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CLASH BETWEEN JEWS, ARABS IN MELBOURNE LEAVES 20 INJURED

By Sam Lipsek

MELBOURNE, May 6 (JTA)--The Australian government was today asked to give assurances that pro-PLO sympathizers would not be allowed to import Middle East violence. The leader of the opposition, Malcolm Fraser, called for the assurances after a violent clash Sunday between Jewish students and Arab supporters in Melbourne.

The clash was the most serious outbreak of violence between local Jews and Arab supporters since the politics of the Middle East became a significant issue in Australia after the Yom Kippur War. In the fighting Sunday more than 20 people were injured; two Jewish students were taken to the hospital, and a 70-year-old Jewish spectator received severe head injuries after being beaten with a banner pole.

The clash erupted outside the head office of the Australian Union of Students where two visiting Palestinian students, Eddi Zananri and Samir Chiekh, were holding a press conference. The two represent the General Union of Palestinian Students (GUPS), which is affiliated to the PLO and calls for the destruction of Israel.

The group of some 50 demonstrators was taken by surprise when more than 100 Arabs and PLO sympathizers who were participating in a May Day march in the neighborhood attacked them with sticks and placards. Police broke up the fighting and arrested three Arabs. No charges were made.

Fears Of PLO Entry

The clash was headline news in all media and has focussed attention on the political campaign being waged against Israel on Australia's university and college campuses by the left-wing student leadership. Although the general student population on all campuses last year overwhelmingly defeated a series of violently anti-Israel resolutions, the leadership this year introduced them again. The Palestinian students were invited as part of the anti-Israel campaign. By granting them entry visas the Australian government has renewed fears here that a senior delegation of the PLO chosen to represent Yasir Arafat will, in due course, be allowed entry to Australia.

The opposition parties, who have stated the PLO should not be allowed entry to Australia, were today critical of the Labor government's official attitude of "ambiguity" towards the PLO. Fraser said the government of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam appeared to be involved in "double dealing" on the Middle East. He asked Whitlam to let him see on a confidential basis the copies of diplomatic exchanges between Israel, the Arab countries, the Soviet Union and the United States where these messages touched on Middle East policies, Whitlam is due to meet President Ford in Washington tomorrow.

ALLON TO VISIT RUMANIA

JERUSALEM, May 6 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon will visit Rumania shortly--possibly before the end of this month--to return the visit to Israel last September by the Rumanian Foreign Minister George Macovescu. An official announce-

ment of the visit is expected here and in Bucharest shortly. Allon received the Rumanian Ambassador, Ign Covacl, at his office yesterday and they are understood to have finalized details of the trip.

Rumania is the only Communist bloc country to maintain normal diplomatic relations with Israel although they diverge sharply on most aspects of the Middle East conflict. The two countries also maintain trade relations and have exchanged visits on the ministerial level. Rumania has consistently followed an activist foreign policy line based on maintaining good relations with most states and offering its good offices to mediate in international disputes. Its leaders have often stressed the view that small and medium-sized nations should have a role in the solution of major world problems.

Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu visited Cairo and Damascus briefly about ten days ago in what appeared to be a Rumanian initiative to bring about some diplomatic progress in the Middle East. Macovescu's visit here last September was officially described as friendly and constructive. But the Rumanian side stressed their support for an independent-Palestinian state--which Israel opposes--and that support continues to be a key part of Rumanian Middle East policy.

Since Macovescu's visit, Israel's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Haim Barlev, visited Bucharest where he conferred for two hours with Ceausescu. Rumania's Minister of Agriculture subsequently paid an official visit to Israel.

DISCLOSE AUSTRIA DISCONTINUED PROCEEDINGS AGAINST WAR CRIMINAL

VIENNA, May 6 (JTA)--The Austrian Justice Department, acting clandestinely, discontinued criminal proceedings one year ago against Franz Murer, a Nazi war criminal believed responsible for the death of 80,000 Jews in the Vilna ghetto during World War II. Simon Wiesenthal, head of the Nazi War Crimes Documentation Center here, said today that he discovered the "nolli pro"--order of discontinuance--by accident when he checked with the Justice Ministry on the progress of the Murer case. "The step was taken last June" without any previous notice, Wiesenthal said.

Wiesenthal, who played a part in tracking down Adolf Eichmann, found Murer hiding out in an Austrian inn in 1947. He was extradited to the Soviet Union where he was sentenced to a 25-year prison term for war crimes but was returned to his native Austria in 1955 on condition that a new trial would be held. Murer went on trial in Graz in 1964 but was acquitted. The Austrian Supreme Court ordered a re-trial the following year but it was never held.

Wiesenthal said Austrian judicial authorities have not held a single war crimes trial in three years. He said their explanation was that they feared the trials would end in acquittal. According to Wiesenthal, a total of 800 war crimes cases were under investigation in Austria in 1970. Five years later, all but about 30 were discontinued, he said.

GRAIN DEAL FOR ARAB STATES

By Joseph Pojakkoff

WASHINGTON, May 6 (JTA)--Egypt, Syria and

Jordan have received more than 14 times as much American grain on concession credit terms granted by the U.S. government than has Israel thus far this fiscal year that ends June 30, the U.S. Department of Agriculture told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Including the latest authorization of about 200,000 metric tons of wheat under the U.S. Public Law 480, Egypt will be getting 572,000 tons of wheat and wheat flour for \$95.2 million. The U.S. Egyptian agreement calls for the Cairo government to buy 600,000 tons of wheat this fiscal year. In addition, delivery has already been made to Egypt of 4124 tons of tobacco that Cairo bought for \$10 million.

Syria has purchased 75,000 tons of wheat for \$10.6 million and 25,000 tons of rice for \$9 million. Syria bought the wheat after prices had plummeted 30 percent, an Agriculture Department spokesman noted to JTA. Jordan has obtained 40,000 tons of wheat for \$6.8 million. Israel's purchase during the current year total 50,000 tons of wheat for \$9 million. Egypt's purchases were on U.S. dollar credit for 40 years at interest of two percent a year. The agreements with the other Middle East countries called for approximately the same terms, the spokesman indicated.

Linked To Mideast Developments

Sen. Richard Stone (D, Fla.) said that Robert J. McCloskey, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, has informed him that agricultural assistance will be "somewhat higher" in the new fiscal year beginning July 1 than during the current year.

Stone, a member of the Senate Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee, observed that Israel has received primarily food grains and vegetable oil in past years but these were not available for overseas aid in fiscal year 1975. In fiscal year 1974, Israel received \$20 million in aid under the PL 480 program, more than three times the amount this year. Egypt and Syria received no such aid in fiscal year 1974.

Stone said that one State Department official had stated that Egypt's and Syria's high level of aid was linked not only to their agricultural needs but also to attempts to reach "a peaceful development in the Middle East." Israel, according to that official, received large amounts of economic and military assistance which was taken into account along with its food needs in determining its level of agricultural aid.

EEC, ISRAEL TRADE ACCORD TO BE SIGNED MAY 11

BRUSSELS, May 6 (JTA)--The trade agreement between the European Economic Community (EEC) and Israel will be signed in Brussels May 11, it was announced today. Signing the accord will be, for the EEC, Garret Fitzgerald, Foreign Minister of Ireland and president of the EEC Ministerial Council, and Francois-Xavier Ortoli, president of the European Commission. Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon will sign on Israel's behalf.

After the signing, the final wording of the accord will be studied in the May session of the European Parliament, in order that the text be published in the official journal. The agreement should go into effect July 1. Reservations have been made, however, by the EEC, concerning finished agricultural products. These questions will be studied by the Council of Agriculture ministers in order that the complete accord go into effect as soon as possible.

ARMY INCORPORATES U.S. ARTILLERY

TEL AVIV, May 6 (JTA)--The Israeli army has incorporated new long-range American artillery and is also equipped with Soviet-made artillery captured in the Yom Kippur War and the 1967 Six-Day War, it was disclosed today. Gen. Nati Sharoni, commander of the artillery corps, said Israeli artillery has doubled its fire power since the Yom Kippur War.

The new American artillery is the 155 mm. cannon known as M-109E which has a range of 17 kilometers. According to Sharoni, the artillery corps has also received new, sophisticated equipment including computers that pin-point targets increasing the accuracy of fire. He recalled that in the Yom Kippur War the Arab armies enjoyed an enormous superiority in artillery which they employed according to the Russian doctrine of massed artillery bombardment.

KIVIE KAPLAN DEAD AT 71

BOSTON, May 6 (JTA)--Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Kivie Kaplan, president since 1966 of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a businessman, philanthropist and Reform Judaism leader, who died yesterday in New York at the age of 71. Mr. Kaplan, vice-chairman of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations had just arrived in New York from his home in Chestnut Hill, Mass. to attend a meeting of the UAHC's Israel Commission when he suffered a heart attack.

In recent months, Mr. Kaplan had been working for a better understanding between Blacks and Jews. He had formerly been president of the Colonial Tanning Co., in his native Boston but had retired to devote himself to philanthropic activities. He and his wife had contributed \$100,000 in 1959 to buy a building in Washington to house the UAHC's Center for Religious Action. He helped provide funds for the Jewish Memorial Hospital in Boston, Brandeis University and the Boston branch building of the NAACP.

Mr. Kaplan was also life trustee and co-founder of Temple Emanuel, Newton, Mass.; a trustee of Temple Israel, Boston; a member of the board of directors of the Hebrew Free Loan Society and of the board of trustees of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies; and a life member of the board of the Brandeis University Associates.

APPEAL WILL BE FILED AGAINST A RULING REJECTING KOSHER FOOD FOR JDL MEMBERS IN PRISON

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA)--Nathan Lewin, the attorney for two Jewish Defense League members seeking kosher food during their prison terms for criminal contempt, said today he would file an appeal in a day or two against a ruling rejecting the kosher food request. Federal Court Judge Thomas Griesa ruled yesterday against the request from Jeffrey Smilow and Richard Huss, who were convicted last July after they refused to testify against three other JDL members who were arrested in the Jan. 1972 bombing of the New York offices of Sol Hurok.

Smilow and Huss are presently in the Federal House of Detention in Manhattan. They have been ordered to serve their one-year terms, which started last month, at the Federal Youth Center in Ashland, Ky. They had contended they had a Constitutional right under the First Amendment to be served kosher food in the Ashland facility and, that if this was not possible, they be allowed to remain at the Manhattan facility where frozen kosher pre-packaged meals could be brought in.

Judge Griesa said a prisoner can retain only those Constitutional rights "which are not inconsistent with his status as a prisoner and with the legitimate penological objectives of the corrections system." He ruled that the federal Bureau of Prisons was "entirely correct in refusing to purchase special food for one group of prisoners." Lewin said he would file an appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit here on the Constitutional issue.

The Griesa ruling may have a bearing on a similar demand by Rabbi Meir Kahane, the JDL founder, who has been held in a Manhattan West Side half-way house, where he is serving a one-year term for violation of parole. Under an order from Federal Judge Jack Weinstein, Kahane is permitted to leave the facility daily to obtain kosher food and to worship. Judge Weinstein has reserved decision on a request by federal attorneys for Kahane's immediate transfer to a federal prison at Allenwood, Pa., where Kahane said he could not obtain kosher food.

U.S. MIDEAST POLICY WILL BE FORMULATED AFTER FORD MEETS WITH SADAT, RABIN NEXT MONTH
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 6 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said today that the U.S. government "will formulate a precise American policy" toward the Middle East after President Ford's meetings with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in Salzburg June 1-2 and with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin in Washington, June 11-12.

He said he could not give a precise date when the current reassessment of American Mideast policy ordered by Ford would be completed but that "on the whole, the final decision will not be made until Ford has had an opportunity to meet with the leaders of the countries principally concerned." He said there was no new American plan at the present time.

Kissinger made his remarks in an interview on the NBC-TV "Today" program. He said there was no question that the U.S. would continue its efforts toward a Middle East settlement but that "all parties on both sides have an obligation to explain what they can do to produce peace."

He said that "On the Israeli side, this is a question of what territory they are prepared to give up" and "on the Arab side, it is a question of what concrete commitments to peace they are prepared to make." Kissinger warned that "a prolonged stalemate in the Middle East involves a high risk of another Middle East war with major consequences for the possibility of a conflict with the Soviet Union and with a major impact on the economies of all the industrialized nations, including us." He said "This is a danger that we are determined to avoid. We believe that it is also in the interests of all the participants--all the parties in the Middle East, including Israel."

Missiles For Jordan Acknowledged

Kissinger's appearance on the "Today" program came as U.S. officials acknowledged that the U.S. will supply Jordan with nearly 200 "Hawk" ground-to-air missiles worth some \$100 million and other military equipment despite the freeze on new American arms to Israel pending completion of the reassessment process. State Department officials tried hard to play down the significance of the disclosure five days after King Hussein of Jordan attended a White House dinner and conferred with Ford.

They said the deal was not a "new commit-

ment" inasmuch as Kissinger agreed to it in principle when he visited Amman last November and that it will not alter the Middle East power balance. Kissinger, they said, gave Jordan "a verbal commitment" more than a year ago to help its air defense.

Asked why new arms shipments to Israel remain suspended but not to Jordan although the reassessment was officially announced as applying to all countries in the Middle East, one official replied, "You are comparing apples and oranges." Israel had been promised about 200 "Lance" ground-to-ground mobile missiles of a 40-mile range and their delivery had been arranged but shipment was halted pending the reassessment. The Defense Department said that U.S. commitments to Israel, apart from certain weapons, had been completed April 1.

KISSINGER: ALLEGED U.S. CRITICISMS OF ISRAEL ARE JUST 'MYTHS'

WASHINGTON, May 6 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger declared today that "allegations" that he and President Ford had privately criticized Israel in the week of the breakdown of the U.S. effort for a second interim Israel-Egyptian agreement are "myths." The President, he said, "made a public criticism, not a private criticism when he referred to inflexibility" on Israel's part. As for himself, he had "expressed the view that a strategy which on the whole had been agreed to with the Israeli government did not succeed."

"The purpose has been not of criticism," he said in an interview on the NBC-TV "Today" show with Barbara Walters, "but the purpose of making clear the general American perception" that "new decisions had to be taken by all the parties and that progress towards peace in the Middle East cannot be stopped." Miss Walters asked: "But when you publicly or privately criticized Israel, didn't this release President (Anwar) Sadat (of Egypt) from re-examining his policy?"

"We have asked all parties to look at their policies," Kissinger replied, "and the allegation of private criticisms of Israel comes mostly from people who think they are helping Israel but who, in my view, are not helping Israel by making these allegations." Kissinger said, "There are so many myths that go around" in speaking of the reported criticisms of Israel.

He also said in response to a question on what assurances Israel and other U.S. allies have that "we will keep our commitments to them" that "The President has, on several occasions, made clear--and so have I--that we will stand by our existing commitments." Kissinger said that Congress can change "our implied obligations," as in Vietnam, but he said "the situation in Vietnam was quite different from the situation in other parts of the world."

He said the situation in Vietnam was "extremely controversial" and "it has not been that with respect to Israel or with respect to Western Europe and most of other alliances but Congress can certainly change any commitment we have." Kissinger noted that "in terms of the foreign policy of this Administration, our allies and friends have no reason to fear that we will abandon them."

CHALONS-SUR-MARNE, France (JTA)--The Chalons-Sur-Marne Jewish community celebrated the 100th anniversary of their local synagogue last Sunday. The city's mayor, marking the occasion at the community center, expressed great satisfaction with the community's role and activities in Chalons.

