



daily news bulletin

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CUBAN BRIGADE TRANSFERRED TO SYRIA AT RUSSIA'S INSISTENCE

By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--A Cuban armored brigade in Syria was transferred there several months ago at the insistence of the Soviet Union which wants to involve as many of its satellites as possible with the Damascus regime, sources here disclosed today. According to the sources, the presence of the Cuban units in Syria was known to Israeli authorities for some time but was not made public until Defense Minister Moshe Dayan made the disclosure yesterday on the NBC-TV "Meet The Press" program in Washington.

Dayan said there were also North Korean units in Syria and units from other Arab states. The sources here said the Soviet Union may also be behind the presence of certain East German elements in Syria but did not elaborate or identify those elements.

According to the sources, foreign Arab military units in Syria, including units from Saudi Arabia, are manning front line positions and have taken an active part in recent border incidents. But the Cuban armored units, described as of brigade strength, and the North Korean pilots known to be serving with the Syrian Airforce are there mainly for morale boosting purposes and on training and instructional assignments, the sources said.

Cuban Presence Surrogate For USSR's Presence

Political analysts in Jerusalem are convinced that the Cuban military presence in Syria has the blessings of Moscow, if not there actually at Moscow's behest. They say it is inconceivable that Cuba would involve itself in a military adventure on the other side of the world without Russian approval or instigation. They say, in fact, that the Cuban presence in Syria may be a surrogate for an actual Soviet presence.

According to the analysts, Moscow may be signalling the U.S. by the presence of its satellites in Syria that the USSR will not allow a major Syrian defeat. The Cuban presence also has an inhibiting effect on any offensive action Israel may contemplate to silence Syrian guns on the northern front. Such action could lead to a clash with Communist forces, something Israel is trying to avoid. The Cabinet will meet in special session Wednesday to discuss the situation on the Syrian front. Defense Minister Dayan is expected to report on his trip to Washington.

But Syria, too, is reportedly being pushed in different directions by its Arab allies. The Egyptian Minister of War, Field Marshall Ahmed Ismail Ali, arrived in Damascus yesterday, apparently to convince President Hafez Assad to enter into disengagement negotiations with Israel. Several hours later, the Libyan Minister of Information, Ahmed Makassbi, showed up in the Syrian capital, presumably to urge an opposite course.

ISRAEL CONSULTING WITH U.S. ON DETERIORATION ON SYRIAN FRONT

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Israeli authorities are consulting with the United States on what to do about the seriously deteriorating sit-

uation on the Syrian front where artillery and tank duels continued this morning for the 21st consecutive day. Sources here said Israel is faced with a decision either to remain passive--returning Syrian fire only when provoked--or to launch offensive action aimed at silencing the Syrian batteries and tank guns.

The dilemma is two-fold, sources here indicated. If Israel holds its forces in restraint until U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger visits the Middle East again to try to work out a disengagement accord with Syria, Israel runs the risk of serious escalation and mounting casualties. Kissinger, presently honeymooning in Mexico, is not expected back in Washington until mid-April and probably will not visit the region before the end of this month.

On the other hand, if Israel launches an offensive operation, its outcome is unpredictable and might adversely effect the entire Middle East situation, the sources said. The Syrians meanwhile have made it clear that they intend to continue their escalation on the northern front. Yesterday Syrian news media departed from its usual factual reportage of events on the front and indulged in commentaries of a clearly provocative nature intended to increase tension.

This morning, Syrian artillery and tanks opened fire along the entire Golan front at 10 a.m. local time. Israeli forces returned the fire which was still continuing at noon. No casualties were reported on the Israeli side. Late this afternoon Syrians directed fire at the Israeli civilian settlements on the Golan Heights, causing a further escalation of fighting there. There were no casualties, but electric and water supply networks were damaged. An Israeli army spokesman said that as a result of the escalation and the observation that Syrian forces were also on special alert, the Israeli army has increased its forces in the north and the army has been placed on a higher state of alert.

LIKUD CALLS FOR VOTE ON WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--The Likud Knesset faction decided yesterday to submit a private bill calling for a national referendum on the future of the West Bank. The bill, initiated by Herut leader Menachem Begin and supported by Gen. Ariel Sharon, founder of Likud, was in response to a statement by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan in New York Saturday night that Israel was prepared to negotiate with Jordan and the Palestinians, Begin said.

According to Begin, that statement made by Dayan at a dinner of the United Jewish Appeal, indicated that the government was prepared to make territorial concessions. The present Cabinet majority may support "the repartition of Eretz Israel" but most of the public is against it and therefore the issue must be decided by the people through a referendum, Begin said. Sharon said the public has to decide before the government completes negotiations for territorial concessions. He urged the establishment of "faits accomplis" in the territories to preclude their return to the Arabs.

HAZANI RESIGNS FROM COALITION CABINET

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Michael Hazani,

the Minister of Social Welfare, announced his resignation today, becoming the first National Religious Party Minister to leave Premier Golda Meir's coalition Cabinet barely a month after it was formed. He resigned after the NRP's Central Committee voted by a comfortable margin yesterday to remain in the government.

Hazani had proposed that the NRP leave the government temporarily, while continuing to support it in the Knesset, as a gesture of protest against the failure to resolve the Who is a Jew issue according to Orthodox demands. His proposal was rejected by the Central Committee. Hazani said today that he felt that "such problems are not solved by a voting hand." He said he had a long talk with Premier Meir before announcing his resignation.

The NRP now has to fill his Cabinet seat. According to some observers, his most likely successor is Mrs. Tova Sanhedrai, a leader of the NRP's women's group, who would become the second woman ever to sit in an Israeli Cabinet. Mrs. Sanhedrai was not elected to the Knesset but Cabinet members are not required to be MKs.

Observers here said Hazani's resignation might lead to the resignations of the other two NRP ministers--Yosef Burg and Yitzhak Rafael--from the Cabinet which could precipitate the break-up of Mrs. Meir's coalition. Interior Minister Burg refused to comment on Hazani's move but representatives of the party's "Young Guard" who oppose the NRP's participation in the government welcomed his decision. It was also welcomed by members of the Likud who saw in Hazani's departure the likelihood that the Labor-led government would fall, leading to the establishment of a national unity coalition embracing Likud.

U.S. CONSULATE IN ALEXANDRIA

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--Diplomatic relations between the United States and Egypt will soon be at the level prior to the Six-Day War. The State Department announced today that it expects to reopen its Consulate-General in Alexandria in mid-May and that the Cairo government will reactivate its Consulate-General in New York, too. Department spokesman John King said that the U.S. move is in keeping with "the increasing commercial and other activities" resulting from the flow of diplomatic relations that resumed Feb. 28.

While diplomatic ties formally were severed by Egypt in June 1967, the consulate relationship was not broken. Both nations, however, closed down their offices in New York and Alexandria as well as their embassies in Washington and Cairo, the Egyptians being the first to do so in each case.

JEWISH WRITERS, JEWISH THEMES ENJOYING POPULARITY IN HUNGARY By Andrew Sumeghi

BUDAPEST, April 1 (JTA)--Jewish writers and Jewish themes are enjoying a certain popularity throughout Hungary. One can now find a novel on the founding of the State of Israel in the local bookshops. The book, "The Seven Days of Avraham Bogatir," by Gyorgy Kardos, tells the story of a Jewish peasant who emigrated from Russia to Palestine.

American Jewish writer Saul Bellow's "Hersog" is a best seller here and the plays of American playwright Arthur Miller are performed in Budapest and the provinces as well. His work "Focal Point," which deals with anti-Semitism

was even successful in small towns and villages, the stronghold of Hungarian anti-Semitism.

The short stories of Sholom Aleichem from which the musical "Fiddler on the Roof" was adapted are also quite popular. "Fiddler" continues to play to packed houses in Budapest. "Moses" by classical Hungarian playwright Imre Madach, is also playing here and has been hailed "the greatest success in Hungary in 50 years." Soviet novelist Natalia Ginzburg and Ilya Ehrenburg's works on anti-Semitism in Russian are also widely read.

CHILEAN RABBI ONE OF SEVERAL CLERICS SEEKING TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO 131 PERSONS WHO DISAPPEARED

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--Rabbi Angel Kreiman of Santiago, Chief Rabbi of Chile, was one of a number of major religious leaders who filed a habeas corpus motion this weekend in a court of appeals in Santiago for 131 people who disappeared after they were arrested in the months following the overthrow of the government of Dr. Salvador Allende Gossens last Sept., according to new reports reaching here.

The appeal to the court was signed by the Rev. Helmut Frenz, Lutheran Bishop of Chile and leader of the country's Protestant church groups, Msgr. Fernando Ruiz, Auxiliary of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Santiago, and Rabbi Kreiman, members of the Committee of Cooperation for Peace in Chile, a group that legally assists detainees and workers dismissed for economic or political reasons, according to reports.

In their appeal, the clerics requested the court to ask the military authorities about the fate of the 131 detainees, where they are being held and the reasons for the detentions. The appeal also asks for the immediate release of those who are being detained without legal reasons. There was no immediate indication as to whether any of the detainees are Jews.

Rabbi Kreiman, 27, is a Conservative rabbi who came to Santiago from Buenos Aires in 1972 after three Conservative rabbis and one Orthodox rabbi left the country after Dr. Allende became President. Rabbi Kreiman, a member of the Rabbinical Assembly and the World Council of Synagogues, was instrumental in reviving synagogue attendance in Santiago by older as well as younger Jews and also aided in the maintenance of the Orthodox synagogue. Since the military junta came to power, he and other leaders of the Jewish community have participated in helping restore the nation's activities.

LONDON (JTA)--President Anwar Sadat of Egypt said that there were "many secret facts" in Egypt's relations with the United States "which indicate beyond doubt that there is a basic change in American policy toward peace and the establishment of a balanced relationship" between the Arabs and Israel. However, "the time has not come to reveal them," Sadat said in an interview with the BBC's Arabic Service monitored here. He added that the U.S. is now searching for peace and a peaceful settlement of the Mideast crisis "whereas in the past the United States was completely biased in favor of Israel."

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Executive Board of the World Zionist Organization decided unanimously Monday that the Assembly of the World Jewish Congress should be held in Jerusalem. The Zionist Executive voted to appeal to all Jewish organizations and federations represented in the WJC Congress to ensure that the Assembly will be held here.

DAYAN, SCHLESINGER DISCUSS ISRAEL'S ARMS NEEDS TO MEET FUTURE ACTIONS BY ISRAEL'S ARAB NEIGHBORS

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger engaged in a discussion, at the Pentagon today presumably on the quality of Soviet and American weapons of comparable purpose used in the Yom Kippur War and Israel's requirements to meet possible future onslaughts from its Arab neighbors, particularly from the air. No specific information on the nature of the meeting was released.

Sitting in on the discussion were Deputy Defense Secretary William Clements and the head of Israel's Purchasing Mission in New York, Schmu'el Dror. The Israeli Embassy Air Attache, Col. Yeshayahu Areet, who is acting as the Embassy's Defense Attache, also was present. Dror's presence seemed to indicate that the question of the cost of U.S. weapons was high on the agenda. President Nixon has not yet determined how much of the \$2.2 billion in aid to Israel is to be given as a gift. The President can grant up to \$1.5 billion of the total sum and nearly all of the remaining \$700 million in loans.

Dayan later today discussed the matters, it was understood, with members of the Senate Armed Services Committee at the invitation of its chairman, Sen. John Stennis (D, Miss.). He is not scheduled to have any additional official or public meetings before his return to Israel tomorrow.

Yesterday on NBC-TV "Meet The Press" program Dayan said "no" in response to a direct question whether he has "accomplished something" on this five-day trip to Washington that included two sessions with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. These were concerned primarily with the projected Israeli and Syrian negotiations on the Golan Heights.

Delivering Israel's proposals to Kissinger for disengagement, Dayan said, was "the first step" in that process. He said that "we expect the State Department to be a kind of a mediator between us and the Syrians" but in the meeting with Schlesinger, Dayan added he would "discuss relations and arms supply" between the United States and Israel and that "will be a direct negotiation." (By Joseph Polakoff)

JEW CHARGED WITH MURDER OF SYRIAN WOMEN WAS RELATIVE OF ONE VICTIM

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--Azur Zalta, one of two Syrian Jews accused by Syrian authorities of the murders of four Jewish women, was the brother-in-law of one of the victims, Eva Saad, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from sources here today. Their relationship is further evidence that Zalta is being held on charges trumped up by the Syrians to cover their own complicity in the murders, the sources said. The four victims were all dressmakers in Damascus. Eva Saad's parents, two sisters and a brother live in Damascus as do Abraham and Polin Zeybak, parents of the three murdered sisters. They have four other children, two boys and two girls. The father is a vendor of used clothes.

DULZIN, HARMAN BOTH SEEKING POSTS LEFT VACANT BY DEATH OF PINCUS

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--An inter-party political battle is shaping up over who will succeed the late Louis Pincus as chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Executives.

The new chairman will be elected in June when the General Assembly of the Jewish Agency convenes here. Acting chairman Leon Dulzin, who has occupied the dual post since Pincus' death last year, has announced his candidacy and promised to fight any candidate the Labor Party might put forward. Dulzin is a leader of the Liberal Party, one of the constituents of the Likud opposition.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from reliable sources today that the Labor Party leadership, including Premier Golda Meir, is backing Hebrew University President Avraham Harman for the chairmanship. Harman is a member of the Labor Party and a former Ambassador to the U.S. According to sources here, many ranking members of the Jewish Agency regard Dulzin as best suited for the job. He has served well as acting chairman and before that as Jewish Agency Treasurer. But Mrs. Meir and other Labor Party leaders will never agree to the key post being given to a member of the political opposition, the sources said.

EGYPT AGREES TO EXTEND BY ONE WEEK ISRAELI BODIES' SEARCH

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--Egypt has agreed to an Israeli request for a one-week extension of the search for the bodies of missing Israeli soldiers believed killed during the initial stages of the Yom Kippur War, it was announced today. Between 90-100 Israeli soldiers are still missing on the Egyptian front and are believed to have fallen in the vicinity of the former Barlev Line, now in Egyptian hands.

The search deadline, set by the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement agreement signed last Jan. 19 expired yesterday. But delays and difficulties attending the operation made it necessary for Israel to ask for additional time. Relatives of missing soldiers have expressed fear that one more week will not be enough to locate all the missing bodies and a second extension may be requested. It was learned that Gen. Herzl Shafir, head of the Army Manpower Branch, will meet with his Egyptian counterpart, Gen. Majdoub, shortly for that purpose.

Israeli authorities meanwhile have accused the Egyptians of obstructing and delaying the body search. The searches are carried out by teams of Israeli and United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) personnel accompanied by Egyptian liaison officers. The Egyptians, however, have restricted the Israeli personnel to rabbis, members of the chaplaincy corps. Yesterday a team of rabbis headed by Army Chief Chaplain Gen. Mordechai Firon was kept waiting four hours at a UN checkpoint between Kantara and Balooza for an Egyptian liaison officer who never showed up. The Egyptians refused to admit the team into their zone and yesterday's body search had to be cancelled.

Meanwhile, the search for Egyptian dead in the Israeli zone is continuing. One of the bodies found was that of Aatef Sadat, an Egyptian pilot who was the step-brother of President Anwar Sadat. His remains were handed over to Egypt last weekend and he was buried today in the Nile delta. He was shot down while participating in an Egyptian air attack on Refidim in the Bir Gifgafa region of central Sinai only ten minutes after Egypt launched its surprise attack last Oct. 6. The body, missing until last week, was identified through papers found on it.

BONN (JTA)--Former Gestapo members Gustav Barschdorf, 66, and Felix Gruber, 71, are on trial in Hamburg charged with murdering a Norwegian woman in Oslo in May 1942.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**ISRAEL WATCHING DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAQ**

By Ehud Yaari, JTA Jerusalem Correspondent

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Israelis are watching with the keenest interest developments in Iraq's northern provinces where a new armed confrontation appears imminent between the Iraqi army and rebellious Kurds led by Mulla Mustafa Barzani. An ultimatum the Baghdad regime handed Barzani 20 days ago expired last week with no indication that the rebels would accept the limited autonomy plan offered them by the Baathist government. The government threatens to implement the plan by force. Barzani's 15,000-strong guerrilla army--"Pesh Merjha"--has been freshly equipped with weapons and is prepared to resist.

Although these events are remote from Israel and are not directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, what happens in the northern reaches of Iraq could have considerable bearing on whether there is a disengagement agreement or renewed warfare on the Syrian front.

Observers here point out that in its past troubles with the Kurds, the Iraqi government was forced to seek the help of Syrian troops. Thus the Kurdish rebellion in the 1960s made for a period of quiet on Israel's northern frontier. Today, the greatly expanded Iraqi army is considered capable of dealing with the rebels alone--except that the Kurds may get support from Iraq's powerful neighbor, Iran.

Effect On Syrian Fighting

Relations between Baghdad and Teheran are at an all time low. The Iranians are in close touch with Barzani whom they consider part of the pan-Iranian movement and a natural ally. It is the Iranians rather than the Kurds who constitute the kind of military threat that forces Baghdad to keep its army at home rather than in Syria where it fought against Israel in the Yom Kippur War.

If Iraqi forces cannot be expected to re-enforce the Syrian army along the Golan Heights, the Damascus regime may well adopt a more moderate position, Israeli sources believe. The hawks in Damascus who are demanding that President Hafez Assad cooperate with Iraq against the "soft line" taken by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt are not likely to prevail if Iraq becomes militarily and politically embroiled in its own internal problems.

It is believed here therefore that Barzani will indirectly influence the course of disengagement talks between Israel and Syria, the preliminary stages of which are scheduled to start in Washington soon. If the Iraqis find themselves with a full-scale rebellion on their hands backed by Iran, the pace and tenor of disengagement talks with Syria could be affected, observers here believe.

RABBI URGES JEWISH TEACHERS, STUDENTS TO REMAIN HOME APRIL 8

OCEAN TOWNSHIP, N.J., April 1 (JTA)--Rabbi Jacob S. Friedman, the township's only rabbi, said today he had appealed to all local Jewish families to keep their children home from school on the second day of Passover, April 8, and urged every Jewish teacher to be absent after the township Board of Education again rejected appeals to include Passover in its spring holiday schedule.

Rabbi Friedman, of Temple Beth Torah, also told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he had

the full support of his board for that appeal and for his offer to pay the day's salary to any Jewish teacher who said that he or she must work on April 8 because the money is needed. He said he would make such payments, if necessary, out of the synagogue's rabbi's fund or his own funds.

Rabbi Friedman made his appeal in a letter in the current bulletin of his 300-family synagogue. He declared that if the school board had scheduled spring vacation to start on April 8 for a week, provisions would have been made for Jewish children and teachers to observe Passover without penalty of missing classes and for Christians to observe Good Friday and Easter.

Board Is Prejudicial, Discriminatory

However, he added, "for some mysterious and unknown reason," the school board "chooses to remain blind to logical planning and ignorant of the feelings of a large minority in its school." He said he had made appearances before the board privately and publicly on the matter without success. He charged the school board with being "prejudicial and discriminatory in its policy regarding the subject of holiday scheduling." He suggested that "if we, parents, students and teachers stick together as a Jewish community, then maybe we will help the Board of Education overcome its handicap of ignorance and blindness."

The Conservative rabbi said that during his nine years in the Temple Beth Torah pulpit, the school board had only twice recognized the Jewish community in its holiday scheduling. He said between 20 and 25 percent of the 8000 students in the township's five public schools are Jewish and that "a goodly portion" of the teachers, which he estimated as more than 30 percent, are Jews. He also commented that two of the nine school board members are Jews.

TASK FORCE SET UP TO HELP JCCA FIND FOSTER HOMES FOR CHILDREN

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--Rabbi Isaac N. Trainin, chairman of the Commission on Synagogue Relations of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, said today that it had set up a special task force to help the Jewish Child Care Association find foster homes for children--particularly physically handicapped, emotionally disturbed and inter-racial youngsters. He said the task force is headed by Rabbi Murray Grauer, of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains.

Its members are Robert Coleman, director of the department of social justice of the Synagogue Council of America; Rabbi Roy Tannenbaum; Andrew Fier, president of the Commission on Synagogue Relations; and Gustave Jacobs, a lay leader. Rabbi Trainin said he also participates in the task force. He said there was no joint commission of the Federation and the SCA for the purpose as reported by the JTA March 28.

BOSTON (JTA)--The 30th anniversary of the rescue of Danish Jewry will be marked here Wednesday by a luncheon meeting co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Boston, and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Bent Skou of the Royal Danish Embassy in Washington will be the luncheon's guest of honor. The rescue of Danish Jewry took place during the fall of 1943 and was the only successful large-scale rescue operation to take place in Europe. All but 400 of Denmark's 4000 Jews were saved during this period.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated April 8 due to the Passover holiday.