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BEGIN: RESUMPTION OF AUTONOMY TALKS IS PRECONDITION FOR SUMMIT MEETING

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Premier Menachem Begin briefed the Cabinet today on the negotiations to resume the autonomy talks with Egypt. He stressed that Israel regarded resumption of the talks to be a precondition for a summit meeting between himself, President Anwar Sadat and President Carter which, according to Begin, probably will take place in December.

(U.S. special envoy Sol Linowitz, who just returned from the Middle East, told a press conference in Washington yesterday that the U.S. has presented Israel and Egypt with its own comprehensive proposals for discussion when the autonomy talks resume. He declined to give details of the American plan but said it covered all outstanding differences between Egypt and Israel except the issue of Jerusalem. The main areas, Linowitz said, were land title, water rights, settlements and security in the autonomous areas. He implied that Jerusalem would be discussed at the summit.)

Begin told the Cabinet that Israel agreed to a summit meeting only after it was assured in the joint communique issued when Linowitz left the region that the autonomy negotiations would be resumed speedily on all levels. The talks were broken off by Egypt last May.

See Softer Stand By Egypt

The consensus in the Cabinet was that Egypt has softened its stand on the autonomy negotiations and desired to clear the strained atmosphere that has existed between Cairo and Jerusalem since the talks were suspended.

One indicator of the new Egyptian mood was seen in an article published today by the Egyptian journalist Anis Mansour, a close associate of Sadat, in the weekly magazine, October. Mansour urged his fellow journalists to desist from comparing Begin to Hitler because it "ignored Jewish sensitivity to the Holocaust." Mansour was apparently referring to cartoons appearing in the Egyptian press recently likening Begin to Hitler.

It was also reported in October that former Premier Yitzhak Rabin, a leader of the opposition Labor Party, will visit Cairo next week to meet with Sadat. The Egyptian leader met last week with former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman who was vacationing in Egypt.

POPE AFFIRMS OPPOSITION TO ANY UNILATERAL MEASURES IN JERUSALEM

ROME, Sept. 7 (JTA) — An Egyptian official said here that Pope John Paul II is seriously concerned over the issue of Jerusalem and has affirmed the Vatican's opposition to any unilateral measures in that city. According to Osama Al Baz, Egypt's Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, the Pope expressed his views to Vice President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt during a private meeting yesterday at Castel Gondolfo, the Papal summer residence.

Al Baz said Mubarak conveyed a message to the Pope from President Anwar Sadat on the subject of Jerusalem. Mubarak, who is on a six-

nation tour of Europe, apparently to mount diplomatic pressure on Israel, left for Paris after meeting with the Pope.

Al Baz told a press conference here that the Middle East peace process was threatened by Israeli actions such as the adoption of a law declaring Jerusalem its capital, settlements on the West Bank and pre-emptive attacks on south Lebanon.

He said Egypt would welcome European participation in the Middle East peace process and favored an international conference aimed at solving the Palestinian question but only if the Palestinians themselves attended. Al Baz said an identity of views between Egypt and Italy on the Middle East was demonstrated during Mubarak's talks here with Premier Francesco Cossiga and Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo.

THORN TO RETURN TO ISRAEL

By Edward Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg, who is also the president of the European Economic Community's (EEC) Council of Ministers, will return to Israel later this month to meet with Premier Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Thorn, who is conducting a study on the Middle East conflict on behalf of the EEC's nine member states, also plans to meet with Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and the Gaza district.

Thorn's decision to return to Israel Sept. 29 for a two-day visit followed an open rift between himself and Israeli leaders. The EEC Council president, who last weekend conferred with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt in Cairo, had warned earlier that he would cancel altogether his return visit to Israel. Circles close to him said he was "exasperated" by what they termed Israeli-made difficulties. These, the sources said, hinged mainly on the people Thorn wanted to meet, including Palestinians under administrative detention, and the actual date for his arrival.

Israeli sources said, however, that Thorn wanted to arrive in Israel last week while Israel's leaders were busy with President Carter's special representative to the autonomy talks, Sol Linowitz. An Israeli official source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "both sides have to agree on a visit date."

The matter was straightened out last week when Israel's Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg Yitzhak Minerbi, met with Thorn in Luxembourg. European sources in Brussels said that the rift between Israel and the EEC "was only papered over and continues to exist."

The EEC is due to meet Sept. 15 and 16 in Brussels when their foreign ministers will consider Thorn's report and decide whether to take immediate diplomatic action in the Middle East or wait for the American Presidential election. Several of the nine ministers reportedly want immediate initiatives as they fear that "Israel might well use the American pre-electoral period to carry out additional unilateral actions, such as transferring the Premier's office to East Jerusalem or annexing the Golan Heights."

Israel obviously resents any West European interference in the current tripartite peace process and says that Israel and Egypt should be allowed to

work out matters between themselves, with America's assistance, in line with the Camp David accords.

The nine, on the other hand, say their policy is based on their joint declaration issued last June in Venice which called for the recognition of Palestinian self-determination and the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the peace talks. The Europeans do not believe that the Camp David accords can succeed in achieving peace and are pressing for a West European initiative.

BEGIN SAYS HE WILL RETAIN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY POST

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Premier Menachem Begin has made it clear that he plans to remain Defense Minister for the foreseeable future, following the refusal of Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman Moshe Arens to assume the post. Arens rejected Begin's offer to become Defense Minister last week. The Premier has been acting in that capacity since Ezer Weizman resigned from the post last spring.

In a TV interview, Begin said that by law the Premier must hold the post if it is vacant, and he indicated there was no feasible candidate in the offing. He said that Mordechai Zipori was "excellent" in his present post as Deputy Defense Minister, thus putting to rest Zipori's aspiration to be named Defense Minister.

As for Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, who has made it clear that he would like the Defense Ministry post, Begin said he was one of the world's best generals but observed that three coalition partners — the Democratic Movement, the Liberals and the National Religious Party — opposed his candidacy. Thus, Begin said, if he were to name him to the post he would be left "without a government."

The Premier was in vintage form during the lengthy, wide-ranging interview. He parried and thrust with the three interviewers, repeatedly chiding the television broadcasters for presenting what he felt was too negative a picture of the government's record. He cited figures to show that the government had provided housing solutions to more than 80,000 slum families and had put up 116 new settlements, on both sides of the Green Line, during its three years in office.

He said he was against advancing the elections from their November 1981 date because until November 1981 the government would be able to put up more new homes, further reduce the balance of payments deficit, and achieve success in its fight against inflation. If the election date was advanced, he added, the earliest it could be would be May or June 1981. He did not explain why this was so.

Denies Relations With U.S. Deteriorating

The Premier flatly denied his interviewers' assertions that relations with the U.S. were deteriorating or that Israel's standing there was being eroded. The crises of 1948 and 1956 were incomparably worse than the present situation, when President Carter is pledging not to pressure Israel and not to cut back aid, Begin said. Then the U.S. was denying Israel arms and threatening sanctions through the United Nations Security Council.

He denied, too, that Israel's international isolation was deepening. When an interviewer

adduced recent UN votes, Begin said these resolutions "are not bullets; they can't kill." They were the result of bloc voting coupled with the West's kowtowing to oil interests, he asserted, and Israel should brace itself for more of the same.

He noted that even the U.S. never recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. "But we do not recognize their non-recognition," he declared. "That will not determine the fate of Jerusalem."

B'NAI B'RITH CONCLAVE EXPRESSES

DETERMINATION THAT UNIFIED

JERUSALEM REMAIN ISRAEL'S CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7 (JTA) — B'nai B'rith International concluded its 30th convention here Friday with two actions expressing determination that unified Jerusalem is to remain under Jewish sovereignty among highlights of its six-day agenda that included speeches by the three major candidates for President of the United States.

Both actions on Jerusalem were adopted unanimously by the convention which attracted delegates representing 500,000 members in 42 countries around the world. The meetings were attended by approximately 1400 delegates and their guests.

One of the actions was the decision to establish B'nai B'rith's "world center" in Jerusalem. It will be housed temporarily in the B'nai B'rith library on B'nai B'rith Street. The project will be furthered in the months ahead.

The other action was a four-point resolution that emphasized "united Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel" and quoted Vice President Walter Mondale as stating that Israel is "our friend, our conscience, our partner" and "its well-being is in our moral, political and strategic interests."

Urged To Adhere To Party Platform

The resolution urged President Carter to "adhere to the provision of the platform of the Democratic Party, adopted by the party's convention in 1976 and again in 1980, which calls on the U.S. to recognize a united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel while continuing to grant full protection for the rights of all its inhabitants and for the religious institutions sacred to Jews, Christians and Moslems."

"This convention registers profound disappointment with the American failure to veto the Security Council's resolution, calling on all governments to remove their embassies from Jerusalem, the resolution added: "The UN's action erodes the peace process and endangers Israel."

It stressed that "this convention urges the government of the U.S. to move its embassy to Jerusalem, without further delay" and added: "this convention categorically rejects the characterization of the older portion of the city of Jerusalem as 'occupied territory' and calls upon the U.S. to reaffirm its commitment to a safe and secure Israel within recognized and defensible borders. The pre-1967 borders — even with minor modifications — are not defensible and do not meet the requirements for Israel's security."

Jack Spitzer, of Kirkland, Washington, was reelected to a two-year term as president of B'nai B'rith International.

JEWISH TV VIEWERS URGED NOT TO WATCH 'PLAYING FOR TIME'

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, appealed to American Jews not to watch the CBS-TV program "Playing for Time" on Sept. 30,

which stars Vanessa Redgrave, a supporter of the Palestine Liberation Organization, as Fania Fenelon who played in an orchestra in Auschwitz as its inmates were processed for execution.

Hier declared that "in a final display of insensitivity, when Jews around the world are engaged in introspection and when the victims of the Holocaust are publicly memorialized, the CBS decision to champion the rights of Vanessa Redgrave at the expense of the feelings of Fania Fenelon and the millions of Hitler's victims, is a gross violation of the public trust the American people have a right to expect from a national network."

(A CBS spokesperson in New York confirmed that the program would be telecast Sept. 30. Jewish organizations have repeatedly denounced the network for the selection of Redgrave for the Fenelon role.)

Hier declared that CBS "has never properly addressed the opinions expressed by hundreds of thousands of Americans and dozens of organizations" after the initial announcement that Redgrave would play the role.

Hier also charged that playwright Arthur Miller and CBS officials "have tried to unsuccessfully project the issue as blacklisting, while simultaneously maintaining silence in the face of Redgrave's call for a show business boycott of Israel." He added that Americans "have rallied behind Fania because of CBS' callous disregard for her story, her feelings and her life."

He said he had received a call from Fenelon from Paris in which, he reported, she said, "I ask you, from the bottom of my heart not to watch CBS and Vanessa Redgrave turn my legacy and labor of love into a nightmare."

SHAMIR, GHALI TO MEET

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Boutros Ghali, will meet shortly to discuss the progress of "normalization between the two countries," Israeli officials said today. They said the meeting was called at Egypt's initiative in view of Israel's complaints — aired by Shamir — that normalization was proceeding much too slowly and grudgingly on Egypt's part.

No date was announced for the meeting. That matter is complicated by the Rosh Hashanah holiday which begins Wednesday night and by Shamir's plans to fly to New York early next week. He will be gone for three weeks. The Israeli Foreign Minister is scheduled to address the UN General Assembly on September 29. He will also visit Europe.

Shamir told reporters last week that there could be thousands of commercial contacts between Israel and Egypt if the Cairo authorities stopped discouraging them. He also alleged that Egyptians seeking visas to visit Israel were sometimes questioned by the secret police which deterred other potential visitors.

Shamir, however, softened his criticism over the weekend. He acknowledged, in a radio interview, that Egypt was under pressure from other Arab countries and that 30 years of hostility toward Israel could not be overcome quickly. Israeli observers noted that the fact that Cairo sought a meeting between Ghali and Shamir indicated President Anwar Sadat's determination to improve the atmosphere between the two countries prior to the projected summit meeting later

this year between himself, Premier Menachem Begin and President Carter.

TURMOIL IN POLAND DELAYS ISRAEL TOUR OF POLAND'S JEWISH THEATER

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Sept. 7 (JTA) — The turbulent situation in Poland, recently hit by strikes of shipyard workers and miners, has delayed the Israel tour of the Jewish State Theater of Poland which had been scheduled for next month. Szymon Szurmiej, manager and artistic director, and Jerzy Komarowski, head of the theater and folklore department of the Polish Artists Agency (Pagart), stressed at a press conference here today that the postponement was only temporary.

The two officials, who arrived in Israel last night to make final arrangements for the tour, said the Polish Jewish Theater would visit Israel next April in the course of a world-wide tour that will take it to the U.S., Canada, Mexico, France, Belgium and Britain.

At another press conference, Stefan Grayek, chairman of the Polish Jewish Association, announced that the internal situation in Poland has also forced the postponement of the visit to Israel by the Polish Minister of Religious Affairs, Jerzy Kovarski. He was due here early in October to chair a session of the Jkasz Korczak International Memorial Committee but requested that this be delayed until the beginning of January. His arrival then is assured, Grayek said.

Will Perform Yiddish Plays

The Polish Jewish Theater, based in Warsaw, consists of 36 artists, seven of them non-Jews. All speak fluent Yiddish. The theater performs three evenings a week and has a junior studio where young actors study their art and learn Yiddish. When the troupe visits Israel next spring it will perform "The Dybbuk" by Anski, "The Comedian" by Goldfaden, and "Sunset" by the Russian-Jewish writer Isaac Babel. Szurmiej announced that the troupe is also rehearsing a new version of "Tevya, the Milkman" by Sholem Aleichem in which the story of Tevya's mishaps mirror the hardships of the Jewish nation.

The company has recently performed a play in Warsaw based on K. Ketnik's story, "The Clock by the Head," to mark the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw.

Grayek heads the public committee for the visit of the Polish Jewish Theater to Israel. It includes Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich, Jewish Agency chairman Leon Dulzin and other officials.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Military Government prevented an exhibition of political paintings by Palestinian Artists which was to take place in Ramallah, some 10 miles north of Jerusalem. The army confiscated five drawings which were to be shown in the exhibition, charging that they constituted incitement against the State. The drawings were entitled, "A Wedding in Jail," "The Rejection," and "The Day of the Prisoner." One of the artists said: "We are not inciting against Israel, nor the Israeli people. We are merely expressing our feelings as Palestinians in pain."

GENEVA (JTA) — Dr. Yoel Baromi, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations here, presented the High Commissioner's office with a check for \$250,000 to help in the office's rescue program for Cambodian refugees.

CARTER ASSURES ISRAEL OF CONTINUING SUPPORT; SAYS THERE WILL BE NO REASSESSMENT OF SUPPORT TO ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7 (JTA) — President Carter, addressing the closing banquet of B'nai B'rith International's 30th convention, reaffirmed his Middle East policies and offered assurances of maintaining support for Israel.

"Without security for Israel, there can be no peace," he said. While he did not discuss U.S. votes at the United Nations Security Council that have drawn anger from organized Jewish communities and Israel, the President assured the approximately 1200 people who attended the banquet last Thursday night that "there will be no so-called 'reassessment' of support for Israel in a Carter Administration" and that "whatever differences arise, they will never affect our commitment to a secure Israel."

Like Republican candidate Ronald Reagan and independent John Anderson who pleaded him in addressing the convention, the B'nai B'rith assembly gave the President standing ovations on his arrival and departure. It applauded his approximately 40-minute address at 28 points. Heaviest applause came on his statements regarding the Palestine Liberation Organization and the status of Jerusalem.

On the PLO he reiterated long-standing policy that "unless and until the PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepts Resolution 242, we will neither recognize nor negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization. As I have repeatedly stated, it is long past time for an end to terrorism." Carter also said "the United States government and I personally oppose an independent Palestinian state."

Jerusalem In Jewish History

About Jerusalem in Jewish history, Carter stated: "From the time King David first unified the nation of Israel and proclaimed the ancient city of Jerusalem its capital, the Jewish people have drawn inspiration from Jerusalem. I sensed the special feeling myself when I stood as President of the United States before the Knesset in Jerusalem. I was there searching for peace in the city of peace. My prayers were answered in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty."

"We are still pursuing with Israel and Egypt the larger peace we all seek. In such a peace, Jerusalem should remain forever undivided, with free access to the holy places. We will make certain that the future of Jerusalem can only be determined through agreement — with the full concurrence of Israel."

On The U.S. Anti-Boycott Law

Carter tied the U.S. anti-boycott law to Israel's security. He said "such a law, which aims at blocking Arab discrimination against American companies doing business with Israel, had been blocked under the Republicans by the Secretaries of State and Treasury. They were afraid it would hurt our diplomatic and trade relations with the Arab world. I decided to go ahead despite those risks because it was the right thing to do. Now, foreigners can no longer tell American business people where they can do business and with whom — and Secretary of Commerce Phil Klutznick is making sure we're going to keep it that way."

Saying that "I am proud that since I have been President we have provided about half the

American aid Israel has received in the 32 years since her independence," the President added: "This is not a handout, but I look upon it as an investment in America's own security."

Moving Toward Peace

Discussing the stalled talks on West Bank-Gaza autonomy which Egyptian President Anwar Sadat suspended last May, the President emphasized that "once again we have found a way to move toward peace" as a result of special Ambassador Sol Linowitz's discussions with Sadat and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin. "The talks will resume," Carter said. "And I will personally join in the search for peace — if necessary, in a summit meeting, which Prime Minister Begin and I discussed on the phone this morning when he called me. As you know, President Sadat has also agreed publicly with this idea. We are on the right road in working for peace and in helping to keep Israel secure. And we will stay on that road — in closer partnership with our Israeli friends — as long as I am President."

The President also said that "more than 50,000 Soviet Jews moved last year to freedom in Israel and the United States" but that "in July less than 2,500 were permitted to emigrate — an annual rate of 30,000 — and the rate of new approvals was even lower. This makes our cause more urgent, our resolve more certain — and we will continue to communicate that resolve very clearly to the Soviet leaders."

JEWISH LEADERS TO MEET WITH CARTER AND MONDALE

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Leaders of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, headed by its chairman, Howard Squadron, will have a breakfast meeting tomorrow with Vice President Walter Mondale at his home in Washington, a spokesman for the Presidents Conference told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today. Afterward, he said, the Conference leaders will meet with President Carter at the White House.

According to the spokesman, the discussions with Mondale and Carter will focus on U.S.-Israel relations and U.S.-United Nations relations. The discussions will also take up all international concerns of the American Jewish community, including the problem of Soviet Jews, the spokesman said.

LAST TWO EMBASSIES, GUATEMALA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, LEAVE JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) — Jerusalem is now entirely without foreign embassies following the announcement over the weekend that the last two remaining embassies in the city, those of Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, are to move to the Tel Aviv area. In all, following the Jerusalem law, 13 embassies have moved from the capital: 11 Latin Americans, Holland and Haiti.

The Foreign Ministry here said it could only restate its view that the moves represented a surrender to Arab oil pressure. Indeed, several of the Latin American countries involved, as well as Holland, have candidly admitted that this is the case.

There was no word from the Dominican Ambassador, Jose Villanueva, who at one stage told reporters he would rather resign than to be the person to move the embassy. Villanueva is the dean of the diplomatic corps, having been in Jerusalem for nearly a decade.