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PERES OUTLINES IN KNESSET DETAILS OF TORTURES OF POWs; GOV'T. PLANS 'BLACK BOOK'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres demanded today that those responsible for torturing Israeli prisoners of war in Syria be brought to trial. Speaking to the Knesset, Peres described tortures suffered by Israeli POWs and said that as soon as the government completes its investigation of the acts of cruelty committed by the Syrians it will publish a full report.

Peres charged Syria with not only violating the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners, but also acting in a way that "is beneath any human standards in peace or war." He said that the Chief Medical Officer in his preliminary report found:

"The overall picture obtained is that the vast majority of prisoners were exposed during their imprisonment to severe physical and mental torture. The usual methods of torture were beatings aimed at various parts of the body, electric shocks, wounds deliberately inflicted on the ears, burns on the legs, suspension in painful positions and other methods."

Israeli MD Refutes Syrian POW Charge

Meanwhile, Dr. Dantel Reis, chief of orthopedics and accident service at the Rebecca Steff Government Hospital in Safad, has refuted accusations by a former Syrian POW that he was maltreated in an Israeli hospital. In a letter to Col. Adnan Hoder, Dr. Reis wrote that "You owe your life to the energetic treatment you received both in the field and in our hospital." Referring to the Syrian officer's accusation that his leg was amputated unnecessarily, Dr. Reis wrote, "I hardly think you would have liked to die from gangrene of your dead left leg. As it is now, you have two excellent below knee stumps and with practice you will be able to walk and lead a useful life."

The doctor said while he did not expect gratitude and realized the severity of the colonel's injury, "I still require you to behave as an officer and gentleman."

Peres accused the Syrians of firing point blank at pilots as they were bailing out and at unarmed soldiers who had surrendered, of not releasing the names of the POWs for over four months and keeping them in overcrowded prisons without adequate ventilation, providing poor food and bad medical treatment.

Tortures Kill Two POWs, Maim Five

Peres said two soldiers died and five soldiers were maimed as a result of tortures which included electric shocks applied to the sensitive parts of the body, extractions of nails, blows to the body beatings and whippings and hitting open wounds.

It was reported that the government is already preparing a "Black Book," detailing the mistreatment of the POWs, to be released soon in several languages. Officials said completion of the Black Book awaits full debriefing of the POWs by army doctors. The Defense Minister said that there was no proof that representatives of any foreign power took an active part in the interrogations.

Peres said the attempt by Syria to trump up

entirely unfounded charges concerning the treatment of the Syrian POWs in Israel would not weaken the power of truth or mitigate the appalling cruelty of the Syrians. The Knesset adopted a resolution, with only the Rakah Communists in opposition, calling on the government to publish the facts of the mistreatment of the POWs and make them known throughout the world.

Many of the returned POWs watched the Knesset debate from the gallery. Looking up at them, Peres said "Their capture, their imprisonment and their return have renewed our feelings of being a united people, a people which can unite in times of hardship and anxiety." The POWs were later taken to lunch by Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu.

PREPARATIONS REPORTED COMPLETE FOR NIXON ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--As President Richard Nixon received a tumultuous reception on his arrival today in Cairo, Jerusalem police officials reported preparations had been completed for handling the President's landing in Israel Sunday.

The commander of the southern region, Haim Tavori, said Israelis were being encouraged to come and welcome the President when he arrives in Jerusalem, but he added cryptically that the President would come "in a caravan of a certain length through roads that have already been chosen." He said that, considering the relatively short advance notice of the visit, the Jerusalem district police were well prepared to handle the challenge of keeping public order during the Nixon visit.

The Ministry of Communications cited the "unprecedented arrangements" made to allow the President--and the press--speedy communication through various channels, to almost any place on earth. A direct telephone line will connect the King David Hotel, where the President will stay, with the White House, the Ministry said. Special telephone, telex, telegraph, radio and television facilities also will be in place, both at the King David Hotel, at another Jerusalem hotel, and at Ben Gurion Airport, for the army of media people accompanying the Presidential group.

Officials said a final time-table for the Nixon visit had not yet been completed. A proposal to invite the President to speak at a special Knesset session was dropped because it proved to be impossible to squeeze the event into the crowded 25-hour Presidential visit.

Leaders To Welcome Nixon At Airport

Nixon will be received at the airport by President Ephraim Katzir, Premier Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Yigal Alon, Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and their wives. The two Presidents will exchange greetings and children from the nearby town of Lod will sing and present their orchestra. Strict traffic restrictions will be in effect on the Lod-Jerusalem road as the President makes his way to Jerusalem.

Officials said it was obvious that Nixon will visit Yad Vashem, the memorial center for the Holocaust. Political discussions will probably be held Monday. Mrs. Nixon will have a special schedule of her own. It has been reported that the White House had no objection to a tour by Mrs. Nixon of the Old City of Jerusalem.

(Speaking from a balcony in Cairo, President Nixon said today he had come to Egypt to work for economic progress and for a peace "which is permanent and just and equitable." He told thousands of cheering Egyptians that his visit would "cement the foundations of a new relationship between two great peoples.")

Jerusalem is already covered with American flags and diplomatic traffic has been heavy around the King David Hotel. Police said today they had refused "for security reasons" three requests for demonstrations during the Nixon visit. (By Gil Sedan)

ISRAEL PLEASSED BY EEC PLEDGE FOR FUTURE COOPERATION

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)—Officials here expressed gratification today with the statement by the chairman of the European Common Market's Council of Ministers that the EEC would enter into negotiations with Israel on future cooperation. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, made the statement in Bonn yesterday after the Council of Ministers approved steps to begin negotiations with 20 Arab states on technical and industrial cooperation. The Common Market hopes to recoup at least some of the money it pays for Arab oil from orders and contracts from the Arabs.

The Israeli officials said Genscher's statement was "not at all unhelpful" in that it envisaged a similar process of negotiation for cooperation with Israel—thereby maintaining the principle of equilibrium upon which Israel had insisted. Obviously—as a West German spokesman commented yesterday—the scope and content of EEC-Israel cooperation would be different from that between the EEC and the Arab states both because Israel has no oil and because Israel is on a different level of technological advancement.

The negotiations between the EEC and the Mediterranean littoral states, including Israel, for a new tariff agreement are still bogged down because of Britain's demand to re-negotiate its terms of entry. Officials here said the tariff talks were in no way linked to the planned cooperation talks.

PANOVs GET VISAS; LEAVE FRIDAY

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)—Valery and Galina Panov picked up their exit visas in Leningrad today and danced joyously in front of the ovir office, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. The NCSJ said that Galina, who had been ill, is feeling better and the Panovs plan to leave for Vienna Friday.

WORLD BANK UNIT REPORTS FIRST INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA)—The International Finance Corp., a member of the World Bank group, has announced its first investment in Israel. It consists of an investment of \$3.5 million to help finance an \$18.4 million expansion of Makhteshim Chemical Works Ltd. Makhteshim produces pesticides, essentially for export. It is owned by Koor Industries Ltd. and Koor Chemicals Ltd., one of its wholly owned subsidiaries. Work has already begun on the project at the company's plant at Beersehefa and completion is scheduled for next year, the IFC announced.

In reporting the financing for the project, IFC said that the Industrial Development Bank of Israel, to which the World Bank has made three

loans in the past, is lending \$2.68 million to Makhteshim. Koor is providing \$1.88 million and IFC is providing \$1.75 million in loans with options and \$1.75 million in equity. The company also expects to receive an Israel government investment grant of \$1.33 million. The balance of the project funds will be from cash generation and other sources, IFC said.

BROOKLYN HASIDIC JEWS PLAN COURT TESTING OF REDISTRICTING

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)—A hearing has been set in federal district court in Brooklyn Monday on a suit by more than 100 Jewish organizations in the borough's Williamsburg section seeking to stop implementation of new legislative and Congressional districts which the Jewish groups contend is unconstitutional and discriminatory. The suit was filed by the United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg, an umbrella group representing mainly Hasidic organizations, which charged that the new districts, approved by the State Legislature on May 29, discriminate against Jewish residents in favor of Blacks and Puerto Ricans.

Rabbi Nuchem Harfenes, director of the UJO, said the redistricting would cut the 45,000-member Orthodox Jewish population of the 57th Assembly District into groups of about 27,000 Jews in the new 57th District and 18,000 in the new 56th District. He said this would affect the political strength of the Jewish community which currently, though the district is only 38 percent Jewish, effectively voices "the needs and goals" of the Hasidic Jews. Rabbi Harfenes said the state government "was probably under pressure from the Justice Department to give equal representation to Blacks and Puerto Ricans."

Nathan Lewin, of Washington, a vice-president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) is representing the UJO in the suit. Although not acting in his capacity as a COLPA official, COLPA will be assisting him and probably will file a friend of the court brief in support of the lawsuit, according to Dennis Rapps, COLPA executive director. Rapps said the case "involves the rights of minorities to assert their political power. It is an attempt to penalize a particular minority group and give others power." He added that the redistricting was "not directed against the Hasidim but its effect is to penalize them."

The plaintiffs will seek at the hearing Monday a motion for a temporary restraining order and for assignment of a three-judge court to hear the case. Named as defendants were the Justice Department, the state government and the New York City Board of Elections. Rabbi Harfenes said that the Hasidim first learned of the redistricting plan on May 26, just before the start of Shavuot and could therefore take no protest action before the May 29 vote for redistricting in Albany.

BRUSSELS (JTA)—Two young Jews recently escaped from Syria confirmed here Wednesday reports of the systematic maltreatment of Jews in Syria. The two, a girl and a boy of about 20 years, still showed evidences of the fear they had lived under in Syria as they spoke to Belgian newsmen here. Their names and ages were not revealed for fear of jeopardizing the safety of their families who are still in Syria. The two young people recounted in detail incidents of torture, arrests and imprisonments of Syrian Jews which they said had been stepped up since the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War. Furthermore, they said, Jewish children are regularly attacked on their way to school every day. Jews have been expelled from the universities, they said.

ISRAEL EXPECTS LONG-TERM ARMS AID PACT DURING NIXON VISIT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)—The Israeli government expects an agreement on long-term U.S. military aid to Israel to be signed during President Nixon's one-day visit here Sunday-Monday and hopes the President will publicly acknowledge it, an authoritative source indicated today. The source said that a joint statement probably would be issued at the close of the 25-hour visit and that Israel would ask the President either to announce the military aid program or at least hint at it.

While Israel wants to review with Nixon the new situation in the Middle East following disengagement accords with Egypt and Syria and discuss possible political and military developments, Israel would prefer not to discuss in detail, at this time, the next phase of the peace moves, the source indicated. Israel would like to leave that to a later date and on a lesser level, but the U.S. might feel differently and want to examine certain issues in depth and detail, the source conceded.

Only one round of political talks is scheduled with Nixon, to be held Monday morning. The talks could go on for several hours if necessary because there is nothing further on the President's schedule before he departs for Jordan Monday, the source said. The source reiterated the often stated Israeli view that U.S. rapprochement with the Arab states might pose some short-term problems for Jerusalem, but that Israel was confident it would not affect the longer-term American interest in a strong Israel.

The source said that despite the mutuality of U.S. and Israeli interests and their intimate dialogue during the Nixon Administration, the two countries have not, and do not agree on all issues. But the general thrust of American policy since 1967 has been to support Israel politically and militarily and this is due in large measure to Nixon who is regarded as the ultimate U.S. policy maker. Therefore, Israel wants to welcome him as warmly as possible, the source said.

ISRAELI PROFESSORS EMBITTERED OVER RESCINDING OF PAY BOOST

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)—University professors are embroiled in a bitter dispute with the Finance Ministry over a 45 percent wage hike they had just won but which was rescinded a few days later after the government brought pressure to bear on the universities. The government said the increase was inflationary, likely to set off a new round of wage demands in professional and other circles and that the professors as a group were overpaid anyway.

The academicians are furious and have threatened to "take measures." Their settlement with the universities was concluded without official authorization. It came when the government, Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association had finally agreed that wage settlements over the next two years would be geared to the cost-of-living index. The 45 percent increase exceeds, by far the official guidelines.

The Finance Ministry published figures according to which professors earn an average gross monthly income of almost IL 10,000, nearly ten times the national average income. The professors charged that the figures were erroneous. They said a department head's basic salary was IL 4465 per month and the rest was compensation for legitimate expenses. Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Prof. Shlomo Simonson, representing the academicians, have agreed to set up

a committee to resolve the dispute. Observers fear that whatever compromise is reached it will touch off a new wave of labor disputes.

MOSCOW ACTIVIST SAYS OFFERED EXIT IF STOPS CRITICIZING REGIME

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA)—Michael Agursky, a Moscow Jewish activist with a doctorate in mathematics, has disclosed in a letter to the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry that if he stopped criticizing the Soviet Government he would be allowed to emigrate. In the letter, received here June 10, Agursky said he was told on May 25, when he was interrogated six hours without a stop by a KGB official in a police station, that he could emigrate because his former secret job was a "trifle."

Previously he said he had been told he was a "dangerous person" because "of my profound knowledge of the Soviet Union and because of the great quantity of my acquaintances." Agursky has sent letters and articles to the Western media. Agursky, who has been out of work since he applied to emigrate to Israel two years ago, said that he would stop his criticism only when Soviet foreign policy changes and that he then would try to promote Soviet-Israeli friendship.

NATHANIEL ROTHENBERG DIES AT 61

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)—Nathaniel S. Rothenberg, a New York attorney and Zionist leader who negotiated Israel's first loans from foreign banks, died here last night at the age of 61. He was born in New York, educated at Lehigh University and New York University Law School and held a Doctorate in Law from Brooklyn Law School.

Mr. Rothenberg's career spanned a wide field of activities in government, banking and law. As special counsel of the Treasury of Israel in 1949, he negotiated the first \$15 million loan for Israel from American banks and later negotiated loans to Israel from banks in Switzerland and Sweden. He was credited with negotiation of a \$5 million loan here in 1950 in anticipation of the first Israel Bond issue.

Mr. Rothenberg was a member of governing bodies of the United Jewish Appeal, a counsel and national secretary of the Jewish National Fund of America and was active in the American Zionist Federation. At the time of his death he served as counsel for Bnai Zion, the American Zionist fraternal order which he also served as president from 1956-59.

SECURITY FOR BOLSHOI OPENER IN LONDON CALLED UNPRECEDENTED

LONDON, June 12 (JTA)—A spokesman for the Coliseum Theater, where the Bolshoi Ballet scheduled the start tonight of a six-week tour, said tonight security inside the theater was "the greatest we have had" to handle whatever demonstrations developed from groups protesting Soviet harassment of Russian Jews. However, the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry announced today it would not disrupt any performance, crediting the "unquestionable influence" of the British people in the release of the dancers Valery and Galina Panov.

However, the group said it did not mean that all demonstrations would be suspended. The Board of Deputies said it dissociated itself from any disruptive actions, declaring its policy was one of "strictly peaceful and legal methods of protest" until every Jew who wished to leave Russia could do so without persecution. Several Jewish groups said they had tickets and planned to disrupt the opening performance.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

NIXON'S MIDEAST COURSE SET

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's threat to resign over the innuendos on the telephone taps on his former White House aides is seen here as unlikely to have any dramatic impact on the course of events in the Middle East. The problems and the promises of last week remain today and the "new relationship" of the United States to the states of that area that Kissinger had spoken about only last Thursday will not be altered significantly, if at all, in the near future.

In any case, many feel here, President Nixon would not let it appear that Kissinger and not he himself is the master strategist at the helm of America's foreign affairs. Indeed, some here believe that while the "magician" Kissinger performed the intricate details of the disengagement agreements and received for his efforts the applause around the world, the outline of U.S. policy is Nixon's.

It was Nixon, one hears here, who seized on the Yom Kippur War and the oil embargo aftermath as the opportune time to reverse the wheels of U.S. policy to regain Arab friendship while quieting Israel's anxieties and blocking the Soviet Union from the riches of Araby all at one time.

Jewish Leaders Applaud Nixon

Last Thursday a delegation of Jewish leaders led by Max Fisher of Detroit emerged from a 45-minute meeting with Nixon and said that the President reaffirmed his Administration's continued support for Israel "in all spheres," economic, military and political. Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who was the spokesman for the group, said the Jewish leaders had come to the White House to convey to Nixon prior to his trip to the Middle East the "appreciation of the Jewish community" for his economic and military support to Israel, particularly during the Yom Kippur War and for his efforts to bring about lasting peace in the Middle East.

Rabbi Miller said the meeting was "friendly, frank and we think a very fruitful meeting." David Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith, who was among the seven leaders present, said the "President's comments on the Middle East were very satisfying."

No dramatic communiques are expected to be forthcoming from the Nixon trip and not even some of the basic reasons for the agreements on disengagements may emerge. These may be left for the time, after the present leading figures on the scene disappear. But questions continue to be asked.

Questions On Trip

In Cairo, will Egyptian President Anwar Sadat demand and Nixon affirm that Israel will surrender all the Sinai without Sadat's formal adherence to a bilateral peace treaty with Israel? Will Nixon pledge to Sadat that with American money and guns he will be the master of the Levant that Nassar had hoped he would be? And will Sadat, in turn, pledge that Egypt will "respect" Israel's "sovereignty" and that Egypt will be pro-American and not pro-Soviet despite superficial blandishments toward the Kremlin?

In Riyadh, will Nixon pledge to King Faisal that East Jerusalem will be permanently open to the Arabs, that Saudi Arabia will become a power with American weapons and industrialized into a

modern state with American technology, if in return Saudi Arabia allows American interests to handle its oil output?

Will Nixon in Damascus, pledge to Syria that if it agrees to keep the peace he will urge Israel to withdraw, in stages but completely, from the Golan Heights and provide funds for Syria's rehabilitation with the approval of Congress, of course? Will he insist that President Assad allow Syria's Jewish remnant to leave Syria peacefully and ask the Soviet contingents to depart as a gesture of international amity?

In Amman, will Nixon promise Jordan's King Hussein that he will remain monarch over both banks of the Jordan either in a unified state or in a federation with a Palestinian state which would be his dominion? (Al Ahran in Cairo reported. Sadat had told the Palestine Liberation Committee's leaders that he would coordinate his political strategy with Hussein despite their objections.)

Pledges For Israel

And in Israel, will Nixon pledge long-term military, financial and diplomatic support if Israel will only agree to withdraw to its pre-1967 border and "give peace another chance"? Will he also promise that he will demand of his friends in Lebanon that they require the terrorists to abide by civilization's laws? Will he, as a sign of his favor, write off \$500 million more as a grant, raising the gift to \$1.5 billion, as Congress had suggested from the \$2.2 billion U.S. emergency fund?

Will the President also tell Israel that he has Syria's promise to free its Jews and that he will urge the Kremlin when he goes there June 27 to increase its emigration flow to Israel? And will he as a clincher assure Israel that he will never agree to a hostile Palestinian state adjoining Israel but insist at Geneva and elsewhere that the Palestinians must make their arrangements with Jordan?

President Nixon's every moment in the Middle East will be weighed by the world's political analysts alert to its hopes, anxieties and suspicions.

U. S. EDITORS RAP ISRAEL'S INFORMATION POLICIES

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--A group of American journalists touring the Middle East, sharply criticized Israel's information policy which they compared unfavorably with that in the four Arab countries they have just visited. The group of 91 includes six editors of Anglo-Jewish weeklies published in the United States. They complained that the lack of organization made it difficult for them to get around the country, that they were unable to meet public figures and that no press officer was assigned to show them around. They said that in contrast, they had received especially good treatment in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan where they visited before coming to Israel. "Israel missed a golden opportunity to generate some good public relations," one of the newsmen said.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D, Minn.), has introduced a concurrent resolution in the Senate to provide for placement in the U.S. Capitol building likenesses of minority group individuals--"Blacks, Mexican Americans, Oriental Jews, and other minorities"--who have made outstanding contributions to the United States. The resolution, which was referred to the Rules Committee, provides for Senate and House leaders to name a nine-member advisory committee to nominate individuals for the honor.