

## SERIOUS CONCERN OVER FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL

By David Landau and Gil Sedan (Jerusalem), and Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv)

Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The future of relations with Washington was a subject of serious concern here following Premier Menachem Begin's unprecedented attack on the Reagan Administration yesterday for suspending the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation agreement. But there were indications that both sides would like to cool the situation.

The status of the agreement remained uncertain. Begin accused the Administration of "abrogating" it to "punish" Israel for its annexation of the Golan Heights a week ago and declared that this made the pact "null and void."

The Cabinet did not formally ratify Begin's statement but, according to a close aide "no one expressed any reservations or objections" at yesterday's session. Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor told reporters later that the Premier's statement has the "validity" of a Cabinet decision even though not formally endorsed. It was learned, however, that discussion was cut short because Begin was in severe pain from his recent hip surgery.

### Division Over Begin's Statement

Nevertheless, the Cabinet appears to be divided over Begin's caustic statement to U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, later made public, a departure from normal diplomatic practice. Some Ministers told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency privately that they were pleased with Begin's performance because the Administration's "punishment" of Israel was "disproportionate" and intended to please and appease the Arabs. One Minister contended it would galvanize American Jewish support behind Israel.

There had been an uncomfortable awareness here last week that the organized American Jewish community was less than enthusiastic over Israel's Golan law. But there were also strong feelings here that Begin had "gone too far" in his bitter cataloging of Israel's grievances against the U.S.

Several of the more moderate Ministers are reported to have complained privately that Begin has been repeatedly confronting the Cabinet with faits accomplis. The U.S.-Israel memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation was approved in advance of its signing November 30 at a hurried Cabinet meeting in Begin's hospital room. Begin has now declared it abrogated before the Ministers had a chance to study it in full and formally ratify it.

But rumblings of protest within the Cabinet have been muted. The Labor opposition, meanwhile, is preparing a motion of no confidence to be presented to the Knesset Wednesday. It is expected to be defeated.

Israeli officials are nevertheless pleased and relieved by Secretary of State Alexander Haig's low key reaction to Begin's blast at the Administration. In a television appearance yesterday, Haig stressed the "vital importance of our obligations to the people of Israel and guarantees to the survival of that state. Nothing has changed"

Israeli newspapers reported today that Washington is trying to contain the crisis with Israel. They noted, however, that Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's remarks, also in a TV appearance, were much tougher on Israel than Haig's.

Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin expressed suspicion over U.S. intentions in an Israel Radio interview today. Rabin, who was visiting the U.S. when the Knesset adopted the Golan law, claimed Washington was trying to use that act as a pretext for deviating from the Camp David framework. He charged that the U.S. might now seek to bring the Palestine Liberation Organization into the peace negotiations.

### Rabin Suspicious Of U.S. Intentions

"I believe there are signs of such an intention on the part of the U.S.," Rabin said. He cited statements by official American spokesmen about the need to expand the Camp David accords and U.S. encouragement of the Saudi Arabian peace plan. "All are signs of less interest in continuing the peace process on the basis of the Camp David accords," Rabin said.

He added: "I'm not saying that it justifies what was initiated (the Golan annexation) or the way it was initiated ... I would have opposed it mainly because it serves as an excuse for the U.S. government to depart from the Camp David accords." According to Rabin, the test of American intentions would be the way it votes when the UN Security Council considers sanctions against Israel. "If America does not veto such a move, we shall be in quite a different ball game," he said.

### Watching Egypt's Reaction

Israel is also closely watching Egypt's reaction to the latest events. Former Egyptian Premier Mustapha Khalil told Yediot Achronot in an interview published today that if Israel rescinds its Golan law, Egypt would make every effort to convince Syria to join in peace negotiations with Israel. Khalil, who heads Egypt's ruling political party, is a deputy of President Hosni Mubarak although he holds no executive office in government.

He told the Yediot Achronot correspondent in Cairo that Egypt's relatively moderate reaction to Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights was aimed at preserving the peace process. "If we had reacted stronger we would have harmed the peace. It is our goal to turn this peace into a model and a precedent for any Arab state which would like to join," Khalil said.

He dismissed Israeli fears that Egyptian policy would harden after Israel's evacuation of Sinai is completed next April. "This is your famous sensitivity," he said. "We too have developed a sensitivity which stems from your lack of confidence in us." Khalil added: "I am ready to pledge, in the name of Egypt, if Israel abolishes the new law, Egypt will undertake upon herself to act toward negotiations between Israel and Syria."

### MITTERRAND TO POSTPONE HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO ISRAEL

PARIS, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- President Francois Mitterrand has decided to postpone his official



visit to Israel in February to protest against annexation of the Golan Heights, diplomatic sources said yesterday. The Foreign Ministry called the report "premature" but refused to deny it.

The sources said Mitterrand informed Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi of his decision during a meeting in Paris last Friday. They said Mitterrand would put off announcing his decision for about two weeks so as not to embarrass Israel publicly. His official visit, due to start February 10, would be the first to Israel by a French President.

The sources said Mitterrand wanted to wait until the present storm of protests against Israel over the annexation calmed down before making his announcement. "The President wants this to be strictly government-to-government, he doesn't want it played on the world stage," a source said.

A carefully worded Ministry statement, released six hours after the report circulated said the President's trip would be reviewed in the light of a United Nations debate in early January on the annexation. "The debate could be used as a pretext for postponing the visit but the real reason is already known," a source said, referring to the annexation.

The Foreign Ministry statement said: "The President has said for a long time he would go to Israel. It is generally known that this visit will have great importance in the search for peace in the Middle East. The eventual consequences of the development of the situation in the region on the visit of the President will be evaluated after the United Nations debate at the beginning of January. All other information on this subject would be premature."

#### VATICAN RADIO AND NEWSPAPER RAPS ISRAEL FOR ITS ACTION ON GOLAN

ROME, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The two official organs of the Vatican -- its radio station and the newspaper Osservatore Romano -- sharply criticized Israel for annexing the Golan Heights at a time when "governments and public opinion were focused on events in Poland." The broadcast and print media used virtually identical language. They accused Israel of introducing "a new factor of perturbation and tension in the Middle East situation."

Osservatore Romano noted: "From the very side which most expresses the desire to safeguard and fulfill the Camp David process, an element is added which cannot help but be -- in the best of circumstances -- a disturbance and hindrance" of that process, "not to mention the contradictions of one who, on the one hand, accuses others of closing themselves into positions of refusal, and on the other, accumulates faits accomplis not sanctioned by international law which aggravate an already difficult situation."

By contrast to the Vatican's position, the Italian government's reaction to Israel's move was mild. The official statement spoke only of the government's "concern." Parliament rejected a demand by the Communist Party and other leftwing factions to withdraw Italy's offer to participate in the international peacekeeping force in Sinai.

#### AJCOMMITTEE APPEALS TO U.S., ISRAEL TO 'STOP THE DANGEROUS ESCALATION'

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The Ameri-

can Jewish Committee appealed to both Israel and the United States today to heal the sharp differences which have developed between them because of Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and the Reagan Administration's subsequent suspension of the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation agreement.

Bertram Gold, executive vice president of the AJCommittee said, in a statement issued here: "We appeal to our own government and to the government of Israel to stop the dangerous escalation of harsh declarations and actions against one another. Only the enemies of both the U.S. and Israel can benefit from such escalation. It is less important now to assess blame for the present disarray than to get the governments back to positive, trusting discussions."

Gold added: "We can understand our government's disappointment over Israel's Golan Heights action. We can also understand the anger and anguish that prompted Prime Minister Menachem Begin to issue his criticism of a series of American actions that have raised serious questions within Israel."

#### Welcomes Haig's Statement

He welcomed Secretary of State Alexander Haig's statement, in a nationally televised interview yesterday, "reaffirming that President Reagan recognizes 'the vital importance of our obligations to the people of Israel and our guarantees to the survival of that state.' We share the Secretary's hope that the current storm clouds will quickly pass" and "urge that the punitive pressures and impassioned rhetoric swiftly give way to a resumption of full cooperation between the United States and Israel," Gold said.

#### HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS GROUP WANTS PRO-NAZI WRITER DISMISSED FROM JOB ON BAVARIAN STATE RADIO, TV

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- An organization of Holocaust survivors has demanded the immediate dismissal of Franz Schoenhuber, vice editor in chief of the Bavarian State radio and television station, who is author of the recently published book "I Was There," extolling the notorious Waffen SS.

A resolution to that effect was adopted by 400 delegates attending the assembly of the Council for Freedom and Right in Munich. The book was denounced as an insult to survivors of Nazi concentration camps and a source of "shock and anguish" to them. It had made the best seller lists in West Germany, largely because of the publicity given it by numerous protests and received a "rave" review in the newspaper of the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD).

Barbara Distl, head of the memorial at the site of the Dachau concentration camp near Munich, told the meeting that Schoenhuber's book confirmed the thesis that while the survivors of Nazism continue to be agonized by the past, those who committed the atrocities adopt a self-righteous manner.

In a message to the assembly, Frankfurt historian Eugen Kogon said Schoenhuber must have known that there is substantial evidence proving that members of the Waffen SS played a major role in the liquidation of Jews in the Soviet Union and elsewhere and often served in regular SS units guarding concentration camps.

Schoenhuber was invited to the meeting but failed to show up. His book has been described by West German trade unionists as a menace to youth because it upholds Nazi ideology.

#### MAN ACCUSED BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF NAZI ACTIVITIES KILLED BY TRAIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The Justice



Department filed suit Friday to revoke the citizenship of Albert Deutscher, a 61-year-old Illinois man accused of participating in the murder of Jewish men, women and children in the Ukraine as a member of a Nazi paramilitary group during World War II. Just hours later, Deutscher was struck and killed by a train.

The Justice Department action, filed in a Federal District court in Chicago, accused Deutscher of participating on more than one occasion "in the shooting and killing of many hundreds of unarmed Jewish civilians including women and children" and that he lied about his war time activities when he applied for admission to the United States in 1942 and for U.S. citizenship in 1957.

#### Elements In The Complaint

The complaint said Deutscher was a native of Worms in the Soviet Ukraine, and the Nazis, who captured the city in 1941 created a paramilitary organization called the Selbstschutz to maintain Nazi control of Worms. The complaint said Deutscher joined the paramilitary group in early 1942. The complaint charged, the Nazis took many Eastern European Jews to Odessa and then took them north and "on more than one occasion during January and February 1942, the trains halted at or near Berezovka, a few kilometers west of Worms." The Jews were then "forcibly unloaded from the freight cars" and marched in columns to the village of Worms, where they were slaughtered by the Selbstschutz, the complaint said.

Deutscher's death in the Burlington Northern railroad's Clyde station in suburban Cicero, where he had worked as a carman since coming to the United States in 1942, came just hours after the Justice Department suit was filed.

According to a spokesman for the railroad, Deutscher, a resident of Brookfield, Ill., complained of being ill and asked to leave work early. He was struck by the train despite repeated warning whistles from the oncoming train, the spokesman said. Authorities failed to speculate at this time whether Deutscher's death was an accident or suicide.

#### ISRAEL COLLEGE HOSTS MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS FROM SWAZILAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The David Yellin Teachers College of Jerusalem recently hosted a series of meetings and receptions with Senator Canon Sipheste Dlamani of Swaziland and with that country's director of the Ministry of Education, Salomon Simelane, it was reported here by the Friends of the David Yellin Teachers College.

Dlamani and Simelane, accompanied by the former Israeli Ambassador to Swaziland, were reported to have been particularly impressed with the college's unique Early Childhood Demonstration School and its accomplishments and leadership in the difficult and demanding field of special education.

Following their tour of the college, Dlamani and Simelane met in intensive discussion with the dean of the David Yellin Teachers College, Dr. Norman Schanin. They discussed the state of teacher education in Israel, Israeli education in general, and the specific objectives and philosophy of the college.

At the close of the discussions, Dlamani and Simelane expressed their desire and intent to arrange for an exchange of information between

the Education Ministry of Swaziland and the college, as well as having teachers from Swaziland come to Israel for specially arranged symposia and training programs at the college. Schanin expressed his hope and intent to work with the Ministry of Education of Swaziland to formally establish these dialogues and programs. Swaziland was one of the few Black African countries that did not break diplomatic relations with Israel after the Yom Kippur War.

#### ARAB, JEWISH STUDENTS CLASH By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Hundreds of Jewish and Arab students clashed last night at the Mt. Scopus campus of the Hebrew University. Five students, three Arabs and two Jews were hospitalized for treatment. Police held one Arab student suspected of attacking a Jewish student with a knife.

The tension between Jews and Arabs on the campus -- always high -- escalated last week after Israel annexed the Golan Heights. The clash yesterday was triggered by an argument over the loud playing of music in the student dormitories. Leaders of the National Student Union accused three Arab students of starting the fight and demanded that they be suspended. The student leaders warned they would launch a general strike in the country's universities if this was not done.

But Arab and Jewish leftist students demonstrated on the campus today demanding that Yisrael Katz, head of the Hebrew University Student Association, be charged with participating in the violence and suspended until the matter is investigated.

#### STUDY SAYS PLO EXAGGERATES ITS INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Dec. 21 (JTA) A study of the international status won recently by the Palestine Liberation Organization concludes that the PLO's claims of success are exaggerated and that "the substance of its relations with individual states is far more complicated than the PLO indicates."

The study by the Institute of Jewish Affairs, (IJA), research arm of the World Jewish Congress, concedes that the PLO's campaign for worldwide diplomatic recognition has had some success "in spite of its unchanged national covenant and the continued militant statements of its leaders."

However, the PLO's successes in the Soviet Union, Greece and Japan are far less substantial when analyzed in the context of these states foreign policies, the IJA says.

Commenting on the Soviet Union's recent announcement that it was giving the PLO's Moscow office full diplomatic status, the Institute writes:

"Direct negotiations with Brezhnev for a man like PLO Chief Yasir Arafat, who does not represent a state and who was therefore received only by the unofficial Soviet committee of solidarity with Asian and African countries ... certainly represents an upgrading. Turning an office into a diplomatic mission is an impressive change, but in terms of substance this move has meant little; it has involved no change in Soviet or PLO policy."

The study also noted that "it is not in the USSR's interest to make the PLO too independent since it sees the PLO as a means of influencing Arab states and their leaders. The PLO also walks such a tightrope that it can easily offend the Soviet Union. The Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, for example, created great difficulties for the PLO with its strong Moslem leanings. Fatah, the largest of the PLO's constituent groups, is predominantly Moslem."



## PERUVIAN PAPER REJECTS ECONOMIC BLACKMAIL EFFORTS BY THE PLO

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- A Peruvian newspaper has rejected economic blackmail efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organization and has called for the expulsion of the PLO representative in Lima.

According to the Latin American Affairs department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Lima daily, *Expreso*, reacted sharply to a statement by the PLO representative making Arab economic aid to Peru conditional on diplomatic support for the PLO.

Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, head of the ADL's Latin American Affairs department, who has just returned from a visit to Peru and other Latin American nations, said the newspaper's stand reflected "not only nationalistic sentiments, but profound concern with the more than 1,000 terrorists acts counted in Peru this year." Among the targets of terrorist bombers have been the American Embassy and a Jewish day school in Lima.

### 'An Offense To The Peruvian People'

In an editorial (dated Dec. 5) *Expreso* linked the PLO with "terrorism, violence and death" and commented on PLO representative Issam Beseisso's offer of Arab loans and petrodollar grants to Peru if the country would "assume a favorable position vis a vis the Palestinian cause ... as in the case of Brazil." The editorial asserted that "the recent declaration of Mr. Beseisso ... constitutes an offense to the Peruvian people. This type of blackmail is unacceptable."

The PLO official said in reply to the editorial that according to an Arab League summit in November 1979 "all economic cooperation with any country is conditional upon that country's recognition and diplomatic support of the Palestinian people."

*Expreso*, in calling for the expulsion of Beseisso, said it was "incredible" that Peru's previous military government had granted the PLO official the status of a "diplomatic agent."

Peruvian Foreign Minister Arias Stella has said publicly, however, that the PLO representative does not have diplomatic status and there are no plans to give it to him. He noted that the PLO office had not been authorized by the present government, but by the former military regime. The present democratic government came to power in July 1980.

### ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SHUN ANNUAL MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Administration officials were conspicuous by their absence at the third annual lighting of the national menorah in Lafayette Square directly across the street from the White House yesterday afternoon.

The lack of representation from the Reagan Administration was in contrast to previous years -- the festivities at the first lighting at the tall nine-branched brass menorah erected by the American Friends of Lubavitch in 1979; and last year when Stuart Eizenstat and Alfred Moses represented the Carter Administration.

Directly across the street in the White House, President and Mrs. Reagan were hosting a gala afternoon featuring young opera singers from the New York City Opera Company. The MC was director Beverly Sills. The program in the festively decorated East Room ended with the singing of

Christmas carols. In spite of chilly temperatures, as well, a crowd of over 100 Jews of all ages gathered for the lighting and dancing to the accompaniment of Kol Chaim Hassidic Orchestra of Baltimore, Maryland. The traditional blessings were led by Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan of the Rockville, Maryland, Lubavitch Chabad House together with the young students.

Rabbi Abraham Shem Tov of the Philadelphia Lubavitch community then was lifted in a cherry picker to light by torch the first taper, a lamp filled with pure oil. An additional electrically lit candle will be lit each succeeding night of Chanukah.

In remarks before the ceremony, Shem Tov recounted the Chanukah story and also referred to the situation in Poland. He said that as Jews all over the world light their menorahs, "let us rededicate ourselves to the principles for which Chanukah stands and thereby we will see a world that marches to the light of Ha-Shem, a world of peace and harmony and unity and peace for Jews the world over."

In another part of the city, several thousand people attended a menorah lighting sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington and relay runners from the area youth groups took part in the annual Chanukah Torch Run, carrying a torch from the Israel Embassy in northwest Washington to the center of Rockville, Maryland. This torch was originally lit in Modi'in in Israel, the ancient home of the Maccabees.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A four-day strike by Golan Druze, protesting the imposition of Israeli law on the area, ended Sunday, but the atmosphere in the four villages in which the nearly 13,000 Golan Druze are concentrated remains tense. Religious leaders have imposed sanctions against the minority of Druze who support the Israeli move. One villager was barred from attending his mother's funeral by religious leaders who said he was being excommunicated because of his support for Israel which made him a traitor to the Druze cause.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Fire-fighters wearing gas masks rescued passengers trapped below decks in the Greek car ferry *Arion* which burst into flames in Haifa bay Sunday. The 7000-ton motorship was rocked by an explosion while entering the harbor. Local police have not ruled out terrorist action as the cause. The ship continued to belch black smoke this evening as fireboats poured water into the gutted hull. The *Arion* was built in Italy in 1965 for the Israeli Somerfin company as the *Nili*. She was sold to Greek owners several years later.

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LONDON (JTA) -- The Israel Bond Organization is more than half way towards raising the initial "seed" money for the Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal which will provide water from the Mediterranean for a hydro-electric power station on the Dead Sea. Bond Organization officials told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency they had raised \$60 million towards the \$100 million which the Israel government wants to use to launch the \$1 billion project.

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There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated December 25 due to Christmas, a postal holiday.

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We wish all our readers a Happy Chanukah.