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BURG REBUKED FOR SAYING THAT ISRAEL MIGHT TALK TO THE PLO

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Interior Minister Josef Burg was sharply censured by some of his Cabinet colleagues today for having hinted, in recent public statements, that Israel might, some day, under certain circumstances, talk to the Palestine Liberation Organization if the latter abandoned its covenant aimed at Israel's destruction and desisted from terrorist activities.

In what was seen as a direct rebuke to Burg, who heads the Israeli negotiating team in the autonomy talks with Egypt, the Cabinet re-affirmed today Israel's longstanding policy that it will never negotiate with the PLO under any circumstances.

Burg, a leader of the National Religious Party, received what he himself described to reporters as a "cold shower" at today's Cabinet session. He was taken to task for remarks he made during the last 10 days, first in London where he attended a meeting on Palestinian autonomy with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil and U.S. special Ambassador to the Middle East Robert Strauss, and later to reporters when he landed at Ben Gurion Airport last week.

He said in London if the PLO were to change sections of its "Palestine covenant" and refrain from terrorism for two or three years, "that change would require a change on our part." He was more explicit at the airport, saying outright that in the event of such changes, Israel would consider negotiating with the PLO. Housing Minister David Levy of Herut, expressed the reactions of a number of other Ministers to what they considered Burg's departure from Israel's declared policy.

"As leader of Israel's negotiating team, Dr. Burg cannot say things which are contrary to the declared government policy," Levy said. "I am happy that the Cabinet today reiterated its position that there can be no negotiations with the PLO and happy too that Premier (Menachem) Begin made the same point in his summation of the Cabinet discussion."

Dealt With Theoretical Situation

Burg, who is 70 and a veteran of many political battles, seemed pensive but unchastened by the upbraiding he received from his colleagues. "People pounced on me like vultures... to make political capital for themselves," he said. He added, however, "It doesn't matter. Cabinet policy is clear." Asked if he thought his statements contravened Cabinet policy, Burg observed that he had been dealing with a "theoretical situation" while Cabinet policy dealt with "the here and now."

Political observers recalled that in the first round of the autonomy talks in Beersheba last April, Burg omitted the word "never" from a paragraph on the PLO in his opening statement. The prepared text stated that "Israel will never negotiate" with the PLO. Burg, in his delivery, substituted "not" for "never." The U.S. delega-

tion, headed by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, took note of that amendment and brought it to the attention of the White House.

JEWISH LEADER DEMANDS RESIGNATION OF MAYOR WHO WAS A FORMER NAZI

BONN, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The resignation of a West German mayor accused of helping to send thousands of French Jews to the gas chambers has been demanded by West Berlin Jewish leader Heinz Galinski. He said it is extraordinary that Ernest Heinrichsohn can remain as mayor of the northern Bavarian town of Buerstadt while being charged with helping the deportation of 73,000 French Jews and Communists to concentration camps, where many of them died in gas chambers.

Heinrichsohn, 59, who worked in the Jewish affairs section in Paris during World War II, is on trial in Cologne along with former Paris SS chief Kurt Lischka, 70, and Herbert-Martin Hagen, 66. He told the court that he thought the thousands of Jews being deported from Paris were going to work camps and did not know their fate until he saw films and photographs after the war. "I only carried out my orders," he told the court last Friday when questioned about the deportation orders he signed. "I never acted on my own responsibility."

Meanwhile, residents of the 3500-population town which re-elected him mayor by an 84 percent vote last year told German television that they stood behind Heinrichsohn.

ARAFAT OFFICIALLY WELCOMED IN LISBON IN WHAT AMOUNTS TO A DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF THE PLO

By Edwin Eylan

LISBON, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat met last Friday with Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes, practically winning recognition for his organization. Arafat arrived in Lisbon early Friday morning to open the five-day international "Solidarity Conference with the Arab Nations" that night.

The PLO leader was met at the airport by Foreign Minister Carlos Freitas Cruz who later gave an official banquet in his honor. Freitas Cruz, in his toast, called for "the recognition of the martyred Palestinian people to a homeland." Arafat was also received by Portuguese Prime Minister Mario de Lourdes Pintasilgo for a one-hour-long audience at her official residence.

The official welcome amounted to a de facto Portuguese recognition of the PLO and diplomatic sources here believe that Arafat's visit will conclude with the creation of a PLO diplomatic representation in Lisbon. It would be the second such mission in a NATO country -- the first was set up last month in Turkey. Portugal's Jewish community has protested to the Prime Minister and the President against holding the conference in Lisbon and Arafat's visit.

Meets With Socialist, Communist Leaders

Arafat also met Friday morning at his hotel with the leaders of the Portuguese Socialist and

Communist parties. Socialist leader Mario Soares was the first caller. He said he had come to "pay his respects" and "to recall the Portuguese Socialist Party's traditional friendship for the Palestinian people and the cause." Two days earlier, Soares warmly embraced Israel's Labor Party leader Shimon Peres, who attended the Socialist International meeting in Exeter, stressing his "devotion" to Israel and its existence.

The Palestinian solidarity conference opened in the presence of over 600 official delegates from over 100 countries and some three dozen organizations. The conference is expressing solidarity with both the Arab nations and their people and "Palestine."

Libya, which is reportedly funding the huge parley, also set down the law: it barred an invitation to Israel's Communist Party (Rakah) and also refused to grant accreditation to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Lisbon. Palestinian circles were openly unhappy with these decisions but said "the matter is not in our hands." The PLO traditionally claims it is not anti-Jewish, only anti-Israel.

Prominent Socialists Attending

— Though most West European Socialist parties are not attending the Lisbon conference, prominent Socialists from most of these countries are participating in "individual capacities." Several French and West German Socialists arrived in Lisbon and plan to address the conference.

The Lisbon conference is a far cry from previous similar meetings, both in the number of attending delegates and their personal importance. The lobby of the hotel where the conference is taking place and where most delegates are staying looks like a mini-United Nations at the time of the General Assembly. Arab diplomats, Buddhist monks, West European intellectuals and East European representatives rub shoulders with Arab sheiks and Vietnamese officials.

WEIZMAN TO CAIRO TO SEEK ACCORD ON PRICE OF OIL TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Ezer Weizman left for Cairo today in an effort to reach an agreement with Egypt on the price of the Singi oil. Egypt will sell Israel after the oilfields are turned over to the Egyptians later this month. Weizman was scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Moustapha Khalil and Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali today and President Anwar Sadat tomorrow.

The price is the only point to be settled on the sale of the oil. Egypt has already agreed to sell Israel two million barrels a year.

Premier Menachem Begin decided to send Weizman to Egypt to discuss the oil issue rather than Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai because the Defense Minister had already begun talks on the problem with Sadat and Khalil during his visit to Cairo 10 days ago. Weizman was accompanied by Gen. Abraham Tamir, head of planning, and Lt. Col. Ilan Tehila, his secretary.

GOVERNMENT BILL WOULD ENABLE PREMIER TO APPOINT TWO DEPUTY PREMIERS

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The government will submit to the Knesset tomorrow a bill enabling a Prime Minister to appoint two deputies, instead of just one. The bill was drafted at today's Cabinet meeting.

It will facilitate the minor "reshuffle" that Premier Menachem Begin intends to implement this week, by enabling him to name Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich his second Deputy Premier, alongside Yigal Yadin, the Democratic Movement leader. This in turn will free the Finance Minister slot for Yigal Hurwitz. The other element in the package is the appointment of Liberal Party Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Nissim as Minister of Information.

The bill, an amendment to the Basic Law, as originally drafted by the Attorney General's office and submitted to the Cabinet, would have enabled a Premier to appoint "Deputy Premiers" — without any set limit. But Education Minister Zevulun Hammer of the National Religious Party balked at this, arguing that it would be better to restrict the number to two, and the Cabinet accepted this view.

Opposition To Information Ministry

Meanwhile opposition is developing to establishing a Ministry of Information. The main source of opposition was the fear by various government agencies — and Ministers — that they would have to give up functions which are within their responsibility.

Foremost among the opponents were Hammer and the director general of the Foreign Ministry, Yosef Ciechanover. Hammer opposed giving up his responsibility for the Information Center which deals with information inside the country. Ciechanover, for his part, opposed removing his office from information functions overseas.

In an effort to smooth out the differences, the Cabinet decided today to establish a committee, whose function was defined as "guidelines for the operation of the Information Ministry." The new committee met shortly after the Cabinet session, only to find out that its members had different views on the purpose of the new ministry.

Final Reshuffle Due Tuesday

The new committee is headed by Ehrlich. Its members are Absorption and Housing Minister David Levy, Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir, Hammer, Nissim and Ciechanover. According to the initial plan, the new ministry was to include the Government Press Office, the Information Center at the Education Ministry, and the Information Division at the Foreign Ministry.

But Hammer was quick to announce his opposition to give up the internal information center, while Ciechanover opposed giving up overseas information. Ciechanover argued that former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan had earlier agreed, with Nissim on a different way of establishing an information authority. It was agreed at the time, he said, that the new authority would coordinate overseas information activities, but would not interfere.

Thus, by late today it seemed as if the committee, established in order to make work easy for the Cabinet, would have no choice but return the ball to the Cabinet plenary — which is scheduled to meet Tuesday for a final and formal decision on the current reshuffle.

LEVY DETERMINED TO SPEED UP ACCOMMODATIONS FOR OLIM, ISRAELIS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- David Levy, Israel's Absorption and Housing Minister, gave notice here that he is determined to introduce

more efficient foreign building methods into Israel in order to speed up new accommodations for immigrants and Israeli citizens. Levy said that one of the foreign property developers who was interested in introducing new building methods into Israel was Leon Tamman, Treasurer of the World Sephardi Federation.

Addressing a reception at the Herut Party's London headquarters last week, Levy said the new methods would boost the already improving rate of building homes for olim, young families and those with many children.

In the public sector alone this year, construction had begun of 20,000 units, compared with 7,500 in 1978 and 5,000 in 1977. In the private sector, construction had begun on an additional 25,000 dwellings, he said.

However, while the average Israeli home takes between 2-2 1/2 years to complete, Levy hoped to bring in foreign building firms that could do the work in 10 months to one year. This had already created some antagonism in Israel "where you can be friendly with everyone as long as you do not wish to do something new," he stated. However, he said he was determined to "go forward without compromise."

On the question of absorption, Levy expressed pride in the fact that he himself had come to Israel as a young boy from Morocco, had grown up in the development city of Beit Shean, and was now a Minister.

In the past two years, he noted, 40 percent of newcomers had been absorbed in development towns where immigrants of the 1950s were now absorbing the immigrants of the 1970s. More and more immigrants are expressing a preference to settle in towns like Ma'alot in Galilee, rather than in Tel Aviv or the coastal plain, Levy claimed.

NEW STORM ROCKS ARMY

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan found himself at the center of a new political storm over the weekend for reducing the prison sentence of a second Israeli army officer convicted of murdering a prisoner during the invasion of Lebanon in March, 1978, the so-called "Litani Operation." Eitan, who was chief of military operations at the time, is accused in this case of having ordered his troops to take no prisoners, meaning that any captured terrorists were to be killed.

Eitan, who left tonight on a 10-day visit to the U.S. as guest of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had no comment. An army spokesman, however, denied emphatically that any such orders were given.

The latest case involves former Lt. Col. Aryeh Sadeh, who commanded an engineering battalion in the Litani Operation. He was convicted by a military court of having ordered his men to kill one of three Arabs captured by his unit. He was sentenced to 30 months imprisonment and reduced in rank to Captain. An Appeals Court increased his punishment to five years imprisonment and demoted him to the rank of Private. But Eitan intervened, ordered the original lighter sentence restored and elevated Sadeh to Major, just one rank below his original one.

The entire case was cloaked in secrecy. It was acknowledged by the military authorities on Friday only after the story appeared in the London

Spectator. The British periodical had apparently received the information from MK Uri Avnery of the leftist Sheli faction, the same source that exposed the similar case of Lt. Daniel Pinto several months ago.

Pinto, who commanded a platoon during the Lebanese operation, was convicted of the torture-murder of four Lebanese civilians and was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment, later reduced to eight years and stripped of rank. Eitan cut that sentence to two years, including time already served. By coincidence, Pinto, who received additional time off for good behavior, was released from jail on Friday, just as the Sadeh story was breaking.

Says He Carried Out Orders

Sadeh did not deny that he had ordered the execution of a prisoner he believed to have been a terrorist. But he insisted, according to the Spectator story, that he was carrying out the spirit of the orders given at a briefing by top army officers that no terrorists be taken alive. His wife, Yaffa, who is campaigning for her husband's release, said in a radio interview that those orders were given directly by Eitan.

She said that at the briefing the commanding officer read a famous line written by Israel's national poet, the late Chaim Nachman Bialik -- "The devil has not yet found a revenge for the blood of a little child." Bialik wrote those words after the Kishinev pogroms in Czarist Russia. The Litani Operation was ordered after a terrorist raid from Lebanon on Israel's coastal highway in which many of the victims were children.

According to Mrs. Sadeh, another ranking officer said at the briefing, "We do not want wounded. We do not want prisoners. Just kill terrorists. Only terrorists. Kill, kill, kill." She said the man her husband ordered killed was obviously a terrorist. The other two prisoners were not and were treated properly, she said.

No, Illegal Orders Given

An army spokesman said last night that strict orders were given not to harm prisoners, including any terrorists who might give themselves up. He said all operational orders contained detail instructions of how captured terrorists should be treated and transferred to interrogation centers.

The spokesman acknowledged that Eitan had read the line from Bialik but insisted that he had added nothing and that the commander of the northern region gave no illegal instructions. He said the orders stressed that the objective of the Litani Operation was to destroy terrorists and their bases but nowhere was it said that prisoners should be harmed.

The then Chief of Staff, Gen. Mordechai Gur, attended the briefing but has refused to comment on the issue. At the moment, it is Avnery rather than Eitan who is feeling political heat from his Knesset colleagues. Labor MK Amos Hador has asked the Attorney General to waive Avnery's Knesset immunity so that he can be brought to trial on charges of revealing military secrets.

Another MK, Akiva Noff of the Democratic Movement has asked Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir and the heads of the various factions to initiate amendments to the present Knesset laws to prevent violations of State security under the protection of immunity. Avnery charged that Noff was, in effect, inciting his assassination. Noff responded that Avnery is paranoid.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES COUGHLIN: AN ANTI-SEMITIC TO THE END

By Philip Slomovitz

DETROIT, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Father Charles E. Coughlin, who died Oct. 27 at the age of 88 at his suburban Detroit home in Bloomfield Hills, wrote his own obituary when he was still in his 40s. He had an opportunity to remove himself from the anti-Semites. Instead, of his own free will, he gained an indelible spot in the story of anti-Semitism.

When he began his attacks on the world bankers he embraced the most infamous, ridiculous and shabby of world forgeries, the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and insisted upon using them as his second Bible in his sermons from his pulpit in Royal Oak and on his weekly radio programs during the 1930s which attracted as many as 40 million listeners.

This writer met with Coughlin -- the first Jewish journalist to interview him -- and invited him to write an article about the Protocols. That exposure was printed as promised in his magazine "Social Justice." But the very next week he had his editor write another piece repudiating the repudiation. In other words, all the condemnations of the Protocols, which began with the London Times articles in 1921, didn't matter to Coughlin. If Jews were to be condemned, the Protocols were to be among the means for that purpose.

Therefore, when in the midst of Nazi onslaughts on Jews Coughlin joined the vilest of anti-Semites in his attacks on the Jewish people, this writer yielded to resentment to call him a racist. He hissed: Who wouldn't? But it didn't matter much so far as truth was concerned: he placed his faith in the most disreputable of fraudulent writing, the Protocols, which stemmed from Russian anti-Semitism published in 1902.

Supported By Many Jews

Coughlin built up a nationwide following and in his heyday was given financial support by many Jews. One of the many chapters in his career must not be overlooked. His Social Justice magazine was printed by the late Morris Steinberg (Morris Printing Co.). Steinberg invested a lot of money in order to live up to his contract with Coughlin. But Coughlin pressured him into bankruptcy.

Coughlin broke his contract with Steinberg and had his magazine printed by a Chicago publishing house. There was a lawsuit and Steinberg was awarded \$12,000 damages. But it was not enough to save his business after he had installed very expensive machinery to meet the contract terms with Coughlin.

In this instance, as in other instances, social aspects and justice were in question. Coughlin not only had his prejudices and refused to recognize untruth in the Protocols and truth in dealing with the tragedy of the Jews in the Nazi era, but he was also tough with the printer who had given him great devotion.

Coughlin's magazine spewed forth anti-Semitic venom and tirades against the conspiracy of bankers, unions and Communism, but it also once featured on the front page a photograph of President Franklin D. Roosevelt with a yellow streak on his back. It was at the time he broke ranks with FDR and threatened to form another political party to defeat him. Subscriptions to Social Justice declined by 40 percent as a result.

Coughlin must have had his good qualities, yet he did not obtain sufficient inner strength to say he was sorry about his anti-Semitism.

He had that chance when the late Jacob (Jack) Gelfand, in whose supermarket Coughlin shopped, influenced Coughlin to purchase a \$500 Israel Bond. This writer would not publish the photo until after Gelfand's death. At the outset he wrote to Coughlin suggesting he repudiate his anti-Semitism. Then the photo of the Bond purchase would have been front page stuff. Coughlin didn't reply.

Meanwhile, every modern history book, all the works about anti-Semitism, by Jews and non-Jews, contain the name Charles E. Coughlin as one of the leaders in movements fostering hatred for Jews. That's what Coughlin chose. That's how it remains in all historical records.

SMALL CITY EXECUTIVES INSTITUTE ENDORSE PROJECT RENEWAL

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- After a 10-day study tour in Israel recently, the members of the Small City Executives Institute, representing communities throughout the United States and Canada, adopted a resolution pledging increased support of community campaigns on behalf of Project Renewal.

The action followed meetings with leaders in the Project Renewal neighborhoods of Hatikvah, Kiryat Shmona and Ramle, where Institute members saw evidence of the activation of the worldwide Jewish partnership program designed to rebuild and renew disadvantaged neighborhoods -- rescuing the 45,000 adults and 200,000 children who have been left out of the mainstream of Israeli life.

"Our visit was extraordinarily successful," said Ivor Schonfeld, chairman of the Institute and Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Allentown, Pa. "Witnessing the absorption of Soviet Jewry, meeting with leaders in Project Renewal neighborhoods, and studying the effects of a devastating inflation on Jewish Agency human support programs, we are able to return to our cities and explain from first-hand experience why so much more is needed for the 1980 campaign, plus an extra pledge for Project Renewal."

The Institute program also included meetings with Irving Bernstein, executive vice president of the United Jewish Appeal, Leon Dulzín, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization executives, and with directors of community and absorption centers. Caucusing at the end of their mission, the executive directors increased their pledges for the 1980 campaign by an average of 25 percent and pledged an additional \$15,000 toward Project Renewal. The program was organized by the Jewish Agency's Institute for Leadership Development in Jerusalem.

TILLIE MEHLER DEAD AT 83

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- A funeral service was held today for Tillie Mehler who died yesterday at her home in Manhattan at the age of 83. Born Tillie Greenbaum on the Lower East Side, she was a founder of the Passover Relief Fund that for more than 25 years distributed tons of holiday food for poor New York Jews. In 1918 she became the first secretary of the Israel Aid Society, which then helped Jewish settlers in Palestine. Mrs. Mehler served as an officer or member of dozens of organizations, including the American Mizrahi Women, United Ladies Aid Society, and the Nashim Rachmanios Society.