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DEPORTATION OF NABLUS MAYOR APPROVED BY CABINET COMMITTEE; SUPREME COURT HAS FINAL SAY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- The Ministerial Defense Committee decided today to deport Mayor Bassam Shaka of Nablus despite his reported willingness to make a public denunciation of terrorism. The final decision rests with the Supreme Court which issued a temporary injunction against his expulsion last week. But the ministerial action today indicated that at least a majority in the government is opposed to any deal and believes that the pro-Palestine Liberation Organization mayor must be deported.

News of that decision spread rapidly on the West Bank where the mayors of Bethlehem and Hebron promptly resigned, joining 16 other mayors and municipal council members who handed in their resignations yesterday in protest against the treatment of Shaka. Shaka remains in the Ramle jail where he was confined since his arrest last Sunday. His attorney, Felicia Langer, said he would begin a hunger strike.

Until this morning there was wide speculation that Shaka would be released and allowed to return to office on condition that he declared his opposition to terrorism and the loss of civilian life. Langer said her client was prepared to make such a statement. He was removed from office by the Military Government last week because of statements he made at a private meeting with a Defense Ministry official in which he allegedly condoned the massacre of 84 civilians in a terrorist attack on Israel's coastal highway in March, 1978. Shaka insists that his remarks were distorted and taken out of context.

Weizman Reconsiders

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman appeared yesterday to have had second thoughts about the wisdom of deporting Shaka. His comments in private and before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee indicated that he would have preferred to settle the matter quietly. But the Voice of Israel Radio reported this afternoon that Weizman reconsidered again and concluded that the government had no choice but to deport the deposed mayor. The report said it was Weizman himself who demanded that the expulsion order be carried out.

The decision was reported just as the Israeli and Egyptian working groups met in Tel Aviv for another round of talks on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. (See separate story.) The chairman of the Egyptian delegation, Ahmad Izzat Abdul-Latif, made a brief statement on the Shaka case. He spoke before the deportation decision was announced, expressing concern over its possible effects on the future of the autonomy talks. Haim Kubersky, head of the Israeli delegation, insisted that the Shaka case had nothing to do with the autonomy negotiations.

U.S. HAS 'NO COMMENT'

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- The State Department had "no comment" today on the resignations of 18 mayors of West Bank and Gaza

Strip towns in protest against the impending deportation of Mayor Bassam Shaka of Nablus.

The Department's chief spokesman, Hoddge Carter, said "A causal step has been taken which led to the resignations and until the precipitating matter has been resolved, until the legal and political situation has played itself out," he would have "no comment." Carter also refused to comment on reports that the State Department has told Israel privately that it opposed its action in the Shaka case.

WOUNDED AMBASSADOR OUT OF DANGER

PARIS, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- Israel's Ambassador to Portugal, Ephraim Eldar, shot by unknown gunmen outside his Embassy yesterday, was reported in good condition today following surgery at the Santa Maria Hospital in Lisbon. Hospital officials said the 44-year-old Israeli envoy was hit in the right leg and arm and was treated for fractures and a severed artery but is out of danger. The assassins, whose machinegun and grenade attack killed Eldar's 30-year-old Portuguese bodyguard and wounded three other persons, are still at large. Although several extremist groups have claimed credit for the attack, the Portuguese authorities have no firm clues yet as to the identity of the killers.

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN WORKING GROUPS 'FRIENDLY' AS THEY DISCUSS MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING AUTONOMY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- Israeli and Egyptian working groups met at the Lorraine Hotel in Tel Aviv today for another round of talks on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Haim Kubersky, chairman of the Israeli delegation, opened the proceedings with a summation of the legal powers invested in the Military Government. This was an introduction to the agenda item dealing with the "powers and responsibilities" of the proposed autonomous authorities, a subject on which Israel and Egypt remain far apart.

The Egyptians insist that the autonomy council be given the widest possible authority while the Israelis want its powers strictly limited. The Egyptian delegation asked for time to study Kubersky's report and further discussion of the "powers and responsibilities" item was postponed until tomorrow.

The atmosphere of the talks was described as "friendly" and informal. The Israelis and Egyptians are on a first-name basis and chat amiably during their coffee breaks, one source said. There is no sense of urgency. "There is no rush so why pretend there is," one observer said.

This afternoon's talks were devoted to the technical matters involved in holding elections for the autonomous authority. Kubersky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that progress was being made and the two parties have gotten down to the discussion of details.

The present round of talks is to continue through next Tuesday. The United States is represented by James Leonard, deputy to Robert Strauss. President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, Strauss is to be replaced shortly by Sol Linowitz, who is expected to visit the Middle East at a later stage. President Anwar Sadat of Egypt meanwhile continues to express optimism over the successful outcome of the negotiations. Asked about the basis for Sadat's

confidence, the chairman of the Egyptian working group, Abdul Latif, told the JTA that "He hopes a breakthrough will come sooner or later but we still have to work on it."

STRAUSS OPTIMISTIC AUTONOMY TALKS WILL HIT TARGET DATE

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- Ambassador Robert Strauss, who is ending his duties as President Carter's special Middle East envoy to head Carter's reelection campaign, expressed "cautious optimism" last night that the Palestinian autonomy negotiations between Israel, Egypt and the United States will reach a successful conclusion by the end of May, the "target date" for the talks.

But he admitted, however, that the negotiations face "a great deal of trouble," although, he said, "progress has been made," and "we are moving ahead" with the talks.

Speaking at a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Strauss said the gap between the Egyptians and Israelis on self-rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is that Israel objects to giving the proposed self-governing authority any legislative power while the Egyptians believe the Palestinians should have the ability to determine their own future. Premier Menachem Begin, Strauss noted, says that if the Palestinians will receive "legislative authority" they will legislate the creation of a Palestinian state. This is "a logical" concern on the part of Begin, he said.

Strauss, who will be going to the Mideast again this weekend before taking over Carter's reelection campaign, said that Begin "captured my imagination," and said he became the Israeli Premier's "defender around the world." Describing Begin as a "brave" leader who had to "take bold decisions," Strauss said Begin faces complex internal problems. While President Anwar Sadat enjoys full support in Egypt, he observed, "the coalition government (in Israel) is very hard on Begin."

Strauss said that he believes that if the coalition government in Israel collapses, it will be for "something trivial" and marginal and not for the major issues concerning foreign policy. He said President Carter and himself are aware of Begin's internal difficulties.

Cites Closeness Between Begin, Sadat

Strauss pointed out that an achievement by itself is the "amazing" climate in which the negotiations on autonomy are taking place. "Begin and Sadat are not just friends... their relations are deeper than that. The chemistry between the two men is unbelievable. You have to see it to believe it," Strauss told the more than 30 Jewish leaders present at the meeting, recalling that Sadat told him after one of their meetings before he (Strauss) flew to Israel, "Don't push Menachem like you did me... he is too fatigued."

As for the Carter Administration's Mideast policy, Strauss said its "cornerstone" is that there must be a stability in the Mideast and that there cannot be a stability in the Mideast without a secure and strong Israel. He said President Carter has a "Zionistic"-like commitment to the State of Israel which grows from his "religious belief."

Strauss reiterated the Administration's commitment to Israel before several hundred businessmen at a dinner last night given by the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

ISRAELI AWARD TO BRZEZINSKI'S FATHER

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- A former Polish diplomat who sheltered Polish Jews from the Nazis at his consulate in Leipzig, Germany just before World War II was honored by Israel at special ceremonies at the Jewish Public Library here this week. Israeli Consul General Zvi Caspi conferred "special recognition" on Tadeusz Brzezinski, now a resident of Canada, who was Poland's Consul General in Leipzig during the 1930s.

He is the father of Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's National Security Advisor, who also lived in Canada as a young man. Caspi disclosed that his own father was one of the Jews who found asylum at Brzezinski's consulate. In presenting a citation to the elder Brzezinski "for his courage and intellectual integrity," Caspi said, "Mr. Brzezinski opened the gates of the Polish Consulate in Leipzig to Jews of Polish citizenship residing in that town and took them under his protection, among them my own late father. Little did I dream that I, as a representative of the State of Israel, would express gratitude to this man for his courageous act."

Caspi also conferred the "Righteous Gentile Award" on Mrs. Barbara Makuch who risked her life to save a Jewish child during the Nazi occupation of Poland. "The Jewish people," he said, "will never be able to erase from their memories the dramatic events in the lives of those who survived the brutalities of the Nazi regime. We, the Jewish people, have coined the tenet of the sanctity of human life and this tenet is inscribed on the medal and documents which I present today to Mrs. Barbara Makuch who has risked her life in order to harbor a young Jewish child during the German occupation of Poland."

Caspi concluded his remarks by expressing the hope that the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights will not be a mere paper and that the world will find ways and means to object against inhuman treatment whether of Jews or any other minorities in the Gulags or for the remnants of the Jewish community in Syria.

LISBON ATTACK CONDEMNED

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today condemned the attack on Ephraim Eldar, the Israeli Ambassador to Portugal, in which Eldar and three other persons were wounded and his Portuguese bodyguard killed. "The WJC strongly condemns the acts of terrorism committed in Lisbon Tuesday and deplores the injuries and loss of life suffered by innocent people," WJC president Philip Klutznick said in a statement issued here.

"We regret that events have so tragically confirmed the objections and the foreboding expressed to the Portuguese authorities by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, a member of the World Jewish Congress family, about the possible consequences of the Portuguese decision to permit the holding in Lisbon of a conference of solidarity with the Arab people and the Palestinian cause, at which PLO leader Yasser Arafat would be the central figure."

NEW YORK (JTA) -- "Sabbath of Peace" was judged best TV public service motion picture at the International Film and TV Festival of New York last week. The half-hour documentary on the universal significance of the Sabbath, narrated by Eli Wallach, was produced by the Jewish Chautauque Society for television and group showings. The Festival's gold medal award was presented to Sylvan Lebow, producer of the film.

MISSIONARY GROUP DROPS BID TO GET ZONING EXEMPTION FOR 'CONGREGATION' NEAR PHILADELPHIA

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- Beth

Yeshua, described by the Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Council as a group of "fundamentalist Christians masquerading as Jews," has cancelled a bid to buy a residential building for worship and a private school and dropped a request for a needed change in the zoning law.

Michael Masch, JCRC interreligious affairs director, said the group had an agreement of sale to buy a three-story mansion in Merion for \$210,000. Merion is a suburb contiguous to Philadelphia and is part of Lower Merion Township, an area heavily populated by Jews. The vacant building is up for sale by the estate of a wealthy couple.

An outpouring of protest at an Oct. 23 session of the Lower Merion Township Zoning Hearing Board forced the board to move a second session to larger quarters. The second session, scheduled for tomorrow, was cancelled when the "congregation" withdrew its bid to buy and its application to the zoning board, Masch told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The group, which now meets in a hotel, asked the zoning board for permission to operate a house of worship and a day school for 12 children from kindergarten to ninth grade. The school, which operates under the name "Halutzim" (Hebrew for pioneers) is conducted in a private home.

Lawyers for the Merion Civic Association, in opposing the zoning petition, did not use the JCRC charge that the group was engaged in "deceptive practices" in the zoning hearing, Masch said. He said the main opposition complaint, supported by Jews and non-Jewish residents, was that the area already has several religious institutions, including an Episcopal Academy, a Jewish day school and two synagogues.

Jews, Christians Sensitized

But the lawyers used the issue of the "deceptive practices" indirectly by questioning at the hearing the credibility of the "congregation's" spokesmen, Masch said. He added he believed the group pulled out because of the possibility of a protracted and costly legal battle during which aspects of their finances would become public they preferred to keep private.

Masch said that the issue had "sensitized a great number of people -- Christians as well as Jews -- to the deceptive character of Beth Yeshua and the unethical nature of its attempts to seduce and entrap Jewish young people."

Masch said the "congregation" had been functioning in the area for about five years and had grown from 30 members to between 150 and 200. He estimated that about half of the increased membership was made up of Jews, particularly young adults.

He also told the JTA that Beth Yeshua is one of about 25 so-called messianic synagogues affiliated with the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America, which has its headquarters in Chicago.

He said the group was unique among missionaries to Jews in that it refused to use the word "Christ" or "Christian" in any of its programs. But, he added, while the group observes many Jewish rituals, it has altered their content to conform to Christian theology. He said that, according to the group's worship doctrines for Yom Kippur,

"Jeshua Hamashiach" is the scapegoat. Its members study the Hebrew Scriptures but they also study the New Testament, he said.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN ARGENTINA MARKED

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- The Argentine Embassy officially marked the 90th anniversary today of the founding of the first Jewish agricultural colony in Argentina by refugees fleeing persecution in Europe. A press release circulated by the Embassy recounted the history and accomplishments of the Colonia Moisesville in Santa Fe province, established on Nov. 14, 1889.

The founders were 824 Orthodox Jews from Eastern Europe who had arrived at Buenos Aires shortly before in the North German Lloyd steamer Weser from Bremen. The Argentine Ambassador to the U.S., Jorge A. Aja-Espil, said in a statement on that occasion that "Argentina will never forget the important contributions of its Jewish community. I am glad to join in commemorating the anniversary of the founding of that community."

The press release also quoted a statement by the Argentine Secretary of State for Culture in Buenos Aires, Dr. Raul Crespo Montez, praising the contributions of Argentine Jewry. It noted that a distinguished Jewish academician, Dr. Abraham Rosenvasser, was elected recently to the prestigious Bartolome Mitre Chair at the Argentine Academy of Letters.

The Embassy's release reported that ceremonies commemorating the founding of Moisesville were held at the Argentine-Hebrew Society's headquarters in Buenos Aires. The theme was "A tribute to the founding fathers by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren." The descendants of the original immigrants described the colony's early days. On display were tools, carts and furniture used by the colonists. A documentary film on the colony was shown.

CRUISES BETWEEN ISRAEL, EGYPT LAUNCHED

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA) -- The first commercial travel link between Israel and Egypt will be inaugurated Dec. 19 with the beginning of a series of eight-day "peace cruises" between the two countries, it was announced in a press conference here today.

Amram Zur, president of the New York branch of Kopel Tours, the Israeli travel agency which is organizing the "peace cruises," said the ship will sail each Wednesday alternately from Eilat, the Israeli city on the Red Sea, and from Ashdod, the city on the Mediterranean. There will be intermediate stops in Alexandria, Port Said, the Port of Suez and Safage, Zur said.

The eight-day cruise is priced from \$580 and up per person. The cruise ship will also function as a shuttle between Israel and Egyptian ports. One way transportation between Ashdod and Alexandria and Alexandria-Ashdod; and one way transportation between Eilat and Safage and Safage-Eilat will cost \$135 per person provided it is booked 60 days prior to sailing.

In addition to being the only regularly scheduled commercial link between the two countries, the "Melody" will be the first commercial cruise ship to travel through the Suez Canal, Zur said. The cruises make it "clear we are on the brink of a great new era in regional tourism."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**ISRAEL'S VIEW ON TERRORISM BROUGHT INTO FOCUS BY SEIZURE OF U.S. EMBASSY IN IRAN**

By Joseph Palackoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (JTA) — The seizure by Iranian students of the U.S. Embassy in Teheran and their holding of some 60 Americans hostage with the approval of the Iranian authorities is giving Americans a sharper focus on the meaning of terror, why Israelis are so staunchly seeking defensible borders and the means to defend themselves against what is now called the New Barbarism.

Despite the attacks and threats inflicted upon Israel since the Palestine Liberation Organization was formed, Israelis have been accused in the West of being paranoid and unreasonable in their quest for security.

Although terrorists have been striking in Germany, Italy and Great Britain, these events have apparently not affected the thinking or action of governments to stem the spread of the terrorist means of acquiring power, particularly in the Middle East and against Israel.

Analysts familiar with the politics of terror noted that the seizure of the Embassy in Teheran plus the shooting of the Israeli Ambassador to Portugal, Ephraim Eldor, in Lisbon, illustrates again that the enemies of democracy have abandoned the codes of civilized behavior and are intent on using any means to achieve their aims.

In discussing the fate of the Americans in Teheran, the State Department's chief spokesman, Hoddging Carter said: "Central to our view, the first question before us is the release of the hostages. Their release is the major focus of our efforts and our policy. That task is paramount and overriding.... The vast majority of the nations understand that the hostages are held illegally and in contravention of international law. The violation is clear, the remedy is clear.... We have nothing to negotiate about. We have nothing before us."

Israel's Position Similar

"Equally clear and similar, analysts immediately noted, has been the position of successive Israeli governments on dealing with terrorism. They pointed out that terrorists have forced upon Israel circumstances of defense unknown elsewhere and yet some governments in the West have bent their knees to the PLO and increasingly are showing respectability upon it.

The Lisbon shooting exemplifies how such treatment does not deter terror. They pointed out that Israeli diplomats even on European soil are targets for assassins and the Lisbon shooting came only one week after PLO chief Yasir Arafat opened the Palestinian Solidarity Conference in Lisbon and met the highest Portuguese officials.

Arafat, now in Moscow, is gaining recognition as a "responsible statesman," as he was called following the red carpet treatment given him in Vienna and Madrid. His men are being consulted in Istanbul by the U.S. special emissary Ramsey Clark on a possible way to rescue the Americans in Teheran — Arab terrorists to deal with Iranian kidnappers.

Analysts say this is understandable but it indicates the grip of terrorism on civilization.

What this boils down to is, an analyst noted that the Iranians seek a legal process for their illegal acts and the PLO is no different. Summing up the outlook on spreading terrorism, a political analyst remarked that "The terrorists continue re-

vealing the nature of their hostility. There is similarity between Teheran and Beirut. Both are uncompromising. The position of the Iranians and of the PLO is that they make demands and those who live by the rules of civilized conduct must make the concessions.

15,000 JEWS FROM IRAN TO ISRAEL

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 14 (JTA)

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, revealed here yesterday that some 15,000 Jews from Iran have reached Israel since the takeover of that country by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Addressing the biennial convention of the United Synagogue of America here, Dulzin also said that every effort through diplomatic channels was being made to "rescue the more than 25,000 Jews of Ethiopia, all of whom wish to emigrate to Israel," but the effort is being frustrated by the unwillingness of the Ethiopian authorities to even discuss the matter.

Calling on the American Jewish community to increase the voluntary migration of larger numbers of American Jews to Israel so as to help "in the fulfillment of the Zionist ideal," Dulzin also urged that intensive Jewish educational programs be coupled with innovative plans designed to "enhance the quality of Jewish life."

HOUSE URGES NUDEL'S RELEASE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (JTA) — A resolution was approved in the House of Representatives yesterday urging the Soviet Union to allow Ida Nudel to emigrate to Israel to join her husband and sister there. The resolution, which was recently introduced by Rep. Edward Stack (D. Fla.), passed unanimously on a voice vote.

A similar resolution was also introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senators Harrison A. Williams Jr. (D. N.J.) and Charles Percy (R. Ill.), who is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The National Council on Soviet Jewry helped draft the resolution in behalf of the Russian Jewish woman who is at present in poor health in a Siberian labor camp. Mrs. Nudel was arrested in 1978 for hanging a banner from her Moscow apartment asking for an exit visa. She was sentenced to four years exile in Siberia.

NEGEV BASES TO COST \$1.4 BILLION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 (JTA) — Congress has been informed by the State Department that "current estimates indicate" the relocation of Israeli air bases to the Negev Desert from the Sinai will cost slightly over one billion dollars.

Rep. Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee for the Middle East, has disclosed that the estimated cost is \$1.4 billion and not the previously estimated cost of \$1.5 billion.

The U.S. government has pledged \$80 million in grants towards the cost of the air bases. The figures were reported in a letter to Hamilton from J. Brian Atwood, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, who reported that the cost between the U.S. grant and the actual cost will be borne by the government of Israel.

TORONTO (JTA) — The Toronto Jewish Congress reported that "Echoes of Children," the cantata composed by Ben Steinberg of Toronto as a tribute to the 15,000 children who were killed in the Holocaust, has won the prestigious Gabriel Award of the Catholic Association of Broadcasters and Communicators in the United States. It was commissioned by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Toronto Jewish Congress.