



TERRORISTS KILL 2 TOURISTS, INJURE 5

TEL AVIV, April 26 (JTA)--A terrorist bomb thrown into a bus in Nablus this evening killed two tourists and wounded five others, several of them seriously. The injured were flown to hospitals by helicopter as Israeli security forces sealed the area and began a search for the perpetrators. The tourists, on a Holy Land pilgrimage sponsored by the West German Lutheran Church, were returning from Galilee to East Jerusalem when their bus was attacked in the center of Nablus. It had stopped briefly in the main square of the West Bank town. The bus reportedly was owned by an Arab tour agency.

SENATORS SAY IF CARTER WANTS ALL OR NOTHING ON HIS PLANE PACKAGE DEAL HE MAY WIND UP WITH NOTHING

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 26 (JTA)--Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said today that Congress was willing to "accommodate" President Carter on his proposal to sell jet warplanes to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia but not as a package plan. Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho), the second ranking member of the committee, told reporters, after committee members met with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance this morning, that if the President sticks to his proposal in a package it will be defeated.

Carter stated at a White House press conference yesterday that if Congress rejects the sale of planes to any of the three countries, he will withdraw the entire package. He also refused to delay for more than 2-3 days submission of the package proposal to Congress.

Under Congressional pressure the Carter Administration was reported this afternoon to have agreed to a two-day delay for its formal submission to Congress of its plane package deal. The presentation to Congress was due to have been made today. There was also speculation that the delay might have been prompted by the visit of Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who is due to discuss this issue, along with other issues, with Vance. (See separate story P. 3.)

Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R.N.Y.) said that if the President "insists on take-it-all or leave-it-all, the chances are we will leave it all." He stressed that "Congress wants to accommodate the President but that it wanted to be shown more 'trust' by the Administration than heretofore."

Three Main Concerns Cited

Church said the three main concerns raised by committee members at their meeting with Vance were the linkage of the aircraft sales which, according to Church, is at variance with the law; the timing, because Congress does not believe this is the right time; and finally, Congress is concerned that the weapons to Saudi Arabia will be used against Israel, Church said. He said the Senators asked that the package proposal be delayed to allow "the peace talks to get back on the track."

Javits said that Congress was willing to provide Israel with its security needs and to provide for the defense needs of Egypt. He said that

Congress is also willing to "accommodate for the security needs of Saudi Arabia" although "it may not be exactly the way they want it."

At the State Department later, the Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, said the purpose of Vance's meeting with the Senators this morning was to "explore the views on both sides." He said Vance did not negotiate about numbers of planes. "We are listening carefully," he said. When pressed for further details, he referred reporters to Carter's statement at his press conference yesterday that he would withdraw the entire package rather than see it split.

Asked if the Administration had enough votes to save the package, the State Department spokesman said he did not know. Earlier in the week, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said he thought the Administration had enough votes to prevent the aircraft package from being blocked.

A majority in both Houses of Congress is needed to block any major arms sale under current legislation. Action to do so must take place within 30 days after Congress receives the Administration proposal. The Administration has indicated that it wants a decision from Congress before the Memorial Day weekend recess.

10-MILE HUMAN CHAIN PASSES PEACE PETITION FROM HAND TO HAND

JERUSALEM, April 26 (JTA)--A petition urging Premier Menachem Begin to modify his policies in the interests of peace was passed hand-to-hand today along a human chain extending for some 10 miles from the heart of Jerusalem into the hills surrounding the city. Spokesmen for the Peace Now movement which organized the demonstration, estimated that 4000 men, women and children participated, standing several yards apart on the main Jerusalem highway.

The demonstration was the latest in a mounting grass roots campaign demanding that the government give peace priority over territories and a so-called "Greater Israel." Many of the participants carried banners saying "Peace Now Is Not a Dream."

The petition contained about 12,000 signatures. It was offered to Begin on the eve of his departure for the U.S. where he meets with President Carter next Monday. It also coincided with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's presence in Washington today for talks with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Representatives of the Peace Now movement said that 60,000 postcards, each individually signed, were being delivered separately to Begin. The postcards say in part: "I urge you not to endanger peace by further settlements (in the occupied Arab territories). Don't take a path from which there is no return. I love Israel. I want peace now."

SPECIAL TO THE JTA RHODES URGES CARTER TO DROP PLANE PACKAGE SALE AND TO SELL ISRAEL THE NUMBER OF WARPLANES IT HAD REQUESTED

WASHINGTON, April 26 (JTA)--Rep. John J. Rhodes of Arizona, the House Minority leader, appealed to President Carter, in a hand-delivered letter to the White House, to drop the Administration plan for a package sale of warplanes to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and to sell Israel the number of warplanes it had requested.

Rhodes expressed his opposition, in his letter Monday and released today in its entirety to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, to the proposed sale to Israel, in the package, of 15 F-15s and 75 F-16s, instead of the 25 F-15s and 150 F-16s Israel had requested. He termed the proposed sale to Israel as "totally inadequate" to its defense needs. Saudi Arabia would receive 60 F-15s, considered the world's most advanced interceptor jet, and Egypt would receive 50 less sophisticated F-5Es.

In urging the President to drop the package proposal, Rhodes indicated he expected Congress to act individually on each of the proposed sales. Carter, at a press conference yesterday, rejected all requests for either withdrawal of the package or for any substantial delay in submitted it to Congress.

A spokesman for the House Minority leader's office told the JTA that Rhodes had not responded to the President's rejection, which the spokesman pointed out was not a specific reply to the Rhodes letter and that Rhodes was standing pat on his request.

Cites Danger Of Package Proposal

In urging the President to meet Israel's request, Rhodes wrote that he believed that the proposed sale to Israel, in the package arrangement was "totally inadequate to meet her defense needs" and that this would be the case particularly "if Congress were to approve the sale of arms to other countries in the Middle East."

Rhodes also contended that the "package" approach "contravenes the intent of Congress when it passed the 1976 amendments to the Arms Control Act" to "bring Congress into the decision-making process as to major arms sales." Describing the Administration proposal as constituting "unsanctioned constraints on Congressional participation in this decision," Rhodes urged Carter to "regard each of these sales individually and on the merits, as is the intent of the law."

Rhodes also implied that the package proposal violated a United States commitment to Israel made in connection with the second Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai.

Declaring that each of the proposed sales "has an individual negotiating history and purpose," Rhodes declared that in Israel's case, "the signature of American officials in connection with the agreements for Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai creates the basis for positive consideration of the letter of intent."

Spirit Of Sinai Agreement

Rhodes, referring to the Sinai accord, said conformity with Israel's request "is directly linked to the spirit of the agreement signed between the government of Israel and the government of the United States in 1975 when the Israelis withdrew from strategic passes in the Sinai desert at the request of the United States."

Describing Egypt and Saudi Arabia as "valued friends" of the United States, Rhodes said that nevertheless "our decision as to the sale of arms to these governments must be individually weighed and considered with full awareness of the potential impact on the Middle East and the relations between the individual nations and the United States."

Rhodes warned that the situation in the Middle East "is of such grave consequences" that "a spirit of confrontation between Congress and the Executive Branch must be avoided." He expressed the hope that the President, "sharing this view,"

would assure Congress that "you will act, as we will, on each of these proposed sales individually and on the merits, as the law provides."

ISRAEL WINS ONE, LOSES ONE

TEL AVIV, April 26 (JTA)--Israel won a stunning surprise victory in the Eurovision pop music contest held in Paris last weekend. Jubilant fans of the disco tempo swarmed into the streets here singing and honking horns to the rhythms of the winning song--"Ah-Bah-Nee-Bee," with music by Nurit Hirsch and lyrics by Ehud Manor. It was the first win by Israel since the contest was established 23 years ago. Moreover, Israel was the only non-European country in the competition this year. (See related story from Paris.)

But the occasion was marred by news that the European Football (soccer) Association has rejected Israel's application for membership. The footballers were gloomy and wondered to which area of the globe Israel will be assigned for the international competition, since it has been ousted from the Asian Games and Football Association in which the Arab states and China constitute the majority.

Nevertheless, with a song in their hearts, Israelis began preparations to host next year's Eurovision competition, an honor that goes to the winning country. The new hero is Izhar Cohen and his troupe of pop singers and musicians who performed the winning song before the jury at the Palais des Congres in Paris. It was televised worldwide and made Cohen and his group instant stars on Europe's pop music scene as well as in Israel.

The negative vote of the Football Association was a bitter pill. Sixteen countries supported Israel's application, including Sweden and West Germany. But that was far short of the 25 majority needed. The Soviet-led Communist bloc was opposed. But Britain's abstention came as a surprise and may have influenced other countries.

FROM ISRAEL: WITH SONG

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 26 (JTA)--A fast conversion to disco tempo enabled Israel to win the Eurovision song contest for the first time since its creation 23 years ago. The song, "Ah-Bah-Nee-Bee," performed by Izhar Cohen and the Alpha-Beta Singers, simply enthralled the juries because it brought something fresh on the stage of the Palais des Congres here last Saturday night whereas most of the other contestants clung to the kind of music that amassed the most votes in past competitions.

The Israeli group sang something different and very catchy and it was no surprise that they won well ahead of the others. However, before the competition, experts were inclined to believe that France, Belgium or Luxembourg had a good chance of snatching victory in the contest which was seen live by 350 million viewers in countries as far apart as Hong Kong, Finland, Jordan and Dubai.

It must have been a shock for Arab viewers to see Israel crush all opposition in the competition. But the juries from rival countries did not hesitate to express their choice freely without yielding to any kind of moral pressure or hesitation. Israel won with 157 points, a high total, followed by Belgium and France.

It was a very special event for the Israeli group, crowned on the very night of the Passover seder. "I'm thrilled and overwhelmed," said Cohen as he was jostled by a crowd of photographers and admirers. "It's real crazy," he added, surrounded by at least 10 Israeli security guards for safety.

DAYAN, VANCE MEET FOR 4 HOURS; NO INDICATION THAT ISRAEL AND THE U.S. HAVE BROKEN MIDEAST LOGJAM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 26 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan met with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance for nearly four hours at the State Department today but the indications are that Israel and the U.S. still have not reached an agreement on how to proceed on Middle East peace negotiations.

Dayan emerged from the meeting one hour later than expected, saying only that the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations "was the only subject" he discussed with Vance today. He said the discussions were not finished and will continue tomorrow when he returns to the State Department at 10 a.m. Dayan refused to repeat or clarify the statement he made before he left Israel yesterday that Israel will continue to oppose the Carter Administration's proposed aircraft sales package for Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The question was put to the Foreign Minister because of widespread reports that he had said Israel would rather forego the planes for itself rather than see any delivered to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. What Dayan did say was: "Should the American Administration decide to punish us and not supply us with the planes, we shall have to absorb the punishment and continue to oppose the package deal."

Dayan told reporters today that he has already said what he has to say on the subject. When they continued to press for clarification, he ended the brief press conference and walked off. Dayan was accompanied by the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis, when he left Vance's office, although normally the Secretary of State escorts a visitor after a meeting. Lewis said that Vance was detained. He said Dayan and Vance were in the midst of talks on Mideast peace negotiations.

Dayan, upon his arrival here this morning, was greeted at the State Department entrance by Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders and Lewis. The Foreign Minister, who was accompanied by Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and other aides, hurried past reporters, smiling, but did not say anything.

Invitations To Jewish Leaders

Meanwhile, a White House spokesman said today that some 1000 invitations are being sent out to "a cross section" of American Jewish communal leaders, the rabbinic community, the American Jewish press and non-Jewish friends of Israel to participate in a salute to Israel on its 30th anniversary. The spokesman said that President Carter will address the gathering and issue a statement on Israel's anniversary. Premier Menachem Begin will also address the guests.

The spokesman said that the White House has made a special effort for this festive event to invite members of the rabbinic community, representatives of which have not been invited to the White House as frequently as Jewish communal leaders. The one-hour ceremony will be from 2 to 3 p.m. next Monday, May 1.

DISSATISFIED WITH STEPS BY POLAND

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 26 (JTA)--Leaders of the Jewish delegations that attended the inauguration of the Jewish Pavilion on the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp last week are not completely

satisfied with the steps Poland has taken so far in seeking a reconciliation with Jews and remain skeptical of its intentions. Detailed reports on the ceremonies and other aspects of the occasion were presented at a meeting of the Israeli Executive of the World Jewish Congress.

Anszel Reiss, president of the World Federation of Polish Jews, Stefan Grayek, chairman of the World Federation of Jewish Partisans and Anti-Nazi Fighters and Judge Moshe Baisky, representative of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, agreed that the Jewish Pavilion represented the first acknowledgement by the Polish authorities that the principal victims at Auschwitz were Jews, not simply Polish citizens. But they complained that no Israeli flags were flown at the ceremonies and rejected the Polish explanation that there was no Israel when Auschwitz Jews met their death.

They also noted that no Polish officials--neither those attending the ceremony nor those in Warsaw--mentioned the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel. One minister who spoke at the Auschwitz site expressed hope for better relations with Jews "wherever they live" which was taken by some present to include relations with Israel.

But that was just a surmise, the delegates said. They said they were not sure what motivated the "Jewish Week" in Poland on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz unless it was a desire to improve Poland's image among Jews and in the West generally.

Yitzhak Koren, chairman of the Israeli Executive of the WJC, said it was up to Poland to demonstrate its intentions by further moves. The delegates said they would wait to see if the Poles actually complete the Jewish Pavilion as promised by introducing signs in Hebrew and Yiddish, by including in the section devoted to Jewish resistance fighters material about the Jewish Brigade that fought the Nazis as a unit of the British army and by paying tribute to Jewish paratroopers dropped behind enemy lines during World War II.

GOLDMANN BLASTS 'HOLOCAUST' FILM

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, April 26 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, honorary president of the World Jewish Congress, assailed the NBC-TV mini-series, "Holocaust," for having compared Poles with the Nazis in its description of wartime persecution of Jews, according to an interview he gave to PAP, the Polish news agency.

"It is sheer nonsense to compare Poles with Nazis. Poles suffered no less than we did. We suffered greater losses proportion-wise, but the Poles also suffered enormously. The Polish nation was the only nation which never had any Quisling into the bargain as all the others had: Rumania, France, Hungary, Slovakia, Norway. There was never a Quisling in Poland. I think that the behavior of U.S. television is very unfair and I am not going to conceal that."

Goldmann was also quoted by PAP as saying that he would like a large assembly of Jewish leaders from all over the world to be held in Auschwitz, the former Nazi concentration camp. He also said he would ask organizations with which he was connected to hold assemblies of their leaders in Auschwitz every year.

REMINDER: There will be no Community News Reporter dated April 28 due to the Passover holiday.

ISRAEL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

STATEMENT BY BEGIN

JERUSALEM, April 26 (JTA)--In a message to Jewish communities throughout the world on the occasion of Israel's 30th anniversary, Premier Menachem Begin affirmed that "We shall not cease in our effort to achieve the peace and security for which we yearn." He declared that "The renewal of our independence in the land of Israel" more than 18 centuries after the Roman conquest "is a unique event in the annals of mankind."

Also unique, Begin continued, is the history of the past 30 years. "Our State was attacked time and again. We had to fight many battles in order to maintain our independence. At the same time there was a magnificent process of building up the country, of turning desert land into green pasture, of bringing in the exiles of our people from the four corners of the world, of the most creative work in every sphere of life."

It is equally true, Begin observed, that for the last 30 years "we have not enjoyed a single day of peace. We embarked last year, in the wake of ceaseless previous efforts, on the road of direct negotiations to establish peace between ourselves and our neighbors. Despite all the difficulties, we believe that this noble goal will be reached."

Begin said that Israel owes a special debt and concern for the Jews in the Soviet Union. "Their return to Judaism, their plight and their fight for the return to the Land of Israel is, historically, the second greatest event of our time, after the renewal of our independence," the Premier stated. "We must stand by them and wage an incessant campaign for their inalienable right to reach the historic homeland of the Jewish people."

Begin noted that there are difficulties in many spheres of Israeli life. "But if we remember where we were and what we were only one generation ago, in the 30s and in the 40s, and how, with our own initiative, sacrifice and effort, we changed fundamentally the situation of our people from tragedy to triumph, we have reason to believe that we shall overcome all the obstacles and guarantee the future of our children's children."

STATEMENT BY KATZIR

JERUSALEM, April 26 (JTA)--President Ephraim Katzir of Israel declared in a message to world Jewry on the occasion of Israel's 30th anniversary that his nation's strength will bring peace with Egypt and its other neighbors, noting that "strength includes the capacity for adjustment and conciliation." In his message, Katzir said:

"Strength on one side breeds confidence on the other. Surely this is a partial explanation of the revolutionary step taken by President Sadat in coming to Jerusalem last November. No single step, even of this magnitude, can swiftly bring total results in a situation as tangled and bitter as the Arab-Israel conflict. But we continue to believe, despite all setbacks, that we will be moving toward peace, peace which we need and desire, peace which Egypt and our other neighbors need and desire."

"The road to it cannot be easy, but by the logic of the situation it will have to be taken, and strength includes the capacity for adjustment and conciliation. After three decades, there is something new on the horizon. Middle East statesmanship. We pray that Israel's thirty-first year may bring us much closer to peace, bringing the blessings not only to ourselves but to many millions

of other human beings. In this hope and spirit, we celebrate Israel's thirtieth anniversary."

Katzir observed that the source of Israel's strength "is in the human material that builds a state, in the three million and more Israelis of today" to whom "another vitally important factor has been added: the understanding support diaspora communities have given Israel so consistently and with such growing personal involvement."

SPECIAL 30TH ANNIVERSARY HAGGADAH

NEW YORK, April 26 (JTA)--Rabbi Shlomo Goren, Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi of Israel, has written a new prayerbook, "The Haggadah for Israel's Independence Day," to help institutionalize as a Jewish holiday the historic event of the birth of the State of Israel 30 years ago. The idea of such a Haggadah was conceived by the national United Jewish Appeal as "a meaningful instrument for the expression of Jewish unity and as a mold for Jewish community life," according to Irving Bernstein, UJA executive vice-president.

The Haggadah was adopted to a two-part radio program by Paul Kwartin, the host of "On Wings of Song," which will be presented on radio station WQXR April 30 and May 7. According to an advance text of the program, Bernstein, in opening remarks, says:

"In this life-improving and often life-saving framework of UJA-Federation humanitarian services, we are proud to initiate this unique Haggadah. In the tradition of the Jewish past, the Haggadah retells the story of the struggle of the Jewish people through a period of destruction to redemption, from Holocaust to the State of Israel, from 1948 to 1978."

The Haggadah is subdivided into six basic chapters and offers, in the fashion of the holiday of freedom--Passover--five cups: the cup of freedom, the cup of deliverance, the cup of renewal, the cup of acceptance, the cup of hope.

Included in the Haggadah is an ancient custom of affixing a Mizrah on the Eastern wall of Jewish homes, facing Jerusalem. The Mizrah, which is an ornamented scroll, was commissioned from the noted Israeli artist, Pinchas Shaar. It depicts the two lions of Judah, with a laminated inscription of Isaiah's pledge: "For Jerusalem's sake I will not be still, and for Zion's sake I will not be silent, till her victory emerges resplendent and her triumph like a flaming sword."

To lend distinctiveness to the celebration of Israel Independence Day, the Haggadah recommends that this might be a dairy meal, displaying pitchers of milk and honey, symbolizing Eretz Israel, Biblically described as "a land flowing with milk and honey."

The WQXR program will include a prayer from the "Gates of Repentance," the new Union of American Hebrew Congregations prayerbook for the High Holy Days, which will be intoned by Rabbi Melvin Libman, director of the UJA Rabbinical Advisory Council. The music and arrangements for the program are by the well-known Israeli composer Issachar Miron, who also pioneered a similar program two years ago. Dick O'Connor of WQXR, the producer of the program, said the Haggadah will also be broadcast on WCRB (Boston) WFLN (Philadelphia) and WTMI (Miami). Copies of the Haggadah are available at the United Jewish Appeal, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.