



EGYPT FORCING ISRAEL TO RETURN TERRORISTS IN EXCHANGE FOR RETURN OF ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN 1973

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA)--Israeli sources reported today that Egyptian officials are using Israel's intense desire to recover bodies of Israeli soldiers missing in action in the Yom Kippur War to force return by Israel of Egyptian terrorists.

Israel was disclosed to have returned to the Egyptians 92 imprisoned terrorists, though not terrorists convicted on murder charges, and 50 of their relatives, in exchange for Egyptian promises to return the bodies of Israeli war dead. This number does not include 20 terrorists Israel had agreed to free when the bodies of the Israeli soldiers were returned to Israel.

During the negotiations leading to the first Egyptian-Israeli disengagement accord, the Egyptians promised they would assist in return of the bodies of missing Israeli soldiers and Maj. Gen. Mouhamed Gemassi, the chief Egyptian military disengagement negotiator, stated that Egypt would not use the Israeli bodies for trading purposes.

Egyptian Pressure Outlined

But, the Israeli sources reported, Egyptian behavior soon evoked concern about their real intentions. Ten Israeli dead were buried by their comrades at an Israeli position on the Barlev Line before the Egyptians, in their initial thrust across the Suez Canal, took the position. When Israeli burial society officials reached the position, they were unable to find the bodies.

The same incident occurred at the jetty position, near the canal's southern outlet, where Israeli soldiers buried five of their comrades before the Egyptians occupied the position. The bodies could not be found when Israeli search parties went to the spot after the accord was signed. It turned out that the Egyptians found and removed the bodies for use as a pressure at a later stage. Since then, the Egyptians have placed difficulties in the way of the Israeli search parties and then barred the parties.

By then, the Egyptians prepared a list of 298 imprisoned terrorists and demanded their release in exchange for the bodies of the Israeli soldiers. Israel replied that the list included men who had already been released, some unknown to Israeli authorities and some who were sentenced for serious criminal offenses and whom they would not release. Egypt then reduced the list to 189 terrorists.

Israel then proposed to return to Egypt the bodies of Egyptian soldiers found in areas held by Israel, but the Egyptian reply was "We don't need them. Cover them with sand, and that's that." Egypt then agreed to receive 92 imprisoned terrorists and it was only then that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat announced the existence of 39 bodies of Israeli dead.

But the return of those bodies last weekend was made conditional by Egypt on the release of 20 more terrorists, establishment of a Red Crescent branch at El Arish and other demands Israel accepted all the conditions. For Israel,

the bodies of its dead and their return to Israel is more sacred than any other conditions and the Egyptians know of that attitude and capitalize on it, the Israeli sources said.

KISSINGER, U.S. ENVOYS TO FOUR MIDEAST NATIONS AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO CONTINUE REASSESSMENT

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will meet again with the U.S. Ambassadors to four Middle Eastern countries this week and also consult with leaders of Congress over the next two weeks as part of the reassessment of American policy toward the Middle East, the State Department disclosed.

Kissinger had met with the envoys to Israel, Jordan, Syria and Egypt last week after they had been summoned to Washington for consultations as a result of the breakdown of Kissinger's peace mission. Kissinger has been in Palm Springs, Calif. conferring with President Ford since last Thursday night on foreign policy matters.

The President addresses a joint session of Congress Thursday night on foreign policy but he is not expected to go into details of the reassessment he has ordered. State Department spokesman Robert Anderson said he could not tell how long the reassessment would continue. Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger has estimated it would take six weeks. The reassessment began two weeks ago and is, therefore, expected to conclude in another month.

Kissinger Return To Mideast Doubtful

Meanwhile, speculation that Kissinger would return to the Mideast for another attempt at shuttle diplomacy was rejected today by Anderson. He said there was no basis for this speculation or for reports that Egypt or Israel would send representatives to talks in Washington.

Anderson stated that no new suggestions had been received from Israel that would lead to a resumption of Kissinger's efforts. He added that the U.S. remained in touch with Israel and Egypt and affirmed that both countries wanted the U.S. to continue its efforts. It was reported earlier that Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and Defense Minister Shimon Peres were told not to come to Washington for talks until the U.S. reassessment of the Mideast was completed.

REPORT SYRIA WILL EXTEND UNDOF MANDATE FOR ONLY TWO MONTHS

UNITED NATIONS, April 8 (JTA)--Syria will agree to extend the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observers Force (UNDOF)--which expires on May 30--for only two months, according to sources here. By this limited extension the mandate of the two UN forces in the Mideast--UNDOF and UNEF--will expire simultaneously in July. Egypt has already announced that she will agree to the extension of UNEF, which expires April 18, for only three months. Observers here believe that the Egyptian and Syrian move regarding the UN forces was coordinated in order to remove the forces, if they so desire, at the same time. In that case, if hostilities resume in the Mideast, Egypt and Syria can act together against Israel without a buffer of UN forces separating any of them from Israel, sources observed.

CHARGE 'CERTAIN QUARTERS' IN WASHINGTON CONDUCTING DELIBERATE PRESSURE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA)--Official circles in Jerusalem charged flatly today that "certain quarters" in Washington were conducting a deliberate pressure campaign against Israel following the breakdown of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's efforts for a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian accord. However, there was some basis for hope, it was reported, that a meeting Kissinger scheduled for today with Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, after several days of no contact between the two officials, might signal the start of a thaw in the frosty U.S.-Israeli relations since the breakdown.

The allegations of pressure emerged after a report in Newsweek stated that Kissinger would reject Foreign Minister Yigal Allon to represent Israel in any proximity talks in Washington, a proposal which has been floated in the wake of the collapse of the Kissinger mission. Kissinger reportedly was said to feel that Allon carried little weight in Israel's government and that his views were therefore misleading. Circles here attributed the Newsweek report to the purported pressure drive mounted from Washington against Israel.

The same circles attributed the same motives to another Newsweek report that Dinitz would soon be replaced as Ambassador because Kissinger allegedly accused him of misleading the U.S. in the pre-shuttle contacts. The circles stressed there was no basis for that report.

KATZ; ENORMITY OF HOLOCAUST CREATED JEWISH SOLIDARITY

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--Katriel Katz, director of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial institution in Jerusalem, said last night that there was no Jewish solidarity until after Auschwitz. It was only after the Holocaust that Jews considered themselves as one people, he told some 500 persons attending the Holocaust Memorial Day Observance at Yeshiva University.

Katz, a former Israel Consul General in New York and Ambassador to the Soviet Union in 1965-67, said no Jew was left untouched by the Holocaust since one-third of the Jewish people was destroyed. He said the State of Israel has proven that Jews will not be stepped on again and will never again let themselves be cut off from humanity. Katz said that Hiroshima and My Lai cannot be compared to the Holocaust since the Nazi terror was an attempt to exterminate an entire people.

Discussing Jewish resistance during the Holocaust, Katz said the desire to remain alive, the attempts to keep kosher, maintain journals, hold bar mitzvahs and other efforts were all forms of passive resistance against the Germans. As for active resistance which started in 1942-43, Katz said the Jewish resistance fighters knew they could not win but wanted to kill as many Germans as possible before they died. He noted that the Warsaw Ghetto held out for six weeks while Poland had fallen in three.

Katz also noted that 20 percent of resistance fighters in the French underground were Jews and Jews made up 80 percent of all resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Europe.

MEMORIAL MEETINGS IN ISRAEL

KIBBUTZ LOHAMEI HAGETA, April 8 (JTA)--Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur said tonight that the heroism of Jewish resistance

fighters against the Nazis inspired the generation that brought into existence the State of Israel. He said Israel now has the military force to defend herself but added that he is not sure she has the spiritual force which is also needed.

Gur spoke to thousands of persons who gathered at Kibbutz Lohamei Hageta which was named after the ghetto fighters, to mark the end of the Memorial Day for the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Six torches were lit in memory of the six million who perished. The day also commemorated the bravery of the resistance fighters.

The Memorial Day, which was observed throughout the country was ushered in by the sound of air raid sirens. Work stopped, all traffic halted and people stood at attention in the streets. Schools had special lectures on the Holocaust and its meaning. Memorial parades were held at all army camps and memorial candles were lit in synagogues and public buildings.

ERNST DAVID BERGMANN DEAD AT 71

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here yesterday for Prof. Ernst David Bergmann, former chairman of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission who died at Hadassah Hospital of a heart ailment at the age of 71. President Ephraim Katzir who had worked for years with Prof. Bergmann at the Weizmann Institute of Science, described him as "Israel's greatest scientist." He was also known as "the man who gave Israel the atom." He was buried at Har Hamenuhot cemetery.

Throughout his long career as a scientist, lecturer and teacher Prof. Bergmann viewed science as the means that would enable Israel and the Jewish people to offset the superior numbers of their enemies. He consistently urged the mobilization of science for the defense of the Jewish people and "to avoid another Holocaust."

Prof. Bergmann was born in Karlsruhe, Germany in 1903 and 30 years later, while in London, joined Dr. Chaim Weizmann in scientific work. He was placed in charge of the Scientific Institute in Rehovot and was named its first director when it became the Weizmann Institute of Science in the early 1930s. He was its director general in 1951 when he resigned to become a professor of organic chemistry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Prof. Bergmann was named director of defense research of the Israeli Defense Ministry in 1948. He was a member of the Israel Academy of Science; chairman of the National Council for Space Research; honorary chairman of the Israel Chemistry Society; and a member of the National Council for Research and Development in addition to heading the Atomic Energy Commission. In 1968 he won the "Israel Defense Prize." He served as vice-president of the Hebrew University until two weeks before his death on Sunday.

WEILER TO INSPECT JDC-SUPPORTED FACILITIES IN SOUTH AMERICA

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--Jack D. Weiler, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, will depart for South America next weekend on a two-week inspection tour of JDC-supported facilities. He will make stops in Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Santiago, where JDC is subsidizing a Jewish education program, children's homes and a program for the aged. He will be accompanied by Samuel L. Haber, JDC executive vice-chairman.

Weiler, who was elected JDC chairman at the agency's 60th anniversary meeting in December,

has visited other JDC-supported facilities in Israel and Europe but this is his first trip to South America. He and Haber will discuss with Jewish leaders the current welfare problems and needs in a variety of areas as they affect local Jewish communities in which the JDC may be helpful, Weller said. He will report the findings to the Executive Committee at its next meeting.

"There are over 700,000 Jews in South America," Weller said. "Due to the economic situation they are facing severe problems and are hard-pressed to maintain Jewish institutions. In Argentina the JDC and the Jewish Agency have provided emergency funds over a period of years to enable the Jewish schools, with a total enrollment of some 18,000 children, to continue to function. In Chile JDC funds help maintain two homes for the aged, a children's home, and has made some funds available for the one Jewish school with an enrollment of over 1000 children."

There are also some funds reserved to meet emergency needs in Uruguay, and Weller will look into this matter as well.

MEANY SAYS U.S. LABOR WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA)--Top trade union officials today declared continuing full support for the State of Israel "come what may" and urged that President Ford's "reassessment" of U.S. Middle East policy be extended to include the Soviet-American detente.

"Come what may--Geneva or a new shuttle on the Potomac, reassessment or no--I am sure the Israelis will hang on with great determination to the idea that they have a right to live as a free people," declared AFL-CIO President George Meany. "And insofar as I can speak for American labor, Histadrut and the people of Israel will have the help and cooperation of America's workers the same as they have had since 1920."

Earlier in his address, Meany said that Israel is "unique" in that "it is the only nation I know that is the creation of a free trade union--the Histadrut, or Israeli Federation of Labor--formed more than fifty years ago by David Ben Gurion." Meany devoted his half-hour address at a luncheon of the AFL-CIO's Maritime Trades Department to foreign policy, criticizing the Nixon-Kissinger foreign policy, urging support of Israel, and attacking Soviet performance under detente. He received a standing ovation from the approximately 400 present.

Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers International Union, declared that "the oil companies should buckle down because we're going to give you a bad, bad time" and Thomas W. Gleason, president of the International Longshoremen's Union, said that should another Arab boycott take place the union will "boycott every Russian and Soviet satellite ship and stop shipment of everything to them."

Significant Timing Of Statements

The speeches by the labor leaders were seen as significantly timed since President Ford addresses a joint session of Congress Thursday night on foreign policy.

Speaking of detente, Meany said that perhaps the most disastrous policy sold to the American people" by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and former President Nixon "was this thing called detente" and that "nowhere in

the world is the policy of detente exposed as a fraud to any greater degree than in the Middle East."

"When we talk of intransigence or lack of flexibility on the part of the Israelis, we should do so in the light of Israel's history," Meany said. "We should keep in mind the one over-riding desire of the Israelis--the determination to retain their sovereignty--in other words, their simple determination to stay alive--to resist extermination. In return for the right to live, the Israelis, I am sure, are willing today--have been willing all along--to make real, meaningful concessions."

SOVIET JEWS URGE CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--The Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today it had received an appeal signed by 100 Soviet Jews urging that action be taken to create a special international commission to investigate "the violations of human rights in the USSR in connection with Jewish emigration to Israel." The appeal said such an international commission was needed "to investigate legal and moral aspects of these violations, to make them public, to publicize the struggle for free Jewish emigration from the USSR."

The appeal, which was addressed to "the Jewish communities of the world, to international public organizations and to all people of good will," also declared that the signers intended to stage a one-day hunger strike "against the tyranny of the Soviet authorities" next Sunday, which is to be observed throughout the United States as Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jews.

The appeal cited a continuing campaign of "threats and oppressions" against Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate, culminating in "a complete suppression of all possible communications with the West" affecting telephones, mail and media.

HUNGER STRIKE ENDS

UNITED NATIONS, April 8 (JTA)--The mothers of two Soviet Jewish activists, Boris Tsitlinok and Mark Naspitz and the son of Dr. Mikhail Stern ended today their three-day hunger strike at the Isaiah Wall in front of the United Nations. Batya Tsitlinok and Itta Naspitz protested the sentences last week in which their sons were given five years in exile. August Stern protested the sentencing of his father--a physician who was accused of accepting bribes from patients--to eight years at hard labor.

The two mothers ended their hunger strike before noon today and reportedly went to Washington to continue their struggle on behalf of their sons and other oppressed Jews in the USSR. According to August Stern, who was standing alone today in front of the UN in chilling weather, the three received many calls of support from all over the U.S. Stern said that he will leave New York today to go to Canada and from there to Washington in order to meet with officials and supporters who will hopefully help him to obtain the release of his father. The hunger strike was coordinated by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

NEW YORK (JTA)--Leaders of the Israel Bond Women's Division from the United States and Canada departed on Monday for a 10-day tour of Israel where they will make an in-depth study of the country's grave economic problems and assess how North American Jewish women can best help meet Israel's critical financial needs.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

CAN IT EVER HAPPEN AGAIN?

By Jack Siegel

(Part Two)

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--Jahrman was an American GI in the MIS unit who came from Weesermunde. His father was Christian and his mother Jewish and while he escaped to the States, his parents stayed and he told how his father saved his mother by suing the Nazi government for a false claim that his mother was Jewish. He was small and just this side of deformed, otherwise he wouldn't have been accepted by the Army. He was in charge of the folders in the front office of the camp and made the assignment of the inmates to the team's interrogators.

One day he brought me a folder. The inmate's name was Herman Gering, not the famous Marshal, but a little man who was arrested because he had been a Gestapo "spitzel," or stool pigeon. He was what the Germans called a lumpen, a declassed worker, part of the mass of unemployed of all classes who formed the core of the S.A., Hitler's brown shirted street gangs. His job was to inform on people and when they were "convicted" to take them into a closed room and shoot them with a pistol in the head.

He was brought in, little and formerly fat. Prison fare had reduced the blubber and his skin hung. He was frightened to death. The men of the Team who came from Europe decided to have some fun with him. They insisted he was "the" Hermann Goering. He insisted he was not, pleaded he was not, cried he was not, because he feared if we really believed it, he would receive the same fate as his victims had. He confessed to his role with the Gestapo but refused to admit he was the Hermann Goering.

No Sense Of "Fair Play"

One of the men on the team, who had left his parents behind in Munich and then didn't find them on his return, had a book entitled "Goering, Arbeit und Leben." Or "Goering, Work and Life." It had pictures in it. The title of the book was shown to the Gestapo stool pigeon and then the men withdrew and opened the book as if they had pictures in front of them. They compared him with the pictures and insisted he was the Hermann Goering.

The Europeans in MIS, especially those who had suffered either directly at the hands of the Nazis or lost family, had no American sense of "fair play." With them it was an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth and in the context of the times, it was an acceptable code of behavior.

Then they ordered the man to strip. Nothing could be more humiliating to a human being than to be made to strip. Naked, he is exposed more than whatever he can conceal within him. As he stood there, they observed him and then said, yes, he was the Hermann Goering and they were glad they had captured him. They let him dress and the man was quaking. He envisioned a near end to his existence.

Then one of the men said to him: "Why did you do it? Why did you inform on people, then take them into a room and shoot them in the head with the pistol?" We were curious what could so debase and corrupt what once might have been a human being. And he said, "So ist das Leben." (Such is life.) And seemed satisfied with the answer.

The Case Of The Professor

One day, Louis S, a Jewish Sergeant from Newark who was assigned to the Military Government unit came to the camp and told me there was a German professor of political science in town who wanted to help the Americans. The man was young, Louis said, about 39, was married to an English woman and had five children. Bring him in, I said.

The next day the man and his wife came. He was tall, thin and ascetic looking. What blond hair he had was receding and he spoke an impeccable English, having also studied at Oxford. We talked a little bit and I discovered he had been appointed to his job as chairman of the Department of Political Science of Berlin University after 1939. In our books then, he was a "mandatory arrest." It wasn't very clear how exactly he could help us but at that point my interest in him was other.

In our interrogations, we were to search out people who, if free, could constitute themselves a security threat. I also learned the professor was a Scharfuhrer (corporal) in the S.A. (Hitler's Sturm Abteilung), the brown shirted bully boys who roamed the streets beating up and killing people until displaced by the SS, after the 1934 break with Roehm, head of the S.A., who was threatening Hitler's leadership.

I then told the professor he would have to remain in camp. I told his wife she was a traitor and a renegade and the only reason she was being released was because she had five children.

Joined S.A. For Comradely Purposes

For two days, off and on, I talked with the professor. We discussed philosophers and literature and I learned his basic job was to lecture troops on the necessity of destroying the British Empire. I thought that was an odd function for a teacher and he said he believed it. How come, I asked, that you, a professor, an intellectual, a thinking man joined the S.A., who were nothing but street gangs? He said it was for comradely purposes. They would drink a beer, that was all. With bums, with bullies, with killers of defenseless people?

I then asked him whether he supported Hitler's treatment of the Jews (at that point the full story was not yet out). The professor said he was against the policy of destroying Jews. He believed they should have been sent to Palestine or in some far eastern country. I asked him whether he was a Zionist, in that sense, and he said his belief for the dispersion of the Jews to Palestine was simply a rejection of the need to destroy them.

I said, your idea of the final solution is to displace and dispossess the Jews. What did you do actively against the policy of killing the Jews? He didn't answer. On the final day, when I had determined he should not be left free to roam German cities or streets, to talk to people about his ideas of Nazism, I asked him: And what do you think of Hitler now? He said, Hitler is like your flag. He is above criticism. I had him returned to the barracks and ordered that he not be assigned any work as long as he was in the camp.

I moved to the typewriter to do a report on these cases for Seventh Army Headquarters in Heidelberg and I remember thinking how glad I was that this mess was over, that it could never happen again. Never?

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Alexander and Yevgeny Levich, sons of Prof. Benjamin Levich, have arrived in Israel with a group of immigrants from the USSR.