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FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR TWO TEENAGERS KILLED BY BOMB BLAST

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for two 16-year-old youths killed when a bomb exploded on Tiberias' main street yesterday afternoon. Twenty of the 37 people injured by the blast are still hospitalized, four of them in serious condition at Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

Buried today were Boaz Lahav of Tiberias and David Lankari of Beisan. Both were on their way to a meeting of northern district secondary school students and teachers that was to open in Tiberias yesterday, attended by several thousand youngsters aged 13-16. The bomb exploded in a trash can as they and other youths were walking toward the meeting hall a short distance away. An Arab and a Druze student from Sakhnin and Pekini villages were among the injured as were two other Arab passersby. Because of the tragedy the meeting was cancelled.

Four injured persons taken to the Afuleh hospital and 12 still in the Poriya Hospital near Tiberias were reported in satisfactory condition tonight. El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization, claimed credit for the outrage. Israeli security forces conducted a widespread manhunt and a number of suspects were reported in custody.

Meanwhile, Israeli police and other security services were put on special alert today for further terrorist acts on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of Israel's independence which falls on May 15 according to the Western calendar. The West Bank was quiet today despite calls for a general strike by Arab militants.

KHOMEINI TRIES TO CONVINCE IRANIAN JEWS TO REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, May 15 (JTA) -- In an apparent effort to assuage the fears of Iran's Jewish community, the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini met for an hour yesterday with six Jewish leaders. During the meeting, which was held at Khomeini's headquarters in the Moslem holy city of Qom, the Ayatollah urged Iran's 50,000 Jews to remain in the country, Radio Teheran reported.

Radio Teheran said that Khomeini told the delegation, which included Teheran Chief Rabbi Yehediah Shofet, that the new Islamic regime in Iran will follow the principle that "Islam has always protected the rights of all minorities." Khomeini urged Jews to remain in Teheran and "continue working for the country's prosperity."

The radio report also said that the Jewish delegation denounced "Zionist plots against Iran" and pledged their loyalty to the new regime which in effect is headed by Khomeini. Radio Teheran said the delegation informed the Iranian religious leaders that Iranian Jews are "loyal and faithful citizens."

Observers here said the meeting was arranged to calm the Jewish community following the execution last week of one of its leaders, Habib Elkanian. It was also seen here as a means of attempting to reassure public opinion in the United States and West Europe where Elkanian's

execution had been protested.

(In Jerusalem, a memorial service was held yesterday for Elkanian. President Yitzhak Navon, addressing the large congregation which thronged the Mechal Shalom religious center here, said it was still "up to us" to make efforts to rescue Iranian Jewry -- and up to them to decide to leave the country and come to Israel. "There can be no forcible aliya," Navon said. "The lesson of recent events should be clear, however. Their safety lies in aliya." The service was attended by Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef.)

BEGIN: PEACE WITH LEBANON POSSIBLE AFTER DAY OR TWO OF NEGOTIATIONS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin said yesterday that a peace treaty with Lebanon could be achieved in a day or two of negotiations and could be followed by similar agreements with Jordan, Syria and the rest of the Arab world. Addressing a B'nai B'rith luncheon here, he stressed that Israel has no territorial demands from Lebanon.

A week ago, Begin offered to fly to Beirut for peace talks with President Elias Sarkis, an offer promptly rejected by the Lebanese government. Begin also proposed at that time that Syria pull its forces out of Lebanon and that the 165,000 Palestinian Arabs in south Lebanon be resettled in other Arab countries.

Begin hailed the peace treaty with Egypt yesterday, observing that since it was signed last March 26 "we live in a different world." He noted that Israel's naval craft will shortly pass through the Suez Canal, a sign of the rapid normalization of relations between Israel and its most powerful neighbor. But Begin cautioned that many problems remain to be resolved, notably that of Jerusalem. "Just like Washington, D.C. will never be divided, neither will Jerusalem, capital of Israel," he said.

SENATE AUTHORIZES U.S. TO PROVIDE AID TO ISRAEL, EGYPT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 15 (JTA) -- The Senate yesterday adopted the \$4.8 billion bill authorizing the U.S. to provide \$3 billion for Israel and \$1.8 billion for Egypt to implement their peace treaty.

The vote was 73-11. Liberals and conservatives were involved on both sides of the vote. Voting against the bill were Sens. Adlai Stevenson (D.Ill.) and William Proxmire (D.Wisc.). They were joined by Sens. Jesse Helms (R.NC), Barry Goldwater (R.Ariz.) and Russell Long (D.La.), among others.

Stevenson, who is not seeking re-election next year, argued that "despite all the wishful thinking, the United States cannot threaten, intimidate or coerce the Arabs, the Europeans or anyone else into accepting a step-by-step approach to peace in the Middle East."

The Arabs, he added, "think this approach allows Israel to pick and choose between those issues it wants to settle and those it wants to ignore."

Joining now by Iran, they are in a position of considerable influence in a world that depends heavily on the Middle East for fuel and capital. And it cannot be said that there is no basis for their concern."

Stevenson said U.S. "influence in the Middle East is diminished. If this process (Egyptian-Israeli

negotiations) fails to produce some evidence of progress on the West Bank issue in the near future the Arab perception of Israeli intentions and the prospects for a settlement will appear vindicated the world over."

Earlier in the debate, Sen. Paul Laxalt (R., Nev.), a conservative leader, pointed out that he has not supported "a single foreign assistance measure since coming to the Senate" five years ago. But on this issue he was making an exception because it "contributes to a prudent attempt at solving an extraordinarily difficult and dangerous problem. Although no one can be overly sanguine about the prospects for finally achieving peace in the Middle East, I believe it imperative that the glimmer of hope for peace raised by the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty be sustained."

The House Foreign Affairs Committee reported out the measure today but no date has yet been set for a vote in the House. It is expected to be approved there.

Industrialized Nations Asked To Help

Meanwhile, the Senate by a voice vote yesterday adopted a sense of Congress resolution urging President Carter to seek the cooperation of other industrialized nations to help implement the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty by economic assistance to both countries.

Sen. Larry Pressler (R., SD) urged the establishment of an international "peace development fund" to underwrite the costs of supporting peace in the Middle East. He tacked the measure on to the \$4.8 billion bill. Sen. Frank Church (D., Idaho) and Sen. Jacob Javits (R., NY), the chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, respectively, sponsored the measure.

The House has already adopted a similar measure. On April 9, by a voice vote and no dissent, the House adopted the resolution offered by Rep. Don Ritter (R., Pa.) as a rider on the International Development Cooperation Act.

BEN-ELISSAR SAYS HE IS CONFIDENT OF AUTONOMY ACCORD

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA) -- Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, said last night that he was confident that despite the wide gaps, agreement would eventually be reached with Egypt on Palestinian autonomy. Ben-Elissar made this point during a television panel discussion on the autonomy issue.

He said the autonomy proposal was a concession by Premier Menachem Begin and his government, inasmuch as the Premier and the coalition majority believed in Israeli sovereignty over all of "Eretz Israel." The intention was sincerely to give the Palestinians maximal control over their own affairs, he said. But they must not be permitted to proclaim or erect their own independent state.

Ben-Elissar said the government's proposals would perhaps be more far-reaching were it not for the fear that the Palestinians might try to use the autonomy as a springboard to full political independence.

ANCHORING SADAT'S YACHT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA) -- Where will Egyptian President Anwar Sadat anchor his yacht when he arrives in El Arish May 26? This is the problem the Israeli-Egyptian delegations were

wrestling with today as they continued discussions on Israel's turning over of the northern Sinai town to the Egyptians.

The problem is that the shore at El Arish is shallow and maritime experts will have to find a deep spot to anchor the presidential yacht. Israeli Premier Menachem Begin will be taken by an amphibious vehicle to the yacht to welcome Sadat.

Meanwhile, other teams were marking the new lines that will divide Israeli-held territory from El Arish and Israeli engineers were training Egyptian technicians to handle the water pumps and other utilities in the town. While the Egyptians have already agreed to allow Israelis to continue operating a laundry in the area to be taken over by Egypt, they have not yet agreed whether to allow residents of El Arish to continue working in Israel.

In A-Tour, the Egyptian delegates to the committee on the Sinai oil fields have not yet approved any further Israeli developments of the oil fields although the Israelis plan to dig another well before the oil fields are turned over to Egypt in seven months. The Egyptians were described as "not being too anxious to cooperate." However, the committee is expected to meet again in about two weeks.

DUTCH ASHKENAZI COMMUNITY SEEKING WAYS TO REVITALIZE MEMBERSHIP

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, May 15 (JTA) -- The Netherlands Ashkenazi Congregation is considering measures to revitalize its membership against a background of growing indifference and declining numbers. A report published at the annual meeting of the congregation's central commission Sunday indicated that while the nominal membership of 13,000, more than half of Holland's total Jewish population of 22,000 seems impressive, very few members are prepared to be personally active on behalf of the congregation and most show little interest in its activities.

A breakdown of the membership showed that 80 percent live in or near the three largest cities. There are 8700 Ashkenazic Jews in the Amsterdam area, 1150 in The Hague and 670 in Rotterdam. In Bussum, some 25 kilometers east of Amsterdam, the Ashkenazic community numbers 240. Seven other towns have between 100-200 and 14 congregations have between 40-90 members. Another 18 congregations have fewer than 35 members each.

The membership is dropping gradually but the congregation and its Executive have increasing tasks, owing in part to expanded international contacts. It was decided at the commission meeting to appoint an assistant secretary to aid Josep Sanders who was appointed secretary six years ago.

Prior to his appointment, the secretary of the Ashkenazic Congregation was combined with that of the Amsterdam congregation in the person of Benjamin W. de Jongh. That situation lasted for some 25 years after World War II until de Jongh settled in Israel. It was decided Sunday to appoint a full-time secretary for the Amsterdam congregation despite a considerable drop in membership.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Yeruhim Meshel, 'Histadrut' director general, will go to Egypt soon as the guest of Egypt's trade unions. Hassan Kamal, head of President Anwar Sadat's office, delivered the invitation when he arrived in El Arish for the talks on the transfer of that Sinai town to Egypt.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Libya closed down its Embassy in Nepal because of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's recent visit there, Dayan told the Knesset Finance Committee Tuesday.

ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAYS ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE IS AT STAKE IN NEXT PHASE OF ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, May 15 (JTA) -- Israeli Minister of Justice Shmuel Tamir cautioned American Jewish community leaders last night that "the security of Israel, the very existence of Israel" are at stake in the next phase of the Egyptian-Israeli-American negotiations opening in El Arish May 26. He spoke at a dinner meeting of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

Alluding to Israel's determination to maintain its view of autonomy for the West Bank, Tamir said "as highly important" as the Sinai is "Samaria and Judea are intertwined in the tiny piece of geography" that is Israel. Israel "for the goal of peace, has shown a global viewpoint and understanding of the free world's needs," he said, in its peace proposals.

Pointing to anti-Israel statements from Syria, the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization and even Egypt in recent days, Tamir said "We in our generation learned to trust the threats of dictators and the noises and voices of totalitarian regimes because they are true. Hitler lived up to fulfillment of every threat."

The more than 1000 men and women at the dinner meeting at the Capital Hilton Hotel broke into applause when Tamir said that Jerusalem is open for Jews, Moslems and Christians for "the first time in 2000 years" and "this is the way it will remain." Tamir, who met here yesterday with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Special Ambassador Robert Strauss who is heading the U.S. delegation to the autonomy talks, left here today and will address two United Jewish Appeal functions in Toronto Thursday.

President Carter sent greetings to the AIPAC conference dinner. Among the guests were Presidential political advisor Hamilton Jordan, Presidential consultant Edward Sanders, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs Harold Saunders, White House Congressional Liaison Frank Moore and two score of Senators and Representatives.

Urges Retention Of J-V Amendment

Senators Alan Cranston (D. Calif.), the second-ranking leader of the Senate's Democratic majority, and Robert Packwood (R. Ore.), preceded Tamir in the speaking program. Referring to the impending Carter-Brezhnev conference in mid-June in Vienna, Cranston indicated that because of the second SALT agreement, the Soviet Union "won't actively subvert" the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and that the Soviet Union has shown "restraint" on developments in Iran.

"The promise of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment has been substantially recognized," Cranston said, regarding increased Soviet Jewish emigration. "That does not mean it should be repealed or amended," he said, but that "compliance" with the trade law "has been achieved." He expressed hope that "much more comes out" of the summit conference than the SALT agreement.

U.S. Mideast Policy Assailed

Packwood aroused storms of applause in his series of attacks on the Carter Administration's Middle East policy. With Saunders and top White House officials sitting nearby, he pointed out that "at a time when we should be strengthening

Israel, Harold Saunders was telling the Arabs on the West Bank 'hold on' -- we will get Israel out of the West Bank like we did in Sinai." Packwood described as "baloney" Carter's insistence that the West Bank settlements are illegal and an obstacle to peace.

Recalling Carter's letter to "every Senator" last spring in defense of his proposal to sell F-15 warplanes to Saudi Arabia because the Saudis "work for moderation and peace," Packwood said, "I don't need to remind this audience what kind of moderating effect Saudi Arabia has had on the Egyptian-Israeli treaty."

Attacking appeasement of Israel's foes and pointing to the lesson of Munich 41 years ago when "the Western world cravenly surrendered to Hitler," Packwood said "last year it was 'just give us the F-15s.' This year it is 'just give us the West Bank.' For the radical rejectionist Arab states last year, this year and next year, it's 'just give us Israel!'"

Israel Seeks Comprehensive Peace

Last night, Israeli Ambassador Ephraim Evron told the opening session of AIPAC's annual conference that Israel seeks "a comprehensive peace with which we can live." He observed that "friends forget we, too, have rights no less than the others." This was seen as a thinly veiled reference to the claims continually set forth for Israel's enemies.

Evron, saying that Israel is "now in the most sensitive phase of peace negotiations" for a Middle East settlement, stressed that "what we seek is coexistence with open borders, the right of movement, of living and working together." "Whatever happens now, he said, "will have a vital effect on our security. No one expects us, with regard for our security, to depend only on the good-will of the Mayor of Ramallah." The Israeli envoy expressed hope that "the inhabitants of Judea and Samaria will reconsider their present attitude, their present position for the future of their children as well as ours and participate in discussions and find solutions that all of us can live with."

Morris Amitay, AIPAC's executive secretary, noted that the 600 delegates from 37 states who registered for the conference constituted an unprecedented attendance for an AIPAC opening session.

3-WAY ACCORD ON HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

BALTIMORE, May 15 (JTA) -- A three-way agreement between the city, the Community College of Baltimore and the Baltimore Jewish Community Relations Council's Holocaust Memorial Fund of Baltimore has been signed, giving the go-ahead for bids to go out for construction of the city's Holocaust Memorial. The agreement was necessary because the city and the college are donating maintenance services and land to the project. The project will cost about \$175,000 and will be completed next fall. The memorial will consist of an open-air sanctuary protected by two cantilevered concrete blocks. Engraved on the sanctuary walls will be appropriate inscriptions.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Difficulties arising from the expropriation of Bedouin lands have led American construction circles to abandon their plans to build a large military airfield at Tel Ma'hata in the Negev, it was reported from Beersheba. The Americans will build two smaller airfields, one near Mitzpeh Ramon and the other near Yotveta while the main base at Tel Ma'hata will be built by Israel. The three airfields are intended to replace the air bases that Israel will give up when its forces complete their withdrawal from Sinai in three years.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA **AMERICAN RED CROSS RESOLUTION** **COMMITTEE REJECTS PROPOSAL FOR** **RECOGNITION OF RED MAGEN DAVID** By Cami-Slomovitz

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 15 (JTA) -- The resolutions committee of the 54th national convention of the American Red Cross rejected a proposal yesterday urging the Red Cross to pursue recognition by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies of Magen David Adom. The proposal was submitted by Mark Powers on behalf of the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania chapter of the Red Cross.

The resolution stated in part that "Magen David Adom (Red Shield of David Society of Israel) has met every criteria for admission to the family of Red Cross societies except for an approved emblem. For the past 31 years, repeated efforts have been made to have the symbol of Magen David Adom take its rightful place along side the other internationally recognized symbols: the Red Cross, the Red Crescent of Moslem countries and the Red Lion and Sun of Iran.

"The National Board of Governors should appoint a committee consisting of board members to pursue immediate recognition of Magen David Adom by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the admission of Magen David Adom to the League of Red Cross Societies."

Duane Johnson, manager of the Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross, expressed the hope that the resolution would have been brought before the general convention and added that he believed that it could have passed. However, the resolutions committee did not present the resolution to the convention.

Israeli Delegation Honored

Last evening, Mayor Richard Berkley of Kansas City presented a key to the city to Prof. Moshe Mory, head of the Israeli delegation of Magen David Adom at the convention, which also included Dov Fraenkel, Dena Harris, Chaim and Sophie Alon. The American delegation was headed by Joseph Handelsman, president of the American Red Magen David for Israel. The presentation took place at a private reception tendered by the Jewish Welfare Federation of Kansas City at their offices.

A similar presentation was made to George M. Elsey, president of the American Red Cross. Mory also presented Elsey with a medallion from Magen David Adom. In Elsey's response, he professed the admiration of the American Red Cross for Magen David Adom and looked forward to the day when Magen David Adom would be totally recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

SOVIET REFUSNIK SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA) -- Boris Kalendarov, a 21-year-old Leningrad student refusnik and an unofficial Hebrew teacher, was sentenced yesterday to two years' imprisonment in an eight-hour trial for alleged "draft evasion," the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) learned. The SSSJ charged that "in reality, the Hebrew language was on trial, since the Kremlin seeks to destroy that link to our ancient Jewish heritage."

As distinguished from trials of many other Jewish activists, the court was packed with refusniks. A representative from the American Consulate in Leningrad was ejected, but a law-

yer from London was allowed to remain. Two defense witnesses were permitted, Boris and his mother Eugenia. Prosecution witnesses were members of the police and military, the SSSJ reported.

The SSSJ said that "threats and trials on 'draft evasion' are a sword commonly hung over the head of young Jewish males who seek to emigrate." Kalendarov and his parents applied for exit visas to Israel in 1973, and were refused because of his engineer mother's alleged "state secrets." Boris' sister Mila, however, was permitted to emigrate. Kalendarov was in hiding about a year before his March 8 arrest.

In his final address to the court, which he insisted be placed in the court records, Kalendarov declared: "I never said I did not want to serve in the Soviet army, but I thought I was unworthy because I did not want to be a Soviet citizen. I thought it would be an insult to my fellow soldiers. I never did anything against Soviet laws or the Soviet system; I have never been anti-Soviet. The reason I was eligible for the army was because I was expelled from school for applying to emigrate."

"My wish to leave and to cease to be a Soviet citizen has not been extinguished. I still want to emigrate to Israel, and will do so after my release." The SSSJ said that Kalendarov has seven days in which to file an appeal.

RABBI SEEKS MUNICIPAL STATUS FOR **HIS 300-MEMBER COMMUNITY IN QUEBEC** By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 15 (JTA) -- An Orthodox rabbi has asked the Quebec government to grant municipal status to his 300-member community in the Sainte Therese district north of Montreal. Rabbi M.F. Lowy, spiritual leader of the congregation, made the request on grounds that the community is growing and the number of households has increased. He proposed that it be named for Tosh, the city in Hungary where he was born and that the name be included on future maps of the province. The congregation is presently within the precincts of the town of Boisbriand.

The congregation, which dates from 1963, includes 200 children who are being taught English and French, and Quebec and Canadian culture in addition to their religious studies. The adults are engaged exclusively in Jewish religion and historical research at the local seminary.

AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- The booklet, "Piedra Gloriosa," by Menasse Ben Israel printed in 1655 with four etchings by Rembrandt, has been stolen from the Rembrandt House in Amsterdam. It is one of the four extant copies of this rare work and is also one of the very few instances of a book illustrated by Rembrandt. The value of the pamphlet is estimated at some \$20,000.

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- The United States has cautioned the World Health Organization that it would consider withdrawing from that body if it proceeds to expel or suspend Israel and take action of some kind against Egypt. WHO, which opened its meetings May 7 in Geneva to set policies for the coming year, has undertaken a resolution to consider moving its regional office from Alexandria at the behest of Arab states hostile to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

VIENNA (JTA) -- More than 6000 Austrians gathered Sunday at the site of the former Nazi concentration camp Mauthausen to attend a commemoration on the occasion of the 34th anniversary of its liberation.