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SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS ON SITUATION IN LEBANON By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, May 31 (JTA) -- The Security Council met today on a complaint by Lebanon alleging an escalation of Israeli attacks but adjourned this afternoon without reaching a conclusion. Council President Vasco Futscher, Pereira announced that private consultation among members would continue. Sources here said an effort would be made to draft a consensus statement by next week.

Addressing the Council earlier, Israel's Ambassador Yehuda Blum said his country recently received information "based on reliable sources" that the Palestine Liberation Organization has decided to step up violence in south Lebanon. This information, Blum said, "is undoubtedly the cause of the heightened tension in the area in the last few days."

Blum charged that the Council's meeting was called to satisfy the domestic needs of the Lebanese government "whose predicament is well known." He declared that Israel supports the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and "believes that the time has come to move towards a negotiated peace between Israel and Lebanon." He charged the terrorist groups under the leadership of the PLO with responsibility for the chaos in southern Lebanon. "There are some 2000 armed PLO terrorists south of the Litani River," Blum said, who constitute a threat to the citizens of Israel, to the villagers in south Lebanon and to the troops of the United Nations Interim Force in south Lebanon (UNIFIL). Blum also said that there are 10,000-12,000 terrorists north of the Litani River. Israel's actions "are specifically directed against concentrations of terrorists in Lebanon," he stated.

UNDOF Mandate Extended

Ambassador Ghassan Tuani of Lebanon accused Israel of escalating its attacks against targets in south Lebanon and violating Lebanon's sovereignty. He said the Security Council should put an end to Israeli "violations of Lebanese sovereignty."

The Security Council voted 14-0 last night to extend the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights for another six months, until Nov. 10. China did not participate in the vote. There were no abstentions.

JUSTICE MINISTRY ASKS RELEASE OF AMERICAN WOMAN JAILED FOR AIDING TERRORISTS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 31 (JTA) -- The Justice Ministry today recommended the early release from prison of Terry Fleener, 24, an American woman serving a five-year sentence on charges of spying for a Palestinian terrorist organization. It also recommended the release of Ludvina Janssen, 26, of Holland, serving a six-year term on similar charges. A Ministry spokesman said Fleener could be freed by the end of June and Janssen in September, both for "good conduct."

Ms. Fleener, who admitted to the charges before she was sentenced 15 months ago, has been the subject of representations by the U.S. government on the highest levels. On May 14, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance asked Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir to take action for her release. (In Washington yesterday, State Department spokesman Thomas Reston said the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has been informed that Tamir would recommend to President Yitzhak Navon that Fleener's sentence be reduced to 2 1/2 years. He quoted an Israeli Justice Ministry spokesman as saying that it could be further reduced by one-third for good behavior if the prison warden and a special appeals committee concurred. In that case, the former Kuwait Airlines stewardess who comes from Texas would be eligible for release on June 25, Reston said.)

Meanwhile, two Arab women suspected of terrorist activity were detained following the arrest Sunday of another woman, Atar Ashraf, 22, of Ramallah. Ashraf was seized after she planted a bomb in a trash can at the Jerusalem central bus terminal. Her interrogation led to the arrest of the others. A military spokesman said the three women belonged to a gang that carried out a series of terrorist acts which claimed at least four lives and injured 53 persons.

KLARSFELD PRODUCES EVIDENCE ELKANIAN WAS EXECUTED FOR TIES WITH ISRAEL By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 31 (JTA) -- French lawyer Serge Klarsfeld produced documentary evidence here last night that Iranian Jewish community leader Habib Elkanian was executed May 9 primarily because of his connections with Israel. At a dramatic midnight press conference at Ben-Gurion Airport, Klarsfeld showed reporters what he said was a photocopy of the charge sheet prepared by the revolutionary court in Teheran against Elkanian.

The charges began with the words: "Habib Elkanian, Jew, Teheran-born, spy, rich and Zionist." It went on to claim that Elkanian, a millionaire industrialist, was a spy in the service of Israel, extorted money from poor Iranians and gave it to a hostile country, Israel "which kills our Arab brethren."

Klarsfeld, who with his wife Beate, has been instrumental in tracking down wanted Nazi war criminals and combating anti-Semitism, visited Teheran last week to investigate the Elkanian execution and interceded for several Jews still imprisoned by the new regime. He reported earlier that he had been assured by Iran's Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi that "there was no reason for worry in the case of Iran's Jews" and that there would be no trials of Jews or non-Jews simply because they had connections with Israel. Klarsfeld returned to Paris yesterday and flew immediately to Israel.

POPE RESPONDS WARMLY TO WARSAW GHETTO MEMORIAL SERVICE

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising memorial service held at Temple Emanu-El in New York April 22, has drawn a warm response from Pope John Paul II, the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization (WAGRO) reported today. WAGRO president Benjamin Meed, who had written to the Pope about the event, received a letter yesterday conveying the Pontiff's acknowledgement.

The letter, addressed to Jeremie Cardinal

Cooke, Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York, was signed by Archbishop Giovanni Caprio, substitute Vatican Secretary of States. Cooke referred it to the New York Board of Rabbis with a request that it be brought to the attention of Meed. The letter stated that Meed's message, transmitted by Cardinal Cooke, reached the Pope "as he is preparing for his journey to Poland during which he intends to visit Warsaw and Auschwitz."

It stated that "In the April 22 commemoration of the uprising of his Jewish fellow countrymen, the Holy Father sees a reminder of the need to safeguard at all times the objective and inviolable rights of every human being." The letter observed that "Man is made in the image and after the likeness of God. As such, he is superior to systems and ideologies. The repeated attempts to subordinate him to what is lower than him and the curtailment of the rights of any individual or group of human beings must be countered by vigilance and self-sacrifice. His Holiness prays that through the commemoration many will be inspired with such an attitude and he invokes God's blessings on their work for the good of all."

Meed, whose organization organized the annual Warsaw Ghetto memorial, said the Pope's understanding and compassion for the remembrance of the Jewish victims of the Holocaust was a significant development in Catholic-Jewish relations which, he hoped, "will serve as a memorandum for history."

CONGRESS RUSHING AUTHORIZATION BILL FOR \$4.8 BILLION TO ISRAEL, EGYPT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- Acting on the second half of the legislative process required to provide the \$4.8 billion in special assistance for Egypt and Israel, the House Appropriations Committee worked today to complete its measure with no doubts prevailing that it will be approved and sent to the floor for a vote.

Money legislation requires that both the House and Senate approve an authorization bill. That sets policy for the use of funds and also an appropriation bill that specifically allocates the money. The House yesterday foreshadowed full approval of the aid implementing the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty by passing the authorization bill that provides \$3 billion for Israel and \$1.8 billion for Egypt. The vote was 347-28. The Senate had previously approved authorization and the House measure now goes to a House-Senate conference for negotiation of the differences.

U.S. MAY SUPPLY EGYPT WITH F-4 PHANTOM JETS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- The Pentagon appeared to confirm today that Egypt is likely to receive a dozen F-4 Phantom jet warplanes by October even if they are to be drawn from the stocks of U.S. active forces, if not from reserve stocks.

Thomas Ross, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, said that no decision has been made by the U.S. to provide planes for Egypt but the U.S. "could be in a position to deliver 12 by the first week in October." He said that 16 Egyptian pilots and 40 maintenance personnel will arrive in the U.S. Monday en route to the U.S. Air Force center in San Antonio, Texas,

for four weeks of training in an English course. Payment for the planes will come from the \$1.5 billion the Administration proposes to provide Egypt.

Meanwhile, at the State Department, a spokesman said he had no statement regarding a report in the Kuwait newspaper, Al Anbaa that quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi in an interview as saying that "if the U.S. continues to intervene in our internal affairs and refrains from recognizing our revolution we will cut off links with her." Yazdi also was quoted that "a rapprochement with the East bloc is ruled out altogether."

INDUSTRIALISTS REVOLT AGAINST CABINET DECISION TO END LOW COST LOANS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 31 (JTA) -- Three of Israel's largest firms -- Koor Industries, Klal Industries and the Discount Investment Co. -- announced today that they will freeze all plans for investments in developing Israel's industries. The firms handle the bulk of Israel's industries and the industrial production with an annual turnover in the billions of pounds.

The impact of the decision was heightened when Mark Moshevit, head of the Economic Advisory Committee to the government and former president of the Manufacturers Association, announced his resignation.

These moves followed on the heels of a Cabinet decision this week to link 100 percent of development loans to industries to the cost-of-living index which would eliminate cheap loans for manufacturers. The Cabinet's action was vehemently protested by the Manufacturers Association, whose president, Abraham Shavit, tried to persuade Premier Menachem Begin to have it rescinded. Begin told him the decision was arrived at by the democratic process and could not be reversed.

But the government seemed to panic over the industrialists' revolt. Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich wrote to Moshevit urging him to reconsider his resignation. Ehrlich said he was convinced that the Cabinet would deal with the matter again and could change its decision. Ehrlich told reporters today that the investment freeze by the three giant industries was intended to bring psychological pressure on the ministers. He said if the linkage proved harmful, as contended by the industrialists, he would propose another plan to the Cabinet.

Economists observed that the linkage was essential to end cheap loans which fuel inflation. Hitherto, industrialists investing in new plants or in the expansion of existing ones were subsidized with low interest government loans. Economists believe that investment projects that warrant government support will continue to get it through grants.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A military spokesman branded as totally false a report from Beirut Wednesday night that Israeli naval units aided by helicopters attacked Tyre and the nearby Rashidiyah refugee camp, killing 15 people. The spokesman said no naval or air units were in action against targets in Lebanon. Israeli artillery fired on terrorist positions in south Lebanon after several Katyusha rockets were fired at settlements in Upper Galilee. It was reported that an Israeli army patrol discovered a large terrorist arms cache on the western slopes of Mt. Hermon. It contained Karl-Gustaff submachineguns, hand grenades, explosive charges, axes, ropes and other equipment. Belts filled with explosives were found, believed intended for use as "suicide jackets" indicating that the users would blow themselves up rather than be captured.

BRAZIL RECOGNIZES PLO BUT BANS PLO OFFICE FOR TIME BEING

By David Markus

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 31 (JTA) -- The Brazilian government has officially recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization as the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people" but for the time being, at least, it has refused to authorize the PLO to open an office in Brasilia, the capital. Recognition was announced in a joint communique released at the end of a five-day visit to Brazil by the Vice President of Iraq, Taha Muhyiddine Maarouf. The communique also stated that Brazil recognizes "the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination, independence and national sovereignty in their homeland."

Maarouf is known to have urged that a PLO office be permitted in his talks with President Joao Baptista de Giscard and his aides. During the past four years, 15 formal requests were made by several Arab countries to allow a PLO representative to function in Brazil. But according to Foreign Ministry sources, Brazil will not permit a PLO office as long as the PLO continues to engage in terrorist activities. A PLO representative, Farid Sawan, was expected to present his diplomatic credentials in Brasilia last week. The government postponed that "for the time being," apparently because of strong criticism by the press.

But a diplomatic source close to Foreign Minister Ramiro Guerraire, acknowledged that

"Brazil is not in a comfortable position to deny requests from the Arabs," apparently a reference to its need for Arab oil. Brazil imports 400,000 barrels a day from Iraq, more than 50 percent of its oil supply.

Said Farhat, Minister of Social Communication who serves as Information Minister, and Ricardi Navajas, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, have insisted that the joint communique "does not alter anything." They said "There is absolutely no change because Brazil had already recognized the PLO through the 1975 United Nations resolution" which gave the Palestinian group observer status at the UN.

Jewish Community 'Alarmed'

Israel's Ambassador to Brazil, Moshe Erell, said he was convinced that the "PLO will not open an office in Brazil ... because their offices are caves of subversion and murderers." But Brazil's Jewish community is clearly alarmed. Dr. Benno Milnitzky, president of the Jewish Confederation, protested the joint communique. "Thus Brazil started to give haven to the terror," he said. He said the recognition of the PLO and the future opening of a PLO office "left the Jewish community anxious and resentful." He said he feared that "the infiltration of anti-Semitic materials into Brazil is almost certain." One Jewish community leader observed that PLO agents, protected by diplomatic immunity, would mount an anti-Semitic campaign.

Sawan, the designated PLO representative who is attached to the Arab League office in Brasilia, provided a sample. He denounced "international Jewish bankers" and the "international Jewish lobby" which he accused of "exercising a pressure against Brazil." He also charged that the Brazilian press is being "forced by international Zionism to make pro-Israeli statements."

BRITISH ZIONIST LEADER SAYS THATCHER UNFAMILIAR WITH MIDEAST PROBLEMS

By Judith Rosen

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- Eric Moonman, a former Labor member of Parliament and president of the British Zionist Federation, said here today that Britain's new Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was relatively inexperienced in foreign affairs, especially the Middle East. He said the main concern of British Jewry was with Mrs. Thatcher's principal spokesman on foreign affairs in the House of Commons, Sir Ian Gilmour.

Moonman, who was defeated for re-election in the May 3 elections, noted that Sir Ian, the Lord Privy Seal, is very active in the Arab lobby in England and has openly advocated a Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He called Thatcher's appointment of Gilmour, a founder of an Arab-British friendship movement, a "foolish and thoughtless move."

Asked during an interview with the JTA about the effects of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty on fund-raising activities in Britain, he admitted that Zionism is easier to promote "during a hot war and crisis." However, he called peace a "challenge" and said the Jewish community must come to terms with the situation and respond with more creative techniques in fund-raising to keep up the momentum. In that connection, he observed that while American Jewish organizations had more professionals than their counterparts in Britain, the relations between the lay and political leadership was not always well defined. He said he felt there was far too much duplication of activities among various Jewish organizations in the U.S. Moonman said there was a problem in Britain today of maintaining Jewish identity. He said the fight was against indifference rather than assimilation.

ISRAEL BOND ORGANIZATION PROMOTING RE-INVESTMENT OF BONDS MATURING IN '79

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- A major effort is underway throughout the United States to turn more than half-a-million holders of 1967 Israel Bonds into reinvestors for Israel's economic needs, termed vital now that the treaty between Israel and Egypt has been signed. "Over \$140 million in Israel Bonds purchased during 1967, the year of the Six-Day War, will mature during 1979," said Arthur H. Joseph of Teaneck, N.J., Israel Bonds national reinvestment chairman. "A substantial percentage of these bonds were bought in June, the month of the war, and in the months immediately following. It is vital that these Bonds, purchased out of deep concern for Israel's survival, now be reinvested in economic development for peace."

Among the incentives is "advance reinvestment," a provision approved by the Knesset whereby Israel will accept at full maturity value any 4 percent Bond maturing in 1979 provided that it is reinvested immediately in an Israel Bond of higher denomination. Reinvestment committees are conducting telephone campaigns in communities throughout the U.S. to reach 1967 Bond-holders. Joseph said, The Bond Organization is conducting an information campaign and is running newspaper advertisements to alert Bond holders to the opportunities.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The Technical University in West Berlin is establishing a center for research on anti-Semitism in its Institute for Historical Science, according to a report in "The Week in Germany," a weekly newsletter of the German Information Center here.

SPECIAL REPORT FEDERAL COURT MAY RULE FOR FIRST TIME ON CONSTITUTIONALITY OF YULE OBSERVANCES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- An American Jewish Congress attorney said last week that a Federal Appeals Court test of the constitutionality of Christmas observance guidelines for a public school district, an observance which the AJCongress told the court hurts Jewish children, appeared to be the first time the issue had reached the Federal Appeals Court level.

Marc Stern, AJCongress counsel, who helped write a friend-of-the-court brief filed with the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis, also told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the agency hoped the regional counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, Steven Pevor, counsel for the plaintiffs, would file a request with the St. Louis court to expedite its hearings on the case. Pevor is Mountain States regional counsel for the ACLU.

Stern said the hope for an expedited hearing by the St. Louis court of the case was based on concern that adherence to standard court procedures might bring a ruling too late to affect application of the guidelines for the coming Yule season. The AJCongress brief was prepared by Stern and Nathan Z. Dershowitz, director of the agency's commission on law and social action.

The brief declared that religious holiday observance in the public schools violated the first amendment's church-state separation guarantee, as well as hurting Jewish children in such schools. The case, "Florey vs. Sioux Falls School District," deals with guidelines adopted by the Sioux Falls, S.D. school board for the public schools under its jurisdiction. Sioux Falls is within the Eighth Federal Court District.

Six Other Jewish Groups File Briefs

A joint friend of the court brief also has been filed with the St. Louis appeals court by the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Martin Cowan, COLPA secretary and Richard Weiss of the ADL wrote the brief. It pointed out that the Sioux Falls school board rules provide not only for Christmas and Easter pageants in the public schools but for the display of religious symbols, such as the cross and nativity creches in the classrooms. Others joining in the brief are Agudath Israel of America, the National Council of Young Israel, the Rabbinical Council of America and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, according to COLPA and the ADL.

Howard Zuckerman, COLPA president, said that unless the lower court decision is reversed, school districts throughout the nation will believe themselves free to engage in religious activities resulting in exposure of Jewish children to Christian doctrine.

The guidelines were challenged in 1978 by a group of students, parents and taxpayers, who sought to enjoin their promulgation on grounds they were in conflict with the first amendment. The local district court upheld the school board and the case was appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals. The brief argued that the guidelines were unconstitutional because, first, they have a religious purpose; second, they have the direct effect of advancing religion; and third, they excessively entangle the government in religion.

Stern said this is the three-part test used by the Supreme Court in such cases.

Observance Distressing To Children

The brief declared that "the long-standing concern of the Jewish community with religious holiday observances in the public schools is prompted not only by its commitment to religious freedom but also by purely practical considerations. The experience of Jewish children in public schools having Christological holiday celebrations has brought about virtual unanimity in the Jewish community in opposition to these sectarian practices." Asserting that "Christological holiday celebrations in public schools are deeply distressing to children who are not brought up as Christians," the AJCongress brief also declared that "religious celebrations of this type introduce tension and divisiveness into public schools and often harass and hurt children of minority faiths. Such children face a conflict between the religious teaching they receive at home and the quite different teaching conveyed by the religious practices in their schools."

The brief declared that "Jewish parents -- as well as non-believers and adherents of non-Christian sects -- are often made resentful and apprehensive because their children are forced either to participate in Christological observances, or, what is equally hurtful and unjust, to isolate themselves by abstaining from participation." The brief said that "when subjected to pressure on them to conform, Jewish children may find it easier to submit than to resist. The Jewish child, or his parent in his behalf, is left with the cruel choice of participating in religious observances contrary to his belief or of standing exposed as odd and non-conformist."

Asserting that majority religions suffer as well when their beliefs are "watered down" to make them acceptable for use in public schools, the brief asserted that "it should be emphasized that this case extends beyond the question of Christmas observance. Principles enunciated by this court in this case will apply equally to religious holidays of all faiths. We recognize that Chanukah and Passover have no greater entitlement to observance in the public schools than Christmas or Easter."

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- "In order to manifest our internal strength, we had to delay solving crucial economic issues while the peace process was being resolved," Deputy Prime Minister Yehezkel Flomin told delegates of the 5th European-Israel Bond Conference this week. Some 180 delegates attended the 8-day conference, representing Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland and Switzerland. Israel, he said, can survive only if it is strong enough to protect herself economically as well as politically. New legislation to fight inflation by limiting credit, cutting public spending, and abolishing subsidies to capital was submitted and approved by the Cabinet to that effect this week.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Israeli industrialists, unhappy over certain aspects of the economic program approved by the Cabinet Tuesday, were told by Premier Menachem Begin that he could not reverse decisions reached "through a democratic vote." A delegation, headed by Avraham Shavit, president of the Manufacturers Association, visited Begin to protest the full linkage of development loans to the cost-of-living index. They argued that such a policy would significantly reduce the rate of investment in industry since businessmen would prefer to invest in index-linked bonds. "This will increase the number of speculators," Shavit claimed.