

BELGIAN JEWS URGE GOVERNMENT TO OUST PLO FROM THE COUNTRY.

BRUSSELS, April 18 (JTA) -- The Arab terrorist attack at the Brussels airport Monday has resulted in higher security measures at other European airports and brought demands from the organized Jewish community of Belgium to oust the Palestine Liberation Organization representatives from the country.

The Coordinating Committee of Belgian Jewish Organizations sent telegrams to Justice Minister Renate Van Elslande and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Henri Simonet, urging the government not to permit "those directly or indirectly responsible for the Brussels airport attack to remain and work in the country."

Specifically, the committee which represents Belgium's four major Jewish organizations asked for the closing of the PLO's liaison offices in the country and for the expulsion of its representative in Brussels "before it is too late."

The government issued an official communique condemning the attack and "whatever motives prompted it." The communique recalled that Belgium has ratified the West European treaty against terrorism and promised to take all necessary measures to prevent a repetition of the incident.

Terrorists Sought To Injure El Al Passengers

Meanwhile, police sources said the two captured terrorists, Khaled Doyed Oogket and Mahmoud Housseini, confessed that they had intended to injure as many El Al passengers as possible at Zaventem International Airport Monday. They were quoted as saying that they threw a hand grenade into a crowd of waiting passengers when they realized that security measures prevented them from reaching passengers waiting for or disembarking from an Israeli airliner. All of the persons wounded in the attack were Belgian citizens.

The two terrorists arrived in Belgium last month with Iranian passports. They admitted that a woman helped them but refused to disclose her identity. The PLO representative in Brussels, Naim Khader, said on a Belgian radio interview last night that his organization had nothing to do with the attack. "We had everything to lose and nothing to gain from this senseless attack against Belgian citizens," Khader said. He charged that the attack was "an Israeli provocation."

Immediately after the attack, the normally strict security measures at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport were tightened further. The same was true at the Geneva and Zurich airports where Swiss police reinforced the regular security guards. A police spokesman in Geneva said emergency security measures have been put into effect there.

TWO MEN ARRESTED FOR RANSACKING TWO SYNAGOGUES IN STRASBOURG

PARIS, April 18 (JTA) -- Two men were arrested this morning in Strasbourg and charged with ransacking two local synagogues last weekend. The two men were arrested by the police as they were leaving the court after being charged with ransacking local Catholic churches.

Police say the two men, whose names were not released, had specialized in robbing the alms boxes in local churches. They reportedly told investigators they ransacked the synagogues when they failed to find an alms box and started looking for it.

The police say the attacks were carried out for pure criminal purposes with no anti-Semitic or political motivations. The two assailants have long criminal records and police investigators believe they might have carried out similar attacks elsewhere in France.

SOME 25 JEWISH FAMILIES LEFT HOMELESS IN MISSISSIPPI FLOOD

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, April 18 (JTA) -- About 20 to 25 Jewish families are among the 17,000 people that have been left homeless by the flooding that has devastated Jackson, Mississippi since last Thursday, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today in a telephone call to the Mississippi state capital. No fatalities have been reported from the flooding.

Erik Hearn, chairman of the local chapter of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told the JTA that most of Jackson's 250 Jewish families lived in the northeast part of town, the section hardest hit by the flooding. He said the families that were evacuated had large amounts of water in their homes and said the damage individual families suffered ranged from \$5000 to \$100,000.

About four or five businesses owned by Jews were wiped out, Hearn said. As an example, he noted one furniture store had water to its ceiling ruining its entire stock.

Hearn said the Pearl River crested at 43.2 feet yesterday morning, more than 25 feet above flood stage. It has begun to recede, he said. While northeast Jackson was hardest hit, the flood also covered parts of busy Interstate 55 around the city and low-lying areas of the downtown and southeast side of the city. The flood has also endangered areas south of Jackson and across the river in Alabama.

Hearn was reached at Temple Beth Israel, the city's only synagogue, which he said had been made inaccessible earlier by flooding of the roads leading to it. He said the temple had a kindergarten which has not been operating this week and which will be used as a day care center for children of parents who will be busy during the mopping up operations which will take six to eight days.

Money Sent To Aid Community

In Washington, B'nai B'rith International sent a check of \$1000 yesterday to its Manassah Lodge in Jackson. Another check for \$850 was sent by B'nai B'rith District 7 which includes Mississippi. B'nai B'rith executive vice president Daniel Thurst said the money "would be used to complement the services being rendered by other agencies such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army" which are taking care of those driven from their homes.

President Carter has declared Mississippi a disaster area and two disaster assistance centers opened in Jackson today to begin accepting applications from storm victims seeking federal loans, grants and other aids. Jackson Mayor Dale Danks has estimated damage as more than \$500 million. The state of emergency was declared last Friday, the day after 10 inches of rain fell on Jackson and nearly twice as much along the river north of the city. The

river continued to rise until it reached 43.2 feet yesterday. The previous high was 37.5 feet in 1902. Some 750 National Guardsmen have been sent to Jackson, most patrolling the streets, but others helping residents stock sandbags to shore up the levees along the Pearl River to prevent them from collapsing.

CONGRESS EXPECTED TO EXTEND ANTI-BOYCOTT ACT FOR 3 YEARS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 18 (JTA) -- The Export Administration Act which embodies provisions against the Arab boycott that discriminates against American companies doing business with Israel or are owned or managed by Jewish Americans is expected to be extended for another three years without change by Congress.

The act, which expires Dec. 30, has encountered no serious opposition or urgings for amendments in the hearings conducted so far and it has been praised by Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps, the Business Roundtable which is comprised of the 150 largest corporations in the United States, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Congress.

Kreps told the Senate Banking Committee which is chaired by Sen. William Proxmire (D. Wis.) that she strongly supports the measure and that it has been working well. The committee was advised by other witnesses that the so-called Ribicoff amendments adopted in the 1976 tax bill that affect the boycott provisions be made to conform with the act's provisions for uniformity in the laws. The Roundtable and the three major Jewish organizations have agreed on the extension of the act and not to press for any amendments to it.

The Proxmire committee and other Senate panels interested in the measure must report their views to the floor of the Senate by May 15.

Thereafter, the bill would be considered in the usual legislative process. Both Houses must concur before the Congressional legislation is sent to the President for his signing into law.

Urge Extension Of Provision

The three Jewish agencies, in a joint letter to Proxmire and Rep. Jonathan Bingham (D. N.Y.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee which has jurisdiction of the measure, stated: "Although not all our original objectives were fully reflected in this compromise legislation and the ensuing regulations, we remain hopeful on the basis of early evidence that these provisions, along with other statutory safeguards, can provide an adequate protective framework against unwarranted foreign discriminatory coercion. At present, we believe current anti-boycott provisions of the Export Administration Act should be extended without change while ongoing monitoring and evaluation determines more fully their effectiveness."

Thomas Murphy, chairman of General Motors and the chairman of the Business Roundtable, wrote that "the anti-boycott provisions of the law represent a compromise, and as such they necessarily fall short in some respects of what we regard as legitimate business and trade objectives. Nevertheless, in the light of our experience so far, we cannot say that the legislation has not lived up to its characterization by President Carter, on May 3, 1977, as reflecting a 'reasonable balance between the need for stringent con-

trols over the undesirable impact on Americans of foreign boycotts and the need to allow continuation of American business relations with countries engaging in such boycotts."

WALDHEIM WARNS CONGRESS ON WITHHOLDING FUNDS FROM THE UN

UNITED NATIONS, April 18 (JTA) -- Secretary General Kurt Waldheim warned the U.S. Congress today of the consequences that could result from its withholding of part of the United States contribution to the United Nations.

"If one country did it, what was to stop others from following? he said in a speech at the University of South Carolina. "It's obvious: The only result would be financial chaos, as it would be in this or any other country if its citizens were to insist on paying taxes only for programs they liked."

Congress last year put restrictions on the use of U.S. funds to pay for programs of the UN which promote the Palestinian cause. Waldheim said that if these restrictions were allowed to continue, "it would destroy the principle of collective financial responsibility and with it the economic and political viability of the entire UN system." Most of the speech concerned a denial that the UN was wasteful in spending its funds.

ARGENTINE ENVOY QUESTIONS HIS GOVERNMENT'S DETENTION OF TIMEMAN

NEW YORK, April 18 (JTA) -- Dr. Jorge Aja Espil, the Argentine Ambassador to Washington, has written a note to his government questioning the continuing detention of Jacobo Timeman, it was reported here by Jacob Kovadloff, director of South American Affairs for the American Jewish Committee.

Kovadloff noted that last Sunday was the second anniversary of the arrest of Timeman, the editor and publisher of La Opinion, Timeman, whose newspaper was seized by the government, is still under house arrest in his Buenos Aires apartment even though the Argentine Supreme Court said last summer he should be released since there are no charges against him. His wife and three children are now living in Israel and he wants to join them.

Aja Espil's note pointed out that the continued detention of Timeman is a constant source of criticism of Argentina abroad, according to Kovadloff. He said the government has distributed Aja Espil's notes to garrisons and military units. Aja Espil said that one of the reasons given for the continued imprisonment of Timeman was the presumed "adverse reaction" from the government's "internal front." The English-language Buenos Aires Herald said in a recent editorial that Timeman was the ruling junta's "only prisoner" drawing a parallel to the Dreyfus case in France.

According to Kovadloff, the Argentine Ambassador has confirmed to Rep. Lawrence P. McDonald (D. Ga.) that he advised his government to reconsider the detention of Timeman. Kovadloff noted that according to Argentine newspapers, several notable foreign personalities have asked the government to reconsider Timeman's case and that on March 17 Argentine Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor was quoted as saying that Timeman would possibly be allowed to leave the country after a "short" period of time.

Two weeks ago a delegation of the New York Bar Association visited Argentina on a special mission to investigate the status of lawyers and the judiciary in Argentina, Kovadloff said. One of the delegation's members, retired U.S. District Court Judge Marvin Finkel, said he was angered by his treatment when he requested an interview with Timeman.

Frankel said he was first told that he could see Timeman but then told that, because of an oversight, final permission could not be immediately granted.

COMMANDER OF CHRISTIAN FORCES IN SOUTH LEBANON DECLARES 350-SQUARE MILE REGION AS 'FREE LEBANON'

TEL AVIV, April 18 (JTA) -- Major Saad Haddad, commander of the Lebanese Christian Militia, declared today that the 350-square mile region along the Israeli border was a "free Lebanon" and would not recognize the authority of the central government in Beirut as long as Palestinians and Syrian troops remained in Lebanon. Haddad, who made the announcement at a press conference in Metulla in Upper Galilee, said the decision was taken at a meeting this morning of representatives of the 100,000 people who live south of the Litani River. He did not make clear how he intended to enforce his region's independence or how he would determine that all Palestinians and Syrian troops had left Lebanon. He called, however, for the resignation of Lebanese President Elias Sarkis.

Haddad's declaration was made against the background of continuing artillery duels between the militia and Palestinians. The latest fighting was precipitated by the entry into south Lebanon of a 500-man Lebanese army battalion which the Christians claim is a pro-Syrian force commanded by Syrian officers disguised in Lebanese uniforms. The unit came under shell fire today when it attempted to take over its new headquarters at Dardghaiya.

The Christians also reportedly shelled units of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which had been escorting the Lebanese battalion south of the Litani River. Haddad claimed this was in retaliation for the shelling of Christian villages by Palestinians, Syrian and Lebanese forces. He said he had not consulted Israel before declaring south Lebanon's independence and he did not know if Israel would back the move. Israel has been aiding and supporting the Christian militia since it evacuated its own forces from south Lebanon last spring.

The Christian-controlled area is 55 miles long and six miles deep along the Israeli-Lebanese border. It is populated by about 60,000 Shi'ite Moslems, 40,000 Maronite Christians and a scattering of Druze tribes.

U.S. OPPOSES 'FREE LEBANON'

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, April 18 (JTA) -- The U.S. government voiced immediate opposition today to a "free Lebanon" following reports that Major Saad Haddad, the commander of the Christian forces in south Lebanon, had declared the region south of the Litani River an independent "free Lebanon." While the State Department frequently refuses to comment on media reports, it acted quickly on the report about Haddad's announcement.

Department spokesman Hodding Carter said he had seen reports of the "creation of some independent buffer state" in Lebanon. "Without knowing the reality whether that state is more than a P.R. (public relations) statement or whether it has come into existence or not, our general policy is that we would oppose anything which threatens the territorial integrity of Lebanon or which would have the effect of subdividing it or impeding the extension of Lebanese

authority throughout the land," Carter said.

This development came as a force described as Lebanese but which is also reported to have Syrian officers disguised as Lebanese began moving to join United Nations units in south Lebanon. Carter repeated today that the areas which are being taken over by the Lebanese force is "consistent with the policy long advocated" by the U.S. "Anything which impedes that, we regret," Carter said, whether it is shelling or the "free Lebanon" sector. The State Department has not denied that Syrians are with the Lebanese force but has referred to it as a "professional group."

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YIDDISH THEATER TO BE MARKED IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 18 (JTA) -- The 100th anniversary of the Yiddish theater will be celebrated in Israel by a series of events now under preparation by the Theater Archives and Museum in Jerusalem.

Outstanding among them will be a comprehensive exhibition depicting the history of the Yiddish theater since the early days of its founder, Avraham Goldfaden. It will include, inter alia, a display of manuscripts and first editions of early plays, photographs from theater performances over the years in various countries, portraits of famous actors in their major roles, volumes of their memoirs, old theater bills and other memorabilia.

The Theater Archives and Museum, established 10 years ago, has acquired a rich collection of invaluable material pertaining to the history of the Yiddish and Hebrew theaters, including the important archives of the late Zalman Zilberzweig, author of the six-volume Lexicon of the Jewish Theater comprising thousands of documents and a unique library.

Since its establishment, the Theater Archives has arranged a series of exhibits and has established an annual prize for outstanding performance bearing the name of one of Israel's foremost actors, Meir Margalit. It serves as an important research center for students of the theater.

The Theater Archive's Board, headed by former Cabinet Minister Moshe Kol, said that it would be grateful to all those in possession of any material connected with the Yiddish theater if they would contribute it -- either in the original or copies -- and thus lend a hand in the important task of assembling and saving from oblivion the treasures of the Yiddish theater.

SOVIET MINISTER NIXES EMIGRATION

NEW YORK, April 18 (JTA) -- A Moscow Jewish refusenik has been told by the Deputy Minister of the Interior that she and her family cannot leave the USSR for an "unspecified amount of time" though she has been unemployed and never worked with secret materials, it was reported here by the AI Tidom Association.

Bella Novikova of Moscow was granted an audience with Soviet Deputy Minister Shumilin only to be told that she, her son and her aged parents -- all refuseniks since 1972 -- cannot leave for Israel. Shumilin, the AI Tidom Association reported, told Mrs. Novikova that her record shows that she was employed at a job involving secret work. He declined to reveal the length of time that the refusal will continue.

Though Mrs. Novikova never was exposed to secret information at the factory where she was employed, AI Tidom sources reported that job records of past employes are filled out according to the dictates of the KGB.

HOLOCAUST WEEK

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 18 (JTA) -- For eight days starting April 22 and ending April 29 Americans will commemorate the six million Jewish and five million non-Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

Preceded by Congressional resolution and the proclamations of President Carter, state governors and hundreds of mayors, ceremonies in numerous cities in all sections of America will remember the martyrs of the worst mass human destruction in history. The central memorial event will be the national civic commemoration in the rotunda of the nation's Capitol at noon on April 24 which also is International Holocaust Commemoration Day.

The President's Commission on the Holocaust has announced that Carter and Elie Wiesel, the distinguished author of numerous writings on the Holocaust who is the Commission's chairman, will speak at the ceremony. Both the Senate and the House will recess for the occasion to permit their members to attend. A children's choir will sing songs composed in the Nazi death camps. Since April 24 is also the memorial day for the Armenian genocide, an additional memorial prayer for the Armenians will be recited.

Special Events For The Week

The week of remembrance, the Commission said, includes state and city memorial programs, religious services and special lectures and conferences in universities and community centers. Special religious services are to be held April 22 and April 28 and 29. The Commission, which coordinated the ceremonies, estimates that more than 10,000 congregations will incorporate the Holocaust in their liturgies during these days of remembrance.

The Commission has established a national religious council for remembrance consisting of 12 Protestants, 12 Catholics and 12 Jews, each to call upon his or her own tradition to commemorate the Holocaust. "The number," the Commission observed, "is symbolic of the 36 righteous people who, by assuming responsibility for others, sustain the world." Jewish families, the Commission has suggested, may light 24 yahrzeit candles on the evening of April 23 to burn past sundown April 24.

The Commission and its advisory group will meet April 24 to determine where the permanent memorial to the martyrs will be established. It is understood that the Commission's majority leans toward Washington as its location and that it be in the form of a museum with appropriate facilities to enable visitors to study, learn and understand the toll of prejudice, hatred and violence, and the apathy of bystanders during the Holocaust.

In a letter to directors of programs for the remembrance, Rabbi Irving Greenberg, the Commission's executive director, quoted Wiesel's remarks that closed the Commission's first meeting. Himself a survivor of the death camps, Wiesel urged that "our remembering aims at saving as many men and women as possible from apathy to evil, if not from evil itself. . . . When war unleashes its evil against one people, all are engulfed in the fire."

CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES TO BE DEDICATED APRIL 23

LOS ANGELES, April 18 (JTA) -- Simon Wiesenthal, the Nazi hunter, is coming here

from Vienna to dedicate on April 23 the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles. University officials, in announcing the dedication of what they said was the only Holocaust center in North America to bear Wiesenthal's name and active support, said the first public meeting at the center also would be held on April 23.

The Wiesenthal Center is a unique and multi-faceted institution dedicated to the universal recognition of a basic human premise: that through education and awareness, society will never allow an atrocity the magnitude of the Holocaust to happen again, Center officials said. More than a memorial or a scholarly citadel, the Center is a diverse educational complex that combines sophisticated electronic audio/visual techniques and varied graphics as well as more traditional media, to convey the story of mankind's most tragic period.

The Center contains multiple video monitors presenting recent news stories that deal with the denial of human rights, a selection of classic still photographs depicting elements of daily life in pre-Holocaust streets, a 200-square-foot chronology from Hitler's rise to power to the ultimate collapse and surrender of the Third Reich and a map of the European countries involved in the Holocaust showing the numbers of Jewish victims lost in each.

It also contains a mechanized information center that provides printed answers to the 36 questions most often raised about the Holocaust, photographs and resumes of the people most responsible for facilitating the Holocaust, taped telephone statements of key world leaders during the Holocaust years, a display dedicated to the 1.5 million children whose lives ended in the infamous death camps, and an exhibit portraying the quiet heroism and steadfastness in the face of absolute evil that characterized the behavior of European Jewry in the face of impending genocide.

The Center also has a "provocatively frank" exhibit of "The World That Was Silent," depicting world leaders who were among the staunchest proponents of freedom and looked the other way during the Holocaust.

A Major Exhibit For The Center

A major exhibit for the Wiesenthal Center is being prepared by noted British designer and movie producer Arnold Schwartzman. It is the world's first multi-screen, multi-channel sound, audio/visual experience dealing with the Holocaust. Music, narration, and both still and motion pictures will be mixed by computer-controlled sequences and displayed to the audiences throughout the United States. Utilizing resources and location photography from both sides of the Atlantic, "the 45-minute program will bring the impact and lessons of the Holocaust to life in a way never before seen," Center officials said.

COPENHAGEN (JTA) -- A special edition of the 1000-year-old "Damascus" Bible has been printed by the Danish publishers Rosenkilde and Bagger. The new edition is a replica of the historic Bible. The publishers plan to limit it to 300 copies which will be sold to the public for \$422 each.

AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- Simon Wiesenthal has received the very rare Dutch award, "Commander in the Order of Orange Nassau," from The Netherlands Ambassador In Vienna. The award is the highest that can be given to a non-Dutch citizen. It was presented to Wiesenthal on the occasion of his recent 70th birthday.