

JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. XLVI - 62nd Year

Thursday, August 30, 1979

No. 168

DAYAN SAYS ISRAEL HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO KEEP HITTING TERRORIST BASES

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan today appeared to be supporting Defense Minister Ezer Weizman's contention that Israel must continue striking at Palestine Liberation Organization bases in south Lebanon despite reports he had been urging a different approach.

Dayan had been reported as saying at last Sunday's Cabinet meeting that the government should reassess its military policy in south Lebanon since it was damaging Israel's image abroad. But in an address at his home in Rehavia to 300 American and Canadian Jewish leaders participating in the United Jewish Appeal's Prime Minister's Mission, the Foreign Minister said that Israel must continue hitting the terrorist bases despite pictures on television screens in the United States which evoked images of Vietnam.

The situation in Lebanon was described by Dayan as "a mess." He said the country has no authority or army and is ruled by the Palestinians and the Syrians. Dayan agreed there were two types of Palestinians in Lebanon: the PLO, which must be attacked to prevent it from carrying out terrorist raids in Israel; and the 350,000 Palestinian refugees there.

Dayan strongly criticized France and other European Christian countries for deserting the Christians in Lebanon. He said France's policy was due to its need for oil from Iraq.

The Carter Administration, according to Dayan, was being nudged toward a change in its Middle East policy because of the necessity of ensuring its oil supplies. In addition, the Administration is incorrectly assuming that a change in policy will bring support from Jordan and Saudi Arabia to the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks, Dayan said.

Israel's Policy Endorsed

Meanwhile, Weizman received endorsement for Israel's policy yesterday from the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee and from the Likud Knesset faction. He told both groups that "we shall continue to hit the terrorists because it is the only way to ensure the safety of Israelis." He stressed that civilian casualties are caused because the terrorists place their artillery amidst or adjacent to civilian population centers. In both the Knesset committee and the Likud faction meeting there was criticism of both Dayan and the opposition Labor Party for questioning Israel's military policy in south Lebanon.

South Lebanon, meanwhile, was quiet for the third consecutive day. Gen. Erimanuel Erskine, commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said today that there was no evidence that Israel had used 175-millimeter guns or cluster bombs against the port of Tyre. He made the statement in connection with an American television program showing an empty cluster bomb canister and alleging it was used by Israel in an attack on Tyre.

USSR SUPPLYING SYRIA WITH TANKS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- Defense Min-

ister Ezer Weizman is expected to ask the Pentagon for additional military aid when he goes to Washington in two weeks in order for Israel to meet a new military danger caused by the Soviet Union's shipment to Syria of its most modern tank.

Reports from Damascus yesterday said the Soviet Union had supplied Syria with some 100 of the T-72 tanks which are reportedly superior to the American-made M-48 and the British Centurion which are used by Israel. Pentagon officials said yesterday that the Syrians had received 70 of the new tanks, which had never before been supplied outside of the Warsaw Pact countries. Western military experts in Damascus were reported as saying that Syria would eventually receive a total of 150 T-72s which would be enough to equip a mechanized infantry division.

The new tank has a 125-millimeter gun, a highly sophisticated firing control system, a laser range-finder, computers and night-sighting equipment. It also has an automatic loading system and has a crew of three. (By Yitzhak Shargil)

PREPARATIONS FOR SADAT'S VISIT

JERUSALEM, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- President Anwar Sadat is scheduled to arrive in Haifa Sept. 4 for a three-day visit. In preparation for this visit, Premier Menachem Begin went to see President Yitzhak Navon today to brief him on the upcoming talks.

"I hope there will be friendly talks as we had in Alexandria," Begin said following the meeting. "The agenda was not fixed in advance, so there will be a free discussion about the problems facing Israel and Egypt in the wake of the peace treaty."

Begin said he might bring up the question of the oil supply from Egypt to Israel once Israel withdraws from the oil fields at the end of November. Navon said he did not intend to conduct negotiations with Sadat. "I would like first of all to know him personally, to have the opportunity of an exchange of views in general terms, and especially to discuss how to give the sense of peace to both the Egyptian and the Israeli people."

BOYCOTT VIOLATOR PENALIZED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- A Swiss subsidiary of a large American corporation has been ordered to pay \$20,000 to the U.S. Treasury as a "civil penalty" for two alleged violations of the U.S. laws aimed at the Arab boycott of Israel.

The Commerce Department announced that in accordance with a "consent agreement" it has ordered Finagrain Compagnie Commerciale Agricole et Financiere S.A. (Finagrain), a Swiss subsidiary of Continental Grain Company, to pay \$20,000, the "maximum civil penalty allowable under the law for two violations," a Department statement said.

The penalty order, signed by Stanley Marcus, Senior Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industry and Trade, also requires Finagrain to take "internal corrective measures to ensure its future compliance with the anti-boycott law and to report to the Commerce Department within six months on its actions."

The two alleged violations involved a shipment to Iraq in which Finagrain certified that it was not affiliated with any firm blacklisted by Iraq as part of its boycott of Israel and that the shipment was not of Israeli origin. The anti-boycott law prohibits Americans from furnishing information about business relationships with boycotted or blacklisted

persons related to intent to support an unsanctioned foreign boycott.

According to the penalty agreement entered into by the Swiss firm, one of its corrective measures is to have prompt reporting to its appropriate management all boycott-related requests. This includes "all Finagrain transactions involving customers in the countries identified on the U.S. Treasury Department list of countries deemed to be cooperating with the Arab boycott of Israel."

UN-FILM ON PALESTINIANS RAPPED BY ISRAEL AS DISTORTION OF FACTS

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- The controversial United Nations-produced film on the Palestine Liberation Organization, "The Palestinians Do Have Human Rights," was screened here last night for reporters and diplomats and the reaction by both Arabs and Israelis was less than enthusiastic.

"It is a one-sided film which distorts the basic facts of the Arab-Israeli conflict," said Nachman Shai, the Israeli spokesman at the UN. "The film," he continued, "tries very hard to appear objective and even-handed, but everybody who is familiar with the facts can tell it is only a PLO propaganda piece."

Lebanese Ambassador Ghassam Tuani found the film "disappointing." He said the film failed to underline that the Palestinian problem started with the beginning of Zionism and not with the creation of the State of Israel. Hassan Abdel Rahman, of the PLO, simply described the film as "bland."

The 55-minute, \$80,000 film was produced at the request of the 23-member Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People -- a committee which Israel charges supported the PLO plan to destroy Israel in stages. The film was completed last year but at the last moment the PLO and its supporters expressed displeasure with the final product as not being "pro-Palestinian" enough. Israel also requested, and was granted, the deletion of a part showing Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan addressing the General Assembly.

Israel Blamed For Plight

The present version of the film depicts the plight of the Palestinian people as being the result of Israel's aggression and continuing policy of expansion. In an attempt at objectivity, the film admits the PLO resorted to acts of violence and terrorism. Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, in an interview during the film, asserts, however, that "we are against violence" and that the violence of his organization should be examined as one aspect of the whole conflict.

Throughout the film, the narrator and various PLO spokesmen say that as long as the Palestinians are not treated as humans -- namely, granted statehood -- they cannot be expected to follow standard behavior.

The film will be distributed soon to more than 120 libraries around the world. According to sources here, the UN will also offer the film for commercial use, including major U.S. TV stations.

U.S. BACKS YOUNG'S ATTACK ON ISRAELI STRIKES IN SOUTH LEBANON

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- Ambassador Andrew Young's address to the United Nations Security Council today on events in south Lebanon was preceded by a unique comment here

by the Carter Administration that Young was speaking with "the full authority of the United States government." Young unleashed a bitter criticism of Israeli strikes into Lebanon. (See separate story from the UN P. 3.)

State Department spokesman Hoddin Carter volunteered that statement to reporters in announcing that Young was making "a full statement on United States policy," which in effect is a restatement of U.S. positions. Carter declared "in case of any doubt," Young's "important statement of policy" was "cleared throughout this government." However, Carter said, under questioning, that special Ambassador Robert Strauss did not participate in this clearance, although he is affected by the "spillover" of the Lebanon situation on Egyptian-Israeli negotiations that Strauss is handling.

Outlining the U.S. policy, spokesman Carter said that the U.S. is "determined to do all it can for an immediate and lasting halt to all acts of violence in southern Lebanon." He added that all hostilities must cease "by all parties" against innocents in Israel and Lebanon -- "by Palestinians, Christian militia, Israeli military and others."

Carter added that "we are following up" Young's address with diplomatic steps in which the United States will convey its views to "all parties" including Lebanon, Syria, Israel and Jordan. Carter said the PLO and the Christian militia, supported by Israel, will also receive these U.S. views. He said Arab governments will convey them to the PLO. He would not specify how the Christians would be informed.

Asked what he expects the Security Council to do since its resolutions and UN force "haven't" worked apparently, Carter replied that "the best hope for peace in the region is full implementation" of the Security Council resolution that brought Israel's withdrawal of forces from southern Lebanon and established a UN force (UNIFIL) that was intended to prevent armed Palestinian Arabs from entering southern Lebanon.

Evron Meets With Vance

Earlier today, Israeli envoy Ephraim Evron met for 35 minutes with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department. Later Evron said the purpose of the meeting, which he said he requested, was to help bring up to date developments in the area since Vance had returned to his office today from a vacation. The State Department said southern Lebanon was not discussed at the Vance-Evron meeting.

Spokesman Carter had no information to offer on reports on Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister Ezer Weizman coming to Washington about a possible meeting between Dayan, Vance and a top Egyptian official. Weizman is coming in about two weeks to reportedly discuss reports of the Soviet government delivering ultra-sophisticated tanks to Syria.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The famous Israeli hotel breakfast, which served as a pleasant eat-as-much-as-you-can challenge for tourists, is no more. The breakfast, with its choice of rolls, cheeses, vegetables and juices, is but another victim of the soaring inflation. Food is just too expensive. Hotel owners have complained that tourists took advantage of the rich Israeli breakfast by loading their plates with food they could not eat. Others prepared sandwiches they smuggled out of the dining room, to last them as a day's supply of food. Thus, within a few weeks, the hotel morning breakfast will be the regular continental breakfast. Any extras will cost more.

YOUNG UNLEASHES BITTER ATTACK ON ISRAELI STRIKES IN SOUTH LEBANON

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- Ambassador Andrew Young of the United States unleashed today a bitter attack on Israeli strikes in south Lebanon, charging the "slaughter of innocent people through random violence." But Young, who addressed the Security Council debate on the situation in south Lebanon, also made it clear that he condemns Palestinian terrorist raids in Israel.

The outgoing Ambassador, who resigned from his post two weeks ago as a result of his unauthorized meeting with the Palestine Liberation Organization observer here, declared that he was speaking "with the full authority of the United States government." Saying that the U.S. condemns the terrorist attacks against Israel and that "no political objective can ever justify such barbarism," Young declared further:

"Just as strongly we condemn the policy of artillery shelling and preemptive attacks on Lebanese towns, villages and refugee camps which Israel and the armed Lebanese groups Israel supports have followed in recent months. Let there be no doubt or ambiguity about this. We cannot and do not agree with Israel's military policies in Lebanon as manifested in the past few months. They are wrong and unacceptable to my government. They are painfully at variance with the values which Israel has traditionally espoused."

Preconditions To End Terror And Counter-Terror

Young, who is this month's Security Council President, said that the United States government believes that in order to break the "deadlock of terror and counter-terror in which both sides seem to be caught," the following preconditions should be followed:

"Both sides should cooperate fully with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to carry out its mandate." He said it is "disgraceful" that UNIFIL troops have been the subject of attack by "Palestinian elements and groups supported by Israel," an apparent reference to the Palestinian terrorists and the Christian militia forces in south Lebanon.

"Israel should end its policy of preemptive strikes on Lebanese soil," and should "cease its artillery attacks in support of Lebanese militia groups."

"The Palestinian leadership should help heal the wounds of Lebanon. It should stop attacks on the Lebanese militia groups in southern Lebanon and on Israel. It should carry out its pledge of June 5 to withdraw its fighters from southern Lebanese villages and towns and remove all its armed groups from UNIFIL's area of operation."

"All parties to the conflict should carry out and strictly enforce a complete, immediate and lasting halt to all shelling, terrorism and other acts of violence."

Urges End To Violence By Palestinians

At the conclusion of his speech, Young made reference to last week's highly publicized meeting of the Security Council on Palestinian rights, declaring he believes there is now an increased understanding in the United States about "the importance of ensuring that the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are included in a comprehensive settlement" in the Mideast. In view of this development, Young said, "It is time for the Palestinian leadership to recognize that their

objective cannot be achieved through violence and terrorism. Indeed, it is time, past time, for wiser counsels to prevail on both sides of the border between Lebanon and Israel."

The Security Council convened today at the request of Lebanon. Lebanese Ambassador Ghassan Tuani also submitted today a memorandum to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim asserting that the situation in south Lebanon had reached a danger point which required urgent measures, "not excluding a request for sanction against Israel if it should continue its policy of defiance and aggression."

Israel Raps Young's Statement

Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador, told the Council that in light of PLO operations from Lebanon, Israel had no choice but to take necessary measures in its own defense. Civilians were inevitably affected, he said, because the PLO operated from refugee camps and villages. He added, however, that Israel supports Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Israeli diplomats at the UN sharply criticized Young's harsh criticism of Israel, describing it as "a bitter attack." One Israeli diplomat said the "Young speech was probably a 'prize for the Arabs' consent to postpone the Palestinian rights debate last week." The diplomat also said that Israel rejects out of hand Young's description of Israeli attacks as counter-terrorism. The Council will resume its debate tomorrow.

SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORISM REVEALED ON PBS SPECIAL IN SEPTEMBER

NEW YORK, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- "The Russian Connection," a remarkable documentary that details hard evidence of Soviet involvement in the training of PLO terrorists, will be televised Sept. 25 by the Public Broadcasting Service. The television documentary, a co-production of KERA-TV, Dallas/Fort Worth, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., will be aired simultaneously in the United States and Canada.

"The Russian Connection" features the first public admission by officers of the Palestine Liberation Organization of their training in the Soviet Union. The program reveals the type of training they received and the names and places of the Soviet KGB camps where terrorist training takes place. Three other terrorist groups from Africa and the Middle East also receiving training are named by those who trained with them in Russia.

The documentary begins with the death of Gail Rubin, an American photographer murdered by a Fatah terrorist squad on a beach in Israel in March, 1978. Surrounding her death was a web of connections in transnational terrorism that reached to the Soviet Union, East Germany, Syria and to PLO training bases in Lebanon.

Analysis and commentary are given by Ray Cline, formerly head of Intelligence, U.S. Department of State, now director of the Center for Strategic Studies, Georgetown University; Brian Crozier, director of the Institute for the Study of Conflict, London; and by Gen. Shlomo Gazit, head of Israeli Military Intelligence, 1974-79.

Cline calls the Soviet training activities and support part of a pattern of "low intensity warfare" serving Soviet geo-political interests in the Middle East and elsewhere. The experts' commentary also considers questions regarding the free world's response to the intention of Soviet involvement in terrorism. Veteran broadcast journalist Marilyn Berger will serve as anchor for the documentary. Producer for "The Russian Connection" is Herb Krosney.

COLPA FILES SUIT WITH FCC TO HALT SALE OF WEVD-AM TO CHRISTIAN GROUP By Ben Gailob

NEW YORK, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- A petition was filed today with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, opposing the sale of station WEVD-AM of New York, by the Forward Association, to a broadcasting group specializing in Christian religious broadcast programming, the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), reported.

Howard Zuckerman, COLPA president, said the suit was filed by Nathan Lewin, COLPA vice president, and David Butler, a volunteer attorney who is a member of COLPA's Washington chapter. Zuckerman said it was the first time in its 10 years that COLPA has acted in this field of public litigation. Dennis Rapps, COLPA executive director, said COLPA undertook to try to halt the sale of WEVD-AM to the Salem Media Co., which owns a number of Christian program stations throughout the United States because the sale is not in the public interest -- a federal law requirement -- for a variety of reasons related to the more than 80 years of WEVD-AM broadcasting of programs of Jewish content in Yiddish and in English.

Butler said COLPA had learned that the AM frequency, which now broadcasts Jewish content programs from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. five days a week, will drop all such programs if the AM band is taken over by the Salem group.

Terms Upgrading Plans Insufficient

Rapps said he had been told by the WEVD management that it plans to upgrade substantially the Jewish content program on WEVD-FM which the Forward Association would retain. He said he had raised the issue of how WEVD-FM could fit into its tight schedule of multi-lingual broadcasting -- which currently includes Jewish programming only from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. -- the four-and-a-half hours of such broadcasting now being aired daily on the AM band.

Rapps said that even if time could be found on the FM band for the present AM Jewish content programming, many elderly Jews either do not own radios with FM bands or never use the FM circuits. Also, he said, FM broadcasts, for technical reasons, do not reach many areas of Jewish population concentration, such as Monticello, N.Y., about 100 miles from New York City, which WEVD-AM does reach. He also reported that a survey of senior citizens centers in the New York metropolitan area indicated that the AM band is the one listened to by elderly Jews.

Coalition Formed To Save WEVD-AM

A "Coalition to Save WEVD-AM" has been formed to support the license fight planned through the FCC. Member agencies of the coalition include Agudath Israel, the National Council of Young Israel, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the United Jewish Council of the Lower East Side, and the Jewish Community Councils of Washington Heights in Manhattan, and of Brighton Beach and Crown Heights in Brooklyn, as well as a number of local Jewish institutions which sponsor programs in Yiddish and English on WEVD-AM.

Rapps filed an affidavit with the petition, required by the fact that he had negotiated with the Forward Association and the WEVD management. He said concerns about the quantity and variety of Jewish programs have not, at this point, been satisfied by the stated plans for the FM band, if the sale is completed.

The Forward Association signed an agreement to sell the AM band to the Salem firm last May and applied for FCC approval on July 29. Any group with valid objections has 30 days to file a petition with the FCC opposing the transaction. The other party has 10 days to file a reply. The FCC had accepted the application of the Forward Association for sale of the AM band to become effective Jan. 1, 1980. Radio and TV stations operate under FCC licenses which must be renewed annually.

Rapps said there will be no change in present WEVD-AM programming until the FCC ruling, which the FCC can make with or without a formal hearing. Meanwhile, COLPA reported, the coalition is directing a community-wide effort to collect a maximum number of signatures of listeners protesting the sale to submit to the FCC in connection with the petition.

CRACKDOWN BEGINS ON SOVIET JEWISH UNDERGROUND JOURNAL

NEW YORK, Aug. 29 (JTA) -- The long-feared crackdown on the Russian Jewish underground journal "Jews in the USSR" has evidently begun with the arrest of one of its editors, Moscow refusenik Igor Guberman, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ).

Guberman, a 43-year-old writer of popular science articles for young people, has been accused under Article 208 of the RSFSR Criminal Code of dealing in icons stolen from a church near Moscow. He could face seven years' imprisonment followed by five years' internal exile and confiscation of his property.

The SSSJ and UCSJ said Jewish activists believed Guberman, who was twice refused an exit visa since he applied last December, was "set up" on a criminal charge to hide the political nature of his arrest. He is known in Moscow as an icon collector and an authority on olden religious art. But realizing that his connection with the Jewish "samizdat" could lead to trouble, he stopped purchasing icons three years ago.

The editors of Jews in the USSR, who list their names on each issue to proclaim their belief that its publication is within Soviet law, have been harassed since its inception in 1973. Twenty issues of the typewritten journal have come out since then. A new wave of pressure began at the end of 1978, with KGB raids on the homes of editors in Moscow, Leningrad and Riga, and attempts to recruit informers among its contributors, promising rewards as trips abroad, the Soviet Jewry groups reported.

The SSSJ and UCSJ said that the content of Jews in the USSR is largely non-political, concentrating on articles on Jewish life and lore. Some are written by Jewish activists; others are translated from Western publications.

LONDON (JTA) -- The mystery of the radiation scare at the Israel Embassy which perplexed scientists and police for the past six days was cleared up Wednesday. Checks with special instruments indicated that there was no radiation at all but due to the high frequency radio communications equipment used by the Embassy.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- One man was seriously hurt Wednesday in an explosion near the Jerusalem railway station. In another incident, police dismantled explosives in a bus belonging to a Nazareth firm. The bus was parked overnight in Bethlehem and the explosives were found when it was brought to a Jerusalem service station.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated Sept. 3, due to Labor Day, a postal holiday.