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ISRAEL COMPLAINS TO EGYPT ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF PEACE TREATY

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA) -- Alleged violations by Egypt of its peace treaty with Israel were discussed here today by Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Egypt's Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali who ended his three-day visit to Israel this afternoon. The violations, apparently the first charged by Israel since the treaty was signed last March 26, concern the manning of the civilian airfield at El Arish by Egyptian military personnel.

Hassan Ali, speaking to reporters after his meeting with Weizman, acknowledged that this was the case but explained that unarmed military personnel ran the airport because Egypt has a shortage of trained civilian personnel. Later, at a press conference at Ben Gurion Airport prior to his departure for Egypt, Hassan Ali said Egypt was preparing a civilian team to man El Arish airport. (See separate story.)

Israel charged that from the time El Arish and its adjoining airfield were handed back to the Egyptians on May 28, the airport was operated by soldiers, served as the base for a military helicopter squadron and was equipped with powerful radar and other equipment that Israel considers to be of a military nature. The peace treaty specifies that the El Arish airport is to be for civilian use only.

The matter was raised with the Egyptians some time ago. They explained that the radar and other equipment was needed as navigational aids for civilian aircraft and noted that except for Cairo International Airport, all civilian airports in Egypt are manned by Air Force personnel. Hassan Ali said in reply to reporters' questions today that this was because of the lack of trained civilian air traffic controllers and navigators. He pointed out that the soldiers at El Arish carry no arms.

He said that Egypt was carrying out the treaty provisions to the letter and observed that if it had wanted to cheat, it could have brought military personnel to El Arish airport disguised as civilians.

STATE DEPARTMENT WON'T SAY WHY U.S. AGREED TO POSTPONEMENT OF DEBATE IN UN ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, July 31 (JTA) -- The State Department declined to elaborate today on the reasons why the United States agreed to the postponement of a UN Security Council debate on Palestinian rights and a related resolution, inspired by the Palestine Liberation Organization, which had been scheduled for a vote this week. "The U.S. took its own position and our policy in any case; on dealing with the PLO remains unchanged," the Department's chief spokesman Hodding Carter said today. He added, "Our position on the specifics will be made public in the course of the debate when it resumes."

Carter could not supply any information about today's meeting at the State Department between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Israeli Ambassador Ephraim Evron and Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D. Conn.). He said he did not know what subjects they discussed.

The Security Council debate was postponed until Aug. 23 with the agreement of the U.S., the PLO and Kuwait which sponsored the resolution urging the Security Council to support the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Diplomatic sources at the UN told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency yesterday that the unusual cooperation between the U.S. and the PLO on that matter was the result of behind-the-scenes contacts between U.S. officials and the PLO.

Cagey On Talks With Palestinians

However, Carter reiterated today that "We are not going to consider any change in our policy which has to do with our willingness to discuss matters with the PLO." He said, "We continue to hope that the Palestinians will take part in the peace process; we must have such participation." The U.S., he said, does discuss such matters with the Palestinians through its Consulates and representatives and obtains their views through the various countries that have contact with the Palestinians. But, he stressed, "the U.S. does not negotiate indirectly with the PLO."

Carter also stressed that "There will be no change in our position on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 .... We believe that the resolutions are the lynchpins to the whole matter" of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He appeared to be referring to recent reports in Israeli newspapers that the U.S. was contemplating an amendment to Resolution 242 which would make it more palatable to the Palestinians.

Carter was asked about a recent interview with President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, Robert Strauss, in the magazine U.S. News-World Report in which Strauss was quoted as saying that within 60 to 90 days he expects moderate Palestinians to be taking part in the peace talks. The State Department spokesman replied, "The Ambassador (Strauss) is not careless with his remarks. If he has good reason to believe it, then there is an excellent prospect that it will happen."

HASSAN ALI, WEIZMAN TO MEET IN THE FALL TO REVIEW PROGRESS AND FUTURE STEPS IN THE PEACE TREATY

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali of Egypt ended a three-day visit to Israel at Ben Gurion Airport today where an Israeli-Egyptian joint statement pledging to respect their peace treaty and to implement all provisions of its military annex was read at a press conference. Hassan Ali and Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman also announced that they would meet again at the end of September or early in October to review progress made in the military sphere and discuss future steps.

Both ministers thanked the Israeli-Egyptian joint military committee for its successful performance to date. It was apparent, however, from the answers given to reporters' questions, that matters of policy are to be settled at the highest echelon, meaning by Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat. This applies to the future of multinational peacekeeping forces in Sinai, American

participation in it, and the future of the Gaza Strip. But with respect to implementing the military aspects of the peace treaty, Hassan Ali and Weizman appeared to have no trouble reaching agreement.

Hassan Ali said he was impressed by the warm welcome he and his aides received in Israel. He attributed it to "the blessings of peace." The Egyptian minister was sent off with full military honors.

U.S. PLANS $1.20 BILLION TO BEEF UP SAUDI ARABIAN COMBAT BATTALIONS

WASHINGTON, July 31 (JTA) -- Steps by Saudi Arabia to modernize its national guard may get a boost from the United States. The Pentagon said yesterday that under an extension of a 1973 agreement between Saudi Arabia and the U.S. some $1.20 billion has been earmarked by the U.S. to help organize, train and equip an additional Saudi Arabian light armor brigade of four combat battalions. According to a Pentagon spokesman, the U.S. is presently training and equipping four Saudi national guard mechanized battalions and is beginning a program to organize, train and equip a logistics battalion. Congress, which was informed about the additional aid, has 30 days to veto the proposal.

Meanwhile, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell defended the Administration's decision to sell up to 300 M-60 A-3 tanks to Jordan during a day-long briefing last Friday for 62 out-of-town editors, including the editors of the American Mizrachi Women and the Jewish Reporter of Framingham, Mass.

"We have a standing agreement with Jordan and though we disagree with Jordan on the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, that agreement still stands," Powell said. "Besides, if we don't supply the tanks to Jordan somebody else will and we'd prefer that not to happen. There's no sense in cutting off our nose to spite our face." The State Department said last week that the tanks will be sold on a one-to-one basis to replace an old tank that Jordan is phasing out.

Sarah Shane, national president of American Mizrachi Women, strongly condemned the sale. "The obvious target for those tanks is Israel," she charged. She urged the Carter Administration to reconsider equipping the Jordanian army "with these modern American weapons of war."

FOUR NO-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS DEFEATED

By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) -- Four motions of no-confidence in the government's handling of the economy were defeated in the Knesset last night by a comfortable margin. Coalition MKs, including many critics of Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich's economic policies, mustered 58 votes against 48 by the opposition factions. The motions were submitted by the Labor Alignment, Shai, the Communist Party and Shelli.

They charged that the government has taken a series of economic measures that produced a crisis atmosphere, that it has mismanaged the fight against inflation and acted indecisively. The main thrust of the opposition was against Ehrlich, who first called for the elimination of costly price support subsidies for basic goods and services and then back-tracked because he feared the devastating effects of the sudden price increases that would follow.

The no-confidence motions were to have been presented a week ago when public sentiment was running high against Ehrlich's performance. They were delayed at the urging of the Knesset Presidium because of Premier Menachem Begin's illness but could not be postponed any longer because the Knesset adjourns for its summer recess this week.

The debate last night was calm in contrast to the flaring tempers that marked recent Knesset deliberations. Ehrlich, speaking for the government, said there was no alternative to reducing price subsidies but the government is doing so gradually in order to prevent unemployment and unnecessary shocks to the economy.

Following the vote, Ehrlich announced officially the dismissal of Yehezkel Flomin, his Deputy Finance Minister, who was the most outspoken critic of his economic policies within the Liberal Party. Flomin took an "extended leave" earlier this month to protest the government's economic program. He was not present in the Knesset last night.

BEGIN'S HEALTH CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin's condition continues to improve and he may be discharged from Hadassah Hospital at the end of this week, a medical bulletin said today. Dr. Silvan Lavie, head of the medical team that has been treating Begin for a minor stroke he suffered two weeks ago, said a series of tests made yesterday showed "significant progress" toward improving his eyesight. Begin's vision was impaired by a small clot lodged in a blood vessel supplying his brain.

Begin conferred at length yesterday with Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin in his hospital room. The Premier's press advisor, Shlomo Nakdimon, said he was looking well and was walking in his room. He has begun reading former President Richard Nixon's autobiography, an indication that his vision has improved, Nakdimon noted. Nevertheless, Begin will need a period of rest at home before returning to work, his doctors said.

WZO, JEWISH AGENCY IN ECONOMY MOVE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) -- The World Zionist Organization Executive is about to invest $60,000 in a computer that will monitor all telephone calls from WZO and Jewish Agency headquarters in an attempt to cut down soaring telephone bills. The Executive believes the computer will more than pay for itself within one year.

According to Yediot Achronot, the WZO and Jewish Agency spend almost $1 million a year on telephone calls. A Jewish Agency spokesman said that figure was inaccurate but could not say what the correct amount is. Apparently the computer is intended to find out: 1. will record the extension from which the call is made, the length of the conversation and the number called.

The WZO Executive decided on a number of other money-saving measures yesterday in response to the organization's difficult financial situation. United Jewish Appeal and United Israel Appeal income for the months April-June reportedly fell by $19 million compared to the same period last year. The Executive hopes to save some 20 percent in WZO expenditures by cutting down on telephone calls, its car pool and manpower. In principle, it will hire no new employes unless approved by a special committee headed by director general Shmuel Lahis.

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the WZO and Jewish Agency Executives, has also asked the savings

committee, headed by Jewish Agency Treasurer Akiva Levinsky, to check the number of WZO emissaries overseas and reduce it by half. The Jewish Agency now maintains some 500 emissaries abroad at an annual expense of about $17.5 million. This constitutes some 50 percent of the Agency's operating budget. Each emissary is estimated to cost $35,000 a year.

BEDOUINS, ISRAELI ARABS PROTEST LAW SEIZING BEDOUIN LANDS IN NEGEV

By Barbie Zelizer

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA) -- Several thousand Bedouins, joined by Israeli Arabs from Galilee, demonstrated outside the Knesset last night against government-sponsored legislation that would expedite the seizure of Bedouin lands in the Negev needed for the construction of two U.S.-financed air bases. While inside the Knesset a compromise was reached between the coalition and the opposition Labor Alignment to postpone a Knesset vote pending certain changes in the proposed law, the demonstrators scuffled with police and Jewish militants who staged a counter-demonstration.

The lands involved cover some 40,000 acres east of Beersheba. The government-sponsored bill denies the Bedouins the right to appeal the confiscation in order to avoid prolonged legal procedures. It allows them the right to challenge the government's compensation offer, however.

The government maintains that the right of appeal needs to be waived because construction of the air bases must begin immediately if they are to be completed within the three-year period stipulated in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. The airfields will replace those in Sinai that Israel will yield when it withdraws from the peninsula.

Both the coalition and Labor MKs agreed that construction should begin as soon as possible, which means that the Bedouin lands must be expropriated without delay. But the Labor Alignment believes that the matter can be resolved without new legislation. The Bedouins chief concern apparently is denial of the right to appeal. They link the present situation to the controversial dispute over the other Bedouin lands in the Lagiya district which the government seized but has yet to explain the reasons why.

Willing To Amend Aspects Of Law

Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir met late yesterday afternoon with representatives of the Labor Alignment's Knesset faction. Both parties agreed to begin negotiations over the principles upon which the new law is based. The Bedouins would be represented in those negotiations either by a mutually agreed to negotiating committee or through binding arbitration that would resolve the issue within a three-month time limit.

Tamir noted that the government would be willing to amend three aspects of the new law: it would delete the article stipulating that the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee could apply the law to other lands; it would include public figures in the negotiating committee and it would allow appeals against the legal aspects of the legislation as well as compensation.

According to Tamir's proposal, the Knesset will vote on the law at a first reading, at which time the negotiating process will begin. If a solution is not reached within three months, the measure would come before the Knesset for second and third readings. This proposal is subject to approval by the Labor Alignment Knesset faction as a whole and by the ministerial legislation committee.

While these proposals were being discussed, the demonstrators outside the Knesset called for a halt to the "Judaization of our lands." A spokesman for the Bedouins told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later that the proposed law is "racist, ethnic and cruel." He noted that even if the occupied territories the residents have the right to appeal to the Supreme Court. "We as citizens are denied that right. We are refugees without the rights of refugees."

YAMIT RESIDENTS STAGE PROTEST

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA) -- Housing Minister David Levy gave a tongue-lashing today to angry residents of the seaside town of Yamit in northern Sinai who blocked roads, set fire to tires and burned a kiosk in protest against what they consider inadequate compensation for evacuating the town about 18 months from now. "Violence will not produce more money," Levy declared. Yamit is one of the Jewish settlements in Sinai that must be abandoned in 1982 under terms of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty that calls for the total withdrawal of Israeli civilians and military personnel from the peninsula.

The Yamit residents have been complaining for some time that government red tape has prevented an agreement on the amount of compensation and relocation problems. The government wants the settlers in Sinai to remain there until the final deadline and has offered to pay more in compensation to those who stick it out. The residents say the amounts offered are not enough.

They insisted that Acting Premier Yigael Yadin come to Yamit to discuss their demands. Yadin, who is substituting for ailing Premier Menachem Begin, failed to appear. The Yamit residents responded today by blocking a main road junction with various vehicles and agricultural equipment. Traffic was backed up for miles, including a convoy of army tank carriers. Levy, who had offered to go to Yamit in place of Yadin, cancelled his trip when he learned of the disorders.

MELECH EPSTEIN DEAD AT 90

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., July 31 (JTA) -- Melech (Michael) Epstein, noted journalist and author, died at Mt. Sinai Hospital here last week at the age of 90. Active in the American Communist Party for decades, he split from the party after the Stalin-Hitler non-aggression pact in 1939 which he felt had betrayed the party's principles.

Epstein was a co-founder of the Freiheit in 1922, the Yiddish-language organ of the Communist Party, and served as its editor from 1925-29. After he split from the party he contributed occasional articles to the Jewish Daily Forward. Epstein was the author of five books in English, including one on the labor movement. He left an essay, "Random Thoughts of a Dying Man," to be circulated after his death. According to his will, there was to be no funeral. He donated his body to the Miami University Medical School.

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RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA) -- A special 50th anniversary issue of the "Yiddishe Presse" was published last week. The "Yiddishe Presse" was founded in 1929 as the first Yiddish daily in Brazil, but it soon switched to weekly publication. Its editor and publisher since 1951 has been David Markus, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Brazil.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES
THE MACCABI GAMES IN EUROPE
By Hyam Corney

LONDON, July 31 (JTA) -- The biggest ever European Maccabi Games begin in Leicester, in the midlands, next Sunday. A record number of 13 countries will be competing, involving a total of nearly 500 athletes. Israel will be sending a team of 51 and Britain, the host country, will have 66. The Belgians with 74 head the list in terms of numbers.

Competing for the first time will be Spain a reflection, the organizers believe, of the more relaxed and liberal atmosphere in post-Franco Spain. The other competing nations are Finland, Sweden, Denmark, West Germany, Austria, Holland, Switzerland, Italy and France.

There will be no gymnastics. Most of the events will be team competitions. They are volleyball, handball, basketball, football and three sports in which there will be team as well as individual competitions: tennis, table-tennis and badminton.

Most Representative Maccabi Games

Harry Shapiro, who has been the main organizer of the games on behalf of British Maccabi told this reporter that he was delighted with the size of the entry. "It will be the most representative European Maccabi games of all time. There have never been more than seven or eight countries competing before and this time there will be hardly any European country this side of the Iron Curtain that will not be sending a team."

Shapiro, who was in charge of the British team that competed in the European Maccabi games in Copenhagen 20 years ago and was involved in all the games since then, has been working on the organization of this one for the better part of a year. The movement now has a European "shaliach," Rafi Matzliach, who is based in Brussels and who has succeeded in breathing new life into Maccabi in several countries.

Asked who he thinks is going to win most of the medals, Shapiro mentioned the West Germans as "a team to watch." Israel could do well in basketball where they will be represented by Maccabi Petach Tikva and Britain will be challenging hard for honors in football, lawn-tennis and badminton. Apart from the senior events, there will be for the first time, this year, two junior competitions for the under-16 age group in football and table tennis.

Shapiro's message to all the competitors, whatever country they come from, is simple: "We are striving to make these games a happy and enjoyable experience for all of you. We believe its importance lies not in winning but in taking part. We hope that you will be humble in victory and generous in defeat." After all, the Maccabi games have always been considered a "Jewish Olympics" and Shapiro's words have a suitably Olympian ring about them.

The games end Aug. 10. During the five days that the sportsmen from the 13 countries are together in Leicester, they will be able to benefit, if they wish, from a social and cultural program that has been arranged -- an innovation for these games. It has been drawn up by John Kay, director of British Maccabi. The central theme of the program is Israel. Says Kay: "Israel is the common link between all the participants and we are going to use this to bring the competitors together in their leisure hours."

Aided By Anglo-Jewish Organizations

There will be a film show and folk evenings. The main attraction will be a 19-member Israeli group which is coming over specially for the occasion and information evenings. Maccabi is being helped in this by a number of Anglo-Jewish organizations, such as the Zionist Federation, the National Council for Soviet Jewry and the London offices of the Jewish Agency's youth and hechalutz and aliya departments, all of which are mounting displays in the residence halls where the competitors will be staying.

The games will be opened Sunday afternoon at the sports ground of Leicester University by Dr. Mac Goldsmith, president of the games and a local Leicester Jewish personality. At the opening ceremony, all competitors will parade and will carry both their national flags and the Maccabi flag. The games will end the following Thursday, after the final event, the final of the football competition.

Among those coming from Israel for the occasion will be Israel Peled, Mayor of Ramat Gan, who is chairman of the World Maccabi Union. World Maccabi President Pierre Gildesgame, of Britain, is one of the patrons, as are the Bishop of Leicester and many leaders of the Jewish community here.

ISRAELI PROFESSOR WINS POST
By David Friedman

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA) -- A dispute at the University of Texas in Austin between the school's history department and its Center for Middle Eastern Studies over the appointment of an Israeli-born historian has been settled with the Israeli joining the university's faculty for the 1980 spring term, the American Jewish Committee reported.

Sheba Mittelman, a member of the AJCommittee's special programs department, said that Abraham Marcus, a 31-year-old Tel Aviv University graduate now completing work on a doctorate at Columbia University, will join the university's history faculty and will be listed in the catalogue of the Mideast Center. She said that Marcus, whose field is modern Arab history, is satisfied with the outcome and will go to Austin in January.

The dispute began when the history department, which was asked by the Center to find a historian to be jointly appointed by the department and the Center, recommended Marcus. The Center, which is partially funded by Arab governments, said Marcus was not qualified, a claim that was disputed by the history department. The department said Marcus was a qualified scholar of great promise. Marcus never participated in the public dispute about the appointment which broke out last May.

The AJCommittee has been monitoring the dispute. Its special programs department, headed by Ira Silverman, last March proposed guidelines for American colleges and universities receiving funds from foreign sources, especially Arab countries. The Center reportedly receives about $100,000 a year from Arab governments.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Thousands of policemen were scheduled to demonstrate Tuesday night against the bill adopted by the Knesset Monday forbidding the establishment of a police union. An amendment to the current police ordinance allows the Minister of Interior to establish a public council to deal with the policemen's welfare. However, the amendment also enables the Minister to issue regulations which ban a police union. Several policemen have been on a hunger strike for several days in front of the Knesset in protest against the law.