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INQUIRY COMMITTEE DEALING WITH WAR TO REVIEW COMPLAINTS AGAINST SHARON

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29 (JTA)--The committee of inquiry into the Yom Kippur War, headed by Supreme Court Justice Simon Agranat, will review complaints against (Res.) Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon, commander of the division that broke through Egyptian lines and established an Israeli bridgehead on the west bank of the Suez Canal, it was learned today. The complaints have been lodged by Gen. Shmuel Gonen, Sharon's superior, who was the target of charges by Sharon published in newspapers and magazines here and abroad after the war ended.

Sharp differences of opinion over the conduct of the war developed between Sharon and Gonen and other members of the Israeli high command. Sharon publicly accused the Israeli military leadership of making battlefield decisions on the basis of politics. He himself has been counter-charged with politicking and was relieved of his command on the Egyptian front two weeks ago. Sharon, founder of Likud, was elected to the Knesset Dec. 31.

Gonen, who had replaced Sharon as commander of the southern command three months before the Yom Kippur War, has filed his own charges against the popular reserves general. They were submitted to Chief of Staff Gen. David Elazar, himself a target of Sharon. Elazar forwarded them to the Agranat committee. He reportedly decided not to deal with the complaints himself because he saw no point in initiating disciplinary action while the conduct of the war was the subject of an official inquiry.

One of the complaints against Sharon stemmed from an article in the Feb. 1974 edition of Harper's magazine by Amos Perlmutter. The author, who described himself as a personal friend of Sharon, quoted the Sinai commander as having said that "This war was terribly mismanaged.... The casualties we lost in the first two days were without justification." Elsewhere in the article, Sharon was sharply critical of former Chief of Staff Gen. Haim Barlev, Deputy Premier Yigal Allon and the entire Labor government including his one-time mentor, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan.

Gonen met with Premier Golda Meir last week and presented his complaints against Sharon, the newspaper Yediot Achronot reported today. The meeting took place before Sharon gave interviews to two local newspapers in which he called for Elazar's resignation. The Agranat committee is mandated to inquire only into the initial stages of the Yom Kippur War--when Israeli forces, rushed to meet the Egyptian-Syrian onslaught, conducted a holding action. But the committee is now examining material and documents relating to a later stage to determine if they are relevant to their inquiry.

DISENGAGEMENT ALONG CANAL CONTINUES

TEL AVIV, Jan. 29 (JTA)--The crackle of automatic fire and the heavy blasts of demolition charges echoed over both sides of the Suez Canal today as the first phase of the Israeli withdrawal from the west bank of the canal ended. The sounds were not those of war but of disengagement. Soldiers of the Egyptian Third Army

Corps, exuberant over the lifting of three months' encirclement, fired weapons into the air and shot off fireworks.

Israeli forces, heading northeast in trucks and buses painted with signs that read "Goodbye Africa" and "We're Going Home," were in a happy mood; too. But the reported promise by the Israeli Chief of Staff not to engage in a scorched earth policy in the evacuated areas appeared to have been forgotten. The Israelis are making off with huge quantities of Egyptian war booty. But whatever military installations could not be moved--such as fuel dumps--were destroyed. Local papers published today a series of authorized photographs of demolished hangars and concrete abutments at three military airfields handed back to the Egyptians.

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan visited the withdrawing Israeli units at their new lines today. He was accompanied--to the surprise of the troops--by two prominent academicians, Prof. Isragl Dostrovski, president of the Weizmann Institute of Science, and Prof. Yuval Neeman, president of Tel Aviv University. Some of the Israeli soldiers are scheduled for demobilization and are heading home. Others will man the temporary new lines north of the Suez-Cairo road. Eventually, they will be pulled back to the final disengagement lines in Sinai about 20 kilometers east of the Suez Canal.

There was activity within the Third Army perimeter today but it was not determined whether the Egyptians were beginning to carry out their part of the bargain--thinning out their armed forces east of the canal. According to the agreement signed Jan. 21, the Egyptians should have begun yesterday to transfer most of their troops and heavy equipment to the west side of the waterway. The Egyptian news media so far have made no mention of that process being underway.

SECT DISTRIBUTES ANTI-SEMITIC LITERATURE IN LATIN AMERICA

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA)--Anti-Semitic literature is now being distributed in Latin American capitals by members of the Children of God sect. Founded in 1968 in Huntington Beach, California, by David Berg (alias Moses David), the sect has recently expanded its activities throughout Latin America. The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith reports that the controversial group now has centers in Mexico City, Guatemala, Caracas, Bogota, Quito, Lima, Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro.

The Children of God, who preach an ultra-fundamentalist theology and live in communes, distribute in Spanish translation the same anti-Israel and anti-Semitic literature which it also distributes in the U.S., including several pamphlets which laud President Muammar Qaddafi of Libya. An ADL report on their pamphlet, "The Arab Wall," described it as saturated with raw anti-Semitism, charging that America is "Jewish, Jewish controlled, Jewish operated" and beseeching God to "help the Arabs" and "punish the Jews...."

BELT TIGHTENING AHEAD FOR ISRAEL Supplementary Budget Of IL 11.3 Billion To Pay For War Costs, Sapir Says

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29 (JTA)--Warning that "economically, we are now still in a state of war," Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir told the Knesset

yesterday that a period of belt tightening lay ahead for the nation because of the government's huge outlays for defense during the Yom Kippur War and its aftermath. Introducing a supplementary budget for fiscal 1973-74 of IL 11.3 billion to pay war costs, Sapir said that even that sum barely begins to cover the cost of replenishing arms stocks, wages to reserve soldiers and compensation for bereaved families which will run into the tens of billions of pounds. The total defense budget is now IL 16.7 billion.

Before the war, the defense budget comprised 30 percent of the national budget but now it is 50 percent, Sapir said. In terms of the gross national product, defense will consume 40 percent of the GNP compared to 18 percent before the Oct. war, he said. Sapir did not explain in detail where he expected to find the revenue to cover the supplementary budget. It was assumed by observers that he expected part of the burden to be borne by American and world Jewry, part by loans and grants and part by such government economies as yesterday's slash in price support subsidies on basic foodstuffs—a move that sent food prices soaring to record heights.

The Finance Minister said that the price hikes in food and public transportation made across-the-board belt-tightening inevitable. But he promised compensation for the poor, the aged and for large families. He had some good news—relatively—for Israeli taxpayers. He said the only new tax in the near future would be an added value tax on goods which had been decided before the Yom Kippur War.

Sapir said it would be imposed later in the year concomitant with a general easing of income tax. At the same time, however, he warned that the government was going to abolish certain tax benefits which are now part and parcel of the average wage-earner's income but are in many cases unjustified. Sapir is presently preparing the national budget for fiscal 1974-75 which he will present to the Knesset in April.

NEGATIVISM TOWARD ISRAEL ASSESSED

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA)—There is a large number of American Jews, particularly among youth and intellectuals, who are indifferent to Israel following the Yom Kippur War. This was reported to the Academic Forum of the Zionist Council of Arts, the academic arm of the American Zionist Federation. The panelists at the meeting, which was held recently at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, indicated that the polar ends of the Jewish communal spectrum—those who are totally committed to Israel and those who are totally indifferent—have both been strengthened as a result of the Yom Kippur War.

Dr. Arnulf M. Pins, executive director of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and Visiting Professor of Social Work at the Hebrew University, reported that on the basis of a survey he had conducted on the reactions of the American Jewish community to the Yom Kippur War it is apparent that "despite the increased number of committed Jews, there is still a relatively large number who are ambivalent, and an increasing number of Jews who question the viability of the existence of the Jewish State."

Attributing the rise in those who identified with Israel, "to the increased personal contact which many young American Jews have had with Israel since 1967," he urged that Zionists undertake a campaign of "increasing personal contact with Israel, providing more information on what is happening in Israel, promoting Israel as a

specifically Jewish cause and preparing young people for political activity and encouraging the committed to go on aliya."

Dr. Pins said the rising ambivalence and negativism of those intellectuals who were hostile to Israel was due to "the fact that the Yom Kippur War was not as clear-cut an issue as was the last one and that there was an absence of campus activism and ethnic consciousness on the current campus scene." Dr. Pins provided a statistical breakdown of his findings among those negative to Israel as follows: 5-10% do not care, 26-30% believe Israel should be more flexible, 2-5% believe that U.S. cultural pluralism is a myth and that aliya is the only solution, 50-60% simply worry, and 3-6% acknowledge the existence of a real problem and wish to do something about it.

MISSION COMPLETES STUDY OF ISRAEL NEEDS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 29 (JTA)—Seventy members of the first joint United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies mission have completed their study of the situation in Israel and returned to New York to launch a full-scale effort to reach the \$280 million target set for this year by the two organizations, the largest sum of any campaign in the Greater New York area.

The delegation, headed by the coordinated organizations' co-chairmen Herbert Tenzer and Alan V. Tishman, and by Ernest Michel, executive vice-president of the UJA of Greater New York and campaign director for the coordinated campaign, toured the front lines and the Gaza Strip. They also met with leading Israeli personalities including Defense Minister Moshe Dayan who briefed them on the security problems of Israel. This was the first delegation representing the coordinated group to visit Israel.

DINITZ URGES CONCERTED ACTION ON POWs

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (JTA)—Declaring that "150 Israeli boys are missing in action on the Syrian front and we don't know to this day if they are alive or dead," Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz urged the National Council of Jewish Women today to join in public and international demands that the Syrian government abide by the Geneva Convention governing prisoners of war and make immediately available the names of all Israeli military personnel in its hands.

The Israeli envoy, who spoke before 350 delegates attending the luncheon meeting of the NCJW's joint program institute at the Shoreham Hotel, said the NCJW should not be silent "until every Israeli mother knows where her son is." In an apparent allusion to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's recent remark that he was "moderately optimistic" over the prospects of eventual Israeli-Syrian disengagement talks, Dinitz stated flatly that Israel will not negotiate "directly or indirectly" with Syria until the Geneva Convention requirements are met. "We shouldn't be asked to negotiate anything until this is resolved," he declared.

JERUSALEM (JTA)—A magistrate's court refused today to order police to return Rabbi Meir Kahane's passport. Judge Yosef Weiss noted that Kahane's passport had been confiscated as a result of criminal charges pending against him and was insurance that the Jewish Defense League leader would appear in court for trial. Kahane's lawyer indicated that he would appeal. Kahane ran for the Knesset last month but failed to win enough votes for a seat which would have given him immunity against prosecution in the pending cases which include attempts to smuggle arms out of Israel.

GENOCIDE CONVENTION FACES FILIBUSTER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (JTA)--The Senate will take up ratification of the International Genocide Convention for the first time tomorrow but faces the possibility of a strong filibuster by conservative Republicans and Democrats led by Sen. Sam Ervin (D., N.C.). Opponents of the measure which was adopted by the United Nations 25 years ago, are seeking to prevent a vote on ratification or to muster more than one-third of the Senate against it. Ratification requires the approval of two-thirds of the Senators present and voting.

Since its adoption by the UN, the Genocide Convention has been endorsed by every U.S. Administration but was pigeon-holed by the Senate for years. It was put on the Senate calendar for tomorrow by Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.) in consultation with Sen. William Proxmire (D., Wis.) a leading proponent of ratification for the past seven years.

Ervin is expected to challenge the Convention on constitutional grounds, arguing that it is poorly drafted, strikes at states' rights and is beyond the competence of the federal government to carry out. Another opposition argument is that the Convention would create an international tribunal with jurisdiction over individual American citizens. Proxmire asserts, however, that the fears expressed by opponents of the Genocide Convention all have been proven groundless by other American legal authorities.

HISTADRUT DEMANDS HIGHER COL ALLOWANCE TO MEET PRICE HIKES

TEL AVIV, Jan. 29 (JTA)--Angry trade unionists demanded last night that the government pay a larger cost of living allowance than the four percent it announced yesterday to meet skyrocketing food prices. The Histadrut Central Committee, meeting in special session after the government announced it was slashing by half its price support subsidies for basic food commodities and transportation, said the four percent COL hike was inadequate compensation for price increases unprecedented in Israel's economic life.

Spokesmen for workers' committees all over the country expressed bitter indignation that the subsidy cuts were made without consulting Histadrut on the extent of compensation for wage-earners. They also demanded that the government continue to subsidize public transportation to avoid further hardships for the working population.

The Histadrut Central Committee had some harsh words for Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir's statement to the Knesset yesterday that there would be no further taxes this year except the controversial added value tax (See separate story). The trade unionists claimed that this tax would hit the poorer sections of the population hardest. The Labor faction in the Knesset decided today to establish a special committee to review present plans to compensate the poor for increasing prices.

According to figures published by the Central Bureau of Statistics in Jerusalem today, the immediate consequence of the food price hikes was to raise the cost of living by 4.2 percent. The government said it would pay its employees an additional four percent COL allowance above the 14.5 percent paid earlier this month. It urged private employers to do the same.

But the food price rises--some as high as 80 percent--that shocked housewives at supermarkets yesterday are only the beginning, according to most economic experts. Additional increases

are expected within the next few days for food-stuffs made from the basic commodities. The COL index is expected to go up 6-7 percent next month which would nullify the four percent additional COL allowance.

CONFIRM FEDERAL, CITY PROBE IN POSSIBLE MISUSE OF FUNDS FOR NYC JEWISH POOR

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA)--Federal and city officials confirmed today that a joint investigation was underway into charges of misuse of federal funds allocated for some programs to help New York City's Jewish poor. Rabbi Bernard Weinberger, an administrator in the city's Human Resources Administration, one of two rabbis named in the probe, flatly denied all charges. Rabbi Ronald Greenwald, who was active in the Nixon 1972 re-election campaign, the other rabbi named, could not be reached for comment.

An aide to city Investigations Commissioner Nicolas Scopetta confirmed to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Scopetta was investigating "a number of different allegations" concerning Rabbi Weinberger but refused to give any details. He also confirmed that subpoenas had been issued by U.S. Attorney Paul Curran. The report of the probe came to light last night on WNET-TV (Channel 13), a public service station.

Curran told the JTA that Hal Levenson of Channel 13 had met with him yesterday to present "certain information" which his office was "now investigating." Asked if his office had issued subpoenas, he declined comment. One of the allegations reported on the Channel 13 program involved the Council of Jewish Manpower Association, selected by the Federal Labor Department "to administer a manpower training program in poor Jewish neighborhoods.

It was asserted on the program that at least \$10,000 in manpower funds had gone to a gasoline station and to a limousine service, both in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn as payment for "training fees." The program said Rabbi Greenwald was an officer in both businesses. A second federal grant reportedly being studied is one for \$65,000 to Jewish Orthodox Youth. Rabbi Weinberger is president of JOY and of the Council of Jewish Manpower Association. The grant to JOY, which was arranged through Marvin Schick, a former Lindsay administration consultant, was designed to help Hasidic youth gain admission to secular colleges. The program is called Talent Search.

Rabbi Weinberger told the JTA that the "insinuation" on the Channel 13 program of a Jewish "rip-off" in use of anti-poverty funds was "an outrage." He said it was "unprecedented" that a television program which generated an investigation would report on the investigation without speaking to the principals.

He said the manpower training fund used for the gasoline station and the limousine service was "perfectly legitimate" and in line with federal government goals in helping to provide career opportunities in job training; that the government wants employers to train applicants; and the costs of such training are shared between agencies handling training programs and the employers with whom trainees are placed.

Rabbi Weinberger termed the Hasidic program completely legitimate, adding "there has been no illegal behavior anywhere." Dr. Schick said the Talent Search had helped more than 400 Hasidic youth since last Sept. and called Channel 13 allegations against the program a "smear." Rabbi Weinberger said he had not been subpoenaed but that records of the two agencies had been.

SCALI SEES INCREASING ROLE FOR UN IN ACHIEVING PEACE IN THE MIDEAST

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 29 (JTA)—John Scali, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, said that he envisioned an "increasingly important" role for the UN in bringing about a Middle East peace settlement and that he hoped the oil crisis would be solved by multi-national cooperation. Scali discussed both topics yesterday at a press conference here, his first since returning to the UN after undergoing surgery.

Scali indicated that the reason the House of Representatives turned down a U.S. appropriation estimated at \$1.5 billion to the World Bank last week was because of the Arab oil embargo and the high price of oil. He hinted that the Administration does not intend to press the House on the matter until the oil embargo is lifted. "We have given in the past for economic assistance.... The U.S. has poured \$130 billion into foreign assistance and now, at a time of sudden increases in the price of oil, I can understand the consternation in Congress," Scali said. He observed, with reference to the oil producing countries, that "The U.S. has been providing help to some of these very same countries."

Scali described Sunday's meeting between Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, which he attended as "a friendly meeting with officials who cooperated to end the war" in the Middle East. He repeated Kissinger's earlier statement that he was "moderately optimistic" over the prospects of an Israeli-Syrian disengagement accord.

He confirmed that the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) was one of the subjects discussed at Sunday's meeting. He said the U.S. would contribute its share of the UNEF budget at the "appropriate moment." Scali said he placed high hopes in the multi-national oil crisis meeting to be held in Washington Feb. 11.

DELEGATION MEETS WITH PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT ON ISRAELI POWs IN SYRIA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 (JTA)—A four-man delegation from the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia said Thursday night after a meeting with Presidential assistant Leonard Garment that Garment promised to convey to President Nixon their concern for the survival of Israeli prisoners still held by Syria in violation of the Geneva Convention. The delegation—led by Benjamin S. Loewenstein, JCRC president, and composed of Philadelphia leaders of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith Men—delivered to the White House petitions bearing the names of 10,000 Philadelphians protesting Syria's refusal to exchange captured soldiers with Israel.

Loewenstein said that during the course of the half-hour meeting, the delegation showed Garment pictures of several of the 42 murdered Israeli prisoners who were found blindfolded with their arms and legs bound. "All of us felt that Mr. Garment was responsive to our concern for the safety of those prisoners still thought to be alive in Syria," Loewenstein said after the meeting. We were impressed by his knowledge of the plight of the Israeli prisoners of war, and with his sincerity. He said the Administration was familiar with the plight of the prisoners and it was working on the problem, but that it appreciated the fact that we as a community wanted to express the need for action."

Garment emphasized the delicate nature of the negotiations being undertaken as a result of

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's most recent tour of the Middle East. He referred the Philadelphia delegation to a statement made by Kissinger before his Jan. 20 departure from Tel Aviv. Kissinger said then: "With respect to the prisoners of war I conveyed the position of the Israeli government to President Assad and also the profound humanitarian concern felt by all people of Israel. The ideas that I was asked to convey to the Israeli government contained the Syrian view of how the prisoner issue can be related to the negotiation process. I was also given assurances that the prisoners are being treated in a humanitarian fashion."

Loewenstein said the delegation urged Garment to convey its appeal that the President and the Secretary of State do everything possible to halt the use of the Israeli prisoners as hostages to Syria diplomacy. "The unprecedented and welcome recent diplomatic successes in the Middle East could not have taken place without the persistent and patient leadership of the President," Loewenstein said.

JAN KRYLSKY, YOUNG SOVIET JEW, RELEASED FROM MENTAL HOSPITAL

NEW YORK, Jan. 29 (JTA)—Jan Krylsky, a 23-year-old Soviet Jew, was released from the Sechovka Psychiatric Institution after a two-year confinement for "schizophrenia and militant Zionism," it was learned today by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. This is the first case known to the West of a patient who has been released from this "special" psychiatric institution. Jan, who was kept in a ward for the criminally insane, was given injections that left him delirious and completely swollen. He had been charged with hitting a drunk, who yelled anti-Semitic epithets at him.

Julius Krylsky, Jan's father, has been campaigning in the West for his son's release for over a year. Jan and his mother, Rachel, hope to rejoin the older Krylsky in Israel shortly. The member agencies of the GNYCSJ mounted an extensive campaign for Jan and other Soviet Jewish activists incarcerated in mental institutions. A spokesman expressed the hope that others being held, including Hillel Chayit and Yuri Rothstein, would soon be released.

ALIYA MONTH IN CANADA FEB. 10-MARCH 10

MONTREAL, Jan. 29 (JTA)—Following a call for aliya to Israel issued by the World Zionist Organization in Jerusalem, and its affirmation by Premier Golda Meir, the Canadian Zionist Federation has designated Feb. 10-March 10 as Aliya Month in Canada. This announcement was made by Philip G. Givens, Q.C., M.P.P., national president of the CZF. Speaking on behalf of the 33,000 members from coast to coast, Givens explained that the CZF and its constituent organizations will conduct an active campaign for aliya during the coming month—in cooperation with the Aliya Center.

Natan Peled, Israel's Minister of Absorption, will be special guest at the official launching of Aliya Month in Montreal on Feb. 10. Hundreds of gatherings, large and small, with aliya-oriented programs featuring knowledgeable speakers from Israel, have been planned by the CZF Aliya Center.

NEW YORK (JTA)—Joseph Buloff, star of "Hard to be a Jew," Sholom Aleichem's Yiddish musical hit playing here, has been officially notified that he will receive the 1974 Itzik Manger Award for his "artistic accomplishments in Israel's Yiddish theater."