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SCHINDLER: CARTER'S CRITICISM OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN USSR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR HIKED HARASSMENT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA)--Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said today that President Carter's recent criticism of the state of human rights in the Soviet Union did not bring about the "vilification of Jews" by the Soviet government or was responsible for the harassment and persecution of Jewish dissidents and emigration activists in the USSR. (See P. 3 for related story.)

"I do not believe President Carter's statements in any sense can be linked to the vilification of Jews," Schindler told reporters at the State Department following a 40-minute meeting with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. He said, in reply to questions, that the barring of symposia on Jewish culture in the Soviet Union, the screening of anti-Semitic films on Soviet television and the beatings of Jews on park benches in Soviet cities all occurred before the President "said a solitary word on Soviet Jews."

The Jewish leader told reporters that there is a distinction between human rights and the issue of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. He called them "problems apart" and said "I don't like to link these two problems." Schindler pointed out that under existing Soviet laws, emigration is possible while Soviet dissidents want to change the laws. He declined to discuss the details of his talk with Vance who leaves for Moscow tomorrow night at the head of a 14-member delegation for wide-ranging discussions with Soviet officials on global problems.

Schindler was accompanied at his meeting with the Secretary by Eugene Gold, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Yehuda Hellman, executive director of the Presidents Conference. Their meeting was the third in less than a week between American Jewish leaders and high level Administration officials. Last Friday, 10 religious leaders met with Vance and on Monday leaders of the American Jewish Committee had separate meetings at the White House with Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's National Security Advisor, and Presidential Counsel Robert J. Lipshutz.

These discussions were said to range over international matters, including the Middle East, Soviet Jewry and human rights and domestic concerns, such as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano's reported leaning toward quotas for minority groups.

Brezhnev's Remarks No Cause For Joy

Vance's meetings with Soviet officials in Moscow are expected to be tense because of Carter's recent human rights statements with which Soviet leaders have expressed displeasure. Asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency if Jewish emigration would be on the agenda of Vance's meetings in Moscow, the State Department spokesman Frederick Z. Brown said he would not discuss details of the agenda.

Questioned by reporters, Schindler took a skeptical view of Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev's remarks on the Middle East during a speech Monday to the Soviet Trade Union Congress. He indicated that he didn't think they implied a softening of the Soviet attitude toward Israel. Schindler said that the text of Brezhnev's speech "demonstrates that while their entire stance has been put in a more palatable form, when you analyze it in its fullness and with some care, you see there has been very little substantial movement in any direction. I can't understand what all the jubilation is about."

PORT WORKERS END 3-DAY STRIKE

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA)--Government back-to-work orders carrying severe penalties for non-compliance succeeded in ending a three-day strike by 4500 port workers at Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat this evening. But while the docks were active tonight, it was still unknown whether the end of the strike will end the pile-up of more than two million cases of citrus fruit and other cargoes that has cost the government millions of Pounds.

The dockworkers, who faced prison terms of up to two years and fines of up to IL 24,000 if they failed to report for work, may still institute a rule-book slow-down. In that case, the back-log of unloaded cargo would not be reduced but would grow larger day by day. Observers said it would not be clear whether the longshoremen intend to work at their regular pace or "by the book" until the day shift reports tomorrow morning.

The decision to issue back-to-work orders on the governmental level was made today at an emergency meeting of the ministerial economic committee with Premier Yitzhak Rabin at his Tel Aviv office. It came after the strikers defied back-to-work orders issued yesterday by labor courts in Haifa and Beersheba. The government rejected proposals to use the army to load ships and also refused to give in to the strikers' wage demands although economists estimated that it would be cheaper to do so than to have the strike continue.

The government also wanted to avoid a possible violent clash between the dockworkers and laid-off citrus pickers. About 33,000 pickers were thrown out of work when the Citrus Marketing Board suspended harvesting to prevent the spoilage of fruit on the docks. The port workers reportedly have not given up their demands for an IL 600 a month wage increase above the wage agreements they signed only five months ago.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

INDIA'S FUTURE POLICY TOWARDS ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA)--Informed Indian opinion here forecast a change in the harsh policy carried out towards Israel by the now ousted Indira Gandhi government but added that a shift to a milder attitude will be slow

and cautious. The overturn in India's leadership, it was observed, was based on domestic policies.

Officially, the Indian Embassy pointed out it is premature to discuss the new government's foreign policy since the new Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, has just been appointed. In Indian diplomatic circles, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told, that Desai has been in general accord with India's foreign policy since the country's founding in 1947, a year before Israel's birth.

Desai was closely allied with the "father of India," Mahatma Gandhi and served 13 years in the Cabinet of Jawaharlal Nehru, Mrs. Gandhi's father. He also was in her Cabinet as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance until 1969 when he resigned and later went into opposition.

Change Will Be Very Gradual

Despite its democratic principles, India's governments have been wary of close cooperation with Israel mainly because of the large Moslem population in India and India's economic ties with the Moslem world, including the Arab states. "The new government is not anti-Israeli at all," an author and journalist said. "The question is how to reverse the policy. Numerous Indians--several thousand--work in Arab countries and India does much business with Arab countries." Change towards Israel, he predicted, therefore, will be "very gradual."

Agreeing with this view, an international economist similarly noted that "unfortunately many countries have to please the Arab governments because of commercial connections. Indian policy towards Israel has been cool and aloof since both countries fought their way to freedom from British rule after World War II. The Indian government's attitude worsened in the latter years of the Indira Gandhi regime.

An example is that although Israel supported India while the Arab states backed Pakistan in the 1971 war, India's forbidding outlook continued towards Israel while it paradoxically warmed towards Israel's enemies.

In the 1975-76 period alone, India made two major moves against Israel. The Delhi government voted for the United Nations General Assembly's infamous anti-Zionist resolution while the tiny states on India's borders--Nepal and Bhutan--courageously refused to condemn Zionism and abstained.

India also was the leader of the 20-member United Nations committee--16 of which have no relations with Israel--in demanding Israel's withdrawal by next June 1 from the territories she administers. But the same committee made no mention of the need for the Arabs to recognize Israel's right to exist nor that two Security Council resolutions provide the Arab states and Israel must settle their differences by direct negotiations between them.

Besides the Moslem factor within India, and India's foreign trade, a third and important basis for India's coolness towards Israel is her tie with Yugoslavia and Egypt in Third World politics. Thus, India follows Egypt's lead in these Middle East matters as does Yugoslavia to keep Arab good will and pragmatic support. Yugoslavia also has a Moslem population of more than 10 percent.

In its curious zig-zag course towards Israel, India voted against partition of Palestine and Israel's birth in 1948. Two years later, however,

India recognized Israel. Although Israel immediately sought exchanges of ambassadors, India barred diplomatic relations for six years. Finally in 1955, India allowed Israel to establish a consulate in Bombay where it has existed since despite three Arab-Israeli wars in which India supported the Arabs. But to this day, India has had no diplomatic mission in Israel.

STUDENTS VOW BOYCOTT OF CUNY IF TENURE IS WITHHELD FROM PROFESSOR By Ben Gallo

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA)--A spokesman for four Lehman College students who met this morning with City University Chancellor Robert Kibbee over refusal of tenure to a Judaic studies teacher at Lehman said today the students told Kibbee they planned to organize a boycott of CUNY if the teacher was not granted tenure, with a one-week deadline for action to give tenure.

Sandi Goodman, a Lehman senior who is co-chairman of the Jewish Action Coalition (JAC), and one of the four students, reported on the meeting with the Chancellor. The Lehman College administration informed assistant professor Jane Gerber she would not be given tenure for the 1977-78 academic year, a decision which will terminate her position as a faculty member. According to one account, the administration gave "budgetary problems" as the reason for the refusal of tenure.

Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams and the American Jewish Congress were among individuals and groups protesting the refusal. The JAC staged a sit-in of the office of Lehman president Leonard Lief Tuesday and through the night. The 15 students and rabbis yesterday ended the sit-in, described as completely peaceful, after Glenn Nygren, dean of students, arranged the meeting with Kibbee. Ms. Goodman is co-chairperson of the JAC, an ad hoc coalition of members of Hillel, Yavneh, the Jewish Students Union and other campus groups.

Ms. Goodman said the four students told Kibbee that it was "tragic" that the students had been "driven to such drastic actions" as the sit-in. She added "we are now prepared to do whatever may be necessary to retain Dr. Gerber" if the Chancellor "failed to rectify the injustice." She said Kibbee promised the four students that a decision would be made by the deadline next Friday.

Different Version Offered

A somewhat different version of the meeting was given by a CUNY spokesman, who said that Kibbee had agreed to hear the students' views and that he heard the two male and two women students out "attentively" but made no commitment. The spokesman said Kibbee had told him that the question of provision of tenure was not a matter he could handle "unilaterally" and that the Board of Higher Education, the agency which runs CUNY, would have to act and that Lief would have to be involved. Lief returned today from a vacation.

Ms. Goodman said the JAC had not investigated whether Kibbee had the power to arrange tenure but that the students feel the Chancellor "does have the power to influence Lief to change his mind." She said that Kibbee told them he did have the authority to act on the issue.

Ms. Goodman said that the tenure denial had "absolutely nothing" to do with budgetary prob-

lems and that the action was "flagrantly discriminatory" to the Jewish community which "had been disgraced and outraged" by the tenure denial.

The JAC said previously that while there are two tenured professors in the Lehman Judaica department, they are both linguists and that Gerber, a Ph.D. in Jewish and Islamic history, is the only faculty member teaching ancient, modern and American Jewish history, as well as a course on the Holocaust.

In recent years, the once heavily Jewish enrollment at CUNY colleges has dropped sharply. Ms. Goodman estimated that only 20 to 25 percent of the students now at Lehman are Jews. She said that, if the JAC does decide to launch a boycott of CUNY, it expected support from sympathetic non-Jews. About a quarter of the students in the Jewish studies unit are non-Jews.

MISSIONARIES REPORTED ENTICING JEWS INTO THEIR MOVEMENT; TASK FORCE SET UP TO COUNTER THE ACTIVITIES

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA)--Christian missionary groups, especially the so-called Hebrew Christians, are using the symbols and practices of the Jewish community to entice Jews from pre-kindergarten children to senior citizens into their movement, the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC) charged today.

The JCRC, at a press conference, announced that a special task force has been created to counter the activities of some 80 Christian missionary groups operating in New York and particularly the deceptive tactics of the Hebrew Christians, which are missionary groups made up of converted Jews.

Dr. Seymour Lachman, a political scientist at the City University of New York and former president of the New York City Board of Education who is chairman of the task force, stressed that "we do not want to over-emphasize the danger nor to under-emphasize the problem."

Richard Ravitch, JCRC president, said the task force was organized by the JCRC along with 30 organizations because of the "accelerating" activities of missionary groups. The organizational meeting followed a three-month study of the problem by Daniel Mann, who is now coordinator of the task force.

Using Various Jewish Symbols

Lachman and Malcolm Hoenlein, the JCRC's executive director, told the press conference that the Hebrew Christian groups have been using every type of Jewish symbol to entice Jews into their organizations. They displayed a Jewish calendar and pamphlets on Jewish holidays, in support of Israel and Soviet Jews and other Jewish themes which were used by these groups to make Jews think they were being appealed to by legitimate Jewish organizations. Hoenlein said the Hebrew Christians say they do not want to convert Jews but that belief in Jesus is the ultimate form of Judaism.

Lachman noted that some 800 persons attended a havdala service on Long Island sponsored by a Hebrew Christian group and 1000 persons were at a megillah reading last Purim. Hoenlein warned that these groups are turning out distorted Haggadas for Passover and are planning to hold Seders. He said the Hebrew Christians are infiltrating Jewish organizations and synagogues and

that one of them admitted to attending the weekend Shabatons sponsored by the Lubavitcher movement.

Focus On Texas-Based Groups

Of major concern is that one of the major groups, the Graham, Texas-based B'nai Yeshua, has purchased a former school in Stony Brook, N.Y. for \$480 million in cash and is using another \$1 million for improvements. Mann said this will be the national headquarters of the group and will serve as its Bible college, missionary training center and summer camp site. Mann noted that while other programs, such as Key '73 and "Birthday Cake '76," bring in missionaries for street corner work, the establishment of the center means there will be personnel available here for follow-up work.

Lachman said that the evangelical movement is growing in the United States, although he noted that not all evangelical groups seek to convert Jews. He said that one delicate problem is that many of these groups claim to be pro-Israel and use this in their attempts to win members.

Lachman said the task force will try to collect information, analyze the problem and work out means of dealing with it. Lachman said what is most important to find out is what lack there is in the Jewish community and home that causes Jews to seek answers outside of Judaism. In other matters, it was announced that the Board of Education will for the first time designate a Jewish Heritage Week to be coordinated by the JCRC April 18-23 and that the JCRC is discussing means of creating a living memorial to the Holocaust in New York.

GOLD: VANCE SYMPATHETIC TO ISSUE CONCERNING SOVIET JEWRY

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA)--Eugene Gold, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said after a meeting today with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department, that Vance was "very knowledgeable about the current situation" in the Soviet Union with respect to Jewish emigration and divided families and was "most sympathetic" to these issues.

Gold, who is District Attorney of Brooklyn, met with Vance on the eve of the latter's departure for Moscow for talks with Soviet officials. He said that the Jewish leaders who attended the meeting expressed their concern to the Secretary over what they described as "deteriorated conditions" in the USSR with respect to its nearly three million Jews.

They referred to the depressed level of Jewish emigration; the large number of divided families among Soviet Jews, most of which have parents, wives or children in Israel; the proliferation of anti-Semitic stories in the mass media; and the series of harassments in recent weeks, including the arrests and detention of several Jewish activists, some of whom are on trial and may receive long prison sentences.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--West Berlin Mayor Klaus Schuetz participated in the official opening here Wednesday of a public exhibition of life in his city. The exhibition, sponsored by the Jerusalem municipality and the Israeli Labor Ministry, contains a major section on life in Berlin before the Holocaust. German Ambassador Per Fischer, who attended, delighted the audience with a speech in fluent Hebrew.

SECURITY COUNCIL DUE TO MEET ON MIDEAST AT EGYPT'S REQUEST By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, March 24 (JTA)--The Security Council is expected to meet here tomorrow afternoon at Egypt's request to discuss a recent report by Secretary General Kurt Waldheim on his efforts to reconvene the Geneva Middle East peace conference. Egypt made its request yesterday in a letter to Ambassador Andrew Young of the U.S., who is this month's Security Council President.

Sources here told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Egypt got the backing of the non-aligned Council members for a meeting tomorrow. The Council decided two weeks ago to consider Waldheim's Mideast report but not before the end of this month. Informal consultations between Council members will take place this afternoon in preparation for tomorrow's meeting.

A separate letter was sent yesterday by Egypt to Young asking for a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization to be allowed to take part in the debate, as in previous Council meetings on the Mideast. A spokesman for the Israeli Mission here said that Israel "has something to say" and will take part in the debate even though the PLO was invited to participate. "We are going to ignore them (the PLO)," the Israeli spokesman said.

MOSCOW JEWS, PENTECOSTAL CHRISTIANS IN USSR TO STAGE A HUNGER STRIKE

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA)--Thirty Moscow Jews will stage a hunger strike Sunday to protest the latest wave of persecution of Jewish emigration activists, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported today. They will have the support of 500 Christian Pentecostals in the USSR who will conduct a prayer fast at the same time for religious freedom and the right to emigrate, the SSSJ said.

The SSSJ also said that it will conduct a 10-mile walk-a-thon Sunday for Jewish activists, from the Yeshiva of Flatbush in Brooklyn to Brighton Beach and back. According to the SSSJ, demonstrations will also take place Sunday in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

IT MAY NOT BE IN THE STARS

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA)--Two Cabinet ministers and a number of Knesset members have consulted a Jerusalem astrologer regarding their electoral chances, according to the astrologer, Ilan Pecker. Addressing the capital's Rotary Club, Pecker would not reveal the identities of his new clients. His own prediction, he said, was that the May 17 elections would prove inconclusive and a second round would have to be held before the end of 1977.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

CHICAGO (JTA)--The Polonus Philatelic Society of Chicago, which recently held their yearly stamp exhibition with the theme of Polish legacy in the United States, prominently featured Haym Salomon, a Polish Jew who helped in the financing of America's Revolutionary War. Salomon, a merchant, banker and financier, had fought for Polish independence and was a close friend of the foremost Polish patriots. When Poland's cause was lost and the country was dismembered in 1772 by Russia, Austria and Prussia, Salomon

left for America. ***

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--Eduard van Thijn, Parliamentary chairman of the Dutch Labor Party, told a meeting of the newly established Socialist-Zionists group that while the Labor Party and he personally are in solidarity with Israel it is not one of uncritical support. Israel must agree to establish a Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, he stated. Van Thijn said he welcomed the fact that some Labor members of Parliament had contacts with Arabs. The Socialist-Zionists group has replaced the Poale (Labor) Zionists group which is no longer active here and is generally more left-wing than the latter. ***

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Veteran Herut leader Menachem Beigin won an overwhelming vote of confidence in the first round of Herut's internal elections held Wednesday. Beigin took first place on 511 of the 566 ballots cast to select 35 Knesset candidates in the May 17 elections. The Herut list will be pared down to 21 candidates when the party votes again next Wednesday to decide each candidate's place on the list. Wednesday's voting was the first time Herut elected candidates by secret ballot. Beigin received news of his victory in a Tel Aviv hospital where he is undergoing a series of medical examinations. ***

JERUSALEM (JTA)--About 100 religious Jews announced here Wednesday that they were forming a new group to implement "the ideals of religious Zionism." They described themselves as a political-social movement but said they did not intend to run candidates for the Knesset in the May 17 elections. According to their spokesman, Rabbi Yaacov Filber, the group wants to assemble all religious Jews who are dissatisfied with the existing religious parties. Filber said the ideological platform of the National Religious Party "is beautiful" but "NRP members do not implement it." ***

NEW YORK (JTA)--Former Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Kopel Specter was told upon his release from prison in December, 1976 that he would be allowed to re-apply to emigrate to Israel once he was employed and had a place of residence. Now that he has been working one month in Chernovtsy, the authorities have refused to register him at his place of residence, according to information reaching the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Without such registration the local ovir authorities refuse to process his application to join his parents in Israel. ***

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Some 3.5 million gas masks will be delivered shortly to 2500 air raid shelters throughout the country to be used in case of an emergency, army and Interior Ministry officials said at a press conference. Every citizen is now assured of a gas mask should the need arise. The distribution of the masks is part of intensified emergency preparations on the part of the Civil Defense and the Interior Ministry. Most of the effort is aimed at reaching a high standard of shelters. About 75 percent of the population is assured of a proper shelter in time of war, General Yitzhak Zeld, Civil Defense commander, said. ***