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DAYAN CONTINUES TO PRESS HIS VIEWS ON WEST-BANK-GAZA AUTONOMY

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is continuing to press his view that Israel should unilaterally implement its autonomy plan on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a proposal rejected by the Knesset last week when he presented it as an agenda motion.

During a television interview yesterday, Dayan contended that the autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. have reached a dead end. He also hinted that the West Bank mayors would accept autonomy even though they oppose it publicly and insist on nothing less than a Palestinian state. "The achievements during 18 months of talks have been very small even if you use a powder puff to cover up the faults," Dayan said. "The Palestinian Arabs and the Jordanians will not join the negotiations."

He suggested instead that Israel withdraw its forces on the West Bank and Gaza to the locations specified at Camp David and that local government be handed over to the elected mayors.

"The mayors and Arab leaders with whom I have met intimated to me that publicly they will continue to claim that my proposals do not satisfy them. They will say they do not want crumbs, that they want a Palestinian state with Israeli recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization," Dayan said.

"But the impression I received with all of these I have talked to was that if we can negotiate properly, we can reach an agreement on implementation of my plan," Dayan stated. He declined to name the Arab personalities with whom he had spoken but said they were forced to oppose his plan in public and to publicly support the PLO. "They were all elected to their present offices and are allowed to perform responsible municipal functions. There is therefore no other forum with whom Israel can discuss local self-rule," Dayan said.

Sadat Agrees To Expedite Normalization

In another development over the weekend, President Anwar Sadat reaffirmed his promise to President Yitzhak Navon to expedite the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. Sadat made that pledge when Navon visited Egypt in October and renewed it when the Israeli chief of state telephoned to wish him well on his 62nd birthday last Thursday. Navon noted that the agreements were being implemented slowly and expressed confidence that they would soon be implemented in full.

In that connection, an Egyptian Parliamentary delegation will visit Israel next month; overland trade via Sinai commenced last week with the first shipments of Israeli goods by truck to Egypt; El Al was granted permission for a fourth weekly flight to Egypt, and Egypt cancelled restrictions on Israeli tourists to the Santa Catherine Monastery in Sinai.

Meanwhile, an Israeli military delegation searching for the remains of soldiers missing in action in the Yom Kippur War were reported to be receiving the full cooperation of Egyptian authorities. A youth exchange between Israel and Egypt will begin next summer. Israel will participate in two book fairs in Cairo and a joint convention of invalids will take place next June.

EGYPTIAN MINISTER VISITS ISRAEL TO DISCUSS NORMALIZATION MATTERS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The Egyptian Minister of Agriculture, Mohammad Mahmoud Daoud, met with President Yitzhak Navon here today and will meet later with Premier Menachem Begin. He is the first Egyptian of Cabinet rank to visit Jerusalem since the peace treaty negotiations ran into a snag. He made it clear that this was a courtesy call on the President and should not be construed as recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the city.

Daoud said the purpose of his five-day visit to Israel was professional and would deal with such matters as the exchange of specialists, research and new technology in the field of agriculture. Israeli Minister of Agriculture Ariel Sharon is expected to pay a return visit to Egypt in the near future to further areas of cooperation.

Sharon pointed out that Daoud's visit is the first by "an Egyptian Minister who does not deal with the actual peace negotiations but rather with the implementation of the peace agreement" between Egypt and Israel.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA NEW JEWISH ORGANIZATION FORMED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- A New Jewish Agenda (NJA), a new national Jewish organization dedicated to addressing the social, economic and political issues of the times through Jewish experience and teaching, was founded this morning by the overwhelming majority of more than 500 voting participants who attended a conference here over the weekend.

According to the Unity Statement adopted by the delegates, the NJA "Must be determined by our ethics, not our enemies." The new group affirmed "the validity and vitality of progressive Jewish values at a time when many have lost faith that the goals of justice and peace are attainable."

The new organization will include Jews from "a wide variety of backgrounds, affiliations and personal outlook who share a vision of the meaning and purpose of Jewish life," the Unity Statement said. The Jewish mandate of "Tikun Olam" -- the repair and moral improvement of the world was the statement's central theme.

"It is time for a New Jewish Agenda, a new understanding of Jewish responsibilities and possibilities in the 1980s, a new effort to apply Jewish values, traditions and insights to our problems and needs," the statement declared.

Calling for a translation of commitment into "concrete action," the Unity Statement also said: "It is not an easy time. American Jewry is fragmented

lacking leadership, eroded by assimilation. Anti-Semitism is everywhere on the rise. America remains a deeply troubled nation with inequalities and confusion. Its new Administration seemingly is preparing for another era of repression, unlimited arms race and destruction of the environment...."

The statement continued: "We are committed to Jewish survival. Jews must have the rights to which every people is entitled... We believe that society can be improved, that human cooperation can be achieved and that we not only reflect Jewish ideals but enhance Jewish security by working for social progress."

The NJA "welcomes to our cause any Jew who shares our vision, whether already involved in the Jewish community or alienated from it," the statement said. "To those whose Jewish goals differ from our own, we say: Let us join in dialogue. Authentic Jewish unity grows not from forced unanimity, intolerance, or the stifling of dissent, but from respect and understanding for diversity."

An interim National Council was elected to serve for one year. The NJA will be a dues-paying membership organization with chapters and affiliates.

Jewish Community Assessed

In earlier plenary sessions of the conference, "American Jewry and Our Visions of the Future" and "Israel: Peace, Security and a Just Society" were among the topics discussed. Sam Norich, vice president of the World Jewish Congress, who was one of the speakers, said "We have to hold our leadership accountable as the leadership of a community that is a kehila. People who are not now affiliated have to make their views known within the Jewish community."

Aviva Cantor, editor of Lilith magazine and a founding member of the Jewish Liberation Project, spoke of American Jewry from a feminist perspective. "It is no accident that American Jewry is dominated by a small group of wealthy, assimilationist men, aided by their hired male hacks," she said. "They speak and act in our name without our having selected either them or their policies... The majority of American Jews, men and women, are disenfranchised."

Inge Lederer Gibel, a freelance writer on Israeli affairs and a member of the editorial board of Israel Horizons, said that "Zionism is the liberation movement of the Jewish people. I don't understand any American Jew in 1980 who doesn't know that anti-Semitism is rampant and that anti-Zionism is a screen for anti-Semitism," she said. "As Jewish progressives, we have to love ourselves as much as we love the rest of the world."

WIESENTHAL - MENGELE IS ON THE VERGE OF SUICIDE OR SURRENDER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) — Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal says that Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele, the doctor who performed experiments on inmates at Auschwitz, is now on the verge of either suicide or surrender to the West German authorities. Wiesenthal told Israel Television last night he had offered a \$50,000 reward for information about Mengel's whereabouts and had received exact details of where he is now.

He said the Nazi war criminal, sought since the end of World War II, had recently lost his Paraguayan citizenship. "He is now running from country to country," Wiesenthal said. He said

Mengele was suffering from a circulatory disease, was getting tired of being on the run and was "about ready to give himself up or commit suicide."

LEFTWING CIVIC GROUP ABOUT TO EXPEL MEMBER FOR ACTING AS ATTORNEY FOR 'RACIST' HISTORIAN By Edwin Lytan

PARIS, Dec. 28 (JTA) — The leftwing organization, "Movement Against Racism, anti-Semitism and for Peace" (MRAP), is about to expel one of its members who has agreed to act as defense attorney for Robert Flourisson, a French historian who has written a book in which he contends that the Nazi gas chambers never existed and that the number of Holocaust victims has been "grossly exaggerated."

The former professor, who was dismissed from his post at Lyons University in the wake of a scandal caused by one of his previous books on the same theme, is being sued by eight civic organizations for spreading "racist theories." Flourisson claims that he is neither anti-Jewish nor pro-Nazi but that his "historic research" has led him to promulgate his view.

The attorney, Yvon Chottard, a veteran member of MRAP, claims that Flourisson has a right to express his opinions, however shocking these may be, and has a right to legal defense. Chottard says his position is similar to that of Noam Chomsky, the American writer who is famous for his works on linguistics, who has written a foreword to Flourisson's book as a gesture towards "freedom of expression."

MRAP executive committee members said that Chottard's expulsion will be discussed and most probably decided at the organization's annual congress next month. They said that acting for Flourisson and belonging to an anti-fascist organization is a contradiction. MRAP members said they also intend to re-examine the French government's policy towards members of rightwing racist organizations. Some MRAP members believe that the judiciary branch of the government is far too lenient with such individuals.

6 RACISTS GIVEN LIGHT SENTENCES

PARIS, Dec. 28 (JTA) — Four men found guilty of daubing anti-Semitic slogans on buildings in Nice last fall have been sentenced to between four months and one year in prison. Another man, an 18-year-old student, was given a suspended sentence on the same charge. In another action, a court in the Alsatian city of Belfort sentenced a cafe owner to two days in jail for having told a Jewish customer that it was "a pity that not all of you were gassed." Jewish organizations said these sentences were far too light for the offenses committed and do nothing to discourage anti-Semitism.

IRVING MILLER DEAD AT 77

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) — Funeral services were held last Friday for Rabbi Irving Miller, a leading American Zionist, who died last Wednesday in Woodmere, Long Island at the age of 77. In addition to his role in the Zionist movement, Miller also played a leading role in discussing Jewish postwar problems with representatives of the Allied governments in London in 1943.

In 1942 Miller was elected chairman of the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress. Upon the death of Rabbi Stephen Wise, founder and first president of the AJCongress, Miller succeeded him. He also served as president of the Zionist Organization of America from 1952 to 1954. In 1961 he was elected president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

During his many years in the Zionist movement, Miller was also a member of the World Zionist Organization Actions Committee, was a delegate to the founding conference of the World Jewish Congress in 1936 in Geneva, and was chairman of the American Zionist Council.

Born in Kovno, Lithuania, Miller came to the United States at the age of nine. He attended City College in New York City and studied theology at Yeshiva College. He also studied at the University of Pittsburgh and completed work for his bachelor's degree at Columbia University.

He became a rabbi in 1926 and was rabbi of Congregation Sons of Israel in Woodmere from 1946 to 1952 and subsequently became its rabbi emeritus. Previously he was a rabbi of Congregation Shaaray Tefila of Far Rockaway, Queens and also served as rabbi in congregations in Youngstown, Ohio and Chelsea, Mass. During World War II, Miller served as secretary general of the World Jewish Congress, undertaking missions on behalf of European Jewry threatened by Nazism. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA **ISRAELI-U.S. COMPETITION** **FOR MEXICAN JET SALE**

By Jaime Reibel

BOGOTA, Dec. 28 (JTA) — Felix Galvan, Mexico's Secretary of Defense, said that his government is "dealing with various countries," among them Israel, "to improve the organic structure" of the Mexican armed forces.

The specific steps, according to Galvan, that will be taken in 1981 include "drastically" modernizing the Mexican army, the production of remote-controlled guided missiles and the purchase of either Israeli Kfir or American F15-E fighter jets.

The modernization of the armed forces will be financed by a budget of \$1,085,000,000, a 38 percent increase over Mexico's 1980 military budget. In real terms the increase in spending will amount to quite a bit less, as Mexico's inflation rate this year has hovered at 28 percent, Galvan said.

In January, he will travel to Israel "with presidential authorization, to look at the new planes, the Kfir," Galvan said. He indicated that the acquisition of Israeli light-armored cars would also be discussed. It is widely known that Mexico would like to buy a squadron of American F15-E jets and that the U.S. government is disturbed at the prospects of a small arms race of increasingly sophisticated weaponry in Central America. Oil will further complicate the potentially lucrative Mexican jet sale.

After the fall of the Shah of Iran's regime and the return of Sinai oil fields to Egypt, Mexico became Israel's chief supplier of crude oil. Both Vice President Walter Mondale and Secretary of State Edmund Muskie have failed in their attempts to negotiate a preferential contract with the Mexicans for the purchase of their oil and propane gas.

The U.S. would like an assured and constant supply of oil from a non-OPEC, non-Arab country. Israel, suspicious about the U.S. resolve to supply it with oil, should that need arise, will be courting the Mexican military delegation when it visits Israel next month at least as avidly as its chief ally, the U.S., observers said. The competition, they noted, promises to be intense.

MURDER OF GERMAN JEWISH LEADER **SPARKS DEATH THREATS TO OTHERS**

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 28 (JTA) — The murder of a Jewish community leader in Erlangen, Bavaria, on Dec. 19 has touched off a series of death threats to Jewish leaders in other parts of West Germany. The chairmen of the Jewish communities in Nuremberg and Hamburg reported being harassed by anonymous telephone callers warning that "the execution of Jews will continue."

Police are still investigating the fatal shootings of Shlomo Levin, 69, chairman of the Association for German-Jewish Cooperation and his friend, Frida Poeschke, 57, widow of an anti-Nazi activist, at the latter's home nine days ago. They have not established whether the crime was racially or politically motivated, although that was the initial supposition of the police.

It was learned, meanwhile, that Levin had been removed from office last year as chairman of the Jewish community in Nuremberg after a long series of quarrels. The German news media has given the case extensive coverage, especially Levin's alleged contacts with Israel where he has a family. The Israeli Embassy in Bonn denied rumors that he had been a special aide of former Israeli-Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Some of the speculation is based on Levin's own accounts which are said to have been exaggerated.

The murders have alarmed the 300-member Jewish community in Nuremberg, near Erlangen and local leaders are attempting to maintain calm and see to it that security is guaranteed.

KIBBUTZ SZOLD REFUSES TO **HOST A PEACE NOW RALLY**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) — Kfar Szold, a kibbutz in Upper Galilee, refused at the last minute to host a Peace Now rally against annexation of the Golan Heights which had been scheduled to take place there yesterday. A petition, signed by 170 members of the kibbutz, more than half of the members, and posted in the communal dining hall Friday, stated that it was inappropriate for a settlement at the foot of the Golan Heights, which was the target of Syrian shelling in the past, to be the site of such a gathering.

A month ago, the kibbutz secretariate gave approval for the rally at the initiative of one of its members, Dan Shavit, a writer. Many residents of upper Galilee and the Golan were to have participated. According to Peace Now, pressure was brought to bear by several kibbutz members who threatened to disrupt the rally by barring the kibbutz gates and deflating the tires of guests' cars.

Kfar Szold is a member of Kibbutz Hameuchad, one of the kibbutz movements affiliated with the Labor Party. The movement supported proposed legislation to annex the Golan Heights which was overwhelmingly defeated in the Knesset last week. Peace Now plans to hold the rally at another kibbutz in the region.

JERUSALEM, (JTA) — Israel will commemorate on the 23rd of Tevet (Tuesday) North African Jews who fell in the service of Zionism and during work on illegal immigration, the Cabinet decided Sunday. The decision was passed at the suggestion of Premier Menachem Begin and Absorption Minister David Levy. The 23rd of Tevet is the 35th anniversary of the sinking of a North African immigrants' boat in the Strait of Gibraltar. Forty three of the people on board died.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES EXHIBITION ON THE HISTORY OF THE MOSCOW STATE YIDDISH THEATER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) — An exhibition depicting the birth, flowering and eventual literal murder of the Moscow State Yiddish Theater has opened here. The show at Beth Hatefutsot — the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora — includes over 100 photographs of the theater's productions, the only objects saved from a fire which gutted the building and brought to Israel by the daughters of its two actor-directors, both murdered on Stalin's direct orders. The exhibition is appropriately named: "The Closed Curtain."

The State Yiddish Theater was established as an actors' studio by Alexei Granovsky in Petrograd in 1918, mirroring the hopes then felt for a resurgence of Jewish artistic and cultural life after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution. It moved to Moscow in 1920 and became the center of Jewish cultural life in the city, attracting a nucleus of Jewish artists and intellectuals.

Granovsky wrote of the studio: "It was born literally out of nothing. Not only was there no theater, but there was no audience. We had to start from scratch and lay the foundation of an edifice which would later become the foundation of the Yiddish Theater ... The goal was to create a new type of Jewish actor. It developed an avant-garde approach in an articulated rebellion against the old ghetto style of life."

Theater Attracted Chagall

One of the young artists attracted to the center was Marc Chagall, then an almost unknown artist in his 20s. He later recalled: "They suggested that I should decorate the walls of the auditorium with frescoes and design the sets for its first production. I said to myself: here is an opportunity to bury the old fashioned Yiddish theater, to sweep away its psychological naturalism and pasted-on beard. On its walls I could paint what I thought was needed for the Renaissance of the Yiddish theater."

Solomon Mikhoels, the main actor and later to become the Yiddish theater's director, recalled Chagall's make-up:

"On the day of the opening, Chagall came into the dressing room and after arranging the grease paint he started to work. He divided the face into two, painting one side green and the other side yellow. The right eyebrow was painted two centimeters higher than the left. The wrinkles of the nose and lips were extended all over the face to express tragedy."

"When I looked into the mirror I saw that the makeup had created the expression and dynamism of the character. Suddenly his fingers stopped questioning on my face. He touched my eye and stepped back a few paces and said: 'Ah, Solomon, if only you didn't have your right eye, I could do so much.'"

Influenced by Max Reinhardt and the theories of Meyerhold, the Yiddish Theater presented many performances in Moscow and throughout the Soviet Union. In 1927, after a generally acclaimed production of Mendele Mocher Sefarim's, "The Adventures of Benjamin the Third," the theater went on a tour of Europe, during which Granovsky defected.

Mikhoels Hailed As Greatest Yiddish Actor

He was replaced as artistic director by Mikhoels, hailed as the greatest Yiddish actor, of whom Gordon Craig, the distinguished Shakespearean scholar and theater critic wrote in the London Times: "Only now, after having returned from the theater festival in Moscow do I understand why we have no Lear worthy of the name in Britain. The reason is quite simple ... we have no actor like Mikhoels..."

In the 1930s, under the pressure of official Soviet criticism, the Yiddish theater repertoire took a more naturalistic style and became more varied. At the beginning of World War II, in the early 1940s, the theater was moved to Tashkent, returning to Moscow at the end of the war, when it produced contemporary Jewish plays dealing with post-war rehabilitation questions.

During the war, Mikhoels became involved in public activities, serving as chairman of the Jewish anti-Fascist Committee and touring Europe and the U.S. to win support for Soviet Jewry during the struggle against Nazism.

Mikhoels was awarded the Stalin Prize in 1946, and it was on Stalin Prize committee business that he was sent to Minsk on Jan. 7, 1948, to be murdered there a week later. Although eye-witnesses later described to his family how he was deliberately hit by a car operated by Stalin's agents, it was officially stated that he had "perished under tragic circumstances" and he was given a state funeral.

Stalin's daughter, Svetlana, wrote in her memoirs: "I heard my father say on the telephone, 'OKay, let's say he had a car accident.' He put down the receiver and said nonchalantly, 'Did you hear, Mikhoels was killed in a car accident.'"

Government Support Ends

Mikhoels was replaced as artistic director by Benjamin Zuskin, but the Soviet government stopped financial support for the theater shortly afterwards and trips outside Moscow were banned. Zuskin was arrested in December 1948 and executed in August 1952, together with other Jewish writers and public figures in what was known as "the doctors' plot against Stalin." The last announcement of performances appeared in Izvestia on Nov. 16, 1949.

Among those present at the exhibition's opening were Tola and Nina Mikhoels, and Tamar and Ella Zuskin, daughters of the former directors, now living in Israel.

BUCHAREST, (JTA) — Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania has reported that the number of Jews emigrating to Israel in 1980 increased over the previous year. He said that as of Dec. 20, 1084 Rumanian Jews left for Israel compared to 988 in 1979. But the number of passports approved declined slightly from 1197 in 1979 to 1157 this year. He said that 509 persons are waiting for passports and of that number, 471 registered for emigration in 1980.

GENEVA, (JTA) — The Swiss-Israel Chamber of Commerce reported that during the first six months of 1980 Switzerland exported to Israel goods worth 773.6 million Swiss Francs. This included 639.5 million Francs worth of uncut diamonds. During the same period, the Chamber of Commerce added, Switzerland imported from Israel 170.9 million Francs worth of goods.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated January 1 due to New Year's Day, a postal holiday.