

SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES
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agreement instead of an overall settlement. Rabin's first public appearance after his return from Washington was at the Jewish Agency Assembly where he presented a sober appraisal to a silent and solemn audience of 300 delegates. "Let us be hopeful, but let us also be realistic," the Premier said. He stressed that Israel proved that it is forthcoming but "Egypt must prove that she too can be forthcoming -- otherwise I doubt if an interim agreement will be achieved." But he quickly added, "I think and hope it will be achieved. If it is not, though, then the efforts toward peace negotiations must be continued." However, he emphasized that there were positions beyond which Israel could not afford to retreat. Earlier, Pres. Katzir told the Assembly that he was hopeful and encouraged by the reports from Washington of the strengthened American-Israeli ties.

However, Allon in his address to the Assembly, warned the U.S. against pressuring Israel. "There is room and there is necessity for further efforts to overcome the remaining points of disagreement," he asserted, adding Israel would make every effort to do so. "But negotiations can only be conducted if there is no threat or pressure from any source," he said. Allon warned against war threats from Egypt and the use by the U.S. of the reassessment of American policy in the Mideast to "make us a little bit concerned over its policy towards us."

In Washington, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger briefed Herman Eilts, the American Ambassador to Egypt, on the talks with Rabin. Malcolm Toon, the new U.S. Ambassador to Israel, delayed his departure for Tel Aviv. Meanwhile, the next stage in Mideast development awaited the arrival in Washington of Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam who will meet with Ford and Kissinger.



FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, UJA GENERAL CHAIRMAN, LISTENS TO ISRAEL'S PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN AT A RECENT MEETING OF OVER 500 AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., FOLLOWING THE PRIME MINISTER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER.

US HOSTAGE TO OIL NATIONS

WASH. (WNS) -- "The United States has become hostage to the foreign policy of Arab nations," according to retired Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt, former Chief of U.S. Naval Operation.

He urged "immediate" and "decisive" action toward energy independence. Zumwalt made his remarks as he accepted the presidency of a new organization called "Americans for

Energy Independence."

Dr. Hanes Bethe, Nobel Laureate, is chairman and Robert R. Nathan, a Washington economist, is vice-chairman.

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JEWISH AGENCY SETS HALF BILLION BUDGET

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- A \$541.9 million budget for the current fiscal year which began last April 1 was presented to the Jewish Agency Assembly by Agency treasurer Leon Dulzin.

Dulzin said the budget which is \$150 million less than last year is a realistic attempt to balance expenditures against expected income. He said he was "very unhappy" because the budget reflected only income which could be received and not what was needed. He said that he had drafted an additional "budget" of \$160 million to show the 300 delegates what could be done if the additional funds were available.

The largest single

allocation in the budget is \$98 million for aliya and absorption. He said the figure was based on an annual aliya of 45,000 newcomers but acknowledged that present forecasts, based on a heavy drop in immigration this year, were considerably lower.

Pinhas Sapir, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive told the Assembly that Israel would have to have a Jewish population of at least six million before it could have peace and security. The present population is three million and at the present rate of natural increase it will take 25 years to double it.

The board of governors with Fisher as chairman was re-elected unanimously.

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BAR MITZVAH FRONT PAGE NEWS IN ALASKA TOO

WASH. (WNS) -- When 13-year-old Alan Gross had his Bar Mitzvah in Juneau recently, the Southeast Alaska Empire, Juneau's daily newspaper put it on the front page claiming it was the 50th state's first.

Among those attending the ceremony was Belle Simpson Gross, the first Jewish woman born in Juneau. The Jewish community in Alaska numbers less than 100.

The only synagogue

in Alaska is in Anchorage which has a Jewish population of 300.

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