

EGYPT ASSURES ISRAEL THAT ITS MOVE ON THE GOLAN WILL NOT AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Israel has received assurances from Egypt that its annexation of the Golan Heights will not affect relations between the two countries. Israel's Ambassador to Cairo, Moshe Sasson, said that position was conveyed to him by President Hosni Mubarak.

Sasson was interviewed on the Voice of Israel Radio today shortly after he handed Mubarak a letter from Premier Menachem Begin affirming that Israel would complete its evacuation of Sinai by next April 26, the deadline set in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The letter also explained Israel's reasons for imposing its law on the Golan Heights, Sasson said.

He said his one-hour meeting with the Egyptian President was held "in a very friendly atmosphere." Mubarak is scheduled to visit Israel in February but no date has been set yet.

U.S.-Israel Relations Seen As Improving

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir met here today with Sen. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee amid reports that U.S.-Israel relations are improving. They reached a low point a week ago when the U.S. announced suspension of its recently signed strategic cooperation agreement with Israel and Begin replied with an angry attack on the Reagan Administration for its treatment of Israel.

Percy is the first major American political figure to visit Israel since its rift with the U.S. over the Golan law and officials here attach great importance to it. The Senator, on a tour of Middle Eastern countries, is scheduled to meet with Begin, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, and Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee who is Israel's Ambassador-designate to the U.S.

U.S. Would Veto Sanctions Resolution

Yediot Achronot reported today that U.S. officials, meeting over the weekend with senior Foreign Ministry officials, assured them the U.S. would veto any resolution calling for sanctions against Israel that may come up when the UN Security Council resumes its debate on the Golan annexation next month. The U.S. supported a Security Council resolution condemning Israel's Golan action on December 17.

In another development, Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan said yesterday that the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights would make the Druze population there liable to conscription into Israel's armed forces. But an army spokesman said today that only those Druze who volunteer would be taken into the army. The majority of the 14,000 Druze on the Golan Heights consider themselves to be Syrian citizens and protested the Israeli law.

QADDAFI TO VISIT GERMANY NEXT YEAR

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Col. Muammar Qaddafi, the leader of Libya, will visit West Germany next year, probably in May. The invitation, extended by the German-Arab Association for Friendship, was announced by a member of that group, Juergen Moellemann, who is foreign policy spokesman for the Free Democratic Party (FDP), the junior partner in the coalition government headed by the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Moellemann said, after talks this week with senior Libyan officials that Tripoli is eager to improve relations with the Federal Republic. He praised the Qaddafi regime for seeking international political and economic cooperation. Libya is West Germany's second largest supplier of oil.

Moellemann has carried out several delicate missions in the Arab world said to have been coordinated with the FDP's leader, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Last year he visited Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat and subsequently made strong anti-Israel remarks. Although the Foreign Ministry said Moellemann made the trip on his own initiative, it picked up the bill for two ambulances promised by him to the PLO leader.

Political observers here are speculating whether Genscher was backing Moellemann's invitation to Qaddafi which is favored by the business community. Improved relations with Libya would help German industry secure more contracts from Libya. According to Moellemann, West Germany could also serve as a mediator between Libya and the United States, since it has good relations with both countries. American relations with Libya have worsened in recent weeks, since the Reagan Administration accused Qaddafi of sponsoring assassination squads to kill President Reagan and other top U.S. officials.

Seen As A Trial Balloon

Moellemann's outspokenly pro-Arab position has been interpreted here as a trial balloon to test West German opinion with respect to improving relations with the Arabs. His invitation to Qaddafi, however, was assailed by scores of West German newspapers last week. The Libyan leader is to attend a symposium on German-Arab relations.

The influential Frankfurter Allgemeine observed that the invitation was extended at a time when anti-American sentiments are running high in the Federal Republic, especially in the "peace movement" and could cause a further setback in Bonn's relations with Washington.

Qaddafi planned to visit West Germany two years ago but had to cancel his trip when Libya's role in promoting international terrorism was exposed. He did visit the country privately for medical treatment at the Mainz clinic. His presence was kept secret until well after his departure and was never acknowledged officially.

Meanwhile, West German real estate experts have reported a "tremendous" increase in the activities in the real estate market here by the Arab oil-pro-

ducing states, particularly those in the Persian Gulf area. No specific information was made public but local newspapers were told that "entire streets" in certain areas have changed ownership in recent weeks.

The phenomenon is understood to be part of an ongoing trend by the Arab oil states to invest in Germany's capital market which is considered relatively stable despite the nation's economic crisis and increased unemployment. One expert said the Arab investors were taking advantage of the real estate market which has come to a virtual standstill because of high interest rates.

Real estate in German cities was considered an unattractive area for Arab investment in the past. No major investments were registered in residential areas, in sharp contrast to Arab real estate purchases in Paris and London.

One reason for the current Arab interest in Germany's capital market and in its economy generally, according to analysts, is the improved political relations between Bonn and major Arab countries, including Libya.

MOUNTING CONFRONTATION BETWEEN SINAI SETTLERS AND THE GOVERNMENT By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Angry residents of Yamit burned a second house there last night. A house was burned the previous night and the townspeople, claiming they could not afford to buy a fire truck, summoned the fire department from the nearby Arab town of Rafah to put out the blaze.

The fires were the latest incidents in the mounting confrontation between the settlers in northern Sinai and the government over compensation for relocating when the region is returned to Egypt next April. The Cabinet remains badly divided over what action to take to maintain order in Yamit. The residents flatly rejected a Cabinet appeal yesterday to resume negotiations for compensation.

Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, the government's most outspoken hawk, is counseling patience. His position was supported by the National Religious Party ministers. But ministers of of Likud's Liberal Party wing joined Herut's Mordechai Zipori, the Minister of Communications, in demanding a tough response as recommended by Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Economic Coordinator Yaacov Meridor and Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, all of Herut, kept their own counsel. Apparently, they are waiting for a reaction from Premier Menachem Begin who, so far, has been silent.

Says Yamit Run By Hoodlums

Deputy Premier and Agriculture Minister Simcha Ehrlich, who is in charge of negotiations with the Yamit settlers, charged yesterday that the town was being run by a group of hoodlums who are terrorizing the other residents. Ehrlich was supposed to visit Yamit but both the town leaders and the army said they could not guarantee his safety. Ehrlich said Yamit businessmen were demanding individual payments of 2.2 million Shekels in advance of their relocation, a sum the government could not and would not pay.

Sharon, for his part, said he would not be the government's "hatchet man" and warned his colleagues not to take any action which the Defense Ministry could not carry out. This was a hint that he would not use force against the Sinai

settlers. He also hinted that it would be to Israel's advantage to keep the world guessing whether Israel would carry out its treaty obligation to evacuate all of Sinai by the April, 1982 deadline.

"We lose nothing if the Egyptians and the Americans know that the rest of Sinai is not safe in their pocket," he reportedly told his Cabinet colleagues.

Begin, however, has assured Egypt that Israel would honor its commitment to withdraw on time. That pledge was contained in a letter delivered to President Hosni Mubarak today by the Israeli Ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sasson. (See separate story, P.1)

Meanwhile, Yamit activists reportedly said they would not mind a violent confrontation with the government if it would advance their demands. Some have suggested that Yamit declare itself an autonomous region with its own passports and customs inspections. "They will have to declare war on us, either Israel or Egypt," some residents said. Zamir said he could take no legal action against them because the area is under military jurisdiction.

TREND TOWARD ANTI-SEMITISM SEEN IN SOME CHRISTIAN FEMINISTS' WRITINGS

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- A "disconcerting trend toward anti-Semitism" in the writings of some Christian feminists was the focus of attention at a recent conference of 175 lay and ordained Catholic, Jewish and Protestant feminists.

Annette Daum, coordinator of the department of interreligious affairs of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), asserted that "by seeking to prove that Christianity is not inherently anti-feminist," some scholars have unintentionally incorporated past anti-Semitic prejudices "by attributing anti-feminist elements of Christianity to Judaic heritage."

Daum spoke at the second annual convention of Feminists of Faith, a national network of feminists of various faiths formed a year-and-a-half ago to combat sexism in religion. Its major aim is "to transform patriarchal religions into egalitarian systems that will permit women to enter more fully into religious life and enable them to serve God and humanity more completely."

Daum said "a tendency to interpret Judaism in the worst possible light and Christianity in the best has led some Christian writers to see Jesus, alone in his culture, as a feminist." After citing examples of feminist ideas in early Jewish tradition to counter that notion, she concluded: "Neither the Christian nor Judaic tradition has lived up to its ideals in the treatment of women."

She told the conference, titled "Moving Beyond Blame," that "this is the first generation of women that can band together to challenge the second-class status of women" in both Judaism and Christianity.

Blaming Judaism For Misogyny

Deborah Vansau McCauley, a convenor of the Task Force on Jewish-Christian Relations of the Feminist Theological Institute, declared there was a tendency among Christian feminists "to explicitly or implicitly blame Judaism for beginning misogyny."

The argument that "Jesus was a feminist," she contended, "casts others in a worse light." She challenged this argument and termed it "revisionist history," saying "it requires an implicit anti-Judaism to support it. To this, Christian feminists must say 'Never again.' We shall find a better way to call Christian institutions into accountability."

Dr. Madeleine Boucher, Associate Professor of New Testament in the Department of Theology at Fordham University, pointed out that "the role of women in the church is always in reference to the subordinate place of women in the creation order described in

Genesis. This is the only theological argument for the subordination of women to men and therefore deserves careful study."

Boucher, who is engaged in a study of St. Paul's writings about women, asserted that both his negative and positive writings on this subject derive from Judaism. She concluded: "I don't think it can be said that Paul took a giant step beyond the rabbis of his time."

Urges 'Evils' Be Eradicated

Dr. Carter Heyward, Associate Professor of Theology at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass. and an Episcopalian minister, contended that Christianity has been used to foster sexism, anti-Semitism and anti-Black attitudes. She called on feminists to eradicate "these evils."

Nina Cardin, editor of Conservative Judaism and a past director of the Jewish Women's Resource Center, noted that inscriptions on recently unearthed tombstones from the first century reveal that Jewish women occasionally had titles in synagogues. "These may have been simply honorific," she said, "but it is quite likely that they described actual executive posts."

Sponsors of the conference, which was held at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, were the Commission on Faith and Order of the National Council of Churches, department of interreligious affairs of UAHC, District 3 of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, Feminist Theological Institute of New York State, National Board of the YWCA, Manhattan Region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, New York Women's Ordination Conference, Task Force on Equality of Women in Judaism, and the Women's Rabbinic Network.

ADMINISTRATION SEEMS TO BE MOVING TOWARD HEALING RIFT WITH ISRAEL

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration appeared to be moving over the weekend toward healing the sharp rift that developed with Israel over its annexation of the Golan Heights and the subsequent suspension by the U.S. of its recently signed strategic cooperation agreement with Israel.

This was indicated in the remarks of two top Administration officials in television interviews yesterday and the State Department's disclosure today that the U.S. "is in communication with the Israelis on reinstatement" of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation which was suspended December 18.

Expects No Further Aggravation

Appearing on the CBS-TV "Face the Nation" program, Walter Stoessel, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, said the Administration expects "no further aggravation of the relationship" between the U.S. and Israel. At the same time, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, answering questions on the ABC-TV "This Week With David Brinkley" program, declared, "It is inconceivable to me that we would accept sanctions in the UN against Israel."

Stoessel was asked if governments recently sanctioned by the U.S. (Israel, Poland and Soviet-occupied Afghanistan) "have been responsive." He replied, "I think they are taking our views seriously. We have made our points ... With Israel, I think there is a lot of reflection going on about

the situation and I think the prospects are there for no further aggravation of the relationship."

Kirkpatrick was asked if the U.S. would endorse a resolution in the Security Council calling for sanctions against Israel or if it would "revamp that resolution so that it is something we can vote for rather than veto." She replied, "We haven't even had a resolution ... It is impossible to guess what our response will be to resolutions that do not exist."

Won't Accept Sanctions Against Israel

Kirkpatrick added: "We understand that the Syrians and some of their colleagues right now are considering whether they want to come in with a very strong resolution to impose sanctions or whether they want to come in with a mild resolution and hope for consensus ... It is inconceivable to me that we would accept sanctions in the UN against Israel."

Kirkpatrick's remarks were today echoed in part by State Department spokesman Dean Fischer. He told reporters, "We do not have the text of a resolution on sanctions or on any proposed action relating to Israel's so-called annexation of the Golan Heights and until we do it doesn't serve any useful purpose to speculate on how we might vote."

Fischer explained his uncertainty as to whether Israel in fact annexed the Golan Heights by noting that there was "debate even among learned lawyers as to whether Israel's action constituted annexation per se ... In any event, we do not recognize it and I think that is the important point."

Refuses Comment On Arens, Sharon Statements

Fischer refused to comment on the attack on U.S. Middle East policy over the weekend by Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and Ambassador-designate to the U.S., and the charge by Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon that the U.S. had "breached" its strategic cooperation agreement with Israel and would attempt to force Israel back to its 1967 borders after the withdrawal from Sinai is completed next April.

"Essentially, we have already stated our position on not proceeding with the memorandum of understanding that the Defense Minister referred to," Fischer said. "I would simply reiterate the Administration's position regarding Israel's action on the Golan, so for that reason I don't see any reason to respond to the critical characterization of U.S. policy by Mr. Arens."

Asked about Sharon's reference to a provision in the memorandum for cancellation after six month's notice, Fischer said: "We regard it as a suspension, or something that is held in abeyance. We do not see it as something being cancelled at all." He added that the U.S. "is in communication with the Israelis on reinstatement of the memorandum and a number of other subjects."

Fischer refused to comment on reports that Premier Menachem Begin sent President Reagan a Christmas message that was "close to an apology" for his recent bitter attack on U.S. behavior toward Israel.

Fischer would neither confirm nor deny reports that Secretary of State Alexander Haig is going to select from among 3-4 candidates a special envoy to represent the U.S. at the autonomy talks. Names mentioned for that post, held in the Carter Administration by Sol Linowitz, are Gen. Brent Scowcroft who was President Ford's security aide; Joseph Sisco, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs during Henry Kissinger's tenure at the State Department; and Winston Lord, a former Haig deputy now president of the Council on Foreign Relations.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW ISRAEL'S CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- What does it mean to be Israel's Consul General in New York, the largest center of Jewish population in the world?

For Naphtali Lavie, Israel's Consul General here since Sept. 1, it means an overwhelmingly tight schedule of meetings and appointments with Jewish leaders, Jewish organizations, media representatives and various individuals and officials.

"Since I assumed my post, I have not had one free weekend," Lavie said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He hastened to add, however, that his work and his contacts are a source of great satisfaction. "The contacts are with Jewish organizations and Jewish leaders who are highly sophisticated, with a deep understanding of the Arab-Israel conflict and Israel's internal problems," Lavie said.

A Fruitful Dialogue

Dealing with American Jewry is not a one way street, he observed. "It is a fruitful dialogue on various levels where both sides learn from one another," Lavie stated. He said his contacts with the American Jewish community include all shades of opinion within that community -- from Reform to ultra-Orthodox, from intellectuals and academicians to grass roots elements.

Although he has been here only four months, Lavie said that he has been deeply impressed with American Jewry. It is, he observed, "a warm Jewry, on the leadership and on the grass roots levels alike, a Jewry deeply committed to Jewish identity and to the State of Israel." This commitment, he said, is expressed through their organizations, educational institutions, and community and religious activities, as well as the high level of involvement in America's social and political life.

The 55-year-old Polish-born Lavie served from 1970 to 1977 as spokesman for the Ministry of Defense and advisor to both Moshe Dayan and Shimon Peres during their tenures as Defense Ministers. From June 1977 until assuming his post in New York, Lavie was spokesman and advisor to Foreign Ministers Dayan and Yitzhak Shamir. Prior to serving as a government official, Lavie was for many years a journalist and news editor for Haaretz.

Educating The Public

With such a background, one of Lavie's major undertakings so far has been the rearrangement of the Consulate "hasbara" (information) targets, dividing them into three categories, each requiring a different kind of approach. The mass media, where an immediate, simple-to-understand information on daily developments is needed; Jewish organizations and Jewish leaders, where more background information is needed; Congressmen, leaders of ethnic groups and religious leaders, where a detailed account of history and developments is needed geared to creating long-term relationships and understanding of Israel.

"Our major obstacle in hasbara is that the public at large in America is not familiar with the small details of the Mideast conflict," Lavie said.

"For instance, the public here is not aware of the fact that a settlement cannot be reached in the Mideast because of the inter-Arab

conflicts. They (the Arabs) perpetuate the Palestinian problem to cover up internal Arab problems. They divert attention from these problems by using Israel as a target. The public in America is not aware of these things."

"It is important to us to inform American Jews and Americans in general of what really happens in the Middle East and in Israel," he said. "Most of the people, despite the availability of information through the media, do not succeed in reading about the situation in depth. They read headlines, and what follows is that a gap is created between what really happens and a fragmented image of reality. Here, in my opinion is where the role of the Consul General comes into play. He provides the necessary background and analysis of whatever has happened."

The Challenges Of Israel

Asked about the challenges, if any, that Israel can offer today to American Jews, Lavie said: "We believe that the State of Israel, with all its difficulties, is the challenge of this century -- if not the last 20 centuries -- to any Jew, young or old, who is not ashamed of his Jewish identity but is interested in conveying the legacy of his people to his children and grandchildren.

"The challenge requires not only a moral, political, and financial support for Israel, but a physical involvement as well. In other words: The challenge today is aliya to Israel. Israel cannot offer its new citizens, or the old ones for that matter, the comfort and opportunities of the affluent, Western world. But it can offer a life of challenge and a bright future."

The Issue Of Yerida

The Consul General was asked for his view on the problem of yerida, considered by some to be one of Israel's gravest in recent years. He said:

"I do not have reliable statistics on the number of Israelis living here. Some estimate it as being in the 50,000 range, while others say there are some 150,000 Israelis here. On a whole, this is a very sad-denying phenomenon, especially when among the yordim there are young men and women who were born in Israel and are part of Israel's flesh.

"It is a pity to see them discard all the positive things the country had given them as independent and free Israelis. An Israeli is not free in New York as he is free in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv or Ramat Gan, even if he owns three cars here."

Lavie added that as Consul General he is going to treat all Israelis here as Israelis "as long as they feel themselves to be Israelis." He said that he considers the Israelis in America as citizens who are "on vacation" from their own country and from the obligations of living there. "I intend to keep in touch with them," Lavie said.

CHIEF OF STAFF SAYS ISRAEL CAN PRODUCE ALL IT NEEDS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan says that Israel can produce all its needs. He told the Industry and Commerce Club here at its weekly Friday meeting that Israel, despite its size, has unlimited potential in the military, industrial and security fields and is able to produce everything it needs to protect itself.

He said the only limiting factor was the economic one, and defense production over a period of time would come at the expense of consumer goods. The Chief of Staff was not prepared to answer political questions, including those involving the Golan Heights.

There will be no Bulletin dated January 1 due to New Year's Day, a postal holiday.