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SATISFACTION EXPRESSED WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE; POSITIVE GESTURES TOWARD EGYPT BEING WEIGHED By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--Official sources seemed satisfied today that the Israeli-Egyptian Foreign Ministers meeting in England produced an agreement to continue negotiations between the two countries. El Arish, in northern Sinai, is considered the likely site for the next Israeli-Egyptian talks. The results of the two days of conferences at Leeds Castle will be discussed at the regular Cabinet session this Sunday.

Although there was no narrowing of the gap between the Israeli and Egyptian positions, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who chaired the meeting between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and his Egyptian counterpart, Mohammed Kamel, said there was sufficient progress to warrant further contacts.

Meanwhile, political circles here seemed to be favorably inclined toward making certain gestures to the Egyptians, such as returning El Arish, the capital of Sinai, to Egyptian civil administration. Another conciliatory move would be the construction of a three-faith house of worship at the Santa Katherina monastery near Mt. Sinai. President Anwar Sadat of Egypt originally proposed the project earlier this year and Premier Menachem Begin has said he would go along with the idea.

Government Alignment Clashes Continue

Vituperative exchanges, meanwhile, continued between the government and the Labor Alignment opposition. They reached a crescendo during yesterday's angry Knesset debate between Begin and Labor Alignment chairman Shimon Peres. Labor expressed outrage over the disclosure, by Begin himself, that he had vetoed a meeting between Peres and King Hussein of Jordan while both were in London a week ago.

Begin reportedly made the revelation in a private chat with Likud colleagues in the Knesset lobby last night. According to some sources, the Premier deliberately spoke loud so that others might hear. Peres and other Laborites accused him of revealing a state secret that could harm Israel's image abroad.

One version, has it that Peres was approached by an unidentified former king in London who offered to arrange a meeting with Hussein. Peres immediately telephoned Begin who forbade him to see the Jordanian ruler. Peres then informed the go-between that the meeting could not be held. He and Begin reportedly thrashed out the matter in the Knesset dining room last night after the debate. Their "private" talk was overheard by MKs at nearby tables, or so it was said today by sources here who went so far as to reconstruct the conversation.

Begin was quoted as telling Peres: "I heard the Egyptians invited both you and (former Foreign Minister Yigal) Allon and (former Premier Yitzhak) Rabin to Egypt. You will not receive passports. There is only one government that governs. Shimon, I heard you intended to

meet Hussein. Can you imagine that Ben Gurion would have let me see even the shoulder of Hussein? With Ben Gurion I would not have seen even the tip of Morocco Shmorocco..." The latter was a reference to unconfirmed reports that Peres visited King Hassan of Morocco during his two week-sojourn abroad. Begin officially denied today that he used the phrase "Morocco Shmorocco."

Peres issued a statement today saying, "I am shocked by the words of the Premier. It shows he cannot hold his tongue. He does not know how to be discreet and therefore there is no point in consulting with him. No other Premier has ever used such a tone, such a lack of manners, such threats. This damages Israel and strengthens the many complaints overseas that he is an impossible partner for negotiations."

Asked whether he would refrain from future trips abroad to meet foreign statesmen, Peres said "We are not a closed country, and the Premier does not issue exit visas." The Labor Alignment is expected to submit a no-confidence motion to the Knesset next week because of the Premier's "light regard for matters of confidence."

Sadat Insists On New Elements

Meanwhile, Egypt's official Middle East News Agency quoted Sadat today as saying that "Israel must introduce new elements before any future talks" can be held. "I have given my Foreign Minister instructions to this effect," he said on returning from a visit to the Sudan. Sadat added, however, that he would meet again with Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, with whom he conferred for five hours in Salzburg, Austria two weeks ago. "This meeting has been agreed upon in Salzburg. I don't know if the Israeli Cabinet will permit him to attend or not," Sadat said.

The Egyptian leader also said he was waiting for Vance to determine the next moves in the Middle East peace process. "The efforts of Mr. Vance are very essential at this moment," he observed. Sadat said he could not judge whether the Foreign Ministers meeting was a failure until he conferred with Kamel.

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BACKGROUND REPORT MIDEAST AIR POWER BALANCE CHANGING By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 20 (JTA)--Gen. David Ivri, commander of the Air Force, said today that Israel cannot ignore the changing balance of air power in the Middle East. He noted, in an interview with military correspondents on the occasion of Air Force Day, that the balance is changing not only because of increased weapons purchases by the Arab states but because of qualitative improvements resulting from the acquisition of better and more sophisticated equipment from the West.

In view of these developments, Ivri said, the Israel Air Force must continue to forge ahead by purchasing new systems and improving the entire air defense structure, from intelligence-gathering and communica-

tions systems to improved advance-warning systems, anti-aircraft capabilities and better aircraft. He said negotiations for the purchase of American F-15 and F-16 fighter bombers are going ahead according to plan and are not held up by political considerations.

Ivri disclosed that the Israeli and American negotiators are now discussing cost factors and delivery timetables. He also indicated that there is great promise in Israel's second generation jet interceptor, the Aryeh, which will eventually replace the Kfir, the first warplane designed and produced in Israel.

According to Ivri, blueprints for the new plane to be manufactured by Israel Aircraft Industries, indicate that its overall performance will equal that of the F-15 and F-16. But he expressed annoyance that the Aryeh seems bogged down in bureaucratic red tape, with as many as 17 separate committees dealing with production problems without arriving at solutions. He said if the aircraft was already in production, not on the drawing boards, the Air Force would have purchased it without hesitation. But it appears now that it will take some years before the first Aryehs come off the production line, he said.

Arabs' Air Strength

Evaluating the accretion of air strength by the Arab countries, Ivri said he was particularly concerned with developments in Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Iraq which represent a threat from the east. He claimed that the Syrians have more than doubled their military air capability since the 1973 war. They have invested huge sums in air defense systems from both East and West and have received MIG-23s and Tupolev-20s from the Soviet Union and attack helicopters from Western sources.

Jordan has become an air power worth worrying about, Ivri warned. It has absorbed American F-5E fighters and 14 batteries of improved American Hawk anti-aircraft missiles. The buildup of Saudi air power is also based on American equipment and the Saudis are constructing airfields not only at Tabuk, within easy range of Eilat, but all along their borders and the obvious target is Israel, Ivri said. The Iraqis spend huge sums on their air force and air defense.

Egypt, he added, will soon receive F-5Es from the U.S., and while they face some difficulties shifting from Soviet to American technology, they are still capable of fielding their Russian-built aircraft.

NEW PRO-GOVERNMENT MOVEMENT

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--A new pro-government movement calling itself "Israelis for Israel," surfaced this week. Speaking to reporters here, the 200-member group's representatives stated their aims by sending an open letter to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, asking that he abandon his uncompromising positions.

Such positions, according to group member Dr. Mordechai Nissán, a Hebrew University Orientalist, include concrete steps to prove the Egyptian leader's desire for peace, such as ending the Arab boycott, opening the Suez Canal to Israel, and ending the anti-Semitic articles in Egypt's press. The movement insists such steps be taken before a peace treaty is signed, and even prior to discussing withdrawal from occupied territories. The group claims that in two months it has

managed to obtain 2,500 signatures in support of its position. "We will not criticize the government," said Nissán. "There are enough people doing that already."

ANTI-BOYCOTT BILL WEAKENED AFTER AMERICANS REFUSE TO TESTIFY

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 20 (JTA)--The chances of Britain adopting anti-boycott legislation have weakened considerably following the United States government's failure to provide important evidence about the impact of recent American legislation.

Anti-boycott circles here suspect this may have been caused by U.S. reluctance to irritate the British government, which is hostile to legislation. But the American Embassy says the only reason is the lack of conclusive evidence about American legislation which is still new. It also denied that the British government has involved itself in the matter. As a result, however, the House of Lords Select Committee is preparing its report on the foreign boycotts bill, sponsored by the Liberal peer Lord Byers, without an authoritative American statement on the impact of the U.S. legislation on which the bill is modeled. Written and oral evidence was first requested by the committee three months ago. At least two requests were made for evidence from the U.S. Commerce Department, particularly from Stanley Marcus, Senior Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce, who is responsible for boycott matters.

Premature To Pass Judgment

However, the U.S. Embassy, after consulting with Washington, told the committee that it would be premature to pass judgment on the effects of legislation enacted only last year and all of whose provisions still have not come into effect. This refusal is bound to affect the report of the committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Redcliffe-Maud, which is to be published in September. Throughout the hearings, the American experience of anti-boycott law has been a central theme.

Supporters of the legislation have argued that, contrary to dire predictions, the legislation has not damaged American business with Arab countries and that, indeed, the latter are flexibly accommodating themselves to it. Opponents of the bill have maintained that such conclusions are either wrong or premature.

Last month, Daniel Halperin, head of the Israel Finance Ministry's anti-boycott unit, urged the committee to ask American officials to confirm that U.S. legislation had not prevented U.S.-Arab trade from continuing to boom. He claimed that Marcus had told him this himself in Washington.

Despite a further request to the U.S. Embassy, there was still no sign of evidence from Marcus or his department about the effects of the legislation. Instead, the Embassy briefly confirmed that there had been no immediate damage to U.S. exports, but accused Halperin of having over-stated Marcus' confidence about the long-term effects.

KNESSET VOTES 54-45 FOR BILL TO EXEMPT WOMEN FROM THE ARMY

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--The Knesset, after heated debate that lasted most of the night, voted 54-45 in favor of a bill that exempts religious young women from military service merely on their statement that they are observant. The bitterly contested measure was rammed through by Likud and its religious coalition partners. The ultra-

Orthodox Aguda Israel which regards national service for women as sinful, had threatened to withdraw from the coalition if the bill was defeated.

The Knesset debate was marked by lengthy filibusters by opponents of exemption, heckling and cat-calls which, at times, threw the chamber into pandemonium. "The Knesset is a dish-rag," some shouted. "Agudat Israel are parasites"; "scandal!"; "lies," were some of the milder epithets. Opponents of the bill called it "a law which teaches people to lie."

Although religious young women always have been excused from military service, they had to pass a rigorous screening process to certify that they were, indeed, religious before exemption was granted. Under the new law, it will be granted automatically to anyone who says she observes the Sabbath and the kashrut laws. This, according to opponents, will encourage many non-observant women to lie to avoid military service since their claims are not subject to investigation.

The Aguda yielded to one compromise: A young woman who lives with Orthodox parents can claim exemption even if non-observant but must prove to a panel that she lives at home. Labor MK Yossi Sarid disclosed during the debate that the composition of the panel has been agreed to in advance by Likud and the Aguda.

SHCHARANSKY REMOVED TO NOTORIOUS VLADIMIR PRISON TO BEGIN TERM

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Soviet authorities reneged on their promise to Anatoly Shcharansky's father, Boris, and brother, Leonid, that they could visit him at Lefortovo prison before he is taken away to begin serving a three-year prison term to be followed by 10 years in a "strict regime" labor camp, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) reported today.

According to the SSSJ and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ), Boris and Leonid Shcharansky arrived at Lefortovo prison yesterday only to be told that they were "too late." According to information relayed to the group by Michael Sherbourne, a Soviet Jewry activist in London, Shcharansky was removed to the notorious Vladimir prison, 120 miles from Moscow, shortly before the visitors arrived.

On Tuesday, however, he was allowed a 20-minute visit, under close supervision, with his mother, 70-year-old Ida Milgrom. It was the first time he had seen her since his arrest 16 months ago.

According to the SSSJ and UCSJ, Mrs. Milgrom was kept waiting in isolation for 2-1/2 hours before she was permitted to see her son. The prison authorities refused to allow her to give him food she had brought, which is contrary to the normal practice. Her conversation with her son was repeatedly interrupted by a prison official who warned them not to discuss the trial and a number of other subjects. Mrs. Milgrom was afraid to tell her son of the world-wide surge of indignation over his trial and sentence lest it jeopardize the promised meeting with his father and brother, the Soviet Jewry groups reported.

Soviet Jewry sources also reported that activist Vladimir Slepak's appeal against his recent sentence to five years internal exile was due to be heard in a Moscow court today.

It was reported from Israel, meanwhile, that Israel Zalmanson, one of the 1970 Leningrad hijack trial defendants, has been released after completing his eight-year sentence and was given

an exit visa. He is expected in Israel within two weeks. He is the brother of Silva Zalmanson who was permitted to go to Israel several years ago after completing a shorter sentence. Her husband, Eduard Kuznetsov, another Leningrad trial defendant, is still in prison serving a 15-year sentence. But according to Soviet Jewry sources, it is highly probable that he will soon be released and allowed to emigrate.

DULZIN DENOUNCES SOVIET TRIALS

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--Leon Dulzin, Chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, bitterly denounced the trials of Soviet-Jewish dissidents Anatoly Shcharansky and Alexander Ginzburg at a meeting of the WZO Executive. "The cruel verdict against Shcharansky and Ginzburg speaks for an additional deterioration in the degree of justice which the Soviets are applying to Zionist activists in the Soviet Union," Dulzin said.

He likened the Moscow trials to the moral equivalent of piracy and expressed the hope that the Kremlin would listen to logic. "Until then, we must continue to enlist all our resources in standing with our brothers in the Soviet Union," Dulzin said. He mentioned his recent call to convene the Brussels Conference on Soviet Jewry.

"We will not rest until the basic human rights are ensured for Soviet Jews, until all prisoners of Zion are freed and until all those who desire to emigrate to Israel have reunited with us here," Dulzin said.

Meanwhile, the WZO Executive issued a public statement calling on all liberation movements throughout the world to denounce the Soviet Union's recent actions. It said: "We ask all fighters for freedom and justice in the world to raise their voices so that Shcharansky will be treated justly. We ask all Zionist federations throughout the free world to increase their activities protesting his trial. All the strength and resources of the Zionist movement will be devoted to ensuring liberty and peace for our brothers in the Soviet Union."

Raphael Kotlowitz, Chairman of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, noted that Shcharansky is paying the price for wanting to fulfill the Zionist ideal and has thus become a victim of the Moscow government's persecution of the Jewish liberation movement. On the topic of immigration in general, Kotlowitz noted that 1,667 new immigrants reached Israel during the month of June, as compared with 1,498 persons who arrived during the same month last year. He reported that 957 Israelis who were living abroad returned to Israel during the first half of this year.

SEMINAR FOR AFRICAN CLERGY

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--A special nine-week study program for African clerics and church leaders is presently being conducted in Jerusalem. The seminar, organized by the Israel Interfaith Committee, and co-sponsored by the Martin Buber Center of the Hebrew University and the Foreign Minister's Department for International Cooperation, allows the participants to study the Bible in its geographical, archeological, linguistic and historical context. Simultaneously, it introduces them to the social and historical problems of contemporary Judaism and Israel, with respect to Christian-Jewish relations. The French-language seminar includes 20 participants from seven countries and various churches and denominations.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW FERMENT IN CROWN HEIGHTS

By Reena Sigman Friedman

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)—A spokesman for the Lubavitcher Hasidic community of Crown Heights criticized recently-announced Police Department plans which would remove the special patrols guarding the Lubavitcher world headquarters and the house of the movement's spiritual leader, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson. The police cars, which have been stationed at these sites since 1966, will be replaced by patrol units of a more general nature designed to monitor the neighborhood on a geographic basis. The changes are reportedly being instituted in response to charges by black leaders that the Lubavitcher movement wields undue political influence and receives special police protection.

Rabbi Shmuel M. Butman, a member of the Crown Heights Jewish community, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the new police department moves represented an attempt by the City Administration to divert public attention from the recent death of black businessman Arthur Miller allegedly at the hands of police. He said that pressure for the changes has come not from "responsible black leaders but from rabble-rousers and radicals. If the Mayor bows to this kind of pressure," he warned, "who knows what they're going to do next."

Butman maintained that the world headquarters of the Lubavitcher movement, located at 770 Eastern Parkway, is entitled to special police protection for a variety of reasons. He noted that the building is surrounded, at least three to four times a week, by "the largest concentration of people in the Crown Heights area," who attend meetings there.

Asserting that the headquarters has the "unparalleled" status of an "international mission" because it serves as host to Hasidic and foreign dignitaries from around the world, Butman reiterated the necessity for police presence in the area. Finally, he asserted that having a police car stationed outside one of the neighborhood's most prominent public buildings contributes to the security of the entire community.

Strong Reasons For Continued Protection

Butman also strongly protested the removal of the special police car from Schneerson's house, which he said would "constitute a slap in the face to all Jews throughout the world, since Schneerson is recognized as the foremost Jewish authority." He maintained that Schneerson was entitled to special privileges since "The rebbe saved this city millions of dollars in real estate revenues by maintaining the Jewish community in Crown Heights."

Butman reported that Schneerson was the only Jewish individual mentioned by name in the speeches of black leaders addressing last Sunday's rally held in front of the Lubavitcher world headquarters, in which some 2,000 blacks participated. In Butman's words, "In view of what happened on Sunday, the reasons for protection in front of 770 and in front of the rebbe's house are now stronger than ever." He termed the statements made by speakers at the rally "inflammatory and anti-Semitic, reminiscent of the diatribes in Czarist Russia instigating against the Jews."

Sunday's demonstration, sponsored by the Black United Front and supervised by the newly-

formed Brooklyn Civilian Community Patrol, was organized to protest Miller's death and the beating on June 16th of 16-year-old Victor Rhodes, allegedly by a group of Hasidic Jews. As many Hasidim watched from rooftops, the black marchers assembled at a rally opposite the Lubavitcher headquarters. There were no incidents.

The Rev. Herbert Daughtry, chairman of the Coalition of Concerned Leaders and Citizens to Save Our Youth, told the rally that the Crown Heights community was "sandwiched between the 77th and 71st Precincts in the shadow of the yeshiva. The 77th represents police oppressiveness; the 71st represents the absence of police protection," he said. And he added, "It's a known fact that the Police Department doesn't control that but the Hasidim does."

New Police Plan

The new police plan, released Tuesday, does away with the exclusive 24-hour protection for the headquarters and Schneerson's home, which has been provided since 1966, at an estimated cost of \$4 million to the city. Instead of the unit which has guarded his home, the 71st Precinct will, beginning next Monday, assign a "house of worship" patrol car to cruise the area bounded by Franklin Avenue east to Utica Avenue and Eastern Parkway south to Empire Boulevard in which 61 houses of worship of all faiths are located.

At the end of October, the car now stationed in front of the Lubavitcher headquarters will be replaced by a special sector car patrol of the 12-square block area bounded by Albany Avenue west of New York Avenue and Eastern Parkway south to President Street.

In a related development, Rabbi Jacob Kassir, president of the Sephardic Rabbinc Council, which represents the Syrian and Near Eastern Jewish community in America, blamed Mayor Edward Koch for aggravating racial and religious tensions in the Crown Heights area. He referred to Koch's "ill-timed and foolish" order ending round-the-clock police protection for Rabbi Schneerson.

Meanwhile, two leaders of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (UOJCA), reacting to the recent clashes between Jews and blacks in Crown Heights, called for an end to "the exploitation of racial hatred in our neighborhoods."

Harold M. Jacobs, president of the UOJCA, noted that "the Jews of Crown Heights have been victimized for years by numerous acts of violence which went unreported in the media, while a single incident in which a black youth (Rhodes) was injured attracts sensational news coverage." Dr. Jacob B. Ukeles, representative of the UOJCA to the New York Jewish Community Relations Council, accused "politically motivated outsiders of stirring the coals of racial strife in a Crown Heights community which, until now, has been a successful model of inter-racial cooperation and neighborhood stabilization."

TEL AVIV (JTA)—Israel's newest missile boat, the Nitzahon (Victory), was launched at Haifa. The 415-ton vessel, an improved version of the Reshet type, is armed with six surface-to-surface "Gabriel" missiles, two naval guns and anti-aircraft batteries. It has a cruising range of 3500 nautical miles and can attain speeds of 34 knots, nearly 40 land miles per hour. When commissioned, the Nitzahon will carry a crew of 45.