

CARTER

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stead of a "homeland" was seen as a softening of his previous statements on the issue. Meanwhile, the President has come under attack from at least one American Jewish leader. Rabbi William Berkowitz, president of Bnai Zion, who was one of more than 40 Jewish leaders who met with Carter July 6. He said the meeting "still left many gaps and doubts and unanswered questions about American policy vis-a-vis Israel." In a report sent to the National Executive Board of Bnai Zion, Berkowitz, rabbi at New York's Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, said the meeting was mainly a one-way discussion "Next time I would hope for a dialogue with a greater interchange between the President and all the participants," he said. He said many statements were "ambiguous" and "open to differing interpretations." Berkowitz said that "one left the meeting with the impression that the Administration felt that peace possibilities were contingent upon a return by Israel to pre-67 borders. Although not stated, this was understood."

Another criticism of the President came from Rep. John Rhodes, the House Minority Leader who said that while Carter was continuing the Ford-Kissinger policy of "even handedness" in the Mideast, "the main difference...is that under the Ford-Kissinger plan we were an honest broker. We weren't telling anybody what we thought the settlement should be."

SADAT SAYS 5 YEARS BEFORE NORMAL RELATIONS

WASH. (WNS) -- A group of Congressmen led by Rep. Lee Hamilton (D, Ind.) were told by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat July 13 that Egypt could normalize relations with Israel five years after a Middle East peace settlement was implemented, according to reports received here from Cairo.

The Congressmen also met with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat, although it was not known whether it was at Sadat's suggestion or whether they had requested the meeting.

Sadat told the Congressmen that "After four wars over the past 29 years governed by hatred and violence during which we lost confidence in each other, we cannot begin opening our borders and establishing economic and diplomatic relations. I would give it five years after setting up a new atmosphere. Everything will then return to normal."

Sadat urged the U.S. to start a dialogue with the P.L.O. Arafat reportedly told the Congressmen that the Palestinians wanted full American recognition of their rights.

ISRAELITE ADS PAY

SEN. DOLE BACKS BEGIN ON WESTBANK

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Senator Robert Dole (R. Kan.) declared here that he agreed with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin that the West Bank is "liberated territory, not occupied territory."

He said Israel could relinquish all or part of the area but "that is her right, it is not her obligation." Speaking at the 80th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, Dole, who was President Ford's running mate last year, also declared that Jerusalem is

historically and legally a Jewish city. "In the search for solution, whatever else may be negotiable, the capital of Israel clearly is not," he said.

Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, president of the ZOA, said the organization approved the establishment of Jewish settlements on the West Bank. Refraining from such settlement "will not buy good will or favor from our enemies," he said.

In Washington, the State Department said it had no comment on the Dole statement.

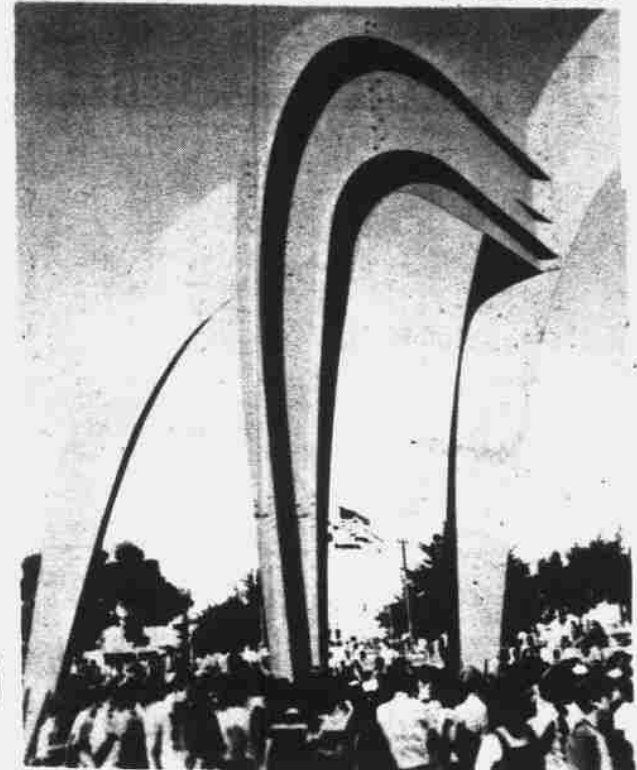
RUSSIA NOT OBSERVING HELSINKI ACCORD

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The Soviet Union is not abiding by the Helsinki Agreement's provisions on emigration, Jewish activists from six cities in the Soviet Union said in an appeal to the 35 nations now meeting in Belgrade to review the accord.

The appeal, containing 19 signatures, accused the Soviet Union of seeking "to destroy the movement for emigration." It declared that "having signed the Helsinki Agreement, the Soviet Authorities began a whole system of oppression, red tape, harassment and tyranny over emigration. Thousands of Jews are being held who already applied for exit."

Meanwhile at Oxford University in England, a conference of 100 scientists sent a cable to the president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences requesting that Prof.

Benjamin Levich, who was being honored at the conference, be allowed to attend it. The 60-year-old scientist has been under constant harassment since apply to leave for Israel in 1972. Levich's application for a visa to attend the conference was ignored by Soviet authorities. His two sons, who



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were allowed to emigrate to Israel two years ago, attended the conference.

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