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FIGHTING IN LEBANON MOVES CLOSER TO THE ISRAELI BORDER

TEL AVIV, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Fighting between Moslems and Christians in Lebanon moved close to the Israeli border this morning. Artillery, mortar, machinegun and small arms fire was heard in northern Israel beginning at 4 a.m. local time. The battle was being waged in the valleys west of Marj Ayoun and north of the Israeli border town of Metullah. The combatants are believed to be Christians from Kilya village and Moslems from the mixed village of Kila whose fields extend up to the Israeli border.

As a result of the fighting, Lebanese workers employed in Israel did not show up at the border fence opening at Metullah this morning but others entered through the fence gap at Dovev. The workers said Christian forces were recruiting all males into fighting units. Late reports said Christian forces captured the Moslem village of Hannine near the Israeli border.

Meanwhile, Arab leaders meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, reportedly got Syria's assent to a cease-fire in Lebanon. Lebanese Christian leader Camille Chamoun said in Beirut, however, that the Riyadh talks would not bring peace as long as the Palestinians are not brought under control, disarmed and returned to their camps.

In a related development, Israeli newspapers carried reports today that the PLO terrorist Ali Salameh, who master-minded the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre, was shot and seriously wounded by unidentified non-Israeli agents in Beirut.

Salameh had been a target in the secret war being waged between Israeli and terrorist agents in various parts of the world. Israeli operatives who gunned down the Moroccan Ahmed Boushiki in Norway two years ago and subsequently went to jail there are reported to have mistaken their victim for Salameh. Meanwhile, the El Fatah command was reportedly worried that news of Salameh's condition might demoralize terrorist ranks.

PORTUGUESE OFFICIAL IN ISRAEL SAYS HIS VISIT IS PART OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL, PORTUGAL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Portugal's Minister of Agriculture Antonio Lopez Cardoso arrived here yesterday on a visit to Israel as the guest of Agriculture Minister Aharon Uzan. Cardoso described his visit as part of "the process of normalization in relations between the two countries."

He said his talks here would not be confined exclusively to agricultural subjects because "as a minister in the Portuguese government my duties include dealing with political subjects as well." The minister is accompanied by his wife, Maria Fernanda Cardoso who is active in Portugal's agricultural development.

Cardoso's first meeting was with Shlomo Avineri, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, who reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East. Cardoso expressed hope afterwards that further steps will be taken to improve Portuguese-Israeli relations. A similar

statement was made when Avineri visited Portugal two months ago.

PERES TO ASK CABINET'S APPROVAL TO MAKE DOWN PAYMENT ON U.S. WEAPONS FORD APPROVED FOR SALE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres said he would ask the Cabinet's approval shortly to make a down payment on the \$200 million worth of U.S. weapons that President Ford approved for sale to Israel last week. He said he hoped the weapons could be bought at an earlier date than originally planned when they were first requested.

Peres said at yesterday's Cabinet meeting that inflation has compelled Israel to shelve certain military purchases or to stagger them over a longer period. But he thought delivery of the latest weapons systems could be advanced to begin in 1976 instead of 1977.

(Ford told a group of American-Jewish editors at the White House last week that the weapons in question are "very sophisticated" and that "it may take some time" before they are actually turned over to Israel.)

Peres said deliveries could be stepped up because in some cases dates have been altered and in others, orders were cancelled. He said that in some instances the prices turned out to be lower than the original estimate. Nevertheless, he said, Israel would still be short some \$1.2 billion to pay for its arms purchases over the next three years.

BROWN'S STATEMENT STIRS UP NEW CONTROVERSY; WHITE HOUSE, PENTAGON MUM PENDING TRANSCRIPT
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Top level meetings took place yesterday and today at the White House and the Pentagon amid official silence over the latest public remark critical of Israel by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. George S. Brown. The White House said it "might" have a comment later after the "transcript" of Brown's comments to Israeli cartoonist and writer Raanan Lurie is examined.

The comments were contained in an interview to be released next week by King Features Syndicate. The interview, which took place last April, was leaked last week to the media. Why and by whom it was leaked two weeks before the Presidential election were among the unanswered questions today.

According to one version, Lurie asked Brown whether he felt Israel and its forces are more of a burden or more of a blessing from a pure military point of view to the U.S. Brown reportedly replied: "Well, I think it's got to be considered a burden."

Reactions To Statement

Two Jewish organizations, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and the Zionist Organization of America, have demanded immediate action against Brown for allegedly stating in the interview that Israel was a military "burden" to the U.S. (See separate story.)

The Pentagon, meanwhile, reported that it may have no comment, implying that whatever action might be taken was up to the President. But the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense William Clements, who arrived in Israel today at the head of a group of American military experts and senior officers, said, when asked to comment on Brown's reported statement, that he had never looked at Israel in that light. He added, however, that the matter was one to be resolved between President Ford and Brown.

Asked by a reporter today if Israel is "a burden or a blessing strategically" to the U.S., State Department spokesman Robert Funseth replied, "Our position on Israel is well known as is our support of Israel, its security and the close relations that have existed since the founding of Israel."

Intolerable Insensitivity

Congressional comment was scarce with the members engaged in campaigning. But Illinois Republican Charles Percy, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, asked President Ford to fire Brown as chairman. A Percy aide told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Percy said "Brown's insensitivity is intolerable."

The Lurie interview also reportedly involved remarks regarded as derogatory in Britain and Iran as well as in the United States and Israel. He suggested more cautious deliveries of arms to Iran despite President Ford's declaration that he considered the U.S. arms program for Iran vital to U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Presidential news secretary Ron Nessen told the JTA that the President has not yet seen Brown about the interview. At the Pentagon, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Alan Wood remarked that "Anytime Gen. Brown is quoted on that subject, we get excited."

In Oct. 1974, Brown remarked at Duke University that Jews control the U.S. banking system and the media. He apologized after being reprimanded by Ford. At his hearing last summer for his retention as Joint Chiefs chairman for two more years, he again commented adversely about Jews but he later altered his view and the Senate confirmed him by a vote of 57-34.

Ford's Arms Decision Attacked

Meanwhile, Ford's decision to supply Israel with sophisticated weaponry "some time" in the future was attacked yesterday by former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger. "This represents a new reassessment, a sudden, abrupt, pre-election reassessment which hasn't been coordinated with either the Departments of State or Defense," he said.

Ford and the two Departments have asserted that Israel's request for sophisticated weaponry, the nature of which remained undisclosed, was cleared through the proper channels before the President made his promise.

Appearing on ABC's "Issues and Answers," Schlesinger was asked whether the pledge "has any serious negative impact on the defense structure or on foreign policy." Schlesinger replied he has "always been reluctant to use our weapons, particularly advanced technology weapons, as diplomatic wampum or, particularly, domestic political currency."

JEWISH GROUPS ASSAIL BROWN

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 (JTA)--The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organiza-

tions said today that it was "deeply distressed" by remarks attributed to Gen. George S. Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that Israel was a military burden to the United States. The Zionist Organization of America, in a statement issued by its president, Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, demanded the "immediate dismissal" of Brown for his remarks.

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, chairman of the Presidents Conference, said he was "profoundly shocked" that Brown was also quoted as saying that the U.S. had no "stomach" to face up to the Soviet Union and that Great Britain was "pathetic."

Schindler declared: "We trust that President Ford will see to it that American foreign policy will continue to be made by civilian and not military authority and that this policy shall include --as it has since 1948--an unequivocal and enduring commitment to the security and survival of Israel." He added, "Certainly the Jewish community cannot permit to go unchallenged the statement that Israel is a 'burden' to the United States."

Sternstein said Brown's comments, if undented, were "a serious breach of discipline and a sign of interference by the military in American foreign policy." He said, "It is an affront to the State of Israel and does not reflect the sentiments of our nation."

Sternstein added: "Gen. Brown has once again demonstrated a lack of judgement and discipline which, together with respect for civilian authority, is required in a military leader in a democracy. We call therefore upon the President and the Secretary of State to order his immediate dismissal."

U.S. MILITARY EXPERTS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA)--U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense William Clements said today that the Pentagon is now considering the effects the new arms deal with Israel will have on America's military capacity and that the timetable of arms shipments to Israel will be determined partly by those considerations.

Clements made his remarks to newsmen shortly after his Air Force jet landed at Ben Gurion Airport with a large party of U.S. military experts and senior officers who will spend the next four days in conference with Israeli civilian and military leaders.

The Defense Department official characterized the talks to be held here as of "utmost importance," especially with regard to the new weapons systems and equipment President Ford approved last week for sale to Israel. He said that most of the items will be supplied to Israel within the next two years but some of them will not be delivered for three years.

Clements heads a group of three generals, an admiral and various civilian experts. The group, which will be in Israel through Thursday, will meet with top government, political and military figures. They will also visit other Mideast nations.

KAHANE TO JOIN NRP

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the Jewish Defense League, said today that he would join the National Religious Party and move to Kiryat Arba, the Orthodox community adjacent to Hebron. Kahane said his purpose was to "spur on the religious-nationalist groupings to continuous settlement of the Land of Israel." He said he would urge

the Kiryat Arba settlers to "more extreme" positions than those of their leader, Rabbi Moshe Levinger, with the intention of convincing the Arabs to get out of Hebron.

Kahane also announced that he would arrive in the United States tomorrow for a 10-week speaking tour aimed at creating a "lobby" of American Jews to pressure the Israeli government to change its policies on basic issues. He said he would also advance his plan to create a fund to pay Israeli Arabs to emigrate and that he would disclose plans to boycott certain Jewish agencies to make sure that Jewish funds are directed "only to Jewish causes."

5 JEWISH CANDIDATES ARE CAMPAIGNING FOR THE U.S. SENATE By Joseph Polakoff

(First Of Two-Part Series)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Five Jewish candidates, one of them with a chance to be the only woman Senator in the new Congress convening in January, are campaigning for U.S. Senate seats in as many states, a canvass by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency shows.

The Senatorial candidates are Edward Zarensky, the mayor of Omaha, who is campaigning in Nebraska to take the place of retiring veteran Republican Senator Roman Hruska; Gloria Schaffer, who is seeking to unseat Republican Senator Lowell Weicker in Connecticut where she has held elective office for 18 years; former Senator Howard Metzenbaum in Ohio; Richard P. Lorber, a political newcomer in Rhode Island, and Congressman Sam Steiger in Arizona. Steiger is a Republican; the four others are Democrats.

The terms of the three incumbent Jewish Senators--Jacob K. Javits (R.N.Y.), Abraham Ribicoff (D.Conn.) and Richard Stone (D.Fla.) are not at stake in the election Nov. 2. Approximately a third of the Senate's 100 members are elected every two years.

Zarensky Reported Ahead

A canvass by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency indicates that Zarensky is alone among the five candidates reported definitely ahead in public opinion polls or in the estimation of political prognosticators. Steiger, Metzenbaum and Lorber are seen locked in close races while Schaffer is trailing Weicker.

Zarensky, according to the Omaha World Herald of Oct. 10, is pulling ahead of Congressman John Y. McCollister, his Republican rival. Zarensky himself was a Republican until last spring. He refused to oppose McCollister for the Republican nomination and instead entered the Democratic primary in which he defeated two opponents. Zarensky, 47, is a native of Omaha and a graduate of the University of Nebraska.

While in business with his father, Zarensky ran in 1968, as a Republican, for a place on Omaha's public power board. He held that post until 1973 when he was elected mayor. His term expires in a year.

With Congresswomen Bella Abzug and Patsy Mink having lost in the Democratic primaries for the Senate in New York and Hawaii, respectively, Mrs. Schaffer is the last of the women candidates this year for a Senate seat and she is reported losing, too. Senator Weicker, a moderate Republican, enhanced his standing with many Connecticut voters by taking an early anti-Nixon stand in the Watergate scandals. Mrs. Schaffer

was a State Senator for six terms over 12 years before she became Secretary of State in 1970. She was re-elected to that post four years later.

Metzenbaum, a Cleveland businessman, was described in a "horse race" with incumbent Republican Senator Robert Taft Jr. of Cincinnati. Metzenbaum served in the Senate for one year after he was appointed to fill the vacancy caused when William E. Saxbe, now Ambassador to India, was chosen to be U.S. Attorney General.

In the Democratic Senatorial primary in 1974, Metzenbaum lost to astronaut John Glenn who continued to victory in the general election. According to a survey by the Columbus Dispatch, whose findings are said to be remarkably accurate, Taft and Metzenbaum are running neck-in-neck in southern and central Ohio.

Bitter Race In Arizona

A tight and increasingly bitter race is reported taking place in Arizona. Steiger, a 10-year veteran Congressman, has just emerged from a gruelling Republican primary marked by anti-Semitic overtones with Rep. John B. Conlan and the wounds have not healed. Conlan's campaign manager has endorsed Steiger's opponent, Democrat Dennis DeConcini, who is prosecutor in Pima County (Tucson).

Conlan himself has refrained from endorsing Steiger. According to a report published here, DeConcini told the League of Women Voters that Steiger, voted in the House against appropriations and resolutions supporting Israel. Steiger, who is a B'nai B'rith member, said later he could not recall the votes and added: "I may be a fiscal fascist but I refuse to bear the label of anti-Israel."

In the year's tightest Senatorial primary, Lorber defeated Rhode Island Governor Philip Noel for the Democratic nomination by only 100 votes out of 155,000 cast. As in Arizona, the primary wounds have not healed and he faces formidable opposition in Republican candidate John H. Chafee, a former governor and Secretary of the Navy. Lorber never ran for office before this year. He considers himself a Jeffersonian Democrat. (Tomorrow: Candidates for the House)

LATE NEWS BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (JTA)--Gen. George S. Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, appearing at a press conference late today with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, declared that his "personal actions in support of Israel give proof to my full personal commitment to the security and survival of the State of Israel." Brown made his statement in connection with remarks he made in an interview with Israeli cartoonist and writer Raanan Lurie that Israel was a military "burden" to the U.S. The Air Force General did not retract that remark but sought to put it in the context of the question asked in the course of the interview.

Brown said he was asked if from a "purely military point of view" Israel is more a "burden and less a blessing to the global strategy of the U.S." He said he had replied that "It is correct that from that narrow point of view it had to be considered a burden, and I added that I could see in the long term where they (the Israelis) could be a tremendous asset and where they could bring stability to that part of the world." Rumsfeld said he did not reprimand Brown, but "the absence of a reprimand should not be taken as an endorsement of inelegant phraseology."

FORD, ANSWERING QUESTIONS BY JTA, SAYS THAT AMERICA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL IS FIRM AND ENDURING

(Editor's note: What follows are President Ford's answers to the questions posed by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to him and to Democratic Presidential nominee Jimmy Carter. Ford answered the questions in a complete statement, while Carter responded by answering each question separately. The questions and Carter's answers appeared in Monday's Daily News Bulletin.)

THE SINAI PACTS

I am pleased to respond to the request of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for my views on a number of important issues. With regard to the Middle East, our relationship with the State of Israel is firm and enduring. Relations between our two countries are at a peak.

The agreements reached between Israel and Egypt and Syria are in effect and working. Not a single Israeli or Egyptian soldier is dying in the Sinai or on the Golan. The forces of moderation throughout the region are being strengthened. It is important to note that the Sinai II agreement was the first Arab-Israeli agreement that was not just an armistice in the aftermath of a war.

BASIS FOR MIDEAST PEACE

As we continue our search for a lasting peace in the Middle East I can tell you there will be no imposed solutions and there will be no one-sided concessions. A just and lasting solution depends on the will of the parties themselves, although we stand ready to assist at their request as we have done successfully over the past three years. I am proud to stand on my consistent 28-year record of support for Israel.

In just a little over two years the funds I have proposed for assistance to Israel amount to over 40 percent of all the aid Israel has received from the United States since 1948. And Israel's armed forces are today much stronger than they were in October, 1973 thanks to U.S. weapons and Israeli determination and skill. We will continue to provide Israel with the political, economic and military support needed to ensure its security.

With regard to the PLO, I can say categorically that the position of the United States is firm and will not change.

THE ARAB BOYCOTT

The Arab boycott has been in existence since 1952, and I have opposed it since 1952. I am proud to be the first President to have taken strong comprehensive executive action to combat the boycott and put an end to discrimination. I respect the views of those who urge further action. Where we may differ, it is on means and not ends. Our moral and legal opposition to the boycott is clear to all. I will not tolerate the translation of foreign boycotts into domestic discrimination against American citizens.

SOVIET JEWRY

During the years I was in Congress I worked to bring to America's attention the plight of Soviet Jewry. I have raised the matter personally with Soviet leaders since becoming President. We must increase the flow of those emigrating. I assure you I will not let this matter rest. I will also work with the Congress to modify existing legislation in such a way as to increase the pros-

pects for greater emigration.

I had the occasion recently (Oct. 12) to visit the Center for Holocaust Studies in New York. I received there a pin which said in Hebrew, Remember, I will remember. From the greatest tragedy of the Jewish people came the greatest achievement of the Jewish spirit--the rebirth of the State of Israel.

QUOTAS IN HIRING

Turning to the questions in the domestic arena which you also posed, I want to emphasize again my total opposition to arbitrary quotas in hiring practices or in education. I believe above all that merit should be rewarded and that opportunity should be open to all. In the name of justice for some, we must not do injustice to others.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND SCHOOLS

Preserving our neighborhoods is an important objective. We must preserve our religious traditions, the family, the home and the rich heritage of many cultures and neighborhoods throughout America.

I am totally dedicated to quality education for our children. I am equally dedicated to the elimination of discrimination in America. Whether busing helps school children get a better education is not a settled question. The record is mixed.

I have proposed legislation which would establish specific guidelines for federal courts considering busing as a remedy for segregation. Even where busing is necessary, I believe it should be a transitional remedy of only limited duration.

I believe that our non-public schools provide an important element of diversity and competition to our educational system. Within constitutional limits I believe we must seek ways within the tax system to ease the burden on families whose children attend non-public schools. Similarly, I support efforts to consider ways through the tax system of easing the burden on families whose children are attending college.

I appreciate this opportunity to share with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency my thoughts on these important matters.

A two-part series by Joseph Polakoff on Jewish Congressmen running for the Senate and House begins today on Page 3.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE TO BE REBROADCAST AFTER SHABBAT

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 (JTA)--The third and final debate between President Ford and Democratic Presidential candidate Jimmy Carter will be held on Friday evening, Oct. 22. To accommodate members of the Jewish community and others who cannot watch the Friday evening telecast, WNET (Channel 13) has informed the Jewish Community Relations Council that the debate will be rebroadcast in its entirety on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 8:30 p.m. (Similar arrangements are being made with Public Broadcast Stations in other cities.)

NEW YORK (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has learned that Mikhail Eidelman of Riga, who has been applying to emigrate since March, 1971, has again been refused an exit visa. His only daughter and grandchildren are now living in Israel.