



French ex-Premier Pierre Mendes-France in animated conversation with Lyova Ellav at yesterday's New Outlook symposium in Tel Aviv. Sitting with them is a participant in the gathering.

(Lester Millman)

New Outlook symposium

(Continued from page one)

Participants. Britain's Lord Caradon, who was his country's ambassador to the UN at the time of the Six Day War and was largely responsible for the drafting of Security Council resolution 242, made an emotional appeal to Israel not to miss the "historic opportunity" which he said was presenting itself to arrive at a settlement with the Palestinian Arabs.

Lord Caradon spoke of consultations he has held on the West Bank during his current visit, and said he had been struck by the unanimity of the desire of the inhabitants to choose their own leaders and decide their own future.

Israel was not being asked to make big concessions, Lord Caradon said. Why was she so afraid of so small a piece of territory as the West Bank, he asked.

Dean Brown, the former U.S. ambassador to Jordan, presented an analysis of America's current position regarding Israel. President Carter, he said, is firm on the establishment of a Palestinian entity of some kind, perhaps through the Jordanian connection. He said U.S. policy faces the dilemma of continuing to support Israel despite what he claimed was her refusal to make territorial concessions, and at the same time satisfying the demands of the oil-producing Arab

states regarding the Palestinian question, which includes the fate of Jerusalem.

Professor Amnon Rubinatein compared Sadat's projected visit to Israel to former President Nixon's historic trip to Peking, saying that at the wave of a hand it had amashed the hitherto total Arab "excommunication" of Israel.

Last night, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, former president of the World Jewish Congress, warned the conference against placing too much reliance on the Egyptian president's visit. Peace, he said, could not be attained via the "red carpet" method; the road would turn out to be much harder than that. It was essential to bring the Russians into the peacemaking process, he said, because, although they may not have a constructive role to play at this time, they are certainly capable of sabotaging any potential settlement.

Of the nearly 450 delegates to the New Outlook conference, 240 are from Israel and 197 from 17 countries around the world. The conference is discussing the Middle East conflict in relation to the world community, the Palestinian Arab dimension of the conflict, and the future of the region. Public figures from the West Bank and Arab scholars from abroad are also taking part in the deliberation.

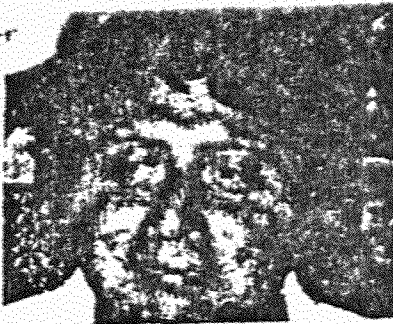
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Post question put Sadat on the road to Jerusalem

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's decision to come to Israel was prompted in part by a question that our correspondent in Washington, Wolf Blitzer, asked him during his visit to the U.S. in April of this year.

In a recent interview with Mark Bruzonaky, an editor of the "World Review," Sadat disclosed that his first thoughts about visiting Israel came after the Blair House press conference on April 8, when *The Jerusalem Post* correspondent asked whether an exchange of journalists between Israel and Egypt was possible.



Wolf Blitzer

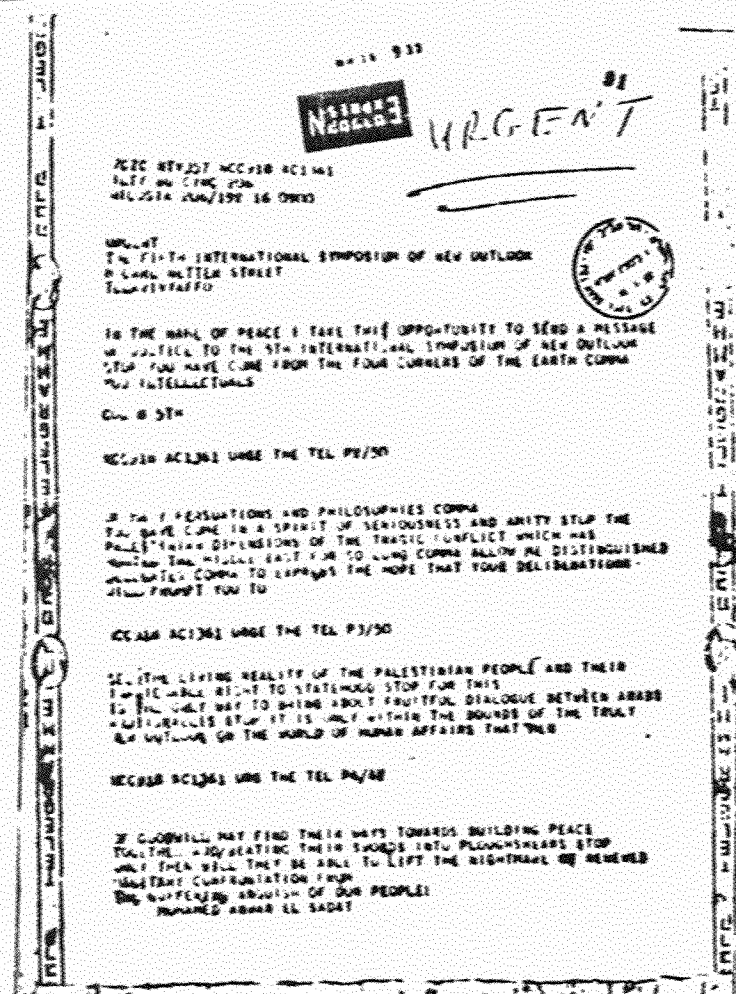
Blitzer actually asked Sadat why — if he (Sadat) was so interested in reaching a peace settlement with Israel — he would not accept some direct contact with Israel even in advance of a settlement, such as an exchange of Israeli and Egyptian journalists.

Sadat replied: "I have been asked this question before. Part of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a psychological one. I, myself, have no objection to this, but believe our people are not yet ready for this after 29 years of hatred and four wars and bitterness, all that has happened... We must take it gradually. Whenever we end the state of belligerency in the peace agreement that is supposed to be signed in Geneva by all of us, I think all this will be very easy."

A senior Egyptian journalist who heard Sadat answer Blitzer asked the president whether he should put it on the local Egyptian wire service. According to the journalist, he was told by Sadat to quote him verbatim.

"Whatever I have said," Sadat is reported to have stated, "I want my people back home to know."

Sadat, in his recent interview with Bruzonaky, said that the thought of an exchange between the two countries stayed with him and led him to the conclusion that he had to take a bold and demonstrative step to break the barrier of hostility



The text of President Sadat's telegram to the New Outlook symposium in Tel Aviv.

Recognize Palestinian right to state, Sadat cables T.A. meet

Jerusalem Post Staff
 TEL AVIV. — A recognition of the "living reality of the Palestinian people and their inalienable right to statehood" is the "only way to bring about fruitful dialogue between Arabs and Israelis," Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday cabled the fifth international symposium of "New Outlook" magazine.

The Egyptian leader's message was read out to the 450-odd conference participants by "New Outlook" editor Simha Flapan as the conference opened yesterday. The cable had been delivered earlier in

the day to the Mapam-supported magazine's office in Tel Aviv by a postman. It had been transmitted to Israel via Nicosia.

In the telegram, which is signed "Mohamed Anwar el Sadat," Egypt's president emphasizes the centrality of the Palestinian-Arab problem and refers to the need for a "truly new outlook on the world of human affairs" in order to achieve peace.

The conference, at the Pal Hotel here, is devoted to the Middle East conflict. Addressing the par-

(Continued on page 3, col. 3)

The Washington Reporter Who Started It All

By Jacqueline Trescott

Wolf Blitzer, 29, footnote to history, was only wishing yesterday that he was a little closer to the action.

Blitzer, the Jerusalem Post one-man Washington bureau, is credited by Anwar Sadat in a published interview Thursday as triggering the train of thought which led Sadat to his precedent-shattering decision to go to Jerusalem this weekend.

Yesterday Blitzer said that his question to Sadat, the one Sadat said started him wondering "why not?" was really an afterthought. The young journalist, a Buffalo, N.Y., native, recalled yesterday that he "hadn't even planned to ask a question." Blitzer said he was impressed that Sadat had departed from the tradition of Arab leaders and had allowed the Israeli press into his Washington press conference last April.

"I was seated toward the back," Blitzer

recalled. "I remember thinking how much better looking he was in person. He kept saying he was interested in peace. He sounded sincere, so I got up, looked him straight in the eye and said, 'If you are so interested in peace, why don't you start having direct, human contact, like an exchange of journalists, students.' I didn't say ping-pong diplomacy, but that's what I was thinking."

Sadat's response, as Blitzer remembered, was "I, myself, have no objection to this. But believe me, our people are not yet ready for this after 25 years of hatred and four wars."

Nevertheless, Sadat said in his interview with Mark Bruzonski, editor of the World Review, the question stayed in his mind and his offer to visit Jerusalem "had been fermenting in my mind all along."

See BLITZER, C5, Col. 4

BLITZER, From C1

Blitzer has a little competition for the "footnote" title—from a couple of other journalists named Barbara Walters and Walter Cronkite who have been dropping hints that it might have been their interviews with Sadat that turned the Arab leader around.

But so far, only Blitzer has been anointed by Sadat.

Less than eight months after that Washington meeting the unprecedented is happening; the President of Egypt and the Prime Minister of Israel are meeting. On Thursday morning Ari Rath, one of two editors of the Jerusalem Post, the country's only English-language daily, telephoned Blitzer. In true editor fashion, Rath first asked what stories Blitzer was

producing that day, and then told him about Sadat's interview.

"According to Rath, Sadat said 'the question this journalist from the Jerusalem Post asked got me thinking.' Then Rath said that the Post was doing its own little story but they couldn't find a picture of me," said Blitzer.

Before the Sadat clamor, Blitzer's biggest story was an almost fatal moment during West German Chancellor Willy Brandt's visit to Tel Aviv in 1973. Blitzer, after studying at the State University of New York at Buffalo and the John Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies, joined the staff of Reuters. He has been the Jerusalem Post's Washington correspondent since Nov-

ember, 1973.

This weekend, while world attention will be focused on Jerusalem, Blitzer will be home in Bethesda with his wife, Lynn, an assistant buyer at the Hecht Company.

"I've been happy ever since Sadat said he was going. And I'm happy in my own little way to have done something," said Blitzer. "I think it's a lot more exciting than the Nixon trip to China or Khrushchev's visit here, though I don't remember that so vividly. But if anyone had said a few days ago that Sadat would go to Israel, I would have said they were crazy. I keep pinching myself. Like everybody else, I'll watch it on television. I feel like the Carter administration, left out."

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