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ISRAEL PAYS TRIBUTE TO ITS SOLDIERS WHO DIED SINCE 1948

First Memorial Day That Israel Is At Peace With One Of Its Arab Neighbors
By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, May 1 (JTA) -- Tens of thousands of Israelis paid tribute today to the nearly 14,000 Israeli soldiers who died in four wars and a war of attrition since the Jewish State was founded 31 years ago. (See separate story.) Sirens wailing all over the country at precisely 11 a.m., local time signaled the beginning of Memorial Day observances which, traditionally, precede Independence Day that begins at sundown today and continues through tomorrow.

At military cemeteries and military bases bereaved families and friends of the deceased gathered along with representatives of the government and national institutions for solemn memorial services. The El Moleh Rahamin prayer was recited and wreaths were laid on gravesites. Speakers stressed that this was the first Memorial Day that found Israel formally at peace with one of its Arab neighbors.

Premier Menachem Begin, addressing an assembly at the military cemetery in Safad, took note of the treaty just signed with "one of our strongest and greatest neighbors," Egypt. Israel's national objective, he said, was life with liberty, security and honor. "We have now taken the decisive step toward achieving this aim. We have done all we could to ensure that the wars in which these boys and men fell will be the last."

At ceremonies on Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman noted that Israel's fallen soldiers had one thing in common: "The vision of resurrection. Because they cannot say it themselves, we must say it for them. They did not fall for the sake of victory alone but rather for the end to all wars and for the advent of peace."

Weizman hailed the peace treaty with Egypt as "the beginning of the road" and pledged that Israel would do all it could to make peace with its other neighbors. The Defense Minister also referred to last week's terrorist outrage at Nahariya. He warned those responsible for it that "these acts will only serve to strengthen our determination to overcome the trials facing us."

13 Beacons Kindled

Other Cabinet ministers spoke at memorial ceremonies elsewhere in the country, among them Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon and Interior Minister Yosef Burg. Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin and Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir attended the Air Force ceremonies. They did not come as ministers but as bereaved family members. Tamir mourned his deceased son. Yadin paid respects to his brother, killed in Israel's War for Independence.

Memorial Day ended with the kindling of 13 beacons on Mt. Herzl instead of the usual 12. The 13th represents Israel's sacrifices for peace. The ceremony was attended by the seven Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience who arrived in Israel this week after nearly a decade in Soviet prisons.

Greetings From Soviet Georgia Jews

Begin and President Yitzhak Navon received a cable of congratulations from six Jews in Soviet Georgia, among them the brothers Isai and Grigory Goldstein. Their message celebrated "the peace treaty with Egypt and the release of seven Prisoners of Zion." They cautioned, however, that the Soviet's basic policy toward aliya activists has not changed and that Moscow released prisoners only when it was to its advantage. They noted that Ida Nudel, Anatoly Shcharansky, Vladimir Slepak and Isosif Begun were only a few of those who still remained in prison or internal exile for their Zionist views.

About 50,000 people are expected to gather in the center of Jerusalem tonight and tomorrow to celebrate Independence Day. The streets have been closed to traffic and converted to a carnival midway. Seven stages have been built where leading Israeli artists will perform. Parties marking Independence Day will be held tonight in 16 community centers throughout the city. There will be fireworks displays, campfires and organized entertainment until dawn.

Tomorrow's major events in the capital include the World Jewish Bible Quiz for youngsters from Israel and overseas and the awards of the Israel Prize to nine recipients for excellence in the fields of education, science, theater, Jewish studies and physical culture. Navon will hold a reception for the diplomatic corps at his residence.

In Tel Aviv, Independence Day celebrations will center on the Kikar Malchei Yisrael, the city's new central square where municipal officials have organized "giant happenings." Tel Aviv will combine Independence Day themes with observance of its own 70th anniversary.

ISRAEL COUNTS ITS WAR DEAD

TEL AVIV, May 1 (JTA) -- Israel counted its war dead and the total was appalling for a nation of little more than three million souls -- 13,968 soldiers, men and women, lost in four wars and a war of attrition since the Jewish State was founded 31 years ago. Israel's War for Independence in 1948 claimed 5810 soldiers. The brief Sinai campaign of 1956 added another 421 dead. In the 10 years from 1957, 1967, 930 more Israeli soldiers were killed. The death toll in the Six-Day War was 877 soldiers but another 1010 lost their lives in the war of attrition with Egypt from June 15, 1967 to Dec. 31, 1969; 412 were killed in 1970, 200 in 1971 and 189 in 1972. In 1973, before the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, an additional 101 soldiers died. In the war itself, 4018 Israeli soldiers were killed in action.

PUBLISHERS, JOURNALISTS, LAWYERS CALL FOR RELEASE OF TIMERMAN

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA) -- A group of prominent publishers, journalists and lawyers today called upon Argentine President Jorge Videla to release Jacobo Timerman from house arrest and allow him to visit the United States as a guest of the Columbia School of Journalism.

Timerman, a distinguished journalist and former editor of La Opinion, was arrested in April 1977, abused and tortured, and, although cleared of any wrongdoing by the investigatory military

court and the civilian Supreme Court of Justice, has been held under house arrest since that time, despite his repeated requests to be allowed to join his wife and children in Israel.

Osborn Elliott, Dean of the Columbia School of Journalism, announced today that the prestigious institution which he heads had invited Timerman on March 5 to come to the United States as a guest lecturer and that Timerman, through relatives, had indicated his wish to accept the invitation.

"We did not make our invitation public right away," Elliott explained, "because we wished to give the Argentine authorities a chance to reconsider the case and to use our invitation as a face-saving way to release Mr. Timerman whose continued detention has made them the target of a world-wide protest. We were given reason to believe that Mr. Timerman might be released, but weeks have gone by with no such action."

Judge Marvin Frankel, who visited Argentina at the beginning of April as a member of a New York City Bar Association mission sent to investigate the situation of lawyers in Argentina, confirmed Elliott's comments. He was at first told by Argentine authorities that he would be permitted to visit with Timerman and then abruptly informed that the visit could not be arranged. "I waited for five hours in my room on the last night of our visit," Frankel said, "while aides to the President said they were trying in vain to reach the Minister of the Interior for the necessary clearance."

Timerman May Go On Hunger-Strike

Lawrence Hughes, president of William Morrow Publishers and chairman of the International Freedom to Publish Committee of the Association of American Publishers, said today that his committee has received reports that Timerman is in a state of extreme dependency and may be planning a hunger strike to call attention to his plight.

The committee, which has long been active in advocating Timerman's release, expressed hopes that "pressure from a variety of professional groups in the U.S. might persuade the Argentine authorities that the growing attention to Timerman's case will not subside, and that the government would be better off letting him go than continuing to prolong a situation which brings them nothing but embarrassment and shame."

EGYPTIANS WANT ALL ISRAELIS OUT OF AREAS RESTORED TO EGYPT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 1 (JTA) -- Several small Israeli-owned factories in El Arish will have to close down and move out by May 15, it was reported today because the Egyptians, in talks on the return of El Arish, have made it clear that they preferred that no Israelis remain in areas to be restored to Egyptian sovereignty.

El Arish will be handed back on May 27, Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat are to meet there the next day for talks on the subsequent stages of the normalization process. The Egyptians have agreed to permit the 3000-odd El Arish residents who work in Israel or in eastern Sinai to continue doing so for the time being. Arrangements will have to be made for their crossing the new demarcation lines.

But any hopes of "economic cooperation" involving the factories at El Arish will have to be shelved, at least for the time being. The Egyptian side is evidently not interested in such

cooperation at this stage.

A high level delegation of Egyptian officials, under Sadat's Cabinet Secretary Hassan Kmel, is expected in Israel within two weeks to prepare for the Sadat-Begin meeting at El Arish. The two leaders will also fly together to Beersheba to appear before university students. The talks with Hassan Kmel's party are also likely to focus on questions of tangible further steps in the normalization process that, presumably would be announced by Begin and Sadat at their meeting.

SADAT PLEDGES TO DISPEL ISRAELI FEARS AND SUSPICIONS

JERUSALEM, May 1 (JTA) -- President Anwar Sadat angrily defied the 16 Arab states that have broken relations with Egypt because of its peace treaty with Israel and pledged, in a May Day speech today to "dispel Israeli fears and suspicions. Let those (Arabs) who broke off relations with us understand that we shall not retreat," he said, "God willing, the peace operation and the normalization of relations will continue."

Sadat added, in his speech at the Red Sea town of Safage, "If Israel makes one step forward, we shall march it with two steps to encourage it." He was especially bitter toward Saudi Arabia, Egypt's principal financial backer since the Yom Kippur War, and accused the Saudis of bribing other Arab states to sever relations with Egypt.

The Egyptian leader said those countries were either paid or took the action as a courtesy to Saudi Arabia because of its oil wealth. "The countries which were paid and those who did it out of courtesy told me," Sadat said. He charged that the Saudis themselves were blackmailed by the leaders of Syria, Iraq, Libya and the Palestinians.

Sadat did not rule out a cut-off of Saudi money to finance Egypt's purchases of weapons from the U.S., but he said revenues from the Suez Canal and the Sinai oil fields, once they are returned to Egypt, would compensate for the expected loss. Sadat pledged to do his utmost to advance the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip but said he would not negotiate with Israel to return the Golan Heights to Syria.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA EGYPTIAN STUDENTS INVITE ISRAELIS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA) -- Amin Ebady, chairman of the Egyptian Student Organization in New York University, extended an invitation today to Israeli students here to come and participate in Egypt Day celebrations on May 9 at the NYU campus. According to Naomi Ben-Gur, national secretary of the Israeli Student Organization (ISO) in the U.S. and Canada, the invitation came by telephone this morning at the headquarters of the ISO here.

"Amin told me that in view of the new era of peace that started between our two countries, his organization would like to have a group of Israeli students at this year's celebration of Egypt Day. He invited us to share an Egyptian meal and view Egyptian movies," Ben-Gur said. She said that the invitation was accepted and it was also agreed that the Israeli students will bring with them Israeli food and films as their contribution to the celebration.

Ben-Gur, who is working toward a Master's Degree in films at NYU, said that she also discussed with Ebady further contacts and cooperation between Israeli and Egyptian students in this country and in Canada.

U.S. DOES NOT CONSIDER DISSIDENTS- SPIES SWAP AS EQUAL PARTS IN A TRADE

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, May 1 (JTA) -- The United States said yesterday it does not consider the five Soviet dissidents who came to the U.S. last Friday and the two Soviet spies who returned to the Soviet Union as being equal parts in a trade. At the same time, the Carter Administration has made known that the most favored nation treatment is under "general review" although it has not yet reached a point where it can offer conclusions on whether such treatment will be given the Soviets.

These points emerged at the State Department where its chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, was questioned about the latest developments in Soviet-American relations stemming from Friday's surprise announcement of the trade-off in prisoners. Carter was asked whether the Administration is concerned that it has swapped political dissidents for spies and thus in effect was equating the two groups.

"This was a specific case and a specific objective was reached," Carter replied. "I would not offer you any general conclusions about such equations except we don't equate the two at all."

Asked whether the U.S. considers the release of the dissidents as "window dressing" for a Soviet-American summit on weaponry or a change in Soviet attitude, Carter said: "It is significant in and of itself. It is important that five people no longer are in prison and are indeed free. Our concern extends beyond these people. We have made that evident in the past. It is true today." He added that "there are clearly other people about whom we have spoken privately as well as publicly."

When Carter was asked specifically about the release of the imprisoned Anatoly Shebaransky, Carter said that it would not be "particularly useful" to project any other cases on the basis of this one. "We have made our concerns regarding Shebaransky well known," he said.

MFN Under Examination

Regarding the possibility of change in the U.S. law governing trade and credits in Soviet-American relations, Carter said that the question of most favored nation treatment for the Soviet Union is being "treated at the highest levels" and being examined "by a number of Congressional leaders." He said these activities "amount to a general review of this question. The activity alone indicates a great deal of consideration is being given to the matter." But he added he "has nothing to offer yet on conclusions."

Reminded that Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) had signaled at the Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry rally in New York City strong opposition towards movement to modify the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, Carter said that he had "no specific response" although Jackson's views "are important" and "have to be taken into account."

Predicts Carter Will Grant MFN To The USSR

Meanwhile, Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.), chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, predicted that President Carter would find a way to grant most favored nation trade treatment to the Soviet Union by the end of this year. Ullman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "directly or by interpretation, the President would say the Soviet government is in compliance with the Jackson-Vanik Amendment that links Soviet emigration policy to U.S. trade

benefits. Asked whether assurances from the Soviet Union are required under the Jackson-Vanik proviso of the trade law, Ullman said "we will never get those assurances. No sovereign nation will give them." Asked about safeguards for future emigration once the Jackson-Vanik proviso is repealed or modified, Ullman said that a safeguard would be to review the situation "periodically" and "see if it is satisfactory."

FRIENDLY TOURIST RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL, EGYPT PREDICTED

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA) -- Gideon Patt, Israel's Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism, predicted that friendly tourist relations between Israel and Egypt "will develop much faster than we imagine" and before long thousands of Israeli and Egyptian tourists will be exchanging visits between their countries.

Noting that Israel and Egypt will declare their borders open on May 27, Patt told a press luncheon at the St. Regis Hotel yesterday that "it will be a question of days, maybe weeks," before the flow of tourists starts on both sides.

He predicted that within a three-month period after May 27, land links will be established between the two countries. He said the tourist industries of Israel and Egypt would benefit from the influx of millions of tourists from all over the world who will visit both on package tours. Patt stressed the importance of tourism to Israel's economy.

Patt said his ministry has set a goal of two million tourists from all parts of the world by the year 1982-83 and that it was aiming especially to increase the number of American tourists to a half million by 1980-81, which, he said, means increasing the number of non-Jewish tourists.

Improved Services For Tourists

He disclosed that 1, 176, 000 tourists visited Israel in 1978 of whom 293, 000 were from the United States. In order to increase the tourist traffic, Patt said his ministry is making efforts to improve services for visitors. He said he is "sure" that there will be cooperation in the future between the Israeli and Egyptian tourism ministries, particularly in the area of package tours. But, he added, this will require negotiations between the two ministries. He said he is anxious to meet with his Egyptian counterpart to discuss cooperative ventures.

With respect to the fate of Israeli tourist facilities in Sinai, particularly the resorts built by Israel on the Red Sea, Patt said they would continue to operate over the next three years while Israel is engaged in withdrawing its forces from Sinai. He said his ministry is "toying with the idea" of reaching some kind of agreement with Egypt that would ensure the future operation of those facilities after the Israeli withdrawal is completed. He did not elaborate.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A memorial to be dedicated in Brussels for Jewish heroes killed during World War II in resistance activities against the Nazis will take place May 6 under the patronage of the King of Belgium, it was announced Monday. The names of 242 men and women will be inscribed on the monument, which will be erected alongside a memorial to 24,000 Belgian Jews who perished during the Nazi occupation. The committee in charge of the event intends to disseminate information about the Jewish resistance to the Nazis. It has published a 60-page brochure describing the Jewish resistance movement in Belgium.

ISRAEL'S 31ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA) -- More than 500 Jewish leaders, Israeli officials and members of the Jewish community tonight celebrated Israel's 31st anniversary at the Bier Auditorium of the Central Synagogue in Manhattan. The event was sponsored by the American Zionist Federation (AZF).

The recently concluded peace between Egypt and Israel was clearly felt throughout the evening as every speaker referred to the prospect of a brighter future in the Mideast as a result of the first peace agreement Israel has ever signed with any of its neighbors.

"We are blessed with the privilege of celebrating the first Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Independence Day) as a day crowned with the first laurel of peace," declared Rabbi Joseph Steinstein, president of the AZF. He added:

"It is a blessing to be cherished and savored, since this is a day for which we have yearned and prayed. Let not there be any cloud of doom diluting this time of joy. Whatever challenges may confront us tomorrow, this day which marks a year which Israel consummated a full peace agreement with its largest Arab neighbor is a day of joy. We therefore salute the leaders and people of Israel and we link our arms with them in a symbolic dance of happiness and festivity."

Many Challenges Remain

Steinstein noted that there are still "many awesome challenges." In outlining them, he said: "First we are challenged as a Zionist movement to sharpen, deepen and widen Zionist identity, Zionist achievement and Zionist tasks. Secondly, we anticipate a period both of danger and opportunity, as Israel moves into the round of political debate concerning the future of Judea and Samaria, Gaza and, above all, Jerusalem."

In the United States, the Zionist challenge is to imbue every Jewish family with the Zionist ideal and vision; "wrestle with the problem of mobilizing a movement of aliya" and "look for a total local Jewish community which recognizes the centrality of Israel in their vision of the Jewish future," Steinstein declared.

In addition, he observed, political tasks for Zionists will become sharper in the months to come. "We will be called upon to lead the American Jewish community in the battle for American public opinion, with regard to many serious and complicated political issues. We will be compelled to clarify to American public opinion the two-fold question: who are the so-called 'Palestinians' -- and it will be imperative to expose, once and for all, the myth of a separate 'Palestinian' state and second, to whom does the land of Judea and Samaria, Gaza and Jerusalem, really belong? From these two basic questions, will flow the dimensions of our political battle."

Paul Kedar, Israel's Consul General in New York, delivered greetings on behalf of the Israeli government. The celebration tonight took the form of a musical tribute to Israel, with American and Israeli artists and musicians participating.

Other Activities Mark Anniversary

In related events, New York Governor Hugh Carey proclaimed May 2 as Israel Independence Day in New York State. In his pro-

clamation, Carey stated:

"It is highly appropriate that as the State of Israel celebrates its Independence Day, New Yorkers stand together in saluting and reaffirming our affinity and support for that nation, and that we share in the hopes for peace which have been dramatically begun by Premier Menachem Begin, President Jimmy Carter and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt through the historic signing of the peace treaty between the two nations."

A memorial service honoring Israel's war dead was held this afternoon by the Israeli Consulate here at Goodman House in Manhattan, with the participation of Kedar and other Israeli officials and members of New York's Jewish community.

The major official celebration by Israel here will take place tomorrow evening at the United Nations in a reception by the Israel UN Mission for diplomats from all over the world, New York City officials and Jewish leaders. The reception will be given by Israel's UN Ambassador Yehuda Blum and his wife. Another reception later tomorrow night will be given by Kedar and his wife at their home.

The Israeli Consulate in New York will also conduct four Independence Day receptions for Israelis in New York, where "a glass of wine" will be raised for the occasion. This is the first time that the Israeli Consulate is sponsoring such an event and it is part of a new approach by the Consulate to keep closer contact with Israelis here. The receptions will be held in Queens, Brooklyn and Manhattan.

In a statement calling Israel's 31st anniversary its "Year of Thanksgiving," Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the WZO-American Section, pointed out that this is the year in which the first peace treaty ever signed between Israel and any of her neighbors was achieved, the year in which there has been a resurgence in Soviet Jewish aliya and the year in which the first Israeli-flag ship sailed through the Suez Canal in 31 years.

"Despite all of the difficulties ahead in negotiations over Palestinian autonomy," and the problems and costs in implementation of the treaty already signed with Egypt," Mrs. Jacobson said, "Israel and her friends and supporters around the world celebrate this Independence Day with more hope and more optimism than they have permitted themselves to feel for many years."

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL TABLET DEFACED

AMSTERDAM, May 1 (JTA) -- The memorial tablet for the Jewish victims of the Holocaust at the "Gedempte Gracht" in The Hague was smeared with swastikas and the word "Jews" some time Sunday night. The same thing was done to a kosher delicatessen across the street and the nearby office of The Hague Jewish Congregation. This was the second time in recent weeks that the memorial tablet had been vandalized. In the northern Dutch city of Groningen, the National Resistance Monument was smeared with swastikas over the weekend.

KALENDAROV TRIAL IN TWO WEEKS

NEW YORK, May 1 (JTA) -- Leningrad refugee Boris Kalendarov will go on trial May 14 on draft evasion charges, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) has learned. If convicted, Kalendarov, 21, faces a sentence of one and a half to three years. His trial will be the first of a Jewish activist in Leningrad since nine Jews were convicted of "anti-Soviet activity" in the infamous Second Leningrad Trial in May 1971. He first applied to emigrate to Israel in 1973 and was refused.