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## HAIG DENIES DECISION MADE ON WHEN TO SEND TO CONGRESS U.S. PROPOSAL TO SELL AWACS TO SAUDI ARABIA

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 9 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig denied today that a decision has been made when to send to Congress the Reagan Administration's proposal to sell AWACS reconnaissance planes and other military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

Speaking to reporters after testifying on his recent Asia trip at a closed session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Haig also said "there is no decision" on whether to lift the suspension of delivery to Israel of four F-16 jet fighters, imposed after Israel's June 7 raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor. He said he gave the same answer when asked by Committee members.

### Timing Still Under Discussion

Haig said he was asked about the AWACS proposal when he testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday but that it did not come up at the House Committee today. He said he had read the "speculations" in newspapers that the AWACS proposal would be submitted this week. He stressed that the Administration is still discussing the "timing" for submission of the proposal with leaders of Congress and that the decision "depends in large measure" on the advice the Congressional leaders will give.

The Administration has delayed submitting the proposal on the advice of Senate Republican leaders who believe there are enough votes in both the Senate and the House to reject the sale.

Haig rejected a reporter's assertion that the U.S. was "negotiating" with the Saudis on the AWACS. He said the Administration was discussing with the Saudis and others the "modalities" of the proposal. The Administration is believed to be seeking a means of continuing American control over the five AWACS to be sold to Saudi Arabia as a way of reassuring Senators and Congressmen who fear that AWACS controlled by the Saudis would endanger Israel and open the possibility that those highly sophisticated aircraft will fall into Soviet hands.

Asked if Premier Menachem Begin's almost assured return to office will create any difficulties for the Reagan Administration, Haig stressed that the U.S. continues its "traditional...intimate" relationship with all Israeli leaders. This is based on the "special obligations" the U.S. has toward Israel, he said.

## SINAI PEACEKEEPING FORCE ACCORD LIKELY TO BE INITIALED NEXT WEEK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- The U.S.-Israel-Egypt agreement on the Sinai peacekeeping force is likely to be initialed next week if last minute minor hitches can be overcome this weekend. U.S. chief negotiator, Michael Sterner flew from Israel to Egypt today with several proposed amendments in the draft text inserted by Premier Menachem Begin.

Both Sterner and Israeli officials expressed their confidence that the Egyptians would agree to the changes and the agreement could be wrapped up. Sterner is due to report on the agreement to a Congressional committee in Washington next week.

One last minute problem concerns the immunities to be enjoyed by soldiers and civilians serving with the projected "multinational force and observers." The U.S. is pressing Israel to agree -- as Egypt has agreed -- that the 3000-odd personnel enjoy full immunity from criminal prosecution while in Israel. Israel's Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir, is baulking at this. Israeli sources said today that they expected some sort of compromise to be worked out.

The textual points inserted by Begin mainly concern language regarding possible future changes in the force's status, such as its substitution at some future date by a United Nations' force. Begin wants it made perfectly clear in the agreement that any changes would require the express agreement of both parties to the peace treaty -- Israel and Egypt.

## BEGIN HINTS HE WILL NAME SHARON DEFENSE CHIEF DESPITE CONTROVERSY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin hinted strongly last night that he intends to name Ariel Sharon Defense Minister in a new Likud government despite the bitter controversy surrounding the ultra-hawkish Yom Kippur War hero. He said, on a television panel interview, that he believed the appointment would not now encounter the overwhelming opposition raised within the Cabinet a year ago when he favored Sharon for the defense post just vacated by Ezer Weizman.

Begin declined to say flatly that he has decided to appoint Sharon, observing that he would name his Cabinet members only after he receives a formal "call" from President Yitzhak Navon to form a new government. Navon will begin consultations next Monday with representatives of various parties in an effort to form a new coalition government.

The final official results of last month's elections were issued today. They showed that Likud has 48 seats; Labor, 47; National Religious Party, 6; Aguda Israel, 4; Hadash (Communists) 4; Tami, 3; Tehiya, 3; Telem, 2; Shinui, 2; Citizens Rights Movement, 1.

Begin also made clear his personal sympathy for the primacy of Orthodox Judaism in Israel. He claimed that the "Jewish religion and Jewish nationhood are one and the same thing" and that he has always favored a halachic definition of conversion "because conversion is a purely halachic concept."

This placed him squarely on the side of the National Religious Party and Aguda Israel which are demanding that the next Knesset amend the Law of Return to define a Jew as a person born of a Jewish mother or converted by an Orthodox rabbi "according to halacha." The NRP and Aguda have made it their price for joining a new Likud-led coalition government.

But the proposed amendment has raised a storm of protest from leaders of Conservative and Reform Judaism particularly in the U.S. who see it as enshrining in law, the narrow and restrictive interpretation of Halacha by an Orthodox establishment that represents a minority of Israel's population. The NRP and Aguda together won only 10 seats in the 120-member Knesset.



But Begin indicated that he would support other Aguda and NRP demands. He said he personally favored stricter Sabbath observance, though he thought this should be effected "by persuasion, not by coercion." He conceded that it was "unrealistic" to demand that Israelis forego their weekly football games on Saturday since it is the only non-working day in Israel. Similarly, he didn't think the city of Haifa should be deprived of public transportation on Saturday because the running of busses there was a "tradition of decades."

#### SCHINDLER URGES BEGIN TO REJECT AGUDA DEMANDS ON LAW OF RETURN

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- Warning of "a serious rupture of the unity of the Jewish people," the leader of Reform Judaism in America has called on Premier Menachem Begin to reject demands by the Aguda Israel party for amendments in the Law of Return as a condition for joining his government.

The office of Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, released today the text of a cable he had sent to Begin seeking "reassurance" that the Israeli leader would permit every member of his coalition to "vote his conscience" on the controversial issue.

Schindler's message followed news reports that the Aguda had insisted on government support for its long-standing demand that the Law of Return be changed to deny the right of immigration to Israel for persons who had not been converted to Judaism "according to halacha."

#### Poses A Series Of Questions

The message to Begin from Schindler, who is currently in Geneva attending meetings of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, stated, in part:

"The preponderant majority of America's Jews are non-Orthodox. They are deeply committed Jews. They stand by Israel materially, politically. They feel bound to the Jewish people body and soul. They are determined to share our common destiny.

"By what right does anyone question their Jewish legitimacy? How can we ask them to continue to sacrifice for Israel when their children's right to enter Eretz Israel is put to question? How can any Jewish leader after Auschwitz permit the setting up of a selection process at Jerusalem's gates? And how will Orthodoxy be served by such a means? Does halacha really require validation by Knesset vote? Can such a vote enhance its sanctity and compelling power?"

"This is not the way. Jewish unity must never be bargained away. Please provide me with the means to restore our community's sense of at-one-ness with the Jewish people."

#### JEWISH AND LUTHERAN GROUPS AGREE TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

COPENHAGEN, July 9 (JTA) -- A proposal to establish a standing international liaison committee between Jews and Lutherans was agreed upon at the conclusion yesterday of the first joint meeting held under the auspices of the Lutheran World Federation and the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC).

The 24 participants from nine countries at the two-day gathering here agreed to hold a second consultation in 1983 when the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's birthday will be celebrated. The program for continuing consultation will include the publication of an analysis of anti-Jewish references in Lutheran textbooks and worship material.

The participants expressed their deep concern at the resurgence of anti-Semitism in many parts of the world and underscored the need for undertaking effective action against all expressions of anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice.

#### Note Constructive Role of Christians, Jews

The theme of the consultation was "The Concept of the Human Being in the Lutheran and Jewish Traditions." Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum of the Synagogue Council of America and Dr. Ekkehard Stegemann of Heidelberg gave papers on the understanding of the human being in Jewish and Lutheran traditions; and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee and Prof. George Forell of Iowa spoke on the ethical consequences of these theological positions.

Acknowledgement was made of the constructive role played by Christian and Jewish leadership in upholding human dignity through major world refugee relief programs, combatting hunger and poverty and defending human rights in many parts of the world. The participants pledged to enlarge their support in these vital areas which translate into reality the shared Biblical values affirming the sacredness of the life of every human being.

#### Review Of Anti-Semitic Developments

A review of recent anti-Semitic developments was given by Dr. Gerhart Riegner, Secretary General of the World Jewish Congress. He warned that while recent anti-Semitic incidents are due to small groups using violence and terrorist methods, they represent a serious danger in the context of a restless society characterized by increasing unemployment and growing economic problems.

The participants expressed concern over the continuing turmoil in the Middle East. The Lutheran and Jewish representatives affirmed their support of the right to existence of the State of Israel and agreed to seek to find opportunities to advance dialogue leading to reconciliation, mutual respect and peace among Jews, Christians and Moslems in the Middle East and elsewhere.

The IJCIC comprises the World Jewish Congress, Synagogue Council of America, American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Council in Israel for Interreligious Consultations.

#### ADL PRAISES NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE FOR PASSING LAW BANNING PARAMILITARY TRAINING CAMPS RUN BY KKK, EXTREMIST GROUPS

RALEIGH, N.C., July 9 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith expressed praise today for the passage of a law banning paramilitary training camps run by the Ku Klux Klan and other extremist groups. The legislation, which has passed both houses of the North Carolina legislature, was spearheaded by State Sen. Henson Barnes and based on a model statute drawn up by the ADL.

Barnes indicated that the law is an effort to stop "... the growth of paramilitary camps where certain groups are training their members to make gasoline bombs, explosive devices and the use of military techniques with the intention of using those weapons and training against other North Carolinians who are of a different religion, belief or race."

The bill was opposed by members of the Ku Klux Klan, who have claimed to have paramilitary operations in the state in order to, according to the Klan, defend themselves.

According to Barnes, the bill accomplishes two things. "First, it makes it a felony to teach the use of an explosive device or weapon knowingly or intending that the weapon or explosive device



will be used unlawfully in a civil disorder. Second, it is a felony, under the bill, to assemble with others to learn make or use explosive devices or weapons unlawfully and intending to use the information in a civil disorder. A civil disorder is defined as a meeting of at least three people who assemble together for the purpose of destroying property or inflicting injury on others.

#### Recognition Of Clear And Present Danger

According to Ronald Kirschbaum, chairman of the ADL's regional board, "The General Assembly and Sen. Barnes are to be congratulated. They have recognized a clear and present danger to our system of government and have moved courageously to counter it. Those that thrive on violence and chaos should take heed that they are not welcome and will not be tolerated in North Carolina."

Norman Olshansky, North Carolina/Virginia regional director for the ADL stated: "This law should serve as a clear message to hoodlums and terrorists that their poisonous rhetoric will not be allowed to turn into civil disorder and criminal activity. North Carolina has had more than its share of Klan and Nazi violence. Criminals should be treated as such."

The ADL model statute has been introduced in the legislatures of several other states and has already been enacted into law in Connecticut. The model statute, which was made public last February, was the basis upon which the North Carolina bill was drafted.

#### HATZEIRA SAYS HIS LEGAL PROBLEMS HAVE NOT ENTERED HIS TALKS WITH BEGIN OVER FORMING NEW GOVERNMENT By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Aharon Abu Hatzeira, whose three-member Tami faction is the key to a Likud coalition majority in the next Knesset, insisted yesterday that his legal problems have not entered into his discussions with Premier Menachem Begin over the formation of a new government.

They have "nothing whatever to do" with it, he told reporters after a meeting with Begin. He was referring to press reports that his price for joining a Likud-led coalition was immunity from trial on charges of fraud and embezzlement from a charitable organization he administered while serving as Mayor of Ramle five years ago.

Hatzeira, Religious Affairs Minister in the outgoing government, was indicted several months ago and stripped of his Knesset immunity. His trial was postponed until after the June 30 elections. According to press reports, his attorneys will argue that the action by the Ninth Knesset does not carry over into the Tenth and that the new Knesset will have to vote all over again to determine whether Hatzeira can be tried.

#### New Knesset Bound By Earlier Action

This has led to speculation that he is demanding a guarantee from Begin that all coalition parties in the next Knesset will vote against lifting his immunity. The influential daily Haaretz warned Begin this week not to be a party to such machinations. But the matter will be decided by the courts.

Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir was quoted as saying this week that he believed the Ninth Knesset's decision to revoke Hatzeira's immunity is binding on the Tenth Knesset. The Tel Aviv district court judge who will hear the arguments said that legal point will have to be settled before Hatzeira's trial can begin.

Begin needs Tami's three Knesset mandates to achieve a 61-seat parliamentary majority. His meeting with Hatzeira yesterday was believed to have been over possible Cabinet portfolios. Hatzeira made it clear that he wants to retain the Religious Affairs Ministry which is also demanded by the National Religious Party. But he has reportedly hinted that he would accept the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry as an alternative.

#### TEXT OF STUDY ON ISRAEL'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITY NOT YET FINALIZED

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, July 9 (JTA) -- A United Nations spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that the text of a study on Israel's nuclear weapons capability, under preparation by an international panel selected by Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, "has not yet been finalized, so that its precise contexts have not yet been established."

The spokesman said it would be "inappropriate to comment on any part of the study until it has been officially submitted to the General Assembly." The report will be published by the end of July or early August, he said.

The New York Times reported today that a "draft report written May 12" by the panel, which was named in response to a General Assembly resolution adopted in 1979, has concluded that Israel can make nuclear weapons "within a very short time." But the study added, according to the Times, that Israel's policy of "deliberate ambiguity" makes it impossible to determine whether Israel actually possesses bombs.

According to the Times, the panel calculates that "Israel may already have enough weapons-grade material for making several bombs comparable to the bomb dropped on Nagasaki," in 1945. The panel also estimates that Israel's Dimona reactor could have produced enough weapons-grade plutonium for 10 to 15 nuclear weapons.

Israeli diplomats said today they have not seen the panel's draft report. Israel did not cooperate with the panel. The U.N. spokesman said that Waldheim has not seen "either the present text of the study or the preliminary text dated May 12."

#### ARAB SCHOOL IN AMSTERDAM TO BECOME OFFICIALLY ACCREDITED

AMSTERDAM, July 9 (JTA) -- When the new school year begins next month, Amsterdam's Arab school, which has been in existence for 10 years, will become officially accredited, making it eligible for a 100 percent subsidy from the Education Ministry and the Amsterdam municipality.

The school will have about 100 Arabic-speaking students, taught by three Moroccan and three Dutch teachers. The youngsters are mainly from Moroccan immigrant families. A majority of the Moroccans, however, attend Dutch public schools which provide Moroccan or Turkish teachers.

Until now, the Arab School was funded privately as were the schools of other national minorities living in Holland, such as the Japanese School and schools for foreign children whose families are in the country only temporarily.

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PARIS (JTA) -- President Francois Mitterrand promised Thursday to raise the issue of imprisoned Soviet Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky during one of his forthcoming meetings with Soviet leaders. Avital Shcharansky, Anatoly's wife, was received Thursday by Mitterrand and government spokesmen said it was part of the new Administration's policy to actively help imprisoned activists and dissidents.



## CAREY SIGNS MEASURE STRENGTHENING STATE'S ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION

ALBANY, N.Y., July 9 (JTA) -- Governor Hugh Carey has signed legislation which further strengthens New York State's anti-boycott legislation. A bill sponsored in the State Senate by Norman Levy (R) and in the State Assembly by Sheldon Silver (D) prohibits the letting of State contracts for construction, services or goods with a value in excess of \$5,000 to contractors which are participating or have participated in an international boycott in violation of the United States Export Administration Act of 1969.

The bill also amends the State Finance Law to require that all State contracts for an amount exceeding \$5,000 contain a clause in which the contractor agrees that neither he nor any substantially owned or affiliated person, firm or corporation has participated, is participating or shall participate in an international boycott in violation of the Export Administration Act.

The State Comptroller is authorized to void any contract, if subsequent to execution a contractor has been convicted of violation of the federal law. The provisions of the bill do not operate to impair any existing contract.

### Law Will Discourage Violations

Carey in signing the legislation stated, "The sanctions imposed by the federal law, coupled with law of our State, should be sufficient to discourage contractor violations of the Act. Although some would urge that State action in this area is unnecessarily duplicative, I believe the enactment of this bill is appropriate."

New York State became the first state to have an anti-boycott law when Carey signed the Lisa law Aug. 8, 1975 which took effect Jan. 1, 1976.

## CONGREGATION APPROVES RESOLUTION CALLING FOR VOLUNTEER MILITARY FORCE AND OPPOSING NATIONAL DRAFT

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- A resolution calling for the support of an all-volunteer military force and opposing the "inauguration or implementation by our government of any national draft at this time" was approved overwhelmingly by the membership of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue at the recent annual meeting of the congregation. The resolution was presented by the Social Action Committee of the congregation.

Rabbi Balfour Brickner, spiritual leader of the 800-member congregation, said "We are, I believe, the first and only Jewish congregation in America publicly to debate this issue and to take such a stand. It is as courageous an action as it is unprecedented. Most congregations, if they even consider issues as controversial as this one, do so in the privacy of some small committee. Their conclusions are rarely, if ever, discussed with the entire membership."

The resolution stated, in part: "We support the existing all-volunteer military force. We oppose the inauguration or implementation by our government of any national draft at this time. Similarly, we oppose the idea of registering our youth at this time for some future draft. We believe that should there arise some national emergency necessitating the mobilization of our population, sufficient techniques exist by which to affect that mobilization. Males and females should be conscripted equally."

The congregation went on record urging members of the congregation to provide counselling services and "to widely advertise this service in, and to, the community so that Jewish youth, particularly, might know where they might come for counselling that is based in the Jewish religious tradition."

### Rationale For The Resolution

The rationale for the resolution was stated in its preamble which noted that: "Judaism recognizes the right of both conscientious objection and selective conscientious objection to war"; "Judaism teaches us to 'seek peace and pursue it' (Psalm 34.15)"; "registration at this time is both unnecessary and unnecessarily provocative, reflective of a national trend toward increased militarism that threatens world peace"; "the costs of such an action draws funds from needed social, educational and economic programs that will make for social betterment."

At the congregational meeting, Frank Ashen, chairperson of the Social Action Committee, emphasized the importance for placing such an issue before the entire congregation for a vote. He said: "We believe that this congregation, as a religious institution in this country, has an obligation not only to educate its constituency but to take a public stand on the issues. What is at stake is not only our lives, but also, possibly, the lives of our children. Decisions on these matters are as much our responsibility as they are the responsibility of our politicians, our militarists, our 'experts'."

In anticipation of the congregational debate, the Social Action Committee prepared and distributed to every family in the congregation a 14-page background paper outlining both the Biblical and rabbinic material on the subject of conscription and conscientious objection.

## PYRAMID-LIKE STRUCTURE FOUND IN THE CITY OF DAVID

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Archaeological digs in the City of David excavations will focus in the coming season on a monumental pyramid-like structure apparently dating from King Solomon's time, the Jerusalem Post reported.

The new season of excavations will begin next Monday. The structure, of which 16 meters has been exposed so far, was uncovered at the end of last season's dig. There is speculation whether the structure was connected with the citadel of the ancient city, or served as royal tombs of the House of David. In any case, there is an agreement that the very existence of a substantial structure dating back 3,000 years ago is a unique finding.

Digs will be made at three other sites in the City of David, including one holding remains of the Canaanite city of Jebus, which David conquered. This will be the fourth of five scheduled seasons of excavations in the City of David. It will last eight weeks. Some 400 volunteers from Israel and abroad will participate in the excavation.

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MONTREAL (JTA) -- A "Biblical garden" containing some 500 species of trees, shrubs, plants and flowers whose names are mentioned in the Bible was inaugurated Thursday on Notre Dame Island here as part of the annual "Florilies" festival. A plaque containing the Biblical source was placed at the base of each tree, shrub and plant. In the presence of Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau and a large crowd, Israel's Consul General Yitzhak Meir officially opened the garden.