## BEGIN FIRM ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TEL AVIV (WNS) --There will be no autonomy negotiations unless Egypt agrees that some of the talks be held in Jerusalem, according to Premier Menachem Begin. "If boy-Jerusalem is cotted, we will boycott those who boycott us," Begin said, reiterating his government's steadfast position that Jerusalem must be a venue for autonomy talks.

Egypt has said it will not participate in the talks if the venue is Jerusalem. Begin, speaking at a cornerstone laying ceremony for a new building at Bar Han University, stressed that "If Ispressed, we will press back." This was a reference to what Israel anticito be exerted by Reagan Administration on Israel to back down from its position on the locale and to finally get the long stalled talks in progress.

Meanwhile, it was announced in Jerusalem that Begin has a "most received invitation friendly' from President Reagan to lunch with him at the White House. The Premier will be in the U.S. for the United Nations disarmament conference and is to address the UN General Assembly on June 18. Israeli

## DOWN TWO SYRIAN MIGS

TEL AVIV (WNS) --Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan said that the Israel Air Force jets which shot down two MIG-21 figh-Syrian rers were over Beirut on a "legitimate reconnaissance" mission when they were intercepted by the Syrian aircraft. He admonished Syrians for trying to interfere with such "legal" flights. According to a military spokesman, allIsraeli aircraft returned safe. ly to their bases.

Eitan said that he did not anticipate the dogfight to cause the situation in Lebanon to deteriorate. He denied reports that the Israeli planes had been flying over Syrian anti - aircraft missile installations in Beka valley of eastern Lebanon. Eitan added that the flights will continue because they are essential for intelligence purposes.

officials said this will enable Begin and the President to discuss all matters outstanding between their countries.

At the same time, it was reported that Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger responded inhas directly to the Cabinet's accusation that the Defense Secretary was paying "lip service" to Israel's security needs while advocating weapons sales to Israel's enemies. Weinberger reported at a press conference in Detroit, "we pay a great deal more than lip service to our unswerving commitment to Israel," he said. He added however, that "one of the best ways" the U.S. commitment

to Israel "can be fulfilled is to have a network of other friendships in the Middle East."

## AUSTRALIA BACKS ISRAEL

NEW YORK (WNS) Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser of Australia has pledged here that his country would remain "unsteadfast" shakably support of in its Israel and its refusal to recognize the PLO. At the same time, Australia's Foreign Minister, Toney Street, suggested that Israel should not now be persuaded into resuming the autonomy negotiations because it needed "time to digest" the withdrawal from Sinai.

Street and Fraser, currently visiting the U.S., made their re-

marks during an hour record long off the meeting here with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations presided over by its chairman, Howard Squadron.

Fraser told assembled American Jewish leaders that Australia's concern for Israel was based "not only on the history of Jewish settlements of the Holy Land but also on the right of a free people without the to exist threat of aggression." Street, for his part, said he was certain that progress could be made in the autonomy talks but would "be that he about pushhesitant ing for early progress now. Let there be time for confidence to be built in Israel about peace with Egypt," he said.

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