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TENSION BETWEEN EGYPT, ISRAEL SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN EASED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- The bitterness between Israel and Egypt over the "priority of obligations" issue that soured the post-treaty signing atmosphere last week seems to have died down, with both sides plainly determined to "put a lid" on it. Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, whose statements regarding Egypt's right to aid Syria in an attack on the occupied Golan Heights had triggered the row, was conciliatory in an interview on Israeli television last night. He said he was certain both sides intended to carry out their obligations under the treaty to the letter.

The exchange of instruments of ratification has now been set for early this week at the U.S. electronic monitoring facility at Umm Hashiba. Elishu Ben-Elissar, Premier Menachem Begin's top aide, will represent Israel and the U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Herman Eilts will be there for Washington. Egypt has not yet named its delegate.

By mutual consent, it has been decided to keep this event "low-key." Original plans for Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Egypt's Minister of State Boutros Ghali to be present have been scrapped. The scheduled transfer of El Arish to Egypt -- the first tangible move under the treaty -- is still set for the end of May and will be the occasion for another summit meeting between Begin and President Anwar Sadat.

Begin Uses "Hot Line"

Begin used his newly installed "hot line" to Sadat for the first time last week as part of the effort to cool the dispute over the priority of obligations issue. The conversation was reportedly convivial, although Begin made the point firmly that Israel could not accept Khalil's interpretation. According to the Israeli reading of Article VI, paragraph 5 of the treaty, Egypt would be barred from intervening in any war triggered by an attack upon Israel by an Arab state.

Khalil explained that if Israel refused to negotiate over the Golan with Syria on the basis of the Sinai solution, meaning total withdrawal for full peace, and if, then, Syria attacked the Golan in a "defensive action," Egypt would be bound to aid her under their mutual defense pact. Both Begin and Dayan fired off sharp protests to the U.S. over the Egyptian Premier's remarks. But, having made their point forcefully and publicly, they do not seem inclined now to pursue the issue further.

Meanwhile, Israel has been even more forceful in its contacts with the U.S. over the permission granted a top Palestine Liberation Organization official, Shafik Al-Hout, to visit the U.S. to meet with the press there and make public appearances at several leading universities. There was a sharp conversation last Wednesday between Begin and U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, who was summoned to the Premier's home to hear Israel's views on this matter.

The Israeli argument is that moderate forces on the West Bank cannot be expected to join the

projected autonomy negotiations if they see the U.S. wooing the PLO in this way.

SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- Christian militia units in south Lebanon said today that they were blocking all roads to prevent the entry of a Lebanese army battalion which they believe is actually a pro-Syrian unit that intends to link up with Palestinian terrorists. The Christians, headed by Maj. Saad Haddad, have called up all able-bodied men. As a result, Lebanese workers did not report to their jobs in Israel today.

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman met today with the United Nations commander for the region, Gen. Ensi Siilasvuo. No details of their talk were disclosed, but they are believed to have discussed the growing tension in south Lebanon.

It was learned, meanwhile, that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) intends to escort the suspect Lebanese battalion after it crosses the Litani River. It is being escorted by the Syrian-led Arab peace-keeping force up to that point. According to the Christians, the battalion is actually led by Syrian officers in the uniforms of Lebanese regulars.

Political and military leaders of the Christian enclaves in south Lebanon met this afternoon with Israeli mayors and town council heads in Upper Galilee. They asked for moral support and medical assistance for Christian casualties and shelter for Christian children in the event of new fighting in the region. The Israelis promised to provide help. The local leaders telegraphed Premier Menachem Begin and Weizman asking for intervention on behalf of the Lebanese Christians.

4 TERRORISTS KILLED BY ARMY UNIT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- Four heavily armed terrorists who infiltrated Israel from Jordan were killed in a clash with an Israeli army unit in the Beisan area west of the Jordan River early this morning. There were no Israeli casualties. The incident indicated that the terrorists may be shifting their base of operations from south Lebanon and Syria to Jordan with the assent of the Jordanian government. (See P. 3 for related story about Jordan.)

According to military sources, the terrorists, carrying rifles and grenade launchers, crossed the Jordan River near Kibbutz Timat Zvi, about 30 miles south of the Syrian border. Their trail was picked up at dawn and contact was made with the marauders at 7 a.m. local time. The band was wiped out in a brief exchange of fire. All Israeli towns and settlements in the region were alerted. Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Chief of Staff Gen. Raphael Eitan visited the scene for first-hand reports from the soldiers involved in the pursuit of the terrorists.

Eitan said there was little doubt that the Jordanian authorities were aware of the terrorist presence on their territory. He said the West German rifles and grenade launchers of the NATO type that they carried and the large quantity of ammunition could not have been concealed. Gen. Avigdor Ben Gal, commander of the northern region, warned Jordan today that any repetition of this type of activity against Israel would place it in the same position as

Lebanon. He said Israel would take action against terrorist bases in Jordan just as it does in Lebanon.

The terrorists' possession of weapons used by the NATO powers raised the possibility that they were acquired from soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) or directly from Pompei, Ben Gal said.

Move To Undermine Peace Treaty

The terrorist infiltration was seen here as another move in the effort by the Arab rejectionist states to undermine the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty signed last month. The same motivation was seen in the Syrian attempt to send a Palestine Liberation Organization battalion into south Lebanon disguised as Lebanese army regulars ostensibly being escorted by the Syrian peace-keeping force. The purpose apparently was to create havoc and create new tension in the region.

The terrorists slain today carried no pamphlets indicating that their mission was solely to murder Israeli civilians rather than take hostages. They were cornered in a beer sugar field less than a mile from the Tirat Zvi communal dining room. A PLO broadcast from Beirut at noon today confirmed that the gang intended to attack Tirat Zvi. They carried the flag of El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the PLO.

The infiltration was the first in recent years from Jordanian territory and Israeli authorities believe that Jordan may have ended its nine-year policy of barring terrorists. The shift is in line with the recent rapprochement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization. PLO officials have been invited to official events in Jordan recently and the PLO has reopened its office in Amman, which was closed in 1970 after the "Black September" purge of Palestinian terrorists by the Jordanian army.

Intensified Terrorist Activity

These developments coincide with intensified terrorist activity in Israel and abroad aimed at Egyptian and American as well as Israeli targets. A number of booby-trapped envelopes addressed to Israel were found in West Germany and one exploded at the Frankfurt Airport recently.

In Paris, Jewish financial institutions and a Jewish-owned restaurant were bomb targets. The perpetrators are believed to be members of the Syrian-sponsored Al Saika terrorist group. Israeli offices were attacked in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey. Three shells were fired at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. A building housing the Israeli Embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus and an Egyptian airlines travel agency there were also bomb targets a week ago.

The Israeli navy captured a freighter owned by El Fatah that was ferrying a terrorist group on a sabotage mission in Israel earlier this month. With increased vigilance by sea, terrorists are now attempting to carry out attacks inside Israel through agents on the West Bank. They are believed responsible for the fatal bombing in the Camel market in Tel Aviv last Tuesday and the earlier bombing in the Lod marketplace.

The Tel Aviv outrage claimed its second victim Friday when Charlotte Grienfeld, 74, of Holon, died of wounds inflicted by the bomb. Funeral services were held Friday for Shlomo Tzvi, 24, who was killed instantly when the bomb exploded close to the vegetable stand where he was working.

NO CLUE AS TO IDENTITY OF SABOTEURS OF FRENCH NUCLEAR PLANT

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 15 (JTA) -- French police sources confirmed today that the explosion at Sayne-Sur-Mer nuclear reactor plant was carried out by highly trained professionals but said they had no clue as to their nationality or motives. The explosion on April 6 wrecked nuclear equipment, including the "heart" of a sophisticated reactor that was due to be shipped to Iraq in 48 hours. The equipment, sold by France to Iraq, was stored in a huge warehouse by the sea. It will take two years to rebuild.

The police said the seven explosive charges seem to have been set off by men "who were experts both in the handling of explosives and in nuclear equipment." The sources were not even prepared to guess which country may have arranged the sabotage.

French news magazines today listed Israel, anti-Iraqi Palestinians and West German terrorists as possible suspects. Two magazines, *Le Nouvel Observateur* and *L'Express*, hinted that the French government itself is "relieved" not to have to supply Iraq with enriched uranium which could be used for military purposes.

The magazines said France is currently working on the development of low-grade uranium which cannot be used to build nuclear devices. The destruction of the equipment at La Sayne, said these magazines, enables France to avoid sending heavy uranium to Iraq.

Attack Under Investigation

The authorities imposed a total news blackout after the explosion which occurred at 3 a.m. local time. All that was known is that France's main counter-intelligence organizations, the DST and the SDECE, are investigating the attack. Today's release confirmed an earlier Jewish Telegraphic Agency report that said the authorities suspected the commando unit was provided with inside information by accomplices within the manufacturing firm.

The reports said the attackers, probably three, entered the warehouse without having had to break in, probably using regular keys. They also managed to neutralize the anti-burglary devices set in the warehouse. The assailants also seemed to know that the reactors, identified by the code names "Tammuz 1" and "Tammuz 2," were ready to be shipped within 48 hours to Iraq.

The Iraqi equipment was in eight dome-shaped crates marked with cyphered letters. The attackers knew the crates and set their charges accordingly. Other crates destined for West Germany and Belgium received only slight damage from flying debris.

Several French newspapers recalled the Cherbourg affair of Dec. 24, 1969, when an Israeli commando unit sailed out of Cherbourg harbor with five French-built gunboats ordered and paid for by Israel but detained under President de Gaulle's June, 1967 embargo order. The French papers hinted in this way the possibility that Israel might have staged the Sayne-Sur-Mer explosions. French officials refuse, however, to level this accusation and say they have no information yet to trace the parties responsible for the sabotage.

REWARD OFFERED FOR AMIN'S ARREST

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- A reward for information leading to the arrest of deposed President Idi Amin of Uganda was offered today by the family of Dora Bloch. The elderly British-Israeli woman was killed in Kampala, Uganda after an Israeli commando team freed more than 100 hostages July

1976, including dozens of Israelis, who were being held by Palestinian terrorists at Entebbe Airport after they hijacked an Air France airliner. In London, British MP Greville Janner, a close friend of the Bloch family, said the reward would be substantial, but he declined to give a figure.

Benny Bloch, Mrs. Bloch's son, said he and his two brothers were establishing a fund to encourage people to help in Amin's capture. He said he planned to go to Uganda to find his mother's body and bring it back for burial. At the time of her reported death, Amin claimed that Mrs. Bloch was among the freed hostages, but it is widely believed she was taken from her hospital bed in Kampala, where she was being treated for a throat ailment, and killed. Many people hold Amin personally responsible for her death.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

TENSION REPORTED IN JORDAN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- A surge of political tension, punctuated by violence and suspected assassinations and attempted assassinations, was reported today from Jordan. The tension is believed to stem from a deep division of opinion between King Hussein and his heir apparent and brother, Crown Prince Hassan, regarding Jordan's steady drift towards the rejectionist group of Arab states led by Iraq and Syria.

While Hussein has been pushing in this direction ever since Camp David, Hassan is growing more and more unhappy with it -- and he is supported by significant sections of the officer corps and of the Jordanian indigenous (as opposed to Palestinian) elite. Clashes on Amman University's campus recently between Palestinian and other students are explained as a reflection of the tension in the governing echelons.

Haaretz led off its front page today with a report compiled by Arab affairs monitor Oded Zdror of the various stories and rumors of growing unrest in the Hashemite kingdom.

U.S. Planning Evacuation

The Haaretz headline said the U.S. was planning for the evacuation of American citizens and companies from Jordan. The story itself reported that the U.S. Embassy in Amman had been angrily questioned about this by the Jordanian government and had responded that the contingency plans were merely routine and were not connected to any particular political situation.

The Haaretz report cited Jordanians visiting the West Bank, and West Bankers known for their close ties with the royal house, to authenticate the signs of tension in the neighboring state. A group of prominent West Bankers protested to Amman last week at the method by which police had broken up the campus demonstrations -- apparently because injuries were sustained by Palestinian students.

Jordanian travelers reported that prices on the Amman stock exchange were falling and that key families involved in commerce were moving funds out of the country.

Meanwhile, the not-entirely-reliable Phalangist radio station in Lebanon reported last night that a Palestinian aeronautical engineer had been arrested in Jordan on suspicion of trying to plant a bomb aboard the King's plane as it was about to fly Hussein to Vienna. As a result, security had been tightened on all Alia Airline flights, the radio said.

Reports Of Mysterious Accidents

The Haaretz report also discussed two mysterious recent accidents in Amman in which high-level political allies of Hassan had met an untimely death. In one, Sherif Nasser Ben-Jamil, an uncle of the King, and passionate foe of the PLO, lost control of his car and crashed to his death. There are rumors a rifle in court circles, "according to the report, "that the car was tampered with."

In the other incident, the chief of internal security, another close supporter of Hassan, was killed at Amman Airport on his return from Qatar. A brief official statement said only that his car had collided with another vehicle.

There has also been a spate of explosions in Amman in recent weeks, which government authorities there have attributed to "Zionist agents." Meanwhile, Hussein himself was due in Rabat today for talks with King Hassan on the Israel-Egypt treaty and Arab world reactions.

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER AMERICAN INTENTION TO EMPLOY FOREIGN LABOR IN BUILDING TWO NEGEV AIR BASES

By Yitzhak Shorgil

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- The American intention to employ foreign labor in the construction of two new military air bases in the Negev has Histadrut officials worried. The U.S. plans to bring some 2,500 foreign workers to Israel, probably from South Korea or other countries, to work on the airfields that the U.S. will finance.

Yehoshua Meshel, Secretary General of Histadrut, has no objection to foreign labor. But at a meeting with Defense Minister Ezer Weizman who signed the construction agreement with Pentagon officials last week, he insisted the employment of any workers, Israeli or foreign, must be coordinated with Histadrut. He said the labor federation has international obligations and agreements to safeguard the rights of any workers in Israel.

Meshel also has met with two senior American officers, one from the U.S. Air Force and the other from the Defense Department. He explained that Israel's economy would be harmed if Israeli workers were lured by higher pay away from their regular jobs to work in the Negev. He said the hiring of workers from the Israeli labor market should not be on an individual basis but through existing agencies in consultation with Histadrut. The latter, he said, must be involved in setting the terms of employment. Weizman has reportedly assured Meshel that his agreement with the Pentagon does not preclude this.

Meanwhile, Israel Goralnik, director general of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, has warned that the manpower shortage in Israel's construction industry threatens the successful redeployment of the Israel army once it evacuates Sinai. He said foreign labor would be unavoidable and their recruitments must be carried out in an orderly manner, bearing in mind that they are only temporary workers. Goralnik said a special team will be appointed to deal with work permits for all foreign laborers. The team will take into account the social aspects of the employment of foreigners for as long as they remain in Israel.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The return of the last Sinai oil fields to Egypt and related developments there after will be discussed by Israeli and Egyptian officials this week. The Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Yitzhak Mordechai, will meet with his Egyptian counterpart, Ahmed Ezzeddin Hilal, in Sinai Tuesday, it was announced Sunday.

SOME JEWS INJURED IN TWISTER AREA

FORT WORTH, April 15 (JTA) -- Some Jews living in Wichita Falls, the scene of one of the worst tornadoes which hit the Texas-Oklahoma border last week, suffered injuries but none were killed, according to the Texas Jewish Post. The tornadoes killed at least 41 people, injured 1,000 others and triggered a wave of looting in Wichita Falls, according to town officials. In addition, two shopping centers and several residential districts were leveled.

The information about the impact of the tornadoes on the estimated 50 Jewish families in the north Texas city was provided to the Jewish weekly by Air Force Chaplain Elliott Weinschneider, who serves Jews at the Shepard Air Force Base as well as the Jewish families in Wichita Falls.

Two amateur radio operators, Herbert Bogart and Dr. Irving Raffagel, sought contact with Jewish sources in Wichita Falls. After seven hours of effort, Bogart was able to contact the chaplain at his home a few days before the first Seder for a report on the effect of the tornado on Wichita Falls Jews. Bogart relayed the information to a Texas Jewish Post reporter here.

Weinschneider said he had visited all the hospitals, finding only one Jewish injured person, Rebecca Seligson, who was released soon after the chaplain's visit. The chaplain was asked if Passover supplies were adequate and said all needs at the base were satisfied and that he had received no requests for Passover foods from Jewish families in the stricken area.

The chaplain said he had not been able to learn whether any Jewish homes or businesses had been damaged because Wichita Falls streets were barricaded and deserted. He said authorities asked residents not to travel and said that any persons trapped in the area during the storm were in community shelters.

JEWS, EGYPTIANS MARK PEACE TREATY

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 15 (JTA) -- The Jewish and Egyptian communities of Minneapolis and St. Paul joined together in a Ceremony of Thanksgiving to honor the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. More than 1,500 people gathered last week at the College of St. Thomas to listen to the Aaron Kula Orchestra play Israeli music and to the Middle Eastern Ensemble playing the music of Egypt as well as their special arrangement of "Hava Nagila." Taking part in the program which had been planned jointly by members of both communities were:

Msr. Terrence J. Murphy, president of the College of St. Thomas, Rabbi Jerome Herzog, president of the Minnesota Rabbinical Association, and Dr. Guirguis Ibrahim, research associate of the University of Minnesota who lead the audience in a joint prayer for peace. Dr. Shukry Ibrahim, the Elder in the Twin Cities Christian Coptic community, read a Coptic prayer for the peace in both Arabic and English. Dr. Essam Awad, professor and faculty advisor to the Egyptian Student Organization and Dr. David Cooperman, professor at the University of Minnesota, gave the keynote addresses, and Adl Sokkar of the Twin Cities Islamic community recited an Islamic prayer in both Arabic and English.

Egyptian and Jewish American children recited poetry written by Arab and Israeli children expressing their hopes for peace. The program ended with the playing of the Egyptian national anthem, "My Country, My Country," and "Hatikvah."

Presiding at the program was Michael Weinberg, president of the Jewish Community Relations Council, Anti-Defamation League of Minnesota and the Dakotas.

Attending the program, which was covered by all four local television stations, were political, religious and labor leadership of Minnesota which included U.S. Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, U.S. Rep. Bruce Vento, and former U.S. Sen. Muriel Humphrey, all Minnesota Democrats.

Messages were received from Ashraf Ghorbal, Egyptian Ambassador to the United States, Minnesota Governor Albert Quie, and President Carter who congratulated the communities for having worked on this program together and offered their hopes and support for the new treaty.

ADL DETAILS INFORMATION ABOUT A JEWISH PRISONER IN ARGENTINA

NEW YORK, April 15 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith today provided details about one of the Jewish prisoners in Argentina who had been identified in an interview last week with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. (See April 10 issue of the Daily News Bulletin.) At the same time, the ADL said its list of approximately 1,000 Argentine Jews consists of both those who have disappeared and those whom the government acknowledges it is holding in prison. About 60 percent of those on the list have disappeared, the ADL said.

The Jewish defense agency said that Jaime Lokman, the auto dealer who was arrested on the day of the coup, March 24, 1976, was held incommunicado for more than 2 1/2 years in the penitentiary of Cordoba province. He, like other political prisoners in that province, was permitted to see his family only one day a year and no mail was permitted. At the end of 1978, he was transferred to Sierra Chica prison in the province of Buenos Aires, suffering from a heart ailment and in danger of becoming paralyzed.

Although no charges have been made against Lokman and both the United States and Israel have offered visas to him, the Argentine government, on March 31, ruled against a habeas corpus appeal filed by Lokman's wife, Judith. The ADL reported, in rejecting the appeal, the government contended that although his alleged "links with terrorism" might not be judicial grounds for conviction, he was nevertheless considered to be "dangerous."

CHINESE-AMERICAN STUDENT DESIGNS WINNING JEWISH HERITAGE WEEK POSTER

NEW YORK, April 15 (JTA) -- A 16-year-old Chinese-American student at the High School of Art and Design, Steven Chang, submitted the design that was selected for this year's Jewish Heritage Week poster. He portrayed a Star of David through which black and white hands are clasped, surrounded by an olive branch. The other entries submitted by students of various ethnic backgrounds -- Dominican, Haitian, Puerto Rican, and Black -- were of exceptional quality, according to Attorney General Robert Abrams, chairman of the Jewish Heritage Week Advisory Council, "making the choice from among the excellent entries most difficult." All of the final entries will be put on display at City Hall and Hall of the Board of Education during Jewish Heritage Week, April 30 -- May 4 and will later tour the city.

TEL AVIV, (JTA) -- Israel's soaring inflation rate hit an all-time high as the country's cost of living index jumped by 16.6 percent last month. It was reported by the government's Central Bureau of Statistics. With this latest hike, Israel's COL has risen by 13.5 percent since Jan. 1.