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Rift Develops In Government Coalition; Gahal Refuses To Accept Mrs. Meir's Report

JERUSALEM, May 27 (JTA)--A deep rift developed in Premier Golda Meir's national coalition government today when the Gahal faction (Herut-Liberal alignment) refused to endorse the political report she delivered to the Knesset yesterday. The militantly nationalistic Gahal took exception to parts of her 90-minute report that implied Israel's acceptance of the United Nations Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution which calls, among other things, for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Gahal, the second largest faction in Mrs. Meir's "wall-to-wall coalition," abstained when a routine motion to accept the Prime Minister's report was voted in the Knesset today. It was adopted 33-6 with 19 abstentions. The negative votes were cast by the two Communist factions and the Haolam Hazeh, a splinter party perennially in opposition to the government. Gahal's abstention immediately raised talk of an impending cabinet crisis that could break up the all-embracing "unity" coalition that Mrs. Meir put together six months ago.

Questioned by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency right after the vote, Mrs. Meir said "At this stage I cannot say anything." But some of her close aides dismissed the idea that the coalition was in trouble. One source said that neither Mrs. Meir's Labor Party nor Gahal would gain anything by breaking up the government at this time and that Gahal was interested only in making its point--which it did. Another source said it was significant that Gahal risked a parting of the ways with the coalition in order to uphold its principles. It was pointed out that Mrs. Meir, in her report, merely rejected Arab charges that Israel has refused to accept the UN resolution but did not state categorically that the resolution was accepted by Israel. Instead she quoted a statement to that effect by Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations on May 1, 1968. Another portion of her report that may have angered Gahal MKs was a statement that Jewish settlement in the West Bank town of Hebron did not preclude returning it to Jordan after peace is concluded. Jews can live in Jordan too, Mrs. Meir said, adding that "the only condition that Israel stipulates for peace talks is peace." However, she rejected Arab demands for Israeli withdrawal before peace is achieved. She noted that in 1967 it was the pre-war frontiers of Israel that the Arabs wanted to destroy.

Lebanese Cabinet Votes To Crack Down On Arab Guerrillas Using Its Territory

LONDON, May 27 (JTA)--The Lebanese Cabinet voted today to crack down on Arab guerrillas using Lebanese territory for attacks on Israel. The Cabinet authorized Lebanese troops to shoot to kill any guerrillas caught firing on Israel from Lebanese soil or planting mines in the border region. The Interior Ministry in Beirut announced that Arab guerrillas would not be allowed to carry arms without a license, as of June 15, and that violators would be prosecuted. The Ministry said the decision was reached in coordination with the guerrilla organizations. Attacks on Israel from Lebanese soil, such as last Friday's bus ambush that took the lives of eight Israeli schoolchildren and four adults, are in violation of the agreement reached between the Beirut government and the Palestinian guerrilla command last Nov. 3. The terms of the agreement, though never officially disclosed are known to permit guerrillas to use southern Lebanon as a staging area. But the pact allows them to attack Israeli targets only after infiltrating Israeli territory, not from Lebanese soil.

The Beirut Cabinet also voted \$10-million to bolster the country's defense against Israel. But it postponed a decision on Premier Rashid Karami's controversial proposal to ask other Arab countries for troops to help defend Lebanon from Israel. Mr. Karami proposed yesterday that such aid be summoned from Morocco and Tunis or other Arab countries. Some deputies appeared concerned that an invitation to foreign troops would compromise Lebanon's sovereignty. Others wanted the government to invite some 6000 Iraqi troops now stationed in Syria rather than men from the relatively moderate and distant North African countries. It was pointed out that it could take months to bring Moroccan or Tunisian forces to Lebanon, whereas the Iraqis could get there in hours.

Jumblatt Decries Commando Actions Such As The Attack On Israeli School Bus

Mr. Karami's proposal, though harsh medicine for some Lebanese, was prompted by the general strike yesterday that paralyzed the country. The strikers demanded protection of the southern border region against Israel. The leader of the strike, Imam Musa al-Sabr, chairman of the Shiah Moslems' community council, warned of further demonstrations and "occupation" of public buildings unless the government ended what he called its neglect of southern Lebanon. Passions were aroused in Lebanon by Israel's declared intention to police both sides of the Israel-Lebanese border because the Beirut regime has failed to curb terrorist incursions into Israel. Maj. Gen. Mordechai Gur, chief of Israel's northern command, said yesterday that the Israeli Army would do the job the Lebanese Army would not or could not do. He said he hoped that under Israeli protection, Lebanese villagers who have fled the border regions would return. Lebanese characterized Gen. Gur's statements as "arrogant."

Some Lebanese deputies claimed that Israel wanted Lebanon to call in foreign Arab troops because it would give Jerusalem the pretext for occupying parts of Lebanon on the grounds that Israel faced a new Arab menace. One deputy argued that Premier Karami's plan was useless because Israel is capable of defeating any Arab army. Moderate Lebanese seemed to think that their country's present crisis was precipitated more by the free-wheeling Palestinian guerrillas operating on its soil than by Israel. Interior Minister Kamal Jumblatt criticized the guerrillas yesterday and declared "Lebanese

public opinion decries unorganized actions by some commando organizations such as the latest attack on an Israeli bus." His statement was the first hint of criticism of the ambush from an official Lebanese source. Arab circles generally appear to have been shaken by world reaction to the slaying of children on their way to school. The Jordanian Minister of Information, Saleh Abu-Zaid, claimed yesterday that the bus was not carrying children but technicians on their way to build a military road. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which took credit for the bus ambush, made the same claim and challenged Israel to produce photographs of slain or injured children. But the Popular Front had said earlier that the school bus was attacked deliberately in revenge against an Israeli air raid last month that allegedly hit an Egyptian elementary school, killing more than 30 pupils.

Israeli Jets Attack Egyptian Targets; Lebanese Villagers Accept Israeli Presence

TEL AVIV, May 27 (JTA)--Israeli Air Force jets attacked Egyptian targets in the Suez Canal zone for an hour this afternoon and returned safely to their bases. Two Israeli soldiers were wounded by Egyptian fire across the canal today. Israel Air Force jets attacked Egyptian positions along the Suez Canal twice last night and returned safely to their bases. An Israeli soldier was killed and two others were wounded in fire exchanges with Egyptian forces across the waterway yesterday. The dead man was identified as Pvt. Jacob Levi, of Givatayim. Israeli artillery shelled Irbid village in Jordan last night following the shelling of Kfar Ruppim, Yardena, Tel Katzir and Massada from Jordanian territory.

Strengthened Israeli patrols, supported by tanks, kept the Lebanese border quiet last night. There has been no terrorist activity in the area since Israeli units began policing both sides of the frontier last Saturday, according to a military spokesman. One unit occupied positions inside Lebanon last night and withdrew in the morning. Tanks have been lined up on the border to provide covering fire if necessary. An Israeli spokesman said the presence of Israeli forces has had a calming effect on Lebanese villagers in the border region. Once they were convinced that the Israelis were only after terrorists they returned to their fields, he said. Defense Minister, Moshe Dayan told the Knesset yesterday that Israel had no confirmation of a report this week in Newsweek magazine that Egypt has received a number of MIG-23 jets from Russia. The MIG-23 is said to be the Soviet Union's most advanced supersonic fighter plane and is not yet fully integrated into the Soviet Air Force, according to some sources. Israel has said there is no proof a MIG-23 exists at all. But the MIG-21 has been substantially improved in design and performance and the new version is already in Egyptian hands.

Arab Leaders Confer On Policy Of Retaliation Against U.S. If Jets Are Sold To Israel

LONDON, May 27 (JTA)--The leaders of Egypt, Libya and Sudan are meeting in Khartoum, reportedly to work out a common policy of retaliation against the United States should it supply more Phantom jets to Israel. President Nasser arrived at the Sudanese capital yesterday followed by Libyan Premier Muammar el-Qaddafi. They were greeted by Sudan's Premier, Maj. Gen. Gaafar Muhammed al-Nimeiry, who is celebrating the first anniversary of the military coup that brought him to power. The three African Arab countries joined in a defense alliance earlier this year. Political sources said their leaders would be discussing an agreement on increased contributions by all the Arab states to the military effort against Israel. The failure to reach such an agreement at the all-Arab summit conference at Rabat, Morocco last January was one of the factors that prompted the tri-partite pact between Libya, Egypt and Sudan.

Ball: U.S. Action In Cambodia Could Lead To Israel's Fall And Russian Mideast Domination

WASHINGTON, May 27 (JTA)--George Ball, former Undersecretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to the UN warned yesterday that one of the "grave consequences" of American action in Cambodia could be the fall of Israel and Russian dominance in the Middle East. Mr. Ball testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "How can anyone doubt that Soviet leadership is so consciously factoring into its calculations about the Middle East our increasing entanglement in the gluepot of Southeast Asia and the rising violence of a divided and angry America?" Mr. Ball said. He claimed that the Russians might be able to neutralize the Israeli Air Force through increased aid to Egypt which could result in the destruction of Israel and "shift the balance of power catastrophically against the West."

Samuels And Sen. Murphy Urge Administration To Sell Planes To Israel To Retain Balance

NEW YORK, May 27 (JTA)--Howard Samuels, Democratic candidate for governor, today urged President Nixon to "restore the balance of power in the Middle East by supplying to Israel whatever armaments are necessary and to urge the Soviet Union to press for face-to-face talks between Israel and her neighbors." Mr. Samuels warned that just as Great Britain allowed Hitler to build his war machine "so the United States is letting the Arab world become the potential trigger of a major war." Mr. Samuels said that only when the Soviet-Arab bloc becomes aware that the U.S. won't let the balance of power shift to the Arabs "can the crisis subside." Sen. George L. Murphy, Republican of California, told a meeting last night of the American Jewish Committee's Publishers and Distributors Division that the U.S. "must reconsider its decision on selling more jet aircraft to Israel," asserting that "we cannot afford to let our friends down anywhere in the world, and Israel is one of our best friends," and is "fighting our battles in the crucial cockpit of the Middle East."

1261 Arabs From Occupied Territories, 37 Israelis Under Administrative Detention

JERUSALEM, May 27 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan disclosed yesterday that 1298 persons are presently being held under administrative detention, 37 of them Israeli citizens and the rest residents of the occupied Arab territories. Administrative detention is incarceration without formal charges or trial. Gen. Dayan said, in reply to questions in the Knesset, that it was a preventive measure rather than a punitive one. He noted that administrative detention orders were issued for a maximum of one year and had to be renewed on expiration of the period.

ECOSOC Votes 14-10 To Retain CBJO In Consultative Status; B'nai B'rith Hails Vote

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 27 (JTA)--The United Nations Economic and Social Council today voted 14-10 with three abstentions to retain the consultative status of the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (CBJO) as a non-governmental organization. The vote constituted a defeat of Soviet-Arab bloc efforts to deprive the CBJO of its status or to delay a decision. The primary target of the Soviet and Arab delegates was B'nai B'rith, one of the three constituents of the CBJO, which, they charged, was an agent of Israel. In a statement issued to newsmen after the vote, B'nai B'rith expressed gratification at its outcome and declared that it would "continue to expose" anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and "speak out for Israel's right to a just and secure peace." The CBJO was supported in the voting by the United States, Britain and France. The vote however was not a clear-cut victory for B'nai B'rith and its partners in the CBJO--the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

The motion adopted contained a Pakistani amendment, accepted by the United States, which gives the Economic and Social Council the right to invoke a suspension of status at any time the Council considers the CBJO to be engaged in the kind of activities that have been charged against it. This, in effect, placed the CBJO on "parole" and opened the way for the Soviet-Arab bloc to continue its efforts to have its status suspended. Paradoxically, Pakistan, which generally supports the Arab-Soviet bloc, abstained from today's voting. Ceylon, whose delegate defended B'nai B'rith against Soviet charges, voted against the CBJO. Today's vote was on a recommendation made by the ECOSOC's committee last February to retain the consultative status of the CBJO, one of eight international Jewish organizations that has enjoyed such status. A last ditch effort by the Soviet-Arab bloc to postpone a decision was stymied last night when a Council vote on whether or not to consider the February recommendation ended in a 10-10 deadlock with four abstentions. A motion by Pakistan to postpone a decision until today was carried 10-7 with eight abstentions. The Soviet-Arab bloc was apparently seeking to stall a vote until it could line up enough Asian and African votes to defeat the CBJO. The CBJO was supported by the United States and Uruguay.

The Soviet delegate said today that his government was absolutely opposed to retention of the CBJO's status or that of any organization which does not speak from "humanitarian grounds but speaks rather from national grounds." He charged that the CBJO was an "extreme nationalist group." The delegate from Ceylon, defending the B'nai B'rith, said he had never heard of a group with "a 100 year history of humanitarian work" being subjected to questions and allegations such as those lodged against B'nai B'rith. The statement issued by B'nai B'rith after the vote said, "The CBJO is gratified by the vote which is more than a vote of confidence in CBJO. It is a repudiation of attempts to impose political censorship in the political community of NGOs. All NGOs will now, in the spirit of the UN Charter itself, feel free to express their viewpoints at the UN. B'nai B'rith will continue its efforts for an effective human rights program. It will also continue to expose, as long as the necessity exists, anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and to speak out for Israel's right to a just and secure peace."

Thant Going To Moscow, May Meet With Jarring; Big Four Talks Still Deadlocked

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 27 (JTA)--A spokesman for the United Nations said today that Secretary General U Thant will visit the Soviet Union next month in response to "a long standing invitation." Although there was no immediate indication that Mr. Thant would discuss anything beyond the crisis in Southeast Asia with Soviet officials, sources said it was "quite likely" he would see Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, the Swedish ambassador to the Soviet Union and Mr. Thant's special peace envoy to the Middle East. The UN spokesman said he "knew of no plans for Ambassador Jarring to return to his United Nations headquarters" in the immediate future. "Certainly not before June 14," he added, alluding to the time of Mr. Thant's visit to the USSR after stopovers in London and The Hague.

There had been expectations last week that Dr. Jarring might return to the UN and possibly resume his Middle East peace mission if the Big Four ambassadors received even an "interim" memorandum on the progress of their talks being worked on by their deputies. The Big Four, which are scheduled to meet again June 12, with the deputies meeting in the meantime, failed to make any progress in their meeting yesterday. Soviet Ambassador Yakov Malik was reported to have continued his policy of "non-cooperation" and "intransigence" he has shown in the past few weeks, especially toward the United States. Mr. Malik reportedly continued to display the hostility he expressed in recent Security Council meetings in which he compared Israel's actions against Lebanon to U.S. aggression in Cambodia. The four ambassadors have been deadlocked in their talks since they began 14 months ago over the issue of having Israel commit herself to withdrawal from all occupied territories.

Soviet Jew Given Permit To Go To Israel Then Denied Exit Visa; Appeals For Help

LONDON, May 27 (JTA)--Another Russian Jew has appealed to Israel's Premier Golda Meir for aid in coming to Israel. Aron Solomonovich Bogdanovsky, 34, of Kharkov, related his prolonged and so far fruitless struggle with the Soviet bureaucracy to obtain an exit visa in a long letter to Mrs. Meir made public here today. Bogdanovsky, who says he has no family in Russia but was invited to live with an uncle in Israel, claimed that he was given a permit to go to Israel last Sept. 12. But when he applied for an exit visa he was turned down because the Ministry of Culture officials did not like the list of books he asked to be permitted to take with him. He wrote that on the strength of his permit he had sold his apartment and liquidated most of his possessions "for a pittance." He left his job and cannot get another. He is destitute and living on money borrowed from friends. Bogdanovsky said he has appealed for help to Premier Alexei N. Kosygin, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet and International Red Cross, the Minister of Interior and even to the government newspaper, Izvestia. He said he has received no reply from any of those sources. He said the only reply he gets periodically is from visa bureau and the reply is always "no."

Soviet Jewish Family Appeals To Tekoah To Help Them Emigrate: 'You Are Our Last Hope'

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 27 (JTA)--"Dear Mr. Ambassador! My family and I appeal to you with a fervent plea for help. You are our last hope!" Those are the opening words of a letter received by Israel's permanent representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, from Shmaya Abram Elyovich Liberman, 55, a resident of Ivano Frankovsk in the Ukraine, who has been vainly seeking permission to emigrate to Israel for the past three years. A translation of the letter was made public today by the Israel UN Mission. Mr. Liberman, who described himself as a "poultry slaughterer" and a "deeply religious person," said his family's one desire is to be reunited with relatives in Israel whom they have not seen for years. He wrote that a migration permit issued to him on May 23, 1967, was rescinded without explanation following the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli War. He said that he, his wife and their two daughters suffer from multiple illnesses and have been living out of valises since May, 1967, after disposing of their property in anticipation of going to Israel. "It is only our hope to embrace our dear ones that is supporting us. Do not let this hope become extinguished," the letter to Ambassador Tekoah said.

Youths Gathering 250,000 Signatures On Petition Asking UN To Intervene For Soviet Jews

SYRACUSE, N.Y., May 27 (JTA)--The Upstate Council of Youth For Soviet Jewry has initiated a petition campaign demanding that the United Nations intervene for Russian Jews seeking to leave for Israel. According to Bracha King, a spokesman for the group, the goal of 250,000 signatures is expected to be met by the end of the summer, and will be presented to the U.N. Human Rights Commission on November 7th, the anniversary of the Russian Revolution. All petitions to the United Nations are officially acknowledged, and complaints on violations of human rights are circulated among the member states. The petition is headed "Let Them Out. We demand free emigration for all Jews who wish to leave the U.S.S.R."

B'nai B'rith Contributes \$500 To Help Flood Victims In Rumania; Offers Further Service

WASHINGTON, May 27 (JTA)--The B'nai B'rith today expressed to the Rumanian Ambassador its distress over the recent floods which devastated large areas of that country. Dr. William A. Wexler, B'nai B'rith president, in a letter to Ambassador Corneliu Bogden, forwarded a \$500 allocation from the B'nai B'rith's emergency relief fund and offered whatever "further service" B'nai B'rith could provide to ameliorate the human plight."

Milton Shapp Called 'That Little Jew' In Democratic Party Letter To Party Workers

PITTSBURGH, May 27 (JTA)--State Rep. Andrew T. Fenrich resigned last Friday as Allegheny County Democratic Primary Committee secretary after his office sent a letter to party workers that apparently called Democratic gubernatorial candidate Milton J. Shapp "that little Jew." Although Mr. Fenrich did not sign the letter, and claimed that a typographical error was to blame, he took responsibility for the letter emanating from his office and quit his 15-year party post under pressure from county leaders. He will continue in his post of state representative, which he has held since 1949. He has been accused in the past of racial slurs, but none has been substantiated and he has not been linked to hate groups. His name and those of two other Primary Committee officials were typed in at the bottom of the letter. In the controversial phrase, a three-letter word was blacked out in the phrase "that little---Shapp" in all copies of the letter. There was no hard proof, however, that the deleted word was "Jew." Mr. Shapp has run unsuccessfully for Governor in the past.

Six Participating Groups Of National Conference Of Jewish Communal Service Federate

BOSTON, May 27 (JTA)--The six participating organizations of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service voted last night to federate themselves. The groups are the National Association of Jewish Community Organization Personnel, the National Association of Jewish Center Workers, the National Council for Jewish Education, the Association of Jewish Community Relations Workers, the National Association of Jewish Homes for the Aged and the National Association of Jewish Family, Children's and Health Services. A constitution will be devised in upcoming months. The Conference, representing more than 2000 workers, is based in New York. The Conference, holding its 72nd annual meeting here, was addressed last night by Dr. George Wald of Harvard, a co-winner of the 1967 Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine and a critic of United States involvement in Southeast Asia.

The Conference had earlier passed a resolution declaring that involvement has "bitterly exasperated the already severe tensions" in the U.S. and has "deflected the country from a massive response to the desperate problems of our cities and our poor." Additional resolutions voiced solidarity with Soviet Jewry, condemned the treatment of Jews in Arab countries, and recommended a strengthening of President Nixon's welfare reform bill. Irving Greenberg, executive director of the Jewish Counseling and Service Agency of Newark, N.J., was elected Conference president, succeeding Sanford Solender, executive vice president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

Men's ORT To Launch Organizing Drive In Jewish Communities In Southern States

CHARLESTON, S.C., May 27 (JTA)--A new venture in the southern Jewish community will be launched when the first Southern Regional Men's ORT convenes here Sunday at the Jewish Community Center, it was announced by Maurice Fox, general chairman of the Conference and president of Charleston Men's ORT. The Conference will launch an organization drive to establish men's ORT chapters in Southern communities. Keynote speakers are Robin Gilbert, Director of the World ORT Union, who will be coming from Geneva, Switzerland, and Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, past president of the New York Board of Rabbis and chairman of the National Rabbinic ORT Committee.