Israel Sends Cabinet Secretary To Arrange Trilateral Meeting

Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein will be dispatched to Wash-

JERUSALEM (JTA) Foreign Minister Moshe Arens is to have there with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and ington to start arrange- Egyptian Foreign Minisments for the meeting ter Esmat Abdel Meguid

of Egypt. -The trilateral parley, expected to take place within the next few weeks, is intended to lay the groundwork for an

logue in Cairo early next

That scenario came alive with the announcement in Washington that Egypt accepted Baker's five-point guidelines for the dialogue. Israel's Inner Cabinet of senior Israeli-Palestinian diaministers accepted the plan on Nov. 5.

The decision to send Rubinstein was made by the four most senior Prime ministers: Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Vice Premier Shimon Peres, Arens and Defense Minister · Yitzhak Rabin.

The Foreign Ministry promptly informed the State Department of Rubinstein's role.

But Shamir was testy. the Americans have still for failed to transmit, the meeting. text of the Egyptian response to Baker's plan, even though Arens specifically requested it.

The Egyptian reply, like the Israeli response a month before, was hedged with "assumptions."

Given Cairo's intermediary role, the hedges undoubtedly reflect the Palestine Liberation Organization's posiwhich the tions. Americans may feel would not advance the process if made known to Jerusalem at this

One of Israel's main assumptions in accepting Baker's points was that it could refuse to deal directly or indirectly with the PLO.

Likud Hard-Liners Mobilizing

Meanwhile, the triumvirate of Likud hardliners opposed to the Baker plan is calling for a meeting of the party's Central Committee to be He told the Cabinet that held before Arens leaves his three-way

It is apparently the intention of Ariel Sharon,

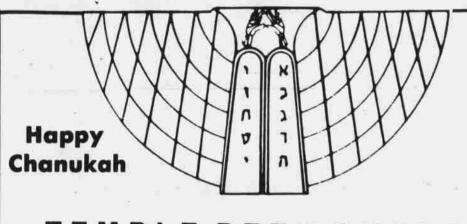
David Levy and Yitzhak Moda'i to get a mandate from the party to saddle Arens with a new set of conditions.

Levy, deputy a premier who is minister of construction and housing, and Moda'i, the minister of economics and planning, told reporters after the Cabinet meeting that the Egyptian reply to Baker was not drafted by Egypt, but by the PLO.

They and Sharon, who is minister of industry and trade, oppose Shamir's idea for Palestinian elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The dialogue in Cairo is supposed to hammer out arrangements for those elections.

Over twelve hundred USY members and advisors will gather in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the thirty-ninth Annual International Convention of United Synagogue Youth. The Convention, which begins on Sunday, December 24 and concludes on Thursday, December 28 will be held at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel.

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