

Finally, Egyptian President Sadat in an Aug. 23 speech flatly rejected Begin's proposed "partial permanent peace" and said: "I shall work for an overall peace based on justice, and there is absolutely no room there for partial solutions or separate settlements or a third disengagement agreement."

—Mary Jane Coates

Chicago Tribune: Lebanese Rightist Seeks Begin's Help

The following are excerpts of an account of the Israeli cabinet's meeting with Camille Chamoun. The story was published Aug. 24 in the Chicago Tribune and filed from Tel Aviv by Jonathan Broder.

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and his top ministers met in secret early Wednesday with Lebanese Phalangist leader Camille Chamoun in Jerusalem to discuss an urgent appeal for Israeli assistance to beleaguered Christians in Beirut, a high government source told the Tribune Wednesday.

The source said Chamoun, one of two Israeli-backed Phalangist leaders in Lebanon, had requested the crucial meeting and was flown Tuesday by helicopter from the Christian stronghold of Jounieh, north of Beirut, to an Israeli gunboat off the Lebanese coast.

The gunboat brought Chamoun to Israel, the source said, where another helicopter brought him to Begin's official Jerusalem residence after midnight.

Chamoun told Begin, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Chief of

Staff Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan that Syrian peace keeping forces in Lebanon were planning a decisive attack against Christians in Beirut in the near future, the source said.

The leader of the right-wing Phalangists apparently asked the Israelis not to abandon their Christian Lebanese allies.

But with the Camp David Middle East summit only two weeks away, Begin told Chamoun that Israel had to maintain a low profile in the interest of a comprehensive peace settlement. The source added that Begin advised Chamoun to "hold on" until the Camp David talks had started Sept. 5.

The Syrians began an offensive against the Christians in Lebanon two months ago to bring the Phalangist militias under Syria's peacekeeping authority. The Christians, backed by Israel, have resisted the Syrians in the Lebanese capital and in the south, where Christian villagers are ruling themselves independently of Beirut.

Israel sent warplanes over Beirut Tuesday in an apparent reminder to the Syrians of its support for the Phalangists.

The meeting at Begin's home lasted more than three hours. Then the ministers and the chief of staff left and declined comment to newsmen.

At the same time, a car with curtains tightly drawn across its windows sped off from a side entrance to the Prime Minister's house.

A government spokesman confirmed a late night session between Begin, his ministers, and Eitan, but denied knowledge of Chamoun's attendance.

In the past, Israeli leaders have expressed concern that the Lebanese Christian community in Beirut will be annihilated if Syrian peacekeeping forces renew their shelling.

Mexico Expropriates Latifundios

Taking on the enemies of oil and nuclear development

With less than two weeks to go before his second State of the Union address, Mexican President José Lopez Portillo has given a preview of what his strategy for the coming year will be. Breaking the traditional government silence which precedes the presidential State of the Union address, Lopez Portillo issued a decree ordering the expropriation of a 12,000-acre latifundio owned by the powerful Santos family.

While the actual amount of land involved is not great, the expropriation represents a declaration of war by Lopez Portillo's government against the latifundists and their allies in banking, business, and political layers. Traditionally the latifundists have

been at the center of the oligarchic network, and Santos, a former governor of San Luis Potosi, is known throughout Mexico as *the* leading latifundist. A private army of 700 men protects his property, and since 1940 several Mexican Presidents who have threatened to expropriate his latifundios have backed off rather than risk a bloody and potentially explosive confrontation.

Moreover, since the action against Santos, the government has followed through with further, politically targeted expropriations. On Aug. 22 the Agrarian Reform Ministry announced the expropriation of land owned by Robles Martinez, a