ALLON SAYS ISRAEL WILL NOT PAY ANY PRICE TO AGREE TO THE UNDOF RENEWAL

JERUSALEM, May 17 (JTA)—Foreign Minister Yigal Allon declared yesterday that Israel would agree to no conditions nor pay any price for a Syrian agreement to renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights which expires May 30. But, if the Cabinet on the latest political developments, Allon said that Israel would not submit to any resolutions in the UN Security Council inimical to its interests as the price for extending UNDOF.

Officials here seem fairly confident that the UNDOF mandate will be renewed, if only because Syria is so heavily involved in the Lebanese crisis. But no one will make any hard predictions because of Syria’s record of unpredictability.

Speaking of a related subject, Allon told the Cabinet that if Israel was suspended or ousted from the UN General Assembly it would react by suspending UN activities in the Middle East. He did not elaborate. He noted, however, that an increasing number of UN member states have gone on record in opposition to any move to suspend Israel.

TURKEY AND IRAN TO ALLOW THE PLO TO OPEN OFFICES IN ANKARA AND TEHERAN

PARIS, May 17 (JTA)—The Turkish government has granted the PLO permission to open a permanent bureau in Ankara and enjoy a semidiplomatic status, according to French press reports from Turkey. The Turkish government decision was taken last week on the eve of the “Islamic Conference” which held its seventh session in Istanbul last Saturday.

The conference, attended by the representatives of about 40 Moslem countries, unanimously adopted a resolution expressing its support for the Palestinians and calling on Israel “to withdraw to its 1949 borders.” This is the first time in recent years that an international conference spoke about the partition frontiers.

On the conference’s opening day, May 15, the Iranian government announced that it, too, has granted the PLO permission to operate a bureau in Teheran. Iran and the U.S. have had close and confidential relations since the creation of the Jewish State.

ISRAEL EMBASSY DEPLORES ONE-SIDED ‘PALESTINIAN CONFERENCE’ IN BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, May 17 (JTA)—Representatives of Arab countries, Palestinian organizations and West European parliamentarians and businessmen met here over the weekend for a two-day “Palestinian Conference,” which, many said, came as a surprise to Israeli governments on behalf of Soviet Jewry held here two months ago.

Hebron exiled leader, Dr. Ahmed Hamzeh, deported by Israel last but before the West Bank municipal elections, was among the 20 Arabs from the occupied territories who “testified” before the conference. Other “witnesses” came from inside Israel itself and from Palestinian refugee camps abroad.

The Israeli Embassy in Brussels released a communique deploring the fact that the conference had not invited “representatives from all the parties in the Middle East,” namely Israel. It also stressed that it was symbolically held on May 13, the anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel, as if to underscore its desire to destroy the Jewish State. A British film, “Betrayal of Trust,” claiming to retrace the “real history” of Palestine, was shown at the conference.

MEANY URGES DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE ASSURANCES FOR ISRAEL’S SECURITY AND FUTURE

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA)—The Democratic Platform Committee opened its hearings today for the 1976 Presidential campaign with a statement by AFL-CIO president George Meany strongly calling for assurances for Israel’s security and future. He also urged the committee to safeguard Soviet citizens wishing to emigrate and condemned Arab economic warfare.

Meany accompanied his testimony with a 62-page document containing the AFL-CIO specific platform proposals. The AFL-CIO said it would make the same presentation to the Republican Platform Committee at a later date.

In his presentation, Meany said: “True peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East until representatives of all the nations in that region come to a just political agreement face-to-face. Every necessary economic and military assistance required to maintain Israel as a viable democratic state must be extended and continued by the United States until Israel’s security and future are assured and internationally recognized.”

The committee, led by Gov. Wendell Anderson of Minnesota, also received the AFL-CIO view that “the foreign policy of the United States should encourage the export of the ideals and institutions of democracy, not American jobs, technology and capital.”

Assailis Oil-Blackmail

The AFL-CIO also said that it “rejects the contention that international trade negotiations are solely economic rather than political negotiations.” These references were aimed at the Jackson-Vanik and Stevenson provisions in the U.S. Trade Act and Export-Import Bank Law that restricts U.S. trade benefits to the Soviet Union unless it eases its emigration policies for Jews and others.

Striking at the Arab oil weapon, Meany said: “We believe that those who would attempt to blackmail the United States through embargoes of essential raw materials, such as oil, must know their actions will be met swiftly by retaliatory economic measures by this country.” He added that “the economy of the United States and the free world must not be imperiled with impunity by blackmailers.”

ISRAEL PROMULGATES WORKMEN’S COMPENSATION LAW FOR OCCUPIED AREAS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 17 (JTA)—Israel promulgated a far-reaching workmen’s compensation
SOLDIERS, FIRING IN SELF-DEFENSE, FATAL WOUND AN ARAB YOUTH

JERUSALEM, May 17 (JTA)—Two Israeli soldiers, reportedly firing in self-defense, fatally wounded an Arab youth on the Jerusalem-Jericho road outside Jerusalem today. The victim was identified as Abdullah Mustapha Hawass, in his late teens, a pupil at the high school in Shuafat near Ramallah. He died at a Ramallah hospital.

According to a military spokesman, the soldiers were in an army truck that was blocked by burning tires on the highway and stoned by rioting students. They were forced to open fire to extricate themselves from mortal danger, the spokesman declared.

Today's shooting was the second fatality in 24 hours on the West Bank where disturbances that erupted over the weekend continue. A 17-year-old Nablus girl, Lina Nablusi, was fatally wounded by Israeli soldiers yesterday. Israeli authorities said she accidentally hit by stray bullets but her death sparked new outbreaks of violence in Nablus and other West Bank towns.

Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur has personally ordered an investigation into the death of the Nablus girl. The soldier, whose rifle went off accidentally, is being held in detention. An investigation has also been ordered into today's shooting although it was stressed that the soldiers fired only when their own lives were in danger.

Meanwhile, a curfew was imposed on parts of Nablus this morning after high school students blocked roads with burning tires and stoned Israeli security forces. Curfews were also clamped on Jenin where demonstrations and rioting occurred and on the Nataba refugee camp near Tulkarem, where, Israeli authorities said, crowds were organizing to riot. Most West Bank schools remained closed today and local merchants in Nablus and nearby towns staged a strike that was only partially effective.

BEING WarnS OF THE DANGER TO ISRAEL OF AN "ARAFA TAN STATE"

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA)—Menachem Begin, Knesset leader of the Likud; warned last night of the danger to Israel of the creation of an "Arafatan State" for Palestinians. He was the principal speaker at a dinner in tribute to Sidney Green, financial advisor to the State of Israel, which produced approximately $1 million in Israel Bond purchases for the strengthening of Israel's economy.

An "Arafatan State" would inevitably become a base for Soviet arms aimed at the heart of Israel which might have to suffer massive casualties in a first attack before Israel's defense forces could go into action, Begin declared. However, he emphasized that Israel was indestructible and would remain forever. Referring to Israel's difficult economic situation, the Israeli leader called for greater support for the Israel Bond campaign to back up the country's defense with economic strength.

The dinner in honor of Green's 35-year service to Israel was held in Old Westbury, L.I. Among those addressing the dinner were Zeev Sher, Israel's Economic Minister to North America; Sam Rothberg, general chairman of Israel Bonds; and Ita Drazin, who presided.

BOMB EXPLOSION IN TEL AVIV SUBURB ATTTACHED TO UNDERWORLD ELEMENTS

TEL AVIV, May 17 (JTA)—A bomb explosion that severely damaged a villa in the wealthy suburb of Zakula before dawn today was attributed to underworld elements by Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lehat. Lehat, who lives in the suburb, said the bomb was apparently intended for him but the perpetrators planted it by mistake at the nearby home of another Shlomo Lehat, an industrialist and former army colonel who is presently visiting Belgium as the head of an Israeli trade delegation.

The bomb blew a large hole in the wall of the villa and smashed most of the windows. No one was injured. Lehat expressed regret that an innocent party should have been the victim of what he described as an underworld "contract" bombing. The Israel Radio reported receiving an anonymous telephone call that the bomb was meant for the Mayor's house. Some sources believe it may have been in retaliation for the Mayor's recent orders to demolish any buildings erected without a municipal license. City workers were sent to repair the damage.

Stage A Media Event

Meanwhile, a group of slum dwellers in Tel Aviv adopted a tactic used by West Bank Arabs recently to stage a media event to call attention
to their grievances. They set fire to a pile of rubber tires yesterday, sending a huge pall of black smoke over their neighborhood. But first they called the local television station which sent cameramen and reporters to record the burning.

The residents were protesting their forced relocation to make room for a development project near the Tel Aviv University campus. Most of their neighbors had agreed to accept new flats and some financial compensation. But the occupants of three flats slated for demolition held out for better offers and were joined by several hundred other slum-dwellers in their demonstration. A satisfactory settlement was reached with the municipal authorities—but not before the TV cameras rolled.

STRONG AFFIRMATION OF J-V AMENDMENT VOICED AT SOVIEJT JEWRY CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA)—Continued strong affirmation of the Jackson-Vanik provisions of the 1974 U.S. Trade Act was voiced today by Eugene Gold, newly elected chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, at the closing luncheon of the NCSJ's board of governors leadership assembly two-day meeting at the Shoreham-Hotel.

"It is the law on the books and we must support that law," Gold declared with reference to the measure that links U.S. trade benefits to the Soviet Union with liberalization of that country's emigration policies. Some 150 delegates attended the assembly to discuss future programming on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Gold, the District Attorney of Brooklyn, who succeeded Mylae Lowell as NCSJ chairman, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "if there are significant changes in Soviet policies and practices, we are not going to be bound to any precise letter of the law." He explained that "there may be room for flexible interpretation of the law which would be dependent upon Soviet compliance with the human rights of Jews."

Gold said at the luncheon that "it is perfectly clear that the rejection of the trade agreement by the Soviet Union was because of the Stevenson legislation and not the Jackson-Vanik legislation." An amendment to the trade act by Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D.Ill.) put a $300 million ceiling on U.S. import-export bank credits to the Soviet Union over a four-year period.

Prof. Aleksandr Luntz, former director of the Science Institute in Moscow, who immigrated to Israel last January, accused the Soviet authorities of offering Jews for sale for billions of dollars. He said that in view of the Stevenson provisions, the Soviets felt that U.S. payment was too low and therefore abrogated the trade agreement.

Jackson Defends His Amendment

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D.Wash.), co-author of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, described his measure as part of the "largest struggle for human rights in all lands for all people." He said that "despite massive campaigns by the Soviet Union, the White House and powerful businessmen, all efforts to reverse our commitment to freedom and emigration of American Jews and historic legislation have been turned aside." Jackson assailed President Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger for their opposition to the Jackson-Vanik legislation and for their efforts to get Congress to delete it from the trade bill or water it down.

Gov. Edmund J. Brown, Jr., of California, told the delegates yesterday he favors hard-bargaining with the Soviets on American wheat and technology to secure the free emigration for Soviet Jews. In an address followed by a question and answer period, Brown, who is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, said he had mixed feelings about the effectiveness of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

Lowell said the campaign on behalf of Soviet Jewry will be "long and hard, but it is clear that American Jews and Christians are prepared to shoulder that responsibility for as long as necessary."

HOUSE ADOPTS BILL TO MONITOR HELSINKI AGREEMENT COMPLIANCE

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA)—The House of Representatives, by a vote of 240-95, today adopted the Case-Fenwick bill setting up an American commission on security and cooperation in Europe whose function is to monitor compliance with the Helsinki agreement by all its signatories, including the Soviet Union. A major feature is to advance the freedom of citizens within the Soviet orbit, including Jews and others wishing to emigrate.

The bill will now go to the Senate-House conference, since the Senate version sponsored by Sen. Clifford P. Case (R.NJ) calls for an 11-member group while the House measure introduced by Rep. Millicent Fenwick (R.NJ), proposes 15 members.

YOM HAATZMAUT IN BRAZIL

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 17 (JTA)—The State Legislature of Rio Province will celebrate Israel's Independence Day every year on May 14, according to a special resolution adopted by that body on the occasion of Israel's 25th anniversary. May 14 is the day Israel's independence was proclaimed according to the Gregorian calendar.

The resolution was presented by Dr. Mauricio Pinkusfeld, a representative on the government party list and adopted by 94 deputies of both parties. The first celebration was held last Friday when Jewish leaders were invited to the president's table by the president of the legislature, Jose Pinto, Among them was Haim Nigri, president of the Rio de Janeiro Zionist Organization.

NEW YORK (JTA)—Israel Zurlut, Israel's Commissioner of Tourism for North America, reported Monday that 62,167 American tourists visited Israel during the period of January-April of this year. This, he noted, is an increase of 55 percent compared to the same period in 1975 during which 40,058 Americans visited Israel. Zurlut said that the tourist flow from the U.S. to Israel reached its peak last month when 20,792 Americans visited Israel compared to 10,634 in April, 1975.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—The two American Jewish leaders involved in an American firm prospecting for oil in the Sinai have been identified here as Max Fisher, the Detroit industrialist; and William Levitt, the New York home builder. (The Jewish Telegraphic Agency in New York tried to reach Fisher twice in Detroit for a comment, but he was not available. Levitt's office said he is out of the country until June.)

JERUSALEM (JTA)—The Jewish National Fund is planning major jamborees all over the country for some 10,000 young people Tuesday to mark Lag B'Omer.
ISRAEL AND AMERICAN JEWISH WEEK WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON IN JUNE
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA)--Israel and Italy will share the celebration of the opening week of the 12-week Festival of American Folklife starting this week in Washington's mall as part of the nation's Bicentennial observance. Cultural artists from 25 countries will participate in the presentations. Israel and Egypt are the only Middle East participants.

"Jewish Folkways in America and Israel" will be the festival's inaugural theme. Israeli and American Jewish groups will participate from June 16-20. No offering will be given on the Sabbath, June 19.

Cultural groups from New York, Baltimore and Washington will take part in the program that will include music, dance and workshops on children's folklore, Yemenite bridal dresses, shofar making, weaving of islimim, liturgy and East European papercuts. The Washington "Kosher Kitchen" will provide food.

Wide Variety Of Presentations

Israeli participation will include Yemenite, Moroccan and modern Israeli music and dance. Kurdish, Ladino and Ashkenazi groups will exemplify Jewish traditions. A Torah scribe, a Succoh builder and a folk painter and traditional wedding musician will take part.

In the programs on the folkways of immigrants to America, the Jewish element will include both the East European and the national culture of modern Israel. It was explained that this distinction results from the fact that unlike the Polish-Americans or Italian-Americans, there is no corresponding "Israeli-American" national or ethnic entity in the American immigrant tradition.

Barbara Kirschenblatt Gimblett, professor of folklore at the University of Pennsylvania, who is also associated with YIVO, has been selected as the expert for the Jewish folkways program. She is aided by the Folklore Research Center of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Israel Museum, the School of Ethnicography and Folklore in Tel Aviv and many individuals.

ALIYAH OF NORTH AMERICANS INCREASED BY 28% IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1976

Reversal Of Downward Trend Since 1973 War

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA)--The numbers of North Americans emigrating to Israel increased 28 percent in the first quarter of 1976, thus reversing a downward trend since the Yom Kippur War, according to figures released today by the Israeli Alia Center. "We don't know exactly why there has been a turn," said Yakov Lechet, North American director. "We just hope it continues because aliyah (immigration) is one of Israel's top priorities and the lifeblood of her future."

He attributed the reversal partly to the fact that it is currently "easier to obtain information about aliyah and receive assistance. Expanded evening hours; new lines of communication with Israel which offer us the opportunity to give up-to-date information on employment and housing, and a spirit of cooperation which is by no means a continuation of this upward swing."

According to the statistics released by the Center, 418 people emigrated to Israel in the first quarter (January, February and March) of 1976 compared to 327 in the same period last year, and 340 in 1974. The number of Israelis returning to Israel with the aid of the Center was also significant in comparison: 64 in the first quarter of 1975 as compared with 395 in the same period this year. The Center processed a total of 732 people in the first quarter.

Largest Percentage From New York Area

The first quarter totals included 177 families (495 people) and 237 individuals with approximately 60 percent of the emigrants from the New York metropolitan area. The New York metropolitan area provided the largest percentage of people by geographical area, approximately 37 percent or 268 people.

"The professions of the first quarter emigrants," Lechet explained, "run the gamut from academicians to restaurant managers. Fifty-nine are teachers and 25 are engineers. Another significant group could be categorized as businessmen. They are all needed by Israel and welcome."

Lechet pointed out that the figures represent only those who emigrated with the help of Israel Alia Centers in the United States and Canada. "They do not include those who made aliyah without our assistance or who changed their visa status while in Israel."

JEWISH GROUP DENIES ROLE IN BOMBINGS

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA)--A Jewish organization called "Save Our Israel!" (SOIL) claimed today that it was erroneously blamed for bomb blasts at two Queens banks early yesterday morning. Betzalel Cliftbank and Bankers Trust, both located on Union Turnpike, were damaged by fire bombs, ostensibly because of the banks' alleged cooperation with the Arab boycott of Israel. There were no casualties.

In a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dov Hikind, executive director of SOIL, said that an anonymous telephone caller told major news services yesterday that his organization was responsible. "We emphatically deny any responsibility whatsoever for these acts and reaffirm our commitment to non-violent activism," Hikind said. He urged those who are reporting the incidents to place the blame on us are undermining our peaceful and constructive work on behalf of Israel."

DR. SHILOMO BARDEN DEAD AT 78

BRANDLES, Calif., May 17 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here today for Dr. Shilomo Barden, founder and director of the Brandeis Camp Institute, who died yesterday morning of a heart attack at the age of 78. Dr. Barden was born in Zhitomer, Russia and lived in Palestine from 1919-1933. He studied at Columbia University in New York where he received his doctorate in 1932. After settling in the United States in 1939 he met U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandes.

According to Dr. Max W. Bayh, president of the Brandeis Camp Institute, it was the late Justice Brander who inspired Dr. Barden to establish the Institute to inculcate American Jewish college youth with Jewish values and Judaism. The institute was founded in 1941 in the east and subsequently moved to California. Privately funded, it currently provides one-month summer programs for college-age and younger students and weekend programs for adults the year round.

CLEVELAND (JTA)--More than 2,500 persons participated Sunday in the sixth annual Walkathon to raise funds on behalf of the Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal.