

## BEGIN WARNS ISRAEL HAS REACHED LIMIT OF ITS CONCESSIONS; SHARON COMPLAINS OF 'CONFUSED' POLICY OF U.S.

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin and Defense Minister Ariel Sharon issued separate warnings today aimed against what they perceive to be mounting pressure from the West for Israeli concessions, a tilt toward Saudi Arabia by the European Economic Community (EEC) countries and "confused" American policy toward the Saudi peace plan and the autonomy talks with Egypt.

Begin who spoke here at the opening of "Isratech 1981," an industrial fair, insisted that Israel has already reached the absolute limit of its political concessions and there would be no more. He said that Israel has already given up vital strategic positions in Sinai. On the eastern front, Begin declared, autonomy was the maximum concession Israel was willing to make. He claimed that Israel was already under pressure to negotiate on the basis of the eight-point plan enunciated by Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the 1980 Venice declaration by the EEC foreign ministers. Israel will not surrender to these pressures, Begin said.

### Last Chance For Habib

Sharon addressing a press conference for foreign correspondents in Tel Aviv, warned that Israel would give U.S. special envoy Philip Habib just one more chance to halt terrorist breaches of the cease-fire in Lebanon and to get Syria to remove the SAM-6 anti-aircraft missiles it has deployed in that country by diplomatic means. He said unless this was done, Israel would be forced to take "other action."

He did not spell out what that might be. Nor would he define the "red line" in Lebanon beyond which, he said, Syrian troops or terrorists would not be allowed to move. Habib, who is due in the region later this month, was originally dispatched to the Middle East last May by President Reagan after Israel threatened to destroy the Syrian missiles by force. He stayed on to engineer a cease-fire along the Lebanese border where fighting between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization threatened to escalate into full scale warfare.

Sharon charged today that there have been over 21 breaches of the cease-fire by Palestinian terrorists in south Lebanon since it went into effect last July 24. He said other terrorist attacks or attempted attacks on Israel originated on Jordanian territory or were carried out against Jewish or Israeli institutions abroad, mainly in Western Europe.

The Defense Minister also repeated his charge that U.S. military equipment supplied to Saudi Arabia was being transferred to Iraq "in contravention of a clear U.S. law barring such transfers." Sharon said he was confident U.S. intelligence was aware of this breach but nevertheless, Israel had to draw U.S. attention to it.

He said he had no objection to American supplies of arms to Saudi Arabia to protect what he called a "completely corrupt" regime that faced internal attacks. But he insisted that the AWACS reconnaissance aircraft, the enhancement equipment for Saudi F-15 jet fighters and other advanced military hardware the U.S. plans to sell Saudi Arabia "will certainly not be used against the Soviet Union but only against Israel."

### Tougher Policy On West Bank, Gaza

Sharon complained about "confused announcements" coming from Washington about the Fahd peace plan and the peace talks with Egypt. "The voice of Europe is not encouraging to us and it is not clear what is the real American policy," he said. He said that henceforth, Israel would have to consider Saudi Arabia as one of the "confrontation states" against Israel and against Middle East peace.

With respect to his upcoming visit to Washington next month to discuss "strategic cooperation" with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Sharon said he and his party would discuss details of strategic cooperation only after a memorandum of understanding was signed covering a broad field and spelling out mutual responsibilities.

Replying to questions, Sharon made it plain that his policy toward the West Bank and Gaza Strip was tougher, not softer as had been reported abroad. "All foreign correspondents and inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip should understand that the new policy does not mean a more lenient approach, but the opposite. We shall treat the peaceful population more gently but the terrorists will be treated more harshly," he warned. He said he included the "stone-throwing students of Bir Zeit University" in the category of "terrorists."

### KNESSET DELEGATION OFF TO U.S. TO EXPLAIN ISRAEL'S POSITIONS ON CURRENT MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- A six-member Knesset delegation was preparing to leave for the U.S. today to explain Israel's opposition to the eight-point Saudi Arabian peace plan and other Israeli positions on the Middle East to the American Administration, Congress and public opinion.

The delegation, proposed by Premier Menachem Begin and approved by the Knesset last week, is headed by Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and is composed of equal numbers of Likud and opposition Labor Alignment MKs. Arens is a leader of Likud's Herut faction.

He told reporters today that the delegation would present Israel's general view on current developments in the Mideast. He insisted that the mission was in no way an attempt to bypass the Reagan Administration to win support of American public opinion. Just as U.S. Congressmen visit Israel, Israeli members of parliament can visit the U.S., he said.

### STRIKE AGAINST EL AL IN FIFTH DAY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The strike against El Al went into its fifth day today with no immediate

prospects for ending it in sight. But Histadrut officials saw a ray of hope in the El Al employees' agreement to negotiate with management without demanding prior withdrawal of the dismissal notices to 18 flight engineers that triggered the strike last Thursday.

Histadrut is not supporting the strike. But it criticized the airline management for "hasty action" in sending the dismissal notices. Management says its letter was not a dismissal notice but simply a request to Histadrut's trade unions department to "discuss the dismissals." The airline contends that the flight engineers will be made redundant when new, more sophisticated aircraft are delivered.

Meanwhile, Israel's national air carrier remained grounded. Passengers holding El Al tickets in Israel or abroad have been transferred to other airlines or to non-Israeli planes chartered by El Al.

### ISRAEL EXPECTS U.S. TO VETO FAHD PLAN IF SAUDIS BRING IT TO SECURITY COUNCIL

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Israel expects that the United States will oppose Saudi Arabia Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point Mideast peace plan should the Saudis bring the plan before the United Nations Security Council, Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, told Israeli reporters here today.

Blum cited recent statements by top Reagan Administration officials reiterating the U.S. commitment to the Camp David accords and Security Council resolution 242 as the basis for a settlement in the Mideast. Israel, therefore, can expect that the U.S. will reject the Saudi plan if it comes for endorsement before the Security Council, Blum said, because the Saudi plan "is incompatible with Camp David and resolution 242."

Blum said that in his view the Saudis will attempt to have the Security Council adopt the eight-point peace plan, which was proposed by Prince Fahd last August. The plan, which has received a great deal of media coverage in the last ten days, calls for total Israeli withdrawal from all the territories Israel captured in 1967, including East Jerusalem; the establishment of an independent Palestinian State in the West Bank with East Jerusalem as its capital; and the right of states in the area to live in peace.

Blum said, however, that the Saudis' intention to introduce the Fahd plan to the Security Council will be decided in the upcoming Arab League meeting in Fez, Morocco, scheduled for Nov. 23-28. Press reports from Riyadh last week quoted Prince Saud, the Saudi Foreign Minister, as saying that his country would seek a UN General Assembly endorsement of the Fahd peace plan and through the Assembly seek a Security Council meeting on the subject.

### ISRAEL AIR FORCE TAKING OVER NEW NEGEV AIR BASES BEFORE THEY ARE COMPLETED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The two Israel Air Force bases in the Negev being built by the U.S. to replace two being abandoned in Sinai were formally declared operational yesterday, even though far from completion.

The first Israeli squadron flew into Uvdat airfield north of Eilat late yesterday. The Ramon

airfield near Mitzpe Ramon will be taken over shortly. The new airfields, plus a third being built by Israeli contractors at Tel Malhata near Beersheba, are to replace the two major air bases of Eitam and Etzion in Sinai which are to be handed over to the Egyptians for civilian use only, by next April, the date of Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai under the Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

The Negev airfields are far from complete. Construction is behind schedule. Officials fear they will not be completed by the final withdrawal deadline but will have to become fully operational even though construction work will continue.

### Symbol Of Peace

Addressing the ceremony marking the arrival of the first Israel Air Force squadron, Premier Menachem Begin said that "although this airfield will see the takeoff and landings of modern warplanes, we regard this airfield as a symbol of our desire for peace."

He noted that "among the victims and the price we have paid for the peace treaty are the two airfields in the Sinai" which are to be replaced by those under construction in the Negev. Begin thanked the Americans for their assistance in building the two new air bases.

### HADDAD WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION; ISRAELIS PLEASED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Israeli military and civilian authorities were reportedly pleased when Maj. Saad Haddad rescinded his resignation as commander of the Christian militia in south Lebanon yesterday only 48 hours after he announced it over the "Voice of Hope" Christian radio station Friday.

Haddad gave no reason for his surprise decision to quit or for his equally sudden decision not to. He stressed that both moves were made "entirely for local south Lebanese reasons." His militia, supported by Israel and largely armed by it, is regarded here as a buffer preventing Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating across Israel's northern border.

According to Haddad, President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon had expressed regret at his initial announcement that he would leave his post. Haddad said he planned to reorganize the civilian and military command in the area he controls which, he said, will be known as "Free Lebanon." Haddad was recently treated for exhaustion in Israeli hospitals.

### EEC PLANS COMPROMISE TO SATISFY ISRAEL ON EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN SINAI FORCE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The European Economic Community's (EEC) 10-member states are due to resume consultations this week on the participation by France, Britain, Holland and Italy in the 2,500 peace-keeping force which is due to patrol the Sinai after Israel's withdrawal next April.

European diplomats say that a compromise solution "will probably be found" in spite of Israel's announced intention to "disqualify" from the force the contingents of any countries which refer to the Venice declaration or the Saudi peace plan as a venue for future peace talks.

The European diplomats told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the suggested compromise will probably consist of a two-part declaration. The first, approving the four states' participation in the force, will refer exclusively to the Camp David agreement and resolution 242 and would thus fulfill Israel's wishes as expressed by Premier Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The second part of the joint declaration would

consist of a more general statement which will refer to the joint European declaration issued in Venice last year.

A joint European statement backing the four countries' participation in the Sinai force was held up earlier this week because the new Greek government objected. European diplomats believe that the Greeks are now ready to agree to the compromise solution now under discussion.

#### Egypt Appealed To France

The four nations' decision to join the Sinai force originated from an Egyptian appeal to France. It was first made by President Anwar Sadat last year but turned down by then French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. Renewed this summer it was accepted by Socialist President Francois Mitterrand who reiterated his promise to Sadat's successor, Hosni Mubarak. It was at France's request that Britain, Holland and Italy agreed to send either men or logistic support.

Israel, which would have preferred to have the force consist exclusively of troops from the U.S. and the British Commonwealth (Canada, Australia and New Zealand) nonetheless agreed last month to the West European participation.

French and Soviet foreign ministry officials reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East last week within the framework of the Franco-Soviet Joint Consultation Agreement. French and Soviet sources said after the two-day conference that "there has been a measure of agreement" on a number of points. The Franco-Soviet consultations are strictly informative and not binding on either of the two governments.

#### U.S. SEES NEW PROGRESS IN AUTONOMY TALKS BUT STRESSES NO DEADLINE FOR THEIR COMPLETION

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The United States, Israel and Egypt will try to work out "general principles and understandings" for autonomy on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip when negotiations on the ministerial level resume in Cairo Wednesday, a senior State Department official said today.

The official told reporters that these principles would provide the framework from which the specific autonomy arrangements could be established. He denied that this was adding a new layer to what had to be accomplished by the three countries.

The decision to seek the principles was made at the Ministerial meeting in September at which it was decided to establish as "their initial and immediate objective, not excluding other avenues, an agreement on understandings, and principles towards the implementation of the framework agreed on at Camp David."

The official explained that this framework would try to do for the autonomy agreement what the Camp David framework had done for the Israel-Egyptian peace treaty. He said that, when the general principles were adopted, he hoped that the Palestinians would join in the effort to work out the practical agreements needed to implement autonomy.

#### Palestinians Watching Negotiations

The Palestinians have been watching the talks despite their refusal to participate, the official noted. He said that under the Camp David accords the Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza could join the negotiations as part of either the

Egyptian or Jordanian delegations. Jordan has refused to join the talks but the Palestinians could still join the Egyptian group, the official said. He suggested that the Palestinian representatives could be the Mayors of West Bank and Gaza municipalities.

The official, who has been involved in the autonomy talks since they began in May, 1979, said there was a lot of misinformation about the Camp David agreements. He said what the Camp David agreements call for is an autonomy agreement that would be a five-year transition period until the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is decided upon. Within three years after the autonomy agreement has become effective, negotiations must begin on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza. Both Israel and the Arab inhabitants of the area must agree on the final status, he said.

The talks now deal with the administrative council that will be set up to administer autonomy during this transitional period, the State Department official explained. He said the negotiations covered what this body will be able to do and what it will not be able to do.

#### More Progress Than Ever Made Since September

The official said that since September the working groups have been meeting almost constantly and have made much more progress than ever before. He said this was due to the fact that the representatives of the three countries now knew each other better and no longer had to stick to rigid positions set by their superiors. There has been "a great deal of heat, but also a great deal more light," he said.

The official stressed that the Camp David accords do not link Israel's final withdrawal from the Sinai, scheduled for next April, with reaching an agreement on autonomy. However, he conceded there was a "psychological" linkage.

But he stressed there could be no deadline for the talks. "It takes a long time and a lot of hard work to get people to overcome all these decades of hostilities," he said. He noted the years it took to reach the SALT II agreement and to end the Vietnam hostilities. "The world needs a comprehensive peace in that area (Mideast) and you don't put deadlines on needs like that," the official said.

#### European Participation In Sinai Force

Meanwhile, the State Department said it was continuing to have talks with members of the European Economic Community (EEC) about their joining the international force that will patrol the Sinai after Israel's withdrawal. European participation has been put in doubt because British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers attacked the Camp David process in Saudi Arabia last week while praising the eight-point "peace plan" of Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

"We trust a way will be found to permit their (the Europeans) participation," State Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg said today. He refused to comment on the Fahd plan, declaring that the United States has only one plan to achieve peace in the Mideast and that is Camp David. Romberg also said that no date has been set for a visit by Fahd to Washington. Saudi Arabian newspapers reported last week that Fahd was due to come here Dec. 1.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- In view of the near-stoppage of all Soviet Jewish emigration and the intensified suppression of Jewish emigration and cultural activists, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYCSJ) announced Monday an expanded campaign for more than 100,000 signatures on a protest petition.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES MKS ENCOURAGING SETTLER RESISTANCE IN SINAI POSE ETHICAL PROBLEM FOR KNESSET

By Uzi Benziman

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Three members of the 120 member Knesset have recently taken up residence in or near Yamit, the main township in the Rafah region of northeast Sinai which Israel will evacuate next April. They are Geula Cohen and Hanan Porat of the Tehiya faction and Rabbi Haim Druckman of the extreme right wing of the National Religious Party. A fourth MK, Tehiya leader Yuval Neeman, says that he too is contemplating the move.

Their declared purpose is to express in this way their opposition to the pullout from Yamit and the rest of the Rafah region, scheduled for next April under the terms of the Israel-Egyptian peace treaty. As such, these MKs are breaking no law or violating no regulation. Nevertheless, their move raises questions of public ethics and parliamentary responsibility.

### Nature Of Knesset Immunity

Under the "Members of Knesset Immunities Law: Rights and Duties" enacted in 1951, a Knesset member shall not be subject to either civil or criminal process, and will be immune from any legal action against him, in regard to his vote, or his opinion, or any action he has taken -- either inside the Knesset or outside the Knesset -- if that vote, that expression of opinion, or that action was a part of the way in which he fulfills his role as a member of the Knesset."

This deliberately wide and catch-all formulation gives effective protection to MKs against any attempt to prosecute or sue them because of their political activities. The legislature intended -- and indeed succeeded -- in providing its members with well nigh perfect freedom to function as representatives of the public. It enabled them to describe their political activities -- even if such activities would be illegal if done by others -- as "part of the way in which he fulfills his role as a member of the Knesset."

So far Cohen, Porat and Druckman have not violated any law. The Yamit/Rafah area is open to free movement and normal access and the three MKs followed the normal procedures in setting up homes there in empty houses. Moreover, their decision to leave their homes and take this symbolic step of resettling themselves and their families in Yamit can most certainly be defined as "part of the way in which they fulfil their roles as members of the Knesset." Their purpose, after all, is to make a legitimate demonstration of their political views.

But the ethical and democratic problems arise not out of strict legalism, but out of the fact that the Knesset itself, by an overwhelming majority, has resolved that this area is to be evacuated as part of the peace with Egypt. Furthermore, the anti-withdrawal, anti-peace treaty views of these three MKs were very recently put to the ultimate democratic test -- that of the ballot-box -- and found to represent only a very small proportion of Israeli public opinion. Tehiya won three seats in the last election.

It is therefore most relevant to ask of these three MKs: What is the moral basis of their act of demonstration against the implementation of the peace treaty?

But the problem is more serious -- and more down-to-earth than a mere ethical debate.

Though the three MKs have not broken any law, they have clearly given inspiration and encouragement

to others who, it appears, do intend to break the law and take illegal actions in their struggle against the evacuation.

Cohen, Porat and Druckman are at the spearhead of a growing movement -- mainly Gush Emunim youngsters -- of people moving into the Rafah area.

Some of these people, according to the security authorities, are indeed likely to resort to illegal acts and even violence in the political battle against the withdrawal. There are even indications that they would use weapons. The area is seething with rumors of underground schemes by some of these people.

By giving the lead to the new settlers of Yamit and Rafah, Cohen, Porat and Druckman have taken upon themselves a heavy responsibility with serious social and constitutional significance. They may well find themselves in the months ahead at the head of an active resistance movement which will violate both the decisions of the Knesset and the law of the land.

### LABOR ZIONIST ASSAILS BEGIN'S ATTACK ON KIBBUTZ MOVEMENT

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Itzhak Korn, a member of the Central Committee of Israel's opposition Labor Party charged yesterday that Premier Menachem Begin's recent attacks on kibbutzim and other officials' attacks on the Histadrut "shake the base of the pioneering structure and can destroy the pillars of Israeli society."

Korn, a leader in the World Zionist movement, asserted that the only "counterweight against a tendency to careerism in Israel among the people are Labor institutions which believe in progressive democracy, values based on the ideals of kibbutzim and on the principles of the early founders of Israel."

Addressing a meeting here of the National Council of the League of Friends of Labor Israel, Korn said that it was "vital to have a larger periphery" of Jews through the world who will show solidarity with the kibbutzim and Histadrut in Israel especially since, he added, "the present government of Israel often attacks pioneering groups in the Jewish state."

"All Israel is united against the external dangers, such as the eight-point Saudi Arabia (peace) plan," he said, "but we can never accept attacks on the pioneering groups of Israel."

### Fuels Ethnic Tension

Several hundred delegates attended the gathering of the League which Korn described as "an independent group which sympathizes with the ideals of Israeli labor." Korn said that he hoped the government would not attack kibbutzim, since a great number of Sephardim in Israel do not belong to kibbutzim, and that "an attack by the Prime Minister of Israel on kibbutzim which declares that the settlements are rich further exacerbates tensions between Ashkenazim and Sephardim."

Korn, who helped found the League of Friends of Labor Israel a few years ago, also announced at the Council meeting that a new World Council would hold its first meeting in Israel in January for a founding Convention. Delegates will attend from the U.S. and Canada, France, Australia and other countries, he said.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A 34-year-old Syrian who flew into Israel by powered hang glider some eight months ago but made a forced landing after dropping a homemade bomb harmlessly was sentenced Monday to 12 years in prison by a military court in Haifa.

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Reminder: There will be no JTA Daily News Bulletin dated Wednesday, November 11 because of Veterans Day, a postal holiday.