

SHAMIR HEARTENED BY REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S STAND ON CAMP DAVID, WORLD TERRORISM

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday that he was heartened by the Reagan Administration's restatement of America's commitment to the Camp David accords and its tougher stance against international terrorism.

But he said in an Israel Radio interview that Israel continued to oppose moves such as that suggested by Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Charles Percy (R. Ill.) for stepped-up supplies of modern aircraft to Saudi Arabia. "If anybody seeks new reasons for our opposition, he can find it in the recent Moslem summit conference with its most extreme anti-Israel resolutions," Shamir said.

He said that if West Germany were to supply modern Leopard II tanks to Saudi Arabia it would be a terrible blow to Israel-German relations. "It is unimaginable that German tanks should endanger the existence of the Jewish state. After all that happened during the World War and the Holocaust. I think that every German should understand and feel this."

OPPOSITION MOUNTING IN GERMANY TO ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- Opposition seems to be mounting to plans by West Germany to equip Saudi Arabia with the new German-made Leopard II tanks and other military materiel. While the Saudis contend that the arms shipments had been promised by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, the veteran Social Democratic leader Herbert Wehner said that no majority for the deal is expected in the Bundestag faction of the ruling Social Democratic Party (SDP).

In an interview with German television last Friday, Wehner, chairman of the SDP's parliamentary faction, and one of the most influential members of the SDP, observed that during the summit meeting of the Islamic nations in Taif, Saudi Arabia last week, Saudi Arabia played a major role in urging a "jihad" (holy war) against Israel. "We do not want to be pulled into that," Wehner said.

Willy Brandt, SDP chairman and former Chancellor, said Friday that "nobody here is in a mood to make a sudden decision (on the arms sales to Saudi Arabia). Our national interest is to get as little as possible involved in the area of arms sales."

Meanwhile, 22 professors and 172 students at the Saint Georgen theological school in Frankfurt sent an open letter to Helmut Kohl, the leader of the opposition Christian Democrats, urging him to oppose the arms sale. Earlier, Kohl spoke out in favor of arms shipments to Saudi Arabia, saying it would be "smart" to help the Saudis in this way.

BOOK FAIR OPERATING SMOOTHLY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Israeli exhibit at the international book fair in Cairo has

been moved to a different location in the exhibition hall and was reported to be operating smoothly today after a series of embarrassing and provocative incidents before and after the fair opened last Thursday.

The situation of the Israeli display adjacent to the Palestinian stand made trouble inevitable from the start. When the Israeli Ambassador to Egypt, Eliahu Ben-Elissar, visited his country's booth, a raucous exchange developed between Israelis and Palestinians. The organizers of the fair responded by ordering the Israeli flag removed, a demand that triggered bitter indignation among the Israelis.

The Israel Publishers Association, which is sponsoring the exhibit, seriously considered withdrawing from the fair. But the Egyptians, aware of the serious repercussions this could have on the peace process, proposed that the Israeli stand be moved to the main exhibition hall where the Western countries' pavilions are located. Previously, the Egyptians had claimed there was no room in that section.

The move was effected today but not before two leftist members of Egypt's opposition party stationed themselves outside the Israeli stand to collect signatures on a petition calling for a boycott of the Israeli display. They shouted slogans against the infiltration of "Zionist culture" into Egypt. Both were arrested.

The book fair, the first international event in Egypt to which Israel was invited, almost became the cause of a serious incident when, a week before its opening, the fair organizers announced that Israel would be banned. They gave no explanation. The ban was rescinded late last week, apparently on the intervention of President Anwar Sadat after Israel protested. But a residue of ill feeling remained.

Not Seen As Official Egyptian Policy

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir sought to smooth over the matter in an Israel Radio interview yesterday. He said he did not think the incidents at the book fair had anything to do with official Egyptian policy. "It would not be correct to speak about an Egyptian attitude," Shamir said. "There are many trends in Egypt and Arab society who oppose the peace treaty and normalization of relations. We know that normalization is a lengthy process with many obstacles. We need much patience and wisdom to overcome these obstacles."

Yehoshua Levy, head of the Israel publishers delegation now visiting Cairo, said on Israel Radio today that the Israeli books on display were selling well and that he has asked for additional copies of certain books to be flown to Cairo. He said the most popular items were the dictionaries.

The Israeli exhibit is clearly more comfortable located among the Western pavilions and is enjoying considerable popularity among local and foreign visitors to the fair. But Palestinians reportedly continue to picket nearby waving Palestine Liberation Organization flags. (By David Landau and Hugh Orgel)

PERES: IF LABOR WINS ELECTIONS IT WILL HONOR LIKUD'S INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS BUT NOT ITS POLICIES REGARDING THE WEST BANK, ECONOMY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Labor Party, confident of victory in the elections this spring, has promised to honor all international agreements and obligations entered into by the present Likud-led regime but would not be bound by Likud actions or promises with respect to settlements on the West Bank and economic policy.

Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres made this clear today at a special supplementary session of the party's convention which was held last December. The session was devoted to discussions of the economic and social programs contained in Labor's election platform.

Peres said, however, "We will honor all the international undertakings of the Likud government but not everything the Likud has promised and certainly not what it is about to do in advance of the elections will automatically bind us in the future. Certainly not." He was apparently referring to Likud efforts to accelerate settlements on the West Bank in order to "establish facts" before the nation goes to the polls.

Chaim Herzog, former Israeli Ambassador to the UN and a frequent spokesman for Labor policies, elaborated on Peres' remarks. "It means that if rash action is taken by the Likud government from now to the elections, in order to create a situation from which it might be difficult to withdraw later, the future government will not be bound by it -- amongst other things the (West Bank) settlements," he said. Herzog, who has been proposed for the portfolio of Information Minister in a Labor government, also said the government would reject economic promises made by Likud to curry favor with the voters.

Likud Policies Opposed By Labor

Peres dwelt on economic matters. He enumerated, among the Likud policies opposed by Labor, "the uncontrolled sale of government and public companies, tax rebates for favored interests, protecting inflationary profits, improper land deals, the politicization of government institutions and the exemption of religious young women from army services. All of these will be re-examined and necessary changes will be made to improve the country's social and economic health," Peres said.

Histadrut Secretary General Yeruham Meshel told the session that if the Likud governments legislates a national health service to replace Histadrut's Kupat Holim (sick-fund), a new Labor government would overturn it. He said a Labor regime would achieve a "social contract" on wages and prices between government and the labor federation.

Yaacov Levinson, former board chairman of the Bank Hapoalim, who many expect to be Finance Minister in a Labor government, called for a complete price freeze instead of the current slowdown in price increases. He stressed the need to get workers to increase productivity with incomes pegged to efficiency.

MIDEAST EXPERT WARNS WEST OF ARAB ATTACK ON WESTERN VALUES

NEW YORK, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Arabs, "abetted by oil-soaked funds and the world's critical energy needs, are gearing up for a no-holds-barred attempt to delegitimize -- indeed

to dehumanize the collective existence of Jews as expressed in the sovereign society of Israel," Prof. Dan Schueftan charged today in his address to presidents, leaders and educational directors of American and Canadian Jewish youth movements. Schueftan teaches Arab-Israeli Affairs and Contemporary Arab History at the University of Haifa and lectures at the Israeli Defense Forces Command Staff College.

Schueftan alerted the participants in a workshop seminar on Arab propaganda, "The Case for Israel -- Know What to Answer," that "the implications of this Arab campaign constitute a basic assault on the principles of human rights, dignity, morality and freedom whose values are the basis of Western society and civilization."

The values, he observed, "are endangered by this insidious Arab-PLO attempt to sabotage and undermine them. This onslaught has grave consequences for the United States and the free world."

Schueftan told the seminar participants, "You must alert and warn the American people, and show them how this campaign must be countered not only by Jews, but by all who hold sacred these basic values which have given Western nations and society so much of their moral stature in the history of civilization and the struggle for human rights and liberty."

The workshop on Arab propaganda and how to counter it was sponsored by the North American Jewish Youth Council under the aegis of the American Zionist Youth Foundation.

JDL PROTESTS APPEARANCE OF NAZI LEADER ON NETWORK TV

NEW YORK, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Jewish Defense League has protested to the producers of NBC-TV's "Tomorrow" show for permitting an American Nazi leader to appear on the show with Tom Snyder. The JDL, in a telegram to the producers, demanded both an apology to the Jewish community and a change in policy regarding the scheduling of "Nazis and klansmen."

The telegram of protest was prompted by the appearance last Wednesday of Harold Covington, 27, of Raleigh, N.C., who heads the National Socialist Party of America, an offshoot of the American Nazi Party. In its telegram, the JDL stated:

"Yours (NBC-TV) is a dangerous policy of allowing such a person to spew hate before an audience of millions, thereby endangering the future of the American Jewish community. We demand an apology to the Jewish community and a change in policy regarding the scheduling of guests such as Nazis and klansmen."

The Nazi leader and his bodyguard were attacked by four persons in the lobby of NBC minutes before Covington's scheduled TV appearance. JDL members claimed responsibility for the attack. According to the JDL, Covington was knocked down then kicked and punched, resulting in lacerations on his face. His bodyguard was hit with a lead pipe and also sustained lacerations. Both were treated by an NBC nurse. There were no arrests.

Covington appeared on the TV show but it was taped without the usual live studio audience. Last year the Nazi leader received 56,000 votes -- 43 percent of the total -- in the Republican primary for North Carolina Attorney General.

KNESSET EXPECTED TO APPROVE JUNE 30 AS THE ELECTION DATE

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Knesset is expected this week to approve June 30 as the election date. Highly placed government sources indicated today that there is general agreement within Premier Menachem Begin's coalition on that date instead of

July 7, the date proposed in the government-initiated election bill presently before the Knesset's Legal Committee. Although the opposition Labor Alignment is still pressing for May elections, most political pundits believe it will settle for elections at the end of June.

The Legal Committee's recommendation of June 30 appears virtually certain, after Education Minister Zevulun Hammer informed Begin that it would not interfere with schooling.

Many of Israel's elementary and high schools serve as polling places and Begin had asked Hammer if his ministry had any objections. Hammer noted that elementary schools recess for the summer on June 30 and that high schools close on June 23 -- facts well known to the Premier -- and that closing elementary schools a day earlier would have no impact.

Begin's question was viewed in some political circles as a stalling tactic, inasmuch as it delayed the Legal Committee's decision on the matter by a week. But government sources insisted that the Premier was fully committed to early elections and was not having "second thoughts." The July 7 date was opposed by both coalition and opposition members, partly because it is the vacation season and many Israeli voters will be abroad.

Role Of The NRP

There was also speculation that Hammer's National Religious Party was anxious to postpone elections as long as possible because the bribery trial of Religious Affairs Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, who is accused of bribe-taking, will be a severe burden for the religious party to bear during a bitterly fought election campaign, even if the minister is eventually acquitted. The trial opens this week.

The NRP hoped to have as much time elapse as possible between the end of the trial and election day. It also faces possible defections. Rabbi Haim Druckman, a hawkish MK who is close to the Gush Emunim, is reported to be on the verge of leaving the party and establishing his own independent election list.

That threat has caused Hammer's "young guard" faction within the party to adopt a harder political line which in turn exacerbated its tensions with the moderate Lamifneh faction headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg. An angry debate developed over the weekend as to which faction would head the party's election list. Hammer indicated that he would do his utmost to present a united image to the electorate.

Dayan To Decide In April

Meanwhile, former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has promised to decide by early April whether he will form his own political party and enter it in the elections. Since quitting Begin's Cabinet in October, 1979, Dayan has aroused speculation as to his political future. Initially, he said he would serve out his Knesset term and retire from politics. But he appears to have changed his mind of late and some observers believe he intends to join with other former members of Begin's Cabinet to establish a new centrist faction.

However, he told a meeting of the Engineers Club in Tel Aviv last Friday that he would offer himself as the head of a new party if he could find 10-15 other political figures who shared his views. He insisted that he would not join

former Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz's Rafi faction which quit Begin's coalition last month.

Elements In Dayan's Program

Dayan said the main point of his political program would be unilateral implementation of the autonomy plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, meaning that Israel would act alone without waiting for Egypt, Jordan or the Palestinians to agree to the plan. He said he would also insist on maintaining a defense line on the highlands of the West Bank in addition to the Jordan Valley.

Dayan said the plan proposed by the late former Foreign Minister Yigal Allon for Jewish settlements in the Jordan Valley while the highlands would be turned over to the Arabs who populate them was insufficient for Israel's security needs. Dayan, as Defense Minister in the Labor government, had supported the Allon plan.

He also rejected the Labor Party's "Jordanian option," contending that it would not work and that, in any case, King Hussein showed no sign of willingness to negotiate.

AFL-CIO PRESIDENT CONDEMNS ARAFAT'S IMPENDING VISIT TO JAPAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO, told Japanese labor leaders in Tokyo last week that an impending visit to Japan by Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat at the invitation of some Japanese parliamentarians was one they should shun. He expressed his personal revulsion against the PLO.

Kirkland's reiteration of his sentiments about the PLO -- sentiments frequently expressed in both domestic and foreign speeches -- were made known to DOMEI and SOHYO labor officials, counterparts in Japan of the AFL-CIO.

Kirkland expressed dismay that Arafat was scheduled to meet with the Japanese Premier and stressed to his labor hosts that the expected visit could be interpreted as violating the spirit of the Camp David accords as well as giving respectability to terrorism.

Kirkland's intercession against the PLO and Arafat were reported by Donald Slaيمان, president of the Jewish Labor Committee and an AFL-CIO official.

SOME 800,000 PEOPLE VISITED THE DACHAU MEMORIAL MUSEUM LAST YEAR

By David Kantor

BONN, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- More than 800,000 people visited the Memorial Museum at Dachau last year. This was the largest number of visitors annually to the museum which is situated in the former concentration camp site near Munich, reflecting a continuous trend since 1975 when 452,000 visitors were recorded.

Barbara Distel, the museum's director, said that although the German public's interest in the museum has been constantly growing, the majority of visitors are from abroad. For many years there were few visitors to Dachau, and Germans were a small minority of the visitors. But since the screening of the American NBC-TV series, "Holocaust," in West Germany in 1979 there has been a remarkable increase in the number of visitors, especially school children, Distel noted.

The museum was established by former prisoners, members of the International Dachau Committee. It is now maintained by Bararia's Castles, Museums, Gardens and Lakes Administration.

N. J. STATE COURT RULING ON EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS ON JEWISH, CHRISTIAN HOLIDAYS VIEWED AS UNPRECEDENTED

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- A New Jersey State appellate court has held, in a decision believed to be unprecedented, that the First Amendment "does not mandate hostility" toward religious practices in reversing a lower court ruling that the Teaneck school board had violated federal and state constitutions by banning extra-curricular activities on Jewish and Christian holidays.

Howard Zuckerman, president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), which helped Teaneck school board attorneys in the initial legal test of the ban, said the appellate court decision could have widespread implications. He said that COLPA also had filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of the school board.

He said the Teaneck Board of Education approved the ban March 9, 1977 in a bid to end discriminatory practices in Teaneck public schools, including denial of equal opportunity to students based on religion. The board approved a resolution which provided that "to the maximum feasible extent, school activities and programs will not be scheduled on a Friday night, Saturday day, or Sunday morning."

Policy Is Challenged

The policy was challenged in November, 1978 by the Teaneck High School drama class, "The Playcrafters," when its members learned that their play, "Don't Drink the Water," could not be performed, as originally scheduled, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings during the fall semester of the 1978-79 school year.

The drama class, represented by the New Jersey Civil Liberties Union, filed a suit in the chancery division of New Jersey Superior Court, the lowest state court, charging that the school board, having acted on the basis of the religious practices of some local public school students, had impermissibly entangled the school board with religion. The chancery division upheld the complaint of the Playcrafters and a three-man appellate division panel reversed that opinion in a ruling handed down in Trenton last Jan. 19.

Presiding Judge John Michels, writing for himself and the other two judges on the panel, held that "the First Amendment does not mandate hostility or callous indifference to religious practices. To do so would be to prefer those who do not believe in religion over those who do."

The appellate division also ruled that the ban was "an effort by the Board to enable its students to participate as fully as possible in extra-curricular activities without infringing on the religious liberties of those students."

The ruling also declared that "permissible accommodations to religion can take the form of avoiding conflicts between secular and religious activities."

No Conflict Seen

Zuckerman, commenting that he did not know of a similar ruling in any American court, declared that the school board policy does not conflict with constitutional bans on establishment of religions but, rather, that it represented action "in keeping with the finest traditions of

this nation, since essentially it guarantees all students an equal opportunity to participate in school-related activities regardless of their religious beliefs and practices."

He asserted that if the First Amendment is held to prohibit the school board's policy, this would amount to an implication that the church-state separation doctrine requires hostility to religion.

Zuckerman said it was important to note that the issue in the Teaneck school board policy is not whether a school was required to re-schedule school activities to avoid conflicts with religious practices of some students, but, rather, whether such re-scheduling was constitutionally permissible so as to afford equal opportunity for participation by all students.

Dennis Rapps, COLPA executive director, said the basic constitutional issue was scheduled for another court test because the Civil Liberties Union has said it will appeal the appellate division ruling to New Jersey's State Supreme Court.

Rapps said that COLPA attorneys had already discussed the pending appeal with Teaneck school board attorneys. He said the school board remains in effect unless and until the State Supreme Court voids the reversal by the appellate division.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT MOVES TO STRIP EX-NAZI OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- The Justice Department, in a complaint filed in Federal District Court in Los Angeles, acted last Thursday to strip the American citizenship of Dalivaldis Karklins, 66, for concealing his wartime membership in the Nadona police force in Nadona, Latvia and his position as a concentration camp commandment during the Nazi occupation.

The complaint also declared that Karklins, now a resident of Monterey Park, Calif., had "materially assisted in the persecution and murder of unarmed Jewish civilians in Latvia" during World War II.

Andrea Ordin, U.S. District Attorney in Los Angeles, and Allan Ryan, director of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigation here, said that during Karklin's tenure as head of the Nadona camp, "unarmed inmates of the camp were starved, beaten, tortured and murdered."

The Justice Department charged that Karklins concealed his wartime past when he applied for American citizenship, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1963. Stripping Karklins of his citizenship would be the first step in a long legal process to deport him.

BARRY ROSEN AND HIS WIFE VISIT TEMPLE EMANU-EL

NEW YORK, Feb. 1 (JTA) -- Barry Rosen, one of the former hostages who participated with 21 of his comrades in a joyful welcome home reception here last Friday, made a stop at Temple Emanu-El together with his wife, Barbara. The couple had telephoned in advance to make sure their visit would be all right, Rosen said.

The Rosens were greeted by Rabbi David Posner, associate rabbi of the world's largest Reform congregation, and assistant Rabbi Richard Chapin. Rosen asked if he could hold one of the synagogue's Torah's for a few minutes. Then he and Mrs. Rosen and the two rabbis joined in prayer before the ark. The Rosens visited Temple Emanu-El after attending services at St. Patrick's Cathedral where Mrs. Rosen, a Roman Catholic, took part in the services.