



ISRAELI LEADERS, TOP U.S. JEWISH LEADERS DISCUSS WAYS TO EASE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U.S.

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 7 (JTA)--President Ford is expected to adopt a carefully even-handed tone in his "State of the World" message to Congress this week when he reviews the breakdown of America's peace talks attempt here. This is the hope and expectation of top American Jewish leaders and also of high Israeli government officials.

Premier Yitzhak Rabin, Defense Minister Shimon Peres, and Jewish Agency leaders Pinhas Sapir, Leon Dulzin and Moshe Rivlin, met here this weekend with Max Fisher of Detroit, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, Frank Lautenberg, United Jewish Appeal general chairman, and other U.S. Jewish leaders on the current cooling of relations with Washington.

Today, Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R,NY) flew into Israel for a lightning eight-hour visit during which he too discussed with Rabin the current worsening of Jerusalem-Washington relations and possible ways of improving the situation. Javits came from Teheran at his own request. He has apparently undertaken to do his utmost to heal the rift--and hopes to be seeing Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger soon after his return. He left Israel in the early afternoon after lunching with Knesseter Abba Eban.

Fisher, who left at the weekend after his own brief visit here, also hopes to see Ford this week--before he delivers his "State of the World" address. Well-placed sources here said Javits recommended to Israeli leaders that they try to steer the dialogue with the U.S. away from the recriminations of the past failure and towards plotting a joint course in preparation for a resumption of Geneva.

Sympathy For Israel Still Sound

These sources told the JTA that Javits believes the basis of sympathy for Israel within the Congress is still sound, but the Senator said he is concerned by the atmosphere of financial parsimony, by erosion as witnessed by Sen. Charles Percy (R,Ill.), and others, and above all by the evidently very severe and personal way in which Kissinger has taken his failure to conclude a shuttling accord.

Top Israeli observers here confirmed that the central concern is Kissinger's deep and on-going anger and frustration--which he expresses at numerous private and less-than-private briefings--rather than the President's initial disappointment which, it is felt, has now given way to a more balanced reaction. Fisher, who met with Ford last week, is said to have assured Israeli leaders that despite the current mood of strained relations, Ford remained a staunch friend of Israel.

The JTA has, meanwhile, learned from well informed sources that pressure applied by Jewish personalities in the U.S. as behind Kissinger's decision to postpone his scheduled second meeting with a group of former senior foreign policy officials whose views he has been canvassing as part of America's Mideast reassessment

Fisher, former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg, and others are understood to have pointed out to the Secretary that several members of his panel had known business links with the Arab world, as for example George Bal, former Undersecretary of State during the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, while there was a conspicuous absence of any known Israel sympathizers in the panel's makeup. Despite this intervention, however, the feeling among top observers here is that Jerusalem is so far restraining American Jewish leadership from launching a full-blown counter-attack against Kissinger.

ISRAEL TIGHTENING DEFENSE BELT IN VIEW OF PROBABLE DELAYS IN FURTHER SHIPMENT OF U.S. ARMS

TEL AVIV, April 7 (JTA)--Military authorities have ordered strict economy and conservation measures by the armed forces to maintain Israel's defense ability in view of the probable delays in the shipment of further military supplies from the United States. The authorities are reviewing logistical and organizational changes which the delays may necessitate and are studying ways to harness Israeli industrial enterprises for defense production, it was learned here today.

So far, Israel's armed forces have experienced no difficulties. However, the authorities are reacting to reports that the U.S. will suspend arms shipments and enter no new arms deals with Israel pending completion of the reassessment of Middle East policy ordered by President Ford last month; that Defense Minister Shimon Peres has been asked by American authorities to postpone his visit to Washington in connection with arms purchases; that the U.S. has withdrawn its invitation to Israeli Air Force personnel to inspect the new F-15 jet interceptors Israel wants to buy; and that the U.S. is delaying the delivery of "Lance" missiles ordered by Israel.

KNESSET ASKED TO DISCUSS KURDS

JERUSALEM, April 7 (JTA)--The Knesset may interrupt its spring recess for a special session to discuss the situation of the Kurds in Iraq. Two MKs of the National Religious Party--Zevulun Hammer and Dr. Yehuda Ben Meir, have been urging their faction and others in Parliament to convene a special recess session to voice a unified Israeli protest against "the genocide of the Kurdish people." Their initiative has drawn a generally favorable response, it was reported. Hammer and Ben Meir declare that when the world keeps silent on the persecution by Iraq of its Kurdish minority, it is important that Israel speak out. "The world should know about the fate of minorities in Arab countries," the NRP men said.

WZO LAUNCHES WORLD-WIDE CAMPAIGN TO EMPHASIZE ISRAEL'S ACHIEVEMENTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 7 (JTA)--With Independence Day approaching, the World Zionist Organization has launched a world-wide campaign to emphasize Israel's achievements in face of its many difficulties. Information material and personalities such as Minister-Without-Portfolio Gideon Hausner and MK Esther Herlitz will try to reach every Jewish community to promote understanding of

Israel's position on its 27th Independence Day.

A mobile exhibit has already reached many Zionist federations and Jewish communities abroad. It depicts several aspects of Israel's achievements: portraits of scientists and academicians including Russian immigrants; visual demonstrations of the new settlements throughout the country; and the achievements of the younger generation of Israelis within the Establishment.

The WZO information division has also produced ten documentary films highlighting some of the more important events in Israel during the past year, from the Kissinger missions to such cultural events as the first appearance of Valery and Galina Panov before the Israeli public.

Moshe Gilboa, director of information of the WZO, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that because of financial difficulties, copies of the films were sent only to Jewish community centers "from Bombay to Montreal." However, every community interested in the films can apply for them through the local Zionist federations or directly to the information division of the WZO in Jerusalem, Gilboa said.

Several Publications For Speakers, Media

The visual depictions of Israel 1975 will be supplemented by several publications intended primarily as background material for speakers and Jewish media. One publication, prepared by the WZO organization and information department and the Israel Information Center includes reports on the economic consequences of the Yom Kippur War; an article by the late David Ben Gurion; and another on the Palestinian problem by Prof. Moshe Maoz, a Middle East expert of the Hebrew University.

A special press service pamphlet was published in English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Yiddish for use by Jewish newspapers in their Independence Day editions. Another pamphlet will be sent to Jewish communities immediately after Independence Day to note the 30th anniversary of the liberation of Holocaust survivors from concentration camps and the end of World War II.

The pamphlet contains articles comparing the world atmosphere in the late 1930s and today. This pamphlet, published in French, Spanish and English, proves, according to Gilboa, "that the fate of Judaism is linked to the fight for world peace." He added: "The intention is to turn both Independence Day and the 30th anniversary of the end of World War II into a serious information drive based on facts."

SALUTE TO ISRAEL DAY

NEW YORK, April 7 (JTA)--Gov. Hugh L. Carey has proclaimed Sunday, May 11 as "Salute to Israel - Parade for Peace Day" in the State of New York. In signing the proclamation Carey stated: "The State of Israel has demonstrated by word and by deed its overwhelming desire for peace. Even in the midst of the gallant defense of their freedom and their unremitting quest for peace, the people of Israel have shared their vast spiritual and practical experiences with other young and growing nations. They have built a homeland in which peoples from the four corners of the earth--refugees from oppression and terror---are working together in a living exemplar of brotherhood."

GOLDSTEIN BROTHERS FACE TRIAL

NEW YORK, April 7 (JTA)--The Goldstein

brothers of Tbilisi have been told by KGB officials that they will be put on trial for "parasitism" and sentenced to three to seven-year terms. Forty-four-year-old Grigory Goldstein and 37-year-old Issay Goldstein, who first applied for exit visas in 1972, were summoned on Friday and told that unspecified charges would be brought against them under an unpublished 1972 law, it was reported today by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams, vice-chairman of the GNYCSJ, who met the Goldsteins on a visit to the Soviet Union last year and has communicated with them regularly, has been in touch with State Department officials and along with other leaders is contacting Soviet officials.

LABEL A. KATZ DEAD AT 56

NEW ORLEANS, April 7 (JTA)--Funeral services were held Friday for Label A. Katz, a life-long activist in Jewish affairs who as president of B'nai B'rith in the early 1960s led the first protest campaigns in behalf of Soviet Jews. Mr. Katz died Thursday at his home here following a stroke at the age of 56. He was a native of New Orleans. He was elected head of the B'nai B'rith in 1959 at the age of 40, one of the youngest presidents in the 131-year history of the Jewish service organization.

He served two three-year terms and, following a visit behind the Iron Curtain in 1961 to observe the status of Jewish life there, traveled widely urging the restoration of religious and cultural freedom for Jews in the Soviet Union. In Moscow, he presented B'nai B'rith's representations in unofficial conferences with Soviet authorities.

In meetings with Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson, with Pope John XXIII and Paul VI, with India's Prime Minister Nehru, Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus and other government, religious and education leaders throughout the world, he sought their "diplomatic interventions" with Soviet and other regimes that restricted Jewish life.

Mr. Katz continued his efforts despite ailing health. He suffered from diabetes, and the pace he set for himself, against the advice of doctors, led to the loss of his sight 10 years ago. The handicap notwithstanding, he retained an active interest in Jewish affairs until a stroke last year left him bedridden.

Mr. Katz was also chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations, an international assembly concerned with issues affecting Jewish communities throughout the world. He also served on the national boards of the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bond Organization, American Association for Jewish Education and other groups.

WARSAW GHETTO MEMORIAL MEETINGS

LONDON, April 7 (JTA)--The 32nd anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising was marked here yesterday. It was sponsored by the Association of Polish-Jewish Ex-Servicemen, and organized by the influential Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen of Great Britain. Prior to the rally, a delegation of Polish-Jewish ex-servicemen laid a wreath at the British War Memorial cenotaph in Whitehall. The British government was represented at the rally by the Attorney General Samuel Silkin, QC, MP, a member of distinguished Anglo-Jewish family.

Simon Friesel, chairman of the Association of Polish-Jewish Ex-Servicemen, who presided, noted

how the Warsaw Ghetto fighters struggled alone in the face of an indifferent world: "they fought and died so that we may live.... After the war we had high hopes that genocide was a thing of the past.... Alas it is still possible in our times. But we Jews have changed. We are no longer the classical victims. We have learned how to prevent it happening again. The Israel Defense Forces draw their inspiration not only from the Maccabees and the defenders of Masada, but also from the ghetto fighters."

(In Toronto 2000 people attended a Holocaust memorial assembly at Beth Tzedec Synagogue last night and heard Gerda Klein of Buffalo and Yakov Egit relate the horrors of the concentration camps. Egit, speaking in Yiddish, warned that PLO chief Yasir Arafat was a new Hitler and urged his listeners to be alert to the new peril. The assembly was sponsored by the Canadian Jewish Congress.)

(In Montreal, some 900 people attended a community-wide Holocaust and resistance commemoration last night at the Chevre Kadicha Bnei Jacob Synagogue. A teach-in on the Holocaust was held in the afternoon at the Jewish Public Library. A program was also held in Ottawa at the Machzikei Hadas Congregation.)

KAHANE CHARGES FEDERAL PRISON AUTHORITIES VIOLATE COURT ORDER TO PROVIDE HIM WITH KOSHER FOOD By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, April 7 (JTA)--The refusal by the federal prison authorities to obey a court order to provide Rabbi Meir Kahane with kosher food has resulted in another court order delaying the transfer of Kahane to a federal prison from a detention center in Manhattan. The former Jewish Defense League leader was scheduled to leave this morning for Allenwood (Pa.) Federal Prison to begin serving the remainder of his one-year prison term. He has been held at the Federal Training Center in New York since March 18.

In a press conference this morning, held at the detention center, Kahane said that last Friday, Federal Judge Jack Weinstein conducted a hearing on Kahane's charges that the prison authorities, in defiance of Weinstein's own order, refused to provide him with kosher food.

According to Kahane, U.S. Attorney Tom Peterson told the judge that it is "too expensive" to have kosher food and that "if the Jews will get it other groups will ask for special food" as well. "Judge Weinstein was furious," Kahane said, "because the refusal of the government was not only a violation of human rights but also a question of court contempt."

Kahane, who looked pale and haggard and has started to grow a beard, was eating meals outside the detention center since his arrest in order to have kosher food. Kahane said that he and his lawyer, Barry Slotnick will take "this case up to the Supreme Court, to uphold the right of Jews for kosher food in prison." Kahane added that even if his case is resolved, there are presently two other JDL members in federal prison who do not get kosher food. According to Kahane, Weinstein gave the government two weeks to file a brief on the case.

SERVICES WILL NOT BE DISRUPTED AGAIN

NEW YORK, April 7 (JTA)--Soviet authorities have given assurances that there will be

no repetition of the March 29 incident when police invaded Moscow's central synagogue and drove out Sabbath-Passover worshippers. It was reported today, Rabbi Arthur Schneller, of the Park East Synagogue here, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, said he learned of the pledge yesterday in a telephone call from Moshe Tandeltnic, president of the Moscow synagogue, who spoke on behalf of himself and Moscow Chief Rabbi Jacob Fishman.

They stated, Rabbi Schneller reported, that "the Soviet authorities reaffirmed the inviolate status of the synagogue and that police have no right to enter the synagogue at any time now or in the future." Ephraim Kaplun, past president of the Moscow synagogue, confirmed that statement in a subsequent telephone call to Rabbi Schneller, the rabbi reported.

The police invasion of the synagogue and dispersion of worshippers during services outraged world opinion. The Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an inter-faith organization comprised of Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Greek Orthodox leaders, sent a delegation to lodge a protest with the Soviet Embassy in Washington on March 31.

At the same time, they dispatched a cable to Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin stating that "Freedom of worship is guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution and therefore we appeal to you for assurance that there will be no further incidents of this kind." The cable was signed by Rev. Donald R. Campion, editor of the Jesuit weekly "America"; Rev. Dr. David H.C. Read, senior minister of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church; and Rabbi Schneller.

3 KILLED, 6 WOUNDED IN WEEKEND ROAD ACCIDENTS, SHELLINGS

JERUSALEM, April 7 (JTA)--Three Israeli soldiers were killed and two were injured in a head-on collision on the Jerusalem-Jericho road Saturday. Three Israeli soldiers were wounded yesterday when several dozen mortar shells hit the Har Dov region on the slopes of Mt. Hermon. The shells were fired from "Fatahland" in south-eastern Lebanon, an area where the Palestinian regiment of the Syrian army is presently deployed. The fire was returned by Israeli artillery. The wounded soldiers were hospitalized.

The dead in the road crash were identified as Sgt. Nissan Cohen Elias; Cpl. Ernest Rabinowitz; and Cpl. Moshe Dori. The accident occurred when a small truck hit the soldiers' private car on a steep grade. The two injured men were taken to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

LONG: AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD NOT SUPPORT U.S. MIDEAST INTERVENTION

WASHINGTON, April 7 (JTA)--Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) said today that the American people would not support U.S. military intervention in the Middle East even if Israel's security was threatened because they were tired of this country trying to be the world's policeman. They would support intervention only if America's security was directly threatened, the Senator told reporters here.

Long, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, is a member of the Southern conservative wing of the Democratic Party that has always supported a strong U.S. military presence overseas. Asked about a situation in the Middle East that threatened Israel, he suggested that there would be more public support to move Israel to the U.S. in that event than to send U.S. forces to the Middle East.

