



ISRAELI PLANE LOST; CREW BAILS OUT AND TAKEN PRISONER BY LEBANESE Syrians Continue Shelling Israeli Positions

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA)--An Israel Air Force plane was lost and its crew bailed out over Lebanese territory in the vicinity of Mt. Hermon this morning, a military spokesman reported. According to the spokesman, the plane caught fire as a result of a mechanical malfunction and had to be abandoned. It was the first Israeli Air Force plane lost since the Yom Kippur War. The type of plane and number of its crew were not disclosed. The families of the crew members have been notified. The official Lebanese radio reported today that two Israeli pilots had bailed out safely and were taken prisoner.

Meanwhile, Syrian forces continued shelling Israeli positions all along the cease-fire lines today. Israeli forces returned the fire in an exchange that started in the morning and continued during the afternoon. No Israeli casualties were reported. A military spokesman said artillery and tank fire was exchanged on the southern Golan Heights and in the Syrian enclave captured by Israel during the Yom Kippur War. He said the Syrians also fired from time to time at Israeli positions on Mt. Hermon. According to an Israeli spokesman, Syrian targets 15 kilometers behind the lines were hit by Israeli artillery during yesterday's exchange.

Fighting escalated along the Syrian front over the Passover weekend. Israel Air Force planes went into action Saturday for the first time since the cease-fire to forestall a Syrian commando group attempting to seize the peak of Mt. Hermon, some 9000 feet above sea level. An Israeli soldier was injured during an eight-hour artillery duel yesterday that continued after dark.

Syrian gunners shelled Israeli positions in the southern Golan Heights and along the Yom Kippur War enclave most of Saturday, employing artillery, tank guns and, in one sector several Soviet-made "Sager" anti-tank missiles. The Syrians also initiated artillery and tank duels Friday in the Golan and enclave sectors. No Israeli casualties were reported in those exchanges.

Mt. Hermon Assault Most Serious Effort

The Syrian attempt on Mt. Hermon between Friday night and dawn Saturday was regarded as the most serious escalation since the Syrians initiated their war of attrition over a month ago. The Hermon peak was captured by Israeli forces during the Yom Kippur War but was abandoned because of severe weather conditions on the snow-covered mountain. Israeli forces continued to patrol the region, however, and on Saturday morning they spotted Syrians on the mountain top.

The Syrian force, estimated at 40 or more men, was regarded as a possible advance force heralding a major Syrian ground attack. Alerted Israeli forces opened mortar and artillery fire in an effort to dislodge them. The Air Force was also called in. Syrian jets were seen along

the cease-fire line but made no attempt to intervene. The Syrians eventually withdrew from Mt. Hermon. Two Syrian soldiers were spotted and Israeli forces captured one of them who disclosed that he belonged to a commando unit.

The Syrians apparently were attempting to establish an artillery observation post on top of the mountain which would give them an excellent vantage point for directing fire at Israeli forces deployed on the Yom Kippur War enclave. Syrian gunners shelled the Mt. Hermon peak Saturday night, apparently believing that Israeli soldiers had reoccupied the site.

Assad Warns Syria Will Continue Arms Build-Up

According to reports received here from Damascus, Syrian President Hafez Assad said last night his country would continue building up its armed forces until victory. Addressing a rally in Damascus marking the 27th anniversary of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, the Syrian leader said: "The enemy (Israel) has stepped up the fighting with the aim of exerting further pressure on us, intimidate us and prevent us from persisting in our march."

Assad did not rule out political action to reach a Mideast settlement. "But political action as we understand it must be aimed at achieving an honorable solution which ensures justice and puts things in their right place," he declared, adding "in like manner and for this aim we understand military action and will continue exercising it."

JOURNALIST ACCUSES DUTCH RADIO NETWORKS OF COLLABORATION WITH NAZIS DURING WAR

AMSTERDAM, April 8 (JTA)--A book by a Dutch television journalist accusing the Dutch radio networks of collaboration with the Nazis during the occupation (1944-45) is causing a sensation throughout The Netherlands. The book, by Dick Verkijk, is not due to go on sale until the end of this month, but excerpts have appeared in several dailies and weeklies in the last few weeks.

Verkijk, who was a child during the occupation, did several years' research on the 750-page study of the networks' attitude during the occupation. In the book, he shows most networks and their employees willingly collaborated with the Germans, including many well-known names still in the business today. Apparently the post-war de-Nazification of the broadcasting business was limited to the removal of only the most blatant Nazi sympathizers.

Verkijk's book received a sharp attack from a former Dutch resistance leader and government official, 70-year-old Dr. Jaap Burger, who criticized the book for being "based on abstract research by a man who during the occupation was too young to bear any responsibility." Dr. Burger headed the post-war de-Nazification program in The Netherlands and was Labor Minister in several post-war Cabinets.

LABOR PARTY FACES WORST CRISIS IN ITS HISTORY--By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir's Labor Party, struggling with the worst crisis in its history, was at odds today over whether the government should resign en bloc or simply

reshuffle Cabinet portfolios eliminating Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. The immediate aim is to avoid a no confidence vote when the Knesset meets in extraordinary special session Thursday, which would topple the government and make new elections unavoidable. One solution proposed over the weekend was for Mrs. Meir's government to resign and reform itself immediately with the Defense portfolio allotted to someone else.

While Mrs. Meir and some top party leaders have not totally rejected that course, they are, not especially enthusiastic about dismembering their hard-won coalition and trying to put it together again without new elections. The preference tonight seemed to be to keep the Cabinet intact while re-distributing key posts in it. But such a move could lead to the defection of Dayan's former Rafi faction which would destroy the government, if not the party, and lead to new elections.

Consultations went on all day and into the night among the Labor ministers, the powerful Tel Aviv-based Labor Party group known as "Gush," the Mapam Executive Committee and the Independent Liberals. The other coalition partner, the National Religious Party, has maintained discreet silence up to now. A meeting of Labor ministers with the party's Knesset faction scheduled for this evening to take a final decision was postponed because of the late hour and probably will be held tomorrow when the Cabinet is also scheduled to meet.

Meanwhile, a group of Labor ministers, including Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir and Justice Minister Haim Zadok, accompanied by Party Secretary General Aharon Yadlin, met with Rafi leader Shimon Peres, the Minister of Information. Dayan was not present. The Labor ministers reportedly proposed an internal reshuffle on the understanding that Dayan would relinquish the Defense portfolio though not necessarily leave the government.

The latest crisis was precipitated by the Aganat Committee's partial report, released last week, which blamed the military high command for Israel's lack of preparedness when the Yom Kippur War broke out but absolved the political leadership, particularly Dayan, of blame. The committee's report touched off charges of "whitewash" and demands in the Knesset and among the public that the principle of ministerial responsibility be upheld. Dayan was the main target.

Propose Cabinet Resign, Re-Form Minus Dayan

Proposals that the entire Cabinet resign and re-form without Dayan surfaced over the weekend after it became apparent that Mrs. Meir could not bring herself to ask the Defense Minister for his resignation. She and Dayan met Friday. Dayan reportedly asked her directly if she wanted his resignation, a question he had put to her four months ago at the end of the Yom Kippur War. This time the Premier did not give him a clear-cut "no" but said she would put the matter before the party for a decision.

The situation became complicated when the Rafi faction decided that the question was a political matter rather than Dayan's personal problem. It agreed that the entire Cabinet resign and re-form itself with portfolios changing hands. But Rafi would not agree to any changes prior to the government's resignation. Other party factions insisted, however, that the government could not resign unless its new composition is made clear beforehand. Rafi countered

with the demand that the party's three components--Mapai, Achdut Avoda and Rafi--convene to choose, first of all, a new Prime Minister and then fill other key Cabinet posts.

Mrs. Meir acknowledged that her own position was shaky. She was reportedly warned Saturday by Haifa Mayor Joseph Almog, the former Labor Minister, that "They will not stop with Dayan. It is you they are after." To which Mrs. Meir replied, "You're telling me?"

The dilemma faced by the Labor Party is that a majority vote forcing Dayan's resignation could lead to defection by Rafi which would vote against the government in the Knesset showdown, precipitating its downfall. In that case, new elections would have to be called for, probably next Oct., with the present regime serving as a caretaker government.

Sapir and other party leaders have expressed fear that in such a situation the National Religious Party would again refuse to join a new coalition unless the Who is a Jew issue is resolved according to Orthodox demands. They also fear that irresistible pressure would build up for a national unity regime embracing Likud, a situation that, according to the Labor Party leadership, would mean a government united in paralysis at a time of fateful negotiations with the Arabs.

WALDHEIM-NIXON HOLD MIDEAST PARLEY

UNITED NATIONS, April 8 (JTA)--Secretary General Kurt Waldheim met with President Nixon in Paris over the weekend and the main topic of their discussion was the Middle East, a United Nations spokesman reported today. According to the spokesman, Nixon said he was pleased to note the constructive role the UN was playing in the Middle East. (According to reports from Paris, the Middle East was also the main topic discussed when Nixon met there yesterday with the Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny. Nixon and Podgorny were among those who attended funeral services for the late French President Georges Pompidou.)

Meanwhile, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who arrived at the UN today for a special session of the General Assembly on world economic problems, remarked, "The solution to problems before the session is possible only on the basis of respect for the principles of sovereignty and independence of states, big and small."

The Security Council was scheduled to meet here this afternoon to discuss an extension of the mandate of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) which expires this month. Waldheim will host a dinner tonight for the Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy who is here for the General Assembly session.

JEWS AND SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS

JOHANNESBURG, April 8 (JTA)--In view of some items that have appeared in the press trying to persuade or disaffect Jewish voters in connection with the coming South African general election, David Mann, chairman, South African Jewish Board of Deputies, today issued the following press statement:

"The country is now in the throes of an election campaign. It should not be necessary to reiterate that Jews, like all other citizens, participate in this election as South Africans, and not as members of a particular community or religious denomination. There are no 'Jewish issues' in this election and it is wrong for any newspaper, political party, or candidate to suggest the contrary. It makes an appeal to all concerned neither to employ such tactics nor to be influenced by them."

NEW CHIEF OF STAFF WILL BE NAMED AFTER NEW DEFENSE MINISTER IS CHOSEN

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA)—No new Chief of Staff will be named for Israel's armed forces until a new Defense Minister is selected, informed sources indicated today. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has refrained from appointing a successor to Lt. Gen. David Elazar, who resigned last week, because his own future position in the Cabinet remains uncertain. Should Dayan be forced to resign, as it appeared increasingly likely today, he is expected to be replaced by Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, the Labor Minister, and himself a former Chief of Staff.

Rabin, it was rumored today, would select a new Chief of Staff from among several high ranking officers who recently retired from active duty. These include Maj. Gen. Israel Tal, the former Deputy Chief of Staff; Gen. Yeshayahu Gavish; and Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon, the Likud leader.

Sharon said today that he would be prepared to quit politics and return to the army if he is asked to be Chief of Staff. He was strongly supported for that position by his fellow Likud leader, Menachem Beigin, who acknowledged that Sharon's return to uniform would weaken Likud. "But the needs of the State come first," Beigin told a Likud forum last night.

Elazar Seeking To Clear Himself

Meanwhile, Elazar continued to insist that he was done a serious injustice by the Agranat Committee which, in its partial report released last week, placed the burden of responsibility on him for Israel's lack of military preparedness when the Yom Kippur War broke out. Elazar said in a series of newspaper interviews published over the weekend that he would strive to clear his name of "all those unjustified charges" raised against him. "I can understand that the overall responsibility is placed on the Chief of Staff, but I think that the committee exaggerated in dealing with me and in setting my personal responsibility," he said.

Elazar also charged that the committee acted in violation of its own rules when it failed to invite him to reply to the various charges before its report was released. Although he had no choice but to resign after the Agranat report came out, Elazar insisted that "The way I performed my duties during the Yom Kippur War makes me, even today, the man that can assume this responsibility until the end of my term." He said he had told Premier Golda Meir "that I was hurt above and beyond cause."

SOME 40,000 TOURISTS IN ISRAEL FOR PASSOVER, EASTER HOLIDAYS

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA)—The tense political situation and the continuing war of attrition on the Syrian front had no discernable effect on Passover holiday celebrations in most of Israel today. An estimated 40,000 tourists arrived in the country for the holidays. Most hotels were packed for the first time since the Yom Kippur War and Israelis by the thousands took off for the mountains and seashore although the weather was cloudy and chilly for this time of the year. Extra police were assigned to the main highways but the expected traffic jams did not develop, due mainly to the high price of gasoline.

The security situation was felt in the north where all visitors were barred from the Golan Heights except for the relatives of settlers who

needed special passes to get by the military checkpoints. Hotels in Safad, a mountain resort town in Upper Galilee, were less than full but those in Tiberias had their full quota of guests who could look across the Sea of Galilee to Mt. Hermon and see the Golan Heights. But there were fewer campers than in past years along the shores of the Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinneret).

Thousands of Israelis and tourists visited East Jerusalem yesterday to watch Palm Sunday celebrations. Thousands of Christian Arabs and pilgrims from abroad retraced Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem five days before his crucifixion. They carried palm fronds and chanted hymns as the procession wound its way over a route extending from the east slope of the Mt. of Olives, through the Garden of Gethsemane, to St. Stephens Gate. Church dignitaries, priests, nuns and school children took part in the march which was led by Christian Arab girl and boy scouts. Hundreds of Greek and Cypriot pilgrims arrived in the Old City to attend Greek Orthodox Church Easter rites which, according to their calendar, will begin next Sunday.

More than 80 Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union landed at Ben Gurion Airport Friday to spend their first Passover in Israel. They were given special food parcels for the holiday. Most of them participated in public seders. Yesterday, Labor Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his predecessor, Joseph Almoni cut a ribbon opening a new IL 35 million express highway that shortens the trip between Tel Aviv and Ashdod by 25 kilometers.

TERRORISTS KILL 1, INJURE 4

TEL AVIV, April 9 (JTA)—Terrorist acts over the weekend took the life of an 11-year-old boy on an Egged bus, injured four other passengers and did serious damage to a citrus packing plant near Gaza and an electric power station in Nablus. On Thursday, a homemade bomb exploded in the crowded Hamishbar department store on Allenby Road, causing minor damage but no casualties.

The bus bomb victim was Ronny Kosnitzky of Eilat who was fatally injured while travelling from Eilat to Zichron Yaacov Friday to attend a seder at his grandparents' home. His mother, Dina, 32 and sister, Orly, 12, were injured as were two other passengers when the bomb exploded in the baggage compartment shortly before the bus reached Zichron Yaacov. Police are trying to assemble composite pictures of three Arab passengers who left the bus when it stopped at Hadera. They are suspected of leaving behind the bomb concealed in a valise.

Earlier, a group of masked terrorists attacked two guards at an Israeli-owned citrus packing plant near Gaza, placed explosives and set fire to the building destroying its machinery. Damage was estimated at IL 2 million. The terrorist scrawled a message on the walls saying that they had acted on behalf of the Palestinian liberation forces. Part of Nablus on the West Bank was blacked out last night after a barrel of fuel exploded setting fire to the local power station. Police are trying to determine whether the explosion was the work of terrorists.

The department store in Tel Aviv was jammed with Passover shoppers, mainly women and children, when a bomb exploded on a table of blankets on the third floor of the store. Police said the bomb consisted of two hydrogen fluid containers filled with explosives activated by a timing device. The store remained open but the third floor was closed to shoppers. In Jerusalem a time bomb that could have done severe damage in the city's downtown district was dismantled by police bomb squad experts four hours before it was set to explode.

**JEWISH POLICY REVIEW GROUP
CRITICAL OF KISSINGER DIPLOMACY**
Charges Detente With USSR Illusory

BOSTON, April 8 (JTA)--United States policy in the Middle East is based on an illusory detente with the Soviet Union, an important policy evaluation committee of Boston's Jewish community charged in the first of a series of Middle East study papers prepared for the Joint Mideast Policy Committee of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston and the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Boston.

The group charged that U.S. political investment in detente requires a quick resolution of the Arab-Israel conflict to avoid further Soviet-American confrontation. "All other policy considerations, including the matter of Israel's security and the pursuit of a true and lasting peace in the Middle East have been devalued to protect the investment in detente," the policy paper claims.

Openly critical of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's diplomatic moves, the policy paper accused Kissinger of making an understanding with President Sadat of Egypt to secure an Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory without direct substantive negotiations between the belligerents, without true peace or recognition by the Arab states of Israel's sovereign rights.

"Dr. Kissinger's diplomacy, combined with the effectiveness of the oil weapon and the Arabs own temporary and limited success during the war, far from reconciling the Arabs to Israel's existence, has strengthened their belief in Israel's ultimate destruction....," the policy paper contended.

Super Powers Must Show Restraint.

"The Secretary of State's diplomatic style is one of ambiguities, secret understandings and closed summits--capable in his hands of achieving some spectacular short-term results. But it is not a diplomacy which builds genuine public understanding of the issues--without which a democracy like America cannot exercise the power at its command, nor conduct an effective long-term foreign policy," the paper declared.

The paper presented a grim outlook for the Geneva negotiations, claiming, "The present outlook allows little optimism for the Geneva negotiations, if they do in fact take place. While Israel wants a secure and permanent settlement with her neighbors, the Arab states regard the Geneva proceedings primarily as the political continuation of the October War. Russia is completely committed to backing all Arab demands while the U.S. is primarily concerned with detente, or at least its illusion."

The policy paper noted that for the Geneva talks to serve the cause of peace the USSR "must abandon (its) deliberate policy of maintaining and promoting Mideast tensions; neither the U.S. nor the Soviet Union should intrude, either as advocates or adversaries into the peacemaking process; the U.S. and the Soviet Union should jointly reaffirm, in an open, public declaration, their agreement that neither will commit any combat forces or nuclear weapons into the Middle East; If the two superpowers can "demonstrate true mutual restraint" Geneva could mark a turning point in Mideast history and also "mark a new beginning for the battered spirit of detente," the policy paper declared.

**SAXBE OFFERS 'CLARIFICATION' BUT
CRITICISM OF HIS REMARKS CONTINUES**

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA)--Attorney Gen-

eral William Saxbe has issued a statement which a spokesman termed a "clarification" of his comment last Wednesday that "Jewish intellectuals" were "very enamored of the Communist Party" during the McCarthy era. In his "clarification" Saxbe said he had "long felt there was a great deal of anti-Semitism in the Communist witch hunts of the late 1940s and early 1950s. Much of it was directed at some highly visible Jewish intellectuals who were considered sympathetic to Russia."

Saxbe added that "because of the Soviet posture toward the issues of importance to Jews, this is no longer the case today and I believe this change can best be seen by the totally different type of individual involved in the terrorist groups now operating." The Attorney General's original comment evoked sharp criticism from Jewish leaders and Congressmen.

Representatives Robert Drinan (D. Mass.) and Elizabeth Holtzman (D. N.Y.) demanded that Saxbe repudiate his remarks. Drinan, a Roman Catholic priest, declared that "nothing less than a complete repudiation will suffice." Ms. Holtzman termed Saxbe's remarks "grossly inaccurate" and "brutally insensitive of the history of anti-Semitism throughout the world." The Congresswoman, in a telegram to Saxbe, stated: "It is genuinely appalling to me that you, as the highest legal officer in this country, could so easily adopt the concept of 'Jewish Communist,' a catch phrase that has been a chief tool of anti-Semites since Nazi Germany."

Howard M. Squadron, chairman of the American Jewish Committee's National Governing Council, urged President Nixon to remove Saxbe from office if the Justice Department chief does not himself resign and accused Saxbe of "group libel" for "repeating an old and discredited calumny against the Jewish community." Squadron added that Saxbe's original statement and his "clarification" that followed "demonstrate a way of thinking that classifies people by ethnic stereotype." Earlier, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, also called for Saxbe's resignation or public apology. Other Jewish organizations that assailed Saxbe were the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Jewish Labor Committee and the Jewish War Veterans.

BRITAIN SEEKS TO FREE HESS

LONDON, April 8 (JTA)--Britain's new Labor government today said it favors the release of Hitler's former deputy Rudolf Hess on humanitarian grounds from Spandau jail in West Berlin. Hess, who will be 80 on April 26, has been the sole prisoner in Spandau jail since 1966. He was sentenced to life imprisonment as a war criminal at the 1946 Nuremberg trials. In order to be released, Hess must have the approval of the "Big Four," the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union. But the USSR has been opposed.

The British statement was made by Roy Hattersley, Foreign Office Minister of State, in a written parliamentary reply. He said it had been the view of successive British government that Hess should be released on humanitarian grounds. "There have, however, been no signs that the Soviet government are prepared to change their negative attitude on this question," he said.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--According to a telephone poll conducted by the Dahaf Public Opinion Research Institute among 590 residents of Jerusalem, Haifa, Beersheba and Tel Aviv, 25 percent would vote for the post-war protest movements if they formed a joint Knesset list. However, 46.6 percent were opposed to these groups.