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ISRAELI STUDENTS JOIN FAMILIES OF MUNICH VICTIMS IN PROTEST OUTSIDE FRENCH EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12 (JTA)--Hundreds of students joined the families of the 11 Israeli athletes murdered at the 1972 Munich Olympics in a demonstration outside the French Embassy in Tel Aviv today to protest France's release of Abu Daoud, the Palestinian terrorist believed responsible for the Munich massacre. Earlier in the day, the French Ambassador Jean Herly visited the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem where he was given a stiff verbal and written protest by the Israeli government to transmit to Paris.

The demonstrators in Tel Aviv, carrying signs condemning France for "giving shelter to murderers" tried to break into the Embassy grounds at one point but were prevented by cordons of police who set up barriers around the building. Mrs. Ilana Romano, widow of weight-lifter Moshe Romano who was one of the 11 Munich victims, demanded that the French Ambassador go home. "His coat, his chair are stained with blood," she told reporters.

Herly got a cold reception at the Foreign Ministry. He had been summoned there yesterday by Foreign Minister Yigal Allon but was received by the ministry's deputy director general, Ephraim Evron. The fact that Allon did not meet with the envoy was seen as a further sign of Israel's anger and the serious strain in Franco-Israeli relations.

Outlines Legal Arguments

Evron outlined the legal arguments against the release of Daoud which were detailed in a document Herly was asked to convey to his government. He noted that Israel's disappointment in its relations with France ante-dated the latest crisis. He said that statements favoring a Palestinian state, made by the French Foreign Minister, conflicted with France's position as presented by its Ambassador in Israel.

The Israeli official rejected Herly's justification of the French action on legal grounds as irrelevant. He stressed that honoring human life and mutual agreements were two of the basic principles that governed international relations. The Foreign Ministry is awaiting the return of Israel's Ambassador to France, Mordechai Gazit, who was recalled yesterday for consultations on future Franco-Israeli relations. But no further diplomatic measures were expected to be taken by Israel.

TANENBAUM CRITICIZES LACK OF RABBI AT CARTER INAUGURAL

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Jan. 12 (JTA)--The decision of planners of the inauguration of President-elect Carter and Vice-President elect Walter Mondale not to include a rabbi and an Orthodox priest in the ceremony's religious segment was criticized today by Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, inter-religious affairs director of the American Jewish Committee.

Inauguration officials announced last week that United Methodist Bishop William Cannon of At-

lanta, a personal friend of Carter, would give the invocation and Catholic Archbishop John Roach of Minneapolis, a personal friend of Mondale, would offer the benediction. The plan broke with a 20-year tradition of having rabbis and Orthodox priests included, which began in 1949, when a rabbi participated for the first time.

Cantor Isaac Goodfriend of Atlanta, will sing the Star Spangled Banner to close the ceremony. Tanenbaum said a cantor singing the national anthem "is not exactly an expression of Judaism nor does it take seriously the Jewish presence in America."

Tanenbaum said that "given the fact that over the past five inaugurations it became an established American institution that the four major religious communities were part and parcel of the mainstream of American society," the decision "to exclude representatives of Judaism and Greek Orthodoxy cannot but lead to misunderstanding and in many cases even to resentment."

A similar protest was made by the Rev. John Tavlarides, pastor of the St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Washington, who had sought to induce inauguration officials to place Archbishop Iakovos, head of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America, on the program. The Archbishop has prayed during the last four inaugurations.

Notes 'Suspicion' During Campaign

Tanenbaum noted that there was "much suspicion" during the Presidential primary campaign that Carter's evangelical Christianity might contribute to an effort to "evangelize America," and that he felt that Carter and his advisors "had an obligation to bend over backwards not to give substance to that suspicion. I am afraid that having only two Christians praying is going to have exactly that effect."

Tanenbaum said he had discussed the issue with Hyman Bookbinder, the AJ Committee's representative in Washington and that Bookbinder had discussed the matter with Carter's representatives yesterday and this morning.

Tanenbaum noted there would be a separate Sunrise Service the day after the inauguration at the Lincoln Memorial which will be led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Sr. in which representatives of the major religious communities, including a rabbi, would participate. While calling this "a good idea," Tanenbaum said it was "an inadequate substitute for the active involvement of the four faiths at the central moment of the inauguration during which the eyes of the nation will be focused on the President and all persons around him."

RABIN URGES JEWISH PRESS TO DEAL WITH MAJOR ISSUES, PLAY DOWN ISRAELI POLITICS

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin called on the Jewish press all over the world yesterday to deal more with basic issues confronting the Jewish people and less with Israeli politics. Addressing an international conference of Jewish journalists which opened

yesterday at Belt Agron, the Israeli Journalists' House, Rabin declared that the test of the Jewish press would be its effectiveness as an instrument to strengthen Jewish identity among Jews.

Noting that the conference is being held at the beginning of the new year, Rabin said that 1977 would be a year of "many chances on one hand and many risks on the other" in Israel's search for peace. He said there were many possibilities to advance progress in the Middle East in 1977 but they would be realized only by those who are willing to take risks. If the circumstances allow it, 1977 will be a year of negotiations, Rabin said. But he warned that any movement toward peace that might start in 1977 would not be concluded this year. To believe otherwise would be "wishful thinking," he said.

The Premier stressed that any negotiations would require both flexibility and strength. At this point, he said, Israel is at one of its peaks, as far as the military situation is concerned. Rabin addressed the conference before news was received from Paris of the release of the Palestinian terrorist, Abu Daoud.

He told the journalists that Israel was preparing to ask for Daoud's extradition. "As long as there are terrorist organizations, Israel will fight them in any way," he said. As long as any terrorists are walking free, Israel will act against them "in friendly countries according to the law--and in other countries by whatever means possible," Rabin warned.

Opening remarks at the conference were delivered by Joseph Fraenkel, doyen of Yiddish journalists; Yitzhak Harkavi, of the World Jewish Congress; Daniel Bloch, chairman of the Israel Journalists Association and Philip Slomovitz, editor and publisher of the Jewish News of Detroit. Yosef Almog, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, was unable to attend the opening because of illness. He sent a message of greetings which was read by Yitzhak Shargil, Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Tel Aviv.

Jewish Press Criticized

In one of the major speeches of the afternoon session, Murray Zuckoff, of New York, editor of the JTA, sharply criticized the Jewish press in America for its tendency to give in to the pressures from local "machers." Zuckoff said the tendency was to try to divert the legitimate news-gathering by the Jewish press. "In trying to enforce and limit the kind of news that the Jewish press should deal with, one realizes that the Jewish press is working according to certain commandments given by Jewish organizations," Zuckoff said. Such commandments might say, "Thou shalt print everything we say--if it is news or not news" or "Thou shalt hallow and glorify our name," Zuckoff said.

He called on the Jewish press to free itself from these tendencies and establish its own rules and commandments. He stressed that the Jewish weeklies in America were not the New York Times or the Washington Post and could not compete with their news. But the Jewish press has one priority over the other press and that is that it could focus totally on Jewish affairs, Jewish life and problems everywhere, Zuckoff said.

He said that not only Jewish "machers" in the U.S. liked to see their names in the New York Times rather than appear in Jewish weeklies, but the Israeli press is also far more interested in other newspapers than in the news given by the

Jewish press. Zuckoff said the Jewish press is potentially powerful and can play a significant role but that it tended to minimize its own potential. "We have to make the Jewish press a vibrant, vital, viable force," he said.

Aryie Zimuki, an Israeli, opened the afternoon discussion with a proposed ten-point project for the next four years to promote the Jewish press around the world and increase its influence and strength. He suggested the establishment of an institute for journalistic information, to be called a "Media Resources Center," in cooperation with the Jewish Agency's information department, the Foreign Ministry and the World Jewish Congress. He said its aim would be to provide material on Jewish topics and Zionist subjects.

Zimuki said the Foreign Ministry is prepared to organize regional seminars for the exchange of information, observations and points of view. He also proposed another project which would grant scholarships to Jewish journalists abroad to work on Israeli newspapers and send young Israeli journalists to work for a time on Jewish newspapers overseas.

PERES FORMALLY ANNOUNCES CHALLENGE TO RABIN; EBAN WELCOMES MOVE AS 'GOOD'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres formally announced last night that he would challenge Premier Yitzhak Rabin for leadership of the Labor Party and the office of Prime Minister. Peres, who made his long expected announcement in the course of a television interview, received an enthusiastic verbal pat-on-the-back from former Foreign Minister Abba Eban who has indicated he too intends to declare his candidacy for the Premiership.

Peres' announcement was in a low key. He carefully avoided attacking Rabin and while he appeared fully confident that he would win the backing of his party, he seemed to be leaving his options open should Rabin emerge victorious. He said he would agree in principle to serve in another Rabin Cabinet and stressed that the functions of Premier and Defense Minister should remain separated.

Eban praised Peres for conducting himself "on a high cultural level" and rejected claims that an internal fight for leadership would harm the Labor Party. "This is a good race, contrary to parties such as Likud and (Prof. Yigal) Yadin's list (Democratic Movement for Change), which have already made their choice," Eban said. He said Peres' announcement of his plans "only did good to the party."

Sources close to Rabin dismissed Peres' announcement as "nothing new" since his intentions have been well known for some time. Peres said in the interview that he had informed Rabin several weeks ago that he would seek the party's leadership. Asked about Rabin's reaction, Peres said "It was not an especially dramatic conversation as you might imagine. We converse from time to time, I don't think he was surprised."

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--Rabbi Meir Just, 64, was installed as the Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi for the Amsterdam region Sunday night at the Aaron Schuster Synagogue, named for his predecessor who retired four years ago and settled in Israel. Rabbi Just has been rabbi of the Amsterdam Ashkenazic Congregation since 1963.

FRANCE SELLS 200 MIRAGES TO EGYPT; ANNOUNCEMENT TO ADD TO STRAIN WITH ISRAEL By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 12 (JTA)--Diplomatic circles here predicted today that Franco-Israeli relations, under a severe strain because of the release of Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud, will take a further turn for the worse following the announcement that 200 Mirage F-1 fighter-bombers have been sold to Egypt.

French officials announced the sale today after Defense Minister Yvon Bourges briefed the Cabinet on the deal in the presence of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. They said 30 of the advanced combat aircraft would be delivered to Egypt fully assembled before the end of the year and the remaining 170 would be assembled by Egypt at an arms factory now under construction near Cairo.

Although French sources insisted that the 200 Mirages will not alter the power balance in the Middle East, Western military observers here said the F-1s would practically double the strength of Egypt's front-line air force. The Mirages, which fly at twice the speed of sound and are equipped with air-to-air missiles barely lost out to the American F-16 in the selection of a standard fighter plane by six West European air forces last year.

(In Washington today, State Department spokesman Robert Funseth said he didn't think there was any connection between the sale of the Mirages to Egypt and the release of Daoud.)

Adding 'Insult' To 'Injury'

Coming on the heels of Israel's vigorous protests against the freeing of the terrorist who Jerusalem wanted to have extradited for his role in the 1972 Munich massacre, the announcement of the Mirage sale to Egypt was seen by observers here as "piling insult on injury" with respect to Franco-Israeli relations. Israel's Ambassador to France, Mordechai Gazit, was called home for an indefinite period for "consultations." He left Paris today in what he called "an act of protest" against the French court's decision to free Daoud in face of detention requests from both West Germany and Israel.

Gazit departed before the Mirage sale was announced. He told reporters at Orly Airport, "My recall implies deep disapproval by the Israeli government of the French decision regarding Abu Daoud." He said that Israel had learned of Daoud's release "from the radio" indicating that the French government did not even have the courtesy to inform Israel that its detention for extradition request had been rejected.

"This is unfortunately not the first time since 1967 that the Israeli people have been disappointed in its relations with France," Gazit said. He said he did not know when he will be returning to France but he did not believe that France would recall its envoy to Israel.

(In Tel Aviv, Asher Ben Nathan, assistant to Defense Minister Shimon Peres and a former Ambassador to France, said today that the French decision to free Daoud proved that France can no longer pretend to be neutral in Middle East affairs and cannot play any role in bringing peace to the region. France has proved she fully backs the Arabs and the Fatah, he said.)

U.S. MAKES PROTEST OFFICIAL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 (JTA)--State Depart-

ment spokesman Robert Funseth said today that France's release of Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud "isn't going to stop our efforts before the international community to present proposals to urge compliance in dealing firmly and sternly with terrorists." He also disclosed that the U.S. had conveyed an official reaction to France which was "the reaction that we stated publicly."

That reaction, given at yesterday's press briefing, was an expression of "dismay" that "through a legal technicality" Daoud had avoided interrogation by either Israel or West Germany on his role in the 1972 Munich massacre. Funseth said today that the U.S. did not give the French government any advice prior to the release of Daoud and remarked that it was "a decision for the French courts to make."

Asked if there was any U.S. reaction to the fact that Daoud was not arrested when he arrived in Algeria yesterday, Funseth said "Our position that all governments should take stern action against terrorists remains." He also said, in reply to a question, that the Daoud episode has not changed the U.S. position on the Palestinians. "We believe the legitimate interests of the Palestinians must be taken into account in any settlement," Funseth said. However, he said, "We will not recognize or have any formal contacts with the PLO as long as they do not accept the right of Israel to exist and do not accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338." He observed that Palestinian "interests must be part of the negotiations" between the parties. (By Helen Silver)

GERMANS DENY DELIBERATELY GIVING FRENCH A PRETEXT

By Jon Fedler

BONN, Jan. 12 (JTA)--West Germany today angrily rejected suggestions that it deliberately gave a French court the legal technicality that was one of the pretexts stated for the release of Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud.

Government spokesman Klaus Boelling described as "unfortunate" a question asked by an Israeli correspondent at a press conference intimating that Bonn might have delayed sending France a "diplomatic confirmation" of the Bavarian State police request to hold Daoud who was arrested in Paris Friday. The French court that freed Daoud said the absence of an official request through normal diplomatic channels had invalidated the police warrant.

Boelling pointed to West Germany's "very intensive" efforts in behalf of the anti-terrorist convention adopted by the European Common Market countries at Luxembourg last year and his government's "clear position" on terrorism after a time bomb attack on the German Embassy in Sweden and after the Air France hijack to Entebbe.

Asked by a German correspondent if Daoud's release did not give the Common Market's anti-terrorist stance a "lack of credibility," Boelling declined to comment. But he referred to an earlier statement by Justice Minister Jochem Vogel that Daoud's release would not help international efforts to combat terrorism.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Six thousand income tax, customs and other revenue office workers started a three-day strike in support for an increased salary Wednesday. No taxes were collected nor were those coming to Israel checked by customs.

AMERICAN JEWS RAP DAQOUD'S RELEASE; CALL IT BREAKDOWN IN INT'L. LAW

NEW YORK, Jan. 12 (JTA)--Major American Jewish organizations responded angrily today to a French court's decision to release Abu Daoud, the Palestinian terrorist held responsible for the 1972 Munich Olympic massacre. Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, called the French action "the height of irresponsibility marking the breakdown of international law and giving the signal to terrorists all over the world they are now free to kill and kill again."

A statement released by Hadassah said: "Terrorism and blackmail has once more triumphed over the rule of law today with the release by a French court of Abu Daoud who confessed on a Jordanian radio broadcast in 1973 that he masterminded the massacre of Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics in 1972. While nations of differing political ideologies are collaborating at this very time to pass a United Nations convention denouncing terrorism, a major power of the free world has undermined morality by succumbing to blackmail.... The political subversion of justice by France on behalf of the terrorists makes a sham of any Mideast peace conference which France supports."

David M. Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith, condemned the French court's action as a capitulation to Arab blackmail. "The speed with which Daoud was released by a French court in face of anticipated German and Israeli requests for extradition demonstrates that the decision was not a judicial one but a political submission to Arab blackmail," Blumberg declared. He called the action "a travesty of justice and encouragement to terrorists which mocks France's professed adherence to the European convention against terrorism."

Will Encourage Murder

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith strongly condemned Daoud's release as "a gross capitulation to blackmail and terrorism" which will "directly encourage and stimulate further murders." Burton M. Joseph, ADL chairman, said that France's claim of not being fully aware of Daoud's identity is "patently absurd" and a "lame alibi...to cover up their unconditional surrender to Arab terrorists." Joseph noted also that Daoud had given the lie to the French by "boasting of his culpability for the Munich massacre and of his role as one of the leaders of the Black September organization." He called upon "all men of good will in all lands to protest this severe setback to international peace and security."

A statement by the American Jewish Congress said that "By its craven surrender to Arab pressure, resulting in the release of a notorious Palestinian terrorist so that he may kill again, the government of France has earned the scorn and contempt of civilized nations around the world. Last June, in one of the first international steps against Arab terrorist activity, the Common Market nations of Europe signed an agreement to take stricter measures in dealing with terrorists. Now, at the first opportunity, France reneges on its commitments."

The AJCongress noted that for Americans, the release of Abu Daoud is a particularly troubling one. It was to win the release of Abu Daoud, then imprisoned in Jordan, that a terrorist operation

was undertaken in Khartoum, the Sudan, in 1973 in which the United States Ambassador, Cleo A. Noel Jr. and several other diplomats were killed. Not long afterward, King Hussein released Abu Daoud. Now he has been freed again so that he may kill again...."

Richard Maass, chairman of the board of governors of the American Jewish Committee, said: "We are shocked and dismayed at the craven act of the French government, in flagrant defiance of international law and the basic tenets of morality. The release of the avowed terrorist, Abu Daoud, who was involved in the perpetration of the most heinous crimes, including the murder of the Israeli athletes in Munich, is not only a stain on France's name and prestige, but a grievous disservice to the attempts of men of good will to stem the epidemic of international terrorism." Maass said that "Aside from excluding itself from any meaningful role in the search for peace in the Middle East, France has helped to reinforce the scourge of Arab blackmail against the free world."

'Blow' To Decency

Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the American Section of the World Zionist Organization Executive, declared that "The action of the French court in releasing the notorious desperado Daoud is a blow to international justice and decency. To have released this renowned terrorist on a mere technicality is an insult to the memory of those who perished in Munich and their bereaved families," Mrs. Jacobson said. She added that the ruling of the French court was "a discredit to the French nation and its long tradition of justice and morality."

The National Council of Jewish Women said that "France's action at a time when civilized nations are seeking means for controlling terrorist activities can only serve to impede constructive effort to eliminate the monstrous crimes perpetrated by terrorists with their terrible toll in human lives."

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations charged France with "capitulation and barbarism." Albert Vorspan, UAHC vice-president, said that "Arab petrodollars, oil and political muscle obviously counted for more than justice, law and the moral canon of civilization." He said "France has virtually issued an invitation to terrorists and mass murderers to continue their bloody work."

Rabbi Walter S. Wurzburger, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, expressing shock, said "This surrender to arrogant Arab blackmail represents a new low even for France." He said that "surrender such as this will only whet the appetite of the blackmailers and that the French can now expect greater demands from their Arab masters."

Herman Rosenbaum, president of the National Council of Young Israel, said the release of Daoud "will remain a source of shame throughout the history of France" and "constitutes an abrogation of French and international law and a collapse before blackmail." He said "It is clear that the French government sees justice, international law and its own laws of no import when confronted with Arab oil blackmail." Statements of outrage were also expressed by other American Jewish organizations and individuals.