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REPORT CONTAINS NEW INDICTMENTS OF ISRAEL'S LACK OF PREPAREDNESS ON THE EVE OF THE YOM KIPPUR WAR

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 1 (JTA)--The 24th annual report of the State Comptroller, Dr. Yitzhak Nebenzahl, released here yesterday, contains severe new indictments of Israel's lack of preparedness on the eve of the Yom Kippur War. The section of the report dealing with the military, noted serious deficiencies in the repair and maintenance of tanks, half-tracks, troop carriers and other armored vehicles. The report bears out the criticism by many individual soldiers that the equipment handed them when war broke out was in poor condition and often unserviceable. Dr. Nebenzahl is a member of the Agranat Committee investigating the Yom Kippur War.

The committee's preliminary report covering the period immediately before the outbreak of war blamed Israel's lack of preparedness mainly on the military high command and forced the resignation of Chief of Staff Gen. David Elazar. The committee is expected to complete its report covering the conduct of the war some time next fall.

Dr. Nebenzahl acknowledged his conflicting roles when he offered yesterday to resign from the Agranat Committee. He noted that as State Comptroller his duty is to expose shortcomings, including those in the defense network, and as an Agranat Committee member he is one of a panel of five who must determine who is responsible for the self-same shortcomings.

Other Deficiencies Cited

The section of the Comptroller's report dealing with the armed forces stated that scores of half-tracks and armored vehicles had not been inspected for 3-5 years when the Yom Kippur War started, periods much longer than specified in military regulations. The report found serious delays in the periodic testing and maintenance of tanks and a disproportionately high incidence of malfunction of tank and half-track engines that had been overhauled.

A chapter of the report dealing with the emergency storage of tanks and other vehicles found that while regional workshops kept up the maintenance of equipment belonging to units within that region, they neglected to maintain or inspect the equipment of other regional commands stored in the same region.

The bulk of the Comptroller's report dealt with the financial problems of the various government ministries, irregularities, overruns of budgets and incorrect handling of tenders to contractors. The Comptroller found that agreements between the government and financial bodies--mainly mortgage banks--provided excessive income to the banks and higher interest rates for the public. Dr. Nebenzahl urged the government to close the large gap between wages paid to civil servants and those paid on the free market.

STIFF FIGHT LOOMS OVER WZO, JEWISH AGENCY CHAIRMANSHIP

JERUSALEM, May 1 (JTA)--The contest for

the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives is taking on added interest here as it becomes increasingly evident that the Labor Party intends to put up a stiff fight to retain the dual post. The chairman, succeeding the late Louis Pincus, will be chosen by the Jewish Agency General Assembly when it convenes here in June.

Up to now, acting chairman Leon Dulzin seemed to many almost certain of election in view of his wide experience, his creditable performance since Pincus' death and his popularity among Jewish Agency people. But Dulzin belongs to the Likud and the Labor Party seems determined to prevent the most prestigious and important non-governmental post from falling into opposition hands.

It could easily do this, observers say, if Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir agrees to become a candidate for the Jewish Agency-WZO chairmanship. Sources close to Sapir have said he is amenable but the present political situation makes it difficult to predict how the Labor Party "strong man" will act.

Agency, WZO Post May Be Divided

Another name mentioned for the Jewish Agency-WZO post is Foreign Minister Abba Eban, whose participation in the next government is doubtful. Relations between Eban and the new party leader, Yitzhak Rabin are reportedly strained. Eban would have difficulty serving in a Rabin government and it is unlikely that Rabin would ask him. Leadership of the Jewish Agency and the WZO would seem to be the only job available matching the Foreign Minister's talents and international stature.

Dulzin, who officially declared his candidacy some time ago, made it clear that he would not permit the Labor Party to dictate the Jewish Agency's choice. At that time, however, his only serious rival was Hebrew University president Avraham Harman who had the active support of Premier Golda Meir. Since Mrs. Meir's resignation, Harman's candidacy faded and the field seemed clear for Dulzin. But faced with a challenge by Sapir, Dulzin may withdraw his candidacy, according to some observers.

Another possibility, according to observers, is a compromise whereby the Jewish Agency and WZO chairmanships would be separated for the first time. In such an event, Dulzin would head the Jewish Agency and a Labor Party choice would be installed as chairman of the WZO. But it is not clear yet whether Dulzin intends to make such a proposal or whether the Labor Party would agree.

THE VIEW IN ISRAEL: KISSINGER MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THIS TIME

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 1 (JTA)--U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger arrives here tomorrow to begin a round of shuttle diplomacy aimed at achieving a separation of Israeli and Syrian forces, but this time "even Mr. Miracle Man may fail," some Israelis believe. Almost everyone agrees that the negotiating process with Syria will be drawn out, exasperating and far more difficult than the tough bargaining with Egypt that resulted in the Suez disengagement accord of last Jan. 21. Damascus is not Cairo and the Golan Heights

and the rough mountain terrain to its north and east is not the broad, flat Sinai desert, one military source observed. He was referring to the different political situations in the two Arab capitals and the different geography.

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt has opted for better relations with the U.S. and to move away from the Soviet orbit while in Damascus, Moscow's influence was never stronger and is backed up by continuing massive supplies of war materiel, the source pointed out. Whereas Sadat had strong motivations for an accord with Israel--and for the most part is observing it in spirit as well as letter--President Hafez Assad of Syria seems convinced that intransigence and continued fighting is to his advantage. The Russians apparently are encouraging that view.

The only hopeful sign is the fact that the Syrians did send a delegation to Washington last month to present their disengagement terms to Kissinger for conveyance to Israel and they will be meeting with Kissinger again this week. In the long run too, the Syrian position is a weak one.

They lost the Yom Kippur War and cannot even claim the limited military success achieved by the Egyptians. They may be able to continue the war of attrition on the northern front for a considerable time. But they cannot launch a new, all-out war on Israel unless the Egyptians support them with an outbreak on the Sinai front. But Sadat, who has made it clear that he expects great advantages from Kissinger's diplomacy, is not about to be dragged into a new war at this time.

Future Of Kuneitra Is A Major Problem

So while most Israelis agree that "disengagement is not in anybody's pocket," they believe that in the long run Syria will have to accept terms that are acceptable to Israel. The big problem is working out a geographical separation in the confined space of the northern front where there is little room for maneuvering. The jagged, snow-packed slag heap that is Mt. Hermon is part of that problem. Israeli forces control the peak. The Syrians retain positions on its slopes, including a portion in Lebanese territory that further complicates the situation. The Syrians' apparent determination to hold their positions on the mountain is rooted in political and psychological factors no less than military strategy.

Similarly, Israel's possession of Kuneitra, the largest town on the Golan Heights which it captured in the 1967 war, has greater political and psychological than military importance. The flat plain on which Kuneitra is situated is militarily insignificant but the hills to the west of it are the key to possession of the Golan Heights. Were Israel to relinquish Kuneitra in the interests of a disengagement accord, its military superiority on the Heights would not be affected but the act would touch off political turmoil at home.

Potential Repercussions Of Lebanon's Role

A new factor that is causing concern in Israel, because of its potential international repercussions rather than military effects, is the ambiguous role of Lebanon. While claiming to be non-involved if not neutral in the Israeli-Syrian conflict, the Lebanese authorities continue to allow Arab terrorists to operate from their territory against Israel and have permitted Syrian units to occupy strategic heights on the Mt. Hermon ridges inside Lebanon.

The Lebanese have refused to return two Israeli pilots who bailed out over their territory but two Syrian pilots in a similar predicament were sent home within hours. Lebanon has claimed

that Israel violated its territory by building an access road on Mt. Hermon. The claim cannot be substantiated. But even if true, Lebanon stands to benefit from the road if Israel evacuates Mt. Hermon as part of a disengagement agreement.

For the time being, Israel is loathe to take military action against Lebanon except in extreme cases such as the Kiryat Shemona massacre. Past actions have brought swift, one-sided condemnation by the UN Security Council and as Israel has recently learned, it can no longer count on a U.S. veto.

BEIGIN OPPOSES WITHDRAWALS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA)--Menachem Beigin, leader of the Likud opposition in Israel, warned her last night that any withdrawal by Israel from the territories occupied in the 1967 Six-Day War will mean that any chance for peace will be destroyed forever. He declared that only an "invincible Israel" will bring peace. He claimed that "our enemies continue to strive to destroy us" and called on Jews to "set ourselves free from the illusion" that the Arabs want to make peace with Israel.

Beigin spoke at the inaugural dinner of the Israel Prime Minister's Club in the New York metropolitan area at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. More than \$3,870,000 in Israel Bonds were sold for the event in which 100 members were inducted. The induction ceremony brought to 276 the number of founder members in the New York area, each of whom buy a minimum of \$25,000 in Israel Bonds during one year.

The 250 communal, civil and religious Jewish leaders attending the ceremony were told by Beigin that if Israel returned the West Bank, the civilian centers of Israel would be an easy target for Arab artillery and this would result in a holocaust upon Israel's population centers. He said the Arabs now have much more sophisticated arms and soldiers than they had before the Six-Day War, and if this power was brought to the pre-1967 lines it "will be disastrous."

Victims Were Shot In Heart, Head

Referring to the Kiryat Shemona massacre, Beigin said the Arabs want to kill all Israelis. "They want to destroy us man, woman and child," he said. He revealed that the autopsies of the children murdered by the terrorists in Kiryat Shemona revealed they had bullets in the heart and in the head. Beigin declared that there is no such place as Palestine, "there is only Eretz Israel." He said that the Palestinians must learn that Israel wants to live with them in peace and brotherhood.

Speaking about prospects for the future, the Likud leader said he brings "a message of optimism from Israel" and predicted that out of the present crisis in Israel will come a great salvation. He called for the unity of the Jewish people. "Let us stand together," he said, "and then no enemy could destroy us."

Stephen Shalom, a leader of the Jewish Syrian Sephardic community in Brooklyn, was installed as the first president of the metropolitan region's Prime Minister's Club. A member of the national cabinet of the Israel Bond Organization, he serves on the executive committee of the Greater New York campaign. Jack D. Weiler, secretary-treasurer of the Israel Bond Organization and national president of the Prime Minister's Club conducted the installation ceremonies. A special scroll, designed and made in Israel, was given to each founder member. The dinner event, which also marked Israel's 26th anniversary, was sponsored by the Greater NY Committee for Israel Bonds.

UNEASINESS OVER KISSINGER'S ROLE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 1 (JTA)--Uneasiness is growing here that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger is trying to achieve disengagement of Syrian and Israeli forces mainly at Israel's expense and without her willing agreement. He apparently has discarded the long held U.S. policy of "non-imposition" of an agreement in the Middle East and that the parties themselves must negotiate it to be effective. A contrary approach has been projected by the Soviet Union which has argued that the superpowers must impose a settlement. Some analysts here feel that Kissinger may have accepted the Soviet view on this during his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in Geneva on Monday.

According to reports from the specially selected American correspondents aboard Kissinger's plane shuttling in the Middle East, Kissinger himself is to use his "moderating influence" upon Israel to accept conditions that include surrender of territory in the Golan Heights acquired in the Six-Day War to protect Israelis in the croplands below.

In its present politically weak and divided position and virtual total dependence on U.S. weapons and finances to pay for them, the Israeli government is seen here as probably unable to withstand Kissinger's familiar questioning argument to Israel that says in effect, "What is your alternative to peace except withdrawal to where I suggest?"

Israel's Capitulation May Be Suggested

While Israel is gloomy over the costs of the Yom Kippur War, the steady movement of U.S. policy towards support of the Arabs and appeasement of Soviet diplomacy in the detente policy, Arab leaders are exulting over prospects of achieving all their initial aims in what is termed loosely as "disengagement."

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, having regained the Suez area, is now publicly calling for "immediate implementation" of UN Resolution 242. He used the phrase three times in his interview on ABC-TV's "Issues and Answers" program last Sunday. He gloated over the "complete change in the attitude of the United States towards us." His reference to Kissinger as the "miracle man" who will achieve disengagement on the Golan Heights is interpreted here as meaning that the Secretary will "suggest" Israel into capitulation.

Some speculation also has been heard here that at some point in his Middle East talks a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization will be allowed to sit in and meet the Secretary as an opening wedge for Palestinian participation in the Geneva conference that the Kremlin is insisting must be held.

KLARSFELD'S ARREST, JAILING,
RAISES PROTESTS IN FRANCE, ISRAEL

PARIS, May 1 (JTA)--The French Jewish community has sharply condemned the arrest of Beate Klarsfeld by German authorities near Munch and her detention without bail in a Cologne jail until her trial which is expected to take place late July. The avowed Nazi hunter was arrested on the eve of Holocaust Memorial Day while attending a demonstration at the site of the former Dachau concentration camp to protest against the Bonn Parliament's delay in ratifying an extradition accord signed three years ago with France.

Mrs. Klarsfeld is accused by German authorities of having tried three years ago to kidnap Kurt Lischka, former head of the gestapo in Paris during the German occupation of France, and bringing him to justice in France where a court sentenced him in absentia in Sept. 1950 to life imprisonment for war crimes. Mrs. Klarsfeld was deported from West Germany and told she would face charges if she returned.

In condemning West German authorities for her arrest and incarceration, the French section of the World Jewish Congress recalled that her fundamental aim is "the search for war criminals." The International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICA) called for Mrs. Klarsfeld's "immediate release" and has set up solidarity committees to support her cause. The Association of Former Jewish Deportees of France declared their solidarity with the anti-Nazi activist and in a communique called for her release and demanded "the Nazi torturers be thrown in prison in her place."

Israelis Demand Nazi Hunter's Release

(In Jerusalem, Leon Dulzin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency, called on West Germany to free Mrs. Klarsfeld. Dulzin said that her activities express deep humanism and solidarity with the Jewish people. Tuvia Friedman, chairman of the International Organization of Jewish Victims of Nazi Crimes, cabled West German President Gustav Heinemann asking for his personal intervention to free Mrs. Klarsfeld. Other holocaust survivors organizations and former members of partisan organizations now in Israel also sent cables of protest to German Chancellor Willy Brandt.)

(A large group of former concentration camp inmates and resistance fighters demonstrated outside the West Germany Embassy in Tel Aviv demanding Mrs. Klarsfeld's release. They were joined by former Israeli POWs and relatives of POWs still in Syria. The demonstrators carried placards reading, "Release Beate," and "Jail the Nazis.")

(The Knesset is scheduled to meet tomorrow in special session to discuss a motion by Likud Knesseter Akiva Nof that Israel's Parliament appeal to the West German Parliament for the release of Mrs. Klarsfeld. Appearing on Israeli television last night after German prison authorities permitted her to be interviewed by Israel's television correspondent in Germany, Mrs. Klarsfeld said she was fighting for Jewish causes as a German who felt that her people still owed something to the Jewish people.)

Mrs. Klarsfeld was in the news two years ago when she claimed to have tracked down the notorious Klaus Barbie, the former gestapo chief in Lyon, who is under sentence of death in France. She claimed he was living in Bolivia under the alias of Klaus Altmann. Considerable evidence was obtained from West Germany indicating that Altmann is Barbie but extradition failed to materialize. Recently Mrs. Klarsfeld has been active in behalf of Israeli POWs in Syria.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Three more Israeli soldiers were wounded today in artillery duels with the Syrians bringing to six the number of Israelis wounded in the last two days. Meanwhile, an Israeli soldier, injured by Syrian shelling on Jan. 2, died today after four months in a hospital. He was identified as Sgt. Nissim Ben-Loulou, 34, of Kiryat Shemona.

U.S. URGED TO GRANT ISRAEL \$500 M MORE FROM \$2.2 B EMERGENCY AID

WASHINGTON, May 1 (JTA)—Rep. Thomas O'Neill (D, Mass.), leader of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives, yesterday urged the Nixon Administration to grant an additional \$500 million to Israel from the \$2.2 billion in emergency aid already voted for the Jewish State. He also said the United States should "at least" have abstained, rather than voted for, the United Nations Security Council resolution condemning Israel for its raid into Lebanon while not mentioning the Arab terrorist massacre at Kiryat Shemona.

President Nixon last week announced that he was making a grant of \$1 billion from the \$2.2 billion fund in his "initial determination" and that the remaining \$1.2 billion would be credits at three percent interest. Congress has allowed Nixon to make a gift of up to \$1.5 billion. June 30 is the last day for the President to decide on the amounts.

O'Neill made his recommendation at the fifth annual luncheon for House members given by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), which some 200 Congressmen attended.

Rep. John J. Rhodes (R, Ariz.), the House minority leader, pledged himself to a U.S. policy that recognizes the security problems facing Israel and "provides the tools that Israel needs to remain strong and free." He also said that Soviet-American detente is in Israel's best long-range interest, pointing out that in the quest for detente the Soviet Union has allowed increasing numbers of Jews to leave for Israel.

Speaker Carl Albert (D, Okla.), in welcoming the AIPAC delegates to the Capital, said that Congress has responded to Israel in "the way it should have responded." Praising Israel, he said that the "small but mighty republic" exemplified heroism in the Yom Kippur War that will live for many generations.

At the AIPAC dinner Tuesday night marking the group's 20th anniversary, Senate Minority leader Hugh Scott (R, Pa.), a supporter of Israel in Congress for more than 30 years, and Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D, Tex.), both strongly backed Israel. Scott declared, "We will not contradict today or tomorrow what we have said on many yesterdays." He warned that the West will fall of "moral and political depravity" if it allows Israel to fall.

\$10 M GERONTOLOGICAL INSTITUTE TO STUDY NEEDS OF THE AGED IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 1 (JTA)—The Brookdale Gerontological Institute, the first comprehensive agency for the study of the present and future needs of the aged in Israel, was officially opened last week at a convocation in Jerusalem. Presiding at the convocation of medical and social scientists from the United States and Israel was Dr. Martin Cherkasky, chairman of the Advisory Committee on Health and Welfare of the Joint Distribution Committee, under whose leadership the institute was developed.

Dr. Cherkasky, who is also director of the Montefiore Hospital in New York, said that the project will include a research and training center, a 100-bed facility for the long-term care of infirm aged within the framework of a general hospital, and a 50 residential apartment facility for well aged. It is being financed by a \$5 million grant from the Brookdale Foundation of New York and by matching funds from the Israeli government.

The creation of the gerontological center will help to meet some of the mounting problems of the aged in Israel. It was noted that the percentage of people over 65 in Israel has risen steadily from 4.2 in 1951 to 7.5 in 1971. This figure is expected to go up to 8.6 in 1975.

Building Will Be Available In Oct.

Samuel L. Haber, JDC executive vice-chairman, who addressed the opening session, announced the appointment of Dr. Israel Katz as director of Brookdale Institute. Dr. Katz was formerly director-general of the National Insurance Institute of Israel, and was also formerly the director of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work, another JDC-initiated project. Appointed as associate director was Prof. Itzhak Margulec, medical director of Malben, the JDC program in Israel. Prof. Margulec teaches a post-graduate course in chronic disease and aging at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

Plans for the gerontological complex were prepared by a highly select committee of experts including members of the JDC Advisory Committee on Health and Welfare, and other American and Israeli gerontologists and social scientists. Dr. Alexander Gonik, medical director of the JDC, stationed in the agency's overseas headquarters in Geneva, served as coordinator of the project.

The research institute is housed in the Archaeological Building on the Hebrew University campus. The building was purchased by the JDC with Brookdale Foundation funds, together with a matching grant from the Israeli government. Several rooms are already in use and the entire building will be available by the end of Oct.

TERRORIST GROUP CLAIMS CREDIT FOR HAVING KILLED ISRAELI AIR ATTACHE

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA)—The terrorist group which massacred 18 persons in Kiryat Shemona April 11 is now also claiming responsibility for killing an Israeli military attache in Washington last year and for sabotaging two commercial airliners in 1970.

Abous el-Abbas, spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, said in an interview in the Beirut newspaper "As-Safa" that his group killed Israeli military attache Yosef Allon outside his Washington home last year. He said his group was also responsible for an explosion aboard a Swissair passenger airliner over Zurich in Feb. 1970 in which 47 people were killed, including 20 Israeli scholars and scientists, and an explosion on an Austrian plane in Feb. 1970 in which there were no casualties. Abous el Abbas claimed the Austrian plane carried Israeli pilots.

The terrorist group's spokesman said Kiryat Shemona was carefully selected as a target for its economic, strategic and symbolic significance to Israel. "There will be more actions like Kiryat Shemona until all Palestine is liberated," he was quoted as saying. "We want to reinforce the obstinacy of people like Gen. Dayan in order to make impossible any peaceful settlement between the Arabs and Israelis. In fact there's an identity of views between us and Dayan."

LONDON (JTA)—Meyer W. Weisgal, chancellor of the Weizmann Institute, humanitarian and writer, was given the Remembrance Award for 1974 by the World Federation of Bergen-Belsen Associations, the sponsors of the award. The award will be presented to him at a dinner in New York May 29 for his contribution to Jewish life and Jewish letters.