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DUTCH COURT NULLIFIES MENTEN CONVICTION; ORDERS NEW TRIAL

AMSTERDAM, May 29 (JTA)—The Dutch Supreme Court nullified the conviction of Nazi war criminal Pieter Menten today and ordered a new trial for the 78-year-old millionaire art dealer who is serving a 15 year prison sentence for the murders of Jews and others in the Lemberg area of eastern Galicia during World War II. Menten was convicted by an Amsterdam district court last December 14.

He was found guilty of mass murders, mostly of Jews, in the village of Podhorodze in July, 1941, in what was then part of Poland but is now Soviet territory. He was acquitted of similar crimes in the nearby village of Uryce for lack of evidence. The victims there were almost exclusively Jewish.

The Supreme Court took the position that the Amsterdam court had not sufficiently investigated Menten's claim that in 1952 he had obtained an oral promise from the then Minister of Justice Leendert Donker, that he would not be prosecuted for his activities during World War II. Although a Dutch national, Menten served as an officer in the SS.

The high court ordered that his new trial be held before a special tribunal in The Hague. No date was set. Menten will remain in the prison hospital in Scheveningen where he has been undergoing treatment for various ailments.

Israelis Surprised By Decision

(Israelis reacted with surprise and disappointment today over the action by the Dutch Supreme Court. Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir said however that Israel has the highest respect for the Dutch judicial system and will cooperate with the Netherlands authority to see to it that justice is served. "According to our previous experience, we are convinced that the Dutch authorities will cooperate with Israel to bring justice in this case," he said.

(Haviv Kena'an, an Israeli journalist whose investigative reporting exposed Menten's war-time activities and led to his arrest in 1976, said today that he will continue to provide documentation until the Dutch war criminal is properly punished.)

BEGIN RECOVERING FROM FEVER THAT POSTPONED CABINET MEETING

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 29 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin, apparently recovered from the fever that kept him in bed over the weekend, told reporters this morning that he will attend the inauguration of Israel's fifth President, Yitzhak Navon, later today. Begin's illness had forced the cancellation of yesterday's Cabinet session that was to have begun consideration of key questions posed by the United States about Israel's peace plan.

But he looked well as he spoke to newsmen at the door of his home while awaiting a courtesy visit by Navon. The President-elect was ushered into the Premier's residence by

Begin and his wife, Aliza, who are celebrating their 39th wedding anniversary today. Navon informed Begin of the main points of his inaugural address to the Knesset and extended his best wishes to the Begins.

According to officials, Begin's high fever yesterday was not related to his heart ailment. Begin suffered a major heart attack a little more than a year ago and was subsequently hospitalized twice for the treatment of complications. There have been persistent rumors since then regarding the state of the Premier's health. His aides insist that he is fit and say his recent check-up at Hadassah Hospital confirmed this. He continues to follow a heavy work schedule although on doctors' orders he naps for 1-2 hours each day.

The questions to which the Cabinet ministers were to have addressed themselves yesterday concern the sovereignty of the West Bank after the five year period of "self rule" offered in Begin's peace plan and how Israel intends to grant the Palestinians a voice in determining their future inasmuch as it has rejected an American suggestion for a plebiscite. The U.S. has been pressing Israel to respond to those points as a prerequisite to the resumption of Israeli-Egyptian peace talks.

NAVON INAUGURATED AS PRESIDENT

Yitzhak Navon was inaugurated as President of Israel at sundown today succeeding Ephraim Katzir. He is Israel's fifth President and the first Sephardi to hold the post. See stories on pages 3 and 4.

CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE SYRIAN ADVANCE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 29 (JTA)—Israeli circles indicated today that a most serious view would be taken of any move by Syria to advance its troops in Lebanon southward to the Litani River after the pull-out of Israeli forces from south Lebanon is completed by June 13. There has been no official reaction to recent reports that the Syrians were planning such a move.

But the unofficial view expressed here is that a Syrian advance would pose a grave strategic danger to northern Israel considering the size and fire-power of Syrian forces in Lebanon. The circles said that the danger existed regardless of whether the Palestinian terrorists accept Syrian orders to refrain from activity in south Lebanon. They pointed out that Syrian artillery deployed on the northern banks of the Litani would constitute a long term menace not only to Israeli border settlements but to sensitive targets in the Zevulun Valley northeast of Haifa Bay.

ATTACK ON ETHNIC POLITICS REJECTED

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, May 29 (JTA)—Arthur Goldberg, former Supreme Court Justice and former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, has strongly rejected the idea that "ethnic causes" are no longer influential in American politics.

Goldberg, who is now an Ambassador-at-Large and headed the U.S. delegation at the recent Belgrade conference on the Helsinki agreements, made his remarks after being awarded the B'nai B'rith President's Medal by B'nai B'rith president David M. Blumberg at a meeting of the organization's administrative com-

mittee Saturday night. Departing from his prepared text on the Belgrade conference, Goldberg said he had been disturbed by "the concept that we have reached a watershed in American politics because ethnic causes can no longer prevail in the American vote." While Goldberg did not mention it directly, Sen. Mike Gravel (D. Alaska) said that when the Senate supported President Carter's Middle East peace package it was a "litmus test" that would prove to be "the watershed year of Jewish influence in the United States."

'Pluralistic' Society

Goldberg said that "We are a unique country, we say we are a pluralistic country and we draw our sense as a nation from the fact that we come from all parts of the world. I always felt it made one a better American to be very proud of one's origin."

Declaring that he was "worried" about the revival of the attack on ethnic interests, Goldberg said, "I think this is something we must address ourselves to. We can put aside the fight over the planes, but we cannot put aside this concept in our country's acceptance for even a single second as to apologizing for being ethnic."

On the Helsinki agreement, Goldberg characterized the recent trial of Yuri Orlov, head of the Soviet group monitoring the USSR's compliance with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki agreement, as a "lynching." He said he feared that the trial of Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky would also lead to a guilty sentence and a long prison sentence. However, "I have the feeling that if they (Soviet authorities) go ahead with it, they will never get the SALT agreement ratified by Congress and I think they have been very sober about it," he said.

One of the guests at a panel on human rights that followed the Goldberg talk, Dr. Joyce Starr, a Presidential special assistant on human rights who participated in the Belgrade conference, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the White House is aware of the plight of Jessica Katz, the seven-month-old infant child of Soviet Jews who have been refused permission to leave the USSR for vital medical treatment for her. Ms. Starr said the White House is working on the case.

LEWINSKY NAMED JEWISH AGENCY TREASURER; OTHER OFFICIALS SELECTED

NEW YORK, May 29 (JTA)—The special Committee of Ten appointed by the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors has settled the dispute over the naming of a new treasurer and the chairman of three other departments by splitting the portfolios among supporters of Premier Menachem Begin's coalition government and the opposition Labor Alignment.

The important post of treasurer was given to Akiva Lewinsky of Bank Hapoalim, who had been Labor's candidate. Likud had supported Herut's Yoran Aridor, deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office for the job which was vacated when Leon Dulzin was named chairman of the World Zionist Organization. Dulzin, who is acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, is slated to be named chairman at the Jewish Agency Assembly in Jerusalem June 25.

Because of the dispute between Likud and Labor the 29th World Zionist Congress was unable to agree on a treasurer when it met in February.

It then asked the Jewish Agency board of governors to select the officers at its meeting in April since all portfolios are held jointly for the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

But the Board of Governors also was unable to find a solution and it named the Committee of Ten made of five members of the Jewish Agency Executive and five non-Zionist members of the Board of Governors.

Other Portfolios

The committee reached its decision last Friday after six hours of debate Thursday night and Friday morning. Named as head of the Immigration and Absorption Department, by the committee, was Rafael Kotlowitz of Herut. He replaces the incumbent, Labor's Uzi Narkis.

The committee selected Yosef Shapira of the National Religious Party as head of the youth aliya department. The agricultural settlement department will have two chairmen, Dr. Raanan Weitz, of Labor, the present chairman, and a person to be selected by Herut.

Max M. Fisher, chairman of the Board of Governors, praised Dulzin for his statesmanship in helping the committee resolve the problem. He said that as a result of Dulzin's approach diaspora Jewry will be united as never before.

Dulzin and Fisher said that "the committee acted with a great sense of responsibility, considering all the complex problems involved and reached its decision with a view to strengthening the Jewish Agency and assuring its ability to carry on its responsibilities for the benefit of the Jewish people and the State of Israel."

WANTED NAZI SOUGHT IN BRAZIL

SAO PAULO, May 29 (JTA)—Brazil's national police, acting on a tip from Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal in Vienna and photographs and fingerprints provided by Israeli authorities, are seeking Nazi war criminal Gustav Franz Wagner who is held responsible for the mass murders of Jews at the Treblinka and Sobibor concentration camps in Poland during World War II.

According to documents in Wiesenthal's possession, Wagner, now 67, entered Brazil in April, 1950 with a visa stamped in his passport by the Brazilian Consulate in Beirut on December 9, 1949. According to Rabbi Henry I. Sobel of Sao Paulo, the Brazilian government had no prior knowledge of his true identity. But, he said, "Nazis are abundant in Brazil."

A man identified as Wagner was photographed on April 23 at a meeting of local Nazis in Itatia, near Rio de Janeiro, to celebrate the 89th anniversary of Hitler's birth. Wiesenthal subsequently confirmed that the photo was of Wagner who he described as the "human beast" responsible for the extermination of one million Jews and the torture of children. In an interview published in the *Jornal do Brasil*, Sobel said he had evidence that Wagner lives in Sao Paulo.

Wagner, born in Vienna in 1911, was deputy commander of Treblinka and Sobibor. He is wanted by West Germany, Austria and Poland. Mario Shimonowitz, the Israeli correspondent of the *Jornal do Brasil*, visited Wiesenthal in Vienna last week. On his return to Israel Friday he said Wiesenthal had detailed evidence that the man photographed at Itatia is in fact Wagner and has sent his identity card number, 313706, to the Brazilian police.

NAVON, IN INAUGURAL ADDRESS, URGES SADAT TO RESUME PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 29 (JTA)--President Yitzhak Navon of Israel appealed to President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, in his inaugural address this evening, to resume the peace process already started because too much hope has been planted in the hearts of the peoples of Israel and Egypt to let them down.

Speaking to a packed Knesset chamber where his inauguration was broadcast by radio and televised live and in color to Israel and the neighboring Arab states, Navon's message to the Egyptian leader was that the road to peace ahead is shorter than the distance covered until now. He stressed that a settlement could be achieved only if all parties realized that they cannot achieve everything they desire.

He said that every Israeli government, past and present, and every Israeli political party, sincerely sought peace and was ready to pay the price for peace. The differences between them were only over the extent of the risk Israel should take upon itself in the pursuit of peace, he said.

He reminded the assembled Knesset members, government leaders and television viewers of the enthusiasm that infected both Israelis and Egyptians during and immediately after President Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem last November. Those responses proved beyond a doubt how both peoples longed for peace, he said.

List Most Pressing Problems

Navon listed as Israel's three most pressing problems peace and relations with the Arab world; aliya and relations with diaspora Jewry; and Israel's cultural and moral standards. Increased aliya, he said, strengthened ties with the Jewish diaspora. But he warned that material inducements alone would never secure the mass aliya that Israel needed. Only a moral and spiritual challenge to young Jews will bring them to live in Israel, he said.

Speaking on the "quality of life" in Israel, Navon declared that after "thirty years of building the State, it is now time to build the nation. ... After thirty years of fostering quantity it is now time to put the accent on quality." He said that what is required is to induce people to bring out the best in themselves instead of the worst, a national sense of purpose and challenge.

Outgoing President Ezer Weizman Katzir, who declined to seek re-election after his term of office expired earlier this month, also addressed the Knesset. He spoke of the fateful years during which it had been his privilege to serve as President, beginning with the Yom Kippur War and ending with the first direct negotiations with Egypt, Israel's largest neighbor.

Katzir stressed the need to close the social and cultural gaps in Israeli society, an aspect of national life with which he was preoccupied during his years in office. He said that the President's residence had been a house and a home for Israelis and Jews of all walks of life and he was sure that Navon would continue in that tradition, adding to it his own special charm and grace.

Navon, Israel's fifth President and the first of Sephardic background, took the oath of office at sundown in conformity with Jewish custom. Afterwards, he and Katzir and their

wives hosted a gala reception attended by about 700 invited guests. Premier Menachem Begin, who was ill with fever over the weekend, attended the inauguration. He appeared animated but did not look too well.

Broadcast In Arabic

Later in the evening, Israel radio and television broadcast a message in Arabic from President Navon to Israel's Arab citizens and viewers in the neighboring Arab states. Navon was visited at his temporary Jerusalem flat this morning by Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir and his deputies who formally invited the President to come to the Knesset in the evening to take the oath of office. Earlier, Navon paid a courtesy call on Begin at the Premier's residence.

During the day, messages of congratulation poured in from world leaders and other well-wishers, among them President Nicolae Ceausescu of Rumania, President Ferdinand Marcos of The Philippines and President Walter Scheel of West Germany.

Katzir himself was the recipient of a message of "congratulations for a job well done" from President Carter. The U.S. President said, "Best wishes for many more years of health and productive labor. The dignified and effective manner in which you have represented Israel during the past five years has inspired respect in the United States and around the world. You have presided over an Israel that has gone from the dark days of October, 1973 to the hope-filled days since November 1977. I know that you will continue to make a positive contribution to the life of your nation and the world in the scientific field. . . ."

Katzir, an internationally prominent bio-chemist, will leave shortly on a lecture tour of the U.S. and Europe before resuming his teaching and research at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot.

MRS. MEIR CHANGES HER MIND

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 29 (JTA)--Former Premier Golda Meir, who earlier criticized the Peace Now Movement, said yesterday she understands their position better. But she urged them to make publicly clear as they did privately to her that they believe Israel should continue to maintain security settlements on the Golan Heights, the Jordan Valley and the Rafiah approaches in the Sinai.

Mrs. Meir was visited by three of the movement's leaders, Yiftah Yaacob, Avshalom Veiland and Yuval Heria. They assured her that their slogan does not mean peace at any price or even immediately. They agreed with the former Premier that Israel must have secure borders. But they said that these borders must be based on security needs, not on mystical or religious beliefs. Their main goal was to urge Premier Menachem Begin to have a more flexible policy.

MEXICO CITY (JTA)--The sixth convention of District 23 of B'nai B'rith, meeting here, presented a special human rights award to Mrs. Margarita Lopez Portillo, well-known Mexican writer, poet and sister of President Jose Lopez Portillo. She is also director of the official department for radio, television and film. Delegates were from Mexico, South and Central America, and the Caribbean.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Several hundred Jewish dentists from over the world are expected to attend the Israeli Dental Association conference July 2-6.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES ISRAEL'S NEW PRESIDENT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 29 (JTA)--Yitzhak Navon, 57, who became Israel's fifth president today, is considered a man who combines informality with high sophistication. He is a poet, a teacher, a politician--but also a man who knows how to enjoy life. He would never give up good food, good music or a car ride with his wife Ofira--a one time winner of a national beauty contest, now 42--and their two children, Nir, 5 and Erez, 4.

Navon was elected President by 86 of the 109 Knesseters present in the Knesset vote April 19. It was the largest majority ever in a presidential vote, despite the fact that Navon, a veteran Laborite and a known dove, was elected while the Likud government is in office. Twenty blank ballots were cast in the vote, presumably in protest by Liberal Party Knesseters who preferred their party leader Elimelech Rimalt. Rimalt had withdrawn his candidacy as soon as he learned that Navon had presented his.

Old Jerusalem Family

Navon comes from a notable Jerusalem Sephardi family, which began when Rabbi Yona Ben Hannon Navon, a famous scholar, came to Jerusalem from Turkey in 1723. Born in Jerusalem, Navon studied Hebrew literature, education and Moslem culture at the Hebrew University. He is the author of a popular Hebrew play about the old Jerusalem Sephardi life called "The Sefardi Garden."

For a while he served in the Irgun, but at the age of 18 he joined the Hagana, and during the War of Independence served as the director of its Arabic department.

He entered Israel's Foreign Service after the war and was sent to Latin America in 1949, where he served as Second Secretary of the Israeli Embassy in Argentina. There he learned Yiddish in order to better communicate with the Jewish community.

Later he became political secretary to Israel's first Foreign Minister, Moshe Sharett, and in 1952 he joined Premier David Ben Gurion's staff and served as his political secretary and advisor until 1963. During Ben Gurion's bitter conflict with the Mapai Party, Navon followed him and along with Shimon Peres, Moshe Dayan and Teddy Kollek formed the Rafi Party.

Sought Presidency Earlier

After Rafi merged with Mapai and Ahdut Haavoda in 1969 to form the Labor Party, Navon became chairman of the Zionist General Council and then chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Navon sought the presidency five years ago but was rejected by the Labor Party leadership in favor of Ephraim Katzir, a non-political scientist with a world wide reputation in the field of bio-chemistry. When Katzir announced he would not seek a second term, Navon announced his candidacy again, withdrawing from the campaign once when Premier Menachem Begin backed the candidacy of an obscure nuclear scientist, Dr. Yitzhak Shaveh. When Shaveh withdrew Navon re-entered the campaign.

It was during his work with Ben Gurion that Navon sent a telegram to Prof. Albert Ein-

stein, at Princeton, N.J., on behalf of the Premier, asking him to become the President of Israel, which Einstein rejected. Later, after the death of President Yitzhak Ben Zvi, Navon brought Zalman Shazar to Ben Gurion to receive his offer of the presidency.

When Navon lost the presidential race in 1973, Ben Gurion wrote him: "I believe that the Jewish people will yet see you as the President of the nation."

PAC REJECTS ANY 'DEALS' WITH NAZIS IN RETURN FOR DROPPING SKOKIE MARCH

CHICAGO, May 29 (JTA)--The Public Affairs Committee (PAC) of the Jewish United Fund of Chicago, which is coordinating the Chicago Jewish Community's opposition to a proposed Nazi march in Skokie, has rejected any possible "deal" to enable the Nazis to march elsewhere in the area, Raymond C. Epstein, PAC chairman, said today.

The PAC adopted unanimously late last week a statement responding to recent press statements by Frank Collin, head of the tiny band of Chicago Nazis, that he might cancel plans to march in suburban Skokie, home of some 7000 survivors of the Holocaust if the Nazis were allowed to march in Marquette Park in Chicago. The area has been the site of confrontations between Blacks and whites opposed to Blacks moving into the area.

The PAC statement said that the PAC, which represents 34 major Jewish organizations in Chicago, "will not in any manner condone, aid or abet the promotion of Nazi or any other racist doctrine in Skokie or any other community. The PAC thus categorically rejects any arrangement, agreement or deal, tacit or otherwise, which might imply consent to the use of Nazi doctrine in any part of the community against any group." This was understood to be a reference to Black residents in Marquette Park.

The first statement said "we cannot in good conscience permit the pain of the Jewish community to be transferred to other targets of Nazi hatred to satisfy either the whim or the fear of local Nazi adherents. We shall continue to join with all other Americans of goodwill to fight against Nazism and racism where or whenever it appears."

Nazis Seek To Kill Bills

The offer by Collin to cancel the Skokie march tentatively set for June 25, was made contingent on agreement by state and local officials to kill pending legislation aimed at banning the march. State Senators John Nimrod and Howard Carroll, sponsors of the legislation, rejected any agreement with Collin. Their two bills, which have passed in the State Senate and are before the House, would empower local public officials to deny parade permits for demonstrations which would defame a group because of race, creed, color or religion or cause "reasonable apprehension" or concern for violence by display of quasi-military uniforms.

Skokie Mayor Albert J. Smith declined to respond to Collin's offer and said he would continue with plans to ask the United States Supreme Court for a review of a May 22 ruling by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals which ruled unconstitutional three ordinances passed by Skokie to ban the march.

Smith also said he would ask for a stay for the June 25 date pending a decision by the Supreme Court. The 30-day waiting period required after filing for a permit has ended but Skokie officials have not issued a permit to the Nazis.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Israel should renew radio broadcasts to the U.S. Labor Alignment MK Micha Harish has urged. They were dropped four years ago.