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## DANGER OF 'MORAL MAJORITY' TO PLURALISTIC AMERICA EXPLORED

AT C.J.F. ASSEMBLY

By Murray Zuckoff

DETROIT, Nov. 16 (JTA) — Two U.S.

Senators agreed here last night that the Moral Majority represents a potential threat to the pluralistic society in America and, therefore, to American Jewry.

But Sen. Carl Levin (D.Mich.) and Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R.Minn.), both Jewish, differed in their assessment of the strength of this new, right fundamentalist movement which played a role in defeating a number of Congressmen in the recent national elections and which has already drawn up a "hit list" of Congressmen targeted for defeat in the 1982 elections.

The two Senators, who made brief presentations to the closing plenary session of the Council of Jewish Federations' 49th General Assembly and were then "interviewed" by a panel of prominent C.J.F. leaders, also differed on how the Jewish community should separate its attitude toward the Moral Majority's support of Israel and its right-wing orientation on vital domestic and foreign policies.

"Let no one doubt the growing role of the new right," Levin warned. "This election gave the extremists an opportunity to put their foot in the door. Theological answers to political questions are dangerous. When they appeal to the Bible we have to ask — which Bible, which version, which conflicting passages? We must maintain a pluralistic America."

### Award To Falwell Criticized

Levin noted that while the Moral Majority "is given more credit than it is entitled to" the real danger "is not the Moral Majority's actual strength at this time but its perceived strength." In addition, he observed, the issue is not "whom they embrace but if we embrace them for their support of Israel. We can welcome their support for Israel, but we must be clear that we do not accept the positions they espouse on social issues and church-state issues."

Levin said he was "bothered" by the Jabotinsky Centennial Medal Premier Menachem Begin of Israel presented to Moral Majority leader Jerry Falwell last week in New York. The presentation of the award to Falwell, one of 100 prominent Americans receiving the medal, was also rapped by Sen. Frank Church (D.Idaho) who refused to accept his award because Falwell was being honored. The Moral Majority had targeted Church for defeat.

Levin cautioned that the Moral Majority's pro-Israel position does not imply that American Jews should be silent about the Moral Majority's positions on domestic issues. "I do not believe in silence," he said. Most churches, he noted, oppose what the Moral Majority stands for and this provides American Jewry with an opportunity to join with these church groups, to assure a pluralistic society.

Boschwitz noted that the Moral Majority is not homogeneously rightwing and conservative.

He said the polls showed that two-thirds of the Moral Majority's supporters voted for President Carter in the recent election.

Nevertheless, he said, "we have to organize in our communities" and "we have to impact our Senators and Congressmen" to limit the affect of the Moral Majority's pressure for programs detrimental to America's pluralistic fabric. Boschwitz also noted that President-elect Ronald Reagan rejected pressure from the Moral Majority as to whom he should pick as his Vice Presidential running mate.

The issue of the Moral Majority and other theological groups in the U.S. was a topic for discussion in several Assembly plenary sessions. The consensus was that these theologians are a potential danger because they seek to impose their stringent religious concepts on America as the only correct concepts, but there was no consensus on whether they automatically constitute a threat to Jews because of their fundamentalist views and whether they can become a focal point for organized anti-Semitism.

### New Congress and Foreign Aid

On the issue of how the new Congress will respond to foreign aid to Israel and how it will respond to the Camp David peace process, Boschwitz said "foreign aid will probably be harder to get. We lost some friends on the Foreign Relations Committee like (Richard) Stone (D.Fla.), (Jacob) Javits (R.N.Y.) and Church. We need new friends on the committee and I may be on the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee."

Levin noted that "we can't lose a Javits, Stone and Church and not be hurt, even if we pick up a Boschwitz." He said that even in previous Congresses there were moves to cut foreign aid and it will be more and more difficult to expect foreign aid for Israel while there is talk of cuts in domestic programs. "Foreign aid is not popular with the public," Levin said, "not just to Israel, but across the board."

On the issue of the peace process in the Middle East, Levin said that Reagan sees the U.S. role in this process as being more passive. He cited the fact that Reagan made no reference to the Camp David potential in his major address to the B'nai B'rith International convention in Washington last September. Boschwitz stated that Reagan has a long history of support for Israel that "is unswerving and uncaptulating."

### Continued Support For Soviet Jewry Seen

On the issue of continuing Congressional support for Soviet Jewish emigration in the context of a possible U.S. confrontation with the Soviet Union under a Reagan Administration, Levin said it is necessary to keep "the public glare" on the issue of emigration. He noted that there are others in the USSR, aside from Jews, who want to emigrate, like the Pentacostals and other Christians. He suggested that the issue of emigration as a basic human rights issue, affords the basis for links between Jews and Christians on this issue.

Boschwitz said he concurred entirely with Levin on this point but rejected the view that "we are going into a period of confrontation with the

Russians." He said he was also concerned with Jewish emigration from countries other than the Soviet Union.

Earlier, the Assembly adopted a resolution welcoming Reagan's assertion that Israel is a strategic ally of the U.S. and stated that "we look forward to President-elect Reagan fulfilling his pledge to keep Israel strong" as an essential component of his efforts "to improve U.S. defense capabilities and strategic posture throughout the world."

The resolution urged Reagan to give his support to the foreign aid package for fiscal 1981 when it comes before Congress and urged Congress "to continue its pattern of providing Israel with strong economic and military support which is vital to both Israel and U.S. interests."

Another resolution called for Jerusalem to remain "forever undivided" and urged Reagan "to formally acknowledge Israel's just and humane administration of Jerusalem, her scrupulous maintenance of access to all holy places and their protection, her sovereignty over united Jerusalem and her sovereign rights to designate Jerusalem as Israel's capital."

Marton Mandel was re-elected president of the CJF for a third term.

#### BEGIN SAYS ISRAEL WILL NEVER

#### "DESCEND" FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS BUT WON'T COMMENT ON ANNEXATION BILL

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Nov. 16 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Menachem Begin declared today that Israel could never "descend" from the Golan Heights. But he would not comment on whether his government will support a bill now in the Knesset to annex the Golan Heights.

Answering questions on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press," Begin also said that a Jordanian-Palestinian state proposed by the opposition Labor Party as a solution for the West Bank would be just as dangerous to Israel as a separate Palestinian state. It would be the "same danger," the Premier stressed, because Yasir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization "would be invited" into that state's government and it would soon be a PLO-dominated country. Begin stressed that a Palestinian state would be a "mortal danger" to Israel as well as a Soviet base threatening the West.

"The Arab nation has 21 sovereign states," Begin said, "we have one little state. It should not be imperilled."

#### Non-Committal. On Reagan Administration

The Premier refused to say whether his government would back the bill to annex the Golan because, he said, the Cabinet has not discussed the issue yet. Nor would he say whether his comment that Israel will never "descend" from the Golan because of the danger it would present to Israel meant Israel plans to continue occupying all the Golan it now holds.

Begin was also not specific on his attitude toward the incoming Administration of President-elect Ronald Reagan. He said Reagan's press conference statement following his election in which he again labelled the PLO as a "terrorist" organization was "a good sign" for Israel and other foreign countries that the new President intended to keep his campaign promises. The Premier said he was also pleased that Reagan supports a united Jerusalem under Israeli sover-

eignty. He said that the "Vaticanization" plan suggested by Reagan for Jerusalem during the campaign "does not apply to Jerusalem" and he hopes to convince the new President of that when he meets him.

Begin said that "President Carter did his best" to continue the autonomy negotiations for the West Bank and Gaza Strip and noted that new autonomy talks were scheduled soon. Begin said autonomy will enable Israel to "live together with our Arab neighbors in peace." He said the eventual agreement must allow the Arabs on the West Bank and Gaza Strip to govern their own daily lives while providing security for Israel.

#### 10,000 IN JERUSALEM DEMONSTRATE OVER RESURGENT INFLATION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 16 (JTA) -- An estimated 10,000 Israelis participated in a mass demonstration here this morning to denounce the government's economic policies which they blamed for the surging inflation rate. The demonstration was organized by Histadrut whose Secretary General, Yeruham Meshel, demanded that Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz resign.

It was conducted while the Cabinet was holding its regular weekly meeting in the Prime Minister's Office. Hurwitz, for his part, told his colleagues that Histadrut deliberately torpedoed his attempts to work out a wage-price "package deal" to stem inflation. He accused the labor federation of trying to cling to the special advantages enjoyed by its pension funds. But Hurwitz also had sharp words for some of his fellow ministers who he said were "balking at Treasury efforts to hold down government spending."

#### Inflation Rate Spirals Upward

The demonstration and the angry recriminations in the Cabinet were sparked by figures released here Friday that showed inflation soaring to a rate of 138 percent and the cost-of-living index up by 11 percent in October, the second largest monthly increase in Israel's history and the highest since November, 1977. Those figures sent shock waves through the population and the political establishment. According to unofficial forecasts, the November figures will be still higher. The inflation rate for the final quarter of 1980 is expected to be in the order of 200 percent, considerably higher than when Hurwitz took over the Finance Ministry from Simcha Ehrlich a year ago and announced that the battle against inflation would be his top priority.

Hurwitz had recently intimated that he had inflation under control. The rate seemed to be slackening. Last August it was only 8.2 percent. Reacting to the October figures today, he blamed the government as a whole for his failure to stem the tide — meaning that various ministers were refusing to accept cuts in their ministry budgets.

Hurwitz denied however that he was planning to resign and pull his Rafi faction out of the Likud-led coalition government. But he has warned repeatedly in the past that he would strike out on his own if the Likud ministers failed to give full support to his economic policies. Potential supporters of a separate Rafi list in next year's elections have called on Hurwitz to link up with former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan to establish a new right-of-center political faction.

Dayan, who attended the Rafi meeting in Tel Aviv last week, said he did not favor a new party, "at this time" but indicated he did not rule out that option for the future. Some pollsters give a Dayan-Hurwitz faction up to ten seats in the next Knesset.

## BEGIN TELLS C.J.F ASSEMBLY ISRAEL REJECTS GUARANTEES, RELIES ON OWN STRENGTH FOR SURVIVAL

By Murray Zuckoff

DETROIT, Nov. 16 (JTA) — Israel does not want to be "a protected state" and does not want foreign guarantees to assure its survival. Militarily, Israel is stronger today than the Jewish people have ever been since the time of the Maccabees.

This theme was expressed forcefully by Premier Menachem Begin here Thursday night in an address to more than 3000 North American Jewish communal leaders attending the 49th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations at the Detroit Plaza Hotel.

Begin, the first Israeli Premier in office to address a C.J.F assembly, stressed that "Israel does not ask anyone to fight for us, to shed blood for us. We can defend ourselves." Israel, he declared, does not want foreign guarantees because "There is no guarantee that can guarantee an international guarantee."

### Israel's Strength Is Its Guarantee

"There are some who learn the mistakes of history only to repeat them," he said to applause and laughter. "Some learn the mistakes of history to avoid them. Israel takes pride in belonging to the second group," Begin said. International guarantees, he noted, did not save the small European countries from being overrun and devastated by Hitler's war machine. Israel, Begin said, "wants friendship, alliances, but not guarantees."

One guarantee that Israel's security will remain intact is its own defense machinery, which Begin termed "Israel's lifeline." Another element sustaining Israel's security is its hatred of war and its love of peace. As a nation that has lost 14,000 people in five wars since the State of Israel was born 32 years ago, "we know the cruelty of wars and we want to give our people a historic period of peace," Begin said. "We want to live in peace, Jews and Arabs, in the Middle East."

He noted that Israel has made great sacrifices for peace and the agreement reached with Egypt at Camp David has provided peace with Israel's largest Arab neighbor. Begin observed however that there are some in the West who claim that the Camp David agreement is taking an inordinately long time to be implemented and that, in any event, it is merely a piece of paper.

Rejecting this approach, Begin declared: "We do not believe in the international cynicism that a peace treaty is a scrap of paper which can be discarded, which can be thrown away. The declared policy of Israel is to stand by the Camp David agreements, to carry them out and to see them realized." But, he cautioned, patience is required. "Peace is a historic process and other peace agreements between various nations took years to implement," Begin observed.

### Hints To Reagan Administration

Although his address contained no reference to the present political scene in the United States following Ronald Reagan's Presidential sweep Nov. 4; it was apparent that Begin's references to the need for patience and Israel's unwillingness to become a "protected state" was a signal to the incoming Reagan Administration

to be understanding of Israel's perception of the peace process.

It was also apparently a signal to those in the American Jewish community who have been critical of some of Begin's policies, that the peace process will not be derailed as a consequence.

Begin also appeared to be signalling the incoming Reagan Administration when he declared: "Israel is a faithful ally of the United States and the free world and the most stable ally in the Middle East. Israel has a right to expect that the United States and the free world will be a faithful ally of Israel."

On other issues, Begin noted that Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union is declining precipitously. He urged the assembled Jewish leaders and American Jewry to make their voices heard on behalf of Soviet Jewish emigration.

"We cannot acquiesce in this situation," he said. "We cannot keep quiet. Public opinion is a powerful force. The Kremlin does listen to Western public opinion. On behalf of all gathered at your Assembly, I would like to issue an appeal. I appeal to the Soviet authorities: Let our people go. And let them come to the shores of Israel."

But, Begin continued, the issue of emigration also raises the problem of "neshira," Soviet Jews who leave the USSR but go to countries other than to Israel. This, he said, is "a serious problem which impedes aliya to the Land of Israel" because; if the Soviet Jew applying for an exit visa does not have first degree relatives in a country other than Israel, Soviet authorities use this as an excuse to reject emigration.

### Drop-Out Issue

Although some attending the General Assembly had expected Begin to issue a strong appeal for American Jews to support the view that Soviet emigrants should not receive aid from American Jewish communities to come to the U.S. unless they have first-degree relatives here, he refrained from doing so. Instead he expressed the hope that a solution to the drop-out problem would be found that would be acceptable to Israel and the American Jewish community.

Begin also referred to the persecution of Jews in Ethiopia, Syria and Iran. Focussing on the persecution of Jews in Ethiopia, he declared that "we shall do everything to save them and to bring them home." His pointed reference to the Jews of Ethiopia followed a mini-demonstration inside the ballroom on behalf of the Ethiopians by several young people shortly before Begin began his address.

### Demonstration For Falashas

As Morton Mandel, C.J.F. president and chairman of the session, was making preliminary remarks about Begin, the young people suddenly began to chant: "Let Baruch Tegegne speak. Let Baruch Tegegne speak." This was a reference to a spokesman for the Ethiopian Jews, now residing in Montreal, who had sought earlier in the day to speak briefly at this session about the plight of Ethiopian Jewry and the need for Israel and world Jewry to help rescue them. After a minute of chanting, they were shouted down by the audience and were led out of the hall by security guards.

Before this happened, Mandel called for a minute of silence for those Jews who had died recently in Ethiopia, as the young demonstrators had requested; and for Jews who died recently in France, Belgium and Iran. This was followed by Daniel Shapiro, chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council committee on Ethiopian Jewry, who read a petition which had been

drawn up by supporters of Ethiopian Jews commending the Israeli government and other agencies for their work in helping Ethiopian Jewry.

The petition also urged that the problem of Ethiopian Jewry be made a top priority item. "Time is not on our side," the resolution concluded.

On the issue of Jerusalem, Begin reaffirmed that "Jerusalem is our capital, one indivisible capital for all generations to come." Jerusalem, he added, is not only the capital of Israel "but the heart of the Jewish people."

In a tribute to Begin, Gov. William Milliken of Michigan referred to the Premier as being in "the tradition of Israeli men and women. Begin is a man of peace." Milliken recalled that Begin's quest for peace earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1978, but did not mention that President Anwar Sadat of Egypt shared the prize.

#### Pro-Palestinians Demonstrate

More than a hour before Begin arrived, 2400 people filled the main ballroom to capacity. Some 800 people had to be turned away and re-directed to three other ballrooms where they watched Begin on closed circuit television. The halls and elevator and escalator areas, as well as the street outside the hotel were filled with local and state police and U.S. and Israeli security personnel. Outside the hotel, at some distance away, about 250 pro-Palestinian sympathizers, along with an American First contingent from Chicago, and about a dozen Nazis in uniform, demonstrated against Israel's policies toward the Arabs, and to Begin's presence:

The pro-Palestinian demonstrators shouted: "Begin, you should know we support the PLO" and "Down with Sadat. Long Live Arafat."

#### BEGIN URGES AMERICAN JEWISH YOUTH TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL "BY THE THOUSANDS"

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 16 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin called on American Jews, especially the young generation, to come to Israel on aliya "by the thousands." He made the appeal in an address here last night to an aliya assembly attended by 621 American Jews who are committed to immigrate to Israel during 1981-82.

The gathering at the Hunter College Playhouse, was the first time a Prime Minister of Israel addressed potential American olim. It was sponsored by the Israel Aliya Center and the North American Aliya Movement.

"The greatness of this aliya is its idealism," Begin said, noting that the future olim are leaving the material comforts of America and coming to Israel because of their belief in Zionism and their desire to live in the land of Israel. "My heart is filled with pride," he told his audience, comparing them to the Bilu, the pioneer Jewish settlement movement in Palestine in the late 19th Century. He cautioned the new olim however that Israel is facing many difficulties -- economic, social and security.

#### Describes Challenge, Dangers

But, he told them, they will be coming to Israel to face the challenge of building the country. He added, to applause, "You will build the country in Galilee, in Judaea and Samaria." He pointed out that although peace has been

achieved with Egypt, Israel's major adversary, Israel still faces threats to its security. He said that on its eastern front, Israel is confronted by the combined power of 5500 tanks. He said the people of Israel must always be prepared to defend the country and be prepared to fight "our wars because we don't want others to do it for us."

Begin also referred to the danger of "that organization" -- an obvious reference to the Palestine Liberation Organization, that still "strives to liquidate the 'Zionist entity.'"

"We want you to know the reality before you come to live with us," Begin declared. He said Israel is "a good country to live in" and offers a life with "a sense of mission to its citizens." He said that upon his return to Israel, he will bring the message of this aliya assembly to the people of Israel. "Let more and more come to Israel, following in your footsteps," Begin said. "Let the word get to the thousands of young people in this country." He concluded in Hebrew: "Get up and come to Zion. May God be with you."

#### Kotlowitz Reports American Aliya Down

Meanwhile, Raphael Kotlowitz, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department reported here that the number of American olim to Israel was 20 percent lower this year than last year. The figure of 1979 was 3289.

Kotlowitz spoke at a press conference for Israeli reporters at Jewish Agency headquarters here late Thursday after returning from a four-day aliya conference at the Paramount Hotel in Sullivan County, N.Y. He said that 30 shlichim (emissaries) attended that meeting and that he was "very impressed" with them "and the quality of their work." He said the conference dealt with ways and means to increase the number of olim. He said it was concluded at that meeting "that the task of the shaliach will be easier if the various Jewish communities will be actively involved with the issue. For that purpose we have already started to establish 'aliya councils' with the cooperation of the local leaders of Jewish communities and their members," Kotlowitz said.

On the issue of yordim -- Israelis who emigrate to live abroad -- the Jewish Agency official said "We had a very serious debate ... We concluded that first and foremost we have to approach the children of the yordim. Through them we can reach the parents." He reported that in 1979, 3850 yordim returned to Israel and so far this year 2524 have returned. However, 12,000 Israelis left the country this year against a total aliya in 1980 of 26,000.

#### ISRAEL JOINS COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AT WALT DISNEY WORLD

ORLANDO, Fla., Nov. 16 (JTA) -- Representatives of the State of Israel and Walt Disney World have signed an agreement for the design of a major pavillion representing that country in the community of nations in World Showcase at Epcot Center.

Epcot Center, a vast new showplace for the nations of today and the technology of the future, is under construction at the central Florida resort. It will open Oct. 1, 1982, and cost \$800 million.

The agreement was signed by Joseph Wolff, Special Adviser to the Minister of Finance in Israel and President of the Tourist Industry Development Corp., representing the State of Israel; Carl Bongiorno, President of W.E.D. Enterprises, The Disney Design Organization, and Executive V.P. of Epcot Center; and Howard Roland, Corporate V.P. of Contract Administration representing Walt Disney World, signed the agreement for the Disney organization.