



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036
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Vol. XL - Fifty-Sixth Year

Friday, November 16, 1973

No. 219

A DAY OF JOY IN ISRAEL AS POWs BEGIN TO RETURN HOME

By Yitzhak Shargil, JTA-Tel Aviv Correspondent

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA)—A Red Cross plane landed 26 wounded Israeli prisoners of war at Lod Airport this morning marking the start of the long awaited POW exchange between Israel and Egypt. Shortly afterwards 44 wounded Egyptian POWs arrived at the airport in ambulances and were placed aboard a Red Cross plane for Cairo. By late afternoon more than 300 Egyptian POWs had been returned to Egypt. At the same time other elements in yesterday's agreement were also implemented today. The United Nations Emergency Force soldiers took over two checkpoints on the Cairo-Suez road and the first UN supervised convoy entered the town of Suez with supplies of food, water and medicines. An informal meeting was held at kilometer 101 between Israeli and Egyptian officers to discuss further ways of implementing the agreement to stabilize the cease-fire.

(In Washington, the State Department said today it was "very encouraged" by the exchange of POWs and termed it an "important step" towards stabilizing the cease-fire along the Suez front. "Just about what we had been hoping has happened," said Department spokesman George Vest. It was a "happy omen," he said, that Egyptians and Israelis were able to work together to meet the problems in the area and said it was also an "essential beginning" which may lead to a lasting peace.)

The POW agreement, announced yesterday, sent a wave of joy through Israelis, particularly those families with a loved one in Egyptian hands. Families and friends of returning POWs jammed the airport today even though they knew they would get no more than a glimpse of the returning men. Of the first 26 to land, 10 were stretcher cases and the rest ambulatory. All were taken to Sheba Hospital where they were reunited with their families later in the day. The POW exchange is expected to take a week, mainly because of the large number of Egyptian prisoners. Israel is returning 8143 to Egypt. Cairo submitted a list of no more than 238 Israeli POWs, including nine who were captured more than three years ago during the war of attrition that preceded the Aug. 1970 cease-fire. The nine are scheduled to be returned to Israel tomorrow. Among the Egyptian POWs that were returned today were those captured during the war of attrition operations, including the action at Shadwan Island.

The number of Israeli POWs acknowledged by Egypt is surprisingly low and fear was expressed here that many of the missing men believed to have been taken prisoner may be dead. Their fate may be determined by mixed teams of Red Cross, medical and religious personnel of both sides who will undertake the grim task of searching the battlefield for bodies under terms of the Israeli-Egyptian agreement. The families of some missing men were at Lod Airport this morning hoping that by some miracle their sons or husbands would be among the returnees even though their names were not reported. The bitter disappointment of those families contrasted with the tears of joy that flowed and a chorus of cheers when a loved one was recognized. When the first Red Cross transport from Cairo landed there was tense silence until the doors were opened and the first wounded began to disembark. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, Chief of Staff Gen. David Elazar and Mrs. Nina Katzir, wife of President Ephraim Katzir, were there to greet the returnees. Dayan disappeared inside the plane to shake hands with the men.

The ambulatory wounded came down first, some leaning on crutches or canes, heads wreathed in bandages, smiles on their faces. Women soldiers handed each man a bouquet and placed bouquets on the chests of the more seriously wounded who were strapped to stretchers. All of the men were placed in ambulances and whisked away to the hospital as the crowds shouted and applauded. Dayan told reporters at the airport that "finally we are getting somewhere, now that we are negotiating instead of fighting."

Meanwhile, at the Shmuel Harofe Hospital, the first wounded Egyptian POWs were preparing to leave. They wore green pajamas and were placed on stretchers and covered with blankets. To each blanket hospital attendants pinned a medical history of the man containing details of his injury, the treatment he received and the results of X-rays and other tests. The Egyptians were a happy-looking lot. They showered the Israeli hospital staff with thanks and praise for the treatment they had received. Not so happy were the Syrian POWs who have no idea how long they will remain prisoners. The Syrian government has not agreed to an exchange with Israel and to date has failed to submit the names of Israeli POWs.

DAYAN, BARLEV EXPLAIN WHAT OCCURRED PRIOR TO THE ERUPTION OF THE WAR

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA)—Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said yesterday that the Israeli government and military firmly believed, up until the morning of Yom Kippur (Oct. 6) that there would be no war and for that reason mobilization of the reserves was not ordered. Addressing army officers on the Northern front, Dayan said that he himself did not expect war to break out and he had heard no one else say that war was imminent.

Dayan was replying, in effect, to charges by leaders of the opposition Likud faction in the Knesset on Tuesday that the government's failure to mobilize before Yom Kippur morning constituted gross negligence and was responsible for Israel's high casualties in the war. He said, however, that he did order certain precautionary measures which he considered necessary in light of certain intelligence reports. But he insisted that the reports gave no grounds to assume that war was at hand.

Minister of Commerce and Industry Gen. Haim Barlev, addressing a Labor Party meeting, said

there was no basic deficiency in the Israeli army when war broke out. Barlev, a former Chief of Staff who was recalled to active duty and served on the Egyptian front, said the Israeli army on the whole was in a state of readiness on Oct. 6 but was caught at a moment when not all of its components were fully prepared for battle.

He said the initial successes scored by the Egyptians and Syrians were due to surprise and not to deficiencies of the Israeli army, incorrect strategy or poor intelligence as to the enemy's strength and capabilities. Barlev said that in the months ahead Israel has to see to it that the cease-fire is stabilized and strive for a political settlement. The settlement has to include defensible borders and assurances that the Jewish character of the State is maintained, he said.

During the Knesset debate Tuesday on the Yom Kippur War Premier Golda Meir defended her government against charges that it delayed calling up the reserves when an Arab attack appeared imminent and thus contributed to the high casualties Israel suffered during the war. She said that she authorized mobilization less than 10 minutes after the situation was presented to her on Oct. 6. The Premier noted that the government will soon undertake an inquiry into the events preceding the war and the conduct of the war.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CALLS FOR MEASURES AGAINST OIL CUT-BACKS

BRUSSELS, Nov. 15 (JTA)--The European Parliament meeting here adopted a resolution last night which was in sharp disagreement with the joint declaration of the nine Common Market Foreign Ministers here on Nov. 6. After a long and heated debate which lasted until after midnight, the delegates accepted a resolution calling for an energetic joint European policy which "would not exclude political and economic counter-measures against the developing countries which have cut back their oil deliveries to Europe."

This aggressive European stance was in direct contrast with the recent EEC joint resolution on the Middle East which has been widely described as pro-Arab and designed to placate the Arab oil-producing nations so they will lift their oil boycott on Europe, especially on Holland.

The British Conservative delegation strongly contested the part of the Parliament's resolution calling for European counter-measures against the Arab nations and proposed an amendment more in the appeasing tone of the EEC resolution initiated by Great Britain and France. The British proposal, however, was voted down by a 21-14 vote.

EBAN: ISRAEL'S FUTURE BOUNDARIES MUST BE DRAWN UP IN DIRECT TALKS WITH ARABS

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 15 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban declared last night that Israel's future boundaries must be drawn with "utmost craftsmanship and precision," and in direct negotiations with her Arab opponents, so as to ensure that there can be no repetition of the surprise invasion by Syria and Egypt last month. Addressing the 1700 delegates at the biennial convention of the United Synagogue of America at the Concord Hotel here, Eban said, "The Arab failure was not Israel's triumph unless it can be translated into a solid prospect that the war of 1973 was the last of Israel's wars."

He said that immediately prior to the invasion, he and U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kiss-

inger had been discussing the necessary machinery to allow "a process of negotiations" between the Arab states and Israel. "Let us put out of our minds," he said, "the illusion that the Arabs had no other course that day but war." A second illusion, he said, was that the war "was not a matter of Israel's survival, but merely a territorial dispute," a classic attempt to alter or restore boundaries. He characterized the two claims as "utter nonsense."

He referred to "the solitude" of Israel's responsibilities and stated that no one outside of Israel was prepared to "risk life or blood on Israel's behalf." He praised the courage of the U.S. government for its support during and since the Yom Kippur invasion.

Three Lessons To Be Drawn

Earlier in the day, addressing some 200 members of the Israeli delegations in New York, Eban said that the Jewish State has to draw three major lessons from the Yom Kippur War: the lesson of security; the lesson of peace, which Israel has to strive for constantly; and the lesson of unity. Speaking at the Israeli Consulate during a memorial service for the Israeli soldiers who died in the war, Eban called on all Israelis to unite "without hatred and strife" without forgetting what he termed the "inner account."

Opening the memorial service, Israel Consul General David Rivlin, said: "We are joining our tears with the tears of the bereaved children, parents and wives. We will carry their memory with us forever." Cantor Zvi Aroni recited the El Moleh Rachamim. Nissim Zohar and Azaria Rapoport of the Consulate eulogized the fallen soldiers by reading Hebrew poetry.

This afternoon Eban met with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to discuss the current Middle East situation, including the problem of Israeli POWs in Syria, and the operation of UNEF in view of the incidents this week between it and the Israelis over the control of checkpoints. This was a continuation of the talks the two diplomats held last Saturday, according to a spokesman for the Israel Mission to the UN.

Early next week Eban is scheduled to go to Washington for consultations with Israeli Embassy officials on the next steps in the peace effort in the Middle East. During the weekend he will address Jewish audiences in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Tonight he is addressing a meeting of the Greater New York United Jewish Appeal at the New York Hilton Hotel.

ISRAEL TO INTENSIFY INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

JERUSALEM, Nov. 15 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry is sending 24 of its top officials to Western Europe and South America to help with Israel's information campaign. The heads of the departments and former ambassadors will spend several weeks abroad. They will assist on the spot information officers and will seek to establish contacts with government officials, parliamentarians and the news media.

The heightened information campaign by the Foreign Ministry stems from a growing conviction that public opinion in Europe is not sympathetic with the European government policies in the Middle East--particularly their surrender to Arab oil pressures. Public disquiet with the policies of European governments has been increasingly reflected in the press, especially in Germany and Britain, and to a lesser degree in France.

There will be no Bulletin Nov. 22 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

BEHIND-THE HEADLINES: LOOKING TOWARDS THE PEACE TALKS

By David Landau, JTA Jerusalem Bureau Chief

JERUSALEM, Nov. 15 (JTA)--With four out of the six provisions of the cease-fire agreement now being implemented, Israel's Cabinet and top officials are turning their thinking and planning towards the peace conference which has become a practical probability. From capitals around the world word has gone forth that Geneva is to be the place and Dec. 10 the time--and no one has gainsaid this. So ministers and officials here are assuming it to be true and are beginning to prepare, politically and psychologically, for peace talks. To date, the Cabinet as such has not discussed Israel's negotiating positions--but it is expected to begin such discussions at once.

One issue which will need reconsideration is that of Sharm el-Sheikh whose strategic importance would seem to have decreased in the face of the new blockade at Bab el Mandeb. But knowledgeable sources said today that Israel still viewed Sharm as a vitally important point. In such thinking and planning as has already begun in Jerusalem a tendency is emerging to envisage a peace in stages rather than a peace at one fell swoop. There is evidence, say knowledgeable sources, that the U.S. too, envisages a peace in stages. Because of this, a phrase which is gaining prominence from day to day is "the nature of the peace." Of course, everyone still believes that the territorial issue remains central to any peace talks. But, because peace is now seen as a gradual process, and because many people here anticipate larger Israeli concessions than they did before Yom Kippur, the "nature of the peace" has become newly important.

The phrase is not new: it was stressed in the past, especially by Foreign Minister Abba Eban. Now others are using it too--to explain what they would want in return for really major Israel concessions. And equally important with the negotiating positions which Israel's representatives will present to the peace conference are Israel's "minimum"--the point beyond which this government will not go. This has to be decided upon with equal urgency because it has to be clarified, as firmly and as early as possible, to the U.S. government. This vitally important dialogue with the U.S. is expected to precede the peace talks themselves. There are suspicions in Jerusalem--despite official denials--that U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger may have predicted to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat larger Israeli concessions than the Israel government is in fact prepared to make, even in the new post-war reality. Israel, for instance, is solidly opposed to the Rogers plan which envisaged insignificant changes on the Israel-Egypt border.

Israel, for instance, would not make major concessions in return for the kind of peace which Sadat currently refers to: a peace which entails a cessation of belligerency, at least for the time being, and little more. Such a peace would be far too brittle and too artificial to be worth conceding large swathes of land for. But a peace in which borders linked rather than separated the two sides, in which commercial and tourism ties flourished--such a peace would be self-perpetuating. If such a peace could be achieved as a final stage, then Israel would be prepared to make major concessions, ultimately, to achieve it. This is the thinking of some "people in high places," at least, in Jerusalem.

Before the peace talks can get under way, the two outstanding points in the cease-fire will have to be settled. The first point calls for both sides to "scrupulously" observe the cease-fire--and Israel interprets this as referring to Bab el Mandeb and the blockade. For Israel, the lifting of the blockade is a prerequisite for any progress. For Egypt, section Two is a prerequisite: this calls for discussions aimed at a pull-back to the Oct. 22 lines in the context of a general disengagement and redeployment. Discussions between Generals Aharon Yariv and Mouhamed Gemassi will resume early next week and the disengagement issue will be the focal point in their talks.

On the broader political front, two question marks still hang over the prospect of productive peace talks. One is the result of the Arab summit set for Nov. 26. There are still several extremists, among them Syria and Iraq, who do not accept the need to negotiate with Israel and would perhaps even prefer to resume the fighting. At the summit, too, the voices of King Faisal and the oil Sheikhhs will carry great weight because of the success of their oil cutback campaigns. This summit is due to hammer out a common Arab policy towards the peace talks, if they are to be held.

Secondly, the Soviet intentions remain a puzzle. There has been no significant reaction from Moscow to the Kissinger-induced cease-fire stabilization as yet, and observers here are wondering what the USSR will decide. Soviet behind-the-scenes influence will be very powerful at the Arab summit. Will the Kremlin discourage its Arab clients from participating in the peace talks which are essentially an American-engineered achievement, or will they encourage Syrian intransigence while at the same time approving Egypt's participation? (After all, the talks are to be under Soviet as well as American auspices.) And what will be the Soviet attitude towards the Palestinians? Will they encourage further waves of terror--so as to steal the Chinese thunder, or will they press for Palestinian representation at the peace talks? Israel has declared repeatedly it will not negotiate with terrorists--and this itself could pose a problem. Israel for its part has hinted broadly and publicly that it thinks the present time propitious for re-establishing diplomatic ties with Moscow. But there has been no reaction from the Kremlin whatever to this hint.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--The purpose of Congressional legislation to appropriate \$2.2 billion to replace equipment lost in the recent fighting is to restore the balance of forces in the Middle East without which peace is impossible, Sen. Clifford P. Case (R.N.J.) said on the Senate floor. Shunting aside the objections of Sen. J. William Fulbright (D.Ark.), Case offered a bill authorizing the funds for emergency military assistance grants or for military sales credits or for both as the President may determine. This measure, he said, is in accordance with President Nixon's recommendation. "The full extent of Israel's losses still remains unknown," Case said. He noted that a U.S. military mission is now on the scene assessing the damage and estimating what must be replaced and what can be repaired. The mission is expected to report its findings in a matter of days. "It is my hope hearings can then be held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as soon as possible on this funding," said Case who is a member of the Committee.

JEWISH LEADERS URGE \$150M EFFORT FOR LOCAL HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 15 (JTA)--American Jewish leaders called for a fund-raising effort that would raise \$150 million to meet the local humanitarian needs in 1974, an increase of \$25 million over the estimated amount raised in 1973. The determination to maintain needed on-going programs parallels the American Jewish community's stated commitment, recognizing the need to raise \$750 million for welfare services in Israel. Specifically, this assistance is to provide aid to families with sick, elderly and handicapped people, for university and pre-kindergarten education, for disadvantaged youth and for housing for immigrants.

The action by the country's leading Jewish fund-raising organizations was taken at the 42nd General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds meeting here last weekend. Some 3000 communal leaders from the United States and Canada participated in the four-day event which concluded Sunday.

Expressing the overriding sentiments of the communal representatives, Philip Bernstein, executive vice-president of the CJF, said, "The welfare needs of the people of Israel are interlocked with the needs here at home." He stated that the viability of the American communities' own services, to the aged, in the areas of health, Jewish education and other urgent communal requirements "are not competitive with the welfare needs of the people of Israel. Rather, they are reinforcing. The ability of the American Jewish community to meet the needs of the people of Israel is bulwarked by the on-going programs in our local communities and by the cultural richness that Israel provides us. The needs of one do not diminish the needs of the other."

Expanding And New Programs

He added that many programs are being expanded and new ones launched. "The communities are deeply committed to Jewish education on all levels, in the year-round involvement in the work of Federations and their service agencies, in recruitment of leadership, as well as in programs that will improve the quality of Jewish life. An example of the on-going work, Bernstein said, is reflected in the closer cooperation between Federations and synagogues which is being buttressed at this Assembly by the creation of a task force to study means by which the two groups can work together for the betterment of Jewish life."

"The commitment to meet the humanitarian needs at home and in Israel, Bernstein said is also reflected in a recent development in New York where the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York joined forces to raise \$280 million in 1974.

Edward Sanders, of Los Angeles, chairman of the CJF's Campaign Services Committee and re-elected as CJF vice-president, stressed the importance of strong ongoing services and programs at home to the ability of American Jewry to meet the humanitarian needs of Israel. "Unless we remain a viable community, committed to and responsible for our own needs, locally and nationally, we can't hope to provide the necessary assistance to the people of Israel."

Monty Berger, re-elected as a vice-president of the CJF and former president of the Allied Jewish Community Services of Montreal, reported that essential services are not being cur-

tailed in the Canadian city. "The services provided by our 21 agencies--hospitals, community centers, family services and so on--are being maintained. The Jewish community of Montreal, like all in North America, threw itself completely into emergency support for the urgent human requirements in Israel, with tremendous results, but this was over and above the ongoing local commitments."

Epstein Re-Elected CJF President

Raymond Epstein of Chicago was re-elected CJF president. He was first elected president in June when the late Irving Blum of Baltimore resigned because of ill health. Epstein has for more than 30 years served the Jewish community locally, nationally and overseas, and in Israel. A former chairman of the CJF Overseas Services Committee, he is a vice-president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, a board member of the United Israel Appeal, a member of the executive committee of the United Jewish Appeal and of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel. Epstein was general chairman of the 1973 campaign of the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, where he previously served as a JUF board chairman and president. He recently completed three years of service as president of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Chicago.

SOVIET JEW SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS

NEW YORK, Nov. 15 (JTA)--A Soviet Jew was sentenced to five years in a forced labor camp, it was reported today by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Petya Pinchasov of Derbent, on the Caspian Sea, was to have been tried today, but his trial was instead held Tuesday, the NCSJ reported. A NCSJ spokesman said there was no information immediately available as to the charges on which he was sentenced. It had been reported earlier that Pinchasov, a carpenter, was arrested on charges of having done some free-lance carpentry work several years ago, an act considered illegal in the USSR. He was arrested after he and his wife and six children received their visas and were preparing to leave for Israel. His family arrived recently in Israel.

SOUTH AFRICAN-JEWISH LEADER APPOINTED MEMBER OF JTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NEW YORK, Nov. 15 (JTA)--Maurice Porter, president of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and a leading Johannesburg attorney, has been appointed a member of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Board of Directors, it was announced today by William M. Landau, JTA president. This appointment, Landau said, is in line with the board's policy of having international representation on that body to reflect the international scope of the JTA's news activities.

Porter was born Oct. 26, 1905 in Lithuania and came to South Africa in 1914. He attended Grey College in Port Elizabeth and what was then Rhodes University College. He holds B.A. and LL.B degrees. Prominent in Jewish affairs for more than 30 years, Porter became a member of the Executive Council of the Board of Deputies in 1954, was appointed a vice-chairman in 1960 and chairman in 1965. In 1970 he was elected president.

He has represented the Board at a number of overseas conferences and has acted on behalf of the Board as a director at meetings of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany. He also served on the Committee of the South African Board of Jewish Education when it was first founded.