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BEGIN, SADAT HOLD 90 MINUTE SUMMIT IN SINAI, SAY THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH TALKS AND MAY MEET AGAIN SOON

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

OFIRA, Sinai, June 4 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat met for 90 minutes in a private summit conversation in this resort town, due to be handed back to the Egyptians next year, and both leaders expressed satisfaction with their talk. Both hailed the Israel-Egypt peace treaty and the Camp David accords as the only stable factor in a turbulent Middle East.

Begin agreed to Sadat's suggestion that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib should be given more time to try and solve the Syrian missile crisis by diplomatic means, though Begin indicated he was not prepared to give him the open-ended opportunity Sadat suggested. Begin also rejected Sadat's request that Israel halt its bombing and raids on terrorist bases in Lebanon, explaining that these were essential to ensure Israel's security.

The Ofira summit was held in tight security and covered by hundreds of newsmen from Israel, Egypt and correspondents from North America and Europe. Although Begin and his Likud colleagues deny that the Premier requested the summit for political purposes, it will obviously figure large in the Likud alliance campaign, which is concentrating on the peace treaty with Egypt.

Sadat Meets Settlers

Police and security forces made every effort to prevent any demonstrations during Sadat's visit to Ofira. But a group of Jewish settlers due to move out of Sinai next year, demonstrated with posters, none of which were seen by either Sadat or Begin. Sadat met later with Ofira residents who asked permission to remain there when the Egyptians take over. He told them that under the peace agreement all Israelis must leave the area, though some arrangements might be made for some of them at least to return there later to continue in tourist projects in cooperation with the Egyptians.

Syrians Condemned

At a press conference following their meeting, Begin and Sadat both condemned Syria's presence in Lebanon as the cause of that country's turbulence and of the present crisis in the area. Begin announced at the outset of the press conference that he and Sadat hope to meet again in Alexandria soon. Earlier, in a luncheon toast, Begin said that meeting would take place by next month. Begin announced that they had reached "important agreements and serious solutions" during their meeting here but would not disclose the content of those agreements or the problems to which "solutions" had been found.

HABIB RETURNING TO MIDEAST EARLY NEXT WEEK; SADAT AND BEGIN, OR SUCCESSOR, INVITED SEPARATELY TO WASHINGTON IN LATE SUMMER

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 4 (JTA) -- Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle

East, leaves Washington tomorrow to return to the area, the State Department announced today.

David Passage, a Department spokesman, said Habib will first go to Europe and will arrive in the Middle East early next week. He said Habib has no fixed itinerary and where he will go will be announced on a daily basis.

Meanwhile, the White House announced today that President Anwar Sadat of Egypt has accepted an invitation from President Reagan to visit Washington August 5-6 and that Premier Menachem Begin of Israel agreed to come September 9-10, assuming he is still in office. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the invitation to Begin would apply to his successor if Begin's Likud party is defeated in the June 30 Knesset elections.

Habib was sent to the area by the President in an attempt to prevent fighting from breaking out between Israel and Syria over the placing of Syrian SAM-6 anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon. He returned after three weeks in the Mideast and visits to Beirut, Damascus, and Jerusalem with a side trip to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

On his return to Washington last week, Habib reported to Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and has met with Congressional leaders and representatives of the parties involved.

While saying he did not know where Habib would be going, Passage said it could be safely assumed he will be visiting the four capitals he visited on his first journey to the Mideast. "We still believe none of the parties want war and we are hopeful a way can be found to settle the crisis peacefully," Passage said.

HOUSE UNITS APPROVE HONORARY CITIZENSHIP FOR RAOUL WALLENBERG

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 4 (JTA) -- A bill granting honorary United States citizenship to Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who rescued 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis, was recommended for approval today by two subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.) who sponsored the bill, noted that this would be only the second time Congress has granted honorary citizenship to a foreigner. The only other such grant was to Winston Churchill.

The bill also calls on the Soviet Union, which is believed to be holding Wallenberg ever since he was arrested by the Red Army in Budapest in January, 1945, to reveal Wallenberg's whereabouts and to free him.

Lantos, who himself was rescued by Wallenberg when he was 16 years old, told a joint meeting of the Subcommittees on Europe and the Middle East and Human Rights and International Organizations, that Secretary of State Alexander Haig has assured him that President Reagan supports the legislation.

State Department Caveat

The Administration did not send a representative to today's hearing. Instead, Richard Fairbanks, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations sent a letter in which he said the Department does not object to the bill. But, he noted,

giving Wallenberg honorary citizenship, "does not confer on the United States any new international legal right, duty or privilege on which basis to confront the Soviets on their indefensible incarceration of Wallenberg." However, he stressed that the action "would serve to underscore the seriousness in which the American government and people view Soviet behavior in the Wallenberg case."

Fairbanks added that the U.S. plans to "continue to express our concern over the Wallenberg case at every appropriate opportunity and to continue to cooperate with the government of Sweden and all other interested parties to obtain a clarification of Wallenberg's fate."

Rep. Jack Kemp (R. N.Y.) in supporting the bill, read a letter from Rabbi Abraham Cooper, of the Simon Weisenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles urging the Foreign Affairs Committee to demand of the government full documentation of the Wallenberg case. Cooper charged that the State Department and other government agencies had only released about 80 percent of the documents in the case.

The Committee also received a statement from former Secretary of State Edmund Muskie which outlined the background of the Wallenberg mission, Wallenberg then a young businessman was sent to Hungary by the Swedish government and the request of the U.S. War Refugee Board.

Companion Bill In Senate

Lantos said he hoped Congress would be able to adopt the legislation by July 9, the 37th anniversary of Wallenberg's arrival in Budapest. He said he has 275 co-signers to his resolution. Sen. Claiborne Pell (D. R.I.) who has introduced a companion resolution in the Senate says he has 51 co-sponsors and hopes the Senate Foreign Relations Committee can hold hearings soon. Pell stressed that the U.S. has an obligation to Wallenberg and his family. "Certainly our country owes it to Raoul Wallenberg to try to secure for him the same life and liberty he brought to so many others," he said.

Another Congressional witness today, Rep. Millicent Fenwick (R. N.J.) said that Wallenberg "was in this terrible century ... an example of a hero in the ancient classic mold." She said he saw people suffer and acted regardless of their religion. Lantos noted that granting Wallenberg honorary citizenship would show posterity that the U.S. did something to help the victims of the Nazis. "He acted for the conscience of our country and now we must act for him," Lantos said.

While the Soviet Union claims that Wallenberg died while in prison there, Lantos said he believes he is alive because many independent witnesses have described seeing a Swedish prisoner in Soviet prisons. Lantos described Wallenberg's effort to save Jews and others from the Nazis. He said he was forever improvising documents that people were able to use for their rescue. He said Wallenberg's example had a "multiplying" effect because other Embassies began to follow his lead in helping Jews and began issuing documents to help Jews leave. He noted that his wife, Mrs. Annette Lantos was saved by Portuguese papers.

Mrs. Lantos founder and chairman of the International Free Wallenberg Committee testified that the Swedish diplomat "gave a deep comfort not only through his rescue efforts but also through the realization that there was at least one man out there in the free world who heard and responded to our cry of anguish." She told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Jewish community needs to do more to speak up for Wallenberg.

RETURN OF BODIES OF ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN LEBANON CONDITION FOR BURIAL OF SLAIN PLO REP. ON WEST BANK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 4 (JTA) -- A high Israeli source said yesterday that Israel would allow the slain Palestine Liberation Organization official Naim Khader to be buried on the West Bank if the PLO agreed to return the bodies of four Israeli soldiers killed in south Lebanon. Khader, who headed the PLO office in Brussels, was shot to death in the Belgian capital June 1 by an unknown gunman.

The Israeli source disclosed that an unnamed third party is conducting negotiations with the PLO on behalf of the families of the soldiers. The source said Israel was approached by certain international figures with a request that Khader's body be interred at his birthplace near Jenin and presented its conditions to those figures.

BEGIN URGED TO BAR ABU-HATZEIRA FROM CABINET SESSIONS PENDING OUTCOME OF NEW TRIAL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 4 (JTA) -- Justice Minister Moshe Nissim and Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir have recommended to Premier Menachem Begin that he exclude Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzeira from attending Cabinet meetings pending the outcome of his trial on charges of embezzlement from a charitable institution he administered while Mayor of Ramle five years ago.

The trial is scheduled to begin immediately after the June 30 Knesset elections. Abu-Hatzeira was acquitted last month of charges of accepting bribes in connection with his ministerial duties and was invited by Begin to attend Cabinet sessions. It is not clear whether the Prime Minister will accept the Justice Minister's recommendations. He reportedly had asked the Attorney General to reconsider the new charges against the Religious Affairs Minister.

NEW SPOKESMAN FOR ISRAEL EMBASSY

UNITED NATIONS, June 4 (JTA) -- Nachman Shai, spokesman for the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations since May, 1979, has been appointed Press Counselor at Israel's Embassy in Washington beginning Aug. 1. The 34 year old Shai will replace Avi Pazner presently Israel's press attache in Washington, who will return to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

Judith Varnae-Dranger was appointed to replace Shai as Israel's new spokesman at the U.N. She is presently on the staff of Israel's UN Mission.

Shai, prior to his service with the Israeli Mission, had been for five years a military correspondent with Israel Television and had earned a reputation as a commentator on the Mideast military situation. He also served as a political correspondent and covered the Knesset for Israel Television.

The Jerusalem born Shai is married and has two children. (By Yitzhak Rabi)

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Dr. Shlomo Tadmor, an educator and diplomat, has been appointed Director General of the Jewish Agency it was announced this week.

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(Reminder: There will be no JTA Daily News Bulletin dated Monday, June 8 because of the Shavuot holiday.)

MERCAZ SATISFIED WITH PLANS FOR CONSERVATIVE-STYLE WORSHIP AT ABSORPTION CENTERS IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 4 (JTA) -- Officials of the Conservative Zionist movement, MERCAZ, at a meeting of the MERCAZ board here, lauded the decision of the Aliya Department of the Jewish Agency instructing directors of absorption centers in Israel to arrange for worship services in both the Conservative and Reform modes at the request of new settlers, Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, MERCAZ president, reported yesterday.

A resolution approving the order, issued by Raphael Kotlowitz, head of the Aliya Department was approved by the 25 members of the MERCAZ board at its semi-annual meeting here Monday, Rabinowitz said. The formal title of the Conservative Zionist movement is "The Movement to Reaffirm Conservative Zionism." Rabinowitz said the 25 board members are equally divided between rabbis and lay leaders.

Rabinowitz said Kotlowitz's order, issued last April, was in the form of a memorandum to directors of absorption centers and community centers for new olim. He quoted the directive as declaring, "It is the policy of the executive of this (Aliya) department to facilitate these services, if the demands for it come from a reasonable number of olim who live in that particular center."

When that happens, the memorandum continued, "it is the manager or director" who must "make available a suitable place for those who are interested." The memorandum set restrictions however, presumably needed because of Orthodox dominance of religious activities in Israel.

Restrictions Listed

The memorandum said it was not permitted to announce the Conservative and Reform services or "publicize these announcements in the newspapers, or to send written invitations" to the worship services to Conservative and Reform Jews who do not live in the centers. The memorandum also instructed that "in those (absorption) institutions in which the olim ask for a Seder according to the Conservative or Reform style, a suitable place must be made available to them on the condition that all the food must be fully kosher."

The MERCAZ board members approved another resolution viewing "with alarm" a request by the Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem that the World Zionist Organization stop certifying Conservative and Reform students in its courses in Jerusalem for Israelis who will serve abroad. They are taught shechitah (ritual slaughter) and Brith Milah (ritual circumcision). Rabinowitz said the training program had been in operation for the past three or four years with no ban on Conservative and Reform students. He said that, to date, no such ban had been enforced.

He observed that there are presently 35 Conservative congregations in Israel, each served by a Conservative rabbi and a total of 120 Conservative rabbis have settled in Israel, all members of the Rabbinical Assembly, serving in a variety of functions, including teaching.

DOWNWARD TREND CONTINUES IN EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA) -- Although the number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union increased slightly last month compared to the previous month, the general trend is downward, the

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) reported today. According to SSSJ spokesman Glenn Richter, 1141 Jews arrived in Vienna from the USSR in May while the figure for April was 1115. Of the latest arrivals, 84 percent did not proceed to Israel.

This was confirmed today by information given the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by the Intergovernmental Migration Committee in Geneva which reported that of the 1141 arrivals in Vienna last month, only 250 went to Israel.

Richter noted that during the 12 months of 1979, the average monthly figure of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union was 4200 and that in 1980 it dropped to an average of 1800. The Soviet authorities "completely controlled the situation," he said. He reported that the "current tactic" of Soviet authorities is to send letters to "refuseniks" saying they can emigrate. However, the date on which they are ordered to report to the immigration office is invariably later than the date of expiration of their exit visas, Richter said.

AUTOMATED CONTAINERSHIP JOINS ISRAEL'S MERCHANT FLEET

By Hugh Orgel

HAIFA, June 4 (JTA) -- The latest addition to Israel's merchant marine, the 29,000 ton container ship Zim Keelung, arrived here this week on her delivery voyage from Holland and sails tomorrow on her maiden voyage to the Far East via U.S. ports. The \$40 million diesel-powered vessel, described as "one of the most advanced ships in the world", is equipped with sophisticated electronic systems for navigation, safety and loading and an automated power plant which is expected to save about 30 percent in fuel costs.

The Zim Keelung can carry up to 888 40-foot containers. She will be operated on the Zim Lines' "three continent service" which presently employs seven other large containerships on 112-day round voyages from Israel and Mediterranean ports to the U.S. east and west coasts, Japan and Hong Kong. Her builders, the Van Der Giessen shipyards in Holland, are constructing two sisterships for the Zim Lines at the "distress" rate of \$40 million apiece which reflects the current depression in the world shipbuilding industry.

When they are delivered next February, Zim will increase the frequency of its "three continent service" to three sailings a month. According to the company, this will make it the world's second largest operator of container ships.

BRITISH FIRM ACCUSED OF FIRING JEWISH EMPLOYEE BECAUSE OF ARAB BOYCOTT

LONDON, June 4 (JTA) -- One of Britain's leading companies was said to have fired a Jewish senior employee because of the Arab boycott. An industrial tribunal (Labor court) was told yesterday that MEPC, the second largest property management concern in the United Kingdom, dismissed Anthony Simmons, its assistant secretary, last September during talks with the Kuwaiti International Investment Co. about a \$35 million loan.

Simmons, 44, claims the manner of his dismissal was unfair whether or not it was motivated by racial discrimination. The company strongly denied the discrimination charge. It said it retained strong links with Jewish business circles in London and that Simmons had been redundant because there was no longer enough work to justify his continued employment. The case is expected to last four days, but an immediate ruling by the three man court is not expected.

NRP IN DISARRAY, MAY LOSE PIVOTAL ROLE IN NEXT KNESSET

By David Landau

(This is the third of a series of articles examining the political parties running in the June 30 elections.)

JERUSALEM, June 4 (JTA) -- Never in the history of Israel has the National Religious Party (NRP) gone into the final stages of an election campaign looking quite so ragged and sorry for itself.

Through nine campaigns and nine Knessets, the NRP has been a bedrock of stability on the Israeli political scene. It always polled in the region of 9 - 10 percent of the votes. It almost always participated in the governing coalition of the day -- before 1977 under the leadership of Labor, and during the last four years under that of Menachem Begin's Likud.

Indeed, only a few weeks ago it seemed that the picture would repeat itself once more on June 30. Pundits predicted that if there was any change in NRP's prospects it would be a change for the better. NRP key men waxed super-optimistic during the early months of this year, predicting that they could add two or even three Knesset seats to their 1977 score of 12.

Now everything has changed. The party is in tatters following the dramatic defection of Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu Hatzeira who is founding a separate religious party, "Tami" (Tenua Lemassoret Yisrael -- Movement for the Tradition of Israel).

Ethnic Split

Tami is openly and unabashedly "ethnic." Abu Hatzeira, in interviews in the past week cited as his reason for creating the new party the refusal of the "ethnic Ashkenazi" leadership of the NRP to allocate more than two of the first dozen spots on the NRP list to Sephardim. This, Abu Hatzeira noted, was "a retrogression" compared to 1977, and far below the level of representation to which the party's Sephardi membership felt themselves entitled.

Very probably the motives and circumstances behind the establishment of Tami are far deeper than that. According to rumors circulating in political circles, an "ethnic" list of this nature had been mulled over by Sephardi politicians from a number of parties for many months and even years.

The role of millionaire Geneva financier and president of the World Sephardi Federation Nissim Gaon in backing -- or perhaps pushing for -- the creation of an "ethnic" party is not yet fully known either. Abu Hatzeira, naturally, sought in his public interviews to play down Gaon's involvement.

But the question that NRP leaders must now contend with is not why Tami was founded but how much damage it will do the parent party. The answers implied in experts' predictions cannot offer much consolation to veteran NRP leader Yosef Burg and his heir-apparent, Zevulun Hammer.

Abu Hatzeira himself maintains that 75 percent of the card-carrying members of NRP are Sephardim and thus potential voters for Tami. Possibly that is an overstatement. But any objective analysis would conclude that the majority of NRP voters in recent elections have been Sephardim.

At this time, no opinion polls have been conducted on Tami's vote-pulling potential. But politicians and pundits predict a handsome 4-7 seats for the new party.

Most of those votes would come from the NRP, with fewer from Likud and even less from Labor. For those two major blocs the blow would be bearable; for the NRP it might well spell the end of its enviable balance of power between the two main parties.

Put in other terms, Tami's success at the polls might rob the NRP of its hitherto unthreatened ability to form a government with either of the two big blocs or to thwart the formation of a government if it chose to do so. This ability would have been particularly potent in the next Knesset if the pollsters are right and the gap between Likud and Labor is only a few seats.

Taking this analysis a step further, it can be understood why Labor Party leaders privately welcomed the creation of Tami. The NRP, which has become increasingly rightist in religious and foreign policy over recent years, had virtually declared its preference for Likud over Labor. Its leaders -- especially Hammer and Gush Emunim leader Rabbi Haim Druckman -- have made it clear that their party, given the choice, would prefer to cooperate in a Begin coalition rather than with Labor's Shimon Peres.

The rise of Tami could mean that the NRP will not be given that choice. While Abu Hatzeira himself has said Tami would team up with either of the two main parties, his number two man on the Tami list, Aharon Uzan, a former Laborite, has made clear his own preference for Labor.

"I remain a Mapainik at heart," says Uzan, a Moshav leader who served as Minister of Agriculture in Labor's last government. There is a distinct feeling too that Abu Hatzeira's resentment over his treatment by his Cabinet colleagues during the drawn-out legal process against him (he was acquitted last week on bribery charges after a marathon trial) extends not only to Burg of his own party, but to other members of the present Likud-led coalition.

Move To The Right

The defection of Abu Hatzeira, and with him Moroccan-born Benzion Rubin of Burg's "Lamifne" faction in the NRP, was the latest -- but by far the worst -- of a series of blows that have rocked the party over recent years. The crisis began, it is fair to say, with the toppling of the man who many felt was NRP's ablest leader, Dr. Yitzhak Rafael (Minister of Religions 1974-77). This was engineered by a plot led by Hammer and Yehuda Ben-Meir, the chiefs of the "young guard" faction in the party, and Abu Hatzeira, who was Rafael's deputy in the Likud "Utemura" faction.

The plotters made it clear that they felt themselves to be the rising force within NRP and that, sooner or later, they would move to displace Burg himself.

But the creation of the anti-Begin, anti-peace Tehiya faction by Herut breakaways Geula Cohen and Mose Shamir stirred cold winds of dissent from the far right. The young Bnei Akiva indoctrinated, skullcap wearing settlers on the West Bank and their supporters swung toward the new group whose ultra-nationalism complimented their dreams of restoring Biblical Israel. The NRP's "young guard" leaders in contrast, appeared tainted by their support of the Camp David autonomy plan and the peace treaty with Egypt.

Accordingly, Hammer and Ben-Meir were forced to appease the NRP's right-wing, led by Druckman, by placing another Gush Emunim activist, Meir Har-Noi, in the 11th spot on the party's 1981 election list. This conflicted with Abu Hatzeira's demand for "safe" spots for his own faction within the party. It also reduced the NRP's chances of attracting support from non-Orthodox voters, by which it hoped to broaden its base.