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SHOTS FIRED AT SOLDIERS DRIVING PAST HEROD'S GATE IN THE OLD CITY

JERUSALEM, April 25 (JTA)--Security forces are investigating the source of shots fired at a group of soldiers last night who were driving past Herod's Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem. Preliminary reports said that five shots were fired, apparently from inside the gate, which faces Saladin Street, a main thoroughfare in East Jerusalem. No one was hurt. The vicinity of Herod's Gate was combed but no arrests were made last night. Troops were occasionally stoned by local residents during the search.

East Jerusalem was in the last few days the scene of several extremist attempts aimed at triggering new school unrest and street riots to protest against Israeli settlement plans on the West Bank. Five students who participated over the past week in skirmishes during which road-blocks were set up and truck tires were burned in East Jerusalem, went on trial today.

Meanwhile, skirmishes were reported yesterday in Jenin and Nablus, where attempts to renew street demonstrations were foiled by security forces. A central street in Jenin was closed for traffic yesterday after timed explosives were discovered just before they were set to go off. They were removed and dismantled by sappers.

Terrorists Being Held

A group of some 40 terrorists who were captured recently in the Jenin area, are being held pending a trial. The group, which includes three women, is believed responsible for the murder last May of Israel Friedman, an Israeli truck driver, who was killed after he had brought back a group of Arab workers to their village near Jenin.

According to security sources, the group served both El Fatah and the rival Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Their objectives were to prevent West Bank Arabs from crossing the green line to work in Israel and to kill Arabs considered collaborating with Israel. They received their instructions through coded messages over the Voice of Palestine. After their capture, the terrorists led police to their arms caches, some of which have existed since before the Six-Day War.

SIAMESE TWINS BORN AT HADASSAH HOSPITAL REPORTED IN GOOD HEALTH

JERUSALEM, April 25 (JTA)--Siamese twin girls joined at the chest and stomach were born at Hadassah Hospital last night. The infants, weighing seven pounds together, were reported in good health. They are the first Siamese twins born in Israel to survive.

It was the first pregnancy for their mother, a 20-year-old Jerusalem resident. The birth, supervised by Dr. Eliezer Orenstein, was normal. Siamese twins are usually delivered by Caesarian section and it is estimated that no more than 4-5 such twins are born throughout the world each year.

Specialists are examining the babies to determine if an operation to separate them is feasible. The decision will depend on whether the twins have separate hearts and circulatory systems.

Such operations have a high rate of success. On the other hand, Siamese twins who cannot be separated have been known to survive to adulthood.

FORD RULES OUT SENDING U.S. TROOPS TO LEBANON AS PEACEKEEPING FORCE

WASHINGTON, April 25 (JTA)--President Ford has ruled out any possibility of sending American forces into Lebanon or in the Middle East as part of a UN peacekeeping force. "We have no plans at all to send American troops into Lebanon, none whatsoever," the President said last Thursday at one point in a brief discussion in a television interview at Butler University in Indiana. Later, at another point, he said "I don't think the United States should participate in a peacekeeping force in the Middle East. The minute you do that, you get the Russians in and I don't think you should have the United States or the Russians there."

YEFIM DAVIDOVICH DEAD AT 54

NEW YORK, April 25 (JTA)--Col. Yefim Davidovich, the former Red Army hero and one of the most prominent Soviet Jews denied permission to emigrate to Israel, died yesterday of a heart attack at his home in Minsk; according to Jewish sources here. He was 54 years old. A spokesman for the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry recalled that Col. Davidovich had suffered his fifth heart attack several weeks ago. A number of leading Soviet Jewish activists pleaded with Soviet authorities last month to let him emigrate in view of his condition, but permission was denied.

Col. Davidovich had sought an exit visa for three years but was told it would not be in the interest of the state for him to emigrate. He was pensioned out of the army in 1971 and later became a frequent protester against the repression of Jews in the USSR, and against the authorities' refusal to let him leave. Last May, activist sources said he had been officially stripped of his rank and deprived of his officer's pension.

RABIN UNDER PRESSURE TO HOLD DEBATE ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 25 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin is under mounting pressure from within his own party to hold the long postponed Cabinet debate over Jewish settlements on the West Bank. The debate, when it occurs, will determine the fate of the controversial Gush Emunim encampment outside the Kadum army base in the Samaria region. In the process, it could destroy Rabin's coalition with the National Religious Party and possibly prove fatal to the Labor Alignment which is sharply divided on the issue.

The matter is not on the agenda of today's Cabinet meeting. But it is clear that the "doves" will not tolerate further delay. Yesterday, Justice Minister Haim Zadok blasted the Gush Emunim's April 18-19 march through the West Bank which touched off violent disturbances in Arab towns and in East Jerusalem.

Addressing a symposium at the Labor Party's regional center at Beit Beri, Zadok said the decision to allow the illegal Gush settlers to remain at Kadum was a "grave mistake." He denounced the Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) as a band of "religious zealots and extreme nationalists" who pose

a danger to democracy in Israel because they "do not see themselves bound by the rules of the game within a democratic society."

Zadok declared that the Gush squatters should have been removed from Samaria by force if necessary when they first established themselves there last November. They should be evicted now, he said.

Allon Postpones U.S. Visit

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry today confirmed a report that Foreign Minister Yigal Allon has postponed his trip to the U.S. next week where he was to address major fund-raising gatherings and meet with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and other Administration and Congressional leaders. According to political circles, Allon's main reason for postponing his American trip was "his desire to participate in the Kadum debate." He does not want to hold political talks in Washington before this controversial issue is settled by the government, the circles said.

Allon's decision in effect served notice on Rabin that he wants the debate held promptly. Allon has spoken out several times in favor of removing the Gush from the West Bank. He and other "doves" maintain that the compromise allowing a limited number of them to remain at Kadum under army protection was never brought up before the full Cabinet.

NRP Issues Threats

Defense Minister Shimon Peres, who arranged the compromise, has made no secret of his support of the Gush demands for free Jewish settlement on the West Bank. Peres is backed on this issue by Police Minister Shlomo Hillel and Transport Minister Gad Yacobi. The most vigorous Cabinet support for the Gush comes from Welfare Minister Zevulun Hammer, a leader of the NRP's "young guard" who has threatened to resign if the Cabinet decides to evict the Kadum settlers. Under Hammer's pressure, the more moderate NRP ministers, Yosef Burg and Yitzhak Raphael, have made similar threats.

Labor Party, Mapam and Independent Liberal Party "doves" who are just as vigorously opposed to the Kadum settlement, observe that political "blackmail" by the NRP is nothing new in the history of government coalitions with the Orthodox faction. They believe that in a showdown, the veteran NRP ministers will find a formula that will permit them to remain in the Cabinet.

The outcome of the debate is likely to hinge on such middle-of-the-road Labor ministers as Aharon Yadlin, Moshe Baram, Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Aharon Uzan. They are newcomers to the Cabinet and have the strongest interest in the survival of the Rabin government. They are expected to take their cue from the Premier himself and not oppose his declared position.

Rabin Seen As Equivocating

So far, however, Rabin has not stated his position unequivocally. On one hand, he has publicly condemned the Gush Emunim for defying government authority. On the other, he has reiterated that the Jordan River must remain Israel's permanent security border in the east. This presupposes a chain of Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

The government has, in fact, encouraged settlements in the sparsely populated Jordan valley and presumably would offer the Gush alternative sites there or on the Golan Heights. The Gush and

their supporters claim that the entire West Bank must be open to Jewish settlement if it is to remain secure.

Rabin promised a debate on the matter this month. But with the month almost over he has failed to schedule one. The reasons given for the delay were the West Bank elections, held April 12, and the widespread disturbances on the West Bank last week. Meanwhile, the Gush squatters at Kadum have become more firmly entrenched. Since January the government has borrowed mobile homes from the Jewish Agency to house the group and a good deal of earthwork has been done to improve their living conditions.

Whenever the Cabinet debate is held it will be affected by considerations beyond Israeli politics. The U.S. government has made clear its unhappiness over Jewish settlement in the occupied Arab territories. That position was stated bluntly in the Security Council last month by U.S. Ambassador William Scranton.

Doveish elements cite the West Bank turbulence and Washington's disapproval as major reasons why the government should put an end to illegal settlements. Hawks, on the other hand, cite the very same considerations to back their hard-line policy of increased Jewish settlements in the territories.

TALKS BETWEEN LABOR, MAPAM TO DETERMINE FUTURE OF ALIGNMENT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 25 (JTA)--Discussions have begun between Mapam and the Labor Party that are expected to determine whether Mapam remains part of Premier Yitzhak Rabin's Labor Alignment or strikes out on its own in the next elections. Mapam itself is split. A majority of its members, including veteran leaders like Yacov Hazan, want the faction to continue its alignment with Labor so as to work for changes from within.

But there is growing minority sentiment in Mapam favoring a break. This group is totally disillusioned with the Labor Party's policies in the political, social and organizational spheres and is disappointed with Rabin's leadership. Mapam was totally behind the Premier when he was elected in 1974. They believed his views coincided with the "doveish" leanings of Mapam. But several developments altered that opinion.

One was Rabin's appointment of the right-wing Gen. Ariel Sharon, founder of the Likud opposition, as his special advisor. Sharon has since resigned that post. Another was the government's vacillation in face of the militant Orthodox Gush Emunim's defiance of government policy barring unauthorized Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

Many in Mapam are also disturbed by the Rabin government's apparent lack of a peace plan and its failure to take any new peace initiatives. In the social arena, Rabin is faulted for lacking a plan to close the social and economic gap in Israel by raising the living standards of the poor. Some of his critics say the gap between the privileged and underprivileged classes in Israel is widening.

Mapam has also complained bitterly that Rabin and his closest associates ignore the democratically elected bodies of the Labor Alignment when basic policy decisions are made.

Mapam Taken To Task

A meeting to discuss these issues was held Thursday night between the leadership of Mapam and the Labor Party. Former Premier Golda Meir led the discussion for Labor by asking Mapam

to spell out its peace plan and who, in addition to Mapam, is ready to accept that plan. She took Mapam to task for its claim that Israel's policy alienates friends in the socialist world.

"Who are these friends, these socialists, that we have to take them into consideration?" she asked. "Is it (Austrian Chancellor Bruno) Kreisky? Or (Sweden's Premier Olof) Palme? Or is it (West German Chancellor Helmut) Schmidt? We cannot rely on such friends." Despite Mapam's contention that socialists are being alienated, Mrs. Meir pointed out that Israel continues to engage in discussions with socialist leaders.

No decision was taken at this meeting regarding Mapam's future in the alignment, but talks are to continue. The attitude of most Labor Party speakers at the meeting was in favor of continuing the alignment. Among those present from Labor was Premier Yitzhak Rabin, Defense Minister Shimon Peres, and Meir Zarmi. Mapam was represented by Hazan, Meir Talmi and Victor Shemtov.

HOLOCAUST VICTIMS MUST NOT BE FORGOTTEN, SPEAKERS AFFIRM AT WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING MEMORIAL

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, April 25 (JTA)--The more than 3500 persons that today attended the 33rd annual commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the memorial service for the victims of the Holocaust at Temple Emanu-El were urged by speaker after speaker not to forget the six million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis lest it happens again.

"We are the spokesmen of the dead," Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, declared. "It is our solemn duty to be their witnesses."

The theme of remembering was carried out in the emblem of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization (WAGRO) which sponsors the annual memorial in conjunction with major Jewish organizations. It said "remember" in Hebrew, Yiddish and English.

This theme was also echoed in one of the most poignant moments in the ceremony when, after children from New York City Jewish schools walked in carrying candles, the choir of the Ramaz School, a Manhattan Jewish day school, sang in Yiddish "We Cannot Forget," a song of the Warsaw ghetto. Many men and women could be seen weeping and also when Cantor David Kusevitsky sang the traditional El Mole Rachamim.

Other solemn moments came when 30 women survivors of the Holocaust, dressed in black, lit memorial candles for the six million dead as the Temple Emanu-El choir sang "Ani Maamin" and later when six persons representing the death camps and the Jewish partisans lit six other memorial candles beneath which were the words "zechar" (remember).

UN Today Recalls Start Of Nazism

Chaim Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, told the gathering that the situation in the UN today is "reminiscent" of "what occurred forty years ago when Nazism was on the rise and the anti-Semitic rantings of Hitler re-echoed across Europe, sounding the warning note to humanity, a warning which went unheeded until the world was plunged into a bloodbath which was to lead to a Holocaust such as humanity had not yet witnessed."

He said it was fitting to meet in the shadows of the UN "and recall the selfless courage of those who rose in the Warsaw Ghetto 33 years ago and proclaimed that man's spirit is stronger than the arms of oppressors, who announce to the world that never again will we, the Jewish people, fall in our duty to our tradition and values in our history, and that we will always rise to fight against the forces of evil which threaten us and which threaten the free world."

Schindler, who is also president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said that Jews must learn from the Holocaust that they are a united people and also that they are linked to all humanity. He said Jews must help any other Jew or Jewish community that is in trouble. "As we were brothers in death, we are brothers in life," he declared. But he stressed that Jews must also not stand idly by when others are in trouble.

It Could Happen Here

Mayor Abraham Beame, reminding the audience that his parents came from Warsaw, said the Holocaust must be remembered as "a reminder that it doesn't take much for civilized people to degenerate into murdering savages." He said that while many say it could not happen in the United States, "we would be foolish to go to sleep.... We may be free today, but only because we have continued to remember what happened four decades ago which made a mockery of all social progress up to that point."

WAGRO President Benjamin Freed, also stressed that "Never again can we let the world sit idly by, while the Jews of a nation face the threat of extinction, whether it be cultural or physical."

He said each passing year makes clearer the "enormity" of the loss the Jewish people suffered as a result of the Holocaust. But he also noted that the "heroism and martyrdom" of the Holocaust is part of the foundation of the State of Israel where "the children of the survivors of the Holocaust stand side-by-side with other children of Israel guarding the land from the hills of Golan to the desert of Sinai." Other cities across the country held similar ceremonies today or are planning to hold them tomorrow.

10 NEW SETTLEMENTS DUE

TEL AVIV, April 25 (JTA)--Ten new settlements--eight moshavim (cooperative settlements) and two kibbutzim--will be established in the near future in the Raffah approaches in the Gaza Strip. Leon Dulzin, the Jewish Agency Treasurer, said after a visit to the region several days ago.

He said the World Zionist Organization will make special efforts aimed at creating a continuous line of settlements in the Pithat Raffah region. Dulzin stressed that emphasis would be on the quality rather than the quantity of settlers, adding that the planned moshavim will include some to be settled by newcomers from the Soviet Union and the United States.

A development effort is underway in the Pithat Raffah area, Dulzin said. In addition to construction of housing for the settlements, work is proceeding on building of large packing houses, particularly for flowers and vegetables which the region is producing. The packing houses are being built at INKIA, Saddot, Kerem Shalom and Sdeil-Nitzha, described as veteran settlements of the region.

GOP OFFICIAL TO PUSH FOR STRONG PRO-ISRAEL, SOVIET JEWRY EMIGRATION PLANKS AT PARTY'S NATIONAL CONCLAVE

NEW YORK, April 25 (JTA)--The head of the Republican Party's national committee of state chairmen and himself New York State GOP chairman pledged this weekend to introduce a strong pro-Israel plank in the Republican Party platform at its national convention in August. Former Judge Richard Rosenbaum, a close friend of Vice-President Nelson A. Rockefeller, also said he would sponsor a plank calling for the freedom of emigration of Soviet Jewry.

Rosenbaum, in an interview this weekend on nationally syndicated newspaper columnist Victor Riesel's WEVD "Talk of New York" program, said that he had spoken with Iowa Governor Robert Ray, chairman of the Republican Platform Committee and that the latter had agreed to permit a resolution drafted by Rosenbaum which "guarantees the integrity, the existence, the strength, and the security of the State of Israel."

"In addition to that," Rosenbaum told Riesel, "I intend to sponsor a plank which will call for freedom of emigration from the Soviet Union for Soviet Jewry and all peoples for that matter to freely emigrate from whatever nations they are living in. I will emphasize, especially, the right of the so-called 'Prisoners of Conscience' who are living in Russia to be able to go to Israel. I think that's extremely important and I want the Republican Party to stand four square behind those kinds of resolutions."

Rosenbaum said he had already received support for these proposed resolutions from a group of northeastern Republican chairmen. He said that he would go to the platform committee in Kansas on August 10 after having campaigned for his proposals among the Republican delegations and that he anticipated unanimous endorsement.

Rosenbaum said that Rockefeller would be an at-large delegate from New York State to the Republican national convention and was "sympathetic to Israel and there is no doubt that he supports the integrity and strength and existence of the State of Israel."

ANTI-ISRAELI CARTOON ASSAILED

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 25 (JTA)--The Memphis Jewish Community Relations Council has written a letter to the Memphis Commercial Appeal in which it deplors a cartoon published in the daily newspaper on April 2 as "an offensive depiction of the Israeli or Jewish stereotype."

The complaint was in the form of a letter sent by Morris Kriger, president of the Memphis Jewish Welfare Fund, and Lewis Kramer, president of the Memphis Jewish Community Relations Council.

According to the Hebrew Watchman, which carried the letter on its editorial page, the cartoon depicted Israel as an octopus holding on to Arab occupied land, shedding tears and telling "Uncle Sam" that "Sob! You know I can't stand criticism." "Uncle Sam," looking amazed, points to Sadat while an Arab says "One man's aid is another man's tantrum."

Frightening And Disturbing

In the letter, the two local Jewish leaders said "It is somewhat frightening and very disturbing" to have seen the cartoon in the Commercial Appeal and wondered if this meant a change in the paper's policy. "If so it would appear that this policy is blatantly anti-Semitic," they said.

Kruger and Kramer said the editorial is a distortion of Israel's opposition to U.S. military aid to Egypt and Ambassador William Scranton's speech at the United Nations. "In both cases," they said, "it must be clearly understood that Israel policy is a result of deliberate decision-making processes which will allow first and foremost for the preservation of security, while at the same time, work toward achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East."

The letter concluded by noting that Israel has always sought direct negotiations with the Arabs and has always been turned down. "It is our fervent hope and desire that this offer of continual standing will be accepted, and that a lasting and just peace will result in the Middle East," the Memphis Jewish leaders said.

HERZOG, GOLDBERG TO BE HONORED

PHILADELPHIA, April 25 (JTA)--Chaim Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, and Arthur Goldberg, former U.S. Supreme Court Justice and Ambassador to the UN, will be inducted as Fellows in the Jewish Academy of Arts and Sciences at a special convocation here May 2. The convocation, marking the 50th anniversary of the Academy's founding and the nation's bicentennial, will be held at Dropsie University.

Goldberg and Herzog are being honored in recognition of their contributions and accomplishments in world affairs. They will be among many famous Jewish personalities made Fellows of the Academy during the past half century. These include the late Albert Einstein, the late Justice Felix Frankfurter, historian Dr. Salo W. Baron and concert violinist Isaac Stern.

REPRESSIONS CONTINUE IN THE USSR

NEW YORK, April 25 (JTA)--The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry have obtained and published a major, 5500-word document from eight top Soviet Jewish activists detailing what the "refuseniks" call the "increase in repression and various kinds of persecution against those desirous of emigrating." The text, entitled "Message from Moscow," seeks to refute Soviet Internal Affairs Deputy Minister Boris Shumilin's widely-circulated contention that the drop in Jewish emigration to 13,900 last year occurred because fewer Soviet Jews sought to leave.

"Message From Moscow" describes in detail distinct methods of intimidation of would-be applicants. They are: refusal to grant emigration permission; army call-ups of persons requesting permission to emigrate; judicial prosecution; action against Jewish activists; attempts to isolate the investigation against the journal, "Jews in the USSR"; and the anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist campaign in the press.

"A completely new phenomenon has been the publication in many newspaper articles," the activists say, whose purpose is "not merely a means of intimidating Jewish activists but isolating such Jews from all other Jews." They quote statements about Zionists from the Soviet press including one which states that "From the very first years of the seizure of power in Germany by the Fascists, they (the Zionists) were, body and soul, in the service of the Hitlerite cannibals."

The authors of "Message From Moscow" are Dina Bellina, Vladimir Shepek, Ida Nudal, Vitya Rubin, Alexander Luntz, Eitan Finkelstein, Alexander Lerner and Anatoly Sharansky.