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Reagan Dismisses Three Jewish Chaplains; Black Leader Charges This is Anti-Semitism

OAKLAND, Calif., March 8 (JTA)--Governor Ronald Reagan's dismissal of three Jewish chaplains, the entire complement ministering on a full time basis to patients of that faith in California's 14 mental hospitals, is a "blatant act of anti-Semitism." That was the statement today of Percy Moore, executive director of Oakland's anti-poverty program and the president of the California Community Action Program Directors Association, a state-wide organization composed of anti-poverty leaders. Moore, who is black, said that the elimination of all three Jewish chaplains, effective July 1, while some 33 Catholic and Protestant chaplains are retained for full-time work in the mental hospitals, is "nothing more than a blatant act of anti-Semitism that is right in line with other recent acts of the Governor that discriminate against the poor and the sick, and with special impact of those of the minority groups."

The other acts Moore referred to were the Governor's veto last week of funding for the Oakland anti-poverty program, which last year benefitted some 41,000 of the city's poor, and his veto in January of the California Rural Legal Assistance program. "In both cases," Moore said, "Governor Reagan's action was of a purely discriminatory effect since the majority of beneficiaries of both programs were the minority groups of the Black, Chinese, Oriental and American Indian. And what makes it even worse is that the Governor's action was taken for motives as cold as his excuse of "economy" for removal of the Jewish chaplains." Moore concluded: "Such arrogant actions are typical of the thinking that generates the anti-Semitism which Reagan has now evidenced by his callous disregard for the religious needs of those of the Jewish minority suffering in the state's mental hospitals."

Shazar, Nixon Meet For 35 Minutes; Shazar Reported Gratified With Cordial Reception

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar of Israel and President Richard M. Nixon met this morning at the White House for 35 minutes in what was described as an unofficial courtesy call. There was no official statement from the White House on the content of the discussion between the two presidents. Shaul Ben Haim, press attache at the Israel Embassy, said after the meeting that Shazar "was most gratified by the cordial reception." Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's ambassador to Washington, accompanied Shazar during the meeting with Nixon. Although the visit by Israel's President was unofficial, he received a military honor. Speaking last night at a joint meeting of the trustees of State of Israel Bonds of Washington and Baltimore, Shazar stressed Israel's eternal quest for peace. The trustees pledged to raise among themselves more than \$3 million for Israel Bonds. The goal in Baltimore is \$8 million and in Washington \$7.5 million.

Soviet Emigre Says Russian Jewish Community Worried About Fate Of Arrested Jews

LONDON, March 8 (JTA)--Dr. Gregory Katz, the Soviet Jewish dentist who landed here unintentionally with his wife and 18-month-old son yesterday because of Soviet red tape, left with them for Israel this afternoon. Dr. Katz, a 30-year-old Muscovite who speaks Yiddish as well as Russian, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency before his departure that he was very much worried about the fate of Soviet Jews under arrest, and that anxiety about their fate was mounting throughout the Soviet Jewish community. The Katzes had no intention of visiting London. Having received their Russian exit permits they booked a flight to Israel by way of Vienna. Their luggage, including the baby's perambulator, had already been placed on the Vienna-bound airliner. But Russian officials held the Katzes back for questioning and the plane departed without them. Friends collected enough money to buy them tickets for a flight here. They were allowed to disembark following intervention by Israeli Embassy counselor Yitzhak Rager, who went to Heathrow Airport to meet them. The Katzes spent last night seeing the city's sights.

U.S. Urges Israel, Egypt To Exercise Restraint; Supports Thant's Report In General

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)--State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said today that the United States was counseling both parties in the Middle East conflict to exercise restraint and hoped that the Russians were doing the same. He said it would be "fair to judge" that Moscow had the same attitude. McCloskey spoke in reply to questions on the expiration of the Suez cease-fire last night. President Nixon said yesterday that the U.S. and the Soviet Union were exerting "restraining efforts" on Israel and the Arabs. White House press secretary Ronald Zeigler told newsmen today that the President hadn't spoken to the Russians before he made that statement. He added, "We're pursuing the matter through diplomatic talks." McCloskey said the U.S. supported United Nations Secretary General U Thant's latest progress report on the Middle East "in general" and noted that it had "brought matters up to date." But he flatly refused comment when asked by reporters several times whether the U.S. supported the portions of the Thant report critical of Israel. A State Department source said today that the U.S. would say nothing that would prejudice the position of the parties who must do the negotiating. Asked if there was danger of a U.S.-Soviet confrontation in the Middle East, the source said such danger always existed in the absence of a contracted peace between the disputing parties. The source would not say that the cease-fire was a "dead issue." He said he did not know if the Big Four planned to issue a call for re-instatement of the cease-fire when they meet later this week.

Pincus To Use Veto Power To Void JNF Decision Not To Sell Land To Private Parties

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--Louis I. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, said today that he would exercise his veto power as Governor of the Jewish National Fund to avoid a decision by the Fund's directorate March 1 not to sanction the sale of JNF land to private parties. Pincus was asked by the Executive to use the veto because the JNF acted in defiance of a request to hold the matter in abeyance until it could be studied fully. The Executive appointed a special committee for that purpose,

headed by Aryeh L. Dultzin, the Jewish Agency's treasurer. The issue involves a government proposal to sell JNF and State-owned land to the 240,000 families presently living on it in order to bring additional revenue into the national treasury. About 170,000 of the families occupy JNF land. The JNF, founded 70 years ago, operates on the principle that its land belongs to the "Jewish people" and therefore can never be sold. Occupants hold leases which must be renewed every 49 years.

A JNF spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Pincus could not veto the agency's decision because his veto power was restricted to decisions taken at meetings at which the JNF Governor is present. He did not attend the directorate's meeting March 1. According to the spokesman, the sale of the JNF land would bring in only a fraction of the revenue estimated by Treasury experts. He said the latter expected to realize \$141,750 million over a 15 year period but JNF experts estimated that the total would be about \$36.7 million. Many of the families residing on the land were said to be unable to afford to buy it. "For this piddling amount it is not worth violating our hallowed principle of national ownership of the land," the JNF spokesman said. A 1960 act of the Knesset applied the non-saleable principle to government-owned land but the government is trying to get the act rescinded because it needs the cash. The matter has been under discussion by the Land Administration Authority, a joint government-JNF body in which the government commands the deciding vote. The sale plan was condemned last month by Herman L. Weisman, president of the JNF of America, who claimed that converting the land from leasehold to freehold would encourage speculators and profiteers. The JNF is the largest land holder in Israel after the State.

Israel's Differences With U.S. Over Withdrawal Abating; Eban To Meet With Jarring

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--Israel's see-saw relations with Washington are on the upswing again. Reliable sources said today that the improvement was the result of recent developments which disillusioned American officials about the sincerity of Egyptian protestations that it is ready to make peace. It was learned today that Foreign Minister Abba Eban will go to the U.S. early next week to meet United Nations mediator Gunnar V. Jarring and administration leaders, possibly President Nixon. What one Cabinet minister described last week as a "strenuous argument" between Israel and the U.S. on the issue of withdrawal from occupied territories appeared to have abated for the time being. Government officials reportedly learned that the U.S. tried to persuade UN Secretary General U Thant to "tone-down" his criticism of Israel in last Friday's progress report to the Security Council which urged the Israelis to make an advance commitment on withdrawal. If the Americans did not succeed it was not their fault, one Israeli official said today.

Eban is expected to try to persuade American officials to understand why Israel refuses to return to its pre-June 5, 1967 borders and to exploit what Foreign Ministry officials think was a tactical mistake by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt when he refused to accept a cease-fire extension. Washington's alleged disenchantment with Sadat was said to have been re-enforced by the latter's secret visit to Moscow last week which was disclosed only yesterday. U.S. officials recalled that when the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser went to Moscow in January, 1970, the result of his trip was a more massive Soviet military build-up in Egypt. Menachem Begin, leader of the opposition Gahal faction, continued to demand new elections before Israel makes any decision on the withdrawal question. He told 1,000 cheering students at the Haifa Technion last night that new elections would bring into office a new government that would not need to endorse the decisions of the previous government. Several 130 mm. katyusha rockets were fired in the direction of Kuneitra in the Golan Heights last night from behind Syrian lines. The fire was returned. No casualties or damage was reported.

Rabin Tells Conference Of Presidents Israel Will Never Agree To Withdrawal

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's ambassador to the United States was understood to have stressed to Jewish leaders in off-the-record remarks here that Israel will never agree to total withdrawal from occupied Arab territories. Speaking for nearly an hour to leaders of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Rabin said Israel wants direct negotiations and secure, agreed and recognized borders. He added that Israel cannot jeopardize her safety by relinquishing all the captured areas. One observer noted that Rabin's presentation was a form of guideline for the mobilization of public opinion and an indication that Israel is prepared to make its stand on this issue.

No Evidence That TV Crews Pay Slum Youngsters To Stage Violent Demonstrations

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--The Israel Broadcasting Authority said yesterday that an investigation failed to produce any evidence to support charges that television crews were paying slum youths in Jerusalem to stage violent demonstrations for the benefit of their cameras. The charges were made last week by Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem and Menachem Porush, an Agudat Israel MK in the Knesset. The charges coincided with demonstrations by Jerusalem's self-styled Black Panthers. Twelve Panther leaders arrested last Wednesday for illegal demonstrations were released by police Saturday. It was not known whether formal charges were filed against them. The arrests were widely criticized. The charges leveled against the tv camera teams were protested by the Jerusalem Journalists Association. It accused officials of attempting to divert attention from the youth problem "by leveling unproven charges against television journalists."

Riga Woman Jailed For 10 Days After Visiting Visa Office

LONDON, March 8 (JTA)--A Jewish woman in Riga who has been petitioning authorities since 1960 for an exit visa so that she could join relatives in Israel, was jailed for 10 days last month after visiting the local Ovir (visa) office, according to reports reaching here today from the Soviet Latvian capital. According to the reports, Mrs. Feige Simakova, who is the mother of two daughters and is described as a sick person, was one of a group of 24 Riga Jews who went to the Ovir office on Feb. 26 to find out why their visas were being delayed. The head of the Riga Ovir, whose last name was given as Kaija, was reportedly rude to the applicants and harangued them for wanting to leave the Soviet Union. The woman's mother, brother and sister live in Israel.

Israelis Prepare For Purim; Unperturbed By Cease-Fire Expiration; Canal Zone Quiet

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA)--Israelis, busy preparing for Purim festivities, appeared unperturbed today by the expiration of the seven month-old cease-fire at midnight last night. The fact that there has been no resumption of shooting on the Suez front and all other borders remain quiet, or nearly so, contributed to the air of equanimity. But newspapers seemed to be selling faster and more people paused in the streets to listen to the hourly news bulletins. The rejection of a cease-fire extension by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday, though he kept the door open for continuing negotiations through UN mediator Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, diminished the hopes held by many Israelis a week ago that peace prospects were improving. Israelis take the view that the choice between peace or renewed warfare now rests with the Egyptians. But they reason that the latter will not start shooting because they fear another trouncing by the Israelis. Foreign Minister Abba Eban reminded the country at his press conference yesterday that there have now been seven consecutive months without fighting in the Suez Canal zone, the quietest months for Israel since the Six-Day War, if not before. The public seems to be aware that temporary situations have a way of becoming frozen with the passage of time. So Israelis today are not heaping sandbags or blacking out street lamps. They are decking their cities out for Purim which begins Wednesday evening. School children have already gotten into the holiday spirit. Throngs of them went to classes today wearing Purim masks.

If there was the usual quota of Esther's, Mordecai's and Haman's there was also evidence of youthful ecumenism in the many Davey Crocket, Apache and Santa Claus masks. Troops manning the Bar Lev line along the Suez Canal have been on the alert for several days. They have resumed wearing helmets and flack jackets and since midnight have been manning their guns. But they appear supremely confident that they can withstand the massed Soviet artillery and missiles on the Egyptian side and destroy them if the war is resumed. Military officials expect the canal front to remain quiet for the time being and are taking precautions against any accidental escalation. Stray shots which landed on the Israeli side of the canal last week were unanswered. Overflights by Egyptian reconnaissance planes are recorded and reported to the United Nations truce supervisors. Anti-aircraft gunners tracked them but are not shooting although the planes are described as "sitting ducks." Also left unmolested are Egyptian observation balloons which Israeli soldiers say could be downed with bow-and-arrow. What seemed to bother the Israeli troops most were the Egyptian propaganda broadcasts carried across the canal by loudspeaker--not their content, but their bad Hebrew. One irritated Israeli soldier grabbed a bull horn yesterday and corrected the faulty grammar of his Egyptian opposites.

Shazar In New York To Meet With Jewish Leaders, Governor, Mayor

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar of Israel arrived this afternoon at Marine Terminal airport after meeting earlier with President Nixon at the White House. The 81-year-old president smiled as he alighted from the plane and waved to the numerous children carrying flowers and to Jewish leaders and Israelis who were there to greet him. The children, from Hillel schools on Long Island, presented Shazar with a bouquet of flowers and he in turn hugged and kissed several of them. Among those present to greet him were Rehavam Amir, Consul General of the Israel Consulate in New York, and Yosef Tekoah, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations. There was also a delegation representing the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations. It was headed by Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, and Jacob Stein, president of United Synagogue. Both are also vice-chairmen of the Conference of Presidents. Shazar, appearing hale and vigorous, declined to make any statement at the airport. During his stay in New York he will receive Governor Nelson Rockefeller and Mayor John Lindsay. Tomorrow, Shazar will receive an honorary degree, Doctor of Human Letters, from Yeshiva University. In the evening, he will address a State of Israel Bonds dinner. On Thursday, the President will receive the two-volume "Encyclopedia of Zionism and Israel." The gift will be presented by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the American Section-Jewish Agency and chairman of Herzl Press, and Dr. Raphael Patai, editor of the encyclopedia. During his visit here, Shazar will also grant audiences to delegations of major Jewish organizations and will meet with prominent Jewish scholars.

Torah Educators Plan Expansion In U.S., Canada Of Religious Educational Programs

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--Following a three week tour of religious educational institutions and facilities in the United States and Canada, Moshe Krone of Jerusalem, member of the Jewish Agency Executive and head of its Department of Torah Education and Culture, expressed great satisfaction with the progress being made in Torah education in North America. Reporting to a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Torah Education Department, of which Dr. Emanuel Rackman, an American member of the Jewish Agency Executive, is chairman, Krone urged further intensification of the efforts of his department. He reported that the 69 Israeli educator-consultants (shlichim) now affiliated with day schools in twenty communities of the United States and Canada have "made a tremendous impact on the schools and communities with which they are affiliated." He urged that this number be doubled and that more communities be reached, as part of the development of an intensive youth movement thoroughly committed to Jewish identification.

Dr. Rackman, following the reports of Krone and Zvi Assael, director of the Torah Education Department in the U.S., announced that the Department would increase its penetration into midwest, south-west and western communities through its shlichim, and noted the effectiveness of the teacher exchange and enrichment (hishlalmut) programs in raising the standards of Jewish education in America. He said that proposals made at the meeting would be given consideration. They included suggestions that the tour of duty of Israeli consultant-teachers in the U.S. be extended to 4-5 years instead of only two years; the Department underwrite the comprehensive cataloguing of Jewish educational resource material and make it available to schools in America; the senior high school program of the Department be widened so that all Yeshiva High School students will be required to spend their senior year in an Israel Yeshiva; and additional Educator Workshops and demonstration sessions be sponsored in various regions of the U.S.

