

Israelis approve new settlements

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli government won final approval Tuesday for three new and potentially controversial Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River. The go-ahead came one day before Egypt and Israel begin the next stage of peace negotiations.

The parliament's Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee voted, 14-9, to override an attempt by a moderate minority faction in Prime Minister Menahem Begin's coalition government to halt the settlement plan.

Israeli settlements — about 91 of them scattered across Arab territory captured by Israel in 1967 — are one of the key sticking points in the Egyptian-Israeli peace dialogue, begun by Egypt's Anwar Sadat

last November.

Pres. Sadat has said "not a single Israeli" can remain on Arab lands after peace. Israel's Begin is equally adamant that the settlements will stay.

The peace dialogue enters a new phase Wednesday when the defense ministers of Israel and Egypt — Ezer Weizman and Mohammed Abdel Ghany Gamassy — meet in Cairo for negotiations dealing primarily with the return of the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt.

On the eve of those talks informed sources in Cairo said Egypt sees them as a critical barometer of Israeli faith in the peace drive.

The sources, briefing reporters Monday on grounds their names not be used, said the positions Israel takes at the bargaining table may help show whether recent government statements represent a hardening of Israeli policy or were meant to appease headline opponents of Begin's peace plan.

Egyptian conclusions, based on the beginning of talks in Cairo, will determine the position Egypt adopts at the conference of foreign ministers set to open in Jerusalem Jan. 16, the sources said.

They explained this was the reason Egypt asked to push up the opening date of the Cairo negotiations, which had been scheduled to start at the same time as talks in Jerusalem.

Both conferences were arranged when Begin and Sadat met in Egypt Christmas Day.

The Jerusalem conference between Foreign Ministers Moshe Dayan and Mohammed Kamel will focus on the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip which Egypt sees as the site for a Palestinian state. The 40-45 West Bank settlements also will be taken up.

Begin's government — under sharp right-wing attack from critics who say Israel is willing to give up too much, too soon — has begun a vigorous campaign to expand the populations of existing Sinai settlements in Sinai before peace talks get into full swing.

World at a glance

From Associated Press reports

Crusading editor shot, killed

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, a crusading editor opposed to the dictatorship of Gen. Anastasio Somoza, was shot to death today in Managua, the managing editor of his newspaper said.

The editor said Chamorro was killed when a car carrying three persons pulled up beside the car he was driving and fired automatic weapons at him.

Bolles' killers get death sentence

PHOENIX, Ariz. — A contractor and a plumber were sentenced Tuesday to die in the gas chamber for their role in the assassination of reporter Don Bolles, whose car was bombed while he was investigating organized crime.

Max Dunlap, a 48-year Phoenix building contractor and James Robison, a 55-year-old plumber from suburban Chandler, both proclaimed their innocence and attacked the court. Their sentences and convictions will be automatically appealed to the Arizona Supreme Court.

HUD to study rural problems

WASHINGTON — The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), responding to small-town concerns that HUD policies are too big city-oriented, is creating a task force to study the development problems of rural areas and smaller communities.

HUD Secretary Patricia Harris said Tuesday that while the agency is focusing its resources on distressed big cities, it also is committed to offering housing and community development aid to rural areas and smaller cities and towns.

FDA asks producers to list food coloring

WASHINGTON — The federal government has asked the nation's leading food manufacturers to list voluntarily on their ingredient labels the colors they add to foods.

In a letter to about 100 of the largest food companies in the country, Food and Drug Commissioner (FDA) Donald Kennedy said, "There can be no doubt that consumers want to know what they are eating."

He said public concern has been stimulated in recent years by the Food and Drug Administration's banning of Red No. 2 and 4 artificial coloring and a current proposal to require specific labeling on products containing Yellow No. 5.

"This agency believes that all colors added to a food product

should be identified by name in the list of ingredients appearing on the product," Kennedy said in his letter dated Jan. 3 and released Tuesday.

Present law requires only that food colorings be certified by the FDA as safe when used as intended and that products containing them include a notation in the list of ingredients that the product contains coloring.

FDA proposed last year to require specific identification on labels of Yellow No. 5 to enable between 50,000 and 100,000 Americans who may be allergic to it to avoid it. The dye, technically known as tartrazine, is the most widely used food coloring in the United States and is used in most over-the-counter and prescription drugs, the FDA has said.

Justice Department says Hoover accepted favors

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department Tuesday accused the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover of accepting special favors and services from FBI employees.

It also said in a 40-page report that the long-time director took part with other former FBI officials in a pattern of longstanding and widespread abuses of FBI services.

Hoover, who died in 1972 at the age of 77, was said to have accepted favors that ranged from additions to his home to servicing of his lawnmower and snow blower.

"Clocks were reset, metal polished, wallpaper retouched, firewood provided and furniture rearranged," the report said. "Employees were on call night and day for this work."

Hoover also got free tax advice from a bureau

accountant and members of the FBI's Exhibits Section were called upon to build gifts each year for Hoover on Christmas, his service anniversary with the agency and other special occasions, the report alleged, against a number of other former top FBI officials.

But the department said no civil court action was contemplated against any of these persons since the statute of limitations may have run out and since "the actual amounts involved are small compared to the expense of litigation."

Most of the allegations in the report had been previously reported by the news media. However, this was the first time that the Justice Department has published its version of the events. The department spent more than two years looking into the allegations.

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