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DAYAN: NO ISRAEL-U.S. CRISIS

TEL AVIV, March 23 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, returning from Washington this evening, said the word "crisis" used to define the present state of relations between the United States and Israel was inappropriate. Dayan, who accompanied Premier Menachem Begin at his White House talks with President Carter Tuesday and Wednesday, acknowledged that there are differences. But there was no hint of actual pressure by the Americans to force Israel into accepting the American attitude and viewpoints.

A Cabinet source today said that there was a great deal of understanding between Carter and Begin, that Carter wants to avoid a confrontation with Israel on the Lebanese issue and that Israel would pull its forces out of south Lebanon but it would probably take several weeks to do so. The source predicted that negotiations with Egypt would resume. He cited President Anwar Sadat's assertion of his desire to keep the momentum going despite Israel's operation in Lebanon and his moderate reaction to the Israeli move.

UNIFIL ENCOUNTERS DELAYS IN ESTABLISHING ITSELF IN SOUTH LEBANON

TEL AVIV, March 23 (JTA)--The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) continued to encounter delays in establishing itself in south Lebanon. An Iranian unit that was supposed to take over the Akiya Bridge on the Litani River today was blocked by the Lebanese Christian militia which refuses to permit UN forces through its lines. It was hoped that the difficulties can be removed through Israeli channels.

The arrival of a Swedish unit from Sinai and a French paratroop battalion was held up because there was no white paint for their vehicles which are covered in camouflage colors. A special plane was sent to Beirut for paint. Despite the delays, a UN command post was established today at Ras A-Naqura on the Israeli-Lebanese border along the Mediterranean coast. It is expected to be expanded into UNIFIL headquarters which will control the various UN units in south Lebanon. An Israeli military group has established liaison with the UN command.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces are assisting Lebanese villagers with food supplies and medical attention. They are also facilitating the return of villagers who fled northward to escape the fighting. In one group of returning villagers, Israeli soldiers found three terrorists with Kalashnikov rifles concealed among their belongings. The three were detained.

Contingents From Different Countries Arriving

(At the UN in New York, a UN spokesman said today that Senegal had informed Secretary General Kurt Waldheim it would participate in UNIFIL and arrangements were now under way for a battalion of Senegalese troops to join the new peacekeeping operation. The UN official told reporters that Iranian troops were now being deployed along the Litani River and that two aircraft carrying more than 200 French paratroopers and their equipment which had arrived in

Beirut this morning are the first part of the French contingent to UNIFIL. The rest of the contingent is expected by the weekend, bringing the French contribution to some 600 men. The first group of the 700-man Norwegian contingent is expected in the area on Saturday, with the remainder arriving at Beirut in two groups next week.)

THWART ARAB MOVE AT UNESCO TO PASS MEASURE EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM

PARIS, March 23 (JTA)--A UNESCO conference on racism and racial prejudice concluded its week-long meeting here after agreeing to a strong draft declaration condemning apartheid and other forms of discrimination. But before the declaration was agreed to by consensus, four Arab states--Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Algeria--sought to present an amendment condemning Zionism as a form of racism on the basis of the nefarious resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November, 1975. The Soviet Union, on behalf of East European countries, supported the Arab move.

However, a number of African states, led by Nigeria, prevailed upon the Arabs to drop the amendment. The United States agreed with the declaration but opposed the amendment. It was supported by Canada, France, Australia and West European countries. Generally, it was noted, the Arab states seemed relatively moderate in their attacks on Israel. The Arab states said unofficially that they may formally raise the issue of Zionism and racism at UNESCO's general conference next November where the final declaration on racism and racial prejudice will be adopted.

PROPOSED AIRCRAFT SALES PACKAGE TO ARABS WILL NOT BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESS BEFORE LATE APRIL

Lawmakers Raise New Questions About Sale By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, March 23 (JTA)--President Carter's proposed aircraft sales package to Saudi Arabia, Israel and Egypt will not be presented to Congress formally before the end of April, it was disclosed today as new questions developed among the lawmakers over Saudi Arabia's need for sophisticated offensive warplanes and the Administration's insistence that it would withdraw the package if any part of it was rejected. House Majority Leader Jim Wright (D-Tex.) said flatly, "There is no such thing as all or nothing."

The President summoned the House International Relations Committee to the White House late yesterday and met with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this morning to press for approval of the aircraft package.

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), the Senate Majority Whip, said after the meeting that the Carter Administration will not formally submit the package proposal until after the Senate completes action on the second Panama Canal Treaty which is expected on April 29. Both houses of Congress must disapprove of the sale within 30 days of its formal presentation in order to block all or any part of it.

Seek Clarification Of Saudi Needs

Rep. Jonathan Bingham (D-NY) and Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.) questioned the validity of Saudi Arabia's stated need for 60 F-15 jet fighters

for "defensive" purposes. Percy said that "deep questioning" exists among Senators over the package "because of the conflict" in Saudi statements as to whether its need is "entirely defensive" as the Saudi "royal family" has been telling the U.S.

"I urge the President and Secretary of State (Cyrus) Vance to clarify" the circumstances of Saudi Arabia's need, Percy said. "If the chips were down" in the Arab-Israeli dispute, "these weapons could be used possibly against Israel," he said.

Bingham said, after meeting with the President, that he was informed while in Saudi Arabia last January by a leading figure in the Saudi defense establishment that Saudi Arabia was not threatened by either Iraq or Yemen, both under strong Soviet influence.

Secretary of Defense Harold Brown had told the House group that Saudi Arabia required the aircraft for defense against Iraq, Bingham said. The legislator pointed out that "it is important" that this "is the first time any Administration has offered a proposed sale to Israel conditioned on sale of arms to two Arab states. That represents a serious change in U.S. policy," Bingham said.

Sen. Jerry Hart (D.Colo.), however, leaned strongly toward acceptance of the Administration's package proposal. He said that while he was opposed to arms sales in general, he thought the package was "natural." He felt that Israel as well as Saudi Arabia could buy weapons from sources other than the U.S. if the U.S. refused to sell them.

Peace Issue More Important

Sens. George McGovern (D.SD) and Jacob K. Javits (R.NY) both subordinated the aircraft deal to the current U.S.-Israeli policy differences. McGovern said "the peace issue" in the Middle East "is more important than the arms sale and the issues associated with it."

Javits observed that the package is "not all that significant." He said the Congress will receive "a complete appraisal" of the Middle East military balance when the package is submitted. "We'll find a pragmatic way to keep our promise to Israel" (the U.S. commitment of Sept. 1, 1975) and "we will work out pragmatically some arrangement with Egypt and Saudi Arabia," Javits said.

Wright said the President explained to the House committee that the U.S. made commitments to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt and that the President "can see no circumstances that our refusal of the sale of this limited" number of aircraft "will be helpful to Israel." He said the President told the committee that the Saudis would purchase aircraft from other sources and "we would lose" control of the use of the weapons and "the moral suasion" to both Israel and Saudi Arabia.

GLAZER ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 23 (JTA)--Ilya Glazer, a famous brain surgeon who spent six years in Soviet prisons and in exile in Siberia after applying for an emigration permit, arrived in Israel last night with his wife and daughter. He was greeted at Ben Gurion Airport by his mother who came to Israel several years ago.

"This is a dream come true," he told reporters in Hebrew, a language he learned, he said, by listening to Kol Israel radio broadcasts during his exile. Glazer, dismissed from his academic chair at Moscow University after he applied for a visa, has been appointed to the faculty of Ben

Gurion University in Beersheba.

HERTZBERG CAUTIONS AGAINST A DOOM AND GLOOM SCENARIO ON U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS

MIAMI, March 23 (JTA)--Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, cautioned today against the "gloom and doom scenario" of future U.S.-Israeli relations following the failure of President Carter and Premier Menachem Begin to resolve their differences at their talks in Washington that ended yesterday. "At the same time," he said, "it would be false optimism not to concede that American Jews feel a growing sense of worry and dismay at the current trend of U.S. policy in the Middle East."

Speaking to 500 delegates at the AJCongress' national biennial convention here in what was his valedictory address as president of the organization, Hertzberg voiced optimism over the future of American-Israeli relations and the continuity of Jewish identity in the U.S.

"Israel's security is an essential element of American security," he said. "President Carter understands that--and so does Prime Minister Begin. Whatever the differences, they are about tactics on how best to achieve Middle East peace while protecting Israel's security--not over the basic American commitment to a strong and viable Jewish State."

There is no reason, Hertzberg said, "for any gloom and doom scenario that forecasts a rupture of U.S.-Israeli relations. All parties to the Middle East conflict need to get past rhetoric and the battle over 'formulations' and return to the negotiating table and the long and hard process of dealing with concrete issues and specific arrangements," he said.

Growing Sense Of Worry, Dismay

However, Hertzberg added, "At the same time, it would be false optimism not to concede that American Jews feel a growing sense of worry and dismay at the current trend of U.S. policy in the Middle East as evidenced by the linking of American military aid for Israel with arms sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia; criticism of Israel's positions coupled with praise for President Sadat; and the American role in the United Nations resolution calling on international peace forces to replace Israeli troops without a clear mandate to prevent the return of PLO terrorists."

With respect to the future of American Jewry, Hertzberg said that notwithstanding "interfaith marriages, voluntary 'drop-outs' from Jewish life and the lowest birth rate of any ethnic, racial or religious group in the country," there is "a less publicized but equally significant... growth of Jewish consciousness among large numbers of Jews, many of whom came to Jewish life for 'secular' reasons."

According to Hertzberg, "Today many of them are Jews out of sentiment or stubbornness. Our task, or responsibility, our burden--and our glory--is to help them become Jews out of knowledge, out of pride and out of love for a heritage that is neither strange nor foreign but that is embodied into their consciousness and their daily lives."

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The World Zionist Organization Torah Education Department has published a new prayer book for Independence Day. The 189-page book, prepared by Rabbi Moshe Zvi Neria, will be distributed both in Hebrew and in English.

BEGIN EXPRESSES HOPE FOR AN UNDERSTANDING IN THE UNITED STATES OF ISRAEL'S SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 23 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin of Israel reaffirmed today his government's position on territories and settlements and approaches to peace and, in his address to the National Press Club and in responses to reporters' questions in a tone of conciliation, expressed his hope for an understanding in the United States of Israel's security requirements.

Begin spoke before a tense but enthusiastic audience that overflowed the ballroom of the National Press Club while the world media was proclaiming that he and President Carter have failed to bridge gaps to resolve the Middle East problems and while rumors spread that the Carter Administration was determined to bring about his ouster as Israel's leader through a massive propaganda effort because he is unbending on Israel's position.

Begin's address and his response to questions reasserted Israel's need to maintain military control over Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, the right to have Jewish settlements in those areas, and complete negation of the "so-called Palestine Liberation Organization."

But in his words and in his manner he sought to conciliate rather than to aggravate in any way either the relations with Carter or with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. His presentation was generally viewed here as contrasting with the toughness of the speech that Sadat fired at Israel and Begin when he spoke from the same rostrum on Feb. 6.

Represents Good, Tested Concepts

Begin said that his proposals for a settlement represented good and tested concepts that are irrefutable and repeated what he said was widespread approval of them when they were introduced three months ago. He emphasized that the Arab people in the occupied areas would have full autonomy under the peace plan with Israel reserving its security for public order.

"The issue," he said, is that in Israel, with most of its population living nine to 15 miles on a coastal plain dominated by mountains in Judea and Samaria, Soviet artillery could blast every Israeli village and town. "Who controls the range of hills," he said, means to Israel "a matter of life itself."

Begin said Israel "wants peace negotiations to move ahead at a speedy pace." He declared that "we don't want a stalemate of procrastination, we yearn for peace for Israel and her neighbors." He said "to accomplish it we must have patience for each other, open minds, open hearts, never to say: 'if you don't accept our demands I call off the dogs,'" a reference to Sadat's cancellation of the Israeli-Egyptian political talks.

Asked if he believed Carter was trying to force him out of office, Begin replied, "No I don't. The Prime Minister of a democratic country is elected by the people of the country." He added that only those people can make the change.

Grateful To Carter

To a question asserting that Begin and Carter are far apart on the elements of a peace agreement, the Premier responded that he was grateful to Carter for the three summit meetings in July, December and this month.

He said the U.S. "role is positive" and alluded to the contacts established for Israel by U.S. officials. He said he was "sorry" that the question of settlements on the West Bank aroused tension. "Perhaps we didn't explain it" in suitable terms, he said. But he insisted "they are perfectly legal and legitimate. This is our stand. Everything else stands on the timing and the decisions of Israel," he said about the settlements.

On the question of placing warplanes for Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel in one package, Begin said there should be "no linkage of planes for Israel with any other country." He stressed that Israel felt that providing Saudi Arabia with F-15s would be "very, very dangerous" for Israel.

Speaking yesterday after his final meeting with Carter, Begin said it was his "duty" to remind public opinion of the fact "that Israel is still the only country in the world against which there is a written document to the effect that it must disappear" and people who carry out "the abominable acts to prove that they mean it." This was a reference to the Covenant of the Palestine National Council and the Palestine Liberation Organization. This situation, Begin added, "is the decisive problem we face, which is called, sometimes, security."

Probe Israel's Use Of U.S. Arms

Meanwhile, the Defense Department announced today that it was investigating to determine whether Israel's use of American weapons in its operations in Lebanon violated the U.S. Arms Export Control Act. A Department spokesman said the reported use of F-15 jet fighter-bombers by Israel was under study but did not elaborate.

The Arms Export Control Act limits the use of weapons obtained from the U.S. to internal security, self-defense or collective security measures with United Nations member states. Pentagon sources noted that the U.S. cut off arms supplies to Turkey when it discovered that the use of American weapons in the 1974 invasion of Cyprus was illegal.

GROUP'S PRESIDENT RESIGNS IN PROTEST

MONTREAL, March 23 (JTA)--Jacqueline Dugas, president of the executive of the Jean Baptiste Society's branch in Notre Dame de Grace, a Montreal west end suburb, resigned Tuesday from the nationalist society in protest against an article in the February issue of "Ici Quebec" magazine which called Zionism "the cancer of humanity."

Mrs. Dugas, a nurse at the Jewish General Hospital here, said that Jean Marie Cossette, recently elected president of the society's Montreal chapter who is the director of the magazine, has refused to dissociate himself from the views expressed in the article. Mrs. Dugas said she was drowned out by shouts during the society's convention last weekend when she called on Cossette to criticize the article. She asked again after the crowd was brought to order but Cossette refused, Mrs. Dugas said.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Elimelech Rimalt, leader of Likud's Liberal Party wing, announced he will run for the office of President despite the fact that Premier Menachem Begin has endorsed Prof. Yitzhak Shaveh. His announcement has already created friction between the Liberals and Herut and a clash with Begin seems likely when the Premier returns from Washington. Rimalt had been mentioned as a possible candidate to succeed President Ephraim Katzir whose term expires in May.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE FUTURE OF FRENCH JEWRY

By Adam Loss

[Editor's note: Adam Loss, of Paris, is the editor and publisher of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Daily News Bulletin in France, a member of the JTA board and director of the Fonds Social Juif Unifié (Federation of Jewish Welfare Funds.)]

PARIS, March 23 (JTA)--While in Paris, Theodor Herzl described France's Jews as "so little Jewish and yet not quite French..." These words may have been true, years ago, but are so no longer. Weakened and decimated by World War II, French Jewry was to know a fate similar to the American Jewish community at the dawn of the century, and within proportions, to that of Israel at its birth.

Successive waves of refugees from Eastern Europe melded into old time French Jewry, escaping what had once been the lands of their great culture and had become that of their suffering.

These "ostjuden" (eastern Jews) brought with them the remains of a warm and living Judaism as well as a sense of political combativity linked with the heritage of their fathers. Their wish to preserve this heritage was often expressed in their impassioned defense of Yiddish culture. Two papers in Yiddish are still published in Paris: "Unzer Wort" and the Communist "Naie Presse."

These eastern Jews have shown a pathetic obstinacy to organize "landmanschaften," groups of people from the same towns in Poland or Russia, in order to meet and to try to sort out the problems of their and their children's integration.

These Jews from Eastern Europe, who were already giving a Jewish quality to some areas of Paris, were soon joined by others--Jews from Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. Later came the Jews of Algeria, who were not refugees but French citizens since 1870, although some of them were discovering the "motherland" for the first time in their lives; to many of them it looked somewhat like a new continent.

If the flood of refugees was a blessing for the community, it remained for long, and still is, a real burden which the public authorities and the American Joint Distribution Committee have helped to bear.

Role Of North African Jews

The North African Jews poured fresh forces into the community and radically changed its social and professional profile. The French Jewish community now consists to a large extent of workers, small employes and small shopkeepers who are shaping the new outlook of the Jewish community and making it similar to the general French population.

The North African Jews have integrated remarkably well into communal organizations and regenerated the norms and values of Jewish life. French Jewry thus succeeded where Israel has failed so far in integrating the Oriental Jews. Sefardis of France are quite preoccupied by aspects of poverty in Israel where so many Jews from Arab countries live.

However, the Sefardi leaders in France trust that Israeli society will find a fair solution to this problem: justice and the greater interest of the Jewish State demand that its solution should be high on the list of Israel's priorities.

Politically, the Jewish community disagrees with the attitude of the French government towards Israel. They pay tribute, however, to the

fact that France remains a country of asylum whatever its political or economical situation.

This open door policy explains how the Jewish community has increased in size: from 150,000 people after the war to the present 700,000, half of whom are Sefardi and the other half Ashkenazi. Split up by the tragedies of history, these two branches are now meeting and represent a large and promising asset for the future of French Jewry.

Harmonious Integration Of Facets

A melting pot of cultures, rites and traditions, the French Jewish community succeeded in harmoniously integrating these two facets of the Jewish people. Now, children, whatever their origin, learn their common history and heritage.

Like American Jewry, the French community is becoming more involved in the life of the country, claiming its own specific and general demands. Gen. Charles de Gaulle's claim in 1967, that the Jews are an "elite people, domineering and self-assured," provoked a shock but also a rise in consciousness which actually prompted France's Jewish community to play an increased role in the country's social and political life.

Progressively, the community changed from a religious minority to a cultural and political body. It has become influential and Jews no longer hesitate to express themselves. Their link to Israel is strong and deep and the Jewish leadership voices its demands for a more balanced policy towards Israel.

Although the problem of "double allegiance" is still raised, it no longer prevents the Jews from adopting attitudes in accord with their hearts and minds. Herzl could now say that the Jews are "fully French and quite Jewish."

French Jewry today is far from being frozen into a fixed mold. Doubts, inconsistencies and contradictions sometimes delay its progress. But it is vibrant and vital and exhudes a pride in its Ashkenazi and Sephardi history and culture and feels emotionally close to Israel. Unquestionably, French Jewry can look safely to the future.

HASIDIM DISTRIBUTE 500,000 PURIM KITS

NEW YORK, March 23 (JTA)--Responding to a call for acceleration from the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, Shlita, the Lubavitch Youth Organization, distributed over half a million Purim kits on a national level. Rabbi Shmuel Butman, director of the youth organization, reported that these kits were distributed in elementary schools, high schools, youth groups, colleges, army bases, hospitals and nursing homes all over the United States.

Lubavitcher Hasidim even went "behind bars" to bring Purim observances and holiday spirit to the Jewish inmates, Butman reported. Special dietetic kits were prepared for hospitals and nursing homes, accompanied by a letter of a physician stating that the food contained in the Purim kits is not only kosher but also dietetic. Thousands of people also received their Purim kits through the 25 colorful Mitzvah Mobiles or "tanks against assimilation."

Purim programs with the actual reading of the "Megillah" (Purim scroll) are also conducted in numerous metropolitan and rural areas including: Fort Bragg Army Base, North Carolina; the Greenhaven Prison in Stormville, New York; the Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center and Senior Citizen Centers in Brownsville, Butman said. The Purim campaign was also carried to thousands of people who were unable to go to synagogues.