

JEWISH LEADERS WHO MEET WITH MUBARAK ARE REASSURED EGYPT IS COMMITTED TO PEACE WITH ISRAEL, DISAPPOINTED OVER EGYPT'S COOL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- Fourteen Jewish leaders, who met with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt for more than an hour today, came away reassured that Egypt is committed to peace with Israel but disappointed that the Egyptian leader has allowed the relationship between the two countries to cool over the last year.

Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who led the group, told a press conference inside the Egyptian Embassy that the Jewish leaders had also expressed disappointment to Mubarak that he and other Egyptian officials have been calling for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon instead of the simultaneous withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization forces.

Secretary of State George Shultz told Jewish leaders after the May 17 Israeli-Lebanese agreement that Mubarak and other Arab leaders accepted the need for simultaneous withdrawal of all foreign troops, according to Berman. But he said today that the Egyptians have only been urging Israel to withdraw.

Berman said that when Mubarak was confronted with this position he explained that he believed once Israel makes clear it will withdraw from Lebanon, Syria will eventually withdraw due to pressure from other Arab countries and because the Syrians do not want a war with Israel. "To be very candid, we were not pleased" with this argument, Berman noted.

Major Concern Is The 'Cold Peace'

But it was the "cold peace" that has developed between Egypt and Israel that appeared to be the major concern of the Jewish leaders in their talk with Mubarak. Berman said that Israel made major sacrifices in the peace treaty with Egypt "not just for a piece of paper but to prepare a new relationship between two ancient peoples of living together." He warned that in this relationship, if "you don't move forward, you move backward."

Berman noted that when Jewish leaders met with Mubarak January 28, he told them that he had recalled the Egyptian Ambassador from Israel and had cooled other ties in order to save the peace from public opinion. At today's meeting, Mubarak said that "public opinion will not allow the sending back of the Ambassador at this point in time," according to Berman. The Egyptian President expressed the hope that public opinion will "mellow," Berman said.

After Mubarak met with President Reagan last Friday, a senior American official also stressed that Mubarak was unable to give the U.S. any new assurances that the Egyptian Ambassador will return to Israel anytime soon.

Berman said today that the Jewish leaders stressed to Mubarak that the task of leadership is "molding public opinion not just reacting to it." They expressed concern that the Egyptian press was contributing to the anti-Israel opinion in Egypt and would make it harder to reverse the situation.

Berman said the Jewish leaders had gone to the Egyptian Embassy believing that Mubarak was committed to the peace with Israel. But they were pleased to hear him "repeat again and again the commitment to peace by not only himself, but also his people."

Mubarak stressed that when he recalled the Egyptian Ambassador to Israel after the massacre of Palestinian civilians at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, he had not asked that the Israeli Ambassador be withdrawn from Egypt. He also noted that he and other Egyptian officials continue to see Israelis.

Purpose In Meeting With Mubarak

Berman said the Jewish leaders were invited by Mubarak today through Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal, apparently so he could explain his position to the American Jewish community. He said the purpose in the Jewish leaders meeting with Mubarak was to "very candidly set forth our major concern and to not let him walk out of this country believing the American Jewish community is not concerned."

Mubarak described several issues besides Lebanon needed for Egypt to send its Ambassador back to Israel, according to Berman. Berman said he spoke a great deal about the need for negotiations to begin over Tabá, where the Egyptians are claiming the Israelis are building a hotel illegally. Mubarak also mentioned the Jewish settlements on the West Bank as a hindrance to improved relations. But the Palestinian issue never came up, Berman said.

Mubarak told the Jewish leaders that he has taken some steps to improve relations, particularly in the areas of tourism and commercial ties. Berman said that when he was asked about the problem Egyptians were having in getting visas to travel to Israel, Mubarak replied that he had heard about this and had taken steps to correct this.

But Mubarak added that it was cheaper for Egyptian tourists to go to Cyprus and Greece than Israel and suggested the American Jewish community might subsidize tourism to Israel.

Mubarak also expressed regret that Israeli Premier Menachem Begin had resigned, according to Berman. Mubarak called Begin a "strong man and a man who kept his word." He also said that Begin understood Mubarak's problems with Egyptian public opinion.

**Blum Addresses The General Assembly:
URGES ARABS TO TURN A NEW LEAF
AND LIVE IN PEACE WITH ISRAEL**
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- Israel called on the Arabs today to turn a new leaf and live side-by-side in peace with Israel. "The government of Israel is prepared today, as it has always been, to negotiate with the neighboring Arab states an equitable solution to the Arab-Israel conflict," Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, declared in a major foreign policy address to the 38th General Assembly.

Noting that in 35 years of war and bloodshed in the Middle East, no problem has been solved, Blum asked the Arabs: "Are we better off as a result of so many years of conflict than we would have been had our nations lived side-by-side in peace? Could not the billions squandered on arms procurements have been put

to better use in solving urgent domestic problems such as poverty, hunger, illiteracy and the widening social gap between rich and poor?" he asked.

In his 19-page speech, Blum said that Israel stands for the full restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and accused Syria of trying to frustrate that goal directly and through its proxies.

"Israel believes that in order to enable the attainment of that goal, all foreign forces must withdraw from that country. Alongside these objectives, and bearing in mind the experiences of recent years, Israel's legitimate security needs must be guaranteed and Lebanese territory must never be used again for attacks upon our citizens," the Israeli envoy said.

Welcomes Cease-Fire In Lebanon

He said Israel welcomes the cease-fire recently achieved in Lebanon and added, "We are following the situation closely and are looking forward to the establishment of conditions which will insure security and tranquility along the Israel-Lebanon border."

He warned, "Under no circumstances will Israel agree to return to the state of affairs which prevailed until 16 months ago, when Lebanese territory was used as a base for terrorist operations against our citizens. Israel sincerely hopes and wishes to see an independent Lebanon in which a strong and stable regime exercises control throughout the country."

Envoy Denounces Syria

But Blum strongly attacked Syria which, he charged, has broadened its involvement in Lebanon and is engaged in a direct war against the government of that country. "President (Hafez) Assad (of Syria) -- backed diplomatically and militarily by the Soviet Union and assisted by Palestinian terrorists -- continues his ruthless operations to keep Lebanon in disarray in an attempt to force Lebanon to submit to Syrian domination," Blum charged.

He added that, "resorting to its well known tactics of threats and extortion, Syria continues to undermine Lebanon's path to regaining its sovereignty. This is pursued by Syria directly and by proxy and its uninhibited brutality stops short of nothing."

Referring to the overall conflict in the Middle East, Blum reiterated Israel's contention that "the essence of the conflict has always been and remains the persistent enmity of the Arab states toward the Jewish national renaissance."

He maintained that Arab enmity toward Israel "has been demonstrated very clearly in the case of the terrorist organization known as the PLO ... that grouping of rival terrorist factions has always depended on the continued support of the Arab states and their allies for its existence," Blum said.

Blum charged that the PLO objective is to destroy the State of Israel. He accused it of perpetrating "bloody atrocities which have struck at all, Jews and non-Jews, young and old, men, women and children."

Other Major Points Raised

In the course of his speech, Blum referred to the following points:

* Nuclear weapons: He said that Israel continues to support the establishment in the Middle East of a nuclear weapons-free zone. It is clear that only free and direct negotiations between all Middle East states can insure real progress toward the conclusion of a convention (on a nuclear-free zone) which will establish a system of mutually binding obligations on all states in the region," he said.

* Soviet Jews: Blum accused the Soviet Union of continued harassment against Soviet Jews. He said Jews in the Soviet Union "are being systematically denied the basic human right to emigrate and to reunite with their families in Israel." He charged that as the gates of emigration have been nearly shut in the Soviet Union, officially inspired anti-Semitism is on the rise there.

* Economic cooperation: Blum said Israel is willing, within the means at its disposal, to make its contribution to the advancement of international economic cooperation.

Many seats in the General Assembly hall were empty when the Israeli envoy rose to speak. Most were seats occupied by Arab delegations who make it a practice of leaving whenever an Israeli diplomat addresses the world body. The sole exceptions were the Egyptian and Lebanese delegates who remained in the hall while Blum spoke.

BASIS FOR THE RIFT BETWEEN THE DRUZE LED BY JUMBLATT AND THE PLO By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- The open rift that has developed in Lebanon between the Druze led by Walid Jumblatt and the Palestine Liberation Organization is accountable in part at least, according to Israeli sources, to ongoing Israel contacts with, and pressure on, the Druze.

These sources, which claim that a number of PLO fighters have actually been ousted from the Shouf mountains by the Druze. They maintain that Israel's stem warnings to Jumblatt, coupled with efforts to sympathize with legitimate Druze aspirations in the mountain area, have paid dividends.

The sources believe that Israel's dialogue with the Druze -- some high level meetings are understood to have taken place -- have succeeded in bolstering Jumblatt's readiness to strike a relatively independent pose vis-a-vis the Syrians.

Thus, for example, these sources say, Jumblatt's men declined to take part in the fighting over the strategic town of Suk El-Gharb before last week's cease fire, and the attacks orchestrated by the Syrians, were carried out mainly by PLO units and other leftist elements.

The hope in Jerusalem is that the Druze will continue to dissociate themselves from the PLO and to evict PLO men from their Souf strongholds.

Israel Maintaining Pressure on the Druze

Meanwhile, Israel is maintaining its pressure on the Druze not to assault the last Christian enclave in the Shouf, the town of Dir El-Kamar, where some 40,000 Christians are living in a virtual state of siege.

Israeli officials have been active in the diplomacy that has facilitated passage into the beleaguered town of Red Cross convoys. Israel army patrols foraging northwards from the Awali River line deliberately came close to the town to underscore Israeli warnings that no massacre will be tolerated there.

SHAMIR URGED TO DELAY SUBMITTING NEW GOVERNMENT TO THE KNESSET By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- Nine Knesset members urged Premier-designate Yitzhak Shamir today to delay submitting a new coalition government to the Knesset at least until next week to allow more time for efforts to bring the Labor Alignment into a national unity government.

The nine--six Likud and three Laborites -- met with Shamir for three hours today. He told them he expects

to present a new government to the Knesset, probably on Thursday and asked for their support. He said Likud made every effort to bring Labor into a national coalition, but to no avail. The Likud-Labor talks broke down last Friday. Shamir reportedly told the dissenting MKs that they were free to approach Labor on their own.

This apparently did not satisfy the six Likud MKs who announced after a private meeting later today that they would not support a Shamir government if one is presented this week. They did not say whether they would vote against it or abstain. In any case, their defection could cost Shamir a Knesset majority.

If he presents his government this week, Shamir may have to do without the votes of Premier Menachem Begin who has a skin ailment which has confined him to his home for the past month; and Aharon Abu Hatzeira, leader of the Tami party, who began serving a three-month sentence yesterday for embezzlement. With six Likud MKs in opposition or abstaining, Shamir can muster only 56 votes, five short of a majority. In that case, he may be forced to postpone the voting.

But Likud MK Roni Milo said today there was no reason for delay. He predicted that Begin would show up for the voting and noted that Abu Hatzeira can legally attend the Knesset to cast a ballot. He is serving his sentence as a day worker at a local police station.

LAWMAKER SEEKS RELEASE OF TWO IRANIAN JEWISH BROTHERS UNDER DETENTION FOR ENTERING THE U.S. WITH FALSE PASSPORTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- A United States Congressman has come to the aid of two Iranian Jews who escaped from their country and fled to New York City, only to find themselves jailed in Brooklyn, in an immigration detention center, it was reported here today.

Rep. Gary Ackerman (D. N.Y.) has asked the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to release on bond the twin brothers who are now being held pending a decision on their plea for political asylum. The Congressman declined to release the names of the brothers because of fear for the safety of their family, still in Iran.

"It is disgraceful that these brothers, who fled religious and political persecution in their native Iran, are now subject to the very anti-Semitic violence they came here to escape," Ackerman declared.

The 24-year-old Orthodox twins were detained last January when they arrived at Kennedy International Airport because they entered this country with false passports. According to a spokesman for Ackerman, one of the brothers was carrying his sister's passport and the other brother carried a purchased passport. Both passports had been altered.

Ackerman was alerted to their fate a month ago after he received letters from some of his constituents in Queens where a cousin of the brothers resides. He immediately became involved in an effort to have them released.

The Congressman met this morning with Charles Sava, the district director of the INS, and appealed to him to have the brothers released on humanitarian grounds. He said later that Sava indicated he would hand down his decision by the end of this week. Ackerman pointed out that the false passports were the only way for the brothers to get out of Iran.

Since the twins were incarcerated they have repeatedly been victims of anti-Semitic harassment and violence, Ackerman charged. On September 25 one of the twins was hospitalized with a broken nose suffered in an attack by a non-Jewish Iranian at the detention center, Ackerman reported.

"Despite his medical condition, the young man was returned to his cell the very day after his operation," Ackerman charged. "The INS has shown a callous disregard for the plight of the two brothers. It is absolutely outrageous that immediately following surgery, he would be returned to the detention center, despite the clear danger facing him and his brother." The INS could not be reached for comment today.

Ackerman has asked Immigration Commissioner Alan Nelson to release the two brothers into the custody of their family in Queens, which has offered to put up whatever bond would be required. "The law clearly allows the release of detainees on humanitarian grounds," the legislator said. "Given the continuing persecution they are enduring, the Immigration Service should quickly release them while their asylum claim is decided."

Ackerman said that 27 other members of Congress are supporting him in his request to Nelson.

ABU HATZEIRA BEGINS SERVING A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE

By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- Aharon Abu Hatzeira, the first incumbent Cabinet minister ever convicted of a felony, began serving a three month sentence yesterday amid criticism that he was let off too lightly and demands that he resign his Knesset seat.

Abu Hatzeira, leader of the Tami party, is doing his time as a day worker at the Beit Dagan prison. He returns to his home each night. Former Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir said in a radio interview today that it was unseemly for him to remain in the Knesset. He also criticized the various political bodies negotiating with Abu Hatzeira "as if nothing happened."

Tamir was referring to Likud and Labor attempts to woo the Tami party into a new coalition. The three-man faction whose constituency is in the Sephardic community, is a member of the outgoing Likud-led coalition in which Abu Hatzeira served as Minister for Social Welfare. He resigned that office temporarily and is expected to resume it after completing his sentence -- provided that Tami is part of the next government.

Abu Hatzeira was convicted of misusing funds raised by a charitable organization. According to Tamir, he "behaves as if he had just won a sensational victory in a soccer or basketball game and all his supporters cheer and celebrate. One must ask oneself, how all of this is possible?"

There has been considerable criticism of the police decision to allow Abu Hatzeira to work off his sentence instead of being confined to a cell. This is permitted by law if the sentence is no more than 90 days. He was originally given a two-year sentence.

The Supreme Court reduced it to three months, leading Interior Minister Yosef Burg to observe today that if the high court had intended for Abu Hatzeira to sit in a cell it would have amended the sentence to 91 days.

There will be no Bulletin dated October 10, Columbus Day, a postal holiday.

AJCOMMITTEE EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER ADMINISTRATION PROPOSALS TO LIMIT REFUGEES TO THE U.S.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee has expressed concern over Administration proposals to limit refugees to be admitted to the U.S. in the coming year, particularly a proposed reduction in admissions from Eastern Europe. The AJC said such an action "would signal to the Soviet bloc that the U.S. has diminished its commitment to refugees from that part of the world."

Howard Friedman, AJC president, said "The leadership position the U.S. has assumed in world-wide refugee affairs" is being threatened by "a reduction in refugee flow and by uncertainties about the commitment of the U.S. to reach its annual goals."

He stressed that the most serious problem has been the trend to view numbers set for refugee admissions as ceilings that need not be met rather than as "realistic expectations."

Friedman pointed to Administration consultations with Congress that have set a refugee admissions ceiling of 90,000 for 1983 when only a maximum of 60,000 will actually arrive. "This practice of establishing ceilings we have no intention of meeting both perverts the intent of the Refugee Act of 1980 and makes planning for receiving refugees impossible to carry out efficiently," Friedman said.

Cites Drop in Number Of Refugees

He recalled the trend of refugee admissions of the past few years, stating that the number had dropped steadily from more than 200,000 in 1980 to 140,000 in 1982, 90,000 in 1983, and a proposed 72,000 for the next fiscal year. He added:

"While we cannot admit an unlimited number of refugees each year, the annual flow should reflect actual needs for refuge around the world and the capacity of the U.S. to resettle newcomers. Concern has now arisen that the downward trend in admissions numbers has developed a momentum of its own so that our government is now responding more to pressures to reduce arrivals than to a real assessment of the needs."

Friedman added the AJC concern over "the lack of public input into the consultation process," alleging that proposed admissions numbers were not made public in 1983 until late in the discussions, and that "little effort" was made to explore the positions of groups interested in the issue. "Refugee affairs touch concerns basic to the humanitarian and social goals of the United States; discussion on them should be as broad as possible," Friedman said.

With refugee crises continuing in many parts of the world, Friedman stated, "the desire by so many who face oppression to come here and make new and better lives is the greatest compliment possible to the kind of society we have."

The U.S. "must maintain its leadership in this field," he concluded, urging that "the outcome of the current consultations that the Administration is having with Congress must reflect this commitment."

AGUDATH ISRAEL ASSAILS SCA FOR ITS RENEWED CALL FOR A NUCLEAR FREEZE

NEW YORK, Oct. 3 (JTA) -- The Agudath Israel of America assailed a renewed call by the Synagogue Council of America for an immediate, mutual and verifiable freeze of nuclear weapons as not representing "the views of the overwhelming majority of Orthodox Jews."

The criticism of the Synagogue Council was in response to a statement by Rabbi Mordechai Waxman, president of the Council, at a press conference in Washington last month just prior to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's consideration of a nuclear freeze resolution that Jews support a freeze because of the Biblical commandment to "Choose life."

Waxman, who appeared together with representatives of Catholic organizations, physicians, lawyers and other professions at the press conference, said that the Synagogue Council, as representative of the Jewish religious community, supports the freeze resolution that was being considered at the time.

Claims Oversimplification Of Jewish Tradition

An Agudath Israel spokesman said that Waxman's reference to the Biblical commandment "is an oversimplification of Jewish tradition to interpret reverence for life as an argument for a nuclear freeze. To the extent that the quest for peace was the only proper basis for introducing Jewish tradition into the debate for a nuclear freeze, the argument was one-sided and out of context. Who is to say whether more nuclear arms or disarmament is the ultimate vehicle for peace?"

The Agudath Israel spokesman reiterated his organization's earlier policy statement issued last April that although "no stone should be left unturned in an effort to put a halt to the frightening nuclear arms race and to achieve genuine peace, nevertheless while peace is a religious imperative, so is a strong national defense."

The spokesman also blamed Waxman for claiming that the Synagogue Council is representative of the Jewish religious community. "The fact is that the vast majority of Orthodox synagogues, rabbis and their constituents are not represented in the Synagogue Council, and the SCA has no right to continue to represent itself as the spokesman for Orthodox Jewry on any issue, including the nuclear freeze," the Agudath spokesman said.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- During September 135 Jews were permitted to leave the Soviet Union, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Monday. This brings the total number of Jews leaving the USSR in the first nine months of this year to 1,071.

BONN (JTA) -- An exhibition, "Fascinating Israel" was seen by an estimated 150,000 during the 42 days it was on display in the Frankfurt Airport, according to the airport's visitors bureau. The exhibition, the largest ever Israeli presentation in Europe, was seen not only by passengers but also by every group registered to attend the international consumer goods fair in Frankfurt. The German-Israeli Friendship Association was responsible for putting on the exhibition, to which most Israeli ministries contributed.

MEXICO CITY (JTA) -- President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado told leaders of the Mexican Friends of Hebrew University of Jerusalem that he was pleased by the decision by friends of the university all over the world to hold their international convention here next year. He also expressed praise for the work of Hebrew University.