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ISRAELI PLANES HIT TERRORIST BASES

IN LEBANON FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE DAY By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 8 (JTA) -- Israeli Air Force planes struck today for the third consecutive day at terrorist bases in Lebanon. There were two separate attacks today, one in the morning in an area south of the Zaharani River and the second in the afternoon against terrorist concentrations near the village of Rehan, 15 kilometers north of Metullah, which was the target of yesterday's raid.

Reports reaching Israel from south Lebanon are that the attacks are having an effect. There are reports that in some places the local population is demanding the removal of the terrorist bases from their area. There is a growing number of people leaving the large cities and they are filling the roads leading northward to Beirut.

While the Lebanese government has been denouncing the Israeli attacks, it was learned that it was also trying to get the Palestinian terrorists to abide by an agreement prohibiting terrorist activities against Israel from Lebanese bases. The terrorists have rejected these demands.

The United States has been urging Israel to discontinue the air attacks. But Premier Menachem Begin reportedly told U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis at a meeting yesterday that Israel will continue to hit the terrorists any time it feels it is necessary. (In Washington, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said today "The continuing Israeli air strikes are contributing to an already dangerous situation. We are urging that those air strikes be stopped." Expanding on a comment he made yesterday when he said that the U.S. is "increasingly concerned about violence" in Lebanon, Carter added "We understand fully that these raids are not occurring in isolation. They are occurring against a backdrop of terrorist activities aimed at Israel and that those attacks have taken innocent lives.")

Lebanon Rejects Begin's Proposals

Meanwhile, Lebanese Premier Selim al-Hoss has rejected Begin's call yesterday for Lebanon to begin peace negotiations with Israel. He said the Israeli attacks on Lebanese territory was blackmail. "It is out of the question that terror and intimidation will force Lebanon to break its ties with the common Arab destiny," he said in a statement carried by the state-run Beirut Radio.

Hoss also rejected a demand by Israel that Syria withdraw its 30,000-man force in Lebanon. The future of this force is expected to be discussed at a meeting between Lebanese President Elias Sarkis and Syrian President Hafez Assad.

Begin's proposals were made in a Knesset speech yesterday. During that time he also suggested that the problem of some 165,000 Palestinians now living in Lebanon be solved by resettling them in Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq and Libya. Hoss rejected this proposal, too, declaring that "everyone knows that Israel is the cause of the Palestinian tragedy through their displacement from their land." He added that "any solution for this crisis which does not provide a just solution for the Palestinian people's case through ensuring their legitimate national rights cannot

serve as a proper Middle East settlement."

PLO DELEGATION'S VISIT TO MEXICO SPARKS ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL

THE UNITED STATES AND EGYPT By Chaim Lazdeiski

MEXICO CITY, May 8 (JTA) -- The Jewish community here is deeply disturbed by the visit to Mexico several days ago of a delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization which became the occasion for an upsurge of anti-Israel, anti-American and anti-Egyptian propaganda. The PLO group was the guest of the Mexican Communist Party (PCM) which sponsored their public appearances including a press conference.

The delegation included the Palestinian poet Mahmud Darwish and Abdel Rahman, editor of the magazine "Palestine," who charged that "American imperialism is developing a conspiracy against the Palestinian people to liquidate freedom of movement and promote the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty in order to surround Syria and help (President Anwar) Sadat against isolation in the Arab world."

Sergio Nudelstejer, secretary general of the Central Jewish Committee of Mexico and representative of the American Jewish Committee in Mexico and Central America, reported on the activities of the PLO visitors and their leftist supporters. He noted that the PCM and other left-wing political movements have been legalized and may participate in the next parliamentary elections to be held July 1.

In their propaganda they always stress the struggle of the "Palestinian people against Zionist imperialism," Nudelstejer said. They accuse Israel of sending weapons to Nicaragua, Argentina, Chile and other right-wing military regimes in Latin America. Nudelstejer produced samples of anti-Semitic leaflets directed against Israel and prominent local Jewish personalities. He said that Mexico probably will be the site of next year's Conference of Arab Federations in Latin America.

VANCE SAYS U.S. WILL DEAL WITH ANY PALESTINIAN ARABS ABOUT FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK, GAZA, BUT NOT WITH THE PLO By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 8 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said today that the U.S. would deal with any Palestinian Arabs about the future of the West Bank or Gaza Strip regardless of their political leanings provided that they live in those areas.

However, he reiterated under questioning by members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, that except for such matters as the security of the U.S. Embassy personnel in Beirut, the U.S. would not deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization until it accepts Security Council Resolution 242 and recognizes Israel's right to exist.

Vance appeared to supercede the testimony given by Harold Saunders, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, who told the same committee two weeks ago that the U.S. could have "informal" contacts with the PLO in the peace process without violating the U.S. agreement with Israel. Vance said "We are free to do what is in the interests of the U.S. but we will always consult with Israel." Israel's position is that if the U.S. has contacts with the PLO it would be violating the letter and spirit of the second Sinai interim agreement of 1975 which

contains the prescribed two conditions. Vance and Defense Secretary Harold Brown testified in support of the authorization legislation for \$3 billion in aid to Israel and \$1.8 billion for Egypt stemming from the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The measure will be voted on by the Committee tomorrow and sent to the House. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has already adopted the measure.

Rep. Gerry Studds (D. Mass.), calling for U.S. action to penalize Israel for building new settlements on the West Bank, asked Vance if he would approve a reduction of \$35 million in the appropriation for Israel. "I would want to reflect on that," Vance replied. The \$35 million is understood to be the cost of building two new settlements on the West Bank recently approved by the Israeli Cabinet.

Rejects Change In Aid Package

Vance, who said the exchange of treaty ratification instruments between Israel and Egypt in Sinai two weeks ago means "the era of bloodshed is over" and "a new era of peaceful cooperation can lie ahead," refused to accept any changes in the aid package. Israel has sought easier terms on the U.S. aid. While it will receive \$800 million in the form of a grant, the remainder will be a loan repayable at the current high-market interest rates.

The Secretary of State told Committee chairman Clement Zablocki (D. Wisc.) that "a change in the funding is not necessary." But he said, "we will review" the situation annually and report to Congress. That is the position of the Senate Committee. Vance said the Israeli government estimates the "direct cost of withdrawal" from Sinai at roughly \$4 billion. Thus the U.S. support will fall short of meeting their costs by \$1 billion.

With respect to the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of agreement on possible violations of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, Brown testified that the U.S. policy of "helping Israel help itself does not absolve the U.S. from maintaining a watchful attitude toward the security of Israel." Asked if that meant U.S. forces would enter the area, the Defense Secretary replied, "I would not rule out use" of military forces in defense of U.S. "vital interests."

Issue Of Talks With Palestinians

On the issue of talks with Palestinians, Vance emphasized that "we are free to discuss with the people of the West Bank -- for example, mayors -- without regard to what their politics may be, as long as they are residents of the West Bank and Gaza."

When pressed about "informal contacts" with the PLO, he replied, "If people are residents of the West Bank, we are prepared to discuss the peace process with them regardless of their politics." However, he told Rep. Lester Wolff (D. NY) that the U.S. might talk with a West Bank mayor "who may have PLO leanings" but "not with the PLO as such."

When Rep. Paul Findley (R. Ill.), a supporter of the Palestinians, asked about Vance's assertion that "we are free to do what is in the interests of the U.S.," the Secretary replied, "As a matter of law, this is correct but I have spelled out what I meant." Vance said the U.S. knows about the PLO position through discussions with Syria and Lebanon.

Findley asked if "direct talks would not be better," and Vance replied "not necessarily." When Findley pressed as to whether "you are sat-

isfied with the present circumstances," the Secretary replied, "Under our commitments that we have made we are doing the best we can."

CAPUCCI GETS NEW POST IN EUROPE

By Lisa Palmieri-Billing

VATICAN CITY, May 8 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II offered a new job yesterday to the controversial Greek Catholic Bishop Hilarion Capucci at a private audience during which his "unauthorized" attendance at a Palestinian National Council meeting in Damascus was not raised. Capucci was released by Israel after serving 39 months of a 12-year jail sentence for gun-running for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

He was freed in 1977 after intercession by Pope Paul VI on condition he never return to the Middle East. Capucci was assigned to a post in Latin America but suddenly turned up at the Damascus meeting, causing Israeli protests and a statement by the Vatican that his trip there was "unauthorized." He had been waiting in Rome for a month for his audience with the new Pope.

Capucci, the former Melchite Bishop of Jerusalem, will now administer to Melchite groups in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands and Switzerland, the Vatican said after the audience. With Capucci at the audience was Patriarch Maximos V Hakim of Antioch.

Asked if Capucci's attendance at the Palestinian talks had been raised during the Papal audience, Maximos said, "No, it was not discussed. That is water under the bridge. It is all over." He added, "In any case, no one can stop (Capucci) loving the Palestinian people. This is perfectly in keeping with the spirit of the Catholic Church."

Maximos said that many subjects were discussed at the meeting with the Pope, including Lebanon, Jerusalem and "the forces for peace in the Middle East." He did not elaborate beyond saying, "I repeated my opinion that there can never be a lasting peace in the area without a solution being found to the problem of the Palestinian people."

CONNECTICUT SUPREME COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF BEIT HAVURAH

NEW YORK, May 8 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today hailed as "a major victory for religious freedom" a decision by the Connecticut Supreme Court holding unconstitutional zoning-law restrictions on the operation of religious institutions.

The decision was handed down this morning on an appeal from a ruling by the Norfolk, Conn., zoning board limiting the number of days when the members of a Jewish congregation known as Beit Havurah (House of Fellowship) may worship and spend the night in the nine-room converted farm house that is their synagogue.

Beit Havurah was represented in the appeal by Nathan Dershowitz, director of the AJCongress' Commission on Law and Social Action. Wesley Horton of Hartford served as co-counsel. The Litchfield County Court of Common Pleas had upheld Beit Havurah's status as a house of worship but rejected its objection to the zoning board action restricting overnight worship to certain holidays specified by the Board.

In 1975 some 40 young Jewish professionals purchased the farm house in Norfolk, about 40 miles northwest of Hartford. It was shortly thereafter that the Norfolk zoning board said Beit Havurah did not qualify as a permitted "church or other place of worship."

The Supreme Court reversed this aspect of the

lower court's ruling. Justice Ellen Peters, speaking for three of the court's five members, held that constitutional guarantees of religious liberty bar governmental agencies from determining which activities of a religious institution may be limited under zoning regulations. Any "accessory use" of its facilities by a church or synagogue, the court said, must be viewed as part of its religious mission and therefore as immune to governmental regulation or restraint, unless it is found to be a public nuisance.

Commenting on today's decision, Henry Siegman, executive director of the AJCongress, declared: "The direct effect of the court's ruling is that Beit Haverah's use of its property for Jewish worship and religious study may not be limited to days and hours set by a zoning board on the basis of its notion of an institution's religious beliefs."

"However, the principles laid down by the court as the basis for this ruling go much further. They effectively guarantee the right of churches, synagogues and other religious institutions the right to conduct their operations free of burdensome and arbitrary zoning regulations."

FLAP OVER RELEASE OF TERRORISTS

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, May 8 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin's government is in for a severe buffeting because of its release of 76 Palestinian terrorists for one Israeli prisoner last March and the revelation yesterday that at least 33 of the Palestinians had been serving maximum sentences for outrages that resulted in loss of life or injuries to Israeli soldiers and civilians.

Two no-confidence motions filed in the Knesset yesterday by the opposition Labor Party and the Shai faction are expected to be defeated -- but only because coalition discipline requires all members to rally in support of the government against such motions.

Many coalition MKs are, in fact, seething with anger. Yehuda Ben-Meir of the National Religious Party said today that he sympathized fully with the opposition motions and while he will have to back the government, he will do so with a "heavy heart." Ben-Meir seemed to echo the majority sentiment in the Knesset when he observed that the release of the terrorists was "one of the most serious mistakes ever committed by any Israeli government."

He revealed what had been shrouded in secrecy until now -- that the decision to make the lopsided prisoner exchange was taken by the Ministerial Defense Committee by a narrow 4-3 majority. Neither the full Cabinet nor the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee was consulted.

It was learned today that Begin, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon and Health Minister Eliezer Shostak voted in favor of the exchange. It was opposed by three non-Likud Cabinet members -- Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Interior Minister Yosef Burg and Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir.

Government Taken To Task

The government is also being taken to task for lack of candor in the affair. Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres accused it of deliberate misrepresentation when it claimed, at the time of the exchange, that two-thirds of the released prisoners were common criminals serving time for non-terrorist related offenses and that none of the

rest were "well-known" terrorists. Until the list was published in Yedioth Achronot yesterday -- after it appeared in terrorist propaganda pamphlets -- the government had refused to divulge the names of the released prisoners.

Most serious, according to the opposition, is the effect the exchange will have on Israel's war against the terrorists. If it is bound to serve as a precedent to encourage the Palestinians to capture more Israeli hostages and bargain for the release of other imprisoned terrorists, many MKs said today. Peres observed that the government's recent decision to apply the death penalty to terrorists convicted of brutal crimes will only make matters worse. That was tantamount to saying "either capture hostages and bargain for the release of your men or we will hang them," Peres said.

Meir Amit, leader of the Shai faction, and other critics, have asked publicly whether Israel will now have the moral right to refuse to negotiate with the terrorists or to risk lives by sending soldiers in to rescue future hostages who might be released in a prisoner exchange.

Begin Defends Action

Begin, defending the government's action, denied that he had ordered the prisoner exchange that was effected in Geneva last March 14 as a "gesture" toward Egypt. He said he acted out of purely humanitarian reasons on behalf of captured Reserves Pvt. Avraham Amram who had been tortured by the terrorists and might have been executed. Previously, government sources said the humanitarian approach had been warranted by the condition of Amram's wife and children.

Meanwhile, the exchange has proven to be a propaganda bonanza for Ahmed Jabril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command which captured Amram and killed four of his companions in south Lebanon a year ago. They are boasting that they are the first Palestinians ever to succeed in freeing their comrades and did so without risk to themselves.

The matter has raised new security concerns. There is no guarantee that the freed killers will not murder again. At least 11 are reported to have returned to Israel or Israeli-occupied territory. According to one report, they are being used to train terrorist recruits and teach them how to conduct themselves under the pressure of interrogation by Israeli security officers if caught.

LEGIONNAIRES DISEASE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 8 (JTA) -- Cases of Legionnaires Disease have been reported in Israel. Dr. Eitan Rubinstein, head of the infectious disease department at Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer, said in a radio interview today that a woman tourist from Argentina has died of the viral disease. Four Israelis also reportedly came down with the disease but recovered. Rubinstein said the woman, who came to Israel after visiting Spain and France, was first thought to have pneumonia, but it is now certain that she had Legionnaires Disease.

Top Israeli medical experts stressed today that there is no danger of the malady becoming an epidemic in Israel. They said the only confirmed case of Legionnaires Disease was the Argentine tourist. The other cases are only suspected. In any event, the disease is curable, the doctors said. The disease got its name when 29 persons attending an American Legion convention in Philadelphia three years ago died after coming down with an illness that no one could pinpoint immediately.

FOCUS ON ISSUES**REVMAPPING ZIONIST EFFORTS IN FRANCE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 8 (JTA) -- The recognition of a slow but steady "awakening" within French Jewry, and the desire to foster and encourage it, has prompted the World Zionist Organization to appoint a senior Israeli diplomat, Avi Primor, to the newly-created position of "Delegate-General of the WZO and Jewish Agency in France."

Primor, 44, served for six years as Minister-Counsellor (the number two spot) at the Israel Embassy in Paris, leaving in 1976. He is thoroughly familiar with French Jewry -- now the second-largest community in the diaspora -- and deeply believes in the need, and in his ability, to engender greater identity and Israel-awareness among much broader sectors of it.

Primor flew to Paris last weekend for an initial six-week orientation stay. He will return to Jerusalem in the summer to coordinate his future activities with the various WZO and Jewish Agency departments here, and will take up residence in Paris, with his wife and two children, after the vacations.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Primor said he had been asked to undertake the assignment by leaders of the French Jewish community, among them Zionist Federation head Albert Naiman (a leading leukemia expert) and leading fund-raiser Michel Topiol.

Enormously Significant Developments

He had only agreed, however, after WZO chairman Leon Dulzin suggested he conduct an in-depth study-visit, during which he discovered "enormously significant developments that have affected French Jewry since I left three years ago."

Firstly, said Primor, there is a marked new willingness among young people to be Jewishly active and involved. Primor called together an informal evening meeting of some 200 young people, mostly in their thirties, to discuss the challenge that Dulzin had faced him with.

"I said to them: 'If I call on you to help me, on an ongoing basis, in volunteer work, will you respond?'" He was assured not only that they readily would, but that they could and would bring hundreds of others who would be equally ready to give of their time and energy. Primor noted, too, the warm welcome he received from the old-established leaderships of the various communal organizations: the Zionist Federation, the Fonds Social Juif Unifié, and the Consistoire.

His intention is to create Jewish centers wherever there are Jewish community of any size. Most of the Jews are concentrated in the greater Paris area and on the Mediterranean coast. The Consistoire has already pledged to put its synagogues at his disposal, and he has also been promised the use of the community centers run by the Fonds Social.

Nominally, Primor will be developing Zionist centers. But in fact, he said, the aim will not be restricted in any way by this label. The purpose is to infuse as many Jews as possible with Jewish and Israel-oriented content to their lives.

Increasing Zionist, Aliya Consciousness

Paradoxically, Primor noted, the weakness of organized communal life in France, compared to other Jewish communities, is an advantage: he will not be fettered by jurisdictional disputes

or other extraneous considerations and will thus be able, he hopes, to focus wholly on the job in hand. The second pleasant surprise of his study-visit, he said, was the high quality and competence of many of the Jewish Agency personnel.

The immediate aim, Primor concluded, is to ensure that as many Jews as possible have permanent, ongoing contact with a Jewish organization (the local Zionist center and through it the Zionist Federation). In the long run, success will mean more pride and assertiveness on the part of the 750,000-strong French community, and also more Israel-awareness which is the sine qua non for any aliya-consciousness, he stated.

Obviously it is not an overnight process. But Primor believes that objective conditions are ripe for an energetic effort by the Zionist movement, as the representative of Israel and of world Jewry, to catalyze what is perceived as a promising, if belated, bestirring within French Jewry.

ONTARIO USING EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES DEVELOPED BY CANADIAN HADASSAH-WIZO

MONTREAL, May 8 (JTA) -- Techniques developed by the Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's Research Institute in Jerusalem are currently being employed by the Province of Ontario to improve the academic performance of culturally deprived and retarded youngsters.

The techniques, known as Learning Potential Assessment Device (LPAD) and the Instrumental Enrichment Program (IE) were devised by the Research Institute under the direction of Dr. Reuven Feuerstein. They are also being used by the Ministry of Education in Israel to benefit Arab children.

According to Hadassah-WIZO, the LPAD technique helps create programs of instruction for low functioning adolescents and adults. IE is geared to modifying the retarded performers' learning skills, vocabulary and motivations so that they are prepared to cope with academic life. Both are employed by the Ontario Institute for Studies.

Application of the techniques is also being funded by the Ontario Ministry of Education for use in the province's public schools. The Ministry is funding two studies of the effectiveness of IE on teachers and students. LPAD is also being used on academically retarded inmates at two English-speaking federal prisons.

Hadassah-WIZO announced that as part of its observance of the International Year of the Child in Canada, it will present copies of Dr. Feuerstein's soon-to-be published book "The Dynamic Assessment of Retarded Performers" to all universities in Canada that have departments of psychology and education. Each volume will have a book plate marking the occasion and an explanation of Feuerstein's connection with Youth Aliya and Canadian Hadassah-WIZO.

BRUSSELS (JTA) -- A monument to wartime Jewish resistance in Belgium was inaugurated here Sunday in the presence of the King's personal representative. The memorial bears the names of the 242 Jewish fighters who died while fighting the Nazis in Belgium. Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs Henri Simonet and the Ambassadors of over a dozen foreign countries, including those of the Soviet Union, West and East Germany and the United States, attended the ceremony during which a company of Belgian troops presented arms while taps and bugles were sounded.

BRUSSELS (JTA) -- A Liberal synagogue and community center opened here last week to service the 250 families belonging to the local Liberal community.