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REPORT LEBANON WAR REDUCED JEWISH COMMUNITY FROM 2000 TO 300-400

TEL AVIV, April 6 (JTA)--A French tourist who met a Lebanese Jewish leader in Cyprus recently reported here today that only 300-400 Jews remain in strife-torn Lebanon out of a community of 2000 before the civil war in that country. He also said that, according to the Jewish leader, no Jew was hurt in Lebanon because he was a Jew. But 14 Jews lost their lives during the fighting between Christians and Moslems.

According to the informant, two were murdered by thieves and the other 12 Jewish fatalities were caused by stray bullets. During the fighting, both sides protected Jews whom they regarded as neutral in the bitter struggle between Moslems and Christians. Even during the period of mass kidnappings, Jews were allowed to pass, the French tourist said he was told. He said that Christians reportedly stopped Jews in the streets to ask, where are the Israelis--indicating that they hoped Israel would intervene to protect them from their Moslem antagonists.

While the great majority of Lebanese Jews managed to leave that country, the few hundred who remain are trapped there either because they lack money to flee because the banks are closed or they are unable to reach the airport due to the fighting, the French tourist reported.

ISRAEL DENIES HAVING NUCLEAR BOMBS

JERUSALEM, April 6 (JTA)--Israeli officials have again denied that their country has nuclear bombs. Israel is not a nuclear power and it will not be the first to introduce atomic weapons into the Middle East, the officials said today responding to a report in the current issue of Time magazine that Israel has a stock of 13 locally made nuclear bombs and considered using them during the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Israeli sources were quoted today as suggesting to foreign news media that the Time report, as last month's CIA leak that Israel has 10-20 nuclear weapons, was leaked to counter Israel's objections to the sale of American arms to Egypt and its own requests for increased American military assistance.

LEBANESE BORDER UNDER SURVEILLANCE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, March 6 (JTA)--The Israeli forces have put up powerful searchlights along parts of the border with Lebanon as surveillance has been intensified in response to the increasing reports that Syrian army units are in Lebanon in the guise of Al Sajaq terrorists. The Syrian units are mainly artillery and anti-aircraft forces.

The latest report is that these units are positioned south of the Litani River near Tyre with the apparent objective of cutting off supplies for leftist elements in Lebanon to force them to accept the cease-fire.

Previously, Israel had considered the stationing of Syrian troops south of the Litani River as a cause for Israeli intervention since the southern region of Lebanon could provide a springboard for action against Israel. However, Israeli intervention is not being planned at this time because,

while the Syrian force is large, its main aim is seen as enforcing a cease-fire within Lebanon and not as a threatening move against Israel.

An Israeli intervention into Lebanon is seen now as coming only if there is a massive entry of Syrian troops into that country or if Syrian troops are stationed along the Lebanese-Israeli border. Meanwhile, Israeli vantage points report there is little troop movement in Lebanon near the border and farmers have been seen tilling their fields again.

FISHER BLAMES ISRAELI PRESS FOR BUILD-UP OF ISRAEL-U.S. TENSIONS

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, April 6 (JTA)--Max Fisher, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, said here today that the current feelings of tension between Israel and the United States were being generated by the Israeli press. He said they were not apparent in the U.S. and that in fact, President Ford with whom he met only 10 days ago in Washington, was puzzled as to where the tension came from.

Fisher, a close personal friend of the President, spoke to Israeli newsmen at a press conference following the end of the Board of Governors meeting. Yosef Almogi, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, participated in the press conference.

The Detroit industrialist said he would "sug- gest very strongly that the Israeli press handle differently the relations between Israel and the U.S." Declaring that he did not "find the same tensions in the U.S.," and that "in all fairness," what is reported here "is not quite accurate." Fisher warned that "if you highlight minor differences then you lead to major disagreements."

Gives Different Perspective On Issues

Fisher himself sought to give Israelis a different perspective on two immediate issues that are regarded as largely responsible for the current displeasure in Israel with the Ford Administration. One is the Administration's projected sale of six C-130 transport planes to Egypt which Israelis fear will mark the opening of a U.S. arms pipeline to Egypt.

The other is the President's opposition to additional foreign aid funding for the three-month transitional quarter between the end of fiscal 1976 June 30 and the beginning of fiscal 1977 Oct. 1. The matter is now before Congress and if approved, Israel would receive an additional \$550 million in U.S. aid.

Fisher said he would personally use whatever influence he has to see that Israel receives the extra money. However, he noted that in the last 27 months Israel has received over \$4 billion from the U.S. Israel also must understand President Ford's position, Fisher said, and realize that it is very difficult for the President to approve an additional \$550 million in aid for Israel when he faces a \$49 billion deficit at home.

Too Much Being Made Of C-130s Sale

Fisher claimed that Israel was making "too big an issue" over the sale of six transport planes

to Egypt. He said Israel should try to view the sale from the point of view of the general balance in the Middle East. It should be understood that the U.S. is committed to maintain the security of Israel. However, the U.S. is friendly with Egypt as well. "and only a major power which is friendly to all sides of the Middle East conflict can try to find an agreement," Fisher said. "One has to look at the record of Israel-U.S. relations and not at individual circumstances."

Ford Has Not Written Off Jewish Vote

Replying to questions, Fisher denied allegations that Ford has "written off" the Jewish vote in this year's Presidential elections. "No candidate can give up the big Jewish population concentrations" in states like New York, Florida, California and Pennsylvania and President Ford has not, Fisher said.

Referring to the Board of Governors meeting, Fisher said the "sensitive problem of the constructive funds" was discussed. He said he hoped the Board would reach a final recommendation to be presented to the Jewish Agency's General Assembly this summer. (See separate story on Jewish Agency budget.)

Almogi, noting that this was the first time he had participated in a Jewish Agency Board of Governors meeting, said he was greatly impressed by Fisher's dedication, talents and abilities. He said the WZO Executive would discuss Fisher's suggestion that the Jewish Agency directly allocate money to the various Zionist parties for the constructive fund and that the Jewish Agency's controller would oversee the use of the money by the parties.

JEWISH AGENCY BOARD APPROVES \$502M BUDGET FOR 1976/77 FISCAL YEAR

JERUSALEM, April 6 (JTA)--The Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency approved a \$502 million budget for the Agency's operations during the 1976-77 fiscal year and also approved last night a request from Jewish Agency Treasurer Leon Dulzin for a \$150 million interim budget pending the Agency's General Assembly here in July.

The meeting, presided over by Board of Governors Chairman Max Fisher and attended by Yosef Almogi, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, continued for more than eight hours last night. Board members from abroad closely questioned Agency officials about how estimates of immigration were reached, how income was spent last year and what the priorities would be for spending this year should fund-raising fall below the expected goals.

Almogi replied that this year's budget was based on an estimated 45,000 immigrants, 35,000 of them from distressed countries. He observed that "Our future will be decided not only by our geography but by our demography and therefore, aliya must be our top priority."

Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz, who attended the session along with other Treasury officials, said Israel's economy would be helped most by greater investments, especially in export-oriented enterprises. He also called for increased tourism, setting a goal of at least one million visitors a year, and for continued support by Jews abroad for absorption projects in Israel. Other matters taken up included Jewish education in South America, immigration and absorption and the upcoming session of the Agency's Assembly. Dulzin announced that his department would be

using a "new and bigger" computer in August that would be more efficient than the one it will replace. Frank Lautenberg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, who is the president of a large computer data processing firm in New Jersey, inspected the Jewish Agency's computer operations and suggested improvements.

SOVIET UNDERGROUND ART EXHIBIT

BERKELEY, Calif., April 6 (JTA)--A Soviet Underground Art Exhibit will officially open here May 1 at the Judah Magnes Museum. The exhibit, sponsored by the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry, consists of 40 photomurals of the works of 12 Leningrad-based Jewish artists. The photomurals are a documentary of Judaism as seen through the eyes of Soviet artists.

Their works were smuggled to the West and arrived in the form of extensive film coverage of an underground exhibit which opened in Leningrad in the one-bedroom-apartment of the painter Evgeny Abezgaus, the Council reported. All 12 artists represented in the exhibit are graduates from the finest art institutes in the Soviet Union.

"They are barred from membership in the Union of Soviet artists," said Regina Bublil, executive director of the Council, "because their modes of artistic expression do not conform with the official dictates of 'Socialist Realism,' and they are therefore prohibited from working as artists."

This is the first time works of this quality and quantity have been smuggled out of the Soviet Union, she noted. After the premiere opening in Oakland, the exhibit is projected to travel to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Denver and New York.

JDL SAYS RELEASE OF SOVIET JEWS WILL END ANTI-SOVIET VIOLENCE

NEW-YORK, April 6 (JTA)--The Jewish Defense League today released the texts of letters it has sent to President Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, appealing for "an accelerated series of efforts to win complete freedom of emigration for Soviet Jewry." The two letters, both identical, were written, according to Dov Fisch, the organization's associate director, "to bring an end to the violence against Soviet personnel and installations in this country."

Citing recent acts of violence against Soviet facilities attributed to the Jewish Armed Resistance, Fisch wrote, "Those who believe that 'clamping down on the Jewish Armed Resistance' will bring an end to anti-Soviet actions in America are sadly mistaken and misguided." He expressed the fear that "such 'clamping down' will increase their numbers, gain them new adherents, and inspire additional acts of violence by other cells within their group."

Fisch concluded that the "one politically logical way to stop the JAR" would be for Ford and Kissinger to conduct "an increased effort...to win complete and unrestricted free emigration for Soviet Jews." This, he noted, would "eliminate the source of friction now inspiring" the underground Jewish group.

The JAR has taken credit for the shootings at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in Manhattan and the Soviet diplomatic compound in the Riverdale section of the Bronx; and for bombs at the office of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline; and Am-torg, the Soviet trade agency.

2 U.S. MIDEAST EXPERTS SAY U.S. WORKING TO BRING ABOUT PLO PARTICIPATION IN MIDEAST PEACE TALKS

By David Landau

HAIFA, April 6 (JTA)--Two American experts on the Middle East, participating in the "International Conference on the Palestinians and the Mideast Conflict" at Haifa University, said today that the U.S. was actively working to bring about PLO participation in Middle East peace talks. Prof. Amos Perlmutter, of the American University in Washington, said in remarks to reporters outside the conference hall that he had been given such information two weeks ago in Washington by way of a hint that he was to pass on to Israel government circles.

Prof. Linda Miller, of Wellesley College, told a session of the conference that she "sensed" vigorous new efforts by the U.S. to engage the PLO in a dialogue aimed at its acceptance of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a prelude to talks with Israel.

Perlmutter identified the source of his information as former Ambassador G. Dean Brown, director of the Middle East Institute in Washington, who President Ford sent to Lebanon last week as a special envoy on a fact-finding mission. The State Department has not ruled out contacts with the PLO though it said they were not included in Brown's instructions from the President.

Perlmutter, like Miller, indicated that American efforts were aimed at getting the PLO to accept the key UN resolutions so that it would qualify as a participant in peace talks with Israel. He said the U.S. hoped PLO chieftain Yasir Arafat would make some sort of declaration which could be construed as acceptance of the resolutions. He also said that Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Simcha Diniz, was made aware of this direction of American policy at least three months ago.

Claims Low-Level Contacts Maintained

Miller said that she believed U.S.-PLO contacts had been maintained for some time at a relatively low level. She cited a letter to her from a State Department planner whose name she did not reveal, asserting that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger had read in advance the controversial "Saunders Paper."

That paper was the testimony by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East Harold Saunders before a Congressional committee in which Saunders described the Palestinian problem as the heart of the Middle East conflict. It was regarded in Israel as heralding a change of U.S. policy against any dealings with the PLO.

BRAZILIAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR CLAIMS HITLER WAS A TOOL OF JEWS

By David Markus

RIO-DE JANEIRO, April 6 (JTA)--A lecturer at the Federal University in Brasilia has claimed that Hitler was a tool of German Jews who brought him to power because "they expected from him better economic possibilities in Germany."

That version of history was given by Prof. Lucas Wajes Brandao in a lecture labeled "A Study of Brazilian Problems." According to the Nazi Party in Germany came to power, thanks to the Jews. The Jews placed Hitler in power. The German capital was Jewish. Hitler never rejected Jewish capital. Who were

the Krupps (the leading German munitions manufacturers)? The proper Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda, was of Jewish descent..." Brandao's lecture was recorded in shorthand by one of his students.

Manuel Waisman, a member of the Brazilian House of Representatives, brought the transcript before a plenary session of the House and demanded that the ministers of justice and education investigate the lecture.

HIAS Leaders in Brazil

In an unrelated development, it was announced that Foreign Minister Azaredo Da Silveira and Justice Minister Armando Falcao will receive two leaders of the United Hias Service tomorrow. They are Carl Glick, HIAS president and Gaynor I. Jacobson, HIAS executive vice-president, who have been visiting Argentina, Chile and Uruguay on a fact-finding mission. Fred Weinstein, director of the United Hias Service for Latin America, will accompany them at their meeting with the Brazilian ministers.

JEWISH PHILANTHROPY SEEN AS A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE COMMUNITY'S SOCIAL AGENCIES

DETROIT, April 6 (JTA)--American Jewish philanthropy is a joint venture between the synagogue and the community's social agencies, according to Jerold C. Hofferger, of Baltimore, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. Hofferger stressed this during recent services at Temple Beth-El here which marked the 125th anniversary of the temple as well as the 75th anniversary of the United Jewish Charities and the 50th anniversary of the Jewish Welfare Federation.

"The temple must continue its historic mission of identifying new areas of need and awakening the conscience of the community to meet them," Hofferger said. "The Federation is the operational arm which is enforced by the spiritual motivation of the synagogues. The synagogue is a prod and a catalyst to help awaken and mobilize the conscience of the community."

Hofferger praised Temple Beth-El for its historic spiritual and leadership contribution in the founding of Jewish Federations. He said the two most important tasks of the Detroit temple, as for all synagogues, is to develop a new generation of Jewish leaders and to strengthen the role of the synagogue in mobilizing the conscience of the community. "Just as the automotive industry of Detroit is retooling to meet America's energy and transportation crises of the future, so must the American Jewish community have new models which can carry out tomorrow's needs," Hofferger said.

3000 PERSONS IN RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

WASHINGTON, April 6 (JTA)--Some 3000 people gathered in a cold, heavy rain on the Ellipse opposite the White House Sunday for a one-hour inter-faith, inter-racial demonstration on behalf of Soviet Jews. The event, sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, marked Solidarity Day which launched a nation-wide Solidarity Month during which rallies and demonstrations will be held in communities all across the country for the civil and religious rights of Jews in the USSR and their right to emigrate. The rally was attended by three Christian clergymen who participated in the Second World Conference on Soviet Jewry in February.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**CALLAGHAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, April 6 (JTA)--Compared with Harold Wilson, James Callaghan is bound to appear less favorably disposed towards Israel. However, this is less a reflection on Britain's new Prime Minister than on his predecessor's extraordinary popularity with the Jewish community and his close ties with Israeli leaders. But in Callaghan's two years as Foreign Secretary, there has been little sign of divergence between the two men over the handling of Middle East policies.

The most significant aspect of Callaghan's thinking on the Middle East concerns his attitude towards the Palestinian Arab question. Three years ago, as opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, Callaghan referred to the Palestinian question as simply a refugee problem requiring a "humane solution."

However, 14 months later his views had changed. After a flying visit to Egypt and Israel shortly after the Yom Kippur War. Callaghan said he would like all sides in the Mideast to "recognize the right of the Palestinian people to be represented at direct negotiations and to see a personality defined for them in the final settlement."

Callaghan has stuck to this view since becoming Foreign Secretary and has repeated it in Parliament. Wilson used a similar formula when addressing Jewish audiences in the past week.

Callaghan is also on the record as saying that although the British Labor Party sought good relations with all Middle East countries, "that does not mean deserting old friends in order to cultivate new ones--nor would anyone have much respect for us if we did."

He returned from his Middle East tour in 1974 deeply impressed by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt as a man of peace. "Israel's unique experiment in democratic socialism can only survive in the long run in a climate of peace," he said, adding that Israel's leaders faced "more difficult decisions than those facing Arabs."

Sensitive To Soviet Jewry Issue

Although he has not been as close to the Jewish community as Wilson, Callaghan has been sensitive to the question of Soviet Jewry. He claimed in 1973 that he had raised the issue during a visit to the Kremlin. He also testified to the effectiveness of demonstrations in the West and urged that they should continue. Only last month, as Foreign Secretary, he raised the Jewish question with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

NEW SOCIALIST ZIONIST GROUP FORMED

NEW YORK, April 6 (JTA)--The formation of the Socialist Zionist Union (SZU) was announced here by representatives of various progressive Zionist organizations and individuals after a week-end conference. The purpose of the new organization, a spokesperson told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, is to present a unified Socialist Zionist voice and view in the United States and most particularly, in the American Jewish community.

Organizers of the group include members of national Zionist youth movements, Habonim, Hamaganim and Hashomer Hatzair; representatives of local groups, among them the Radical Jewish Union in Berkeley, Calif.; and individuals in New York, Boston, Madison (Wisconsin), and

Pittsburgh. Many of them, the spokesperson said, were formerly involved in Socialist Zionist organizations in the 1960s.

"Few Americans, even in the Jewish community, are aware of the Socialist Zionist position on peace in the Middle East," the SZU spokesperson said. "This position is that peace can only come about through mutual recognition of the right of the Israelis and Palestinians to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel." The spokesperson noted that "many progressives in Israel hold this view but American Jews are only exposed to the Israeli government line or the views of the right-wing opposition."

According to the SZU platform "The current conflict in the Middle East is preventing the realization of both socialism and the aspirations of Israelis and Palestinians to self-determination.... The conflict should be settled by negotiations between the parties to it, based on mutual recognition and respect, without outside intervention and manipulation."

The platform also states that "A socialist Israel is the highest expression of the age-old Jewish commitment to a just society" and that the "trend toward capitalism in Israel has widened the gap between rich and poor and has wrenched Israel away from its socialist goals." It calls for opposition to the "capitalist trend, the denial of civil liberties, and the second-class status of Eastern Jews, Israeli Arabs and women."

U.S. Jews Dominated By Small 'Elite'

The SZU platform also views American Jewry as "dominated by a small elite...unaccountable to the community." This elite, it continues, "claims to represent American Jewry and makes decisions on policy and disbursement of the Jewish people's money without being responsible or responsive to the needs of American Jews."

The SZU, the spokesperson added, is committed to the democratization of the American Jewish community and to a changing of priorities to meet the needs of Jews. The organization also terms aliyah "a prerequisite for participation in building a socialist society in Israel and is a priority for Socialist Zionists."

The SZU, the spokesperson said, plans to cooperate with progressive and leftist forces in Israel such as Moked, the Independent Socialists, and the Feminist Movement of Israel "to build a strong Socialist Zionist movement and to generate an educated and informed ally from America committed to progressive goals."

GOLDA'S LIFE TO BE A PLAY

TEL AVIV, April 6 (JTA)--A play based on the life of former Premier Golda Meir will be produced on Broadway next year by the Theater Guild. This was announced at a press conference today at Beit Sokolow by Mrs. Meir and Philip Langner, president of the Guild. The play will be based on Mrs. Meir's autobiography, "My Life," which has been printed in five languages.

The former Premier said she hoped the stage production would enable more people to understand the aims and dreams that resulted in the founding of Israel and its subsequent history. Langner, who expressed his enthusiasm for the production said that a playwright will be selected shortly and that a search is already underway for an actress to play Mrs. Meir.