



daily news bulletin

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Monday, April 3, 1972

No. 64

SPECIAL TO JTA

EGYPT'S CHIEF RABBI NOW IN PARIS; SAYS HE WAS FORCED TO LIE TO JOURNALISTS ABOUT CONDITIONS OF EGYPTIAN JEWS

PARIS, April 2 (JTA)--Egypt's former, and last, Chief Rabbi, Haim Douek, is in Paris after leaving Cairo secretly March 14. In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here Rabbi Douek, 68, termed his escape "a miracle." He warned about the suffering of Jews in Arab countries and revealed how he had been forced to falsify facts in two interviews given to foreign journalists who saw him in Cairo. On the two seder evenings, Rabbi Douek conducted Passover services in a small synagogue in the heart of the old Parisian artists quarter, Montmartre. Hundreds of Jewish immigrants from Egypt flocked to the small, old building, as soon as the news of their rabbi's arrival reached them.

Rabbi Douek refused to give details about how he was allowed to leave Cairo. Very little is known about international efforts making his departure possible, but Jewish circles here said they believed both the International Red Cross and the French Consulate in Paris had helped. Speaking to the JTA, Rabbi Douek revealed how in June 1967 he had been compelled to misinform journalists of the New York Times and of the French-Tunisian weekly "Jeune Afrique."

At that time Rabbi Douek had told the journalists that no Jews had been arbitrarily arrested in Egypt during and after the Six-Day War. Later, he stated some Jews had been arrested "for security reasons and in order to protect them." An inspector of the Interior Ministry had been present at his meeting with the journalists, Rabbi Douek told JTA. He had coached him before the meeting and during the interview sat behind the journalists and directed the Chief Rabbi's answers "with discreet hand signals," the rabbi said.

No One To Replace Rabbi In Egypt

Rabbi Douek, who arrived in Paris with his daughters and eldest son, carrying only one small suitcase of clothes, said he had had protracted difficulties in obtaining an exit visa. He left behind in Cairo his apartment, with all its furnishings, the rabbi said. He is now living in a small hotel room in Montmartre. Rabbi Douek had little time to take leave of the remnants of the once numerous and flourishing Egyptian-Jewish community. In fact, Cairo's Jews learned about their rabbi's departure only a few hours before his Air France flight left Cairo Airport.

Asked what he intended to do, the rabbi told JTA that at 68 he was not making any plans for the future. He would stay in France, at least several months, he said. Concerning the future of Egypt's Jews, Rabbi Douek said, "nobody will replace me in Egypt," and that the Alexandria Jewish community would "probably disappear" without a spiritual leader. He said several Jews would probably leave Egypt during the next few years. He said he believed there were still between 450 and 500 Jews in Egypt.

There were 80,000 Jews in Cairo before Israel's War of Independence in 1948, and 2500 left when the Six-Day War broke out in 1967. Since then some 1500 Jews have been expelled or left voluntarily. There are still two synagogues sporadically open in Cairo and one in Alexandria. Rabbi Douek's synagogue has been closed. Since May 1971 a "slight liberalization"

could be felt in Cairo, Rabbi Douek concluded. He added that Jews in other Arab countries were in a bad way: "The Jews of Syria are more unhappy than we are; they have less liberty, and pressures on them are certainly much stronger."

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The sources also reported that after the Passover eve service, the worshippers were told to leave immediately. Several who did not leave the synagogue fast enough to suit the police, were arrested. All but one were later released.

Jewish Dissidents Hold Seder

Forty Jews held a seder at the home of Aleksander Lerner, the computer expert, in Moscow on Passover eve. Greville Janner, MP and honorary secretary of the Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry, telephoned Lerner's home during the seder. Janner said he was told a number of Soviet Jewish dissidents took part in the seder, including Vladimir Slepak, Mrs. Esther Markish, Vladimir Polski and others.

Janner gave the seder participants greetings from the Parliamentary committee and they in turn asked Janner to convey their appreciation to the Committee and to the British public. They also urged the committee "to induce the Soviet authorities not to prevent Jews from praying outside as well as inside the synagogues still left in the USSR." (In Israel, several kibbutzim incorporated in their Passover eve observances calls to Soviet Jews.)

CHRISTIANS, JEWS, HIT STATEMENT OF CLERIC WHO TERMED ISRAEL AGGRESSOR

NEW YORK, April 2 (JTA)--Anti-Israel sermons delivered by three Washington area clergymen on Palm Sunday have been sharply criticized by other Christian spokesmen and by rabbis and Jewish groups. The main target was the sermon by the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Episcopal Dean of Washington Cathedral, who claimed that the once oppressed Israelis have become oppressors of the Arabs in Jerusalem.

Also criticized were Lenten sermons by the Rev. Edward L.R. Elson, Chaplain of the US Senate and Pastor of the National Presbyterian Church and by Bishop Papken Varjabedian, Pastor of St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church in Washington.

Most of the critics compared the blasts against Israel to sermons of a past era when the Easter season was the occasion to denounce

Jews from the pulpit and to whip congregants into anti-Semitic excesses. The Rev. Arnold F. Keller, Jr., pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington and president of the Council of Churches of Greater Washington, referred to the Palm Sunday sermons as "provocative rhetoric." He was joined in his statement by the Rev. Philip R. Newell, Jr., acting executive director of the Council.

Without mentioning Dean Sayre by name, Pastor Keller and the Rev. Newell said the view expressed on conditions in Jerusalem "simply does not square with the facts." They added, "This seems to us to serve only to fan embers of prejudice." Pastor Elson, also unnamed, was criticized for his reference to the Christian Church as the "new Israel," inferring that the old Israel of the Jews has been superseded. Their statement characterized as "distressing" and "perplexing" the use of a week holy to both Christians and Jews "to make pronouncements which would inevitably be construed as anti-Judaic."

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Rabbi Balfour Brickner, director of the commission on interfaith activities of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and former Rabbi of Temple Sinai in Washington, called Dean Sayre's sermon "prejudicial." He said the Dean's remarks on Jerusalem were "all too typical of the thoughtless remarks of some Christian spokesmen who know little but really not enough about the current situation in Jerusalem and Israel."

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum, director of the inter-religious affairs department of the American Jewish Committee referred to the Palm Sunday sermons as "a moral offense against Judaism and the Jewish people." He said it was "for Christians to judge the appropriateness of the exploitation of Holy Week and its central message of reconciliation between all men as an occasion for an unfair and inaccurate and one-sided political attack against Israel."

Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg of Beth Shalom Synagogue, the largest Orthodox congregation in Washington, denounced Dean Sayre's remarks as "so vile, so false, and I am sorry to say, so anti-Zionist that one shudders at the thought of it. Talk of ecumenism has been dealt a critical blow."

The United Zionists-Revisionists of America accused Dean Sayre of "misrepresentation." A statement issued by its director of public affairs, Prof. Marnin Feinstein, declared that the Arabs of East Jerusalem enjoyed a higher standard of living since the Six-Day War and that Arabs, Christians and Jews had access to their shrines. Feinstein added: "One might remind the Dean that the holy sites are no longer used as latrines as was the case during Arab occupation."

DAYAN; ISRAEL INTENDS TO RETAIN CONTROL OF WEST BANK INDEFINITELY Favors Jewish Settlement in Gaza Strip

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan indicated in a radio interview that Israel intends to retain military control of the West Bank indefinitely and declared that even in the event of a peace settlement the area must be open to Jewish settlement. He also favored Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip despite the population density there. (See P. 3 for special JTA analysis of West Bank elections.)

"I do not believe we should remove our soldiers from the Jordan (river) with the present situation in the Arab world being what it is," Dayan said. "We must be in a position to control the entire West Bank absolutely should the need arise and to fight terrorists there if the Fatah continues, or stops and

then renews their activity." Noting that Israeli forces had to cross the Lebanese border recently "to protect our northern settlements," Dayan said, "we must not retreat today only to be compelled to cross borders again in violation of UN resolutions."

Dayan said he saw only one positive aspect in Hussein's recent proposal to establish an Arab federation linking the West Bank with Jordan. "Hussein spoke of borders, meaning that he recognizes Israel's right to exist, while (President Anwar) Sadat (of Egypt) presents the question as one of the rights of the Palestinians to all of Israel," Dayan said.

Commenting on last Tuesday's elections on the West Bank, the Defense Minister said that it was very important that the terrorists had failed to sabotage the elections. Dayan stated that the very fact that the elections were held--and by secret ballot--was significant. He noted that the candidates had stood of their own free will and that it was only after they showed signs of giving in to Jordanian and terrorist pressure that the Israeli administration had asserted its resistance to the pressure.

ISRAEL TO CLOSE EMBASSY IN UGANDA; NOT SEEN AS BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--Israel will close its Embassy in Kampala, Uganda, by next Friday, two days ahead of the deadline set by President Idi Amin last week when he ordered the withdrawal of the Israeli diplomatic mission to his country. The first group of Israeli Embassy officials returned here last night. Ambassador Daniel Laor and the rest of his staff are expected home by Friday. Also expected home by the end of the week are the last of the Israeli civilian employees and their families in Uganda.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry has asked Italy to handle Israeli interests in the East African country although there has been no formal break yet in diplomatic relations between Israel and Uganda. Amin did not announce a break when he ordered the Israeli Embassy closed and some Israeli officials claim that closing down the Embassy does not necessarily mean the termination of diplomatic relations with Uganda. However, other officials believe a formal break will come any day.

Withdrawal of Israel's diplomatic mission followed last week's evacuation of the Israeli military mission from Uganda at Amin's demand. He had accused Israeli personnel of constituting a fifth column that was trying to overthrow his regime.

In addition to the diplomatic and military missions, several hundred Israelis were employed by private firms on various construction projects in Uganda. These projects were terminated by Amin last week and most of the employees and their families have returned to Israel. The Israeli interests which Italy has been asked to look after in Uganda include heavy mechanical equipment left behind on the interrupted construction work and a debt of some \$20 million owed Israel by Uganda.

ISRAELIS VACCINATED AGAINST SMALLPOX

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--Hospital and port workers in Israel were being vaccinated today against smallpox following an outbreak of the disease in Yugoslavia, Syria and other Middle East countries. The disease was reportedly carried to Yugoslavia by a Yugoslav Moslem who contracted it while on a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

SPECIAL JTA ANALYSISBEHIND THE WEST BANK ELECTIONS

By AMOS BEN-VERED

JTA Middle East Bureau Chief

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--The huge turnout in the West Bank's northern region municipal elections last week and the quiet atmosphere in which they were held was noted by Israeli officials with satisfaction at their ability to have imposed effective Israeli rule over the local population there. However, observers less influenced by official thinking say that the reason is different: a sense of frustration and resignation on the West Bank. Palestinian Arabs have been the main victims of the political disputes in the area since 1948 when the Arab sovereign states attacked Israel ostensibly with the purpose of restoring Palestinian land to the Palestinians.

The practical result was, however, that between 1948 and 1967 the land that was captured by the Arab armies remained under the rule of the states that captured it. Some Arab villages near Lake Tiberias became part of Syria; the Gaza Strip was ruled by an Egyptian military governor; and the West Bank annexed by Jordan became a district economically discriminated against much as the Catholic parts of Northern Ireland under the Unionist government.

Riots and unrest under King Hussein's regime were frequent until 1967. Then came the war and Israeli rule under which the Arabs were given a measure of autonomy in local matters. They did not accept this as final. However, their expected saviours all failed them: the United Nations did not make Israel budge, none of the Arab states would again take up arms in their behalf, and the Palestinian terrorists brought Israeli reprisals upon the West Bank population so that they had to make up their minds about what and whom they feared more.

Israel Can Retain Hold On West Bank

When the terrorists were routed last year by Hussein on the east bank their minds were made up for them; they resigned themselves to Israeli rule. The fact that Israel's military rule is enlightened and has a low profile may have contributed to the large turnout--some 13,720 Arabs. But the threat of reprisal if they did not go to the polls as indicated by Israel's harring Nablus traffic from crossing the bridges to the east bank early last week was probably one of the more important reasons for their decision. This has been more weighty than Jordan's half-hearted attempts from across the Jordan River to clamp down on candidates.

Another reason is that municipal office on the West Bank with its social structure of clans and families means jobs for relations, farming out of city contracts to uncles and cousins and the power of patronage in many important fields. A military officer governing the townships would have prevented all this.

The result of the election means that Israel can probably keep its hold on the West Bank until some political solution is arrived at between Israel and the Arab states in the area. However, it does not change the basic factor regarding the West Bank. Its population seeks some form of Arab rule. In fact, except for a small and powerless minority of intellectuals, they would apparently prefer even a dictatorial Arab regime to the most enlightened of Jewish governments. In the meantime, they bow with some measure of Arab fatalism to the facts which they cannot change.

TERRORISTS THREATEN TO RENEW WARFARE AGAINST HUSSEIN

Israel Terms Threat Insignificant

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--El Fatah, the Palestinian terrorist organization, said yesterday that it would renew its warfare against King Hussein of Jordan in an effort to topple his regime. El Fatah made the threat as the monarch left Washington following his meetings with President Nixon and leading administration officials.

On Friday, a spokesman for the Fatah-sponsored Palestine Liberation Organization called on all Arab states which rejected Hussein's federation plan to disqualify the King from speaking for Palestinian or any other Arabs. Israeli sources said today that the new terrorist threats against the Hussein regime were not particularly significant inasmuch as El Fatah itself faces a crisis.

El Fatah escalated its verbal warfare against Hussein following the King's proposal last month to establish a "united Arab kingdom." In a statement Thursday in Washington, Hussein suggested that Jerusalem be the capital of both Israel and "the Palestinian portion of Jordan" as "a unified open city." His remark to newsmen appeared to be a reversal of Hussein's previous opposition to sharing the Holy City with Israel.

No Match For Israeli Phantoms

Meanwhile, according to authoritative sources, the US has agreed to sell Jordan 22-24 supersonic F-5 jets to modernize the Jordanian Air Force that is presently obsolete. US government analysts said delivery of the planes over the next two years would not disturb the military balance in the Middle East. There has been no comment on the reported deal from Israeli sources.

The American aircraft reportedly to be sold to Jordan are well suited for operations against terrorist concentrations but are no match for the F-4 Phantoms of Israel's Air Force. The F-5s cost \$1.5 million each, have a maximum speed of 1100 m.p.h., an operational radius of 200 miles and carry a 7000 pound payload.

The Phantoms, which cost \$4.5 million each, carry nearly 16,000 pounds of bombs, can fly at 1700 m.p.h. and have a combat radius of about 900 miles. The F-5, however, is reportedly capable of outmaneuvering the MIG-21s of the Syrian and Egyptian Air Forces. It is probably the most sophisticated aircraft the Jordanian Air Force is capable of absorbing at this time. Even with 24 F-5s it will be outnumbered by the air forces of Israel, Syria, Egypt and Iraq.

ZARYIT SETTLERS RETURNING TO VILLAGE

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA)--The settlers of Zar-yit who deserted their village in Upper Galilee a week ago in protest against harsh economic conditions, began returning last night. Part of the 39 families are already back in their homes and the rest are expected today. The residents of the border village did not win their demand for better land to cultivate. But they are reportedly considering more practical ways to solve their problem than the mass desertion of last week. A new committee was elected to consider future measures.

A recent conference in Cairo disclosed that Soviet arms assistance to Egypt has amounted to some \$5 billion. Soviet participants at the conference, which was called to extend the Arab-USSR dialogue, said that Moscow was skeptical that Egypt's armed forces could achieve victory in a war with Israel. According to Al Ahran the current rate of Soviet aid is \$5 million a day.

CHICAGO FEDERATION LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO MEET NEEDS OF JEWISH POOR

CHICAGO, April 2 (JTA)--Declaring that the needs of the Jewish poor shall be a principal concern and priority for the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and its constituent agencies in the 1970s, the Federation Board of Directors has authorized the launching of Operation Chai, a long-range program for service to economically disadvantaged Jews in the Chicago area.

Hamilton M. Loeb, Jr. Federation president, announced that the initial phase of Operation Chai will be an intensive study and planning effort to develop within four to six months a comprehensive programmatic course of action. He indicated that "service to the Jewish poor has for many years been a priority for Federation and its agencies, but we recognize that we are not reaching all of the poor with all of our services. We must find out more about the poor, what their needs are and how best to meet these needs."

Planning Goals Outlined

The Federation study will include not only those defined as poor by Federation standards (under \$3700 in annual earnings for a family of four) but the near poor as well (earnings no greater than \$4900 per year for a family of four). Federation agencies currently serve 19,000 of the estimated 26,000 poor and near poor Jews in Cook County. The planning study will seek to:

Develop accurate information about the poor Jewish population and the patterns of usage of available services of Federation affiliates and other voluntary and governmental agencies; examine the effectiveness of existing Federation affiliates' programs in meeting the needs of this population. Particular emphasis will be placed on identifying gaps in service; identify the unmet needs of this population; develop a specific program, or series of programs, to meet these needs; and to prepare estimates of costs and determine potential funding sources for the proposed program.

"What has been proposed," said Loeb, "is a concentrated planning effort to develop a meaningful program on a rational basis. The exact direction and mechanism for the actual program must emerge from the planning effort itself. We must look forward to the development of programs which will enable the poor to sustain life at a level acceptable to the Jewish community and offer the Jewish poor hope of becoming independent, or at least, to achieve a level of life with a sense of dignity and self-respect."

LEGISLATOR CALLS FOR PROBE OF DESTRUCTION OF MATZOS

WASHINGTON, April 2 (JTA)--Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D. Pa.) has called for an investigation of the destruction by the US Post Office of some 8000 pounds of matzo which had been sent to the Soviet Embassy for Jews in the Soviet Union and refused by the Embassy. Eilberg made his request to Rep. Robert N.C. Nix (D. Pa.), chairman of the Postal Facilities and Mail Subcommittee of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Nix agreed to the request and said a public hearing would be held as soon as possible following the current recess which ends April 10.

When the matzos were refused by the Soviet Embassy it was stored for several days in the basement of the main Post Office and subsequently destroyed. Postal authorities declined to describe the nature of the disposition of the matzos but said that the Postal Service authorized its disposition. Robert C. Kohler, director of the New Jersey regional

office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which sponsored the matzo campaign to help draw attention to the plight of Soviet Jews, said that groups in N.J., Pa., W. Va., and Del. had mailed more than 20,000 pounds of matzos.

"The destruction of the matzo should not have occurred at this time," Eilberg said. "The American people should know why it was done, who ordered it and for what reasons." Late last week a spokesman for Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D. N.J.) said that the legislator had asked the Postal Service for a "full explanation" of why the matzos were destroyed.

JEWISH GROUPS MAIL BLACK CAUCUS STATEMENT DEFENDING ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 2 (JTA)--The Congressional Black Caucus was hailed for its pro-Israel resolution by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the America-Israel Friendship League. ADL national chairman Seymour Graubard said he was "deeply gratified" by it and other expressions of support from Black leaders. The Black Caucus' defense of Israeli sovereignty on March 21 followed an anti-Israel resolution passed during the closing minutes of the National Black Political Convention in Gary, Ind. on March 12.

The ADL, said Graubard, was "shocked and dismayed" by the Gary measure, "a totally baseless and one-sided statement aimed at dismemberment of the State of Israel" and reflecting the views of "anti-Semites, racists and extremists." Saying he hoped the official Black Convention statement May 19 will not be as "hostile" as the Gary statement, Graubard declared: "ADL does not abide anti-Israel or anti-Semitic propaganda when it emanates from whites and we do not propose to adopt any different standard with regard to Blacks."

Pledges Jewish Support To Black People

Herbert Tenzer, a former Congressman who is national chairman of the America-Israel Friendship League, sponsored by Bnai Zion, the American Fraternal Zionist Organization, wrote to each of the 13 Black Caucus members with praise "for the sympathetic understanding you have manifested for Israel's desperate struggle for survival."

Noting "the grandeur of the sentiments voiced in your statement," Tenzer said the Caucus' vote was "expressive of the abiding sense of justice and sensitivity of the overwhelming majority of our fellow Americans in the Black community to the noble cause of a people who, like the Black people, were the victims of oppression and enslavement." He added that "the American Jewish community will continue its unswerving support to the Black people in achieving its aspirations of true freedom, equality, self-respect and dignity."

PILL PULL FAILS

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA)--A Brooklyn youth, Leon Jelinsky, 23, who was an Israeli but returned to Israel as a tourist from the US, was sentenced Thursday by the Haifa District Court to 18 months imprisonment for importing 2500 LSD pills into Israel. He sold 100 pills before being arrested. Jelinsky claimed he was asked to bring the pills into Israel and that he was not aware he was doing anything illegal.

The Athens Jewish community will invest about \$65,000 to renovate its Central Synagogue. The renovation is expected to be completed by next Sept. A total of 3500 Jews reside in Athens. In addition to the Central Synagogue there is the "Old Synagogue" established in 1885.



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then renews their activity." Noting that Israeli forces had to cross the Lebanese border recently "to protect our northern settlements," Dayan said, "we must not retreat today only to be compelled to cross borders again in violation of UN resolutions."

Dayan said he saw only one positive aspect in Hussein's recent proposal to establish an Arab federation linking the West Bank with Jordan. "Hussein spoke of borders, meaning that he recognizes Israel's right to exist, while (President Anwar) Sadat (of Egypt) presents the question as one of the rights of the Palestinians to all of Israel," Dayan said.

Commenting on last Tuesday's elections on the West Bank, the Defense Minister said that it was very important that the terrorists had failed to sabotage the elections. Dayan stated that the very fact that the elections were held--and by secret ballot--was significant. He noted that the candidates had stood of their own free will and that it was only after they showed signs of giving in to Jordanian and terrorist pressure that the Israeli administration had asserted its resistance to the pressure.

ISRAEL TO CLOSE EMBASSY IN UGANDA; NOT SEEN AS BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--Israel will close its Embassy in Kampala, Uganda, by next Friday, two days ahead of the deadline set by President Idi Amin last week when he ordered the withdrawal of the Israeli diplomatic mission to his country. The first group of Israeli Embassy officials returned here last night. Ambassador Daniel Laor and the rest of his staff are expected home by Friday. Also expected home by the end of the week are the last of the Israeli civilian employees and their families in Uganda.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry has asked Italy to handle Israeli interests in the East African country although there has been no formal break yet in diplomatic relations between Israel and Uganda. Amin did not announce a break when he ordered the Israeli Embassy closed and some Israeli officials claim that closing down the Embassy does not necessarily mean the termination of diplomatic relations with Uganda. However, other officials believe a formal break will come any day.

Withdrawal of Israel's diplomatic mission followed last week's evacuation of the Israeli military mission from Uganda at Amin's demand. He had accused Israeli personnel of constituting a fifth column that was trying to overthrow his regime.

In addition to the diplomatic and military missions, several hundred Israelis were employed by private firms on various construction projects in Uganda. These projects were terminated by Amin last week and most of the employees and their families have returned to Israel. The Israeli interests which Italy has been asked to look after in Uganda include heavy mechanical equipment left behind on the interrupted construction work and a debt of some \$20 million owed Israel by Uganda.

ISRAELIS VACCINATED AGAINST SMALLPOX

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--Hospital and port workers in Israel were being vaccinated today against smallpox following an outbreak of the disease in Yugoslavia, Syria and other Middle East countries. The disease was reportedly carried to Yugoslavia by a Yugoslav Moslem who contracted it while on a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

SPECIAL JTA ANALYSISBEHIND THE WEST BANK ELECTIONS

By AMOS BEN-VERED

JTA Middle East Bureau Chief

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--The huge turnout in the West Bank's northern region municipal elections last week and the quiet atmosphere in which they were held was noted by Israeli officials with satisfaction at their ability to have imposed effective Israeli rule over the local population there. However, observers less influenced by official thinking say that the reason is different: a sense of frustration and resignation on the West Bank. Palestinian Arabs have been the main victims of the political disputes in the area since 1948 when the Arab sovereign states attacked Israel ostensibly with the purpose of restoring Palestinian land to the Palestinians.

The practical result was, however, that between 1948 and 1967 the land that was captured by the Arab armies remained under the rule of the states that captured it. Some Arab villages near Lake Tiberias became part of Syria; the Gaza Strip was ruled by an Egyptian military governor; and the West Bank annexed by Jordan became a district economically discriminated against much as the Catholic parts of Northern Ireland under the Unionist government.

Riots and unrest under King Hussein's regime were frequent until 1967. Then came the war and Israeli rule under which the Arabs were given a measure of autonomy in local matters. They did not accept this as final. However, their expected saviours all failed them: the United Nations did not make Israel budge, none of the Arab states would again take up arms in their behalf, and the Palestinian terrorists brought Israeli reprisals upon the West Bank population so that they had to make up their minds about what and whom they feared more.

Israel Can Retain Hold On West Bank

When the terrorists were routed last year by Hussein on the east bank their minds were made up for them; They resigned themselves to Israeli rule. The fact that Israel's military rule is enlightened and has a low profile may have contributed to the large turnout--some 13,720 Arabs. But the threat of reprisal if they did not go to the polls as indicated by Israel's harring Nablus traffic from crossing the bridges to the east bank early last week was probably one of the more important reasons for their decision. This has been more weighty than Jordan's half-hearted attempts from across the Jordan River to clamp down on candidates.

Another reason is that municipal office on the West Bank with its social structure of clans and families means jobs for relations, farming out of city contracts to uncles and cousins and the power of patronage in many important fields. A military officer governing the townships would have prevented all this.

The result of the election means that Israel can probably keep its hold on the West Bank until some political solution is arrived at between Israel and the Arab states in the area. However, it does not change the basic factor regarding the West Bank. Its population seeks some form of Arab rule. In fact, except for a small and powerless minority of intellectuals, they would apparently prefer even a dictatorial Arab regime to the most enlightened of Jewish governments. In the meantime, they bow with some measure of Arab fatalism to the facts which they cannot change.

TERRORISTS THREATEN TO RENEW WARFARE AGAINST HUSSEIN

Israel Terms Threat Insignificant

JERUSALEM, April 2 (JTA)--El Fatah, the Palestinian terrorist organization, said yesterday that it would renew its warfare against King Hussein of Jordan in an effort to topple his regime. El Fatah made the threat as the monarch left Washington following his meetings with President Nixon and leading administration officials.

On Friday, a spokesman for the Fatah-sponsored Palestine Liberation Organization called on all Arab states which rejected Hussein's federation plan to disqualify the King from speaking for Palestinian or any other Arabs. Israeli sources said today that the new terrorist threats against the Hussein regime were not particularly significant inasmuch as El Fatah itself faces a crisis.

El Fatah escalated its verbal warfare against Hussein following the King's proposal last month to establish a "united Arab kingdom." In a statement Thursday in Washington, Hussein suggested that Jerusalem be the capital of both Israel and "the Palestinian portion of Jordan" as "a unified open city." His remark to newsmen appeared to be a reversal of Hussein's previous opposition to sharing the Holy City with Israel.

No Match For Israeli Phantoms

Meanwhile, according to authoritative sources, the US has agreed to sell Jordan 22-24 supersonic F-5 jets to modernize the Jordanian Air Force that is presently obsolete. US government analysts said delivery of the planes over the next two years would not disturb the military balance in the Middle East. There has been no comment on the reported deal from Israeli sources.

The American aircraft reportedly to be sold to Jordan are well suited for operations against terrorist concentrations but are no match for the F-4 Phantoms of Israel's Air Force. The F-5s cost \$1.5 million each, have a maximum speed of 1100 m.p.h., an operational radius of 200 miles and carry a 7000 pound payload.

The Phantoms, which cost \$4.5 million each, carry nearly 16,000 pounds of bombs, can fly at 1700 m.p.h. and have a combat radius of about 900 miles. The F-5, however, is reportedly capable of outmaneuvering the MIG-21s of the Syrian and Egyptian Air Forces. It is probably the most sophisticated aircraft the Jordanian Air Force is capable of absorbing at this time. Even with 24 F-5s it will be outnumbered by the air forces of Israel, Syria, Egypt and Iraq.

ZARYIT SETTLERS RETURNING TO VILLAGE

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA)--The settlers of Zaryit who deserted their village in Upper Galilee a week ago in protest against harsh economic conditions, began returning last night. Part of the 39 families are already back in their homes and the rest are expected today. The residents of the border village did not win their demand for better land to cultivate. But they are reportedly considering more practical ways to solve their problem than the mass desertion of last week. A new committee was elected to consider future measures.

A recent conference in Cairo disclosed that Soviet arms assistance to Egypt has amounted to some \$5 billion. Soviet participants at the conference, which was called to extend the Arab-USSR dialogue, said that Moscow was skeptical that Egypt's armed forces could achieve victory in a war with Israel. According to Al Ahran the current rate of Soviet aid is \$5 million a day.

CHICAGO FEDERATION LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO MEET NEEDS OF JEWISH POOR

CHICAGO, April 2 (JTA)--Declaring that the needs of the Jewish poor shall be a principal concern and priority for the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and its constituent agencies in the 1970s, the Federation Board of Directors has authorized the launching of Operation Chai, a long-range program for service to economically disadvantaged Jews in the Chicago area.

Hamilton M. Loeb, Jr. Federation president, announced that the initial phase of Operation Chai will be an intensive study and planning effort to develop within four to six months a comprehensive programmatic course of action. He indicated that "service to the Jewish poor has for many years been a priority for Federation and its agencies, but we recognize that we are not reaching all of the poor with all of our services. We must find out more about the poor, what their needs are and how best to meet these needs."

Planning Goals Outlined

The Federation study will include not only those defined as poor by Federation standards (under \$3700 in annual earnings for a family of four) but the near poor as well (earnings no greater than \$4900 per year for a family of four). Federation agencies currently serve 19,000 of the estimated 26,000 poor and near poor Jews in Cook County. The planning study will seek to:

Develop accurate information about the poor Jewish population and the patterns of usage of available services of Federation affiliates and other voluntary and governmental agencies; examine the effectiveness of existing Federation affiliates' programs in meeting the needs of this population. Particular emphasis will be placed on identifying gaps in service; identify the unmet needs of this population; develop a specific program, or series of programs, to meet these needs; and to prepare estimates of costs and determine potential funding sources for the proposed program.

"What has been proposed," said Loeb, "is a concentrated planning effort to develop a meaningful program on a rational basis. The exact direction and mechanism for the actual program must emerge from the planning effort itself. We must look forward to the development of programs which will enable the poor to sustain life at a level acceptable to the Jewish community and offer the Jewish poor hope of becoming independent, or at least, to achieve a level of life with a sense of dignity and self-respect."

LEGISLATOR CALLS FOR PROBE OF DESTRUCTION OF MATZOS

WASHINGTON, April 2 (JTA)--Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D. Pa.) has called for an investigation of the destruction by the US Post Office of some 8000 pounds of matzo which had been sent to the Soviet Embassy for Jews in the Soviet Union and refused by the Embassy. Eilberg made his request to Rep. Robert N.C. Nix (D. Pa.), chairman of the Postal Facilities and Mail Subcommittee of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Nix agreed to the request and said a public hearing would be held as soon as possible following the current recess which ends April 10.

When the matzos were refused by the Soviet Embassy it was stored for several days in the basement of the main Post Office and subsequently destroyed. Postal authorities declined to describe the nature of the disposition of the matzos but said that the Postal Service authorized its disposition. Robert C. Kohler, director of the New Jersey regional

office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which sponsored the matzo campaign to help draw attention to the plight of Soviet Jews, said that groups in N.J., Pa., W. Va., and Del. had mailed more than 20,000 pounds of matzos.

"The destruction of the matzo should not have occurred at this time," Eilberg said. "The American people should know why it was done, who ordered it and for what reasons." Late last week a spokesman for Sen. Harrison A. Williams (D. N.J.) said that the legislator had asked the Postal Service for a "full explanation" of why the matzos were destroyed.

JEWISH GROUPS MAIL BLACK CAUCUS STATEMENT DEFENDING ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 2 (JTA)--The Congressional Black Caucus was hailed for its pro-Israel resolution by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the America-Israel Friendship League. ADL national chairman Seymour Graubard said he was "deeply gratified" by it and other expressions of support from Black leaders. The Black Caucus' defense of Israeli sovereignty on March 21 followed an anti-Israel resolution passed during the closing minutes of the National Black Political Convention in Gary, Ind. on March 12.

The ADL, said Graubard, was "shocked and dismayed" by the Gary measure, "a totally baseless and one-sided statement aimed at dismemberment of the State of Israel" and reflecting the views of "anti-Semites, racists and extremists." Saying he hoped the official Black Convention statement May 19 will not be as "hostile" as the Gary statement, Graubard declared: "ADL does not abide anti-Israel or anti-Semitic propaganda when it emanates from whites and we do not propose to adopt any different standard with regard to Blacks."

Pledges Jewish Support To Black People

Herbert Tenzer, a former Congressman who is national chairman of the America-Israel Friendship League, sponsored by Bnai Zion, the American Fraternal Zionist Organization, wrote to each of the 13 Black Caucus members with praise "for the sympathetic understanding you have manifested for Israel's desperate struggle for survival."

Noting "the grandeur of the sentiments voiced in your statement," Tenzer said the Caucus' vote was "expressive of the abiding sense of justice and sensitivity of the overwhelming majority of our fellow Americans in the Black community to the noble cause of a people who, like the Black people, were the victims of oppression and enslavement." He added that "the American Jewish community will continue its unswerving support to the Black people in achieving its aspirations of true freedom, equality, self-respect and dignity."

PILL PULL FAILS

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA)--A Brooklyn youth, Leon Jelinsky, 23, who was an Israeli but returned to Israel as a tourist from the US, was sentenced Thursday by the Haifa District Court to 18 months imprisonment for importing 2500 LSD pills into Israel. He sold 100 pills before being arrested. Jelinsky claimed he was asked to bring the pills into Israel and that he was not aware he was doing anything illegal.

The Athens Jewish community will invest about \$65,000 to renovate its Central Synagogue. The renovation is expected to be completed by next Sept. A total of 3500 Jews reside in Athens. In addition to the Central Synagogue there is the "Old Synagogue" established in 1885.