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REPORT JEWISH EMPLOYEES AT H.U.D. ORGANIZE TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- The Federal Times, a Washington weekly reporting developments affecting government personnel, says Jewish employees at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have organized to combat anti-Semitism within the agency.

In its current edition, the Federal Times said that the employees are "troubled by a perceived insensitivity of uppermanagement-federal employees" and "are organizing a Jewish caucus to protect their rights and push for more active enforcement of equal employment opportunity."

Interviewing HUD personnel about the article by Winston Wood, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned that a Jewish group is being formally organized both for professional and cultural purposes as well as to combat unfair treatment.

Several Cases Of Bias Presented To ADL

It was pointed out that several cases of discrimination against Jews have been presented to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and one case has entered legal proceedings. One allegation was that time off for Jewish holidays has been refused in some instances although federal policy is to accommodate religious personnel.

In cultural pursuits, the Jewish group plans an exhibit at HUD in conjunction with the Jewish Book Month Nov. 2-Dec. 2 which is under the national auspices of the JWB Jewish Book Council and to organize Hebrew conversation and Jewish heritage classes. Of the approximately 4000 employees at HUD's main offices here, about 300, or less than 10 percent, are believed to be Jewish.

HUD officials told JTA that HUD Secretary Moon Landrieu is concerned about the discrimination allegations and is seeking to eliminate them. As Mayor of New Orleans, Landrieu developed a reputation for strong support for civil rights, the officials said. "His staff is working with the Jewish groups," a Landrieu aide told JTA. "If there is discrimination he'll do what he can to eliminate it. Thus far, however, no list of grievances has been presented and 'no formal request' to see Landrieu has been made, the aide said.

GOREN UNDER FIRE FOR HAVING OPERATION IN A U.S. HOSPITAL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren has come under severe criticism in the press and public opinion here for having gone to Cleveland for a quadruple bypass operation by an American surgeon. The operation was performed successfully last week by Dr. Floyd Loop who performed a similar operation on King Khalid of Saudi Arabia two years ago.

The criticism is two-fold. Goren is being taken to task for having surgery performed abroad when hundreds of similar operations are performed each year at Israeli hospitals. People are also

incensed over the rights and privileges of important public figures to have their medical expenses covered by the public purse, including expenses incurred abroad.

The Goren case has stirred debate here over the various laws and regulations awarding medical benefits to VIPs. These laws and regulations are not entirely clear. Some top level persons, including government ministers, are entitled to public defrayment of their medical expenses and those of members of their families. Several newspapers have called for a thorough overhaul of the entire system so that such benefits are limited only to the highest office holders.

The question of when the public should pay the medical bills of officials who receive treatment abroad is also being aired. In Goren's case, his Israeli physician, Dr. Henri Neufeld, chief of cardiology at the Sheba Medical Center, did not recommend that the Chief Rabbi go overseas for surgery. But Goren's family decided on the Cleveland Clinic and Neufeld provided the Americans with his full medical history.

This issue has been brought to the Knesset in a motion submitted by Labor MK Gad Yaacobi.

NAVON, SADAT ANNOUNCE 8-POINT ACCORD TO EXPEDITE NORMALIZATION

By Yitzhak Shargil

MIT ABUL KUM, Egypt, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- President Yitzhak Navon and President Anwar Sadat announced here today their agreement on an eight-point program to expedite the normalization process between Egypt and Israel. It is expected to be ratified by their respective governments and become operable in the near future.

The two Presidents, who met for 80 minutes at Sadat's villa in this Nile delta village where he was born, also discussed the Egyptian-Israeli autonomy negotiations for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But they had no statements to make on that subject except for the expressed hope that a breakthrough in the autonomy talks will be achieved soon.

"As to autonomy, we have agreed that there should be more effort put into a full autonomy process and this is the role for our governments," Sadat said, indicating that Navon is not here to discuss the autonomy issues. (See related story P.3.)

The Egyptian President noted significantly that autonomy and normalization were treated on different levels and were not directly connected in their talks. Addressing a joint press conference in the garden of his residence, Sadat said, "Let us not link this and that." He conceded that Egypt and Israel hold different views on the question of full autonomy. But as to normalization, "we have to do everything to consolidate the relations between Israel and Egypt," he said.

Sadat gave Navon the honor of announcing that the subjects on which they agreed will be presented to the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee which will convene at an early date either in El Arish or Beersheba to confirm the agreements and put them into action.

Points Of Agreement

The following points were agreed to with respect to normalization:

The transportation of commercial goods by truck between Israel and Egypt across Sinai. Hitherto freight traffic has moved by air or sea, more expensive in the first case and more time consuming in the other; Egypt will reinstate the tourist visa arrangements, revoked several weeks ago, for Israelis and others who wish to visit the Santa Katerina monastery in Sinai from Israel; El Al, Israel's airline, will add a flight to Cairo for a total of four flights a week. Nefertiti, the Egyptian airline, already has two flights a week to Israel.

There will be also a mutual exchange of exhibitions between the two countries demonstrating achievements in agriculture, industry and culture; a joint headquarters will be set up to study the peace process and consider what can be done to enhance it; there will be exchange visits between Israeli and Egyptian youths beginning next summer; delegations of scientists, editors, industrialists and representatives of the various branches of commerce will exchange visits; an Egyptian cultural delegation will visit Israel shortly to discuss cultural exchange between the two countries.

Sadat announced that additional projects discussed were a future highway linking Eilat with Egypt across Sinai and an Egyptian-Israeli railroad.

Today's meeting was a follow-up of the two-hour formal meeting held by Sadat and Navon at the Abdin Palace in Cairo Monday night. They agreed at that time that a second formal meeting was needed to conclude discussion of several subjects not resolved at their initial get-together.

Moments Of Embarrassment

Both Presidents had their moments of embarrassment at today's press conference. Sadat appeared upset when a reporter asked if he would cede Yamit, an Israeli town in northern Sinai, to Israel as a gesture of good-will. He replied that such a move would be contrary to the Camp David agreements. "It would be against all that has been agreed and understood. I cannot make gestures on land or sovereignty," he said.

Navon seemed disconcerted when he was asked if he had instructions from Tel Aviv to refrain from dealing with the question of autonomy. "Not every report from Tel Aviv is true," he said.

Another issue raised by Navon was the continuing search for the remains of Israeli soldiers still listed as missing in action in the 1973 war. He said the Egyptians have been very cooperative in that matter and will continue to extend any assistance necessary in the search for the MIAs.

All in all, Navon's two official meetings with Sadat seem to have gone well. The Israeli President stressed after their initial discussion Monday night that he had not come to Egypt to negotiate in detail over outstanding issues but to air and review the situation and consider ways and means to promote the continuing negotiations. He said that Sadat has been consistent in his approach to the issues and stands by the address he made to the Knesset on his historic visit to Jerusalem in November, 1977.

At an impromptu press conference Monday night, Sadat said the question of "full autonomy" had been raised, emphasizing the word "full," and also the issue of Jerusalem which he sees as related to it. "Yes, we have raised the

question of Jerusalem," he said. "After all, this is part of the general autonomy issue."

Significantly, the Egyptian media, including its French and English as well as Arabic publications, has given extensive coverage to the Navon visit. Front page articles and photographs are devoted to Navon, describing his personality in detail. Some journalists have suggested that Navon may become Israel's next Prime Minister. Their thesis is that the opposition Labor Party may unite around him if the bitter leadership struggle between Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin is not resolved.

Navon, who arrived in Cairo Sunday, returns to Israel tomorrow. Tonight, he and his wife will host a dinner in honor of President Sadat and his wife, Jehan, at the Abdin Palace.

DISPARITY BETWEEN STATE DEPARTMENT, CARTER OVER NATURE OF THE PLO

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- President Carter's unqualified statement in last night's debate with his Republican opponent Ronald Reagan that the Palestine Liberation Organization is a "terrorist organization" was upheld by the White House today but not by the State Department.

Another statement by the President that the United States has "a common defense capability" with Egypt and Israel was referred by the State Department to the White House for explanation. But the White House said it would offer comment later.

Both matters arose in questions by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the State Department. Spokesman John Tattner was asked, since Carter had without qualification described the PLO as a terrorist organization would the Department repudiate a statement about the PLO it made Sept. 4.

On that date, the Department's response when asked whether the PLO was a terrorist organization, was: "We view the PLO as an organization, elements and members of which advocate and carry out acts of terrorism. We condemn such acts and those organizations and individuals who perpetrate them."

Saying the Department "stands on its previous statement," Tattner said today that "is the U.S. government's position. Okay? It is the President of the United States' position. If he had time in last night's debate to set out all of the nuances that that position contains, I know he would have. I think I know everybody interested in the question who heard him say that knows what he meant."

When Tattner was asked whether he would repeat the President's own statement, he refused. When he was pressed about the "ambiguity" of the Department's position, Tattner said the President would have made the Department's statement: Asked how he knows this, he replied "because the President thoroughly understands the foreign policy of which he is in charge."

Afterwards, JTA asked White House Deputy Press Secretary Ray Jenkins about the President's statement and the State Department's position. Jenkins replied, "Obviously he (the President) said what he said. We stand on what he said last night. It represents his position."

Tattner also had been asked whether Carter believes that "alleged non-terrorist elements" of the PLO maintain the PLO office that operates in Washington. "I don't know what the President believes," he said. Then he added, "I'll just 'no comment' that."

Asked for the meaning and the arrangements that have been made with reference to the President's statement on "common defense capability" which he mentioned in connection with efforts to maintain Middle East peace, Tattner said that the President

"in a capsulated way" discussed the matter.

Trautner twice suggested to the reporters that the White House explain the President's statement, but he said "my guess is" that the President was referring to the joint U.S.-Egyptian military exercises in Egypt and "obviously close and friendly relations with Israel over the years. That's the way I explain that."

NAVON PROPOSES ISRAEL, EGYPT SET UP 'SUPREME HEADQUARTERS FOR PEACE'

By Yitzhak Shargil

CAIRO, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- President Yitzhak Navon of Israel proposed today that Israel and Egypt establish a "supreme headquarters for peace" to conduct a continuing dialogue and study of the various aspects of the peace now existing between them, how to enhance and deepen those aspects and fulfill the expectations of the people of both countries.

Navon offered his ideas in an address to the Council of the National Democratic Party, the ruling party of Egypt, consisting of some 60 of Egypt's top political figures headed by former Premier Mustapha Khalil. Speaking in Arabic, in which he is fluent, Navon also touched on political issues relating to the West Bank-Gaza autonomy negotiations and the Palestinian problem.

"These are subjects of historic, religious, emotional and security significance," he said. "There are serious differences of opinion between us and it is senseless to underestimate them. If Egypt and Israel wished to sweep them under the rug, the negotiations could have been concluded long ago. But the deliberations are being conducted in the desire to confront the problems and try to arrive at reasonable solutions and this calls for great patience," he said.

"I am confident that with persistence, patience and mutual trust between us, we shall overcome the difficulties and arrive at a just and agreed solution," Navon declared. He added that "these difficulties must not interfere with the orderly progress of normalization and a growing improvement in the relations between us."

Navon's Speech Well Received

Navon's hour-long speech was interrupted by applause only once -- when he mentioned President Anwar Sadat. But his address appears to have been well received by his audience of government ministers, party leaders and the heads of various governmental departments.

Although he stressed that it was not within his competence to negotiate on autonomy or any other subject during his visit to Egypt, he mentioned the Palestinian issue. "We know of its existence, appreciate its importance and want its solution," he said. "Unfortunately, the Arabs of Palestine and the government of Jordan have refused to sit at the negotiating table. In their absence, it is Egypt that assumed the burden of negotiating the details of autonomy."

Navon said he came to Egypt to bring to the Egyptian people a true greeting from the Israeli people and to express its determination to adhere to the path of peace in spite of all difficulties. He said his proposed "supreme headquarters for peace" would comprise people of great moral and spiritual strength of both countries, including teachers, psychologists, sociologists and statesmen.

MUSKIE ASSURES JEWISH LEADERS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Edmund Muskie vowed last night that the United States will veto any resolution at the United Nations that called for sanctions against Israel or tried to change Security Council Resolution 242. The United States is determined to veto "any malicious, unfair" resolution against Israel at the Security Council, Muskie declared.

Addressing some 200 leaders of Jewish organizations and communities in the metropolitan area at a meeting at the Hilton Hotel here sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, Muskie reiterated the Carter Administration's commitment to Israel, noting that under President Carter the U.S. provided Israel with over \$10 billion in economic and military aid.

"Our commitment to Israel is not just a moral commitment," the Secretary of State said. "It comes out of a clear sense of our national interest." He said that Israel's security is also essential to the U.S. because it is essential to the achievement of a comprehensive peace in the Mideast. He added that the Camp David process is the best way to achieve a comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbors.

During the question-and-answer period at the meeting, Muskie was criticized for allegedly saying that Israel's adoption of the law proclaiming united Jerusalem as its capital was destructive of the peace process. To that Muskie replied: "I did not use those words and although I am your guest I will not stand by and allow you to put my positions in those words. I did not use the word destructive. I said it could have, would have and did have the effect of disrupting and interrupting the Camp David process. Whether it is destructive, you have to make the judgement."

Linowitz: Progress On Autonomy Issue

Another representative of the Carter Administration, Sol Linowitz, the special American envoy to the Mideast, claimed last night that substantial progress had been made concerning the issue of autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He said that it is time the Palestinians take a close look at what had been achieved.

Linowitz, who spoke at the Economic Club here, said the progress that had been made is giving the concept of full autonomy significant meaning and content. "I believe we are now at a point where the Palestinians should look long and hard at our process. And I hope they can be persuaded to do so."

Linowitz said that he met with the leaders of Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Morocco, urging their support of the autonomy negotiations. "With all of them, I have discussed our objectives in the negotiations and the reasons why we believe our course holds out the promise of a better way of life for the Palestinians. I can tell you that they are watching our negotiations with great interest, as the only game in town."

Linowitz expressed optimism over the autonomy negotiations also in an address last Sunday to the National Executive Council of the American Jewish Committee at the Bond Court Hotel in Cleveland. Expressing hope, Linowitz said that "during our recent negotiating session in Washington, the parties moved closer together." He said that both Israel and Egypt "agree that Israel's security must be fully preserved and protected, and that the dangers of attack, terrorism, and disorder must be carefully guarded against."

BACKGROUND REPORT**JEWISH CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Among the candidates in the national elections Nov. 4 running for 34 U.S. Senate seats and all 435 House of Representative seats, there are five Jewish candidates in the Senate races and 48 in the House contests in 26 states.

In addition, in Vermont, State Attorney General M. Jerome Diamond, a Democrat who is Jewish, is seeking to replace Governor Richard Snelling, a Republican seeking reelection as the state's chief executive.

These election facts resulted from canvasses by David Brody, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and the Washington bureau of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Besides Jacob Javits running on the Liberal Party ticket in New York to keep the Senate seat he has held as Republican for 24 years and Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman, the Democrat nominee for Senator in New York, the Senatorial nominees who are Jewish are Republican Arlen Specter, former Philadelphia District Attorney who is seeking to defeat Democrat Peter Flaherty to represent Pennsylvania; Democrat Daniel Berman, a Salt Lake City lawyer trying to unseat Republican Jake Garn in Utah; and Republican Warren Rudman, a former State Attorney General, who is running in New Hampshire against incumbent Democrat John Durkin.

Some Who Are Seeking Reelection

The present Senate has seven Jewish members -- a record number. They are Abraham Ribicoff (D.Conn.), who is not seeking reelection and Richard Stone (D.Fla.), who was defeated in his state's primary runoff. Javits lost in New York's Republican primary. The four incumbents whose six-year terms are continuing are Rudy Boschwitz (R.Minn.), Edward Zorinsky (D.Neb.), Howard Metzenbaum (D.Ohio), and Carl Levin (D.Mich.).

Of the 23 Jewish candidates elected in 1978 to the House, also a record number, 21 are seeking reelection. Holtzman gave up her place to run for the Senate, and Abner Mikva, called "the quintessence of liberalism," vacated his seat for Illinois upon being appointed to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Jewish candidates are competing in three Congressional contests. In New York, incumbent Republican Bill Green is opposed by Democrat Mark Green while for Holtzman's place the contest is between Democrat Charles Schumer and Republican Theodore Silberman. Incumbent Democrat William Lehman is opposed in Florida by Republican Alvin Dent.

Other Jewish Congressional incumbents are: Benjamin Rosenthal, Richard Ottinger, Frederick Richmond, James Scheuer, Stephen Solarz, Theodore Weiss, Lester Wolff, all New York Democrats; Benjamin Gilman (R.N.Y.), Willie Gradison (R.Ohio), Marc Marks (R.Pa.), Anthony Beilenson and Henry Waxman, both California Democrats; Gladys Spellman (D.Md.), Sidney Yates (D.Ill.), Daniel Glickman (D.Kans.), Martin Frost (D.Texas), Ken Kramer (R.Colo.) and Elliott Levitas (D.Ga.).

Women In The Race

Holtzman is one of five women -- two Dem-

ocrats and three Republicans -- running for the Senate; among the 51 women seeking House seats, two Jewish women are among 25 Republicans and four among 26 Democrats.

Holtzman and Spellman are the only Jewish women elected two years ago. Nominees in the Nov. 4 election for House seats, besides Spellman, are Republicans Bobbi Fiedler in California and Sheila Seuss in Indiana; and Democrats Lynn Cutler in Iowa, Karen Burstein in New York and Jeanette Reisman in Pennsylvania.

Other Jewish candidates seeking election to Congress are Democrat Les Miller, Arizona; Democrats Tom Lantos and Matt Miller and Republican John Adler, California; Democrats Sam Gejdenson and Joseph Lieberman, Connecticut; Democrat Alan Becker, Florida; Democrats Robert Weinberger and David Robinson, Illinois; Democrat Howard Silberman, Maine; Democrat Barney Frank, Massachusetts; Democrat Joel Salitman, Minnesota; Democrat Richard Fellman, Nebraska; Democrat Lewis Weinstein, New Jersey; Republican Neil Wallace, New York; Democrat Bob Shamansky, Ohio; Democrat Ron Wyden, Oregon; and Republican Steven Snyder, Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE LEADERS MEET WITH FRENCH OFFICIAL TO DISCUSS ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS IN FRANCE

PARIS, Oct. 29 (JTA) -- Howard Squadron, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, met for over an hour last Friday with French Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Olivier Stirn.

The minister told Squadron and the Presidents Conference executive director, Yehuda Hellman, that the French government is doing all it can to track down the persons responsible for the Oct. 3 Rue Copernic Temple bombing and bring them to trial. Stirn, himself Jewish, said it is French official policy to fight anti-Semitism in all its forms and by all legal methods.

Squadron conferred earlier with the president of the Representative Council of Jewish Organizations in France (CRIF), Baron Alain de Rothschild. He expressed American Jewry's concern over the increase in anti-Semitic acts in France and Western Europe. He said that American Jewry is keenly interested in what happens in Europe and is keeping in close contact with French Jewry.

Squadron and Hellman also attended the ceremonies marking the installation of Paris' new Chief Rabbi Alain Goldmann at the main synagogue last Thursday. The 49-year-old French-born rabbi was elected last summer to the post by the Paris Consistoire, the French Jewish religious organization which supervises Orthodox activities and elects the Jewish community's main religious leaders.

A representative of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Interior Minister Christian Bonnet and Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac joined France's top Jewish leadership at the ceremony. The Catholic and Protestant churches were also represented.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Irving Bernstein, executive vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, was taken ill in Israel during the recent meeting of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. Shortly after his return he entered a hospital in New York City for an extensive series of diagnostic tests. The illness was diagnosed as a mild heart attack, a spokesperson for the UJA said Wednesday. He is currently under treatment and resting comfortably and is in the process of recovering, it was reported. The date of his projected return to his office has not yet been determined.