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MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN SINAI UNDER DISCUSSION BY U.S., ISRAELI, EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Sterner arrived here from Egypt today to discuss the establishment of a multi-national peacekeeping force for Sinai after Israel completes its withdrawal from the peninsula in April, 1982. Sterner had two days of discussions on the subject in Cairo. His talks in Jerusalem are aimed at achieving progress toward an Israeli-Egyptian agreement by the time Secretary of State Alexander Haig visits the two countries early next month.

Under the terms of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty of March, 1979, the U.S. is committed to create a multi-national force if the establishment of a United Nations peacekeeping force proves to be impossible. Sterner observed on his arrival here:

"We have to make sure that a United Nations force is not available because that is what the treaty calls for in the first instance. I think we have to operate under the assumption that a UN force will not be available in the present circumstances and therefore the planning ought to continue for a multi-national force outside the UN framework."

He was alluding to the virtual certainty that the Soviet Union will veto any resolution in the Security Council setting up a UN force to police Sinai. Sterner also said he would explore the possibility of utilizing the Sinai military and air bases to be evacuated by Israel by the multi-national force. "There is a possibility that the multi-national force would be able to use the facilities that are presently in Sinai" but "that, of course, would require the agreement of the parties," Sterner said.

Not Specific About Facilities

He said he would not "be specific" about the nature of the facilities. "We are going to look at them, see what is logical to be turned over; some of them obviously could be useful to the multi-national force," he said.

Sterner emphasized that the facilities would not be used as American bases. "This is a peacekeeping force and any American participation in it will be in that context," he said. The question of the participation of American personnel in the multi-national force is one of the matters that is being discussed with Israeli and Egyptian officials. Israel reportedly favors an American presence.

Israel has been pressing the U.S. in recent months to move expeditiously to create the force and has stated flatly that it would not be able to withdraw from Sinai a year from now unless the peacekeeping force is ready to take over by then. Israel is also said to insist on a large force, about 4000 men, to police the strategic area from Sharm el-Sheikh to northeastern Sinai which abuts on Israel's borders and controls access to the Straits of Tiran.

Egypt reportedly favors a force of no more than several hundred men. Cairo's attitude toward Amer-

ican participation is not known but Egypt has flatly rejected Israeli suggestions that the U.S. take over the three Sinai airfields. Several countries have been approached by Egypt to contribute personnel to the Sinai force, among them Australia and the Scandinavian countries. All have ruled out participation unless the force is under UN auspices. At the moment, only the U.S. is prepared to contribute personnel.

ALLEN JUSTIFIES ISRAEL'S ATTACKS ON PLO BASES IN LEBANON AS REACHING THE 'SOURCE OF TERRORISM'

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 30 (JTA) -- President Reagan's National Security Advisor, Richard Allen, has justified Israel's attacks on Palestine Liberation Organization bases in Lebanon as reaching "to the source of terrorism" and said "there is no question" that the PLO is a "terrorist organization."

Allen made his remarks on the ABC-TV program "20/20" to be broadcast next Thursday but a transcript became available earlier. News reports of his remarks said they would "complicate" Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt but would be welcome in Israel where he will also visit early next month. Egypt, however, is also not friendly toward the PLO.

Reagan and Haig, in the past, have referred to the PLO as terrorist and the State Department, under Haig's leadership, has not implied, as the Carter Administration often had, that Israel is illegally using U.S.-supplied weapons in Lebanon. Haig, who appeared on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program yesterday was not asked for comment on Allen's remarks dealing with the PLO.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Charles Percy (R. Ill.), who has leaned toward U.S. dealings with the PLO and the European Economic Community's (EEC) initiative that would "associate" the PLO in the Middle East peace process, appeared to agree with Allen's remarks both about the PLO and Israel's strikes into Lebanon when he was interviewed yesterday on the CBS-TV "Face the Nation" program.

Fair To Call PLO Terrorist Outfit

Allen was asked if it was fair to call the PLO a terrorist organization. He replied, "I think yes, on balance. There is no question we must identify the PLO as a terrorist organization until it provides convincing evidence to the contrary."

Asked if Israeli raids into Lebanon were preemptive strikes, terrorist acts, of self-defense, Allen said: "I don't want to get into a specific policy discussion here and what I'm saying does not represent the official policy of the United States government, but to the extent that one reaches to the source of terrorism then, of course, there is ample justification for taking action. I'm just saying that reaching to the source is generally recognized as hot pursuit of a sort and, therefore, justified."

Percy, in his TV interview, responded to Allen's remarks on the PLO and Israeli strikes into Lebanon. "Terrorism", he said, is part of the PLO's activities. He also said that PLO chief Yasir Arafat has "disap-

pointed" him. But Percy also referred to the PLO as a "nation" and said that "most other Arab nations" have recognized Israel as a state. Actually, only Egypt has recognized Israel.

Percy Says PLO Is Not Moderate

"I've never considered the PLO moderates as they could not by any stretch of imagination be considered moderates because terrorism is an element of their getting ahead," Percy said. While declaring that he deplored "attacks on both sides," the Illinois Republican added:

"I've seen with my own eyes camps run inside Lebanon used as staging grounds for strikes inside Israel. So I hope the Arabs — the ball is in their court — put pressure on the PLO to stop their terrorist tactics. Then, of course, we can with morality say to our friends in Israel, 'let's mutually stop these terrorist attacks.'"

Asked if Arafat had "disappointed you" since Percy had met with him personally, the Senator replied, "Of course, because the conditions precedent to my original position six years ago have not changed. I said we cannot deal with them (the PLO) unless they recognize the sovereign rights of Israel behind defensible borders and to live in peace and he (Arafat) has never said that as most other Arab nations have," Percy said Arafat must also accept the United Nations Security Council resolutions dealing with those issues.

STUDY SHOWS MORE FAMILIES LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE IN ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) — The percentage of families living below the poverty line has risen substantially during the past four years, according to a study by National Insurance Institute (NII) economists. The rise is especially pronounced among families with large numbers of children. One of the conclusions drawn by the NII researchers is that child allowances paid to the families have not kept pace with inflation.

In 1977, 2.8 percent of families were adjudged below the poverty line. In 1978 the figure was 3.3 percent and in 1979 it was 3.8 percent. Poverty families with four to five children showed a steeper rise: from 4.6 percent of them living below the poverty line in 1977 to 9.6 percent in 1980. The poverty line is determined as a proportion of the average national wage by government and NII economists.

Among families with six children or more the situation is even worse; the poverty statistics among them has trebled over the last four years, from 6.7 percent in 1977 to 21.1 percent today. One-parent families also suffered heavily from rising inflation; the percentage of them living below the poverty line was 23.9 percent in 1979 compared to 7.8 percent in 1977.

NAFTALIE LAVIE TO REPLACE YOSEF KEDAR AS ISRAEL'S CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) — Naftalie Lavie, a 55-year-old journalist and Holocaust survivor was approved by the Cabinet yesterday to be Israel's new Consul General in New York. He will replace Yosef Kedat who has held the post since the summer of 1978.

Lavie was nominated by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir with the active approval of Premier Menachem Begin. He was a longtime protégé of former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and was

Dayan's press spokesman during the latter's tenure as Defense Minister in the former Labor government and as Foreign Minister in the Likud-led coalition under Begin. He continued to serve Shamir in the same capacity after Dayan resigned.

Lavie also served as spokesman for Labor Party leader Shimon Peres when the latter was Defense Minister during the negotiations for interim agreements with Egypt and Syria in 1974-75 in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War. He was Dayan's spokesman throughout the Israeli-Egyptian peace process although he did not accompany the Foreign Minister to Camp David.

Involved in Numerous Activities

Lavie, who is described as "modern Orthodox" and hawkish in his political views, is the elder brother of Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau-Lavie of Netanya. As a teenager in Poland during the Holocaust, he and his younger brother remained together in various concentration camps. Their father, a leading rabbi in Poland and most of their family perished.

Lavie came to Palestine after the war under the auspices of Youth Aliya, studied at a yeshiva and a university and joined Haganah, the underground Jewish defense force. As a youth, he was active in "Aliya Bet", the clandestine immigration movement, and worked underground in Marseilles and Trieste to bring stateless Jews to Palestine.

He began his journalistic career with the religious newspaper, Shearim, organ of the Poalei Agudat Israel party and later worked for Lemhav, a newspaper of the Labor-oriented kibbutz movement, now defunct. By the late 1950s he was political correspondent for Haaretz. He is the author of a biography of Dayan published in London.

In New York, Kedar told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he planned to return to Israel this summer but has no definite plans beyond that. He noted that he is not an official of the Foreign Ministry, indicating that he did not expect to serve in another diplomatic post in the near future.

SENTENCE REDUCED ON SOLDIER WHO REFUSED TO SERVE IN OCCUPIED AREAS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) — Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan has reduced the sentence on a soldier who has spent most of his time in the army in prison for refusing to serve or train in occupied areas.

Private Gad Elgazi had served four months in detention on five charges within his unit for refusing to go to a training camp across the "Green Line", and was then sentenced by the Tel Aviv District Military Court to a year in prison which was upheld by the Supreme Court.

There has been considerable agitation for Elgazi's release and last Thursday Eitan reduced the sentence to six months, suspending the remainder for three years to be implemented if the soldier again refuses to serve in occupied territory.

It is not known whether the army will keep him within the borders of Israel proper or again send him for training and service across the Green Line.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Mayor Edward Koch has proclaimed Tuesday, March 31, Simon Wiesenthal and Charles Kramer Day in New York City. A presentation to the two Nazi-hunters will be made by the mayor at City Hall. That evening an award dinner in their honor will be held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where both men will be the featured speakers. Wiesenthal has been responsible for bringing hundreds of Nazis to justice. Kramer was responsible many years ago for identifying Archbishop Valerian Trifa as a member of the wartime fascist Rumanian Iron Guard.

EVRON: ISRAEL WOULD SUPPORT U.S. PRESENCE IN THE MIDEAST

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, March 30 (JTA) -- Israeli Ambassador Ephraim Evron said today that the Israeli government would support "the presence of the United States" in the Middle East "in a positive way." Evron also said that the "coming years may witness a deterioration of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political influence in the region but that will not stop them from stepping up active terrorism."

Evron added that "the PLO is the central instrument of Soviet policy in the Mideast." Evron was a speaker at the United Jewish Appeal's "Critical Issues Conference" which is being attended by 350 rabbis and scholars from all parts of the United States. The three-day meeting, sponsored by the UJA's rabbinic and faculty cabinets, was designed "to explore issues of concern to American and world Jewry, and to propose an action agenda now for the 80s."

Saying that he has been assured by Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the Camp David process will continue, Evron said that "when we look at the Middle East, the principal external challenge comes from the Soviet Union which has traditionally aspired to become the dominant power there."

Evron said the Soviet aim is "to remove any American or western presence" in the Middle East and that the Soviets would, to accomplish that aim, "create obstacles to the peace process itself and would encourage extremists in the Arab world."

Hits Anti-Semitism

Last night, at the conference opening, Michael Novak, chief of the U.S. delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission, said he found it "dismaying" that the "language of human rights as we know it is being used to attack nations which have historically been strongest in support of human rights." He cited, as an example, the 43-member commission resolution which condemned Zionism last month. He said the resolution is "the most virulent form of anti-Semitism."

Shlomo Avineri, former director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry and currently professor of political science at Hebrew University, told the conference that the United States should tell Saudi Arabia "if you want to become part of U.S. global policy, you need to join in the Camp David accords."

Avineri added that Israel understands the Reagan Administration's "broader concerns in the Middle East but Israel must protest American moves which would strengthen Saudi Arabian military power." He referred to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Jordan as having essential roles in resolving the Palestinian question.

THEATER REVIEW AN INTERNATIONAL TREASURE

By David Lifson

NEW YORK, March 30 (JTA) -- In an otherwise dismal and undistinguished theatre season in New York, the sparkling arrival of the Habimah National Theater of Israel has suddenly brought a radiance that lingers in our hearts. We may dis-

cover alternatives for the oil we import from the Middle East, but there is no substitute for the energy generated by the trio of Shmuels now at the Town Hall in "Die Kleine Mentchalach" ("The Little Folk") derived from tales by Sholem Aleichem.

The dynamoes of acting are Shmuel Aitzmon, Shmuel Segal, and Shmuel Rudenski, luminaries of the Israeli stage. They bring to life the many and various characters of the legendary Kasrilivka. And, if you don't know about Kasrilivka -- where have you been!

It's the same shtetl wherein Sholem Aleichem created characters and situations that showed us the joys and frustrations of all mankind. A sort of (Sholem Aleichem should excuse me for using such a fancy word) microcosm where love, sorrow, above all "parnusse" is everyone's daily concern.

Each nation, each part of the world celebrates some national treasure; Sholem Aleichem is an international, a multi-racial, an universal treasure whose delightful tales are an inexhaustible delight.

(A word of caution; despite the publicity release by an over-zealous public relations man, that the presentation is "with an English narration," the entire production is completely and only in Yiddish.)

Highly Talented Trio

The performance by the highly talented trio starts with an hilarious yet touching description of Kasrilivka. I was reminded of Emyln Williams reading from Dickens' "Dombey & Sons," for both Dickens and Sholem Aleichem cushioned their satire with an abiding affection for the lowliest to the most elevated of their characters.

Sholem Aleichem even has Rothchild come to Kasrilivka, "for no rich man ever died there." Included are the dramatizations of half dozen Sholem Aleichem stories wherein the three Shmuels enact, soooooo lovingly and convincingly, roles both males and female, from the shrewish and determined wife of an indifferent restaurant owner who is determined to starve or drive mad a lone patron, to the pathos of the ancient Reb Dudi, a vagrant who becomes King David of Israel for a day on Simcha Torah until he is thrown into jail by an indifferent and insensitive minion of the Czar.

The versatility and perfect personifications of the actors are absolutely breathtaking -- and I couldn't catch my breath because I laughed all through the program. Thus far, the Yiddish theater in New York has by far outclassed the Broadway fare.

DELEGATION HOPES TO GO TO USSR TO DISCUSS JEWISH EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- The Russian immigrants Association hopes to send a delegation to Moscow shortly, to discuss Jewish emigration to Israel.

Association president Yosef Tekoah, president of Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba and formerly Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations, told a press conference here yesterday that the request for permission for a delegation of about four people, which he would probably lead, were being made through the Soviet Ambassador in Washington.

Tekoah said the delegation hoped to persuade the Soviet authorities to increase the number of exit visas being granted and to allow direct flights from Moscow to Israel to reduce the number of dropouts staying in Europe and going elsewhere rather than to Israel.

Only 80 immigrants arrived from the Soviet Union last month, while 85 percent of those leaving the Soviet Union stayed in Vienna awaiting passage elsewhere.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

THE JEWS OF NEW ZEALAND

By Joseph Polakoff

(Part One Of A Two-Part Series)

AUCKLAND, March 30 (JTA) -- Since their arrival among the first British settlers in New Zealand nearly a century-and-a-half ago, Jewish New Zealanders never felt seriously troubled by anti-Semitism. They do now. An upsurge of what may be called traditional anti-Semitism is deeply concerning the tiny community of approximately 4,000 Jews who live mainly in the cities of Auckland and Wellington, the country's commercial center and political capital, respectively.

The anti-Semitism comes principally from a newly formed rightwing group, the League of Rights, similar to the one in outlook and practice in Australia. It is well organized and amply financed. Its leadership speaks of patriotism but its literature includes well known canards about Jews and Israel. There is anti-Semitism, too, from the far left but unlike the circumstances in Australia, it doesn't have "a look-in," says Ernest Markham, president of New Zealand's Zionist Federation.

An indication of New Zealand Jewry's concern is that for the first time in their history they held a seminar on anti-Semitism -- what it is, how it works, what to do about it. Under auspices of the local B'nai B'rith, about 250 Jews gathered in Auckland, paying admission to receive "irrefutable evidence that there are forces at work here in New Zealand right now that all should know about and that no one can afford to turn away from."

For New Zealand, the turnout was a record number, Dr. Kim Heppner of Auckland observed. The attendance represented about one-seventh of Auckland's total Jewish population.

Looking For Scapegoats

New Zealand, the size of California and with a general population of three million, is hurting from inflation, unemployment and a decline in exports of its agricultural products. Many of the jobless, farmers, pensioners and others on fixed incomes consequently are diverted to scapegoats as the cause of their woes -- the usual channel in times of stress being the Jews. Markham recalled similar feelings during the economic depression in the 1930s but not to the same organized extent. Incidentally, Markham's forebears came to New Zealand from Britain in the 1840s.

In general terms, New Zealand's media follows the national government's line that perhaps could be called "even-handed" on the Arab-Israeli situation but some elements are frequently and conspicuously anti-Israel. The government is conscious of New Zealand's market for its meats and wools in the Middle East and performs gestures of friendliness to Arab governments and their foreign policy tactics since their countries import New Zealand products and thus help the two-island nation's economy.

This commercial factor was ascribed to this reporter as the probable basis for Prime Minister Robert Muldoon's criticism last October of President Carter's Middle East policy that Muldoon felt showed too much concern for Israel.

Despite the rise of anti-Semitism, New Zealanders of whatever ethnic origin or religious faith get along well together as individuals. There is a feeling that should anti-Semitic groups threaten the rights and livelihood of Jews the majority

of New Zealanders, staunchly supportive of political democracy, would vigorously defend their Jewish compatriots.

Auckland's present mayor, incidentally, is Colin Kay, an Orthodox Jew who was elected last October in succession to another Jew, Sir Dove Myer Robinson who was mayor for 12 years. In its 120-year history as a city, Auckland has had five Jewish mayors. At present, New Zealand's 88-member parliament has only one Jew, Eddie Isbey, a Laborite.

Striving To Preserve Jewish Heritage

As in Australia, New Zealand's communities, that include converts to Judaism, strive mightily to preserve their heritage and help Israel and Soviet Jewry. About 100 Soviet immigrants now live on the two islands. The community has a 25-year-old monthly publication, the Jewish Chronicle, published in Wellington that seeks to explain Israel's positions and counter anti-Semitism.

Educationally, Wellington maintains a kindergarten and Auckland has a developing school that now has five elementary grades. There are synagogues -- Liberal and Orthodox -- in both major cities and also synagogues in Dunedin, a Scottish-style town far down in the southern island, and in Christchurch, the English-style city closer to Wellington.

(Tomorrow: Part Two)

N.Y. REGENTS BOARD CALLS FOR STATE-WIDE HOLOCAUST CURRICULUM

NEW YORK, March 30 (JTA) -- In what leaders called a "major step to encourage the teaching of the Holocaust in school systems throughout New York State," the N.Y. State Board of Regents passed a resolution requesting the State Legislature to allocate \$125,000 for the first year of a two-year statewide project to prepare course material and in-service teacher training courses for the teaching of the Holocaust as part of the Education Department's revised secondary school social studies curriculum.

Laurence Tisch, president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC), and Richard Berman, chairman of the JCRC's Commission on the Holocaust and the Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals, lauded the Regents for their action and expressed appreciation to Commissioner Gordon Ambach and Social Studies Associate Kenneth Wade for their support for this proposal.

Berman noted that JCRC's Holocaust Commission met on March 5 with Wade, who was representing Ambach, to discuss the need for Holocaust curriculum materials. Representatives of JCRC member organizations and Holocaust survivor groups participated in that session which ended by unanimously endorsing a call for action by the Regents.

"The recent upsurge in anti-Semitic incidents," Tisch said, "makes a broader effort to teach our youth about the Holocaust all the more imperative. By learning more about the Nazi horrors, we hope they will come to realize the awful consequences of anti-Semitism and racial hatred that we have witnessed in our own generation."

TORONTO (JTA) -- Three Jewish candidates were reelected in the recent Ontario provincial elections in which the Progressive Conservatives won a majority. The three are Larry Grossman, 37, and David Rotenberg, 50, both Progressive Conservatives of Toronto; and Dr. Stuart Smith, 41, of Hamilton, a Liberal Party leader.