

ISRAEL DENIES NEWS REPORT THAT ARAB PRISONERS WERE TORTURED

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 5 (JTA)—Former Arab prisoners who say they were tortured during interrogation by Israeli police do so because they fear revenge by other Arabs whom they have implicated in terrorist activities. But their claims of confessing because of torture are without foundation.

This is stated in a lengthy reply by the Israel Embassy to an article in the Sunday Times two weeks ago accusing Israeli security organs of systematically using torture to extract confessions from suspected terrorists. The statement follows inquiries in Israel into the cases mentioned in the original Sunday Times article. It deals with six cases point by point claiming that in no case is the allegation of torture justified.

"In many of the cases," the Embassy says, "the persons referred to had good reason for claiming that statements they made were made under torture, for in these statements they implicated others in the various acts of terror committed. There have been a number of cases of Arab prisoners being brutally murdered by their fellow prisoners on suspicion that they had cooperated with the authorities. Once claiming torture, they perhaps feel that they can no longer be accused by their colleagues of betrayal."

The statement continues: "Israel police and security have every reason to refrain from use of force. Such use of force is a serious criminal offense, and where cases of police brutality have been found in the past, police officers have been prosecuted, and it is Israel's policy to do so in the future."

The Embassy points out that Felicia Langer and Lea Tsemel, the two Jewish lawyers frequently quoted in the original Sunday Times article, "make a practice of claiming that every client of theirs who makes a statement to the police does so under pressure." However, whenever the police had opened inquiries into the allegations and requested people to provide statements or to submit evidence, "the two lawyers simply fail to reply."

Defends Human Rights Record

Defending Israel's general record on human rights, the Embassy notes that Israel has an independent judiciary and judicial system "which even Israel's avowed enemies admit is both fair and of extremely high caliber." Israel is also the only Middle East country that does not carry out the death penalty. "Torture or use of force, in addition to being crimes are also offenses against the police and military codes," the Embassy asserted.

Moreover, Israeli courts "refuse to consider any statement by the accused if the court is not convinced that it was given of the accused's own free will, without use of force or threat of force." Israeli prisons, the Embassy adds, are all open to inspection and such inspections are carried out frequently by judges, representatives of the Attorney General and defense counsel, including Tsemel and Langer.

In none of the cases alleged in the Sunday Times had any medical evidence of torture been submitted. On the contrary, in every case of which the authorities were informed, medical reports had

failed to substantiate the allegations.

"Every prisoner admitted to prison is subject to a medical examination and to a further examination on release. These examinations are on record," the Embassy stated. Israel also reports to the Red Cross on every single prisoner from the territories and the Red Cross lists prisoners' details on a computer.

The statement concludes: "If clear evidence is produced, the Israel government undertakes to make every effort to investigate such complaints and to prosecute any policeman, soldier or security official involved, but no such evidence has been produced and we can but reiterate our regret and dismay that the Sunday Times found fit to print such an article."

ISRAELI KARATE TEAM CHOPPED FROM TOURNAMENT IN TOKYO BY SPORTS GROUP

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA)—The Japanese Ambassador, Ichiko Katakami, expressed profound regrets yesterday over the last minute exclusion of an Israeli team from a karate tournament in Tokyo where the Israelis had been invited by the Japanese Karate Federation. Federation spokesmen made no secret of the fact that they were under severe pressure from the six Arab countries participating in the tournament to keep the Israelis out.

Katakami stressed that the Karate Federation is a non-governmental organization and that its action did not represent the attitude of the Japanese government. The Israeli team may sue for damages and the costs incurred by their trip to Japan and training expenses. It was learned that the eight-member team arrived in Tokyo last Thursday and were ready to enter the tournament which opened Friday.

At the last minute, they were asked by their hosts to withdraw because of Arab pressure, especially from Egypt. When they refused, they were told their security was in danger and in fact the team received anonymous telephone threats. Nevertheless, they marched in the opening parade even though they had been erased from the list of marchers and the Israeli flag removed from the tournament site.

The Israeli Ambassador, Shaul Ramati, intervened and the flag was restored but the Israeli team was ignored by the announcer when it marched past the reviewing stand. They said they intended to march at the closing ceremony with each team member carrying an Israeli flag. In addition to Egypt, the Arab countries participating are Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Yemen. (By Yitzhak Shargil)

BEHIND THE HEADLINES PROMISES AND PRESSURES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 5 (JTA)—Sen. Jacob K. Javits' surprise trip to the Middle East and the revival of the old idea about a U.S. naval or air base in Israel to ensure the Jewish State's safety drew little official attention here this weekend. Unofficially, however, both developments received serious attention.

No official would comment publicly about reports that the Carter Administration is considering

establishing a base near the port of Haifa as one of a number of proposals for demonstrating America's commitment to Israel and as one of a variety of moves to reassure the new Israeli government of U.S. support. It was said that nobody knows where the report started. In Israeli circles it was pointed out that Israel's long-standing policy is not to have foreign military forces on its soil.

However, the fact that the report was floated by U.S. sources to important American media indicated that the Carter Administration is prepared to offer a base, provide sophisticated arms and allocate continued economic assistance to Israel but will continue to insist on Israel's withdrawal from occupied territories.

The Javits trip to Israel is regarded as secondary to his planned visit to Saudi Arabia where he is understood to wish to explore in depth that country's intentions regarding Israel, the Palestine Liberation Organization and Jerusalem. He will thus be equipped with first-hand knowledge of the major Arab foe's views on possible compromises.

Lid On Mideast Statements Aids Arabs

Meanwhile, the moratorium on Middle East statements imposed on U.S. officials by President Carter pending Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's arrival was seen helping the Arab propaganda campaigns. With the U.S. having "defined" the areas of conflict, much to the disappointment of Israeli supporters, Arab leaders are continuing to refuse any true peace arrangements with Israel and are not being challenged. Although the Arab tactics run counter to Carter's core proposal on peace, the U.S. continues to remain silent on Arab intransigence instead of challenging them to support the peace factors.

Thus, official U.S. silence, imposed by Carter at his press conference last Thursday, extended to the statement last Friday by the Egyptian Ambassador to the United Nations, Esmat Abdel Meguid, who, far from endorsing Carter's peace formula, said only that "the end of the state of belligerency will come into effect" when Israel withdraws from "all occupied areas." He also said "especially the Palestinians" should participate in a Geneva conference.

Carter-Begin Scenario

Informal sources here see a Carter-Begin scenario developing July 19-20, when the Israeli leader visits Washington, with outward cordiality by both chief executives who may get along very well personally. Privately, however, Carter is expected to re-emphasize his territorial views. His course is charted, it is said, despite his previous statements that he will meet with Mideast leaders first and then have Secretary of State Cyrus Vance travel among the confrontation states to obtain a consensus for a resumption of the Geneva conference this year. Vance is to make the trip within two weeks after Begin concludes his Washington visit. But it is believed the Secretary will have a plan in hand to test Arab and Israeli views.

Should they reject it, and the Israelis probably will since it is expected to follow the Rogers plan almost completely, then Vance will warn that the Carter Administration will support such a plan in the UN Security Council.

Differences In The Administration

All is not smooth within the Carter Administration, however, it is said. National Security Affairs Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski favors a comprehensive openly declared proposal to hurry a "settled"

ment" in some way. Vance favors a slower, calmer pace. Both agree, however, on principles of the Rogers plan.

The sources that are concerned for Israel's future point out one particular undeniable position taken by Carter. That is his statement to European journalists in May that contradicts his declarations that he will not impose a settlement. He told the journalists, "I would not hesitate if I saw a fair and equitable solution to use the full strength of our own country and its persuasive powers to bring these nations to agreement."

While Israel is tied to those powers, the Arabs are not as vulnerable since they have oil money to see them through. It is this point that makes Javits' trip to Saudi Arabia an interesting thread in the diplomatic fabric.

FRIEDMAN, IN ISRAEL, CLARIFIES VIEWS

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA)--Prof. Milton Friedman, the Nobel Prize-winning American economist, arrived here this weekend on a visit to Israel during which he will be awarded an honorary degree by the Hebrew University. Friedman, a conservative, has been proposed by Likud as an economic advisor to the Israeli government. But in a statement at Ben Gurion Airport he said he did not have the necessary data on conditions in Israel to suggest a solution for its economic woes.

However, Friedman sought to clarify a major point of controversy over his economic theories, namely that fighting inflation requires unemployment. He said he did not favor unemployment but that a certain reduction in the rate of employment is usually a phenomena that accompanies anti-inflation measures. He said he did not know of any country in which the fight against inflation did not entail a temporary reduction of the employment rate.

In that connection, he mentioned West Germany and Japan which tackled inflationary problems in 1948. He said the measures taken in Chile after the military junta overthrew the Allende government were too extreme but the outcome was that Chile's inflation rate was reduced from 25 to five percent per month.

Suggestions that Israel would have to endure a higher unemployment rate to combat inflation were denounced by Histadrut after Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich suggested, following Likud's election victory in May, that Friedman should be invited to advise the new government. Histadrut issues a statement yesterday challenging the economic concepts on which Friedman based his ideas.

MIKHAIL STERN ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA)--Mikhail Stern, the Soviet Jewish physician who was sentenced by a Soviet court to 10 years imprisonment on charges of taking bribes, arrived Friday in Israel with his wife, Ida. Stern was welcomed here by his son Victor. His other son, August, is at present in Paris.

Stern was released suddenly by the Soviets three months ago after serving four years of his 10-year term. His release came prior to a public hearing that was to be held in Holland and in which the false accusations against him and form of Soviet trials would have been exposed.

ISRAEL REASSURED BY U.S. ENVOY

TEL AVIV, July 5 (JTA)--Israeli officials who attended the Fourth of July reception at the U.S. Ambassador's residence last night--Premier Menachem Begin among them--were reassured by the

American envoy, Samuel Lewis, that President Carter has not changed his conceptions as to the essence of an Israeli-Arab peace settlement.

Raising boasts to the Presidents of the U.S. and Israel and to Begin, Lewis stressed Carter's ideas on the nature of a Mideast peace settlement—commercial relations and the exchange of tourists between Israel and its neighbors. He expressed confidence in the success of Begin's forthcoming visit to Washington and said that he and President Carter would agree on principles in their talks because both are men of principles.

Likud Move On Eban Riles Labor

Meanwhile, the Labor Alignment is in a furore over a proposal by the Likud government to send former Foreign Minister Abba Eban to the U.S. to explain Israel's position to American officials and the public. Eban, a Labor member of the Knesset, has discussed the suggestion with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and seems inclined to accept it. But many members of the Labor Alignment say it would be outrageous for Eban to speak in America on behalf of Likud.

MK Itzhak Navon said that many people in the U.S. would not understand the subtle but important difference between the national consensus over the need for secure borders, meaning no return to the 1967 lines, and the general attitude of Likud. It would appear, he said, as if Eban supported the Likud ideology.

Eban has countered such arguments by stressing that if he accepted the Likud proposal he would express his own ideas and Likud knows exactly what his ideas are. Eban has discussed the matter at length with Labor Party leader Shimon Peres and will also sound out American Jewish leaders before deciding whether to make the trip.

Efforts meanwhile are continuing to ease the tension between Israel and the U.S. created by recent Administration statements on the need for Israel to withdraw from occupied territories. Dayan and Lewis met several days ago to discuss Begin's trip to Washington. Lewis told reporters later that their talk was quite satisfactory and "we cleared the air." He said Begin would receive a very warm welcome at the White House and will be treated as an honored guest.

NAZIS SAY JDL RALLY IN SKOKIE SETS PRECEDENT FOR THEIR OWN RALLY

SKOKIE, Ill., July 5 (JTA)—A leader of the Jewish community here denounced the Jewish Defense League today for stirring up "the fears of our people" that Nazis would eventually win their court battle to march through this heavily Jewish populated suburb of Chicago. Sol Goldstein, a board member of the Jewish United Fund (JUF) of Metropolitan Chicago, was referring to a statement to that effect by Rabbi Meir Kahane at a JDL rally staged here yesterday.

The rally was held despite the fact that a threatened July 4 Nazi march was called off in compliance with a court injunction obtained by the Village of Skokie in support of its ordinances barring the march. Kahane, founder of the militant organization, exhorted a crowd estimated at 400 to "kill Nazis now" and "every Jew a .22." Frank Collin, leader of the so-called National Socialist Party of America, told the Chicago Daily News this afternoon that the JDL rally "sets a marvelous precedent that the Skokie ordinances are invalid" and that "the Jews played directly into our hands."

The aim of the Jewish community was to reduce tension and for that reason the JUF's Public Affairs Committee cancelled what was to have been a

"patriotic American rally" at the Meyer Kaplan Jewish Community Center yesterday. "We had cancelled a rally of local Jewish residents of Skokie purposely because such a rally could only serve to enlarge the fears of our people even though the Nazi march had been averted," Goldstein said.

"To have the Jews of the JDL stir up these same fears and apprehensions for their own purposes is unforgivable. By their actions and by their allegations that the Nazis will win in court the right to march in Skokie, the JDL has come close to accomplishing what the Nazis themselves set out to do," he said.

JDL Rally Held Legal

The JDL held its rally on the parking lot of the JCC after being refused permission to use the building. About 40 JDLers who came to Skokie from other cities were disarmed by police of clubs, baseball bats and metal pipes they were carrying, apparently in anticipation of a confrontation with the Nazis. But Skokie Village President Albert J. Smith said their rally was legal because it was held on private property. He said the Nazis could hold a similar rally if they could obtain the use of private property.

Although the Nazi march was cancelled, several anti-Nazi groups assembled outside the village hall yesterday where the march was to have begun. Police helicopters cruised overhead and uniformed and plainclothes police were out in force to prevent violence. In Chicago a group calling itself the "Run The Nazis Out-Of-Town Coalition" demonstrated and handed out leaflets in front of Nazi headquarters. In Skokie, JDLers marched wearing motorcycle helmets. They hawked JDL badges for \$1 and tried to recruit local Jewish residents to join the JDL.

Meanwhile, representatives of national and local Christian organizations issued a Fourth of July call to religious leaders to condemn the Nazi Party as contrary to Judeo-Christian traditions and the ideals of American democracy. Sister Ann Gillen, executive director of the National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry, convened the meeting of Christian leaders in Chicago yesterday. She said they were pledged to "persistent action" against the Nazis in Chicago and elsewhere.

WAR CRIMES EVIDENCE STUDIED

AMSTERDAM, July 5 (JTA)—A four-member team from the Amsterdam public prosecutor's office returned here Friday from a three-week visit to Eastern Europe to observe evidence in connection with the war crimes trial of Pieter Menten. The group attended the opening of a mass grave near Uryce village south of Lwow where Menten allegedly participated in the murders of more than 100 Jewish men, women, and children on August 27, 1941. The remains were exhumed and reburied.

The same group visited Podhorodze village last February where another mass grave of Nazi victims allegedly killed by Menten was opened. According to the charges, the Podhorodze crimes were committed on July 7, 1941. Menten, 78, a millionaire Dutch art dealer, served in a Nazi SS unit in the Lemberg region of Poland in 1941. The region is now part of the Soviet Union.

BRUSSELS (JTA)—Prime Minister Leo Tindemans will attend a dinner September 29 organized by the Coordinating Committee of Jewish Organizations in Belgium and the World Jewish Congress, it was announced here.

UJA-FEDERATION MOBILIZATION '77 DUE FOR ONE WEEK BEGINNING OCT. 15

NEW YORK, July 5 (JTA)--The most massive telephone campaign in the history of philanthropy, to be known as Mobilization '77, will be headed by Stephen Shalom, a New York banker, it was announced by Robert H. Arnow, chairman of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Joint Campaign, under whose sponsorship the community-wide mobilization will take place.

The Mobilization will seek 75,000 additional gifts for the Joint Campaign in the New York metropolitan area during one week in October. Nearly 5000 volunteers are to be recruited from all parts of New York to participate in the effort. Jeanne Ende of Manhattan and Abner Levine of Cedarhurst will serve as co-chairmen to Shalom. Recruitment of volunteers for Mobilization '77 begins this month, through local synagogues, community centers and other communal institutions and organizations.

The week-long Mobilization will be launched with a four-hour star-studded television presentation on Saturday night, Oct. 15, over Station WPIX (Channel 11), with Alan King as host to a long roster of entertainers and other celebrities. The telecast will open a week of telephone solicitations by volunteers working in centers in the city and throughout neighboring counties. Telephone centers will be manned by the volunteers from Sunday, Oct. 16 to Wednesday, Oct. 19. It will be a project in which "neighbor telephones neighbor."

Prelude To The 1978 Campaign

Last year's Mobilization television broadcast, entitled "Remembering is Not Enough," was seen by an audience of millions and won an Emmy Award. Nearly \$4 million was pledged by viewers in telephone calls during the broadcast and in letters during the following days. Additional millions were raised in personal calls and in telephone solicitations during the next five days.

Shalom, who is director of Israel Discount Bank Ltd., and of PEC Israel Economic Corporation, has long been a leading figure in Jewish philanthropy. He is a member of the UJA-Federation Joint Campaign Board and is New York State chairman for Israel Bonds. As Mobilization '77 chairman, he directs the work of an executive committee representing all communities in Greater New York. Mrs. Ende and Levine have been key figures in two previous Mobilizations. This fall, Mrs. Ende will assume responsibility for Mobilization activity in urban areas, and Levine, a member of the Joint Campaign Cabinet, will be in charge of all suburban areas.

Mobilization '77 will serve as a climax of the 1977 Joint Campaign and a prelude to the 1978 campaign. A primary purpose of the drive is to offer tens of thousands of New Yorkers who have not been previously contacted an opportunity to demonstrate their solidarity with the Jewish community and their support of efforts to aid Jews in Israel, 25 other countries and here in New York.

MAJOR JEWISH RELIGIOUS GROUP SUPPORTS CONSUMER BOYCOTT OF STEVENS PRODUCTS

NEW YORK, July 5 (JTA)--The growing national consumer boycott against products made by the giant J.P. Stevens textile corporation received a significant boost when the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), at its annual convention held at Grossinger, New York on June 23, voted unanimously to endorse the boycott, it was reported here by the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, AFL-CIO, Canadian Labor Congress,

The endorsement by the CCAR, the 1300-member organization of Reform rabbis in the U.S. and Canada, came in the form of a resolution which urged "that the boycott of the J.P. Stevens Company products be supported until such time as collective bargaining takes place in good faith;" and that "encouraged" members of the CCAR "to support and strengthen the Stevens boycott."

Citing "the condition of the textile workers at the J.P. Stevens Company," and the numerous judgments by the National Labor Relations Board and various federal courts that found the Stevens Corporation guilty of unfair labor practices, the resolution said the CCAR came "to the considered judgement that the J.P. Stevens Company has refused to recognize the legal right of its workers to organize and bargain."

The resolution endorsed the boycott as a means of supporting the Stevens workers' struggle "to achieve economic justice and humane safe working conditions through collective bargaining." Prior to the endorsement vote, the discussion stressed that adoption of the resolution involved an obligation to enlist support for the boycott among the member-rabbi's congregations and other members of the community, the union reported.

Union Hails CCAR Action

"The unanimous backing of the Stevens boycott of the CCAR is particularly striking since it is the first major Jewish organization to consider the issue at the national level," union officials said. The mammoth Southern-based Stevens corporation, the nation's second largest textile producer, has increasingly become the target of concerned community, religious, labor and campus organizations.

"A resurgence if the Civil Rights coalition of the 1960s, in which the Jewish community played such a significant role, appears to be growing in support of Stevens' 45,000 workers," the union noted. "Many Catholic and Protestant groups have already voted to endorse the boycott, and increased interreligious activity backing the Stevens campaign can be expected to follow the Reform rabbis' unanimous action."

JEW APPOINTED TO ORDER OF ST. JOHN

MONTREAL, July 5 (JTA)--For the first time since the Order of St. John was founded in the 11th Century, a Jew has been appointed to high office, it was reported here. Maj. Louis M. Bloomfield, a well-known attorney and philanthropist of Montreal, has been elected president of the Quebec Council of the St. John Ambulance Association. Bloomfield was named Knight of the Order in 1965 and is the only Jew to hold that position.

The Protestant order, which was founded in England to help people in distress, has 5000 uniformed volunteers in Quebec Province and provides courses in first aid, home nursing and industrial accident prevention. It also provides ambulance service and first aid at all public gatherings.

NACHMAN RADZICHOWSKI DEAD AT 58

BUENOS AIRES, July 5 (JTA)--Nachman Radzichowski, a leader in the Zionist movement, died here Saturday after suffering a heart attack. He was 58 years old. Radzichowski, who came to Argentina as a youngster, was for several years chairman of the Argentine Zionist Organization and for the last two years was vice-president of its branch in Buenos Aires. He was a member of the local Labor Party.