

## HAIG REAFFIRMS U.S. POLICY TOWARD PLO IN REJOINDER TO CARTER AND FORD WHO ASSERT THE U.S. MUST DEAL WITH THE PLO

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig has reaffirmed U.S. policy to have no contact with the Palestine Liberation Organization until it recognizes Israel's right to exist. This was Haig's rejoinder today to assertions by former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford that the U.S. eventually must deal with the PLO if the Middle East peace process is to succeed.

All three men attended the funeral of President Anwar Sadat in Cairo Saturday. Carter and Ford made their remarks to reporters aboard an Air Force jet in which they were returning to Washington yesterday. Both stressed that resolution of the Palestinian problem was critical to peace in the region.

Meanwhile, PLO chief Yasir Arafat was due in Tokyo today on his first visit to Japan, at the invitation of the Parliamentary League for Japan-Palestine Friendship. He is expected to meet with the Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, political leaders of all parties and businessmen.

Japan is the first major ally of the United States to receive Arafat and the first major non-Communist nation he has visited. Although Arafat has met with several Western European leaders in the past, those encounters took place in Vienna or in Beirut.

### U.S., Israel's Views Of Arafat's Visit

The U.S. government was aware of Arafat's impending visit to Japan some months ago and while it is not known to have protested, Washington is said to be discomfited by the development. President Reagan has asked Suzuki for Japanese support of American peace efforts in the Middle East following the assassination of Sadat last Tuesday.

Israel has publicly expressed regret over Arafat's visit to Japan. Ambassador Amnon Ben-Yohanan of Israel told reporters in Tokyo that the PLO has ties with the Japanese Red Army, a terrorist group based in Beirut, that acted on behalf of the PLO in an attack in 1972 at Ben Gurion Airport that killed 26 people.

Before visiting Japan, Arafat stopped over in Peking and was due to visit North Korea's leader, Kim Il Sung. In April, 1980, Japan's Foreign Ministry said that "Japan considers that the PLO represents the Palestinian people." Last week, however, the Foreign Ministry stated that Japan "does not recognize the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

### Ford, Carter In Close Agreement

Ford and Carter each dealt with different phases of the Middle East conflict. The Ford Administration was instrumental in arranging the first and second Sinai interim agreements in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War.

Carter personally played a major role in the Camp David agreements which led to the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the negotiations between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. for Pal-

estinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The autonomy talks were resumed last month after a hiatus of over a year and will continue later this month.

Their views on the peace process, the PLO and the Middle East situation in general, expressed to reporters yesterday, indicated that the two former Presidents were in close agreement.

Ford asserted that it would be of benefit to Israel and the PLO "if there could be a more rapid decision" on the future status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said the U.S. would have to talk to the PLO. "At some point it has to happen. I would not want to pick a date today, but in a realistic way, that dialogue has to take place if you're going really to come to grips with the last issues that are on the table."

Carter said, "There is no way for Israel ever to have an assured permanent peace without resolving the Palestinian issue ... In the Camp David agreement, there is a provision for Jordan and Egypt, as part of their own delegations, to have Palestinian leaders included. And, of course, the overwhelming portion of the mayors and other local Arab officials in the West Bank and Gaza are members of the PLO. So I think that Jerry (Ford) is certainly right in saying these discussions have to be done."

Carter went on to warn against stigmatizing the Palestinian people as terrorists, "a very fallacious thing to do." He maintained that "Many of the PLO leaders are very moderate in abhorring terrorism and violence." He said he could not envisage "any possibility in the future ... of the Palestinian world and the Arab world acknowledging any other leadership for the Palestinians other than the PLO."

### HAIG AND ALLEN SAY WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS ARE NOT CONDUCTIVE TO SUCCESSFUL AUTONOMY TALKS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig urged Israel not to increase its settlements on the West Bank while the autonomy negotiations with Egypt are in process.

Haig, in Egypt for President Anwar Sadat's funeral, said he was assured by President-elect Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin of their willingness to move ahead in the autonomy talks which will be resumed Oct. 21. "We would hope that during this process there would not be a further enlargement of the West Bank settlements and we made that clear," Haig said in an interview from Cairo on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program yesterday.

Richard Allen, President Reagan's National Security Advisor, in an interview on the CBS-TV "Face the Nation" program yesterday also said the Administration does not consider the West Bank settlements to "be helpful." He added that the Administration continues not to have any comment on their legality.

But both Haig and Allen stressed that the most important outcome following Sadat's death by assassination last Tuesday is that Mubarak and Begin pledged to continue the autonomy talks. Haig stressed that the U.S. was a "full partner" in these talks and said it will "raise the level" of its representatives at the talks if that was deemed necessary. At present, the



U.S. is represented at the autonomy talks by its Ambassadors to Egypt and Israel respectively, Alfred Atherton and Samuel Lewis.

Haig said that he told Begin and Mubarak in Cairo that there was a need to "strip aside certain inflexibilities of the past" in order to reach a settlement on autonomy for the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He indicated that both leaders agreed.

#### Explains 'Foremost' Friend Statement

The Secretary of State denied that his statement Saturday that Egypt was America's "foremost friend in the Middle East downgrades Israel's position with the U.S. He said the historic American commitment to Israel was "clear, unique and unchallengeable" and that he could foresee no circumstances under which this would change.

When Allen was asked about Haig's statement he said the Secretary meant that Egypt was America's foremost friend among the "moderate Arab nations."

#### AWACS Sale Stressed

Both Haig and Allen continued to call for Congressional approval of the sale of AWACS reconnaissance aircraft and other advanced weaponry to Saudi Arabia. Both stressed that if the U.S. does not make the sale, the Saudis could obtain similar equipment from other countries. Haig said that in his talks in Cairo with Egyptian and other Arab leaders and with representatives of America's West European allies, all expressed "concern" that Congress might reject the AWACS sale.

He denied that he had asked Begin to drop his opposition to the arms package for the Saudis. He repeated that Begin has the "right and obligation" to express the view of the government and people of Israel in opposition to the sale. "But his (Begin) responsibilities are not America's responsibilities. Ours are broader," Haig said.

Vice President George Bush said last week that the U.S., "having lost a great friend" in the death of Sadat, must now "honor a commitment to another friend in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia" by selling it the promised five AWACS and other military equipment. Speaking at the National Press Club Thursday, Bush said "No single foreign policy matter on the immediate agenda is more important than this sale -- especially now." He maintained that this was the key to the Reagan Administration's broad Middle East strategy.

#### Sees Saudi-Egyptian Amity

Although Saudi Arabia sent no representative to Sadat's funeral, Haig said he was confident of a rapprochement between the Saudis and the new Mubarak government. He said there was a strong possibility of this "because of a convergence of strategic outlook and mutuality of interests between the two regimes." Haig said Saudi opposition to the Camp David agreements may have been caused by the "American style" during the Carter Administration in which, he claimed, there was a lack of consultation.

Haig was not asked about former President Nixon's visit to Saudi Arabia immediately after attending Sadat's funeral. But Allen, when asked about it, stressed that it was a "private visit." Reporters noted that no one knew about it before Nixon left for Riyadh.

#### SENATE APPROVES U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE MFO

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- The Senate has approved by voice vote United States participation in the Multi-National Force and Observers (MFO), which will patrol the Sinai Peninsula after Israel's final withdrawal next April.

The resolution adopted last Wednesday authorizes the United States to commit some 1,000 troops and civilian observers to the 2,500-member MFO. It also appropriates \$125 million for the 1982 fiscal year to cover 60 percent of the cost of starting up the force and operating it until the 1983 fiscal year, starting in October 1982. After that Israel, Egypt and the United States will each contribute \$35 million annually for the MFO.

The House Foreign Relations Committee has not yet scheduled a date to vote on that resolution.

#### BEGIN CONFIDENT PEACE PROCESS WILL CONTINUE UNDER MUBARAK

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin returned from President Anwar Sadat's funeral in Cairo confident that the Egyptian-Israeli peace process will continue under the regime of President-elect Hosni Mubarak and that the situation in Egypt in the aftermath of Sadat's assassination is stable and under control.

Begin gave those assurances to the Cabinet at its regular weekly session yesterday, according to Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor. He said the Cabinet was briefed by Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Interior Minister Yosef Burg, all of whom were in Cairo for the funeral.

Begin returned late Saturday night and told the press that he had found "a strong government in Egypt ... A government which keeps control." He expressed satisfaction with Mubarak's statement to the newspaper Maariv last Friday that Sadat's peace policy would remain unchanged.

#### Pledge Peace Forever

Begin described his meeting with Mubarak in the Egyptian capital Friday as "a very simple, very dramatic moment. We shook hands and both pledged peace forever," Begin said. He added that there was no cause for the concern voiced in some quarters that Egypt might be unstable in the wake of Sadat's death. He said he found Cairo "quiet, with no indication of any disorder ... They have the country under control."

Begin acknowledged that there had been a violent clash during the week between Egyptian police and Moslem fundamentalists in Assiut in Upper Egypt. "But this sort of thing was to be expected after such a traumatic event," he said. "They (the Egyptians) have something very serious to overcome ... Egypt has suffered a great tragedy. But they will overcome." He said the transition of power appeared to be going smoothly and fast. Mubarak is expected to be sworn into office this week as Sadat's successor.

Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich said in a radio interview after yesterday's Cabinet session that there was no doubt among the Ministers that Israel must continue to carry out its part of the peace process "as energetically or even more energetically" than before.

#### Peaceful Relations Cannot Be Reversed

President Yitzhak Navon said yesterday that the peaceful relations between Israel and Egypt cannot be reversed and that he was confident President-elect



Mubarak and other Egyptian leaders would continue to implement the peace agreement as planned. Navon spoke during a visit to the Bedouin village of Rahat in the Negev on the occasion of the Moslem feast of Id-Adha.

Meanwhile, Israeli officials acted swiftly to squelch press speculation that Israel might advance the date of its final withdrawal from Sinai as a "gesture" to the new Egyptian government. The final pull-out is scheduled for April, 1982. Naor quoted Begin as saying that "politics is not a matter of gestures."

Shamir was quoted as saying that the press speculation is entirely groundless. He said the withdrawal deadline is short enough and Israel has no reason to make it shorter.

Begin told the Cabinet of his meeting at the funeral with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany who Begin had bitterly attacked during the Knesset election campaign last spring for his alleged pro-Arab bias. He said he and Schmidt shook hands. But there was no indication as to whether the two leaders used the occasion to discuss a possible thaw in relations between their countries which have been frosty since Begin's attacks on Schmidt.

#### POLICE PROBE TERRORIST BOMBINGS

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- Police are investigating two terrorist bombings aimed against Jews which injured five people on Yom Kippur eve and another at a fashionable hotel the following morning which killed an official of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Yom Kippur eve bombs exploded at the Israel Tourist Office and at the main post office in Ostia, a well known meeting place for Russian Jewish emigres in transit to the U.S. or Canada. The victims, all hospitalized, included an unidentified Italian who was in the building housing the Tourist Office at the time and four people in Ostia. Two of the latter, Pughna Bella, 22, and her brother, Alexandre, 18, are Russian and Francesco Napoli, 44, and Francesco Ditti, 45, are Italian.

The PLO man was identified as Majed Abu Shrarah, a member of the central committee of El Fatah who was described as a liaison officer with Palestinian journalists in the Israel-occupied territories. He was killed when a bomb detonated in his room at the Flora Hotel on the Via Veneto, opposite the Israel Tourist Office.

#### Versions Of The Bombings

Police investigators appeared to link the three bombings. According to one version, Shrarah was killed while manufacturing a bomb and may have been the perpetrator of the Tourist Office and Ostia bombings. But the police have since abandoned that theory. Another version, circulated by sources in Beirut, claims Shrarah was killed by Palestinian extremists who considered him too moderate.

But PLO sources in Rome and Beirut have charged Israeli agents with responsibility and the Italian government with "complicity." In an ironic twist, much of the local press seems to "buy" the PLO accusations and has taken a decidedly anti-Israel tone. The PLO office in Rome went so far as to charge that Israeli agents planted the bomb in the Tourist Office to divert attention from a lethal bomb they planted under Shrarah's bed.

Most Rome newspapers yesterday morning carried a chronology of acts of violence against the PLO representatives dating back to 1972 with emphasis on the killing of an El Fatah man, Wael Zuwaiter in Rome in October of that year. Israeli intelligence operatives were officially accused of that killing after a group of Israelis were tried and convicted in Lillehammer, Norway for the murder of an Algerian.

#### Press Highlights Allegations Against Israel

While the local press played up allegations against Israelis, no mention was made of PLO terrorist attempts on El Al planes and Israeli offices in Rome. The newspaper La Stampa published an interview with El Fatah leader Abu Ayad in Beirut who said the Italian government had been informed that Shrarah would be in Italy under a forged Algerian passport and using the assumed name of Zithouni Habbas for "security reasons," but failed to protect him.

Newspapers here described Shrarah as a Palestinian intellectual, author of essays and books of poetry who came to Rome frequently for medical treatment. His latest visit was to participate in an international meeting of "Palestinian journalists and writers" organized by the Italo-Arab Friendship Association. He checked into the Flora on Oct. 5.

Meanwhile, security precautions at Rome's main synagogue and at the 10 others throughout the city were tighter than usual this holiday season. The main synagogue was cordoned off by police during Yom Kippur service. It and other synagogues were guarded by volunteers from the Jewish community.

#### 4 ARABS EXPELLED FROM HOLLAND ON SUSPICION OF PLANNING TERROR ACTS AGAINST JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- Nine Arabs were arrested and four were expelled from Holland during the High Holy Days period, apparently on suspicion that they were planning terrorist acts against Jewish institutions although no charges were brought against them.

The round-ups began after Jewish volunteers detained two Arabs with Egyptian passports loitering outside a Rotterdam synagogue during Rosh Hashanah services and handed them over to police. The men were found to have arrived from Vienna six days earlier on visas valid for seven days. They were unable to explain what they were doing outside the synagogue but a map of Rotterdam found in their possession had the synagogue marked on it.

Police found neither firearms nor explosives among their belongings but inasmuch as the men had insufficient money to stay in Holland, they were placed aboard a flight to Cairo. On the following day, another Arab was arrested in Rotterdam but was released because he possessed a valid permit to stay in the country. At about the same time, five Egyptians were arrested in a Rotterdam suburb and two were expelled from the country. No reasons were given for the arrests and expulsions.

Even before the Rotterdam incident, many Jewish congregations organized their own security services but also asked local mayors to make special police protection available on Yom Kippur. These requests were complied with. On Yom Kippur, synagogues in 26 localities throughout The Netherlands were placed under special police surveillance.



## BEHIND THE HEADLINES SADAT'S DEATH ADDS NEW ELEMENT IN DEBATE OVER THE SALE OF AWACS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA) -- The tragic death of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat has thrown an added, perhaps crucial, ingredient into the debate over the Reagan Administration's proposed \$8.5 billion sale to Saudi Arabia of five AWACS surveillance planes and enhancement equipment for the 62 F-15s previously bought by the Saudis.

Before Sadat's assassination, Congressional rejections of the arms package was almost certain. Now, while it still appears likely, it is not that certain.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee approved a resolution of disapproval of the sale last week by a 28-8 vote and the full House is expected to overwhelmingly endorse this action on Wednesday.

But the main battle is in the Senate as it has always been. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, after a week's delay because of Sadat's death, is expected to act Thursday to reject the sale by a slim margin. The fight will then go to the Senate floor where the vote is expected Oct. 20.

### Forms On Two Points

While all the well-known arguments on both sides continue to be articulated, Sadat's death has focused the issue on two points. The Reagan Administration has been stressing that now more than ever Congress must support the President in this crucial foreign policy decision.

Opponents of the sale, however, point out that Sadat's death proves their main argument: The instability of the Middle East, and the danger of providing highly sophisticated U.S. weapons to regimes, like that in Saudi Arabia, that may not last too much longer.

This concentration on the two point argument was seen in the House Foreign Affairs Committee debate last Wednesday. Rep. Paul Findley (R. Ill.) said it was "essential" for the sale to be approved in order to enable President Reagan to exert leadership in getting moderate Arab states, especially Saudi Arabia, involved in the Middle East peace process. He said that while this was true before Sadat's assassination, the removal of the Egyptian leader from the scene has given Reagan a "much heavier burden" in the peace effort.

But Rep. Stephen Solarz (D. N.Y.) argued that "the assassination of President Sadat underscores the inherent instability of so many of the regimes in the region." He said these regimes are not "the most suitable depository for our most sophisticated military equipment," particularly equipment like the AWACS that have not been sold to any other country, including America's NATO allies.

### Hard Sell By Reagan

President Reagan has been pressing Senators, individually and in groups, hard for the last month to support the AWACS sale. He has continually pointed out that the President must be supported in foreign policy. Even though during the Ford and Carter Administrations he spoke throughout the country against the Panama Canal treaties and SALT II, since last Tuesday when Sadat was assassinated, Reagan and other members of the Administration have stressed that it was essential now to support the AWACS program.

Former Presidents Ford and Nixon have publicly supported the AWACS sale and former President Carter is expected to do so when he visits the White House tomorrow.

The President's pitch has shown some success, at least since Sadat was murdered. Several Republican Senators, including two who were among the sponsors of the Senate resolution of disapproval have announced they support the sale of the arms package to Saudi Arabia. However, Capitol Hill sources said all of them were expected to eventually back the President and Sadat's assassination has given them the needed rationale.

### Efforts Seem To Be Backfiring

But some of the President's efforts appear to be backfiring. Several of the 40 Republican Senators who met with Reagan last Wednesday bristled at his argument that by voting against the AWACS sale they would be perceived as being captives of Israel. Many in Congress note that the Administration has never understood the strong national security concerns in the Congress over the sale.

Although many in Congress have expressed concern over the danger to Israel from the entire arms package, the experience of Iran has made fear for the safety of highly-sophisticated American weaponry the major reason for the strong opposition to the sale.

This does not mean that the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and Jewish organizations and individuals have not been working hard against the sale. Even the Administration admits this is their right as American citizens.

The Israelis have been keeping a low profile, even before Reagan warned against foreign interference. But many point out that the Saudis and other Arabs are all over Washington lobbying for the sale and they have not been accused of foreign interference. Many Senators report they have been receiving a great deal of mail in support of the AWACS sale from executives of American business firms that do business in the Arab countries.

The Administration is putting some of its hope on a compromise being offered by Sens. Sam Nunn (D. Ga.) and John Warner (R. Va.) in which the President would certify in writing that the Saudis have agreed to the safeguards outlined by Secretary of State Alexander Haig. But these safeguards have already been rejected as inadequate by Senators like John Glenn (D. Ohio).

The debate during the next weeks will be intense and the vote may be close. The final outcome depends on which of the two arguments is accepted -- the need to support the President or the threat to national security. Immediately after Sadat's assassination the stress on backing the President seemed to be gaining. But after the shock of Sadat's death wears off, many believe that the threat to U.S. security will still be the one that dominates the feeling in the Senate over the arms sale.

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RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA) -- The National Conference of Bishops of Brazil sent, for the first time in its history, New Year's greetings in the name of the Catholic Church to the Jewish community. The message also expressed gratitude for the acceptance of an invitation "for a religious dialogue on a national level." The message was signed by Msgr. Ivo Lorscheiter.

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BONN (JTA) -- The 200 year-old synagogue in Freudental, one of the oldest in south Germany, has been saved from destruction by a group which has purchased the building for 110,000 Marks and plans to restore it. The synagogue has been used as a stockroom for an industrial firm since the Nazi era and was slated to be razed.