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POSITION OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES: ANSWERS TO JTA QUESTIONNAIRE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) — The Jewish Telegraphic Agency submitted a list of 12 questions to President Carter, Republican Party candidate Ronald Reagan and independent candidate John Anderson on what policies they would adopt, if elected, on issues of vital concern to American Jewry.

Only Carter and Anderson answered the questionnaire by the Oct. 3 deadline that was set. Their answers appeared in the Oct. 21 Daily News Bulletin. Reagan's answers were received at the end of last week and the JTA is publishing his responses at this time.

The following is the text of the questions and the answers:

It has been perceived that commitments made by a Presidential candidate during the election campaign are not always implemented by his Administration when he is in the White House. With all due respect, therefore, can Americans expect you will as President adhere to your responses regarding the following:

Reagan: My support of the State of Israel is a matter of public record. Senator "Scoop" Jackson, a Democrat, presented an accurate picture of my history of concern for the State of Israel when he recently said: "Governor Reagan has a long history of support. He was one of the original supporters of the creation of the State of Israel. So he has unique qualifications when he talks about the State of Israel." My answers to the following questions are not new positions devised to capture votes, but rather long held beliefs and principles which I intend to honor fully when I become President, just as I have firmly held them in the past.

(1) Will your Administration impose or allow any power or organization to impose demands on Israel affecting her status as a sovereign, independent Jewish State?

Reagan: A Reagan Administration will tolerate no effort which would compromise Israel's current status as a secure and independent state with its own rich culture and traditions. The bedrock of my Administration's Middle East policy will be a secure Israel.

(2) Will your Administration adhere to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 without changes in them or to them and also to the Camp David accords as the means for resolving the Arab-Israeli situation?

Reagan: I firmly believe that peace can be made between Israel and her neighbors if the peace process is governed by Resolutions 242 and 338. Therefore, a Reagan Administration will not tolerate any effort to supersede these resolutions. A Reagan Administration will not permit peace negotiations to be decoupled from these resolutions. Since the Camp David accords derive from Resolutions 242 and 338, we will continue to support that process as long as Israel sees utility in it.

(3) Will your Administration prevent, whether by vetoes in the United Nations or otherwise any action aimed at establishing a Palestinian

state or allowing the PLO to be a participant in negotiations with Israel?

Reagan: A Reagan Administration will utilize all appropriate instruments, including — if need be — UN veto, to insure that the PLO has no voice or role as a participant in future peace negotiations with Israel. Unlike President Carter, I have no hesitation in branding the PLO as a terrorist organization.

(4) What is your concept of the status of the city of Jerusalem — east, west, north and south — in relation to Israel?

Reagan: Jerusalem is central to religious faiths throughout the world. Thus, Jerusalem must remain one city, undivided and with continued free access for all faiths to its holy places. Thankfully, Jerusalem today — unlike the days prior to 1967 — enjoys these freedoms.

(5) Will you end existence of two U.S. consulates in Jerusalem — a situation without equal or precedent under any flag in any city in the world — and maintain one consulate in Jerusalem with its American personnel accredited only to the State of Israel and subject to control of the American Embassy in Israel?

Reagan: A Reagan Administration would be committed to the continued existence of Jerusalem as an undivided city and would structure its consular offices accordingly.

(6) Will your Administration reject any proposal that provides Arabs living in what is known as East Jerusalem be allowed to vote for the West Bank's administrative council under the autonomy plans being negotiated by Egypt, Israel and the United States?

Reagan: A Reagan Administration will not force the hand of either Israel or Egypt at the negotiating table. As long as there is no outside coercion present a Reagan Administration will support the agreements made between Israel and Egypt at the negotiation conferences.

(7) Will your Administration support, by legislative proposals to the Congress and/or by administrative actions, Israel's needs for her security against external aggression, terrorism and sabotage, and diplomatic isolation?

Reagan: A Reagan Administration will by legislative proposals and executive actions bolster Israel's security against all forms of aggression. Specifically, a Reagan Administration will not continue to ship massive quantities of sophisticated armaments to so-called "moderate" Arab states who, in fact, might directly threaten Israel's existence once they are in possession of such arms.

(8) Will your Administration regard Israel as an important strategic asset of the U.S.?

Reagan: Israel is, of course, a major strategic asset to the United States. When we support Israel's security we in fact support our own.

(9) Will your Administration speak out against persecution and/or harassment of Jews in the Soviet Union, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Argentina and other countries where it may exist? Will it continue support of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment regarding Soviet emigration policy?

Reagan: With regard to the Soviet Union, a Reagan Administration will not rest until the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Accords, to which the Soviet Union is a signatory, are fully honored.

Proceeding from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, a Reagan Administration will make it clear to the Soviets that their compliance with the various human rights agreements will have a bearing on future bilateral trade. A Reagan Administration would want to utilize recognized international forums, such as the United Nations so as to promote rights for Jews and all peoples throughout the world.

(10) In seeking to restore America's economic vitality, how will your Administration seek to lower the country's inflation rate and help unemployment, particularly among minorities? In the latter connection, do you intend to implement affirmative action programs without resorting to quotas?

Reagan: I believe that the time has come to make a bold commitment to economic growth — to cut excessively high tax rates, to eliminate unnecessary regulations, and to establish a sound and stable monetary policy. These actions would reduce inflation and unemployment while increasing productivity which is the key to long-term growth and a higher standard of living for all Americans.

I am convinced that poor and minority Americans would benefit the most from this economic revitalization since they are suffering the most right now. I strongly support equal opportunity, and will do everything I can to see that minority Americans join the mainstream of American life but I am firmly opposed to mandatory quotas.

(11) What means will your Administration outline to revive the viability of our large urban centers and stem the flow of industries from northern industrial states to the sunbelt? Would you impose limits on use of gasoline to cope with the energy crisis?

Reagan: I believe that our major cities are bearing the brunt of Mr. Carter's recession, a severe economic contraction that has cost nearly two million Americans their jobs in the last year. I believe that my comprehensive package of economic reforms would improve the economic climate throughout America, including our troubled big cities.

I support federal aid to cities, including special loan guarantees to New York City, but I feel that the present system of categorical grants is often ineffective because the federal money is tied up in red tape and paper work. I favor instead a system of block grants to be used at the discretion of local officials, who are more intimately aware of local problems and thus in a better position to solve them. I oppose gas rationing except in cases of extreme emergency such as war.

(12) Will your Administration ferret out Nazi war criminals living in the United States and deal with them according to our laws and have a thorough study made why these criminals were allowed to enter and live in this country?

Reagan: I believe that we must never forget the Holocaust that killed six million Jews and millions of equally innocent Christians. If elected President, I will order the Justice Department to continue full-scale investigations that will ferret out Nazi war criminals and bring them to justice. We can never rest until those responsible for this great tragedy are punished.

NAVON ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO EGYPT

By Yitzhak Shargil

CAIRO, Oct. 27 (JTA) — President Yitzhak

Navon and his wife, Ophira, arrived here yesterday to begin the first official visit by an Israeli chief of state to Egypt. They were received warmly at the airport by President Anwar Sadat and his wife, Jehan, with all the pomp and courtesy prescribed by protocol for such occasions.

Egypt's top political figures and military brass were on hand. The army band, resplendent in decorative uniforms, boomed out marches and the national anthems of both countries. Two young girls stepped forward to present Mrs. Navon with bouquets of flowers.

There were no speeches at the airport but handshakes and smiles all around. The two Presidents retired briefly to a room in the airport terminal for a short chat. They will meet three more times during Navon's five-day stay in Egypt. One of the meetings has been designated official.

The Israeli President arrived with a large entourage of his own, consisting of 19 Israeli dignitaries and about 70 journalists representing the Israeli and foreign media. The airport was bedecked with Israeli flags, as were the highway leading to it and the crowded streets of Cairo where the usual chaotic traffic apparently took no notice of the long convoy of official cars with police and military escorts.

Busy Schedule For Navon

Navon's first stop was at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where he solemnly laid a wreath. This was followed by a visit to the pyramids which was shortened to allow the Navons time to prepare for the official dinner given in their honor last night at the Abadin Palace where they are staying.

Navon's arrival in the Egyptian capital came at a time when the local press is preoccupied with a bill before the Knesset to annex the Golan Heights to Israel. That sensitive issue, however, is not expected to be discussed by Navon, who is not a political figure, at his meetings with Sadat. Nevertheless, the Egyptian media took the occasion of his arrival to air it extensively.

Navon's schedule includes visits to a Cairo synagogue, to the Israel Embassy and to the Cairo museum. He will meet with Vice President Hosni Mubarak before embarking for a flight to Luxor and a sightseeing tour of upper Egypt.

EPOCHAL EVENT IN ISRAEL: NGO EUROPEAN SPORTS CONTINGENT CONVENES IN ISRAEL FOR FIRST TIME

By Haskell Cohen

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) — The Non-Government Organization of Europe (NGO), a sports contingent from 11 countries plus Israel's Sports Federation leaders, opened a six-day conference here marking the first time ever that a governing European sports body convened in Israel. The event is epochal in that Israel sports bodies now are given recognition as full-fledged entities in the European Zone.

Representatives are present from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland, Italy, England, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Austria. Holland's W. Van Ulsen, president of the NGO, opened the proceedings followed by a welcome to all assembled by Shmuel Lalkin, head of Israel's Sports Federation.

Boycotts Are Criticized

The highlight of the opening session was an address by Dr. Uriel Simri, director of the Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sports. Touching on the vulnerability of government bodies in interfering with international competitions, Simri stated:

"We have known boycotts of the Olympic Games in the past, but even the African boycott of

1976 was far less severe than the boycott (against the Games in Moscow last summer) instigated by President Carter and one may rightly claim that the tendency to boycott the Olympic Games, for political reasons, has grown with the years.

"The fact that organizers of international sports events, including the Olympic Games, have boycotted participants who had the legal right to participate has also definitely contributed towards the use of the boycott as a weapon in the sports arena."

FOCUS ON ISSUES WHY MANY JEWISH VOTERS CONTINUE TO BE UNDECIDED

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- That many Jewish voters even at this late stage of the Presidential campaign continue "undecided" is not surprising to objective surveyors of the national political scene. They see major problems being kept in cold storage or glossed over with generalities while false or minor issues are hopped up with sly presentations to gain advantage or stain the opponent.

"This is the most agonizing election I have ever known," said one veteran analyst. "Many of us are suspicious of Carter and apprehensive about Reagan. We'll either vote for Anderson or not vote, which amounts to the same thing."

Among the imponderables is the impact on Jewish sentiment of the "Christian Right" and President Carter's forecast that Ronald Reagan's election will separate Black from white and Christian from Jew. One off-shoot of this was the remark by a White House Jewish official to a synagogue audience in a Washington suburb that "if you want Jerry Falwell in the White House, vote for Reagan." Another was "if you want to continue having Libyan agent Billy Carter influencing the White House, reelect his brother."

Both Sides Stigmatized

Dr. Bailey Smith was a generally unknown southwest clergyman who would have stayed that way if this were not an election year, but his remark, "God does not hear the prayers of Jews," caused a storm that some suspect was politically stimulated. Reagan had appeared at the meeting at which Smith spoke but, Reagan's aides stress, he did not even hear Smith's remark; let alone endorse it as Democrats allege.

While Reagan is being convicted of guilt by association with the Evangelicals, Carter is remembered as having told his Bible class at the First Baptist Church in Washington on April 23, 1977, according to The Philadelphia Inquirer, that "He (Jesus Christ) had directly challenged in a fatal way the existing church and there was no possible way for the Jewish leadership to avoid the challenge. So they decided to kill Jesus."

At the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's request at that time, the White House provided a clarification that toned down these remarks and they were forgotten until after Reagan had been stigmatized by Carter's Christian-Jew statement.

Then, the other day in Temple Her Tamid in Van Nuys, Calif., Reagan, in denouncing anti-Semitism as "abhorrent" with reference to the outrages in Paris, criticized Carter for failing, he said, to "speak out forcefully to the world" about the bombings and say there is "no room" for the "virus that brought us the Holocaust."

That brought Vice President Walter Mondale

into the White House news room to say "Reagan should apologize" because his "facts were totally wrong." Mondale said that "immediately following the Paris bombings," Carter had "condemned" them in the "clearest possible terms."

As proof, Mondale read a three-line statement quoting Carter. Since Mondale did not say when and where the President had made that statement, press people were asked in the White House, the Democratic National Committee and the Carter-Mondale Committee to provide the specifics. It appeared that he made it at a town meeting in response to a question but the date was uncertain. The State Department, Secretary of State Edmund Muskie and National Security Council chairman Zbigniew Brzezinski also denounced the synagogue bombing when asked for comment.

Issue Of The Evangelicals

Reagan also has been assailed as courting racists by alluding to "state's rights" at a rally in the south but overlooked is that the staunchest supporters of "state's rights" are both Blacks and Jews — the Black Leadership Forum and the American Jewish Congress. They testified strenuously in the Senate — rightly from their position as minorities — against proposed abolition of the Electoral College which is at the heart of "state's rights."

While the general belief seems to be that most Evangelicals support Reagan, an Associated Press-NBC poll published in the Washington Star Oct. 15 said "born-again Protestants are now splitting their votes" between Carter and Reagan "despite endorsements of Reagan by some leaders of the conservative movement. In fact Reagan does more poorly among born-again voters than among others."

Both Carter and independent candidate John Anderson have described themselves as "born-again Christians." The poll, taken Oct. 8-10, showed Reagan the choice of 42 percent, Carter 41 percent, Anderson six percent, one percent for others and 10 percent not sure. "Among non-born-again Protestants," the poll showed, "Reagan leads Carter by a 51-27 edge while holding a 43-35 margin among all likely voters."

The Issue Of Israel

From the start of his Administration, Carter has had high Jewish visibility in his appointments, including those at the White House and in his Cabinet and as ambassadors. He also focused national attention on the Holocaust and Jewish heritage in America and opened his door to visitors concerned with Jewish affairs.

On his policy towards Israel, however, he has been almost continually criticized. Early in his first year as President, after Saudi Arabians saw him, the word from Arabs was "we have an Arab White House." While foreign aid under Carter is almost half the total given Israel since its founding, the statisticians seldom note that inflation, the payments for withdrawal from the Sinai bases, the increases sponsored in Congress also have been principal factors in that figure.

In his Clinton, Mass. speech that like the Rogers Plan, virtually set back Israel to its insecure 1967 borders, his courting of the PLO and the U.S. positions in the UN Security Council, his record, Carter watchers point out, indicates he is opposed to meaningful territorial change supporting Israel's security and permanent disqualification of the PLO in the peace process with Palestinian Arabs.

Only Anderson among the candidates appears free of the albatross of pro-Arab advocates among his top aides. Reagan has William Simon, John Connally and Robert Fluer on his side. With Carter are Brzezinski, George Ball (who left Anderson) and Andrew Young who continues urging U.S. recognition

of the PLO without precondition.

In a jibe at President Ford's 1975 threat to "reassess" the U.S. position toward Israel, Carter says he will never reassess his policy toward Israel. The facts, however, analysts note, indicate he already has many times. This includes his appeasement of the PLO by willingness to water down Security Council Resolution 242, his comparison of the PLO with the American civil rights movement, his view that East Jerusalem is "occupied territory" (that conflicts with his statement about "undivided" Jerusalem).

In summary, the campaign is ending on waves of uncertainty and confusion for many Jewish voters plus a warning to them from some in Washington who urge "don't put all your eggs in one basket." In practical political advice, one observer noted the absence of respectable support for any major candidate could prove damaging to Israel. Whether he wins or loses, the disappointed candidate who believes he has gone all-out for Israel but was rejected could naturally have feelings of ingratitude and make them felt in later political struggles in and out of Congress.

DIFFERING VIEWS ON WHETHER U.S. HAS 'CREDIBILITY' UNDER CARTER TO PRESS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDEAST

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 (JTA) — Spokesmen for the three major candidates for the Presidency disagreed before an audience of leading clergymen from across the country today on whether the United States has the "credibility" under the Carter Administration to press for peace in the Middle East.

Robert Hunter, director of Middle East affairs for the National Security Council and an advisor to President Carter; Dr. Raymond Tanter, a University of Michigan political scientist who is one of Republican candidate Ronald Reagan's Mideast advisors; and J. Owen Zurhellen Jr., a former diplomat who substituted for Patrick Lucey, independent candidate John Anderson's Vice Presidential running mate, spoke at the headquarters of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith here in separate consecutive sessions.

Their appearance was part of a two-day National Religious Convocation in Support of Israel which began last night at the Harkness House and continued all day today at the ADL headquarters. The Rev. John Pawlikowski of the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, stressed that those present wanted to express "our concern for Israel" and "the continuation of American policy in support of Israel" "whoever may be elected."

Both Lucey, whose speech was read by Zurhellen, and Tanter, charged that Carter's concern with reaching a comprehensive settlement has caused a lack of progress in the Middle East. Hunter said that Carter has spent more time on seeking peace in the Mideast than on any other problem of his Presidency and stressed the President's accomplishments in bringing about the Camp David accords.

Blueprint For Disaster

Tanter charged that the Carter Administration had gone into office with a "blueprint for disaster" in the Mideast because it sought a comprehensive settlement which he claimed gives a veto to the most "recalcitrant" of the Arabs. Tanter said that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat

rescued this policy by going to Jerusalem thus allowing the Administration to achieve a "good outcome of bad policy." But he said there was no guarantee that bad policy would be rescued in the future.

Tanter said a Reagan Administration would stress peace through strength which would more likely get Saudi Arabia and Jordan to join in the peace talks with Egypt and Israel.

Lucey said that the Administration's "rigidity" in insisting on a comprehensive settlement has prevented the expansion of the Camp David accords. Hunter defended U.S. actions in the Mideast. He said the U.S. could not have prevented the war between Iran and Iraq but has kept it from spreading and assured that the flow of oil will continue through the Persian Gulf.

Hunter, who has participated in the autonomy talks between Israel and Egypt, said that the next stage is the hardest for Israel and that the Jewish State needs from the U.S. "understanding and support," and not pressure. He said the U.S. has not pressured Israel.

The spokesmen for all three candidates said the U.S. will not recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization as long as it continued to be a terrorist group and they also voiced opposition to a Palestinian state.

Future Of West Bank, Jerusalem

Tanter said Reagan believes that the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip must be decided in negotiations with Jordan. Hunter said that if an autonomous government is achieved for the West Bank and Gaza then the experiences of the next five years of Israelis and Palestinians living together under this agreement could result in finding a means for a settlement of the area.

Zurhellen, a political science professor at the University of North Carolina, who formerly served in the U.S. Embassy in Israel, said neither Jordan nor the PLO could speak for the Palestinians. He said the decision for the Palestinians must be made by those who have remained in the West Bank and Gaza.

All three spokesmen stressed that Jerusalem must remain undivided. When Hunter was asked why the U.S. abstained Aug. 20 on the UN Security Council resolution attacking Israel for the Jerusalem Law, he noted that the U.S. needs votes in the General Assembly and Security Council in support of other issues, such as the hostages in Iran and Afghanistan. He said the U.S. did not approve of the Jerusalem Law because it "prejudged the final status of the city" but it felt the resolution was unfair and one-sided against Israel.

NEW YORK (JTA) — A memorial meeting will be held for Dr. Emanuel Neumann on Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the World Zionist Organization-American Section headquarters at 515 Park Ave. Neumann, who was a former chairman of the WZO-American Section, died Sunday in Tel Aviv at the age of 87. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the WZO-American Section, and Ivan Novick, president of the Zionist Organization of America, of which Neumann was president and honorary president, will address the gathering.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Official Israeli spokesmen have flatly denied an American newspaper report that Israel is assisting Iran by sending war supplies for the struggle against Iraq. Spokesmen for the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Ministry denied the report as entirely without foundation.