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BEGIN DUE TO MEET WITH TOP CABINET MEMBERS TO REASSESS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IN SOUTH LEBANON

By David Landau and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- With international and domestic criticism of Israeli raids into south Lebanon increasing, Premier Menachem Begin is scheduled to meet this week with top Cabinet members to reassess the government's policy. The meeting, it was learned today, was scheduled after Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, at yesterday's Cabinet session, urged his colleagues to consider the total effect of the policy, not just the military aspects.

There have been a number of articles by leading journalists here questioning the wisdom of the Israeli policy. Several stressed the negative public relations image that has resulted from numerous television reports abroad of south Lebanese civilians fleeing after Israeli raids and from the reports of casualties and the massive destruction caused by the raids.

Some columnists have questioned whether the cost to Israel in terms of manpower and military material was commensurate with the results achieved by the policy. There has also been critical analysis of Israel's relationship with Maj. Saad Haddad, leader of the Christian militia in south Lebanon, who has an adverse image abroad. In addition, some analysts have warned against what they termed the possible Vietnamization of the situation in south Lebanon in which Israel could be drawn deeper and deeper into a conflict which it could not control politically.

Dayan echoed many of these arguments at the Cabinet meeting yesterday, according to sources. He reportedly spoke of the damage to Israel's image by the conflict in Lebanon, in which Israel was being depicted as the aggressor. The Foreign Minister said television pictures of the damage caused by the Israeli army tended to push into oblivion, in the minds of the average viewer in the West, the carnage and havoc committed by the Palestine Liberation Organization at whom the Israeli attacks are aimed.

Policy Effective in Detering PLO Attacks

Neither Dayan, nor any of the journalistic critics deny that the present policy has been effective in deterring PLO attacks. There has been a marked drop in the number of PLO attempts to infiltrate across the border from Lebanon, or to strike against the Israeli coast, since Israel stepped up its military action in April after the attack in Nabatiya in which a father and his two children were brutally murdered. But the Foreign Minister wondered whether the same result could not be achieved with a different policy, although he reportedly did not spell out what this could be at the Cabinet meeting.

Begin observed at the meeting that Israel's action in south Lebanon was militarily well-executed and effective. Several Cabinet members pointed out the apparent fraternal relations between the PLO and some units of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, who had reported to the Cabinet on the intense artillery

action over the weekend in south Lebanon, reportedly sat silent during Dayan's arguments and the ensuing discussion.

But Weizman was reported today as still being convinced that the present policy is the right one and one that would be followed by any other Defense Minister. Defense Ministry sources pointed out that the artillery barrage by Israeli and Christian militia forces over the weekend prevented at least four terrorist attacks on Israel and that five others were prevented from happening last week. Weizman said there are 15,000 terrorists in Lebanon.

Peres Criticizes Israel's Policy

Meanwhile, the Israeli policy was also criticized last night by Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labor Alignment. "Before you release the safety pin, one should make an overall calculation and take into account world public opinion," he said in a speech at Herzliya. Peres said the terrorists should be hit "but with utmost selectivity so that we shall not hit ourselves." He said the situation in Lebanon was the major cause of Israel's isolation in the world.

"If members of the Cabinet stand up to say that these bombardments are not necessary for the war against terrorists and they only cause damage to Israel," Peres declared, "why are we so surprised to see the entire world's media show the destruction we cause and thus shift public opinion against us?"

(In Washington today, President Carter's special Middle East envoy Robert Strauss met with State Department officials in an apparent bid to work out a new U.S. initiative to try to stop the fighting in south Lebanon. A Department spokesman declined to comment on what was discussed. Strauss said yesterday in a television interview that he plans to become fully involved in the Lebanese situation and that the U.S. has to make a strong effort to end the "terrorism, the violence, the shelling." The State Department has repeatedly urged all parties in the area to stop the violence.)

ISRAEL COUNTERS U.S. PROTESTS ON ISRAELI USE OF U.S.-MADE WEAPONS IN RAIDS AGAINST TERRORIST BASES

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Israeli sources today countered American protests that Israeli forces are using United States-made weapons in their raids on terrorist bases in south Lebanon by charging that the terrorists are also using American weapons.

The sources said the weapons, stolen from the Lebanese army, include 30-M-105 millimeter artillery pieces. The Israelis also point out that the terrorists are using relatively new U.S.-made artillery ammunition which leads them to suspect it was taken from the arms given Lebanon by the U.S. in the recent \$100 million arms deal. The terrorists now have 100 artillery guns, the Israelis report, most of it Soviet-made.

Meanwhile, Israeli military sources said the artillery offensive by Israel and the Christian militia led by Maj. Saad Haddad foiled four potential acts of terrorism against Israel over the weekend. The sources said terrorist gangs were sent to four different parts of south Lebanon in order to stage terrorist raids on Israel. The terrorist acts were to be part of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political campaign at the United Nations, according to the sources. Military and civilian sources in northern

Israel stressed that Israel's military activity has damaged the efforts of terrorists to hit Israeli targets.

It has been learned, meanwhile, that all of the Palestinian and left-wing Lebanese groups in south Lebanon are under the command of a PLO official, Col. Haj Ismayil.

In another development, villagers from south Lebanon demonstrated today at the "good fence" at Metulla to demand more Israeli aid in the struggle against the Palestinians and Syrians. They denounced the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which they accused of collaborating with the terrorists and cheered Haddad whose Christian militia they said gave them a sense of security they never enjoyed before.

Meanwhile, in Kiryat Shmona, the northern Israeli town that has been the target of many rocket attacks, there was a new feeling of security today when 94 new families moved into the town. Many of them are teachers which will ensure the smooth opening of the school year next week.

AMERICANS SIDE WITH ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- A majority of Americans sympathize with Israel rather than the Palestine Liberation Organization, according to a Harris Survey report. The Survey showed that 71.8 percent of Americans support Israel and 59 percent are convinced that Israel's goal is a "just peace" in the Middle East. Only 18 percent of Americans polled felt that the PLO also seeks peace.

The survey also reported 63 percent of Americans believe that Egypt wants a "just peace." This figure was substantially higher than those Americans who expressed sympathy with the PLO the Survey indicated.

HARRIS DOUBTS THERE WILL BE A PERMANENT RIFT BETWEEN BLACKS, JEWS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Patricia Harris, secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, deplored the possibility of a rift between the Jewish and Black communities but said she does not expect that a "permanent breach" will take place. The highest-ranking Black member in the Carter Administration and the President's only Black Cabinet member spoke out yesterday on the issue of Black-Jewish relations on ABC-TV's "Issues and Answers."

* At the same time, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of Operation PUSH, appeared on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" where he attacked Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and declared that "the overreaction by the Israeli government did have a lot to do with Andy Young being dismissed" as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. The Black leader added that "major Jewish leaders in New York immediately called for his (Young's) ouster."

Harris was asked how seriously she viewed the rift between Blacks and the American Jewish community over Andrew Young and his discussion with the Palestine Liberation Organization observer at the UN, Zehdi Labib Terzi.

Assesses Black-Jewish Relations

According to a transcript of Harris' remarks, she said, "There are no two groups in this country who shared experiences closer than that between the experience of the Jewish community

and the Black community. I was thinking this morning, Black spirituals depend frequently upon the relationship between Jewish slavery in Egypt. We have marched together. The concerns that now exist between the two communities are not so much concerns about Andy's leaving, although we all care desperately, as they are an enunciation of an independence of the Black community on issues of all kinds."

Continuing, Harris said: "The statement that the Black community has interests which they will deal with, even though others may disagree with them, I am confident that we will continue, those of us who are Jewish, to work very closely together on issues on which we agree. There may be significant issues, such as affirmative action, on which we will not be able to have total agreement but the movement of the Black community this week is more an enunciation of their insistence of the right to speak on all issues be respected, and their disagreement on some issues not be a basis for denying their ability to speak on other issues in agreement with either the Jewish community or another community. These are difficult times but I don't expect any permanent breach between the Black community and the Jewish community."

Media Stirs Up Differences

Meanwhile, the media in Washington continued its sensational reporting of the Black-Jewish situation. The print and electronic media in the city where the population is three-quarters Black, played up allegations today of Jewish refusal to contribute to Black organizations.

Without naming sources, the Washington Post frontpaged a report today headlined "Callers Tell Black Groups Jewish Donations Will End" and said "some" contributors to NAACP, the Urban League and the political campaigns of D.C. Congressional delegate Walter E. Fauntroy "are sending word that Blacks should no longer look to them for financial support."

According to a reliable source, the basis for the report originated in Fauntroy's office and from it at least one Washington radio station went out to say "leaders" in the community have made these statements.

The media quoted Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, that while some individual Jews, angered by statements of some Blacks, might conceivably decide to withhold donations, no Jewish organization has done so. "What's the big news that some individual will not make donations?" Bookbinder said. "There are Jews who won't donate to Jewish causes when they get angry."

JEWS URGED TO BOYCOTT FILM

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- A British comedy group, Monty Python, was blasted by Jewish groups for its new movie, "The Life of Brian." Labeling the film "blasphemous and sacrilegious," leaders of the Rabbinical Alliance of America, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, and the Rabbinical Council of the Syrian and Near Eastern Sephardic community of America endorsed a statement released last night urging the Jewish community to boycott the film.

Rabbi Abraham Hecht, president of the Rabbinical Alliance of America said in the statement released that "It's a vicious attack upon Judaism and the Bible and a cruel mockery of Christians as well." The film, a box office smash, is set in the 1st Century during the time of Jesus. It parodies the misadventures of a Brian Cohen, a next-door neighbor of Jesus, who becomes mistaken for the Messiah.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

OPEN LETTER TO THELMA THOMAS DAVIS

By Murray Zuckoff, JTA Editor

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- As one who participated in numerous civil rights demonstrations and marches I read with sorrow and with pain your statement to some 6000 delegates and visitors at the annual convention of the Delta Sigma Theta in New Orleans a few days after Andrew Young resigned as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

In your address as president of that predominantly Black sorority organization you said, in part: "We have been patient and forbearing in their (Jews) masquerading as friends under the pretense of working for the common purpose of civil rights. This latest affront reveals clearly that their loyalties are not compatible with the struggle of Black Americans for equal opportunity under the law. Indeed, we question whether their loyalties are first to the State of Israel or to the United States. The loyalties of Black Americans have never been questioned."

I decided to write this letter to you because you were the first, so far as I can gather, to articulate a feeling that apparently had lain dormant until Young's resignation but which subsequently found voice among several other Black leaders.

I suspect that the fact that you and other Black leaders were so quick to question the motives and loyalties of "many" American Jews was because this thought was repressed, at least in terms of public statements, until a suitable excuse could be found to let it "all hang out." In all candor I strongly feel that you and other Black leaders used, yes, used, Young's resignation to release repressed hostility toward American Jewish leaders and Jewish organizations for real or imaginary grievances. The allegation of dual or prior loyalties is an old canard unworthy of your position as an educator.

I don't recall that at any time during the civil rights struggle any Jew fighting alongside Black brothers and sisters was asked to sign a loyalty oath or to take a sincere o-meter test before taking up a position on a picket line or participating in marches, or being beaten or arrested, or killed -- as were the Michael Schwerners, along with the Medgar Evers.

An Unfortunate Consequence

One of the unfortunate consequences of discussing contributions by Jews to the civil rights movement under the conditions of trying to dispel allegations such as the ones you have raised is that it frequently tends to degenerate into a haggle on the part of both Blacks and Jews, each side fully equipped with a ledger of who did what, where, when and for whom. But the civil rights struggle was never reducible to a line item in a bookkeeping ledger or a promissory note of eternal unity by either side for deeds done.

The contributions made by Jews were not in the form of saleable commodities to be bought when needed or returned for credit, nor were they conceived as debts to the Black people which could be stamped "cancelled" at an arbitrary moment. No, the contributions of Jews to the civil rights movement are chapters in the annals of American history that cannot be obliterated by glib allegations about suspect motives and dual loyalties. Let's have done with the approach of the accountant's ledger. Neither Blacks nor Jews can rest on their initial capital forever. It's time to reinvest in the ongoing and as yet uncompleted

struggle for civil rights

The Nature Of Alliances

But to accomplish that, the air must be cleared of allegations, suspicions and rancor. So let's get back to your statement that Jews masqueraded as friends. I totally reject this allegation. I believe that you misunderstand the nature of alliances and coalitions, and it is a falsification of the relationship that existed between Jews and Blacks in the civil rights movement. Jews and Blacks built an alliance and a broad-based coalition. But both alliances and coalitions are limited to specific issues at specific times for the purpose of pursuing a common cause. Coalition partners do not have to agree with every nuance or statement made by those on whose behalf the coalition or alliance is constructed. Otherwise it would be a merger or a fusion of diverse elements rather than a unity of diverse but linked elements.

It was to the interest of Blacks to seek and accept Jewish support, and support in the general white community, because they could not go it alone, just as Jews need allies and alliances because they too cannot go it alone. When Black-white unity began to dissolve, Black militants resorted to the desperate tactic of "burn, baby, burn" and the "long hot summers" ensued.

The Issue Of Loyalty

But be that as it may. Your charge of dual or prior loyalty to the State of Israel or to the United States is sheer subterfuge and unfortunately on a par with many hate groups that also question the loyalties of Jews, and of Blacks and of all other minority groups. This is the wrong company for a Black leader to find herself in.

Why should you question the loyalty or the priority of loyalties of Jews? Would you question the loyalty of Catholic Americans who look toward the Vatican for spiritual guidance? Would you question the loyalty of Moslem Americans who look toward Mecca? Would you question the loyalty of Black Muslims who swear fidelity to Mohammed? Would you question the loyalty of those Blacks who support African liberation movements?

Mayor Richard Hatcher of Gary, Ind., also called into question the loyalty of Jews when he told a Black leadership conference in New York last week that he rejects "the notion that any foreign power should dictate the foreign policies of the United States." The point here, it seems to me, is that the term "foreign power," in the context of his remarks, is a code word for Israel and that American Jews and friends of Israel are thereby suspect if they dare question American policy toward Israel.

Would Hatcher say the same about the Palestine Liberation Organization which is demanding that the U.S. change its official policy toward that group? Would he question America's NATO allies who seek to determine or redirect U.S. foreign policy on various trade and arms issues? Would he question the Soviet Union which seeks to dictate U.S. foreign policy? Would he question any of the friends of all the above and other interest groups to sway American foreign policy? Would he question the loyalty of those Black Americans who seek to determine U.S. policy toward Black Africa?

As to your assertion that the loyalty of American Blacks was never questioned, I agree. Of course the loyalty of Black Americans was never questioned: not by the lynch mobs, not by the Ku Klux Klan, not by the segregationists, not by the goons who busted Black workers trying to organize unions, not by the hate mongers. Nor was Black loyalty questioned by the local cops and the FBI who tailed and surveilled,

arrested and killed, and forced into silence and exile so many militant Black leaders and spokesmen.

No the loyalty of Black Americans was never questioned, just their right to live as human beings, in dignity, and to enjoy "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

PLO Eliminates Talking

There is one more issue I must raise with you: that of talking to the PLO. Aside from fundamentally different assessments of that organization -- the Jewish people and Israel see it as a pure and simple terrorist outfit while some Black leaders see it as the vanguard of the Palestinian people -- the issue for Israel and the Jewish people has never been one of talking or not talking to the PLO.

The fact is that the PLO has "talked" to Israel and the Jewish people and to many non-Jews -- but from behind the barrel of a submachinegun, a hand grenade, a bomb, and a Kalichnikoff rifle. How does one, whose life is ebbing away in a kibbutz, at Avivim, or in the center of Kiryat Shmona or Jerusalem, or on a lonely beach near a highway between Haifa and Tel Aviv, or on a hijacked airliner, talk to a person who has committed this atrocity, this barbarism, this act of unspeakable violence?

How many Black Americans spoke to racist club-wielding goons? How many Black Americans thought of talking to the killers of Medgar Evers? How many Black Americans engaged in a dialogue with the murderers who snuffed out the lives of the young children in a church in Birmingham, Alabama? And -- how many Jews asked Black Americans to talk to any of these racists and murderers?

Unique Nature Of PLO Terrorism

The fact is that the PLO is unique as a terrorist organization. No other group that espoused individual terrorism as a method of overthrowing an oppressive regime, no other group that employed terrorism under extreme conditions such as the underground movements in Europe during World War II, ever engaged in killing unarmed children, men and women, including non-Jews who happen to be boarding or on a plane that is hijacked.

The fact is that the PLO uses terrorism not because it is the vanguard of the Palestinian people but because it has no base or broad support among them. The PLO engages in acts of terrorism as a substitute for mass action and as a substitute for an authentic expression of the real needs of the Palestinian people. The PLO is not an organizing force among the Palestinian people. Rather, it seeks to usurp all power for itself.

This is the opposite of the civil rights Black leadership which mobilized and inspired people on all levels. There is no recorded authenticated instance where Black leaders engaged in terrorist assaults even upon their most vicious opponents. Incidentally, I don't recall any Palestinians on civil rights marches or demonstrations, nor do I recall any leaders of the PLO expressing solidarity with current Black struggles and objectives in the United States.

Danger Of Involvement With The PLO

The danger in getting involved with the PLO -- a foreign power -- is that those doing so are getting involved in a cause which is not their own, methods and traditions of struggle not their own, objectives not their own.

It might be well, in this regard, to recall the statement by Eldridge Cleaver in his tract, "On the Ideology of the Black Panther Party": "For too long Black people have relied on the analysis and ideological perspective of others There are those who are all too willing to do our thinking for us, even if it gets us killed. However, they are not willing to follow through and do our dying for us. If thoughts bring about our deaths, let them at least be our own thoughts, so that we will have broken, once and for all, with the flunkysm of dying for every cause and every error -- except our own."

Those were fiery, passionate words, and I say, Right On. But right on with Blacks and Jews in solidarity for a cause that has not yet been achieved, for a cause whose day is ripe, for a cause that will enrich both Jews and Blacks by making democracy more vital. Blacks and Jews need each other to attain this goal. So let's get on with it for the sake of preventing the "fire next time" that may engulf both of us.

BLACK DEMONSTRATORS CALL 'DEATH TO ISRAEL,' 'DEATH TO ZIONISM'

By Yitzhak Kabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Chanting slurs against Jews and the State of Israel, about 150 Black Americans, American-Arabs and their sympathizers staged a two-hour demonstration this afternoon in front of the Israeli Consulate and the Israel Mission to the United Nations. No incidents were reported.

The demonstration was sponsored and organized by the Black United Front as a protest, according to a press release given to reporters during the demonstration, against "the Zionist racist pressure which resulted in the dismissal of Ambassador Andrew Young."

The demonstrators carried placards denouncing Zionism as "racist and fascist," and praising the Palestine Liberation Organization. The demonstrators also carried Palestinian flags and some wore kaffiyehs -- the traditional Arab headdress.

"Death to Israel, death to Zionism, long live the PLO," the demonstrators chanted vigorously in response to various speakers who demanded that the U.S. should change its Mideast policy and recognize Palestinian rights.

The leader of the Black United Front is the Rev. Herbert Daughtry, who organized demonstrations last summer against Hasidic Jews in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn.

RABBIS AT ODDS OVER WITHDRAWAL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- The question of whether Israel is permitted under Jewish law to give up territories for peace has become the latest issue of dispute between the two Chief Rabbis. Sephardi Rabbi Ovadia Yosef says it is; Ashkenazi Rabbi Shlomo Goren says it is not. Yosef made his point last week during a lecture to the annual "Oral Law Conference" at Ygd Harav Kook in Jerusalem. He said it was entirely up to the generals and the politicians to determine what borders were necessary for security.

As far as rabbis were concerned, Yosef said, they could only determine that halachically the main point was indeed that of security. If retaining the territories meant war, bloodshed and injuries, then the concept of "Pikuah Nefesh" (risk to life) applied, and it shunted aside the "mitzvah" of retaining all of Eretz Israel. Goren, at a rally in Safad a day later, took the opposite view, insisting that the mitzvah of holding onto Eretz Israel was paramount. (By David Landau)