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ISRAEL MOVES TO ANNEX GOLAN HEIGHTS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Israel moved today to immediately annex the Golan Heights. The Cabinet took the decision at a special session this morning and Premier Menachem Begin announced it to the Knesset early in the afternoon. Despite opposition from the Labor Alignment, the bill is expected to pass the required three readings today and be law by tonight.

According to Israel Radio, the Golan bill consists of three short paragraphs. It states that Israeli law will henceforth apply to the Golan Heights region, the territory captured from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War; that the law takes effect immediately; and that the Minister of Interior is responsible for its implementation. Israel Radio said all security precautions have been taken on the Golan Heights to prevent any hostile action.

Move Comes As A Surprise

The move took Israel and the rest of the world by surprise. (See related stories.)

The Cabinet's approval came at a special session held in Begin's home this morning only hours after he was released from Hadassah Hospital where he was confined for the past two weeks with a broken hip.

Apparently the government considered this the opportune moment to annex the territory. It follows yesterday's assertion by President Hafez Assad of Syria that "even if the Palestine Liberation Organization recognizes Israel, we in Syria cannot recognize it." Assad's statement was quoted in the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Rai Al Aam.

In addition, the Cabinet reportedly felt that the time is ripe for annexation because most of the world's attention, including that of the U.S. and the Soviet Union, is concentrated on events in Poland where the government declared martial law yesterday in a showdown confrontation with the Solidarity trade union movement. Secretary of State Alexander Haig cancelled his visit to Israel, scheduled for yesterday, and to Turkey, Pakistan and India, because of the Polish crisis and returned to Washington from Brussels.

The annexation move was also seen as a test of Egyptian reaction. The government apparently felt that Cairo's intentions should be put to a severe test before Israel completes its withdrawal from Sinai next April. (Related story P.3.)

Ironically, it was only several months ago that the government and Knesset flatly rejected a bill to annex the Golan Heights submitted by Geula Cohen of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya faction. Cohen said today that in view of the Cabinet's decision she would withdraw her Golan bill and present, instead, a motion for the immediate annexation of the occupied West Bank.

Begin, addressing the Knesset from a wheelchair, sought to justify the annexation on grounds that there are no prospects for peace negotiations with Syria in the foreseeable future. He also claimed that historically, the Golan Heights have always been regarded as an integral part of the

"Land of Israel" and therefore there were security, moral and political reasons for its annexation.

Begin said that he had appealed to Assad in the past to join the peace process by coming to Jerusalem or to receive him, Begin, in Damascus. But all such overtures were rejected, he said. "Should we wait for years, possibly for five generations, for the Syrians to change their minds?" Begin asked.

FRANCE OFFICIALLY MUM ON ISRAEL'S ANNEXATION MOVE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- France today refrained from any official comment on Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights but political circles expressed "regret," saying the move "will not help" the search for a global peace.

Official spokesmen refused to react, saying that the government and President Francois Mitterrand are still studying the matter and its implications. According to the unofficial political sources, however, a statement of "regret" and possibly even "condemnation" can be expected during the coming days. Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, who is due to pay an official visit to Egypt next week, believes the issue will be raised there.

Cheysson is due to meet Egypt's President, Hosni Mubarak, and confer at length with Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali. Both the French and the Egyptians have in the past opposed any Israeli annexations or changes of the international borders without prior consultations with the interested parties.

SYRIA REQUESTS MEETING OF SECURITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS ISRAEL'S MOVE

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Syria today requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council "to discuss the decision of the Israeli government to apply Israeli law to the occupied Golan Heights." The request was made in a letter from the Syrian Ambassador to the UN, Dia-Allah El-Fattal, to the President of the Security Council, Olatia Opunnu of Uganda. Informal consultations between Security Council members are scheduled to begin by this evening. Meanwhile, a spokesman for Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said today that the Secretary General has expressed concern over the reported Israeli move. (By Yitzhak Rabi)

TERRORISTS GO ON TRIAL IN ANTWERP

BRUSSELS, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- The trial of two Palestinian terrorists charged with killing a 15-year-old Jewish boy and wounding 12 other youngsters and adults in front of a Jewish youth center in Antwerp July 29, 1980, opened today in that city's Criminal Court. One of the terrorists, Said Al-Nasser, 26, is charged with murder after he admitted to police that he threw two hand grenades at the crowd of Jewish youngsters who were waiting to take a bus to a summer camp. The other terrorist, Mohammed Hassan, 27, is charged with complicity. The two terrorists face life sentences if convicted, which in Belgium means they may be released after 20 years.

USSR CHALLENGED ON JEWISH EMIGRATION

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- A seven-member

Dutch parliamentary delegation visiting Moscow challenged Soviet authorities over the severe curtailment of exit visas granted to Jews seeking to emigrate. They were given stock answers, obviously prepared in advance, in which the authorities contended that few Jews are seeking visas and those denied them are privy to official secrets which precludes their leaving the country.

The delegation, which included the chairmen of the three parliamentary coalition factions, went to the Soviet Union to discuss European arms reduction. But they raised the question of Soviet Jews with members of the Supreme Soviet and of the Communist Party Central Committee. The replies they received were identical.

They were told that only 3000 Jewish applicants are still awaiting visas; that only five percent of the applications are rejected because the applicants are either indispensable to the Soviet economy, have knowledge of security matters or have criminal records.

The Dutch parliamentarians were told that many Jews occupy prominent positions where State security is involved, for example, in the Defense Ministry and that the refusal to grant them exit visas applies to all Soviet citizens in similar positions.

Before leaving for the USSR, the members of the delegation signed a petition calling for the liberalization of emigration for Jews. The petition, which has a target of one million signatures, is to be presented to the Soviet Embassy in The Hague tomorrow.

It was learned that the delegates got the impression in their talks with Soviet officials that the crackdown on visas is linked to the fact that most Jews who apply for visas to go to Israel actually go to the United States after leaving the USSR. In view of the deteriorating East-West relations, this is regarded with disfavor by the Russians.

The official part of the visit to Moscow ended yesterday. On Saturday, the Dutch lawmakers visited the synagogue where they discussed the visa problem with five Jews who had applied without success. They promised that on their return to Holland they would continue their efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews.

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EXHIBIT

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 14 (JTA) -- A proposal to establish a permanent Holocaust memorial exhibit at the State Museum here was issued by New York State Senate Democratic Leader Manfred Ohrenstein. The proposal was supported by Senator Howard Nolan, Jr., and Assemblyman Richard Conners, both of Albany.

The exhibit is to include artifacts, photographs, videotapes, books, pamphlets and other learning materials that document "the sub-human conditions of Nazi concentration camps and ghettos, as well as the resistance movements and the survival of the human spirit," Ohrenstein said.

"Our goals are two-fold," the Senator from Manhattan stated. "First, we need a permanent setting in New York State to remind our citizens of the worst chapter of human history, when six million Jews and five million other innocent victims were systematically murdered by the Nazis. After 30 years of denial and neglect, interest in the Holocaust has reached a high level of public awareness."

A United States Holocaust Memorial Council has been appointed by the President to establish a permanent memorial museum in the Mall area of Washington, D.C., and the Office of Special Investigations of the U.S. Justice Department is actively seeking out and attempting to deport Nazi war criminals living in this country, Ohrenstein said.

"The lesson of the Nazi genocide and mass murder is that we must remain ever on guard against all forms of racism and fascism, so that a repetition of the Holocaust can never again be directed against any group of people," the Senator said. "Albany is the ideal location for a Holocaust memorial exhibit, because it is the capital of the state with the largest number of concentration camp survivors in this country."

The second goal, he continued, "will be to enhance the new Holocaust studies program that the State Education Department is beginning in our primary and secondary schools this year. This exhibit will go hand in hand with school studies. Children will receive valuable reinforcement experience from seeing actual concentration camp uniforms, yellow stars (of David) photographs, letters, and films."

The exhibit is expected to change periodically as research provides more information, enabling shifts in emphasis. A supplemental budget appropriation of \$50,000 would provide most of the funding for the exhibit, which will have expenses that include design items, resources and personnel. The remainder will come from private contributions from the Albany area, Ohrenstein said.

HEAD OF EGYPTIAN PRO-PEACE GROUP SAYS TIES WITH ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE AFTER THE RETURN OF SINAI

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- The head of an unusual all-Egyptian group dedicated to fostering closer ties between Egypt and Israel told the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress he expects to see growing normalization between the two countries after the return of the Sinai next April.

Dr. Mohammed Hani ElKadi, a 36-year-old physician now visiting the U.S. to attend a writing seminar as a guest of the U.S. International Communication Agency, said membership in his Alexandria-based organization, the Israeli-Egyptian Friendship League, is growing despite intense pressure from other Arab countries.

At a press conference after the meeting, he dismissed speculation that relations between the two countries would break down again once the rest of Sinai was returned by Israel. "Such talk is totally unrealistic," he declared. "Those who believe it do not know or understand what is going on. Israel and Egypt have a mutual need to get along with each other. We have tried war and hostility, and it doesn't work. It has led to serious economic, social and political difficulties."

ElKadi, who is also a novelist and journalist, pointed out that the Camp David accords, in fact, provide for American military guarantees in case either side reneges on the agreement. He told the AJCongress audience that active opposition to the peace treaty today is centered in leftwing and Moslem fundamentalist elements who constitute a minority of Egypt's population.

Says Saudi Money Is Threat

Much of the financing for such groups comes from Saudi Arabia, ElKadi indicated. "Saudi money, in fact, is dangerous to Egypt," he said. "It is luring many Egyptian doctors and other professional people to Saudi

Arabia, when they are needed in Egypt." In addition to the brain drain, the Saudi funds are also buying the political allegiances of some Egyptians, Elkadi suggested. The Israeli-Egyptian Friendship League, which has a wholly Egyptian membership, was founded in 1977, shortly after President Anwar Sadat's dramatic journey to Jerusalem. Elkadi was the first Egyptian journalist to enter Israel after Sadat's visit, arriving in the Jewish State three days after the Egyptian President. The physician met with Israeli leaders and was impressed with their enthusiastic response to Sadat's peace gesture. Returning to Egypt he and several colleagues founded the Israeli-Egyptian Friendship League in Alexandria. Elkadi was chosen president.

While the League members initially met with a great deal of hostility from official and quasi-official Egyptian organizations, police agencies and leftwing groups, and were denounced as Israeli agents and spies, the atmosphere improved markedly after Camp David and the signing of the peace treaty, Elkadi explained.

STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS ANY CHANGE IN STATUS OF GOLAN HEIGHTS WOULD VIOLATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- The State Department warned Israel today that any change in the status of the Golan Heights would "violate international law," Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg said the United States' position had been made clear to the Israeli government today.

But Romberg said the U.S. was not sure whether the Knesset was considering an extension of Israeli law to the Golan or an outright annexation. However, he said the U.S., which had not been told in advance of the Israeli plans, would be "equally concerned" by either change.

"Our view has been and remains that any unilateral change in the status of the Golan Heights or any of the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 (Six-Day) War would be contrary to the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 under which Camp David and all Middle East peace negotiations since 1967 have been based," Romberg said.

The spokesman did not know what effect the Israeli action would have on the Camp David process, although he noted that Golan was not included in the Camp David accords. He also could not give any reason for Israel acting on the Golan at this time.

EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL TO AUTONOMY TALKS REGRETS ISRAEL'S MOVE ON THE GOLAN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- The head of the Egyptian delegation to the working level autonomy talks scheduled to open in Tel Aviv today, expressed "deep regret" over Israel's move to annex the Golan Heights and asked for a postponement of the session until tomorrow morning.

The Egyptian official, Taher Shash, said that the bill applying Israeli law to the Golan Heights, being debated in the Knesset, was a contravention of international law, the Geneva conventions and the Camp David framework. His was the first Egyptian reaction to the bill approved by the Cabinet this morning and rushed to the Knesset by Premier Menachem Begin.

Haim Kubersky, head of the Israeli autonomy team, disputed Shash. He maintained that the autonomy talks were not the forum to deal with this matter and observed that the Israeli delegates would not use it to speak out on such matters as Egypt's relation with its neighbor, Libya.

But the U.S. representative at the working level deliberations, Watt Claverius supported the Egyptian view. He said Israel's action on the Golan was relevant to the autonomy talks because they are based on the Camp David accords which are, in turn, based on Security Council Resolution 242 that speaks of peace between Israel and all of its neighbors and the territorial integrity of all states in the region. Claverius said the U.S. was seriously concerned by any such unilateral step that undermined Camp David and by the same token, Resolution 242.

Meanwhile, the debate raged in the Knesset, with Begin urging quick passage of the bill into law on historical and security grounds. His arguments were seconded by Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and Ambassador-designate to the United States. Arens supported the measure mainly on strategic grounds and denied that it would block possible future negotiations with a new regime in Syria.

Labor Appears To Be In A Dilemma

The opposition Labor Alignment appeared to be in a dilemma. Most were absent from the first reading of the bill while the various elements of the party argued over whether to support or oppose it. Some MKs from the kibbutz movement and others urged support, or at least a waiver of party discipline to allow members to vote their conscience. But MK Gad Yaacobi proposed that Labor boycott the session in protest against the unseemly haste with which the government is seeking to ram through the measure.

Labor doves such as former Foreign Minister Abba Eban and members of Mapam declared they would vote against the bill if Labor decided to attend the session. Pro-annexationists such as Avraham Katz-Oz said they would vote for it regardless of what Labor's Knesset faction decided.

Amnon Rubinstein of Shinui, a prominent constitutional lawyer, vigorously opposed the government's bill on grounds that it not only flouted Resolution 242 but could be construed as flouting the Camp David accords which are based on that resolution. Rubinstein argued further that the bill was meaningless in practical terms and would only stir trouble on the Golan Heights which heretofore has not been on the international agenda.

Although the government was determined to push the bill through the required three readings and have it become law by tonight, the possibility of delay arose when Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir failed to persuade the four-man Agudat Israel faction to support it. The Orthodox MKs decided to refer the matter to their "Council of Sages" for a final decision.

Israel Radio reported, meanwhile, that the Cabinet had been taken completely by surprise when Begin summoned them to a special meeting this morning. Energy Minister Yitzhak Berman of Likud's Liberal Party wing, opposed the measure and walked out of the meeting before a vote was taken. Approval therefore was technically unanimous. According to Israel Radio, several other ministers expressed doubt but were overwhelmed by Begin who urged them to seize the opportunity to act on the Golan while the international community was preoccupied with the crisis in Poland.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW THE FUTURE OF TOURISM IN THE SINAI

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- With the withdrawal from eastern Sinai now imminent, Israel has had to think in terms of substitutes for the glorious vacation and relaxation areas along the Sinai coastline that are to be handed back to Egypt next April.

Hopefully, of course, Israeli and foreign tourists to Israel will continue to be able to visit these sites -- Nueba, Dahab, Sharm el-Sheikh, and others. But however simple the procedures for crossing the border will be, the feelings clearly will not be the same as when there was no border to cross.

Among the organizations assessing the meaning of the pullback in terms of tourism and recreational facilities has been the Jewish National Fund. Its chairman, Moshe Rivlin, interviewed by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, spoke of two "alternative" areas inside Israel which the JNF together with the government Tourism Authority are already planning to take up at least part of the slack that will be left by the evacuation from Sinai.

These are the shores of the Sea of Galilee (Lake Tiberias) and the area east of Jerusalem, on the West Bank, between the Etzion block of settlements and the ancient mountain fortress ruin of Herodium.

The Role Of The JNF

The JNF's role will be the trail-blazing and earth-works in the initial stages, and later landscaping, tree-planting and laying out recreational facilities. The Sea of Galilee project will focus, according to Rivlin, on the northern and eastern shore of the lake, and will blend into the existing "Jordan Park," an ambitious JNF project which has converted a large area around the Jordan River's entry-point into the lake into a natural recreation area.

The Etzion-Herodium idea, too, would blend into another ambitious JNF scheme which is just now beginning to be implemented, the "Jerusalem Green Belt." Having won government and municipal approval, JNF planters have embarked on a project, which, five years from now, according to Rivlin, will have created a forest belt around the capital over an area of 10,000 dunams (2,500 acres).

The belt would be largely on the fringes of the municipal boundaries of the city, all of it on state-owned land, so expropriations are not necessary. It will stretch from Atarot and Neve Yaacov in the north to Gilo in the south, both new suburbs of greater Jerusalem.

Rivlin termed this "a giant project." He said now that the green light has been given, work will proceed at a "smart pace." There will be a preponderance of pines in the forest as there is in the Jerusalem area in general, but the forest will contain many other species, too.

The Jerusalem Green Belt project itself dovetails into the overall national master plan for forestry in Israel which, Rivlin disclosed, has recently won government approval.

In barest outline, the plan calls for Israel to have 1.5 million dunams of woodland by the end of the century as compared to one million today. There are 27 million dunams of land in the country as a whole outside the administered territories. Rivlin said the 1.5 million dunams target was a "reasonable" area proportionally.

For the JNF this will mean planting 25,000 dunams each year or, expressed in terms of trees, three million trees a year. The project is in addition to the JNF's ongoing care of new and middle-aged forests which require attention if they are to continue flourishing.

The master plan's effects in the Negev will be little short of revolutionary, Rivlin said. He termed it "pushing back the desert" and spoke of the various arid-zone research undertakings that are proceeding in the area.

In the region of Yatir in the northern Negev -- the Hebron hill range on the West Bank -- there are plans for six or seven new Jewish settlements. All of these will directly and materially benefit from this research into making the difficult soil of the region fruitful. In addition, the JNF plans to plant 2.5 million new trees in the region which will serve as a recreational facility for Beersheba.

An even more unpromising area which is being made fertile is the Sodom valley. To date only one settlement has been built there, Neot Hakikar, founded in 1970. By damming and channelling work, the JNF and the Jewish Agency settlement department have been able to divert winter flood waters into additional area and provide sufficient potential arable land for the planners to blueprint the establishment of another five or six settlements in the region.

FIRST APPLICATION OF SOLAR POWER IN ISRAEL PRODUCES FRENCH FRIES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- The first application of solar power for commercial purposes began in Israel yesterday. A specially built computer activated 500-square meters of solar energy collectors to produce steam running an electric generator at the Tapud food factory in Shaar Hanegev. The product: French fried potatoes.

The solar power plant, known as the Luz system or LS-1, was designed by Arnold Goldman, an engineer who recently immigrated from the U.S. American experts described it as the most efficient solar generator in the world. The Tapud factory is the first to use it on a commercial basis.

The system is composed of a battery of long parabolic mirrors in the form of troughs which reflect sunlight on an oil-filled pipe in the center of the trough. The liquid in the pipe absorbs the sun's heat and transforms it into steam energy at temperatures of up to 250 degrees C. The computer keeps the troughs pointed directly at the sun for maximum efficiency.

ROTHSCHILD RE-ELECTED TO FSJU

PARIS, Dec. 14 (JTA) -- Guy de Rothschild and his son, David, were yesterday re-elected by an overwhelming majority to the executive committee of France's major Jewish organization, the United Jewish Welfare Fund (FSJU). Both Rothschilds were re-elected in spite of reports that several members of the FSJU National Council, the organization's permanent general assembly, would vote against them because of the banking family's overly close ties with the former Administration of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Members of the Rothschild family have headed most of France's major Jewish institutions since the post-war years. Several Jewish splinter movements have bitterly attacked them, claiming they had not opposed vigorously enough Giscard's Middle East policy and of having been lukewarm in their support of Israel. Both Guy and David de Rothschild have adamantly denied these claims and have reiterated on numerous occasions their support for Israel.