist bases north of Tyre and north of Sidon and leveled them. An army spokesman said the bases were being used by terrorists to prepare for new attacks against Israel. A number of terrorists were killed and all Israeli forces returned safely to their bases, the spokesman said. He said the raid was taken within the context of preventive action.)

## **FOUR NEW SETTLEMENTS APPROVED**

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Four new settlements will soon be established in Judea and Samaria, it was announced by the ministerial settlement committee. The settlements are Zif, Carmel and Yatir Bet on the southern slopes of the Hebron Mountains, and Reihan He, in northern Samaria.

These are four of the 10 settlements which Premier Menachem Begin recently referred to as the last 10 settlements the government would establish in Judea and Samaria.

Two of the settlements, Zif and Carmel, would first function as military outposts — for all intents and purposes military camps. However, there were already plans to introduce small industry in these settlements, to provide jobs for the settlers. According to settlement sources, the government will soon decide on yet another six settlements.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Israel intends to ask the United States for \$2.9 billion in aid for the 1982 fiscal year, it was learned here Sunday. Ephraim Evron, Israel's Ambassador to Washington, will submit this request to U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. Of this total, \$1.8 billion is for military aid and the remainder for economic aid. The request is expected to be presented to Muskie in about three weeks when Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz is scheduled to visit the United States.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Postal services, telephones, telegraphs and transport will be going up by 33 percent, it was decided last Thursday.