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3 ISRAELI INJURED IN HEBRON EXPLOSION; OTHER INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE REPORTED ON THE WEST BANK By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Israeli security forces yesterday arrested 13 residents of Hebron after an explosion near the town's aliya hospital, one of three weekend incidents of violence on the West Bank, including one involving the continuing opposition of Arab merchants to Israel's new Value Added Tax.

The explosion in Hebron caused little damage and no casualties, the security officials said. Two passengers and an Israeli soldier were hurt slightly by shots fired at a tourist bus traveling from Kiryat Arba, a Jewish suburb, toward Hebron. They were treated at a hospital and sent home.

Shortly after the shooting incident, a hand grenade was tossed at the labor exchange in Hebron. No damage was reported to the Exchange but several windows were shattered in the nearby municipal building. Several Arabs were detained and a brief curfew was imposed on the area. In the third incident, stones were thrown at moving Jewish cars in Nablus where a merchants' strike continues against the VAT. Shops in nearby Kalkiya, which had remained open during a week-long strike against the new tax, were closed yesterday.

Security officials also reported that 24 Arabs were detained recently in the Nablus-Tulkarem and Ramallah districts as suspected members of the El Fatah terrorist group. The army spokesman said the gang was suspected of responsibility for at least eight cases of arson in Israel and in the administered areas and in eight other acts of sabotage. Large quantities of firearms and explosives were found in possession of the 24 suspects in the continuing investigation by the security forces.

RABIN PREDICTS END OF LEBANESE CONFLICT WILL PRESENT ISRAEL WITH A SPECIAL SECURITY PROBLEM By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Rabin said over the weekend that he expects an extended conflict in Lebanon, but once it is over the Lebanese border will present a special threat to Israel's security. Meanwhile, Rabin said in an interview with the Histadrut newspaper Davar, "the central military element in Lebanon presently is the Syrian army."

Rabin said that Syria is "interested in a calm border with Israel to avoid any Israeli pretext for intervention in Lebanon." He said the success of Israel's policy of hitting terrorist bases has proven itself by the fact that there are no foreign forces in southern Lebanon near the Israeli border.

The Lebanese conflict has prevented the Arab world from directing its attention to a possible settlement with Israel, Rabin said. He noted that there is also less danger now of an Arab military coordination against Israel. "I prefer this reality rather than a concentration of the radical Arab forces for a confrontation with

Israel," he said. Rabin said the Lebanese conflict has provided an opportunity for a public opinion campaign against the Palestine Liberation Organization. "The PLO has undoubtedly proved itself to be a cancerous body in the entire fabric of the Arab world," he said. "Lebanon was the only secular country in the Arab world in which Christians and Moslems could live together and the PLO has destroyed that co-existence."

Program Due on Kadum Issue

On other issues, Rabin said he will soon present to the Cabinet a detailed program for the removal of the Gush Emunim settlement at Kadum in Samaria. "Gush Emunim is a political movement which threatens the democratic system in Israel," he said. He asserted that the government should also act strongly against any other unauthorized settlement. But, he said, action against Gush Emunim, must not be only by force but also by arousing public opinion against them.

Referring to the rescue mission in Uganda, Rabin said that was an example of how the Cabinet should work. He said the decision was taken by the entire Cabinet, not just the ministerial security committee. "This should guide us also in the future when security decisions are involved," he said.

SOUTH LEBANESE FARMERS ASK ISRAEL TO SEND AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Reuben Eiland, director general of the Ministry of Agriculture, has revealed that Israel is considering a request from south Lebanese farmers for Israeli agricultural experts to help them with various problems, including a mysterious disease that has attacked their fruit trees. The Lebanese have also asked that Israeli veterinarians inoculate their livestock against hoof-and-mouth disease.

Eiland said the sending of experts to south Lebanon must be coordinated with the security forces and the experts must be protected while in Lebanon. Lebanese farmers have told Israelis along the "good fence" that no Lebanese agricultural advisor has come to south Lebanon for more than a year. The farmers say they want the Israelis to teach them how to grow vegetables under plastic sheetings, a method used in Israel which speeds growth and produces a richer crop.

Meanwhile, Israeli army medical teams on the Lebanese border have begun distributing postcards to the Lebanese villagers to enable them to communicate with their relatives in Israel. The cards, issued by the Mogen David Adom, are similar to those used by the International Red Cross to open communications between enemy countries. Israel is considering allowing visits back and forth by Israeli and Lebanese Arabs.

At the same time, more southern Lebanese villagers have come to Israel to work in the Jewish Nation Fund forests. The workers,

aged 20-50, are being used mainly to clear weeds. Ironically, the forest they are working in is the one dedicated to 22 school children killed in the Maalot school massacre. When the Lebanese workers were told of this, they uttered bitter curses at the terrorists.

Meanwhile, a Lebanese doctor and nurse have come to the border to help the Israeli medical teams at one of the clinics here.

RABIN PRAISES U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Rabin praised the United States last night for its aid and understanding of Israel. Speaking at the final session of the Rabbinical Council of America convention, Rabin said sometimes he found less understanding among Israelis and diaspora Jews to Israel's policy than by the American government.

He described the relations between the two countries as reaching "one of its peaks, if not the highest one. The U.S. government supports Israel in the international arena, in the supply of arms and in economic aid almost with no precedence. The margin between what we want and what we get is very small."

Rabin told the Orthodox rabbis that the financial support Israel received in the last four years for arms purchase was three times as much as Israel had received in the previous 25 years. "When I am asked, do I see the present relations with the United States extending into the future, I say: Definitely."

Partners In A Great Mission

Telling the rabbis he wanted to speak with them as "partners in a great mission," Rabin said that in terms of "Shivat Zion" (return to Zion) "one must bear in mind that never in the history of mankind has there been a precedent for what Zionism has accomplished. Shivat Zion is unique, and one must be patient and understand that the fulfillment of such a vision is not easy."

So many generations of Jews since the destruction of the Temple had dreams and aspirations of participating in Shivat Zion, Rabin noted. "But only the last two generations had the free opportunity to fulfill these dreams, the question is whether they will make use of that opportunity. The response to that question is more decisive to the fate of Israel than what a certain Senator, a President, a Secretary of State or an Arab leader says. The fate of our people has never been so much in our own hands."

ISRAEL REAFFIRMS ITS POLICY REGARDING NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Israeli political sources have reiterated Israel's policy, following last week's initialing in Washington of an agreement for the sale by the U.S. to Israel of two nuclear reactors, of unwillingness to sign a non-proliferation treaty before a regional conference is held for an area agreement on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

That position was thoroughly expressed by Foreign Minister Yigal Alon last year at the United Nations and again this year in the Knesset. The sources said that the reactor accord with the U.S. has not changed that policy. They noted that such a regional conference was held several years ago in Mexico at which Latin American

nations signed a non-proliferation treaty as a bloc. Egypt, which initiated an identical agreement with the United States for two reactors, also has not signed a non-proliferation agreement. Some other Arab countries have signed such a pact but have not yet ratified it.

RABINOWITZ PREDICTS STAGNATION OF ECONOMY WILL CONTINUE THROUGH 1976

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz predicted today that the stagnation in Israel's economy that has been in effect since 1974 will continue through this year. He said the gross national product will increase by only one to two percent as compared to an annual growth of 10 percent up to 1973.

Rabinowitz's remarks were made to 100 American and Canadian Jewish leaders who are here for the 1976 Jerusalem Leadership Conference of the Israel Bond Organization led by Bonds general chairman Sam Rothberg.

The visitors were told by Rabinowitz that inflation will continue, with prices going up some 30 percent. But the Finance Minister said the government's new economic policy is achieving results and has surpassed the targets set for it in the first half of 1976.

Despite a \$100 million increase in military imports the balance of trade deficit should go down about \$200 million, Rabinowitz predicted. He said the government should be able to reach its goal of doubling production by 1980 through the investment of \$2.8 billion, the major share coming from Israel Bonds, and by shifting some 6,000 workers from service jobs to industry.

Opposed To Arms Sales To Arabs

The Israel Bond group was also told by Defense Minister Shimon Peres that Israel may need permission from the United States to sell the Israel-made Kfir jet interceptor since it has an American engine. At the same time, Peres said Israel has made it clear to the U.S. that it opposes massive arms sales to the Arabs even if they contain guarantees. "We would rather have no guarantees and no arms shipments," he said. He said Israel can assure the U.S. "that Israel will do everything to relieve the Middle East from the need for arms. All we want is peace."

Peres also told the Bonds leaders that while there have been some technical violations of the Sinai agreement by the Egyptians, the agreement had brought about a positive change of the atmosphere due to the opening of the Suez Canal and the reconstruction of Egyptian canal towns. He said the Syrians are also strictly adhering to the agreement on the Golan Heights although they have not changed their hostile attitude to Israel.

During the weekend, the Bond leaders were received at the home of President Ephraim Katzir, met with Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and the Foreign Ministry's Director General Shlomo Avineri and laid wreaths on the graves of former Chief of Staff Gen. David Elazar and Lt. Col. Jonathan Nathanyahu who was killed during the Israeli rescue mission in Uganda.

BEDOUINS ANGRY OVER LANDS DECISION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Hammad Abu Rabi, a Bedouin, has asked Premier Yitzhak Rabin to meet with the leaders of the Bedouin tribes in

the Negev over the government's decision to go ahead with the settlement of Bedouin claims of ownership of nearly two million dunams of land in the northern Negev.

The meeting was demanded after Bedouin leaders expressed anger over the decision last Wednesday by the Ministerial Committee on Israeli Arab Affairs, headed by Rabin, to accept the recommendation of an interministerial committee that a committee be set up to negotiate a compromise with the Bedouins and that a supreme decisions committee rule on claims in cases where compromise settlements could not be reached.

The Bedouins claim that the government decision will deprive them of most of the land they now own in the Negev. The issue has already been tested in the courts with the government winning in all cases. The decision by the ministerial committee would provide the Bedouins with more compensation than they have received from the courts.

The meeting last Wednesday of the Ministerial Committee on Israeli Arab Affairs was its first since the Cabinet decided on May 23 to establish the committee in the wake of the Mar. 30 disturbances by Israeli Arabs in the Galilee. The Cabinet at that time also decided to set up an interdepartmental committee of director generals of ministries involved with Arab affairs and a Public Council on Israeli Arab Affairs with an equal number of Arab and Jewish members.

The interdepartmental committee has met several times while the ministerial committee at its meeting last week first set up regulations for the public council whose members have not yet been appointed. The council will include 40 Arabs and 40 Jews with Rabin serving as its chairman. There has been some difficulty in naming members since some Arabs who have been approached have refused, while others who asked to be on the committee were found to be unrepresentative or unsuitable.

**REPORT SECRET CANADIAN CABINET
MEMO SAYS 'PRO-ISRAEL' LOBBY IS
EXAGGERATING EFFECT OF ARAB
BOYCOTT ON CANADIAN COMPANIES**
By Michael Solomon

TORONTO, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- A secret Canadian Cabinet memorandum affirms that a working team of the Ministry of External Affairs has informed the government that the "pro-Israel lobby (in Canada) has been exaggerating the effect on Canadian companies of the Arab boycott against Israel." Furthermore, the memorandum states that "the boycott is an emotional issue and the inclusion of non-commercial contracts is repugnant to many Canadians." This is believed to be a reference to advertisements appearing in Canadian newspapers placed by Arab companies offering contracts for projects in those countries but specifying that Moslems should apply for jobs in such projects.

The disclosure of this memorandum was made Friday by the Toronto Globe and Mail. There was no indication as to whether the memorandum identified "the pro-Israel lobby." While there was no immediate comment from government sources on the memorandum as published in the newspaper, Allan MacEachen, Minister of External Affairs, said Friday in a

statement in Ottawa that the Cabinet will make a decision by early fall regarding government policy concerning the Arab boycott.

The memorandum, as published by the Toronto daily, also said that "pro-Israel lobbyists have complained that by not taking steps to protect Canadian companies from pressures to include boycott clauses in business contracts with Arab countries, the government is encouraging the boycott."

Many Canadian Jewish organizations have protested the government's lack of action on the issue. The report included a list of 119 Canadian firms blacklisted by the Arab Boycott League because their activities are deemed to support Israel economically or politically.

Warns Against Isolated Move

The memorandum, as reported by the newspaper, suggested four approaches the government could take to mitigate the impact of the boycott, but warned that if Canada acted on its own in opposing the boycott without similar stands by other western countries, "too strong a stand would probably provoke the Arab states and seriously undermine Canadian trade and economic activities there." The memorandum declared, according to the newspaper, that "a boycott policy must be consistent with our policy of balance and objectivity towards the Arab-Israeli dispute."

The memorandum continued that if the Canadian stand was too strong and was seen by the Arabs as "pro-Zionist," retaliation could be expected "in view of the Kuwaiti finance minister's recent statement to the effect that Kuwait was prepared to end all economic dealings with the United States if the United States introduces legislation forbidding American firms from complying with boycott terms. If Kuwait, a relatively moderate supporter of the boycott, is willing to cut all economic ties with the United States, the largest single supplier to the Kuwaiti market and an important customer, one can be reasonably certain they (Kuwait) will take action against Canada."

Continuing, the memorandum reportedly stated: "If this action is followed by all members of the Arab League and takes the form of a complete embargo of Canada, Canada will stand to lose a multi-million dollar market (approximately \$163 million in 1975, alone) and an important source of crude oil (approximately 40 percent of Canada's oil imports were from the Arab world in 1975). The loss of this market and the loss of this source of oil would probably have serious effects on the Canadian economy in the nature of oil shortages and unemployment."

The action recommended as the mildest among the four possible approaches the government might take would be forbidding the support of contracts containing provisions discriminating against a racial, religious or ethnic group and reaffirming that in Canada's economic system, choosing trading partners and contracts is generally the responsibility of individual private firms.

The memorandum, declaring this would "avoid endangering commercial relations with Arab countries" by a stance "less severe than that of the United States," warned that even such a relatively mild step "might expose Canadian firms to more severe boycott action" than they face at present.

ADL CHARGES BIAS AT EXCLUSIVE PALM SPRINGS COUNTRY CLUB

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- The Pacific southwest regional office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has charged that an exclusive country club in which some of Palm Springs most prominent citizens are members engages in "institutional discrimination." According to Al Navsky, chairman of the ADL's regional office, "It was recently reported that the assistant golf professional at the O'Donnell Golf Club, David Ross, had admitted that applications at O'Donnell are carefully screened, 'otherwise, you'd have a lot of Jews coming in there all the time. We try to keep them down to fifteen percent.'"

Navsky pointed out that the ADL's concerns are increased "by the apparent involvement of the City of Palm Springs in the discriminatory policies of the O'Donnell Club. O'Donnell operates on a long-term lease from the City of Palm Springs on city owned property."

The ADL, Navsky stated, is considering possible legal action against the club and the City of Palm Springs because of Ross' "admission of the club's discriminatory policies." He added that the regional ADL has written to the mayor and City Council of Palm Springs regarding the club's policy and has requested that a "thorough investigation of the club's admissions policies be undertaken. We have informed the leaders of Palm Springs that discrimination by a lessee of the city operating on municipal property implicates the city and its leaders. We have urged the mayor to determine what the club's policies are and take proper action."

Navsky noted that the Supreme Court has declared it to be a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment for an institution utilizing public property to discriminate on the basis of race, religion or national origin. According to the Supreme Court ruling in one landmark case, he continued, when a state leases public property, the proscriptions of the Fourteenth Amendment must be complied with by the lessee as though they were binding covenants written into the agreement itself.

AGUDATH ISRAEL LEADER SAYS TORAH EDUCATION GAINING IN BUENOS AIRES

NEW YORK, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Torah education in Buenos Aires is taking a sharp upward swing, according to Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, in a report he delivered to the organization's national administrative council upon his return from South America where he participated in the third Latin American Conference of Agudath Israel.

Sherer stated that since his previous visit to Buenos Aires six years ago, a new generation of Torah-loyal Argentine-born youth developed, in large measure due to the full-day yeshiva and kollel (graduate school) established in Buenos Aires six years ago by the local Agudath Israel organization. "They have carved out a mini Boro Park in Buenos Aires," he said.

Sherer reported that the new swing towards Yeshiva education can also be attributed to the current political climate in Argentina. "Argentina has become the most fertile breeding ground for genuine Torah education in the entire world, because Jewish parents there clearly witness how secular 'Jewish education' has not been able to stem the drift of sizable numbers of their stu-

dents towards extreme leftist groups and outright assimilation," Rabbi Sherer stated. "When some Jewish parents see their own children identifying with left-wing terrorists, and the central morgue in Buenos Aires contains the bodies of young Jews slain by the Argentine Army during the daily battles with Communist guerrillas, these brutal facts have opened their eyes to the bankruptcy of secular education," he asserted. The Orthodox leader charged the World Zionist Organization with "committing a grievous and unpardonable offense" in including among the 85 "shlichim" (emissaries) from Israel currently in Argentina, members of Hashomer Hatzair "who poison the minds of Jewish youngsters."

Agudath Activities Outlined

Sherer reported that the Agudath Israel of Argentina sponsors a network of Torah institutions which embrace a Bais Yaakov School and Bais Yaakov Teachers Seminary for Girls, an elementary and secondary school for boys, and a post-high school Yeshiva Gedola and Kollel. Among the students are 30 young men who study Torah all day and into the late hours of the night.

Sherer particularly lauded the accomplishment of the Agudath Israel organization in Argentina to reduce the cost of kosher meat by 18 percent and of chickens by 25 percent, thus helping introduce kosher food into peripheral homes which had been discouraged by the high price of kosher meat. In order to create this sharp reduction in prices, Agudath Israel, three months ago, embarked upon a project of establishing its own "shechita" (kosher slaughtering system) in Buenos Aires, which has created a revolution in the kosher meat industry by radically reducing meat prices, Sherer reported.

The national administration of Agudath Israel of America, after hearing Sherer's report, decided to forward to the 54th National Convention of the movement, which will be held in Atlantic City Nov. 25-28, his recommendation to establish a new division, "Commission for Latin American Jewry," to formally structure the Pan-American Torah activities of the Agudath Israel movement.

NEW ISRAELI DIPLOMAT IN NEW YORK

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8 (JTA) -- Yosef Ben-Aharon, a 43-year-old diplomat, has been appointed chief deputy to Consul General Uri Ben-Ari in New York and will handle political and international affairs. He has been at the nerve center of Israel-American relations for the past several years, first as a diplomat in the Israeli Embassy in Washington when Yitzhak Rabin was the Ambassador, and since the Yom Kippur War, as one of the Premier's inner staff of aides.

Ben-Aharon was co-opted to the Premier's office during the war by the then-Director General, Mordechai Gazit, Premier Golda Meir's top aide and now ambassador to Paris, and stayed on when Rabin became Premier. Raised in Egypt, Ben-Aharon is the father of five daughters, one of whom is married to a student at the Merkaz-Harav Kook Yeshiva. He himself took time out between leaving the Premier's office and taking up the new appointment to study at Jerusalem's "Ohr Samayach" Yeshiva.