



daily news bulletin

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STATE DEP'T MUM ON EGYPTIAN VIOLATION, DAYAN'S VISIT TO U.S.

WASHINGTON, March 25 (JTA)--A high State Department official told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that the Department would not comment on an alleged Egyptian violation of the disengagement agreement because "any difficulties that may arise in the Egyptian-Israeli disengagement agreement are best handled through private consultations in whatever channels the parties find useful."

The JTA elicited that comment after pressing the State Department to explain why it refused to comment today on reports that the Egyptians had placed 100 additional artillery pieces in the limited forces zone east of the Suez Canal--a report it conceded was known to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger before he went to Moscow last weekend.

State Department spokesman John King repeatedly said "no comment" when asked at today's press briefing about the alleged Egyptian violation and about a report from Israel that Defense Minister Moshe Dayan may cancel his March 29 visit to Washington because of it. "I won't go into that," King said. He also refused to comment on a further report that U.S. intelligence had confirmed the Israeli report of an Egyptian violation. With regard to Dayan who is due here at the end of the week for discussions with Kissinger on an Israeli-Syrian disengagement process, King would say only that he has not been told that Dayan is not coming.

Asked if the State Department was studying the situation on the Egyptian front, King repeated "no comment." When the JTA pointed out that the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement agreement had been achieved at U.S. initiative and through Secretary Kissinger's personal diplomacy, King replied, "sometimes we don't discuss it."

Another State Department official close to the circumstances acknowledged that Kissinger knew of the situation on the Egyptian front last Thursday while he was preparing to go Moscow. According to a JTA report from Israel yesterday, Kissinger raised the matter with the Egyptians after it was brought to his attention by the Israeli Ambassador, Simcha Dinitz. (By Joseph Polakoff.)

TERRORIST CELL UNCOVERED

TEL AVIV, March 25 (JTA)--Israeli security forces have uncovered a terrorist cell believed responsible for the murder of an Israeli police official in the Gaza Strip on the eve of the Yom Kippur War and a multitude of other terrorist acts and attempted assassinations.

According to an official communique, the terrorist group was linked to El Fatah. On Yom Kippur eve they threw a hand grenade at a police van resulting in the death of the Deputy Police Commander of the Gaza Strip, Moshe Carmeli. They are also accused of shooting at and wounding the former Mayor of Gaza Rashid A. Shawa and firing on Israeli vehicles on the Gaza-Khan Yunis road.

A Gaza military tribunal, meanwhile, has imposed a life sentence on a 26-year-old Arab terrorist, Mahmoud Abdallah el Mabhih, who was

commander of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Gaza Strip. He was found guilty on five counts of murder and two of attempted murder. His victims were local Arabs who the accused, acting as a self-appointed judge, found guilty of treason and ordered executed on the spot.

KISSINGER DUE TO MEET WITH JEWISH LEADERS AT THE END OF APRIL

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA)--A meeting between Jewish leaders and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will take place in Washington at the end of April, it was disclosed here today by Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Speaking at a press conference here with Israeli and Jewish journalists, Rabbi Miller said the forthcoming meeting was set by Kissinger when he met with 16 leaders of American Jewish organizations on March 11 in Washington.

That meeting, described by the participants which included Rabbi Miller as "an off-the-record" discussion, dealt with the status of Syrian negotiations on disengagement, continued economic and military support to Israel and "other matters of importance to the Jewish community." The problem of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union was not specifically mentioned as having been discussed.

Asked about his expectation from the present Kissinger visit to Moscow, Rabbi Miller said he did not think the Secretary would return to the U.S. as say that everything is "all right." He said the response by the USSR will not be in the form of a statement given to Kissinger but rather by their deeds.

Calculated Risk In Supporting Jackson Bill

Referring to Kissinger, Rabbi Miller said: "We have no complaints, for the time being, against Kissinger. That does not mean that we are going to follow him blindly." On the question of Soviet Jewish immigration to the U.S.--estimated at 4000 for 1974--Rabbi Miller said they will be assisted and resettled by the American Jewish community. The challenge, he noted, is the "spiritual absorption" of Soviet Jews in America.

Reaffirming the Conference support of the Jackson/Mills-Vanik measures, he stated: "We are going to maintain our stand backing the legislation. We are not considering any proposal to reformulate the J/M-V Amendment. In fact, no such proposal has been made." Rabbi Miller hinted, however, that if the USSR "manifests a change in their attitude" in regard to Jewish emigration, the American Jewish community will be willing to "take a look" and reconsider the legislation now pending in the Congress.

He asserted that "the next step is up to the Russians." He conceded, however, that by supporting the Jackson Amendment "we all take a calculated risk," referring to the fact that Kissinger had noted several times that Congressional roadblocks to unhindered trade with the USSR might cause the flow of emigration to be shut off. However, Rabbi Miller added, while the risks are there "the stakes that are involved are very great." (By Yitzhak Rabi.)

WAR VETERANS BITTERLY CRITICAL OF ISRAEL'S NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

TEL AVIV, March 25 (JTA)--For the first time in Israel's history war veterans are becoming

political activists, organizing into groups bitterly critical of the present national leadership and demanding far-reaching changes, particularly new faces in the top echelons of government. While many small groups of disaffected ex-soldiers emerged after the Yom Kippur War, they are now beginning to coalesce into what could become a major political force. The groups include infantry, armored corps and paratroop veterans recently demobilized after months of service. In Jerusalem 2000 ex-servicemen have joined the movement and are busy recruiting more.

Yesterday, some 6000 persons, many of them demobilized soldiers, demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem while the Cabinet was in session demanding the resignations of Premier Golda Meir and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. Ministers emerging from the building were roundly booed. One placard demanded "Disengagement between backsides and (Cabinet) seats."

The focus of the demonstration was a young Yom Kippur War veteran, Capt. Mordechai (Motti) Ashkenazi who started a one-man drive for Dayan's ouster last month and has since rallied thousands to his cause. He and other speakers urged the fledgling protest movements to join in a single organized movement. Leaders of the various groups are due to meet here this week to work out a common program.

At the moment, however, the dissidents appear to be a movement without a leader. They are seeking one of sufficient prestige and authority to rally all disaffected elements. So far, representatives of the ex-servicemen's movements have been approaching retired high ranking army and navy officers. These include Gen. Israel Tal, former Deputy Chief of Staff; Yochai Bin Nun, a former naval commander; Gen. Meir Zorea, a much decorated veteran who presently heads the Government Land Authority; and Gen. Ezer Weizman, former Air Force commander, a former Minister of Transport and a leader of the Herut faction.

Other Dissident Movements Surfacing

Weizman flatly refused to head the veterans' movement but the others have shown interest while making no commitments. Particular attention has been focussed on Tal, a veteran of 32 years of military service that began with the Jewish Palestinian units of the British Army in World War II. Tal resigned from the army only last Thursday. He had briefly commanded Israeli forces on the Egyptian front during the Yom Kippur War and is known to have had sharp differences with his superiors, notably Dayan, over basic strategy.

Tal, who enjoys an international reputation as an armored corps expert, is a champion of a mobile defense system as opposed to the strategy of static defense represented by the former Barlev Line. After the Yom Kippur War, he felt that his counsel was not being sought; he was not invited to meetings of the high command and it was made clear to him by Dayan that he could not expect to succeed to the position of Chief of Staff.

Tal's differences with the military establishment were taken as a signal that he would enter politics in the manner of another disgruntled war hero, Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon. But he has announced no plans and says he is still undecided on his future activities. Sharon, the founding father of Likud and one of its principal leaders, meanwhile, has made political capital of Tal's

resignation. He claimed that it represented the high command's refusal to accept new ideas and groom new leadership.

In addition to the ex-servicemen, dissident movements are surfacing among university faculty members, practicing lawyers, teachers and psychologists. Though claiming to be non-political, they are talking about running for the Knesset. Their stated purpose is to effect changes in the national leadership, or at least in its decision-making processes. Some observers think it is only a matter of time before the academicians join forces with the veterans' organizations. (By Yitzhak Shargil.)

SYRIANS FIRE KATYUSHA ROCKETS

TEL AVIV, March 25 (JTA)--A heavy exchange of fire erupted on the Syrian front at noon today, ending after one hour with no casualties reported on the Israeli side. A military spokesman said the Syrians started the exchange with artillery and tank fire aimed at Israeli positions in the southern sector of the enclave captured by Israel in the Yom Kippur War. For the first time, the Syrians fired Katyusha rockets from mobile launchers in salvos of 12-24 missiles. Israeli gunners claimed a direct hit on at least one Syrian tank. Earlier in the day, the Syrians fired several artillery and tank shells at Israeli positions in the southern part of the enclave but caused no casualties. Israeli forces did not return the fire.

WJC LEADER CALLS FOR CALM IN DEBATE OVER ASSEMBLY MEETING SITE

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA)--A leader of the World Jewish Congress appealed today for "calm and reason" in the debate on where the postponed Plenary Assembly of the WJC should be held. Jacques Torczyner, chairman of the WJC-American Section, emphasized that no final decision has yet been taken in connection with the Assembly meeting site. The WJC Governing Council will determine the site when it meets in Switzerland at the end of April.

In a statement issued here, Torczyner expressed the hope that no one would make the question of the site of the postponed Assembly a test of personal loyalty to Israel. Those who argued for holding the Assembly in the United States, he noted, "were not one iota less committed to support for Israel--financial, economic and political--than those who insisted that it be held in Israel." Torczyner added that there were times when an international meeting outside Israel could more effectively show solidarity with Israel's position and serve this position better than meetings held within Israel.

When Dr. Nahum Goldman first announced the postponement of the Assembly that was scheduled in The Hague there were unconfirmed reports that the meeting had been shifted to Miami. At that time, a number of WJC officials objected to holding the meeting in Miami and called, instead, for holding the Assembly in Israel. Leon Dulzin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency, reportedly said that Israelis would most likely boycott the Assembly if it convened in the U.S. This weekend "The Dutch Jewish Weekly" cited the WJC's decision to move its meeting from The Hague as "bowing to Arab terrorism."

Torczyner, in his statement, declared that "there was sincerity on both sides of the debate, and it would be damaging to the interests of Israel and the Jewish people as a whole if the discussions were characterized by passion and hostility rather than by calm and reason."

JEWISH AGENCY FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE DISCUSSES DETAILS OF NEXT CAMPAIGN

LONDON, March 25 (JTA)--The fund-raising committee of the Jewish Agency, recently set up by the Agency's Board of Governors, met here this weekend to discuss details of the next campaign. An Agency spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the target was \$1,250 billion as well as the redemption of pledges, cash flow and inter-national cooperation between appeal organizations in various diaspora countries for the purpose of sharing techniques and experiences at various levels. He said that this type of cooperation was already in existence and proving very beneficial. The meeting was attended by 60 leaders from 10 countries, among them Max Fisher, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

A Jewish Agency spokesman told the JTA today that a number of proposals for the forthcoming campaigns in the diaspora had been adopted and would be brought before the Executive for advice and approval. He said the meeting had been addressed by Paul Zuckerman, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal; Irving Bernstein, executive vice-chairman of the UJA; Ezra Shapiro, chairman of Keren Hayesod; S.J. Kreutner of the KFI; Leon Dulzin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive; Edward Ginsberg, chairman of the American Joint Distribution Committee; and Michael M. Sacher, chairman of the Joint Israel Appeal in Great Britain. Sacher and Ginsberg are joint chairmen of the fund-raising committee.

Sacher said in his opening statement: "We are not meeting here to celebrate past achievements but to examine areas where we could have perhaps done more, and where we could help each other and learn from each other's experience."

War Cost, A Frightening Figure

Ginsberg told the meeting: "We have all heard the statement by the acting chairman of the Jewish Agency, Leon Dulzin, that the cost of the (Yom Kippur) war had been \$8 billion. This is a frightening figure. At the same time, it cannot in any sense be measured against the loss in human life sustained by the people of Israel. But the least we can do is to help them make good the material losses and to restore the shattered Israeli economy."

Dulzin said in his address: "We have to face a new reality. Without the drama and heroism of the war it will not be an easy task to explain to Jews everywhere how to translate their commitment to Israel into direct monetary support. We will have to go from community to community in order to instruct and explain. This is a task we can only do together in cooperation."

According to the Jewish Agency spokesman, the agenda of the meeting also included a number of vital issues such as a review of aliya, absorption, adoption of the agenda for the Third Assembly of the Jewish Agency to be held in Jerusalem next June, and budgetary problems.

LUBAVITCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION PRAISED

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA)--Gov. Malcolm Wilson and State Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz have praised the efforts of the Lubavitch youth movement on American college campuses. The two addressed a gathering of 500 at the Americana Hotel here in support of the College and University Council of the Lubavitch Youth Organization.

According to Rabbi Shmuel M. Butman, director of the organization, Wilson noted the high

standards of morality in education that is upheld by the Lubavitch Youth Organization. "In a time of despair, you bring hope; in a time of unrest, you bring stability; in a time of confusion, you bring guidance," Wilson said. He observed, "Under the leadership of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi M.M. Schneerson, the Lubavitch Youth Organization has become a dynamic force in Jewish life."

Lefkowitz, speaking in a similar vein, noted the work and achievements of the Lubavitch Youth Organization, Rabbi Butman reported. According to Rabbi Butman, the College and University Council of the Lubavitch Youth Organization serves Jewish youth on college campuses and in military installations throughout the United States.

SOVIET JEWS APPEAL TO KISSINGER

LONDON, March 25 (JTA)--Jewish sources in the Soviet Union said today that six Siberian Jews who asked Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to intervene with Soviet authorities in their behalf were misquoted in media reports that said they had charged that Kissinger and President Nixon were partly responsible for the "persecution" of Jews in the USSR. The reports carried by the BBC and British and American newspapers were "quite inaccurate," the sources said.

According to the sources, the six sent a letter to Kissinger on his arrival in Moscow yesterday asking his intervention and stating that American silence could be interpreted as tacit consent to the harassment of Jews for the sake of U.S.-Soviet détente. This, the sources said, is a far cry from the charge they were alleged to have made against Kissinger and Nixon.

Meanwhile, the Secretary was appealed to by 16 Latvian Jews in an open letter made available to Western journalists in Moscow today for his help in their bid to emigrate. The letter said that Soviet authorities refused to grant them exit visas "for many years without foundation," that Soviet Jews were "doomed to moral destruction" deprived of the right to a normal life, and were "subjected to every kind of restriction including isolation in prison."

PARLIAMENTARIANS SET UP GROUP TO PROMOTE EUROPEAN-ARAB COOPERATION

PARIS, March 25 (JTA)--Thirty West European parliamentarians met here this weekend and set up an inter-parliamentary group to promote European cooperation with the Arab nations. At a press conference today, the group's co-presidents, French Deputy Raymond Offroy (Gaullist) and English MP Christopher Mayhew (Labor), said the group's first decision was to inform by letter the Arab heads of state as well as American Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger of the group's existence and objectives.

These objectives include in particular, they said, encouraging all peace-making efforts in the Middle East and initiating long-term cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Arab world. Initial contacts between group delegates and Arab parliamentarians will be made at the forthcoming Parliamentary Union Conference to be held in Bucharest on April 15.

The Netherlands was conspicuously absent from the weekend meeting which included delegates from France, Belgium, West Germany, Denmark, Italy, Great Britain, and Ireland. Four Dutch parliamentarians declined the invitation to attend without stating their reasons.

BONN (JTA)--West German investors have ploughed about \$83 million into new Israeli hotels over the past four years. German investment accounts for 90% of all new hotel financing in 4 years.

CHAVEZ ASSAILED BY TROTSKYISTS FOR DEFENDING ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA)—The Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist) has uncovered a new enemy of the Arab people—none other than Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers Union. Miguel Pendas, writing in this week's issue of the SWP's organ, The Militant, raps Chavez for expressing "a sense of solidarity" with Israel and deploring "the armed violation of peace in the Middle East on Yom Kippur."

Chavez, who made this statement last Dec. in a telegram to the congregational and rabbinic bodies of Reform Judaism, also noted that "as individuals committed to the cause of freedom, concerned with the fate of victims of racial, ethnic and religious prejudice and discrimination we feel a particular sense of solidarity with Israel's struggle to survive as a democracy in peace." Furthermore, he wrote, "as persons of minority backgrounds, we share Israel's aspirations to integrate people from vastly different backgrounds and to provide them all, including Jew and Arab alike, with the benefits of an advanced social system."

Pendas is deeply disturbed by Chavez's views and castigates him in no uncertain terms. "Brother Chavez is wrong to link the struggle of Chicanos with the aims of the Israeli State," the Trotskyist columnist writes. "The Chicano struggle, and in particular that of the farm workers, finds its parallel not with Zionism but with the struggle for self-determination of the Arab people."

Trotskyist Version Of History

Scolding the trade union leader for misreading history, Pendas offers his version: "Regardless of who fired the first shot in the recent Yom Kippur War in the Middle East, it is Israel who is the real violator of peace. The very existence of the Israeli State has been an 'armed violation' of the rights of Arabs since its creation in 1948." Pendas continues his lesson by noting that Israel "is a settler-colonialist state" which owes its existence "in large measure to U.S. financial and military aid" and "serves as a beachhead for yanqui imperialism."

Zionists, the Trotskyist continues, "are the pawns of the American ruling class—the very people who are now trying to crush the Farm Workers Union. They have sided with the enemies of Chicanos and all working people" Pendas concludes by noting that the Palestinian struggle for the "creation of a democratic, secular Palestine where both Jews and Arabs can live" requires "the dismantling of the present State of Israel" which has not created an integrated society "but rather an exclusive state for Jews."

Pendas fails to mention that many Jewish organizations, including the Reform bodies to which Chavez sent his telegram, and Zionist groups in this country, have long supported the United Farm Workers Union's struggle to organize the Chicanos and the grape and lettuce workers and have pledged not to purchase non-union picked lettuce and grapes.

Pendas also fails to mention that Chavez affirmed that "mankind must never forget the crime committed three decades ago when six million were gassed in Hitler's crematorium" and that in this spirit urged "peaceful and rational negotiations by both sides" and urged "all our brothers and sisters in the farmworker movement and people of good will throughout the world to stand with Israel in its struggle to live and be

free." Pendas, the Trotskyist "teacher," should recall the words of Karl Marx that even "the educator himself must be educated." (By Murray Zuckoff.)

TAY-SACHS PREVENTION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN GREATER BOSTON AREA

BOSTON, March 25 (JTA)—A Tay-Sachs Prevention Program has been established to detect the incidence of Tay-Sachs disease among the Jewish population of Greater Boston, through the support of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston. An advance of \$30,000 from the Combined Jewish Philanthropies enabled the program to start quickly in the fall of 1973, and provided the stimulus for other foundations to give financial support to the program. Two major contributions have already been received from both a Jewish and a non-sectarian foundation.

More than 1700 persons have been tested in the program's first three screenings, held in various suburban Boston communities. Results so far show a carrier rate of about one in 30 among individuals who had no prior knowledge of the disease in their families. Three additional screenings are planned for this spring, at which another 800 persons are expected to be treated. The Tay-Sachs Prevention Program is sponsored jointly by CJP, the Beth Israel Hospital (a CJP constituent agency), and the Tay-Sachs Foundation of New England, along with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center and the Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Primarily directed towards Jewish couples between the ages of 18 and 40, the prevention program aims to provide information about Tay-Sachs disease, conduct monthly screenings, and offer counseling for carriers. Directors of the program are Dr. Edwin H. Kolodny, assistant neurologist at the Massachusetts General Hospital and senior investigator at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, and Dr. Allen Crocker, director of the Child Development Evaluation Clinic at the Children's Hospital Medical Center.

COST UP FOR PLANTING TREE IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA)—Effective Sept. 1, the cost of planting a tree in Israel will rise from the present price of \$2.50 to \$3.00, it was announced by Abram Salomon, executive vice-president of the Jewish National Fund. The price increase was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Fund at its last meeting.

The cost of planting a garden of 100 trees will be \$300, a grove of 1000 trees will be \$3000, a woodland of 2500 trees will be \$7500, but the price of a forest of 10,000 trees and up will remain at the present rate of \$2.50 per tree. The JNF's Sefer Hayeled (Children's Register) will now be \$18 ("chai"), and the Sefer Bar Mitzvah (Bar Mitzvah Book) will go up to \$36 (twice "chai"). The price of an inscription in the JNF Golden Book will remain at its present level of \$100.

In announcing the increases, Salomon said the increase in the price of tree-planting and in "other contributions through the Jewish National Fund was prompted by the sharp rise in tree-planting costs in Israel."

SOFIA (JTA)—The government has awarded the "Order of the Popular Republic of Bulgaria" to Jewish writer Isaac Moshev on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Moshev, who fought in the Spanish Civil War against Franco and who was a prisoner in the St. Cyprien concentration camp in France, is a former secretary of the Bulgarian Jewish Central Consistory. He was also a member of the Central Union of Jewish Cultural Centers in Bulgaria.