

JTA daily news bulletin

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Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. XLV - 61st Year

Wednesday, July 19, 1978

No. 139

MIXED REACTIONS TO ANTI-HIJACK MOVE

BONN, July 18 (JTA)—Mixed reactions greeted the announcement here yesterday by seven major nations attending the Western economic summit conference that they had agreed on the toughest measures yet taken to combat aerial hijacking by terrorists and others. The countries, which, together, dominate world commercial air traffic, said they would cut off airline service to or from any country that harbors air hijackers, refuses to extradite or prosecute them "and/or give back such airplanes."

The agreement was announced by President Carter for the United States and by the leaders of Britain, France, Canada, West Germany, Italy and Japan at the close of the economic parlay. Observers agreed that the collective action was unprecedented and went far beyond the various United Nations conventions that condemn aerial hijacking but carry no penalties or binding pledges. However, many questions were raised—and left unanswered for the time being at least—as to how these measures will be implemented and enforced and whether, in fact, they could be.

But it was acknowledged that, at the very least, this get-tough policy by the leading industrial nations of the West would serve as a powerful deterrent to air piracy. The statement by seven nations said:

"The heads of state and government, concerned over terrorism and hostage taking, declare that their governments will intensify their common undertaking to fight international terrorism. In cases in which a country refuses to extradite or legally prosecute airplane hijackers and/or to give back such airplanes, the heads of state and government are unanimously agreed through their governments to take immediate action to cease all flights to that country. At the same time, their governments will implement steps to ban incoming flights by airlines of that country flying from any other country."

The signatories also said they would urge other governments to join them in their commitment.

Number Of Questions Raised

The anti-hijack measures are in line with long-standing demands by the International Airline Pilots Association. Similar measures have also been urged over the years by Israel whose citizens have been among the most frequent victims of aerial terrorism. But some observers, after close study of the seven-nation statement, questioned its effectiveness, if not the seriousness of its intentions.

They asked, for example, how long the seven nations would wait before each agreed that it was necessary to enforce the air service ban against a country that provided haven for hijackers; how they would coordinate their decision; and what they would do if a country agreed to prosecute hijackers but then imposed only the mildest of penalties.

The "and/or" terminology raised the question of whether return of a hijacked aircraft

would be sufficient to cancel penalties against a country that failed to prosecute or extradite hijackers. Political ramifications were also noted. Some diplomatic sources expressed doubt that France would take action against Algeria, before its independence an integral part of France, or that other countries dependent on oil, would impose aerial sanctions against Iraq and Libya which have supported terrorist groups responsible for hijackings.

MRS. SHCHARANSKY CLASHES WITH PROFESSOR ON ISSUE OF 'PRIVATE DIPLOMACY' TO HELP DISSIDENTS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 18 (JTA)—Mrs. Avital Shcharansky today strongly opposed "private diplomacy" as the means to seek alleviation of the plight of Soviet dissidents and Soviet Jewry and supported President Carter's intercession on her imprisoned husband's behalf.

Jeremy J. Stone, a Princeton University professor who is director of the Federation of American Scientists, had testified before the House Science and Technology Committee that the U.S. government should attempt to secure the release of some leading Soviet dissidents like Uri Orlov, Alexander Ginzburg and Anatoly Shcharansky "through private diplomacy."

Stone advocated "limits of responsible activism" in the human rights area and said it is "not good" for the U.S. to help "individuals." He said he hoped Carter would not "again associate himself with an individual case."

Responding to Stone's claim that "threats" will not stop the Russians "being Russian" or "permit all Jews who wish to leave to do so," Mrs. Shcharansky looked directly at Stone across the witness table and told him his words reminded her of what was said 40 years ago during the Nazi period. People said then, she declared, speaking in Russian, that "Nazis will be Nazis" and individuals in Germany who protested disappeared. She said similar discussions were held then and that "President Roosevelt said, leave me alone about these personal cases. I am fighting fascism in general."

Stone Sees Improved Conditions In USSR

Challenging Stone's views that the U.S. should not stop Soviet-American scientific exchanges because the Soviet dissidents want American scientists to visit them, Mrs. Shcharansky asked Stone: "What can a scientist-prisoner tell you except certainly it's good that you came? Are you ready to sacrifice your scientific career as he (Shcharansky) has? We should be talking about the salvation of these people."

Stone in reply said that "the harsh sentence imposed on Shcharansky" may be because President Carter made a case of him. He said conditions had improved in the Soviet Union because 20 years ago Shcharansky would have been shot. He contended that "there's no question all Americans support" the President's human rights program but disagree on tactics.

Mrs. Shcharansky was asked by Rep. Robert K. Dornan (R., Calif.) what she thought of Carter's intercession. "It was a very positive gesture," she replied, noting the President had declared Shcharansky is not a spy.

Several Congressmen clashed with Stone's view on "private diplomacy" and his criticism of Carter.

Rep. Tom Harkin (D. Iowa), chairman of the committee, said "I find it very difficult to subscribe to your thesis that President Carter's personal intervention was the cause" of Shcharansky's severe sentence. He said that "quiet diplomacy, keeping things under cover, leads to harsher sentences."

It is "very important not only for Carter but those in Congress to bring these cases to light-- wherever they may be," Harkin said. He named Argentina and Cambodia in his discussion.

Rep. Robert Roe (D. NJ) pointed out to Stone that in 1975 when the first Soviet scientist was convicted, Carter was not President and "we were all under the illusion of detente." That conviction three years ago "was the first clear indication of things to come. There was no great outcry then. There is an outcry now because of Carter's human rights position."

Roe approved the suggestion advanced by Prof. John McCarthy, a Stanford University computer scientist, who urged that the U.S. government and American business in dealing with the Soviets should inject a human rights provision in the agreement.

Jewish Problem In The USSR

Responding to Harkin's question whether the Soviet government is dealing with Jews "more harshly than those who are non-Jewish," Mrs. Shcharansky replied: "In the Soviet Union there is a tradition of anti-Semitism. I am afraid for three million Jews in the Soviet Union. Yes, there is a Jewish problem in the Soviet Union; a problem for the Jewish population; a problem for the rest of the world not to let happen what happened forty years ago."

She said that people like Nobel scientist Andrei Sakharov "understand a catastrophe is emerging, not only for the Jewish people but a massacre of all human rights advocates. Today there's war—a war between evil and good."

Following the appearance before the House committee, Mrs. Shcharansky attended a rally conducted by scientists at the University of Maryland. She leaves for San Francisco tomorrow. The scientists' interest in Shcharansky centers on his profession as a computer scientist.

5000 RALLY IN SUPPORT OF SHCHARANSKY

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, July 18 (JTA)—More than 5000 people massed outside the Soviet Consulate here last night answering the call of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) to demonstrate their support for Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky. McGill University law professor Irwin Cotler told the huge crowd that the Soviet Union has unleashed a wave of terror unprecedented in recent memory. "Shcharansky is each and every one of us," Cotler said. "If freedom is imprisoned in the Soviet Union it will be imprisoned everywhere. The Soviet Union has such contempt for human rights that it no longer seeks even to disguise its behavior."

Alan Rose, executive vice president of the CJC, said there was a danger that detente could turn into appeasement: "No government in the Western world, including the Canadian government can lend itself to appeasement of any kind. If Shcharansky can hear me, I say, all of humanity stands by your side. We will never forget you."

Rabbi Mark Golub, president of the Board of Jewish Ministers of Montreal, led the crowd in

a prayer to express the solidarity of Montreal Jews with Soviet Jewry. Father Barry Jones, chairman of the Interfaith Task Force for Soviet Jewry, asked each member of the crowd to raise a hand in support of the dissidents "in the name of those who cannot even raise a hand in freedom. As long as one man is locked away, none of us is totally free," Jones said.

Plea To Boycott Olympics In Moscow

The executive committee of the Canadian Olympic Association, which oversees the selection and training of Canada's Olympic competitors, will consider a plea from Avital Shcharansky, wife of Anatoly Shcharansky, to boycott the 1980 games in Moscow. However, it is unlikely that Canada will withdraw its athletes from the 1980 games to protest Shcharansky's sentence, Canadian Olympic Association president Richard Pound said in a telephone conversation from Toronto.

"This is a human rights issue and I don't know that it's related directly to the Olympics," Pound said. He added that the treatment of dissidents within a participating country is not sanctified in the International Olympic Committee rules. "It's certainly something our executive will look at to see whether we ought to take a position," he said. "I think that the Soviets want to clean up Moscow before the Olympics so there would be no demonstrations in 1980, just little children throwing flowers."

600 In Cleveland Rally

(In Cleveland, some 600 people assembled at noon today in Public Square to register their protest against the sentencing of Shcharansky. The rally, sponsored by the Cleveland Jewish Community Federation, drew the support of a large number of community groups, including the Greater Cleveland Interchurch Council, the area's Catholic Diocese and a variety of ethnic organizations, such as the Lithuanian American Society.)

(Among those addressing the rally were a representative from the Mayor's Office and Richard Celeste, the Lieutenant Governor of Ohio. The participants in the rally wore black armbands bearing Shcharansky's name to symbolize the death of human rights.)

(In Wayne, N.J., leaders of the Jewish Federation of North Jersey lit a torch at this community's YM-YWHA this morning to protest the imprisonment of Shcharansky. A number of prominent New Jersey politicians, including State Senator Matthew Feldman and Republican Senatorial candidate Jeffrey Bell participated.)

MIDEAST TALKS OFF TO DIFFICULT START AT FOREIGN MINISTERS PARLEY

By Maurice Samuelson

LEEDS CASTLE, Kent, England, July 18 (JTA)—Middle East peace talks got off to a difficult start today as Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammed Kamel and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance opened two days of talks at this medieval castle 35 miles south of London, aimed at renewing the full scale negotiations between Israel and Egypt that were suspended last January.

The peace proposals of Israel and Egypt are on the table, neither acceptable to the other. After a 3-1/2 hour morning session, the spokesman for the Egyptian party, Hamdi Nada, seemed gloomy. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israel's proposal of limited autonomy for the West Bank and

Gaza Strip was unacceptable because it represented a denial of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and would perpetuate Israel's military occupation of the territories in violation of Security Council Resolution 242. "Our own proposals are on the table and we are waiting for Israel's response," the Egyptian said.

But, he added, there was nothing positive about Dayan's attitude toward the Egyptian suggestion that the West Bank and Gaza Strip be turned over to Jordanian and Egyptian-control respectively while negotiations proceed on security arrangements and guarantees and on the future status of both territories.

Naftalie Lavie, spokesman for the Israeli delegation, seemed more conciliatory, though he hardly exuded optimism. He said the Egyptians had presented their position in a "sincere and intelligent manner." But he differed with Nada on the scope of the present negotiations. The Egyptian called them exploratory. The Israeli said they were direct talks.

The discussions took place around an oval table at which each negotiating team was represented by three men. Vance, who presided, was flanked by Alfred L. Atherton, President Carter's special Ambassador-at-Large to the Middle East, and Harold Saunders, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. Dayan was accompanied by Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Simcha Dinitz, and Meir Rosenne, legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry. Foreign Minister Kaamel was seated between Egyptian officials of Ambassadorial rank.

Other members of the American party include the U.S. ambassadors to Israel and Egypt, Samuel Lewis and Hermann Eilts; William Quandt, of the National Security Council; and Michael Stern, the State Department's Middle East Bureau chief. The Israeli party includes Attorney General Aharon Barak and Eli Rubenstein. Kaamel is accompanied by Ossama Al-Baz, a senior official in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

Americans Are Most Confident

The Americans appeared to be the most confident, at least before the talks began. Briefing journalists at the U.S. Embassy in London yesterday, a senior State Department official predicted that the Foreign Ministers' meeting would succeed because it has only a very limited objective. He said the talks would be both exploratory and informal and thus able to avoid the procedural difficulties that dogged the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations in Jerusalem and Cairo last December-January. "There will be a living room atmosphere," he said.

While Vance is chairing the meeting, the Israeli and Egyptian proposals are the only documents on the table. The official said the U.S. would not present proposals of its own and that despite the vast gap between the Israeli and Egyptian positions, it was felt that points of agreement could be found. Both sides, he said, claimed they wanted peace and both recognized the need for a transitional period for implementing a peace settlement.

The primary aim of the talks here is to enable each side to explain its position to the other. Once that is done, it might be possible to proceed to more detailed negotiations, and only then the U.S. might consider advancing its own ideas if and when it was appropriate, the American official said. He expressed the hope that after the

talks here, the Israeli and Egyptian teams would report back to their governments and negotiations could resume quickly, perhaps in 1-4 weeks.

Heavy Security Measures

The fear of possible Arab terrorist attempts to disrupt the Foreign Ministers' meeting prompted the last-minute switch of the meeting site from a London hotel to this 900-year-old castle in Kent, surrounded by a wide moat. It was also responsible for the heavy security measures taken on the arrival of the participants. British tanks and armored cars formed a ring of steel around Heathrow Airport for the arrivals of Dayan, Kaamel and their parties. The Americans avoided Heathrow altogether, landing at a military airfield before flying to Leeds Castle.

From a security point of view, the castle is ideal, located as it is on two islets in the middle of a 20-acre lake which in turn is surrounded by nearly 500 acres of woodland and parks. Six-foot thick stone battlements protect the castle. Nevertheless, armed police guard the gates and constantly patrol the grounds while helicopters circle overhead. The press is not admitted to the castle grounds, except for a six-man media pool. Official briefings are given at a hotel in Maidstone, six miles away.

DISMISS WAR CRIMINAL'S APPEAL

AMSTERDAM, July 18 (JTA)--The European Commission for Human Rights in Strassbourg has dismissed the appeal by Joseph Kortaella, one of the last three German war criminals still imprisoned in Holland, to the government of The Netherlands. Kortaella and his lawyer had claimed that he should be released in view of the European Treaty on Human Rights and discriminatory treatment by the Dutch authorities and "inhuman punishment."

All Dutch war criminals who were originally sentenced to life imprisonment later had their sentences changed to 20 years imprisonment and have been released years ago. The European Commission concluded that there is no legal basis for reducing Kortaella's life sentence. It also observed that Kortaella had already been pardoned because his original death sentence was changed into life imprisonment.

The Commission, on the basis of information received, also rejected Kortaella's appeal which included the reference to his ill health. Though he is partly paralyzed, the Commission felt his illness is not as grave as Kortaella claimed.

MK FACES ARREST, PROSECUTION

JERUSALEM, July 18 (JTA)--The Knesset yesterday waived the immunity of Likud MK Shmuel Rechtman, Mayor of Rehovot, opening the way for his arrest and prosecution on charges of accepting a bribe. Rechtman was the ninth MK to have his parliamentary immunity revoked in the Knesset's 30-year history. The move was taken at the request of Attorney General Aharon Barak. Rechtman is accused of taking a bribe from Aharon Gior, the city building contractor, in June. The Knesset House Committee recommended the waiver last week after hearing evidence from State Attorney Gavriel Bach. Bach represented Barak who is resigning at the end of the month to become a Justice of the Supreme Court. Questions were raised about the legal use of tape recordings made of conversations between Rechtman and Gior without Rechtman's knowledge. Rechtman said later that he welcomed the chance to prove his innocence.

BACKGROUND REPORT THE ANGER OF WEIZMAN

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 18 (JTA)--Attending a meeting of the Ministerial Security Committee Monday, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman suddenly ripped a "peace" poster from the wall. It had been prepared for Israel's 30th anniversary festivities. Weizman said he failed to see the point of such a poster when it was doubtful that everybody in the Cabinet wants peace.

Earlier in the day, Weizman stalked out of a meeting with members of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee after refusing to brief them on his talks with President Anwar Sadat of Egypt in Salzburg last week. Both incidents reflect the anger and frustration that has characterized the Defense Minister's mood of late.

Some circles here say his behavior is a reaction to the Cabinet's decision Sunday to postpone consideration of Sadat's latest peace proposals that were conveyed to Weizman at their meeting in Austria. He was also reportedly miffed by the Cabinet's resolution on the conduct of future negotiations which seemed aimed in part at restricting the scope of his personal contacts with Arab leaders in the future.

Begin and other ministers have been infuriated by Sadat's public assessment of Israel's leaders which categorizes the Premier as a bitter intransigent with whom there is no point in negotiating, while making a "favorite" of Weizman. The Defense Minister has no control over Sadat's public utterances. But many of his colleagues believe he should have demanded an immediate apology from the Egyptian leader for his unflattering remarks about Begin or else walked out of their meeting in Austria.

While Weizman may have initiated the meeting on his own, he attended it with the approval of Begin and authorization by the Cabinet. But when he briefed the Cabinet on the results Sunday, the attitude of some of his colleagues was unfriendly and even derogatory, informed sources reported.

An Array Of Opponents

His most vocal critics were Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, the most outspoken hawk among the ministers, and Yigael Hurwitz, the Minister of Commerce and Industry. They were tough and Weizman responded in kind, accusing his Likud colleagues of being ungrateful for his efforts to revive peace talks with Egypt. Begin had to intervene more than once to cool the heated exchange.

Sunday's Cabinet session was almost a replay of the one last month when a majority of the ministers rejected Weizman's proposed formulation of a reply to the American questions on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Instead, they adopted a Begin-Dayan reply that was widely criticized in Israel and abroad as evasive. After that meeting, Weizman announced that he would, in the future, stay out of political affairs and concentrate on building up the army for the "next war."

But the energetic Defense Minister did not stay on the sidelines for long. Two weeks ago, after the Cabinet flatly rejected Egypt's six-point peace proposals, Weizman contacted his Egyptian counterpart, War Minister Mohammed Gamassy, proposing that they get together. The result was his meeting with Sadat and Gamassy at Sadat's vacation retreat near Salzburg.

The Cabinet, however, deferred discussion of that meeting to await the outcome of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammed Kaamel and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, which began in Leeds Castle, England today. The spotlight is now on Dayan who dismissed Weizman's talks with Sadat as irrelevant to his own mission.

Weizman appears once more to be isolated. The feeling here is that he must soon decide whether to openly challenge the Begin-Dayan policies or resign from the government. Should he choose to confront the leadership of his own party, he may have the support of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), some Liberal Party and even, possibly, National Religious Party ministers. On the other hand, he may find himself alone and his political career at an end.

110 U.S. EDUCATORS TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDIES INSTITUTES IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, July 18 (JTA)--One hundred and ten American educators from 18 states and the Panama Canal Zone will participate in two Middle East Studies Institutes at universities in Israel during the next two months under the auspices of the National Committee for Middle East Studies in Secondary Education, it was announced by the Committee.

One, at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, is funded by a grant from the Office of Education of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare under its Group Projects Abroad program. The other, at Tel Aviv University, is cosponsored by the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO).

The program at the Hebrew University is a six-week Middle East Area Studies and Curriculum Development Institute which will combine study and travel with preparation of instructional materials on the Middle East for use in secondary schools throughout the United States.

The Middle East Studies Institute at Tel Aviv University is a four-week program, which features lectures on four themes--the Middle East, Contemporary Israel, The Conflict in the Middle East, and the Labor Movement in Israel--and field trips two days a week.

The National Committee for Middle East Studies in Secondary Education is headed by Dr. Seymour P. Lachman, former president of the New York City Board of Education and currently professor of history and politics of education, Graduate School and University Center and Baruch College, City University of New York.

JNF RECLAIMS LAND FOR SETTLEMENT

JERUSALEM, July 18 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund completed recently the reclamation of land for the new settlement of Mitzpeh Shalem, by the Dead Sea. Mitzpeh Shalem was settled several years ago on a mountain ridge overlooking the Dead Sea as a military (nabul) settlement. It will now become a regular civilian settlement, at a different location, closer to the Dead Sea.

The site of the new settlement is bisected by small valleys and river beds. The JNF had to remove some 68,000 cubic metres of land to alter it for use. The natural land in the area is very salty. Therefore, the JNF coated the land allocated for agriculture with fertile erosion land, transported from nearby riverbeds. The JNF has already reclaimed some 50 acres of land, on which it planted palm trees which already bear fruit.