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CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM EXPRESSED OVER RELEASE OF ARRESTED WZO EMISSARIES

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--Officials here expressed cautious optimism today over prospects for the prompt release of five Israelis--emissaries of the World Zionist Organization--who were arrested in Cordoba, Argentina last Thursday for reasons unknown. It was disclosed meanwhile that three local employes of the WZO were arrested at the same time, not two as reported earlier.

The grounds for the optimistic outlook were not disclosed. It was reported, however, that the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires has been given the names of the Israelis and the local employes. This amounts to official confirmation by the Argentine authorities that they are in custody. Israeli officials in Argentina have not been permitted to see the detainees and the charges against them have not been disclosed. The WZO meanwhile has warned its emissaries in Latin American countries to take extra care in the performance of their duties in order to avoid similar cases of "misunderstanding."

CANADA-WIDE ALERT ISSUED FOR FIVE TERRORISTS WHO MAY BE PLANNING AN ASSAULT ON THE OLYMPIC GAMES

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, July 29 (JTA)--A Canada-wide alert has been issued for five known terrorists linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine who may have gained entry to Canada with the intent of carrying out an assault on the Olympic Games here. Posters bearing likenesses and descriptions of the suspects have been sent to all Royal Canadian Mounted Police units with instructions to "locate and advise," it was learned today.

One of the men was identified as Dib Muhamad Safadi, alias Abd-Al-Qadri Dinawy, said to be the sole survivor of the terrorist gang that murdered 11 Israeli Olympic athletes at Munch in 1972. Another is Ali Sadah Hussein Amirah who may have visited Montreal last year for the purpose of surveying the Olympic site for a planned assault. He was subsequently seen in West Germany and in Jericho on the West Bank. Amirah was taken into custody in an undisclosed country last May 27 but was released and may have come to Canada.

Another of the suspects, Munir Siriani, reportedly carries a passport with a U.S. visa and is accompanied by an unidentified female carrying a U.S. passport. He is believed involved in plans for an assault on the Olympics. A fourth terrorist, identified as Chew An Chung, 25, is a Malaysian described as "extremely dangerous" who is connected with the PFLP and other revolutionary organizations. He was arrested at Montreal Airport recently but later escaped.

Meanwhile, Canadian security officials have expressed concern that weapons stolen in West Germany may have been smuggled into Canada for terrorist purposes including an attack on the Olympics. The weapons were described as 15 M-72 anti-tank missiles and eight anti-tank guns.

BRITAIN BREAKS WITH UGANDA

LONDON, July 29 (JTA)--The prevarication,

evasions and harassment by the Ugandan authorities in connection with the disappearance and probable murder of Mrs. Dora Bloch, the missing Air France hijack hostage, precipitated Britain's first diplomatic break with a Commonwealth country. The severance of diplomatic relations with the Ugandan government of President Idi Amin was announced to the House of Commons yesterday by Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland.

Reviewing the events surrounding the apparent murder of the 75-year-old widow who held dual British and Israeli citizenship, Crosland declared that "The events of recent weeks have again demonstrated that it is not possible for our High Commission effectively to discharge its normal duties" in Uganda.

He said the High Commission had made repeated inquiries as to the whereabouts of Mrs. Bloch who was last seen in a Kampala hospital a day after Israeli commandos rescued more than 100 hijack hostages held by pro-Palestinian terrorists at Entebbe Airport. "They all got nowhere without Uganda's cooperation and there is no sign that this is forthcoming," Crosland said.

Strong Support In Parliament

Crosland expressed hope that the break would be only temporary. The move, however, is overwhelmingly supported in Parliament and among the public. Amin's claim that Mrs. Bloch had been returned to the airport before the rescue occurred and therefore was the responsibility of the Israelis was seen here as patently false inasmuch as an official of the High Commission visited her at Mulago Hospital on July 4, a day after the rescue.

The subsequent expulsion of that official and of Acting High Commissioner James Horrocks from Uganda and the harassment of his replacement constituted a series of provocations that led to the breach. The breach means that Britain has given up any hope of ascertaining the fate of Mrs. Bloch from the Amin regime. France has agreed to look after British interests in Kampala.

The government had delayed that step out of concern for the safety of the 500 British subjects resident in Uganda at the time of the hijacking. There were still some 200 Britons in Uganda yesterday and, for their sake, Crosland called for "some restraint in language." He stressed that "We have no quarrel with the people of Uganda and we look forward to the time when it may be possible to renew our relationship." (By Maurice Samuelson)

AGNEW TO BE HIT BY LIBEL SUIT

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA)--Rabbi Henry Siegman, executive vice-president of the Synagogue Council of America, announced today that he will press a libel action against former Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew for falsely attributing to him "malicious views" with regard to Israel's treatment of Arabs in the occupied territories. Prof. Siegman said Alan Dershowitz of the Harvard University Law School will repre-

sent him in the libel action.

Slegman referred to a newsletter titled "Memoranda," published by Education for Democracy, a tax-exempt educational foundation recently acquired by Agnew and being used by him to disseminate anti-Israel, pro-Arab material. In an article titled "Midwest Time Bomb," published in the first issue of "Memoranda," Agnew claimed that Slegman "roundly criticized Israel for the treatment of Arabs living in the territories conquered in the 1967 war."

In a statement issued today, Slegman said: "The statement attributed to me by Spiro Agnew is a total fabrication, a deliberate and malicious falsehood. The fact is that not only have I never said or written any such thing, but I have denounced those who have leveled such reckless charges against Israel.... It is the height of malice to criticize Israel for alleged mistreatment of Arabs in the occupied territories when, in fact, Israel--in the most trying of circumstances--has shown a regard for human and civil rights that is unheard of in the Arab states that are Agnew's clients. Agnew's attribution of such malicious views to me is false and libelous and I am taking steps to press a libel action against him."

Breira Raps Agnew's Newsletter

In a related action, Breira, which describes itself as a pro-Israel organization that proposes alternative strategies for achieving Israeli security, strongly dissociated itself from the context of the article in "Memoranda" in which it was quoted. The article said that Breira "sent an open letter to Israeli leaders condemning the 'unfortunate killings' of Arabs in Galilee and deploring 'violations of civil rights and loss of life' on the West Bank."

In a statement released today, Breira declared: "We unequivocally denounce such manipulation of responsible Jewish dissent. While we have been critical of some Israeli policies, the characterization of those policies as synonymous with 'imperialism'--especially by one so close to the manipulation of global power--is no less absurd than similar Soviet and Chinese characterizations." The Breira statement added, "Agnew's anti-Israel and anti-Jewish biases disqualify him as a responsible advocate for Middle East peace."

JEWISH GROUPS BOYCOTTING HOTEL WHICH WAS TAKEN OVER BY ARABS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 29 (JTA)--Since being taken over by a group of Arab businessmen last month, London's famous Dorchester Hotel has begun to lose some of its oldest and most valued clients. At least seven of the leading Jewish organizations have cancelled functions they were to have held there, or are in the process of doing so.

They include the Friends of the Hebrew University, the Anglo-Israel Association, the Joint Israel Appeal, ORT, the Anti-Tuberculosis League of Israel and the Jewish Blind Society. The Wolfson Foundation has cancelled a luncheon, and Marks and Spencer, run by the Sieff family, has announced that it will no longer hold its annual shareholders meeting at the hotel.

The mass walk-out seems to be a spontaneous reaction to the Arab take-over rather than an organized campaign. Some of those approached by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency were reluctant to admit that their change of plans was connected with the Dorchester's new ownership.

They also seemed a trifle surprised, and even relieved, on being told that they were not the only group acting in this way.

The hotel itself is trying to play it all down. "It's all very unnecessary. The hotel has changed in no way," a press officer said. Moreover, there were no signs yet of the Dorchester's private Jewish clients deliberately avoiding it. Only last week, the banqueting manager had received inquiries about Bar Mitzvah and wedding parties.

Nevertheless, there seems no doubt that the Anglo-Jewish leadership, despite protestations that it opposes boycotts on principle, is for the first time retaliating in kind to the Arab boycott of Israel and its supporters.

ANTI-HIJACKING BILLS INTRODUCED

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA)--Citing the urgent need to combat international air terrorism at every level, Rep. Bella S. Abzug (D-L NY) introduced legislation in the House this week aimed at drastically increasing the penalties on nations which aid and abet hijackers. The legislation would tighten the regulations of the 1974 Anti-Hijacking Act, and for the first time mandate suspension of U.S. foreign aid to nations cooperating with air terrorists.

"We must take definitive and effective action to prevent any further episodes of hijacking such as we witnessed during the Entebbe incident," Rep. Abzug said. "Only through strict measures will this be accomplished." One bill introduced by the Congresswoman would require the President to half U.S. foreign assistance to any nation with which it has suspended air traffic operations because of the terrorism issue.

A companion bill requires the President to suspend U.S. air operations for at least one year to or from any country which in any way assists any terrorist organization that illegally seizes an aircraft; requires the President to suspend air operations to any country which maintains its own air operations with a country assisting such a terrorist group; and imposes a \$10,000 fine, or up to two years in prison to air carriers failing to suspend operations in such instances.

"The 1974 anti-hijacking law needs strengthening," Rep. Abzug emphasized. "It gave the President the power to impose sanctions against those cooperating with hijackers, but failed to mandate the penalties. We must adopt a policy that penalizes those nations who choose to assist air hijackers."

100,000 AMERICANS SIGN PETITION URGING FREEDOM FOR SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA)--A wheelbarrow loaded with petitions signed by 100,000 Americans urging freedom for Soviet Jews was rolled to the front door of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations today in a demonstration protesting the USSR's failure to adhere to the principles of the Helsinki agreement. The Helsinki Accord, signed by 35 nations a year ago, committed the signatories to strive to achieve a "freer flow of people and ideas" across national boundaries.

"The Soviet Union signed that agreement, but has since made a mockery of the spirit and the intent of the document by denying vast numbers of Soviet Jews their human rights and the

opportunity to emigrate," said Brooklyn District Attorney Eugene Gold, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. That the Soviets have failed to live up to the Helsinki agreement, Gold said, is reflected in the fact that there are over 130,000 requests for emigration which the Soviet authorities have not yet acted upon or processed.

The petition, addressed to Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev, calls for freeing all Jewish Prisoners of Conscience incarcerated in labor camps and prisons for their desire to leave for Israel; forbidding all existing forms of persecution of Jews, who have expressed the wish to unite with their families and their own people; and allowing the "refuseniks" to leave the Soviet Union and emigrate.

Gold was accompanied to the Soviet Mission by Bess Myerson, former New York City Commissioner of Consumer Affairs; Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry; Rev. Nathan VanderWerf, representing the National Council of Churches; Sister Rose Thering, associate professor at Seton Hall University; and Rabbi David Hill, National Council of Young Israel and NCSJ vice-president.

STATE DEP'T, INSISTS CONTACT WITH PLO LIMITED TO SECURITY MATTERS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA)--The State Department insisted today that U.S. contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon did not go beyond security arrangements and that there was no reciprocity on the part of the U.S. for PLO cooperation in safeguarding the security of Americans in west Beirut and the evacuation by sea Tuesday of 308 Americans and other foreign nationals.

Department spokesman Robert Funseth said "That is my understanding" when asked by a reporter if future U.S. contacts with the PLO would be limited to security matters. There are 15 Americans at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and several hundred American citizens still in Lebanon.

The intense questioning by reporters today represented an attempt to clarify the circumstances under which the PLO agreed to provide the security safeguards but the State Department offered little information beyond what it provided earlier in the week. Funseth stressed that the U.S. position regarding the PLO and its non-recognition of Israel "stands."

Yesterday, Funseth promised to supply reasons why the State Department had not disclosed direct contacts with the PLO prior to its acknowledgement Tuesday that they had been taking place for "some time," specifically since June. He said that a senior U.S. officer had been in contact with the PLO since then. He identified the officer as a U.S. Foreign Service official. Funseth's promise came after intense questioning from reporters who suggested, among other things, that there was official lying and that the Department owed the general public an apology for the direct contact with terrorist organizations.

NEWS FOR INFORMATION

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency today pressed the State Department spokesman for information on whether there was anything in writing from U.S. officials to the PLO or from the PLO to the U.S. and whether the U.S. had made any commit-

ments of any sort to the PLO for the cooperation it rendered. Funseth replied that there was no reciprocity on the part of the U.S. When it was noted that U.S.-PLO contacts began in June but were disclosed by the State Department only this week, indicating that possible reciprocity of some kind may have been made without his knowledge, Funseth said "If I'm wrong I'll get back to you," indicating that he would check into the possibility.

See Some Assurances To PLO

Some observers here believe that the PLO may have had some assurances from the U.S., implicit or otherwise, direct or indirect, in return for which they agreed to cooperate in security measures for Americans in Lebanon.

These observers also believe that the U.S.-PLO contacts disclosed officially this week represented an erosion of the American position that it would not deal with the PLO until the latter recognized Israel's right to exist and accepted the framework of political settlement of the Middle East conflict contained in UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. According to the observers, the contacts could be the prelude toward change in the Middle East negotiating picture.

MALAMUD BOOK AMONG SEVERAL BANNED FROM LONG ISLAND LIBRARIES, SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA)--"The Fixer," Bernard Malamud's Pulitzer Prize winning novel of Jewish life in Czarist Russia, was among the nine books the Long Island school board has ordered removed from the district's libraries and classrooms as objectionable. The ban was imposed despite recommendations against it by the school board's own advisory panel.

Board President Richard Ahrens issued a statement claiming that the books were considered "lacking in educational value and not to be used as curriculum material." When the board first ordered the books removed four months ago it described them as "objectionable vulgar, anti-Christian, anti-Semitic and degrading to women."

In addition to "The Fixer," the books removed include Desmond Morris' zoological study, "The Naked Ape" and Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse Five." Richard Wright's "Black Boy," a post-World War II novel dealing with racism, was ordered restored but placed on a restricted shelf to be borrowed by students only with parental consent.

BASIC LAW ON STATE INTRODUCED

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--A "basic law" declaring that the State of Israel is the materialization of Zionism and that its capital is "undivided Jerusalem which is sacred to the Jewish people from the beginning of its history," passed its first reading in the Knesset yesterday. It was introduced as a private members bill by Elimelech Rimalt of Likud in response to the resolution equating Zionism with racism adopted by the UN General Assembly last November.

The bill defines Zionism as "the liberation and renaissance movement of the Jewish people." It drew some criticism in the Knesset on grounds that a "basic law" should not be introduced as a private bill and that it was mainly of declarative value. Basic laws require a special majority to be amended. They are drafted with the intention of eventual incorporation into a written constitution.

MEXICAN CONSULATE PICKETED

PHILADELPHIA, July 29 (JTA)--Some two dozen members of a newly formed local Jewish grass-roots activist coalition, Pa'eel, picketed the Mexican Consulate here yesterday for two hours to protest against Mexico's continuing anti-Israel policies. The demonstrators carried large posters, reading: "Betrayed by Mexico," "Mexico Favors Amin and Terrorists," "Eliminate Mexican Travels," "Mexico Denounces Israeli Action in Uganda" and "Tan-in Tel Aviv."

Dr. Ronald Banner, spokesman for Pa'eel, told a reporter for the Jewish Exponent, "We want a travel ban on Mexico to continue until there's visible, tangible proof for Israel that Mexico will change its policy." Banner, an internist at Einstein Medical Center, organized the new organization which has been meeting since April to "seek a firmer posture on issues affecting Israel and the local Jewish community, through responsible action."

Albert Liss, national executive director of Brith Shalom, who came out to support the protest, said his organization reaffirmed its tour boycott of Mexico at its national convention shortly after Mexico sent its letter to the UN Security Council condemning Israel's rescue mission in Uganda.

Representatives of the Jewish Community Relations Council are planning to meet the Mexican Consul to discuss the local Jewish community's "outrage at Mexico's condemnation of Israel's rescue of the terrorist-held hostages in Uganda." According to Esther Polan, JCRC president, her organization hopes to confirm its belief that Mexico's UN actions do not represent the sentiments of the Mexican people, but rather the personal ambition of its President, Luis Echeverria.

Yesterday's demonstration at the Mexican Consulate was peaceful. The Consulate closed its offices for the day.

ISRAELI ATHLETE QUALIFIES FOR HURDLES SEMI-FINALS AT OLYMPICS

MONTREAL, July 29 (JTA)--Esther Roth, an Israeli Olympic athlete who survived the massacre of her team-mates at Munich in 1972, qualified for the 100-meters hurdles semi-finals at the Montreal Olympics yesterday. Ms. Roth, 24, clocked 13.06 seconds in her first round heat, winning second place after Gudrun Berend of East Germany. She bettered her own previous record of 13.09 seconds to set a new Israeli national record for the 100-meters hurdles. She is the only member of Israel's 1976 Olympic team who was also a competitor in the 1972 Olympics in Munich.

PILOT TAY-SACHS PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

PHILADELPHIA, July 29 (JTA)--For the first time in the United States, Tay-Sachs carrier screening will be offered for the teenage population, in a pilot program beginning next month in Allentown, Pa. Some 200 teenagers, members of various Jewish youth groups in the Allentown/Bethlehem/Easton area, will be tested to determine if they are carriers of Tay-Sachs disease, a fatal genetic illness which strikes infants primarily of Eastern European Jewish heritage. The testing will take place Aug. 13 from 4:30-8:30 p.m. at the Allentown Jewish Community Center.

The testing is being sponsored by the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association of Delaware Valley, through its Tay-Sachs Prevention Program, headquartered in Philadelphia. The

Prevention Program will send its Belle and Sidney Baer Mobile Testing Unit into the Allentown community. For the past two years, this mobile laboratory has travelled throughout the Delaware Valley and surrounding areas, providing carrier screening for over 15,000 persons.

The youth group members, belonging to such organizations as Jewish Center Youth, B'nai B'rith Youth Organization and United Synagogue Youth, were selected for the pilot project because they have spent the last several years learning about and raising funds for Tay-Sachs programs.

Up until now, teenagers have been tested only for good cause--if they were planning to be married, for example. "It's not that we didn't want to test teenagers," said Mrs. Irvin Toren, coordinator of the Allentown testing, "but we weren't sure exactly how these youngsters would react psychologically if they indeed turned out to be carriers of the Tay-Sachs gene. These youth group members, however, have been through an intensive education program regarding Tay-Sachs, and probably know more about the disease than many medical personnel."

The youth group members themselves requested the testing and are all enthusiastic about the upcoming screening. For this pilot program, testing will be limited to teenagers who are 16 years of age or older. Jewish adults from the Lehigh Valley area are also encouraged to be screened at the Allentown testing. "Even if a couple has completed their family, it is important that they be tested, as the results could have vital implications for other family members and for future generations," Mrs. Toren said.

ISRAEL REFUTES SYRIAN CHARGES

UNITED NATIONS, July 29 (JTA)--Israel refuted today Syrian charges, made July 22 in a letter to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, that Israeli forces opened fire on Syrian civilians working their fields on June 21.

In a letter to Waldheim, the Acting Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN, Ambassador Pinhas Eliav termed the Syrian charges "untrue" and contended that "the only firing by Israeli forces in the area in question on that date was a routine weapon test during which, in compliance with standing orders, the shots were all directed west of line A and in no case into Syrian territory. This is borne out by the UNDOF investigation," the Israeli representative said.

Eliav accused Syria with an attempt "to inflate a routine and insignificant weapons test into an international incident" while Syria is engaged in a massive military intervention in Lebanon. The Israeli envoy requested his letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Board of Governors of the Government Medals and Coin Corporation decided Thursday to issue gold, silver and bronze medals commemorating the Entebbe operation. The decision to issue a medal came after the Bank of Israel refused to approve a coin, arguing that by the time the coin would be issued, it would no longer cause interest. Three thousand 35 mm gold medals will be issued at \$350 each, 5000 30mm gold medals at \$175 each, 5000 59mm silver medals at \$500 each, 7000 45mm silver medals at \$250 each and a bronze medal will be issued shortly.