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ISRAEL CONCERNED BY BRITISH PLAN TO CHANGE RESOLUTION 242 TO RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19 (JTA) — A British initiative that would alter Security Council Resolution 242 to recognize Palestinian rights has alarmed Israel and drew a sharp rebuke from Premier Menachem Begin at a meeting with British Ambassador Sir John Mason yesterday. The initiative is being pressed by Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. He is expected to seek support for his ideas at a meeting of the European Economic Community (EEC) foreign ministers in Rome this week.

Carrington has suggested that the EEC promote an amendment to Resolution 242 that would give the Palestinians political status. The resolution, adopted in 1967 and accepted by all parties as the basis for a Middle East settlement, makes reference only to the Palestinian refugees. Carrington's amendment would also recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization as representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO, for its part, would be required to recognize Israel.

Begin Rejects Approach

At a meeting with Mason yesterday, Begin said Israel totally rejected Carrington's approach. The same message was delivered to Carrington by the Israeli Ambassador in London, Shlomo Argov, last week. Begin, who saw Mason just before his departure from Israel to become High Commissioner in Australia, claimed that the British proposal would undermine the peace process by knocking out one of the pillars of the Camp David accords, meaning Resolution 242. He said the idea "smells of appeasement" of powerful Arab oil interests.

Begin flatly rejected the British assertion that the PLO was becoming more moderate. He claimed that, on the contrary, it continues to practice terrorism and its attacks on Israel would worsen were it not for the vigilance of Israel's security forces.

Israeli diplomats in EEC capitals have been striving to block the British initiative. Their reports, coming back to Jerusalem, are uncertain as to what success they have achieved. While the diplomats say Carrington's proposals are still very much a "one man show," they cannot predict how the EEC foreign ministers will react when the British Foreign Secretary asks them directly for their support.

3 CONVICTED NAZIS ARRESTED PENDING APPEAL OF SENTENCES

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 19 (JTA) — Three former Gestapo officials, sentenced to prison terms last week for their roles in the deportation of French Jews and others during World War II, were arrested over the weekend. The three, Kurt Lischka, Herbert Martin-Hagen and Ernst Heinrichsohn, were to have remained free pending the outcome of their appeals.

But the Cologne court that convicted them on Feb. 12 ordered their arrests. No explanation was given for the reversal of presiding Judge Heinz

Fassbender's release order after he rejected a warrant by the prosecution last week. The news that the three war criminals would remain at large during the appeals process, which could take as long as a year, touched off angry demonstrations in Munich and elsewhere in Germany and abroad.

Lischka, 70, a former SS Major, Hagen, 66 and Heinrichsohn, 59, were jailed on Saturday. They had been sentenced the previous Tuesday to 10, 12 and six years, respectively. But demonstrations of sympathy for Heinrichsohn continued in the small Bavarian town of Buergrstadt where he had been mayor for many years, resigning only when his prison sentence was pronounced. The townspeople protested his conviction and protested again over his arrest. Rumors spread in Buergrstadt that "200 Jews are about to come to our town."

ISRAELI EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR CLOSES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 (JTA) — The Israeli Embassy in San Salvador is shutting its doors at the end of next week, according to information reaching here today.

The Israeli attache, Aryeh Zur, was quoted as saying that the shutdown was for "economic reasons." He declined to elaborate. However, according to sources here, the Israeli government felt it could no longer afford to pay for the three bodyguards required to safeguard the embassy personnel.

In closing down its mission, Israel is the sixth government to shut its diplomatic unit in El Salvador, where political violence has been steadily increasing against the government.

South Africa, Japan, Switzerland, Great Britain and West Germany previously had closed down. West Germany announced on Feb. 7 that they were closing down their embassy for security reasons, and the next day all of the West German diplomatic personnel left El Salvador.

A year ago, the Israeli Honorary Consul for El Salvador, Ernesto Liebes, was kidnapped and, after being held captive for some weeks, was murdered, after his family did not produce a reported \$10 million in ransom money demanded by his abductors. Liebes, a prominent coffee exporter and merchant, and a leading member of El Salvador's Jewish community of about 300 persons, reportedly had instructed his family, when violence was mounting in El Salvador, that should he be held for ransom, his family should not pay it.

BROWN ADVOCATES BILATERAL TREATIES IN MIDEAST, BUT NOT IN ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 (JTA) — Defense Secretary Harold Brown advocated today U.S. bilateral treaties with Middle Eastern countries while supporting the long-held Carter Administration insistence on a "comprehensive settlement" between Israel and the Arab states.

Appearing before the House Foreign Affairs Committee to justify the Administration's military assistance programs, Brown testified that the U.S. should proceed with bilateral agreements in treating the southwest Asian situation, including the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the problems in Iran.

He observed, in this connection, that the process of reaching agreements is complicated by the

Arab-Israeli conflict but he noted in the course of his three hours of testimony that the political situation is the basis for the U.S. seeking the use of facilities and not bases in the Middle East area and that the U.S. seeks to keep a "low profile" on its military presence.

Asked later by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency whether his views conflicted on the kinds of agreements, Brown replied that the "comprehensive settlement" is "a separate issue" and deals with the "peace problem" between Israel and the Arab states. "It is in no way to contain Soviet expansion," Brown said.

Asked about the reported delivery of 60 Soviet tanks and other equipment to the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon and whether that posed a threat to U.S. interests, Brown told the JTA that "it certainly increases the threat of conflict and as such poses a threat to U.S. interests" but he hastened to add, regarding the reported delivery, "I've seen the report but I am not prepared to say it is so."

The State Department last week appeared to confirm without doubt that the PLO has actually received the Soviet equipment, but it would not say whether the terrorist organization obtained the weaponry directly from the Soviet Union or from Syria, which is equipped with Soviet weapons. Brown's response may therefore have been based on whether the Soviet Union itself directly transferred the tanks to the PLO.

Arms For Mideast Countries

In his prepared statement to the committee, Brown justified U.S. support for Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. "Israel is heavily dependent on United States arms," Brown said. "It has not been able to turn to any other major arms supplier since the oil embargo in 1973. Its equipment needs far exceed its resources and the United States has provided foreign military sales financing each year since the 1973 war. Traditionally, one-half of such financing has been 'forgiven,' a form of grant aid. The Administration proposes to continue foreign military sales financing and 'forgiven' credit in fiscal year 1981." Brown did not mention that an additional \$200 million to Israel does not contain the "forgiven" aspect.

Brown's testimony showed that while Israel apparently cannot acquire weaponry from Britain and France, Jordan can and does. "While Jordan has begun to turn to other suppliers, such as the United Kingdom and France," Brown testified, "the continued U.S. financing and training for Jordan will maintain important ties between our two countries. Jordanian support for comprehensive peace initiatives will be a chief factor in achieving lasting peace."

Egyptian Aid Double Israel's

Regarding Saudi Arabia, Brown said that "Our security relationship, with that country 'is vital' because its 'support will be essential to long-lasting resolution of the issues between Israel and her Arab neighbors and whose oil is critical to the West."

Brown justified U.S. military support for Egypt, which in the coming fiscal year will be almost double that provided Israel, because Egypt "needs a credible deterrent that will give it the confidence it needs to pursue the peace process."

In listing U.S. objectives in the Middle East, Brown listed "advancement of the Middle East peace process, while insuring -- and to help insure -- the continued security of the State of

Israel. The opposition of Jordan and Saudi Arabia to the Camp David accords was not discussed at the hearing.

NATHAN YALIN-MOR DEAD AT 66

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19 (JTA) — Funeral services were held here today for Nathan Yalin-Mor, one of the leaders of the underground Stern Group, or Lehi, during the British Mandate of Palestine, who died yesterday after a long illness. He succumbed to leukemia at the age of 66.

The services, presided over by Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi Yedidia Fraenkel, were attended by former comrades in arms and long-time political associates of both left and right. Among them were Premier Menachem Begin, who commanded the Irgun in the pre-Statehood days, Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir, who was a co-leader of Lehi, Knesset members Meir Paily and Uri Avneri of the leftist Sheli faction and Tweeki Toubi, of the Communist Party, who are members of the Israeli-Soviet Friendship League and the Committee for a Just Peace Between Israel and the Arabs.

The sharp ideological differences among the mourners reflected Yalin-Mor's own progression from extreme right to far left during his career. At the time of his death he was a strong advocate of Israeli-Soviet rapprochement and supported a Palestinian state to co-exist with Israel.

Born Nathan Friedman-Yelin in Poland, his career closely paralleled that of Begin, who is also of Polish birth. Yalin-Mor was an officer in Begin's embryo Irgun movement in Poland. Both fled that country after the Nazi occupation and arrived in Palestine in 1941.

Takes Different Path

But their ways parted when Yalin-Mor joined the poet, Yair Stern, to form Lehi and Begin assumed command of Irgun. Both underground groups fought the British. After Stern was killed, Yalin-Mor became political chief of Lehi, one of the frontiers heading the organization which included Shamir as chief of operations and Dr. Eldad Sheib who was in charge of information.

In the late 1940s, Yalin-Mor became convinced that Soviet power would one day dominate the Middle East and advocated a pro-Russian policy which estranged him from his Lehi colleagues. He was arrested by the Israeli authorities soon after the State was founded and charged with conspiracy in the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte, of Sweden, the United Nations mediator in the Middle East. He was acquitted of murder but sentenced to eight years imprisonment for his underground activities. However, Yalin-Mor won a Knesset seat at the head of the Lehi list in Israel's first elections and was released.

After the Six-Day War he broke sharply with Begin by advocating a Palestinian state. In later years he remained out of the public eye but continued to write books and articles calling for changes in policy toward the USSR and a close dialogue between Israelis and Arabs.

Speaking at the gravesite at Holon Cemetery, Shamir, who soon may be named Israel's Foreign Minister, lauded the former underground leader's career from the ultra-nationalist rightwing Betar in Poland to Lehi. But he voiced regret over Yalin-Mor's ideological turn-about. "The heart aches for such a brilliant and great mind that did not find the proper path to serve the nation," Shamir said.

EGYPTIAN ACCUSES ISRAEL OF BLOCKING NUCLEAR FREE ZONE IN MIDDLE EAST

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Feb. 19 (JTA) — The Egyptian delegate to the United Nations Disarmament Committee accused Israel today of blocking efforts to create a nuclear free zone in the Middle East. The delegate, Omar el-Shafei, launched his bitter attack on Israel just a day after the Israeli Embassy was officially opened in Cairo.

He said that Egypt is trying to promote the Middle East as a nuclear-free zone and its efforts have been endorsed by the international community in a resolution adopted by the General Assembly. Israel was the only country that abstained in the vote last year, he said, adding that this was further evidence of its intransigence on the subject. He warned that if Israel continued to refuse to endorse the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, the Middle East would be open to unlimited ventures in the development of nuclear weapons.

El-Shafei noted that the General Assembly was aware of this danger and has appealed to all countries not to cooperate with Israel in the development of nuclear weapons and not to supply it with fissionable material. He said Egypt was awaiting the results of the Secretary General's study of Israeli nuclear weapons. Israel has denied that it possesses such weapons. Egypt has proposed that the Red Sea be designated a nuclear free zone and is seeking an international agreement to isolate that region from Big Power conflicts.

Ghali Sees Autonomy Agreement

Meanwhile, Boutros Ghali, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, told a press conference in Bern today he was optimistic Israel and Egypt would solve the question of Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip before the May deadline. "Even if an agreement will not be reached on all the problems some agreements will be made to allow for further negotiations," he said.

Ghali, who was ending a two-day official visit as guest of Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Auber, called on the European countries to take a more active role in helping solve the autonomy problem. He particularly suggested help from the Socialist International in which Israel is a member and trade union organizations.

RULING ON SALARIES FOR TEACHERS ENDANGERS EFFORTS ON INFLATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19 (JTA) — A labor court ruling supporting wage demands of the country's teachers threatened today the government's efforts to curb Israel's galloping inflation. The Jerusalem Labor District Court ruled last night that the teachers were entitled to wage parity with the civil service engineers contrary to the stand of the Treasury.

If implemented, the ruling would give the country's 65,000 teachers wage increases of 20 to 27 percent, costing the government some IL 3.5 billion. The court ruling came as a blow to the Treasury. Only recently has Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz ended his battle over next year's budget, in which he insisted on a ceiling of IL 405 billion. Asked where he would get the money from, Hurwitz, who was visibly shocked by the decision, replied: "From what I don't have."

The response was more accurate than it seems. Originally, such surprise needs would be

met from the budget's reserves. However, due to the disagreement among the ministers on the size of the budget, there was hardly any reserves left in the budget. A further danger would be that even if the teachers' demands were met — other sectors in the economy might follow, totally upsetting the government's declared policy to freeze wage rises until April next year.

By this morning, the government seemed to have two alternatives: one was to appeal the decision before the National Labor Court. This move was opposed by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer. Hammer claimed throughout the labor dispute with the teachers that their salaries should be raised considerably and he welcomed the court's decision. The other alternative was to print the money — another boost to inflation which last month stood at 7.3 percent.

WORKERS CAUSE POWER BLACKOUTS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 19 (JTA) — Electric company workers caused sporadic power blackouts all over the country last night and today to protest a planned reduction in the amount of free electricity they receive for their personal use. The action by employes of the Israel Electric Corp. came after management issued a back-to-work order ending a slow-down strike.

Power was cut back by 30 percent at the generating plants, knocking out lights and home appliances and bringing factories to a halt. Chemical and metal works were hardest hit. Goods in the middle of processing were damaged and had to be thrown out. Some manufacturers have threatened to sue the electric company and the workers.

Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz denounced the action today. He said the electric workers are a very well paid group that is injuring the economy in times of trial. The workers are not seeking higher wages at this time but to retain the privilege of using as much electricity as they want free of charge.

Until now, electric company employes have not been billed for current they use in their homes. As a result, many allegedly abuse the privilege by consuming far more power than the average family. On the recommendation of the government, the Electric Corp. announced several months ago that it would put a limit on the free power allowed its employes and charge them the regular rate for power consumed above that limit.

WANTS OWN SECRETARY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19 (JTA) — Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Israel's Ambassador-designate to Egypt, is embroiled in a bitter dispute with the Foreign Ministry over who will be his personal secretary when he takes over his post in Cairo next week. Ben-Elissar insists on retaining Fanny Ashkenazi who has been his secretary for the past seven years when he was director of information for Herut and later Director General of the Prime Minister's Office.

The Foreign Ministry's staff committee is equally adamant that Ben-Elissar select a new secretary from the Ministry's staff which, it says, has several capable persons fluent in English and Arabic. The six-man committee met with Ben-Elissar yesterday. There were some angry exchanges but no agreement was reached.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team needs one more victory to insure its participation in the European Cup championship game slated for March 27 in Berlin. The team took second place in the European Cup last week.

HAIFA RABBI IS FIRST ISRAELI ORDAINED REFORM RABBI IN ISRAEL; 5-MORE TO BE ORDAINED SHORTLY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 19 (JTA) -- Mordechai Rotem, a 33-year-old Sabra from Haifa, today became the first Israeli Reform rabbi to be ordained in Israel. The ordination was performed by Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform seminary in the U.S. who came to Israel for the occasion.

Rotem is the first graduate of a program introduced by the HUC-JIR in June, 1977 to prepare Israelis at its Jerusalem school for careers as rabbis in the Progressive or Reform movement in Israel. There are presently five other student rabbis in the program who will be ordained shortly.

The HUC synagogue here where the ordination ceremonies were conducted, was packed with men and women, including many Americans. It was one of the rare occasions in Israel where men and women celebrated a religious service together. Orthodox tradition requires strict separation of the sexes in houses of worship.

Rotem's ordination is regarded as a major development in Israel's religious life with significance beyond the small community of Progressive Judaism of which the young rabbi is a member. One expression of the change was the language. While Rotem's teachers made their speeches in English or in Anglo-Saxon accented Hebrew, the new rabbi spoke Hebrew like the native of Israel he is.

Decision Made While In U.S.

The son of immigrants from Eastern Europe who settled in Palestine in the 1930s, Rotem completed his elementary and secondary education at the Leo Baeck School in Haifa, the city of his birth. In 1964 he went to the U.S. on a student exchange program and spent a half-year in Los Angeles. "It was there that I made the most important decision in my life -- to become a Progressive rabbi in Israel," he said.

On his return to Israel, Rotem joined the Or Hadash Progressive Judaism community in Haifa. He enrolled at the Hebrew University in 1969 and earned a Bachelor Degree in Hebrew literature and Bible in 1972. That same year he began his rabbinical studies at the HUC here while continuing to work for a Masters Degree at the Hebrew University. He received his Masters Degree, cum laude in 1978 and served as a student rabbi at the Or Hadash Synagogue. He is currently teaching Bible at the Hebrew University and is working on his Doctoral thesis.

'Act Of Affirmation'

In his remarks, Dr. Gottschalk noted that Rotem "has distinguished himself both in the university and at the HUC. In every way he has fulfilled our highest expectations." He added, "Our decision to ordain Mordechai Rotem in Israel and not at one of our three American campuses was a deliberate decision. It was a decision which reflected our conviction that the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, as the intellectual fountainhead of Progressive Judaism, must commit itself to the development of Progressive Judaism in Israel. This decision is an act of affirmation, not confrontation. It is a reflection of our attachment to Israel which, for Progressive

Jews, as for all Jews, is central to their sense of being." The HUC president also made it clear that his movement would insist on equality and freedom of religious practice in Israel.

Rotem, a slim, dark-haired young man who wears a trimmed beard, is in many ways not far from the Orthodox practice of Judaism. Unlike the founders of Reform Judaism a century ago who broke away from ritual tradition, he upholds the observance of kashrut and the Sabbath. "The principles of Reform attract me, but not the way they are implemented in America," he said in a recent interview.

Rotem is married and the father of two children, Noam, seven and Oshrat, three. His wife, Ruthi, is a computer programmer. During his military service, he was assigned to a Druze unit because of his knowledge of Arabic. He holds the rank of Captain in the army reserve.

MOHAMMED ALI CHARGES ZIONIST 'CONTROL'

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 (JTA) -- Former heavyweight boxing champion Mohammed Ali charged Zionists "control" America and the world, according to an interview reported in a leading publication in India, the text of which the Jewish Telegraphic Agency obtained.

Ali had been in India and in Africa as President Carter's special emissary to obtain support for the Carter Administration's boycott of the Olympic Games in Moscow this summer as part of the United States response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

In the bi-weekly, "India Today," dated Feb. 1-15, Ali spoke of Zionists when asked about the "militant revival" of Islam in Iran, and the holding of "your countrymen hostage." Ali, saying that "those people in Iran are fanatics," and that "the other Moslems in the world have condemned their action," declared "religion ain't bad; it's people who are bad. You know the entire power structure is Zionist". They control America; they control the world. They are really against the Islam religion. So whenever a Muslim does something wrong, they blame the religion."

An Associated Press dispatch, reporting Ali's remarks about Zionism, quoted him as saying that he did not remember talking about Zionists.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Israelis with a sweet tooth got bitter news Tuesday. Sugar, which sold at IL 29.5 per kilogram Sunday was priced at IL 35.5. The sharp hike was attributed to a sudden rise on the London sugar market. Last year, sugar was selling in Israel at IL 12 per kilogram.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Dr. Yair Sharav, the newly appointed Dean of the Hebrew University-Hodassah School of Dental Medicine, has warned that Israel is short of 800 dentists at present. Because the average age of many dentists is high, the shortage will rise by another 1000 in the next five to ten years, he said.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The Haifa Technion has announced a breakthrough in the development of a soil conditioner which can significantly reduce crop damage from dust and erosion. The substance, in spray form, was developed by Prof. Dan Zaslavski of the Technion's Agricultural Engineering and Soil Physics Department. According to the Technion, it helps prevent the accumulation of dust on roadsides, in playgrounds and in paved areas by binding and stabilizing dust particles.