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## REPORT U.S. FIRMS DEALING WITH ARABS ARE FIRING JEWISH PERSONNEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 13 (JTA)--A national Jewish leader indicated today that there is mounting evidence that when Arab nations deal with American firms this results in the firing of Jews. Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, warned that "the weapons of boycott and blackmail" which Arab nations are using against Jewish banking houses in Europe "may also be operating to jeopardize the civil rights of Jewish individuals in the United States who are employed by firms doing business with Arab countries."

He told members of the UAHC's executive committee that such evidence had come to his attention both through personal meetings in various parts of the country and through the UAHC's regional offices. Rabbi Schindler called for the convening of a high level Jewish conference of experts in finance, industry and economy to privately explore the problems and develop action guidelines for the Jewish community. He asked the UAHC's 75 member congregations to serve as "listening posts" and provide such a Jewish study committee with information.

He further asked that both the Ford Administration and the State Department "maintain a forthright vigilance" and he hoped that members of Congress would participate in this process.

### Cites Two Examples

Rabbi Schindler cited, as one example of discrimination, a West Coast engineering consulting firm. The firm was asked to serve as a principal aide and advisor to King Faisal in his efforts to industrialize Saudi Arabia. Before signing the contract, the owner, who is Jewish, though his name did not readily identify him as such, was asked for references on his religious identity to which he provided the names of several rabbis. As a result, negotiations immediately ceased and the contract was withdrawn.

Another West Coast firm was then employed and upon the signing of the contract immediately dismissed three of its leading Jewish executives. Rabbi Schindler said he would prefer not to identify either firm at this time. He added: "We cannot afford to revive the cancer of discrimination and religious bigotry which prevailed in our past dealings with Arab nations, especially the memory of Saudi Arabia and its insistence that Jewish military personnel be excluded from a U.S. military base there."

## ARAB SAYS BLACKLIST OF JEWISH-OWNED, CONTROLLED BANKS WILL CONTINUE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 13 (JTA)--It's up to the market to cope with the Arab blacklist, a top Arab banker declared here today. Dr. Mohammed Mahmoud Abushadi, president of the Union of French and Arab Banks (UFAB), said at a press conference held this morning in Paris that the boycotting would continue and the matter should be left open for the market to settle. Dr. Abushadi said UFAB banks would continue their re-

fusal to manage or otherwise participate in bonds managed or co-managed by Jewish banks.

However, he said, it was possible for Arab and Jewish banks to participate in a bond issue if neither Arab nor Jewish interests were managers. This would avoid all contractual agreements between Arab and Jewish banks. During his press conference, Dr. Abushadi carefully avoided the use of the terms "Jewish" and "Israeli" referring to the boycott of banks merely as "those which figure on the blacklist."

If Dr. Abushadi envisaged a sort of peaceful co-existence between Arab and Jewish banks, one of his colleagues made no secret of the objectives he saw in the blacklist. Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi Arabian businessman, told the Paris Herald Tribune reporter, "The power of money is now in the hands of the Arabs. As time goes on, the Arabs will become stronger and more confident. We will become more cocky as we develop confidence in ourselves."

The purpose of this policy is to reach a satisfactory peace settlement in the Middle East and to put financial pressure on Israel to help reach this settlement. The economic warfare will get "harder and harder" until a settlement is reached. The Herald Tribune described Khashoggi as a 39-year-old businessman with \$400 million of business world-wide, none of it directly related to oil.

## REPORT SHAH OF IRAN WILL AID ISRAEL'S OIL NEEDS IF SHE RETURNS ABU RODEIS OIL FIELDS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 (JTA)--The State Department confirmed today that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will meet with the Shah of Iran in Zurich next Tuesday for "a general review of the many subjects" that they discussed when the Secretary was in Teheran last November.

According to news reports from the Middle East today, the Shah has said he was prepared to guarantee Israel's oil requirements to make up for the loss it would incur if it returned the Abu Rodeis oil fields in Sinai to Egypt under the terms of a second-stage agreement. According to the report, the U.S. said it would assure Israel's oil supplies if Iran failed to meet its needs in an emergency. Iran is the only foreign supplier of Israeli oil and provides more than one-half of its needs. According to one estimate, 55 percent of Israel's oil comes from Iran.

Kissinger's meeting with the Shah will follow his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in Geneva Sunday and Monday. The State Department said it would not comment on any aspect of the discussions the Secretary of State is now holding in the Middle East.

(Kissinger returned tonight to Jerusalem and reported that while Egypt rejects the Israeli notion of a non-belligerency pact it is interested in a more modest partial settlement. See story P. 3)

## AUSTRIA SAYS IT WILL NOT ALLOW U.S. MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS FOR ISRAEL IN EVENT OF NEW MIDEAST WAR

By Peter Friedlinger

VIENNA, Feb. 13 (JTA)--Austria would not allow U.S. military supply aircraft to overfly Aus-

trian territory with equipment for Israel in the event of a new war in the Middle East, a leading general said this week. "Austria's neutrality excludes the possibility of overflying its territory for the purpose of transporting war material," Army Chief General Emil Spannocchi said.

"But if we should be asked to grant exceptions, we would demand to inspect the transports taking off from West Germany before permitting them to fly over Austrian territory," he explained. Spannocchi denied reports that Austria secretly tolerated such transports during the Yom Kippur War.

"I can assure you that no U.S. Air Force or other planes overfly Austria during the 1973 war," the army chief asserted. Spannocchi said Austria's neutrality laid down in the 1955 state treaty would only allow overflying its territory in cases of transports of wounded soldiers and medical equipment or in emergencies to avoid crashes.

### U.S. Denies Plans

Spannocchi's statement was provoked by Swiss newspaper reports quoting Peter Dominick, newly nominated U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland, as saying that one of his first problems would be the discussion of U.S. military supply aircraft to overfly Switzerland with equipment for Israel in the event of a new Mideast war. The State Department in Washington said this week that the U.S. has no plans to negotiate with Switzerland for such an operation.

"No negotiations are in progress and none are planned," a State Department spokesman said. Dominick told a Senate committee studying his prospective Ambassadorship that his remarks about U.S. Air Force flights over Switzerland were "misunderstood." He stated: "What I was talking about were negotiations for overflights of unarmed planes."

### TRIPLE MURDER AROUSES ALARM OVER NEW WAVE OF VIOLENCE FROM CRIMINAL ELEMENTS, YOUTHS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13 (JTA)--A triple murder in Petach Tikva early yesterday morning, coming on the heels of the grenade attack on a Netanya discotheque that took six lives just a week ago, has aroused alarm over a new wave of violence from criminal elements and youths on the fringes of society. The Petach Tikva killer, Yossef Padova, aged 21, surrendered to police nearly two hours after he shot to death three of his friends with a submachine gun in the apartment of one of them. He is also believed to have fired the shots that severely wounded a police sergeant who tried to enter the flat.

The three victims were identified as men in their early twenties. Three others in the flat at the time managed to escape when Padova suddenly went berserk with a submachine gun and sprayed the flat with bullets. They jumped through a window to the ground 10 feet below. One of them described Padova as unemployed, unbalanced and despondent over a love affair with a girl not yet 17 that went sour.

When police arrived, shots from the flat kept them at bay and wounded the sergeant. For over an hour, Padova refused to surrender. Then he demanded that his estranged girl friend be brought to the scene. When police found her and brought her to the flat, Padova laid down his weapon and was arrested.

Crimes of this type occur in all societies.

But in the close knit, more or less homogeneous society of Israel where crimes of violence were rare not too many years ago, the Petach Tikva murders and the Netanya grenade attack worry sociologists and psychologists as well as the police.

The police are especially interested in how Padova came into possession of so lethal a weapon as a submachine gun. They know that Ezra Avraham, the 22-year-old army deserter who confessed to the Netanya discotheque attack, stole the grenade from an army supply depot.

Sociologists point out that in a country that has gone to war four times in 25 years, firearms are easily obtainable. They say the root of the problem is the social gap that has kept large segments of the population in perpetual poverty, alienating youths who are unable to find employment because they are untrained or for other reasons. The sociologists and psychologists are also critical of the failure in many cases to detect mentally unbalanced persons and treat them. Finally, they say the courts have been too lenient in sentencing persons convicted of violent crimes.

### CHIEF RABBIS DIFFER OVER WHETHER GRASS CAN BE CUT AT WESTERN WALL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13 (JTA)--The grass that grows between the weathered stones of the Western Wall has sparked a new dispute between Israel's perennially feuding Ashkenazic and Sephardic Chief Rabbis. Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren ruled several days ago that the grass cannot be removed. His Sephardic counterpart, Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, ruled that if the grass endangered the Wall, it may be removed. Both rabbis issued their contradictory rulings after consulting halachic sources.

The problem arose recently when engineers warned the Ministry for Religious Affairs that the continuing spread of grass roots might cause the ancient stones to shift and eventually collapse. Rabbi Dov Perla, the Ministry official in charge of holy places, consulted his own engineers who confirmed that the warning might be justified. Perla decided to put the problem to the two Chief Rabbis.

Rabbi Goren contended that since the Wall has been standing for nearly 2000 years, grass and all, there was no danger. The opposite verdict by Rabbi Yosef created a dilemma for the Religious Affairs Ministry. It was decided to consult other engineers and agronomists before deciding whether or not to pull out the grass.

### ISRAEL ASKS FOR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF RED MAGEN DAVID

GENEVA, Feb. 13 (JTA)--Israel has renewed its request here for international recognition of the Red Magen David as the distinctive symbol of its emergency medical services for military victims--the equivalent of the Red Cross. Ambassador Shabtai Rosenne, acting head of the Israeli delegation to the United Nations' Geneva headquarters, forwarded a request for recognition to the president of the "Diplomatic Conference on the Re-Affirmation and Development of International Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts" currently in session here.

Rosenne pointed out the "incongruities" resulting from the denial of international recognition to the Red Magen David emblem and asked that his memorandum be circulated as an official document of the conference. Israel's previous request was turned down at the 1949 "Diplomatic Conference" by a narrow vote of 22-21.

**KISSINGER SAYS EGYPT REJECTS  
NON-BELLIGERENCY PACT BUT NOT  
MORE MODEST AGREEMENT IN SINAI**  
Renewed Interest in Syria For Golan Accord  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger returned to Israel tonight and reportedly informed its leaders that Egypt flatly rejected the idea of a non-belligerency pact but was interested in a more modest second-stage agreement in Sinai. Kissinger was also reported to have conveyed to the Israelis a renewed interest on the part of Syria for a second-stage agreement on the Golan Heights.

The Secretary, who travelled from Ben Gurion Airport to Jerusalem by car, immediately went into meetings with Premier Yitzhak Rabin and other key leaders to report on his talks in Cairo with President Anwar Sadat yesterday and today, and his meeting just before returning to Israel with President Hafez Assad of Syria in Damascus.

Reports from Cairo during the day, some of them apparently emanating from Kissinger's press briefing there, indicated that second-stage negotiations would now center on very limited concessions by both Israel and Egypt. Israel is expected to stand by its original offer of a 30-50 kilometer (19-31 miles) pull-back in Sinai which would not include the Gidi and Mitla passes or the Abu Rodets oil fields. Egypt, for its part, was said to be prepared to extend the present disengagement agreement, policed by United Nations forces, for another 18 months after the UN mandate expires this spring.

**Cautious Optimism Over Accord With Egypt**

Official sources here did not reject Cairo's proposals out of hand but expressed serious reservations over the reported time span, and were apparently disappointed by Egypt's unwillingness to contemplate any of the political concessions Israel has called for. The officials insisted that Israel will not relinquish any territory in Sinai for nothing more than an extension of the present cease-fire.

Israeli sources made it clear that any extension would have to be for longer than 18 months. They also insisted that Egypt would have to give its undertaking to refrain from hostilities directly and publicly to Israel in the form of a signed commitment rather than in a secret understanding with the U.S. which is what Sadat is said to prefer. The sources, nevertheless, expressed "cautious optimism" over the prospects of a second-stage agreement.

A high American official aboard Kissinger's plane enroute from Cairo to Damascus today told newsmen, "We are still in business," referring to Israeli-Egyptian negotiations. The official said the situation was not as bleak as it might appear to be from the "rhetorical positions" taken by both sides. The official also said that Kissinger still planned to return to the Middle East next month.

**Israel Insists On Political Concessions**

Israel, meanwhile, is said to insist on at least some of the political concessions it has demanded from Egypt in return for even a modest second-stage agreement. These were said to include a toning down of Egyptian diplomatic and political hostility toward Israel; removal of the trade boycott; an agreement on direct transit for tourists between the two countries; and ac-

cess to the Suez Canal for Israeli ships.

What officials here stressed most, however, was that no move would be made toward implementing any agreement that may be reached with Egypt unless and until it is clearly agreed that the accord remains valid through and beyond resumption of the Geneva peace conference. That was one of the main points raised by Israeli negotiators in their talks with Kissinger earlier this week and it will be repeated in their final round of talks tonight and tomorrow.

Israel is determined to ensure that an agreement with Egypt now will not be repudiated by Cairo in the event that the Geneva conference breaks up in deadlock. Israel insists that any partial or interim arrangement negotiated now must remain in force regardless of other developments, either at Geneva or in the Middle East. Israel is also adamant that an accord with Egypt must be totally unrelated to any future developments on the Syrian front.

**Syrian Accord Must Be Separate**

With regard to the latter, Israeli officials have not decided whether they will reconsider their obvious reluctance to apply the step-by-step method to the Syrian front where there is much less room to maneuver than in Sinai. A second-stage settlement with Syria, Israeli sources say, would almost certainly involve the dismantling of settlements established on the Golan Heights--a step bound to encounter bitter opposition at home, even within the government coalition.

The Israelis, in any event, have made it clear to Kissinger that they will not countenance any attempt to use a settlement with Egypt to exact further withdrawals on the Golan Heights.

Kissinger's party entered Jerusalem tonight by an alternate route through the suburb of Ein Karem, having been warned in advance that demonstrators were trying to bar the main entrance to the city. The demonstrators were youthful members of the militant Herut and Gush Emunim movements which are opposed to Israel's giving up any Arab territories whatsoever and demand free settlement rights for Jews on the West Bank. They sat astride the Jerusalem highway singing and chanting until forcibly removed by police.

**ARABS WARN SHIPPING FIRM**

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 13 (JTA)--The shipping firm Aker Co., which was involved in the Cherbourg affair of December 1971, has received a warning from Arab countries, according to the Norwegian daily newspaper "Aften Posten" that Arab companies will embargo oil shipments to the firm if it does not break off relations with Israel. The Aker Co. was involved in the incident where five ships sailed out of Cherbourg harbor to Israel at the height of the French arms embargo. The five were missile-carrying craft built in France for Israel's Navy but undelivered because of the embargo. On Christmas day, 1971, their Israeli crews spirited them out of Cherbourg harbor under a neutral flag and brought them to Israel a week later.

PARIS (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's step-by-step policy was rebaptized Thursday. French television, showing films of a jubilant Kissinger shaking hands and chatting with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, called the Secretary's policy one of "little steps and big smiles."

NEW YORK (JTA)--The Zionist Organization of America announced the opening of the Washington office of its National Public Affairs Department.

