

UNESCO DEBATING JORDAN'S RIGHT TO NOMINATE EAST JERUSALEM AS SITE FOR CULTURAL PROTECTION

PARIS, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) began a two-day debate today on Jordan's right to nominate East Jerusalem as part of "the cultural heritage of mankind meriting protection and conservation."

If the special session accepts Jordan's right to place East Jerusalem on UNESCO's World Heritage Committee list as the country responsible for its protection, it would, in effect, deny Israel's sovereignty of this area. Sites placed on the heritage list are subject to international supervision to assure that their historical and cultural aspects are cared for and protected.

According to a UNESCO convention, the country governing an area must recommend it for protection or agree to have it recommended for protection and conservation. Thus, if UNESCO accepts Jordan's request to propose East Jerusalem for protection it would also be accepting Jordan's right to take part in the international supervision of that area. The two-day session, which was called after Jordan, backed by other states, recommended that the Old City be placed on the heritage list, must decide who controls East Jerusalem in legal terms and whether the convention refers to legal or physical control.

Israel Warns Against Setting A Precedent

Israel has not signed the convention and Israel's representative to UNESCO, Yael Vered, was denied permission to address the opening session. She said she was told "that Israel could not speak as it had not signed the convention." Some 60 UN-member countries have signed it, including the United States, France, Argentina, West Germany, Jordan and Iraq. The Soviet Union has not yet signed the convention.

An Israeli government legal expert said that "aside from exploiting a cultural convention for political ends against Israel, the precedent" of agreeing to Jordan as the protector of East Jerusalem "could prove difficult for others as well." He said if Jordan's case was accepted, then Spain could apply to protect British-ruled Gibraltar or Colombia could apply to protect the Panama Canal Zone.

U.S., ISRAEL AGREE TO WORK TOWARD 'STRATEGIC COOPERATION' AGAINST THREAT OF SOVIET AGGRESSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (JTA) - The United States and Israel have agreed to work more closely toward "strategic cooperation" against the threat of Soviet aggression in the Middle East as a result of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's two days of talks with President Reagan, but no formal alliance was worked out.

This emerged from statements by Reagan and Begin as the Premier left the White House today

and in remarks by Begin at a crowded press conference at a Washington hotel later. Begin said the details of the cooperation will be worked out between Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger at a meeting tomorrow.

Both leaders said they were pleased by their White House talks which Reagan called "friendly and useful and productive" and Begin termed "very fruitful." Reagan said a "friendship and complete candor developed between us," while Begin said the talks were "candid in detail." The President added that the talks "created new bonds of understanding between the U.S. and Israel and renewed and strengthened our very special relationship."

Begin Draws A 'Clear Distinction'

Reagan declared that Israel and the U.S. have developed a "partnership" to oppose all forces that threaten the Middle East. Begin was more specific in drawing a "clear distinction" between a mutual defense agreement and the idea of strategic cooperation.

"The defense of Israel is our problem," he said. "We will never ask any nation to send soldiers to defend us." He repeated that at his press conference, saying Israel would never ask "American soldiers to shed blood" for the Jewish State.

But Begin said there is a "clear community of interest" between the U.S. and Israel against the danger posed to the Middle East and elsewhere by the Soviet Union. He said the two countries would make a "common effort" through strategic cooperation "for the sake of mutual security" and for the entire free world.

The Premier denied that the strategic cooperation concept was "compensation" for Israel to placate it over the Administration's decision to sell AWACS reconnaissance aircraft and enhancement equipment for F-15 fighter-bombers to Saudi Arabia. He said that what he called the "double deal" -- the selling of AWACS and the F-15 embellishments that would give them offensive capability -- is "a danger to Israel's security."

No Signal From Begin On AWACS

Begin said Reagan allowed him and other members of his party to set out in full detail their concerns over the AWACS sale. He said the President and his aides then gave their reasons for going ahead with the sale. But Begin refused to call on Congress to veto the proposed deal. Congress received the Administration's informal notification of the sale yesterday and has 50 days to veto it by vote of both houses.

Sen. Bob Packwood (R., Ore.), who is heading the Senate fight against the AWACS sale, has said that a "signal" from Begin might be needed to get Senators "sitting on the fence" to join the opposition. But Begin said he would give no such "so-called signal" to the elected legislative branch of another country. He said, however, that he would continue to repeat his view that the proposed sale endangers Israel.

Issue Of The Autonomy Talks

In his departing words to Begin, Reagan said the U.S. will help Egypt and Israel build upon their

peace treaty and "stand ready to develop the peace process." Begin said at his press conference that the Administration did not say who the U.S. will send when the autonomy negotiations resume in Cairo September 23-24. But he shot down a suggestion that the meeting might be held in New York. He said that he and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt had agreed to resume the talks after a 14-month suspension and believe they should be held in the region.

Begin said he thought the talks should be held at least twice a week and that unlike some Egyptian officials, he didn't think they should begin from scratch because agreement already has been achieved on many points. Begin said he hoped an agreement on full autonomy could be reached by the end of this year.

Begin Denies He Is Inflexible

Asked about suggestions by some in the U.S. that no progress could be achieved as long as he heads Israel's government, Begin quipped, "What can I do if I was reelected?" He said he was elected democratically and that he had never made a remark such as that attributed to Gen. Sherman that he would not run and if elected would not serve. "I apologize to you (the press) that I was reelected," Begin said.

He also denied that he was inflexible. He noted that in the peace agreement with Egypt Israel gave up much, particularly the Sinai oil wells which means that it now pays Egypt \$500 million a year for oil, and also made the "still painful decision" to abandon settlements in Sinai.

Israel Will Never Talk To The PLO

Begin declared that Israel will never negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization which, as in the past, he labeled a "neo-Nazi organization." He noted that El Fatah, the PLO's military arm, at a recent conference in Damascus, passed a resolution calling for the "complete liberation of Palestine and liquidation of the Zionist entity economically, politically, militarily, culturally and psychologically."

Begin said that Israel takes such statements "seriously" and that no nation would negotiate with an organization that wants to destroy it. He added that at the same conference, the PLO passed a resolution calling for "strengthening the strategic alliance with the Socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union." He claimed that this proves the PLO is a servant of Moscow.

On another matter, Begin defended Sadat for taking what he called "harsh" actions against his opponents in Egypt. Saying he had been prepared for the question, Begin observed that while actions such as those taken by Sadat were "unthinkable" in the U.S. or Israel, the Egyptian President acted to prevent "Khomeinism" from "taking over" in Egypt and to protect the peace process. Begin said fanatical Moslem fundamentalists were a danger to Egypt and other Arab countries.

The Israeli Premier was scheduled to lunch with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this afternoon and to meet later with the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He will also meet with individual Senators at Blair House. Tonight he will be feted by Israeli Ambassador and Mrs. Ephraim Evron at a gala dinner at the National Portrait Gallery. He will leave for New York tomorrow after breakfasting with Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and meeting with the Rev. Jerry Falwell and other leaders of

the Moral Majority and with AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland.

BEGIN REMINDS REAGAN, U.S. OFFICIALS THAT JERUSALEM IS THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Menachem Begin ended two days of talks at the White House today, once again reminding President Reagan and other U.S. officials that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel.

Begin repeated his invitation to Reagan, made when he arrived yesterday morning, to visit Israel and to come "to Jerusalem." His final words to the President were: "I do not say goodbye; I say next time au revoir in Jerusalem."

In inviting Reagan yesterday, Begin pointedly said that the President should come to Israel and "its capital, Jerusalem." A senior Administration official said that when the President expressed his regrets that Begin's wife, Aliza, could not accompany the Premier to Washington because of illness, Begin said his wife looked forward to meeting Reagan in Jerusalem.

The U.S. Embassy, like most other foreign embassies in Israel, is located in Tel Aviv. An Administration official said yesterday that Reagan believes that the status of Jerusalem should be determined by the peace process.

SETTLEMENT STATISTICS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Some 24,000 Jews now live in Judaea and Samaria, the World Zionist Organization settlement department's chief, Mattityahu Drobless, reported to the Zionist General Council this week. Some 7,000 of them had moved in over the past six months, a period of stepped-up building and settlement activity, he added.

The half-year period now ending had seen the construction of 1,870 homes, he said. Over the past 12 months the number of settlements put up in the area was 23, Drobless said -- giving a total of 82 Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria (20 of them in the Jordan valley rift.)

Regarding employment in these settlements, Drobless distinguished between the more veteran and well-established settlements in which up to 80 percent of the people living in them worked in them, too, and the more recently established settlements where most people still worked outside and only some 20-40 percent in the settlements.

Giving figures for the immediate future, Drobless said some 2,000 to 4,000 new homes could be put up in a relatively short time, in new and existing West Bank settlements, providing the funding was available.

Turning to the Galilee, Drobless said 58 new settlements had been completed or were being built since 1977. About half of them are "mitzpim" -- that is, small dormitory settlements built on high land. Sixty thousand dunams of State lands had been readied for agriculture in the Galilee during this period. Drobless said these efforts had led to a considerable drop in the attempts of local Arab villages to illegally occupy State lands in the Galilee.

THOUSANDS OF SOVIET JEWS VISIT JEWISH BOOK EXHIBIT IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Thousand of Soviet Jews visited the booth of the Association of Jewish Book Publishers (AJBP) at the week-long third International Moscow Book Fair, Sol Scharfstein, president-elect of the AJBP and president of KTAV Pub-

lishing, said at a press conference here today. Dr. Israel Kugler, president of the Workmen's Circle, told the press conference that there was a "hunger and need" for Jewish books, records and educational materials in Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish. Both Scharfstein and Kugler were delegates to the book fair, which closed Tuesday, where they staffed the AJBP exhibit at which more than 800 titles of Jewish interest were on display.

"We were overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response of the Soviet Jews, many of whom traveled ten to twelve hours and stood on line for several hours just to attend the fair and to touch their Jewish heritage," Kugler said. The playing of Hebrew and Yiddish melodies at the booth during the six days of the fair evoked a nostalgia among older Jews and sparked a keen interest among the younger generation.

"For the first time," Scharfstein said, "we have demonstrated to the Soviet publishing authorities the seriousness of our mission and the possibilities for opening up a two-way commercial dialogue. Soviet publishing officials will be visiting the United States in the next few months and have expressed a desire to meet with us."

While the delegation was enthusiastic over the public response to the exhibit and the cooperation of the book fair officials, they were nonetheless disappointed at the practice of censorship. "It is ironic that two books censored this year had been approved for display in the past," Scharfstein said. The two works banned for exhibit by Soviet censors were the American Jewish Yearbook published by the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Publication Society of America, and the children's book, "My People: Abba Eban's History of the Jews," published by Behrman House.

Kugler said the Workmen's Circle-produced plastic records of Hebrew and Yiddish songs were not allowed by the Soviet authorities to be distributed at the book fair, despite the fact that similar records were approved at the previous fair in 1979. "All in all, it was an experience we shall never forget," said Scharfstein and Kugler, "and we look forward to exhibiting at the 1983 Moscow book fair."

EGYPTIAN ENVOY PRAISES SHARON'S NEW MEASURES ON THE WEST BANK

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Ambassador Ahmed Esmat Abdel Meguid of Egypt praised the "new lenient measures toward Arabs on the West Bank initiated by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon (of Israel), who is a hawk."

Addressing a leadership mission of Agudath Israel of America at the UN headquarters, in which 125 members of the organization participated yesterday, Meguid said that the new measures would help in the "building of confidence" between Arabs and Jews. The Egyptian envoy said that Israel should have "patience" with the process of normalization of relations with Egypt and urged the Jewish State to "take risks for peace."

Asked "how Egypt can expect Israel to trust the PLO" Meguid replied that "there are non-radical elements amongst the Palestinians that Israel could talk to."

Meguid also said that the peace process in the Middle East "would survive (President Anwar) Sadat because it is the genuine desire of the Egyptian people." He invited the Agudath Israel leaders to visit Egypt as part of the "confidence building" between Arabs and Jews towards strengthening the peace process.

Carl Gershman, Counselor to the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, warned the UN against any action to impose sanctions against Israel or to remove its credentials to participate in the General Assembly.

He said: "If there is an effort to expel Israel from UNESCO, the U.S. will take specific action, including reconsideration of our participation in the UN." Gershman also pledged that the U.S. would not talk to the PLO as long as "it is bent on the destruction of Israel."

Gershman also told the Agudath Israel leaders that the Reagan Administration has a new positive attitude toward Israel. He cited Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick's public display of friendship toward Israel in UN debates, noting that Kirkpatrick referred to Israel as "our ally" from the UN rostrum.

Gershman also touched on the issue of Soviet Jews. "The treatment of Soviet Jews remains high on the U.S. agenda at meetings of the UN Human Rights Commission," he said. He added that the U.S. would continue to raise the issue of the condition of Jews in other lands at various forums of the world body. Agudath Israel of America is a Non-Governmental Organization at the UN.

WALDHEIM: COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT NEEDED TO ACHIEVE MIDEAST PEACE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- Secretary General Kurt Waldheim declared here today that "a real lasting peace" in the Middle East can only be achieved "through a comprehensive settlement." He said that the solution of the Palestinian problem is essential to such a settlement.

Waldheim's remarks on the Mideast situation were made during his traditional press conference before the opening of the UN General Assembly. The 36th session of the General Assembly is scheduled to open here Sept. 15.

Waldheim, commenting on the present situation in the Mideast, expressed satisfaction that the cease-fire across the Israel-Lebanon border is holding and said that the UN played an important part in bringing about the cease-fire.

In his opening statement, Waldheim officially announced his candidacy for a third term as Secretary General for the next five years. The Secretary General is appointed by the General Assembly and must be endorsed by the Security Council.

ISRAELI FIRM UNVEILS EARLY WARNING INSTRUMENT

TEL AVIV, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The El-Op Electro-Optical Company has disclosed for the first time its Spirtact early-warning instrument which detects oncoming rockets by the thermal rays they emit. The instrument, which costs \$1 million, cannot itself be detected by enemy radar.

The equipment is already installed in Israeli naval vessels but can be used by other services, also. It will be ready for export shortly, the manufacturers said. El-Op director Akiva Mayer said the Spirtact and other most sophisticated equipment were the result of the firm's own research and development.

Other El-Op articles in army use include laser range-finders and aircraft gunsight cameras. The firm employs 749 workers, including many scientists and technicians. Present exports amount to about one-quarter of production but it is hoped to increase this to 50 percent soon.

**GRIM PREDICTION:
LEADING SOUTH AFRICAN JEW SAYS
INCREASING RIGHTWING, NEO-NAZI
ACTIVITIES WILL DRIVE JEWS OUT
OF THE COUNTRY BY YEAR 2000**

By Adele Asher

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The grim prediction that increasing rightwing and neo-Nazi activities will drive South Africa's 120,000 Jews out of this country by the turn of the century drew conflicting reactions in the Jewish community.

Archie Shandling, outgoing chairman of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies in Cape Town, said he did not intend to be an alarmist in voicing that view. He observed, however, "Many South Africans are concerned about the sluggishness of the government's attempts at reform and would like to see more done to allay their fears."

Shandling, 58, a lawyer, is widely respected in the Jewish community. Many who disagreed with his prognostication nevertheless shared his concern. Frank Bradlow, national vice president of the Jewish Board of Deputies and a noted historian, said he was disturbed by the situation but added:

"I don't believe the Jews will leave in any greater numbers than any other section of the community. However, I do agree that South Africans should take note of the growing signs of fascism."

Shandling, who said he has no intention of leaving the country, said, "The question for us, as always, is ... how long? My own private feeling is that there will not be a Jew left in South Africa by the year 2000. I am driven to this conclusion because of the increasing growth of the right wing in this country. Jews have always been a target for this sort of thing for centuries. The strength of these people cannot be ignored especially in times of political uncertainty." He urged the government to look to the future carefully and to be wary of creating an irreversible situation.

Contrary Views Expressed

Harry Schwartz, a member of Parliament of the Progressive Federal Party disagreed with Shandling. "I believe there will be lots of Jews living here in the year 2000," he said. "I recognize the threat from the right but I do not overestimate it."

Rabbi Lawrence Sandler, the chief Jewish chaplain of South Africa's armed forces, observed that Jews have put down strong roots and are unlikely to quit the country. He said that although he found the rise of rightwing sentiments disturbing, he felt they were not particularly anti-Semitic.

"The South African government has always had a positive attitude towards Jews and I feel sure the government would take steps to stamp out the victimization of any section of the community," Sandler said.

The pro-government newspaper Die Transvaler labeled Shandling's remarks "unnecessary fear-mongering." An editorial in the daily said, "The Jews are a valued group in our population and have made wide contributions in all spheres of community life. They live and belong here and we believe they know South Africa and its people better than does Mr. Shandling."

In the past few weeks, a neo-Nazi group known as the Afrikaanse Weerstand Beweging has been making headlines, especially abroad. The group, led by Eugene Terreblanche, maintains that only whites should be citizens of South Africa and that the Jews, British, Indians and Chinese must not be allowed to get political power. Its members dress in Nazi-type

uniforms and display Nazi emblems. Their main immediate target are prominent industrialists and financiers in this country who, the group claims, are working "hand in hand with the international money power."

**EFFORTS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF
SOVIET DROPOUTS SUCCEEDING**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The latest efforts to reduce the number of dropouts among Soviet Jews reaching Vienna resulted in doubling the proportion of those coming to Israel in the three weeks since the plan took effect. But the number of Jews leaving the USSR in that period totalled only 201 and the majority of them still went to countries other than Israel, World Zionist Organization chairman Leon Dulzin reported to the Knesset's Immigration and Absorption Committee.

The Jewish Agency inaugurated a new policy last month whereby only those Soviet Jewish emigres with first degree relatives in the U.S. or other western countries -- spouse, children or parents -- are referred to HIAS for immigration assistance. The others are required to go to Israel or fend for themselves.

Dulzin said the proportion coming to Israel in the three-week period was 31 percent, up from about 15 percent previously. Another 41 percent went to the U.S. where they have close relatives. The remaining 28 percent refused to go to Israel. Inasmuch as they could no longer travel elsewhere under HIAS patronage, they sought help from other refugee organizations including Christian bodies and the anti-Zionist Satmar Hasidic Rav Tov organization, Jewish Agency officials reported.

Dulzin's report triggered criticism from two committee members. Dov Zakin of Mapam and Fror Zeigerman of the Liberal Party wing of Likud blamed the Jewish Agency for the sharp drop in Soviet aliya. They claimed that if action against the dropouts had been taken two years ago, the Soviet authorities would not have had the easy excuse to tighten exit restrictions on grounds that most of the Jewish emigres were going to the U.S.

Although most committee members supported the Jewish Agency's new arrangement with HIAS, committee chairman Moshe Arens said that to avoid the appearance of coercion, all Jews leaving the USSR should be flown directly from Moscow to Israel. Failing that, he said, the transit facilities in Vienna should be closed down and all immigrants taken directly to the airport on arrival in Vienna.

**ELECTION DATE TO AVOID CONFLICT
WITH THE SUCCOTH HOLIDAY**

MIAMI, Fla., Sept. 10 (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami reported today that Gov. Bob Graham of Florida had changed the second primary date of a special election from Oct. 20 to Oct. 22 because the earlier date coincided with Shemini Atzeret (Succoth).

Graham issued an executive order changing the date in response to a telegram from Rabbi Norman Shapiro, the rabbinical association president, and Rabbi Solomon Schiff, executive vice president, which pointed out that the conflict "would disenfranchise a large number of voters precluded from voting due to the religious holiday." The election is scheduled for both Dade and Broward counties, centers of heavy Jewish settlement.

In his reply, Graham thanked the rabbinical group for informing him of the conflict and also thanked the rabbis for providing him "a more up-to-date calendar" of Jewish holidays to "avoid future conflict." This was a reference to a 20-year calendar of Jewish holidays assembled by Schiff after he was asked by the Association of Supervisors of Elections to prepare such a listing so that the election dates would not conflict with Jewish holidays.