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ALLON: ISRAEL WILL ATTEND UN SESSION

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Israel will attend tomorrow's UN Security Council session which will deal with the situation on the West Bank, it was announced here by Foreign Minister Yigal Allon. The Council session was requested by Egypt more than a week ago. The session is expected to adjourn shortly after it convenes until after the American Presidential election. (By then, sources at the UN noted, a U.S. veto in the Council on behalf of Israel could be avoided and the debate in the General Assembly on apartheid will be over and full attention can be paid to Egypt's charge that there is an "explosive situation" on the West Bank, particularly in Hebron.)

The decision to attend tomorrow's session was an ad hoc one. Israel boycotted one Council session last January dealing with the extension of the UN Disengagement Observer Force because the Palestine Liberation Organization was represented. Israel objected to a debate on the extension of UNDOF being exploited for Arab propaganda purposes. However, when the Council debated the situation in the administered territories last May, Israel attended since it regarded itself responsible for the area and did not want the PLO to be the sole spokesman for the inhabitants of the territories.

The same logic prevailed here Thursday night when it was decided that Israel will participate in tomorrow's Council session on the West Bank. Israeli Ambassador Chaim Herzog will address the Council but will direct his remarks to the sovereign Arab state represented there and will ignore the presence and statements of the PLO representatives, according to reports here.

PERES PREDICTS ISRAEL WILL COME UNDER RENEWED U.S. PRESSURE FOR CONCESSIONS AFTER ELECTION ENDS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Two Cabinet ministers predicted over the weekend that Israel would come under renewed political pressure for concessions after the Presidential elections in the United States. Defense Minister Shimon Peres told a gathering of 1000 Labor Party members here that pressure would be brought to bear on Israel to negotiate territorial withdrawals in the Judea-Samaria regions in exchange for little more than an end of the state of belligerence by the Arabs.

Peres acknowledged that there was a reservoir of good will in the U.S. toward Israel and observed that the Israeli army's strength assures its ability to stand up to pressure. Nevertheless, he warned, if Egypt and Syria renew their pre-Yom Kippur War military alliance and political pressure is exerted by Israeli friends, "it will be a heavy burden on our shoulders."

The Defense Minister said the political debate would begin within the next two months and would focus on the status of Jerusalem which is the key to the future of Judea-Samaria. Therefore, he said, the expansion of Jewish settlements

around Jerusalem must be given top priority, adding that much has been accomplished so far in this respect. He referred, however, to "a dynamic of Arab settlement" around Jerusalem, "a quiet one which does not make headlines."

Speaking in Jerusalem, Interior Minister Yosef Burg said that Israel would come under heavy pressure from the U.S. in about three months when the new Administration in Washington takes office. He urged the establishment of a national unity government to meet the challenge.

COMMITTEE ON SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION REVIEW NOT COMPLETED. NOT READY TO MAKE STATEMENT

NEW YORK, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Max Fisher, chairman of the Interorganizational Committee on Soviet Jewish Emigration, said in a statement released Friday: "The study of Soviet Jewish emigration practices undertaken by our Interorganizational Committee is still under way. Our Committee is not yet ready, therefore, to make any statement and will not be for some time."

The Committee, which was set up last July in Jerusalem during the general assembly of the Jewish Agency to examine the situation of Soviet Jewish emigration and the problem of Soviet Jews who, upon arriving in Vienna decide to go to countries other than Israel, comprises Israelis and Americans.

It includes the chairmen and executives of HIAS, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (and its Large City Budgeting Conference), Joint Distribution Committee, United Israel Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal, and has been augmented by the participation of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

SHARON WARNS THAT U.S. ROLE AS ARMS SUPPLIER TO ARABS CAN CAUSE NEW WAR
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Gen. (Res.) Ariel Sharon, the Israeli officer who led the Suez Canal crossing during the Yom Kippur War, warned that the U.S. role in the last three years as a major arms supplier to the Arabs can cause a new Mideast war.

In a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Sharon detailed the military aid given to the Arabs by the United States, the Soviet Union and other sources since the Yom Kippur War. He said he obtained the figures from the United States Congressional Record. The Arabs, Sharon said, received about \$11 billion in U.S. military aid since 1974, while the Soviet Union supplied the Arabs during the same period the equivalent of \$6 billion in arms. Great Britain and France, according to Sharon, supplied the Arabs with another \$3 billion worth of arms.

Military aid to Israel from the U.S. (its only source of weapons) since the Yom Kippur War and including 1977 is, according to Sharon, the

equal of \$5.5 billion. "All the contentions of American officials about a policy aimed at a balance of power between Israel and the Arabs have no grounds in reality," Sharon stated, claiming that two major arsenals are being built in the Mideast: one, in Saudi Arabia by the U.S.; and the other in Libya by the Soviet Union.

Details Arab Military Build-Up

To illustrate the massive military build-up by the Arabs, Sharon gave the following breakdown of military items supplied to Egypt by the Soviet Union in the last three years: 1000 tanks, of which 600 are T-62 models and 400 T-ss models; 1200 armored personnel carriers; 750 heavy guns of different types; 100 MIG-21 jet fighters; 40 MIG-23 jet fighters and different types of missiles including the Scud and SAM types.

"It is obvious that the Russians do not think that they have lost their influence in the Mideast," Sharon said. He contended that all the weapons that were delivered to the so-called non-confrontation states in the Mideast, will eventually be transferred to the Arab states bordering Israel. He said this was proven in the Yom Kippur War when Mirage jets supplied by France to Libya were used by the Egyptians. He also pointed out that since 1968, Saudi forces are in control of the Jordanian side of the border with Israel between the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba.

Sinai Accord Violations

Turning to the second Sinai interim agreement signed between Israel and Egypt, September, 1975, Sharon contended that Egypt and the U.S. alike violated the agreement. He said that the number of Egyptian troops east of the Suez Canal is three times larger than the agreement allows. He also accused Egypt of violating the political part of the agreement, where it was stated that Egypt will refrain from anti-Israel actions, diplomatic and propaganda-wise.

Sharon said that Egypt, for instance, exerted pressure on Spain recently not to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, a move which is clearly contrary to the agreement. The U.S. violates its part of the agreement, Sharon charged by "not raising its voice" on issues of Egyptian propaganda against Israel and the Arab boycott.

"All in all, it is clear that interim agreements did not bring us closer to peace. I hope that the next U.S. Administration will take action to reach a comprehensive settlement in the Mideast," Sharon asserted.

He said his present visit here had two goals: to urge American Jewry to "intervene" in everything that happens in Israel and not only to give money, and to keep watch on the American election system. He said he will visit the U.S. again in January to continue to seek to persuade American Jewry that it is important that it take a greater role in Israel's life.

STATE DEP'T. MUM ON KISSINGER-DOBRYNIN TALK ON SOVIET JEWRY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Soviet Jewry was discussed at a breakfast meeting Friday at the State Department between Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. The State Department, however, refused to give any details. Department spokesman Robert Funseth said the meeting took place at Kissinger's invitation to discuss "a broad range" of subjects.

Asked whether "the harassment of Jewish

dissidents and their reported beatings" were among the topics, Funseth replied, "The situation of Jews in the Soviet Union was discussed." He added, "I cannot be more specific."

It was pointed out that Democratic Presidential candidate Jimmy Carter had cabled protests against the beatings of 12 Soviet Jews almost two weeks earlier after they participated in a sit-in at the Supreme Soviet building in Moscow but that there had been no public statement from the White House. Asked if the U.S. government had made any presentation on this issue, Funseth said, "I can't say. The Soviet Union is very much aware of our position on Soviet Jews."

RABIN: ISRAEL PREPARED TO GO TO GENEVA TO NEGOTIATE PEACE ACCORD

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin told 3000 delegates to the United Jewish Appeal "This Year In Jerusalem" convention here last night that Israel was prepared to go to Geneva to negotiate a full peace settlement with the Arabs or even a limited agreement to end the state of belligerency but that it would never accept an imposed settlement in the Middle East conflict.

Addressing the closing session of the week-long convention, Rabin said the ball was now in the Arab court and it was up to them to decide what to do with it. He warned that if the Arabs chose the road of aggression they would face an Israel that is "stronger today than any enemy."

The UJA delegates set a target of \$657 million to be raised in 1977 compared to \$500 million raised in 1976. Frank Lautenberg was re-elected to a third term as UJA general chairman.

Addressing a meeting of UJA delegates Friday, former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan proposed that Israeli forces cross the Lebanese border to block the return of terrorist gangs into the border region of southern Lebanon. He described the "good fence"--the gap in the border fence through which Lebanese villagers may enter Israel for medical treatment or to work--as not much more than a public relations measure. If the army does not take the necessary steps, there will be nothing left of the fence, Dayan warned.

APPEAL BY 40 SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVISTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 31 (JTA)--More than 40 Jewish activists released a statement in Moscow appealing "to all those who support the struggle of the Soviet Jews for free emigration to Israel" to take action to foil the latest attempt by Soviet authorities to discredit and destroy the Jewish emigration movement. The statement was received here and released in translation by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry which reported that many of the signatories are now in jail.

It came in the aftermath of a week of mass arrests and the beatings of large numbers of Jewish activists by Soviet police agents following a sit-in at the Supreme Soviet to demand why they have been denied exit visas. Referring to the beatings, the statement said:

"This is the most vivid example of the pogrom atmosphere enforced in the country." It noted that the seriousness of the situation became evident when the Soviet Interior Minister, N. Shchelokov told a group of protestors that "neither he nor the Ministry guarantees our safety."

"The goal of this whole campaign is obvious," the statement said. "This is an attempt to strangle the movement of the Soviet Jews for the exodus from the USSR. It is also an attempt to convince us and you in the helplessness of the movement of solidarity with the Soviet Jews. They are counting on that the Western public opinion will become reconciled with the tyranny. We appeal to you to demonstrate the erroneous character of these considerations. We appeal to you to prevent the oncoming tragedy."

POUND DEVALUED AGAIN; NOW STANDS AT IL 8.56 TO AMERICAN DOLLAR By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL-AVIV, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Israelis woke up this morning to learn that their Pound has been devalued by another 1.9 percent and that the prices of essential commodities, fuel and public transportation will increase by an average of 20 percent later this week. Fiscal authorities said the two economic moves were not related.

The latest depreciation of the Pound, which now stands at IL 8.56 to \$1, took effect at midnight last night. It was the 13th time the Pound has been reduced relative to the dollar since the policy of "creeping devaluation" was adopted by the Treasury in June, 1975. It was the second devaluation to be linked to a "basket" of foreign currencies which includes the Pound Sterling, the Deutschmark, Swiss Francs and Dutch Florins as well as the U.S. dollar. Export incentives will be increased as of today by 1.9 percent, the same rate as the latest devaluation, the government said.

The price hikes stem from a decision taken some time ago to drastically reduce government subsidies of basic consumer items. The Treasury wanted an IL 1 billion cut. Histadrut insisted on a cut of no more than IL 300 million. A compromise of IL 500 million was reached through negotiations. This means that most prices will go up by 20 percent, some by more and some by less.

Commodities Prices Hiked

Beginning this week, a loaf of bread will cost IL 1.25, up from IL 1.05; one liter of milk IL 2.20, up from IL 1.95; eggs IL 0.57, up from IL 0.49; public transportation (urban) IL 1.10, up from IL 0.90; margarine, IL 1.40 per 200 grams, up from IL 1.25; petrol, IL 4.75 per liter, up from IL 4.20. Airline fares and the travel tax will also rise, but as a result of the devaluation of the Pound rather than a reduction of subsidies. Israelis travelling abroad will have to pay IL 9.90 for each dollar, well above the devalued rate.

The effects of the price rises will be eased somewhat by the payment of new high cost of living allowances that are linked to the price index. The most recent allowances were paid this month. Israeli consumers will have to wait another six months for the HCL payment.

SOME 2000 SOVIET JEWISH IMMIGRANTS AIDED BY NYANA IN 9 MONTHS OF 1976

NEW YORK, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Close to 2000 Soviet Jewish immigrants were received by NYANA, the New York Association for New Americans, during the first nine months of 1976, it was reported by Dr. Herbert Bernstein, executive director of the agency. "The third quarter of the year saw the heaviest concentration of new arrivals in the entire history of NYANA," Dr. Bernstein stated. "If our current projection holds up, we will have accepted some 3000 newcomers

during 1976."

This would bring the total number of Soviet Jewish immigrants resettled by NYANA, a beneficiary agency of national United Jewish Appeal and the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Joint Campaign in New York, to over 8000 individuals by the end of the year.

"The significance of this lies in the fact that NYANA continues to carry on its traditional role entrusted to it by the Jewish community," Bernstein commented. "NYANA was created in 1949 as a part of the UJA and given an historic mandate: to welcome and give initial assistance to all needy Jewish immigrants settling in the Greater New York area, no matter where they came from."

Reunification With Relatives

NYANA's first contact with the new immigrants is not overseas, but when they first set foot on U.S. soil, Bernstein emphasized. Their choice as to the country of resettlement--a free choice, made for a variety of reasons--is made prior to their arrival here.

From the beginning, one of the reasons for choosing the U.S. has been reunification with relatives. And, as more and more Soviet Jews now have relatives who settled here, this reason, according to Bernstein, is becoming an ever-increasing factor in making that choice. One indication of the increase has been the proportion of new arrivals whom NYANA has to initially put up in hotels.

Several years ago, when Soviet Jews first began to arrive in this country in significant numbers only about one-third, among those settling in New York, were received by relatives. Two-thirds of the newcomers had no relatives and were therefore temporarily settled in modest-priced hotels with cooking facilities, until the agency could help them locate suitable housing.

During 1976 the proportion has reversed, if not more. At least two-thirds of the newcomers are now received by relatives, so that for those cases, at least the hotel costs are eliminated. The agency is also stressing the principle of increased family responsibility in assuming, within their capabilities, initial maintenance costs for new arrivals. "Nevertheless, the main burden still falls on NYANA," Bernstein stated.

FILM ON IMMIGRANTS RECEIVES FIRST PRIZE AT FILM, TELEVISION FESTIVAL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 31 (JTA)--"Orchestra," a film dealing with the creation of the Beersheba Soviet Jewish immigrants orchestra, won the Gold Medal at the end of the week-long first World Jewish Film and Television Festival which ended here last night. The film was directed by Eli Cohen and produced by the Ministry of Absorption. The Silver Medal was awarded to the film, "Genocide," from Jeremy Isaacs series. "World at War." The Bronze Medal was given to the film, "To Stand On One's Feet," which depicted the rehabilitation of a wounded Israeli soldier.

Honorable mention was given to Israel television's "Savilla From the Son of a Star," to BBC's "The Evacuees," and to Israel Film Service's "To Be A Jew In An Arab Land." President Ephraim Katzir bestowed the prizes for the films selected by an international jury of leading film makers. Fifty entries from 15 countries had been selected.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES HELPING JEWS IN SMALL BRITISH COMMUNITIES TO REMAIN JEWISH

By Maurice Samuelson.

LONDON, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Most of Britain's 400,000 Jews live in London or in major provincial centers, and if they wish to remain Jewish have no difficulty in doing so. But there are many smaller towns and villages where Jews would feel cut off and lost if it were not for the extraordinary work of a former Royal Air Force chaplain.

He is the Rev. Malcolm Weisman who, besides being a full-time lawyer, acts as minister to 50 Jewish communities in the boondocks of the British countryside, containing about 4000 persons. He takes his task seriously, visiting many of his parishes eight or 10 times a year and clocking up to 1000 miles a week.

His northernmost community is in Aberdeen, Scotland; his southernmost is in the Cornish village of Zelah, which few English people have even heard of. It has five families who cannot yet form a minyan. The smallest viable community is at Peterborough, which has had a synagogue since the 1950s. Services are held there every Friday night but rarely on Sabbath mornings.

Weisman, educated at Oxford, is more than just a minister to these tiny communities. In many cases, it was due to his own efforts and intervention that isolated families in rural areas were originally brought together to organize prayers and education for their children.

Transcends Religious Divisions

To do this he had to transcend the religious divisions which run through the rest of Anglo-Jewry. His guiding principle, he tells potential congregants, is that they will not be an Orthodox as opposed to Reform community--or vice versa--but simply a Jewish community in the broadest sense.

As a result, Weisman can sometimes claim to enjoy more local authority than the titular heads of Anglo-Jewry. When the Jews of Oxford completed building a new synagogue and communal center a few years ago, they deliberately asked Weisman, their honorary minister, rather than Britain's Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits, to officiate at the building's inauguration.

Education is the most expensive item in these fledgling communities' budgets and Weisman's role is to find the manpower to provide it. For those within range of a big city, he tries to recruit students or teachers prepared to travel to the community's classroom or private house once or twice a week.

Thanks to the deep-freeze industry, kosher provisions are no longer the problem they once used to be. Nevertheless, the frozen meat still has to be distributed. The Aberdeen community, for example, has its meat sent from London nearly 400 miles away on the night train. Jews in Jersey, in the Channel Islands, have their meat flown from Bournemouth, a south coast resort with a large Jewish community. Meat for Exeter is sent from Brighton.

During the High Holy Days, Weisman's office recruits most of the cantors and ministers who officiate in the smaller communities. A further instrument for keeping in touch with them is a twice-yearly magazine, produced in the format of Reader's Digest.

Growth Of Small Communities

Not all the small communities are new. In some of Weisman's parishes, synagogues and burial grounds have existed for two centuries. Cheltenham's was built in 1839. Aberdeen's community goes back to the 1890s. It is now being reinforced by Jewish technicians working in the North Sea oil industry.

The oldest small community is at Exeter, whose synagogue dates back to the 1740s. Its burial ground is even older. The 20 families can no longer afford to have their own minister, however. Norwich is another old-established Jewish congregation which, owing to the economic climate, can no longer pay a minister's salary.

The small communities are steadily increasing in number as more and more Jews take up jobs in outlying districts. In the past three years, Weisman has acted as mid-wife for communities in East Grinstead, Hastings and Chelmsford. He keeps in touch, too, with families too far away to be attached to a community.

Weisman's ministry grew naturally out of his work, in the late 1950s, as a chaplain to the British armed forces. On his visits to British army camps he often came across groups of Jews who had no communal facilities. When he left full-time military service he proposed to the then Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie, that he should be religious advisor to these small, neglected communities.

The proposal was accepted and Weisman, now in his mid-30s, has been travelling around Britain ever since, tenderly watering Anglo-Jewry's sparsest grass-roots. He is still chaplain to the British forces which include less than 400 Jewish families as well as Jewish chaplain to Oxford, Cambridge and other universities. Married, with two teenage sons, he also runs a full-time legal practice. A busy man indeed.

SECURITY MEASURES FOR EL AL FLIGHT

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Authorities at the Benito Juarez International Airport here are preparing extraordinary security measures for the forthcoming arrival of the first direct El Al flight from Tel Aviv to Mexico Nov. 9 with an Israeli delegation of notables headed by Transportation Minister Gad Yaacobi. On Nov. 14, the Central Jewish Committee will hold a reception for the guests and prominent Mexican personalities. El Al will establish direct flights once a week via Montreal, it was announced.

ELIYAHU DOBKIN DEAD AT 78

JERUSALEM, Oct. 31 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here Thursday for Eliyahu Dobkin, a long-time member of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, who died Tuesday at the age of 78. Dobkin was born in Poland and was one of the leading activists in the chalutz and aliya movement in that country. He came to Palestine in 1932 and served as head of the WZO's youth and chalutz department and of the aliya department during the period of illegal immigration before the establishment of Israel's independence. He also served for many years as chairman of the Keren Hayesod directorate.

MEXICO CITY (JTA)--Foreign Minister Alfonso Garcia Robles affirmed that there is no "tension" in relations between Mexico and Israel.