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EL AL OFFICE DESTROYED BY RAMPAGING MOBS IN TEHERAN

By Yitzhak Shargil and David Landau

TEL AVIV, Nov. 5 (JTA)--Rampaging mobs in Teheran, opposed to the Shah, devastated the El Al office there, according to reports reaching the air line's headquarters here today. There were no reports of casualties. El Al officials said that flights to Teheran will continue as long as the airport remains open.

The El Al office was located in the modern part of the city. The one or two policemen guarding it were unable to stem the mob which, according to the report, destroyed the office completely. The disturbances continued today and appeared directed against all foreign establishments. The main building of the British Embassy was set on fire as were scores of government offices and international hotels. Foreigners were attacked and beaten, including reporters.

The uprising against the Shah's regime by a combination of students, left-wing elements and Moslem religious zealots did not appear to single out Israeli targets. But concern mounted here, nevertheless, for the safety of the Iranian Jewish community, numbering some 80,000, mostly in Teheran.

Concern Over Iranian Jews

In a rare newspaper report on Iran-related events, Yediot Ahronot today front-paged Israeli concern, adding that some of the wealthier Iranian Jews had made arrangements to send their children out of the country, as have other well-off people in the strife-torn country.

The Yediot report noted that preparations had been made here in Israel to absorb any sudden, large-scale immigration of Jews from Iran, but to date not many Iranian Jews have availed themselves of the aliya option. There is concern here, too, over the strategic implications of the weakening of the Shah's regime, not to speak of the fear of its overthrow by radical Moslem forces.

Over the weekend the Ministry of Energy stated officially that there need be no fear in Israel of oil shortages as a result of the oil workers' strike in Iran. It was noted that Israel has in storage large quantities of fuel that may last for several months. This was the first time a State ministry had officially acknowledged a link between Israel and Iran on the oil-supply level.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA

MANN PLEDGES TO BEGIN THAT U.S. JEWS WILL STAND UNITED ON THE ISSUES OF JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)--In a dramatic pledge of Jewish unity, Theodore R. Mann, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told Premier Menachem Begin last night that American Jews would "stand as one with Israel" on the issues of Jerusalem and the West Bank. The promise came following a one-hour confidential briefing on Middle East developments by Begin, attended by

40 heads of U.S. Jewish groups, immediately prior to the Israeli Premier's departure for Los Angeles.

According to sources who attended the meeting, Begin expressed optimism over the chances of an early peace agreement with Egypt but gave a "sobering assessment" of current Israeli differences with Washington on dealing with the West Bank and Jerusalem.

Begin was particularly critical of the American position--expressed by Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders last month to Jordanian and Palestinian leaders--that East Jerusalem was "occupied" territory. Jerusalem, Begin asserted, was the spiritual and cultural capital of every Jew in the world as well as the political capital of Israel "and will remain so as long as there is a Jewish people."

Begin told the Presidents Conference leaders that many of the statements of U.S. policy on the future of the West Bank and Jerusalem contained in the Carter Administration's reply to questions posed by King Hussein of Jordan came as a "very unpleasant surprise" and posed "grave problems" affecting the "very lives of the people of Israel."

At the very end of the meeting, in response to Mann's pledge of "unity and support," Begin smiled broadly and asked: "Can I take that back to Israel with me?" The Israeli Premier was assured that the Presidents Conference promise was "on the record." (See other Begin story, P. 2)

CABINET EXPECTED TO APPROVE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF PEACE TREATY

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 5 (JTA)--Defense Minister Ezer Weizman briefed the Cabinet today on the military aspects of the peace treaty with Egypt, now in the final stages of drafting in Washington. Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin took up the political aspects and will continue his briefing tomorrow when the Cabinet meets again in special session to wind up its discussion. The decision to convene again tomorrow means that Weizman will not join the Israeli delegation in Washington until Tuesday.

The Cabinet is expected to give final approval to the military annex of the projected treaty and also to endorse new compromise formulations on some key political provisions. It has been resolved, as the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported last week, to begin negotiations on the West Bank-Gaza Strip autonomy program within the next few months.

Egypt will be able to demonstrate thereby a tangible political linkage between its treaty with Israel and progress toward resolving the issues on the West Bank. It is understood, however, that the legal "linkage" formulations that Egypt wanted to incorporate in the treaty itself have been largely omitted, to Premier Menachem Begin's satisfaction.

Government Circles Optimistic

The atmosphere in government circles is decidedly optimistic. Officials here believe the major hurdles have been surmounted and the conclusion of a peace pact is not far off. Their outlook was strengthened by President Anwar Sadat's dramatic refusal to receive a four-man delegation sent to Cairo yesterday from the Arab rejectionist summit conference in Baghdad in a last-ditch effort to persuade him to renounce his peace initiative

with Israel. Addressing the Egyptian parliament, Sadat reiterated his earlier rejection of their offer of \$5 billion annually for the next 10 years if he would break off the treaty talks.

"My message, let them hear it now, is that billions of dollars will not buy the will of Egypt," Sadat declared. He told parliament that Egypt "is about to sign a peace agreement that will restore our full sovereignty (over Sinai) and guarantee the Palestinians the restoration of their rights. We are on the threshold of restoring our confidence and dignity," he said.

Sadat today received a progress report on the Washington talks from Acting Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Usama Al-Baz. The two flew back to Cairo last night, almost at the same time the Arab delegation left the Egyptian capital to return to Baghdad.

Discuss Interest Loan From U.S.

The Israeli Cabinet also discussed today Begin's statement in New York last Thursday that Israel was asking for a 25-year low-interest loan from the U.S. to finance its withdrawal from Sinai rather than a grant. That took a number of ministers and Treasury officials by surprise and there seemed to be some confusion over what formula will emerge from Washington. Housing Minister Gideon Patt supported Begin's position. He said it was important for Israel's image to renounce a grant in favor of a loan.

According to senior Treasury officials, part of the American assistance will take the form of a loan and part a grant. They noted that the usual U.S. aid package was composed of two-thirds grant and one-third low-interest loan payable over 30-40 years. Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich and Amiram Sivan, Director General of the Finance Ministry, will go to the U.S. Tuesday to discuss the extent and form of aid with American officials. Ehrlich will spend 10 days in the U.S.

In the expectation that a treaty with Egypt will be completed shortly, officials here tend to favor Begin's proposal that the signing ceremonies take place in Oslo on Dec. 9, a day before he and Sadat are presented with the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize.

U.S. DELEGATION IN ISRAEL TO SURVEY CONSTRUCTION ASPECTS OF AIR BASES

TEL AVIV, Nov. 5 (JTA)--A 17-man delegation of the United States Air Force and U.S. Army engineers technicians arrived in Israel today for a 13-day visit to survey the technical aspects of the construction of two new air bases for Israel in the Negev. They will replace the bases in Sinai that Israel will abandon when it withdraws from that territory under the terms of the Camp David agreements. Brig. Gen. Paul Harton, who is heading the American team, said they will not make a financial evaluation but deal with technical, operational and constructional problems.

The Air Force technicians will inspect locations suggested by Israel Air Force experts. It was learned that one of the potential sites is at Tel Malhah, east of Beersheba. The engineers will concern themselves with the actual construction problems. A higher-level military mission from the Pentagon was also to have arrived in Israel today for discussions of its long-term arms supplies needs from the U.S. That mission and a similar one to Egypt was postponed last week. No reason was given.

KISSINGER: ISRAEL'S INFLUENCE ON WEST BANK REDUCED BY CAMP DAVID By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)--Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger warned here that the Camp David agreement, in any form of interpretation, reduces Israel's influence in the West Bank because the accords include no provisions for any change of the 1967 borders. Addressing a World Jewish Congress luncheon at the Pierre Hotel last Thursday, Kissinger said the United States and Israel must achieve a private understanding as to where the process of peace in the Middle East is heading.

Kissinger said he believes the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will be concluded "in the near future," and he predicted that it will create a new reality and bring a political and spiritual change in the Mideast. He cautioned that the Israelis should be careful in their expectation from peace with Egypt. He said a mechanism should be established between the two countries that will be compatible "with the self-respect and the image of themselves." He also said that Israelis should refrain from the romantic notion of peace and realize that a peace treaty is not the end of any political conflict.

Peace Will Change Israel's Role

But Kissinger said that he was optimistic that "things will work out in the Middle East." He noted that peace will present a tremendous psychological and spiritual change for Israel. He declared Israel's role in the Mideast will change altogether when peace comes, when Israel will no longer be a political focal point.

Kissinger also warned that the unstable situation in Iran jeopardized the Israeli-Egyptian peace prospects. He said the turmoil in Iran could create a new geo-political situation in the Mideast which would affect directly the prospects of a settlement.

Abba Eban, former Israeli Foreign Minister, at an earlier session, revealed he had held talks in Washington in recent days with the heads of the Israeli and Egyptian delegations. Eban said he was convinced that a peace treaty would emerge from the negotiations despite some complex issues that remain to be resolved. "Israel at peace with the Arab world," Eban declared, "is existentially different from an Israel" in permanent conflict with its regional environment. We shall have an Israel smaller in physical size but greater in creative power and with larger field in which to deploy its resources of intellect and spiritual depth."

The WJC Congress meeting marked the inauguration of the organization's International Economic and Social Commission. Baron Guy de Rothschild was installed, at the luncheon session, as chairman of the Commission.

BEGIN URGES AMERICANS TO INVEST IN ISRAEL AND EGYPT By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt received the Family of Man Award for their efforts on behalf of peace, given by the Council of Churches of the City of New York. The presentation of the awards was made during a dinner last Thursday night at the New York Hilton here attended by some 1000 Jewish, Moslem and Christian community and religious leaders. While Begin arrived in person to receive the award, Sadat was represented by Egypt's former Premier, Mamdouh Salem, now an assistant to Sadat.

As Begin started to deliver his address, a few hecklers, seated among the guests, began to shout: "Sinai is Jewish!" "Begin is a traitor," "Begin is a Chamberlain." They were promptly ejected from the hall by the guards. Begin, to a standing ovation, addressed the gathering. The hecklers were not identified.

Begin predicted that the peace treaty with Egypt will be signed "very soon." But at the same time he said that there are still hurdles to overcome and problems to solve. Declaring that he hoped that when peace is established, Israel and Egypt will work together "to turn the desert into a blossoming garden," Begin urged the American people to "come and invest in Egypt and Israel."

The Israeli Premier emphasized that "Jerusalem is one city, indivisible, the eternal capital of Israel." He said that while peace with Egypt is imminent, Israel is threatened "by evil forces" of Syria and Iraq. "We do not take lightly those words of hatred" from Baghdad, Begin said.

Sadat: Palestinians Cannot Be Forgotten

Sadat, in a statement read by Salem, declared that "a just peace in the area (the Middle East) should not fail to address itself to the problem of the Palestinian people in all its aspects." Continuing, Sadat said: "We cannot think of the well-being of all people and forget one group (the Palestinians). We cannot strive to spare every nation the scourge of war and single out just one nation."

Sadat said he hoped an agreement can be reached in Washington "which would put the Palestinians and Israelis on the road to reconciliation and co-existence in peace, as they must put the Israelis and all their Arab neighbors on the same happy road."

"I feel that my destiny is peace," Sadat declared, adding: "I dedicate the rest of my life to the service and maintenance of peace." Begin and Sadat are also the recipients of the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize, to be presented Dec. 10 in Oslo, Norway.

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR HEBREW STUDIES HOLD 2-1/2-DAY CONFERENCE

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 5 (JTA)--The third European Conference of the Brith Ivrit Olamith (World Association for Hebrew Studies) closed here last Wednesday night after two-and-a-half days of sessions attended by some 70 scholars from Western and Eastern countries and Israel. The conference decided to convene again in two years in Warsaw.

One of the highlights of the gathering was the presentation of Prof. Witold Tilach, professor of Hebrew at Warsaw University and two of his aides who discussed the development of modern Hebrew studies at the university. Warsaw University is the only institution of higher learning in Poland where modern Hebrew is taught and has been for the past 15 years, with the aid of material from Israel.

Prof. Aryeh Tartakower, president of the Brith Ivrit Olamith delivered the closing address in which he stressed the importance of modern Hebrew to the continued existence of the Jewish people in diaspora. Sam J. Goldsmith, of London, retired editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Britain, urged that diaspora Jews should become bilingual with a fluent command of Hebrew as well as the language of their re-

spective countries. The conference was attended by representatives of Jewish communities in Holland, Britain, France, West-Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Spain, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania. There were a number of non-Jews among the scholars, including Prof. Maas Boertien, professor of post-Biblical literature at the University of Amsterdam, who was chairman of the organizing committee.

Appeal On Behalf Of Begun

Efrath Naor, of Jerusalem, currently living in Milan, appealed to the conference and other Jewish organizations abroad to act on behalf of the Soviet Jewish Hebraist Isosif Begun, who is serving a long prison sentence in Siberia. She urged that an action committee be established to secure his release and permission for him to emigrate to Israel to join his wife and children.

Leon Yudkin, of Manchester, spoke about the knowledge of and interest in Hebrew among Jews in the USSR where he visited last summer. He said that outside of Moscow knowledge of Hebrew is very sparse and there is little opportunity to study it. He said he was asked by Soviet Jews to request Jews abroad to urge the Soviet authorities to recognize Hebrew as a language just as the languages of other minorities in the Soviet Union are recognized.

The Brith Ivrit Olamith and the cultural department of the World Jewish Congress co-sponsored the conference. Greetings were extended to Alexander Rosenfeld, one of the founding members of the Brith Ivrit Olamith in Berlin in 1931 together with Heim Nachman Bialik.

FORMER POC GRANTED EXIT VISA

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)--Former Prisoner of Conscience Alexander Silnitsky has been granted an exit visa and told to leave the Soviet Union by the end of the month, according to information received by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Silnitsky was released from prison a year ago, having completed a three-year sentence for refusing induction into the Soviet army.

The entire Silnitsky family, Alexander's father, mother and brother, applied for an exit permit in August 1974 and were refused that November. At that time they were told by local emigration authorities that they "could not leave with a youth of military age," the Conference reported. Silnitsky was a student at the Technological Institute in Krasnodar where his father was an economics professor. When the family applied for emigration, Alexander was expelled and his father was fired. After being expelled the authorities began their attempts to draft him, which resulted in his refusal and subsequent three-year prison term.

JEWS, CHRISTIANS URGE RESCINDING STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON NAZIS

BONN, Nov. 5 (JTA)--The Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation has petitioned the West German parliament to rescind the statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals, which goes into effect on December 31, 1979. They called it a loophole through which Nazi murderers could escape justice. The statute of limitations law originally became effective 20 years after the commission of a crime. It was extended to 30 years at the insistence of organizations of Nazi victims, who noted that many wanted war criminals have managed to evade arrest. They are now pressing for a further extension or outright abolition of the statute in war crimes cases.

JEWISH EDUCATION IN NEW YORK AREA TO GET \$15 MILLION BOOST

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)—Jewish educational services in Metropolitan New York will be given a massive infusion of \$15 million over the next five years in an effort to reverse a trend that has near-crisis overtones for one of the most important aspects in the life of the Jewish community. An unprecedented and unique alliance between a philanthropic family and two major Jewish organizations is responsible for the program.

Following the example of Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss, the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York agreed to contribute annual grants of \$1 million each for a five-year period for the advancement of the Jewish educational system in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Gruss expressed great satisfaction that the program to aid Jewish education will receive such a dramatic impetus and that their efforts had been so instrumental in galvanizing the community to move forward with this program.

The Board of Trustees of the Federation voted a grant of \$1 million for 1978-79 as part of the annual \$3 million package. Federation's Board declared its intent at its late September meeting to make a similar grant in each of the four years thereafter, subject to its annual approval. UJA's Board, at its June meeting, approved an annual contribution to the Fund of \$1 million per year for five years, subject to approval by the Board of the program plan for the use of the funds.

The \$3 million annual funding will be in addition to the regular budgetary grant from Federation for Jewish educational services. This year, Federation will give its Board of Jewish Education \$1.7 million for various services that include supervision and guidance, licensing, personnel placement, scholarships, curricular materials, parent education, Hebrew instruction in high schools and publication of a children's magazine. Federation also gives indirect allocations amounting to almost \$1 million annually for Jewish educational and cultural activities in its community centers, camps and children's agencies.

Largest Commitment Ever Made

The newly created Fund is the largest commitment ever made to upgrade and support Jewish education in New York City, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties, according to Harry R. Mancher, president of the Federation. "At present," he pointed out, "too few Jewish children here receive any form of Jewish education, much of it limited and inadequate in quality. Our goal is to reach out to and enlarge the number of children receiving an adequate amount of Jewish education, to improve the quality of their education, and to help insure the financial viability of the educational institutions."

James L. Weinberg, president of UJA, explained the reason for this action: "If we do not have future generations of Jews here who understand how they relate to their fellow Jews throughout the world, then the future for Judaism would indeed be bleak."

The Fund will be administered by a 16-member committee representing the Fund's participants. Solomon Litt, the Fund's chairman, has served during the past six years as chairman of Federation's predecessor Fund, the Program Development Fund for Jewish Education. He is also

a past-president of the Jewish Welfare Board and of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. He is a member of the Federation's Board of Trustees.

"We can do a tremendous job with this money," Litt said. "We are dealing with 110,000 children in 610 Jewish schools. It is estimated that these schools spend \$135 million a year for Jewish education in Metropolitan New York. The \$1.7 million appropriated by Federation each year for the Board of Jewish Education, plus the \$3 million we plan to spend each year for the next five years, is going to make an important contribution to the overall picture of Jewish education."

Committee Will Determine Scope, Priorities

The committee for the Fund will determine the scope, objectives and priorities or allocations to Jewish institutions which provide the educational programs. These include day schools, supplementary schools, and other Jewish educational programs sponsored by Jewish communal institutions such as camps and community centers. The distribution of these funds will be managed by the Board of Jewish Education.

Federation has undertaken to raise its share of the new Fund through special gifts secured for this purpose. The funds also will be raised as a part of "Project Renewal," which is over and above the 1979 UJA-Federation Joint Campaign. "Project Renewal" is a program to rehabilitate the impoverished Hatikvah community on the outskirts of Tel Aviv in Israel. Hatikvah is New York's portion of the national Project Renewal program for Israel. Other American cities have chosen different Israeli communities to aid.

Four religious leaders who have been members of the professional advisory committee for Federation's Program Development Fund have become members of the new committee: Rabbi Eugene Borowitz, Jewish Institute of Religion-Hebrew Union College; Dr. Gerson D. Cohen, chancellor, Jewish Theological Seminary of America; Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Yeshiva University; and Dr. Isadore Twersky, Harvard University Center for Jewish Studies.

SINGER WILL 'SAY SOMETHING' IN YIDDISH AT NOBEL CEREMONY IN STOCKHOLM

NEW YORK, Nov. 5 (JTA)—Isaac Bashevis Singer, winner of the 1978 Nobel Prize for Literature, said here Thursday that he intends to "say something" in Yiddish when he accepts his award in Stockholm next month. The famed Yiddish writer, who was feted for 90 minutes by the American Jewish Committee and its magazine Present Tense, told the 125 people gathered to honor him that Yiddish will always be alive. "Shall this verbal treasure be silenced?" he asked in response to a question about the future of Yiddish.

Asked why there are almost no Yiddish writers today, Singer said that Hitler killed countless Yiddish writers and thereby also killed another generation that might have followed.

Singer, who is a noted vegetarian and lover of animals, well known for his statement many years ago that "for animals, every day is Treblinka," said in answer to another question that he considers those who do not kill animals morally superior to those who do. "As much as I like chicken, I like chickens better," he said. To the applause of the guests, he responded to a request that he speak in Yiddish by delivering his thoughts for a few minutes in "mome loshen." Among Singer's writings in Present Tense was the first installment of his memoirs, in the Spring, 1978 issue.