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ISRAEL VOWS TO CONTINUE RAIDS ON TERRORISTS IN LEBANON REGARDLESS OF MISSILE CRISIS WITH SYRIA

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Israel has made it clear that it will continue to strike at Palestinian terrorist bases in Lebanon despite the ongoing missile crisis with Syria. Premier Menachem Begin, who met with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis twice over the weekend, told him that the air, land and sea attacks would continue even after U.S. special envoy Philip Habib returns to the area.

Lewis presented Begin with a message from Habib who is presently in Washington for consultations. Its contents were not disclosed but the message is believed to have been concerned with the continuation of Habib's mission.

An air raid Thursday on Libyan-manned SAM-9 anti-aircraft missiles near Damour, south of Beirut was followed by a sea-borne Israeli commando attack on the same area Thursday night. A military spokesman said the raiding party, put ashore by a naval craft, destroyed a "terrorist vehicle" on the Beirut-Sidon road and returned safely. Military sources discounted reports from Beirut that the vehicle belonged to the Syrian army and that a Syrian soldier had been killed. The sources noted that the Palestine Liberation Organization made no mention of any Syrians among the casualties which it admitted to have suffered.

Objective Of Raid

According to a military communique, Thursday's air raid destroyed a group of four SAM-9 missile batteries supplied the terrorists by Libya and also inflicted damage on a base of the Popular Front-General Command which the missiles were intended to protect. Army sources said the objective of the raid was to prevent the terrorists from organizing attacks on Israel and to test Syrian reactions. The air attack demonstrated to the Syrians that Israel does not fear its missile batteries in Lebanon and is capable of destroying them, a military source said.

However, the Israelis stressed that the raids on terrorist positions along the Lebanese coast should be seen in a different context from the missile crisis with Syria. They marked a renewal of the anti-terrorist campaign that had slowed down with the onset of the missile crisis.

Begin told a radio interviewer Friday that the Libyan missiles sent to protect PLO bases against Israeli air raids "have no right to be there and if they are there they must expect to be destroyed."

ISRAEL IN LOW KEY RESPONSE TO SADAT REMARK ON JERUSALEM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Israel offered a low key response today to President Anwar Sadat's assertion that the Palestinian people have an eternal religious right to Jerusalem. An official communique issued directly after today's Cabinet meeting, reminded the Egyptian leader that "Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, one city, indivisible."

Sadat's remarks yesterday, in a message to the League of Arab and Islamic Nations, came on the eve of Jerusalem Day festivities here marking the 14th anniversary of the reunification of the city. It was discussed at the weekly Cabinet session at which the situation in Lebanon and the missile crisis with Syria were also on the agenda. Observers here were uncertain whether Sadat's injection of the Jerusalem issue would cloud his meeting with Premier Menachem Begin at Sham el-Sheikh on June 4.

The relatively mild reply indicated that Begin wants to avoid public polemics with Sadat at this time. The communique said: "In response to the statement and call of the President of the Arab Egyptian Republic, Mr. Anwar Sadat, concerning Jerusalem, the government of Israel states the following:

Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, one city, indivisible. Free access is assured to members of all religions to their holy places in accordance with the law of the land, since the liberation and reunification of Jerusalem."

REAGAN SAYS HABIB MISSION AVERTED ISRAELI-SYRIAN WAR

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- Special envoy Philip Habib, after meeting for 45 minutes Friday with President Reagan to report on his mission to cool the crisis over Lebanon, urged all parties in the area to "behave with restraint." While Habib, who has said he will return to the Middle East next week, did not single out any one country, it was apparent that he was aiming at the involvement of Libyan troops in Lebanon as much as at the Israeli attacks on Palestinian terrorist bases which have occurred in the last two days.

A State Department spokesman, David Passage, said later that any direct involvement by Libya in Lebanon "is strongly deplored" by the United States. While Passage would not directly confirm that Libyan troops are in Lebanon, he said that "we do not have any reason to doubt reports" that the Libyans are there. He said about 150 Libyan troops are believed to be in Lebanon, most of them involved with the missile batteries. It was these batteries that were attacked by the Israel Air Force.

Reagan, Habib Claim Success

Meanwhile, both Reagan and Habib called the mission a success, noting that the area had been on the verge of war when the President summoned the veteran diplomat out of retirement three weeks ago. "The guns were all cocked and ready to go," the President said just before his meeting with Habib in the Oval office in the White House. "So, I think it's been a tremendously successful, almost miraculous, thing so far, that he has done."

After he met with the President, Habib noted that he had been instructed "to defuse the tensions and to create an atmosphere through which, hopefully, one could control what appeared to be a course which was going to lead to major hostilities. I am pleased to say that we have been able, through our efforts over the last few weeks, to at least keep what threatened from breaking out," he said.

Habib told reporters that the "Saudis are being helpful and constructive" in the efforts to find a peaceful solution. When asked about the Soviet role, he replied, "I would not characterize what they've said as being helpful." Passage said that a Tass article calling the Habib mission a failure was "mischievous."

Habib, who made several visits to Beirut, Damascus and Jerusalem, along with a side trip to Riyadh, said it was "clear" to him "as I went from capital to capital, that the leaders were prepared to listen to us and were prepared to have us play the role of peacemaker." Passage confirmed that all the leaders wanted a peaceful resolution to the crisis and that "no one gave Habib any ultimatum or deadline."

CHIEF RABBI RENE SIRAT OF FRANCE RECEIVES WZO JERUSALEM PRIZE FROM PRESIDENT NAVON

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- The Jerusalem Prize was awarded by President Yitzhak Navon today to the Chief Rabbi of France, Rene Sirat, and to three other recipients from Switzerland, Canada and Israel.

The award was presented by the World Zionist Organization at a festive ceremony at the President's residence attended by WZO chairman, Leon Dulzin, Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, March Bonfous, the French Ambassador to Israel, Knesset members and educators.

The Award Committee, headed by Judge Yaacov Bazak, had decided unanimously to award the prize to Rabbi Sirat, Rabbi Moshe Bochko, head of Yeshivat Etz Haim of Montre, Switzerland, Nahman Sokol, of Toronto, and Avraham Shamir, an Israeli who directed a Jewish school in Brazil as an emissary of the WZO's Department of Torah Education and Culture.

The committee cited Sirat's unique contribution to Jewish education manifested by the support of the French government to Jewish and Hebrew studies in non-Jewish schools as well as universities and the official recognition of the educational institutions in these programs. The committee decided that this achievement, thanks to Sirat, implies a revolution in French society, which by its very nature used to assimilate alien cultures into the French culture.

Accepting the award, Sirat said the honor was not only his, but that of the "wonderful French community," which he has headed for the past five months.

Noting that the ceremony was taking place on the eve of Jerusalem Day, Sirat said the joy was not complete as long as Jews are imprisoned in the USSR and the Arab countries. He pledged to continue the mission of exposing Jewish children to Jewish education. "As long as one Jewish child of my community does not receive proper Jewish education, I will not have fulfilled my duty," he said.

REAGAN MEETS MRS. SHCHARANSKY

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- President Reagan met Thursday with Avital Shcharansky, wife of the jailed dissident, Anatoly Shcharansky, and promised to do all he could to help her husband. The meeting in the Oval Office was attended by Vice President George Bush, and Iosif Mendelevich, another Jewish dissident who was released from Russia recently and settled in Israel. He is currently on a U.S. tour for Soviet Jewish refuseniks.

Larry Speakes, the deputy White House press secretary, said the President "expressed deep sympathy for the persecuted Jewish and other religious communities in the Soviet Union, as well as for Mrs. Shcharansky's husband and promised to do all in his power to alleviate the situation." Speakes said U.S. officials would discuss the Shcharansky case with Soviet officials but declined to be specific about what the President could do to help Shcharansky, now in the fifth year of a 13-year prison sentence.

Mrs. Shcharansky told a press conference after meeting with the President that she did not know what the President might do but that "I trust him." The President made no pledges of specific action, she said but she felt he understood "the emergency situation" and that her husband's life was "in danger."

ADL STUDY SAYS ISRAEL TARGET OF LEFT, RIGHT-WING TERRORISTS

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- Right-wing and left-wing terrorists are conducting a global campaign against the same targets -- western democracies, Israel and Jews -- and, in some cases, have joined forces in that campaign, according to a study reported today by Maxwell Greenberg, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. He said Israel was a primary target for both.

Greenberg told the ADL National Commission at its meeting here that terrorist violence in Europe in 1980 and the recent assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II gave new urgency to exposing and taking action against the international terrorist networks.

The ADL study described neo-Nazi and fascist terrorists and propagandists as a "black" network and used the term "red" network for such groups as the West German Baader-Meinhoff Gang, the Italian Red Brigades, the Japanese, and other Soviet-oriented and sponsored groups, like the Palestine Liberation Organization, which the study said, operates with Soviet arms and training.

Greenberg said "the ideological glue that binds the 'red' and 'black' terrorists is 'the shared commitment' to destroy democracy and freedom of expression. He told the meeting of the ADL National Commission that the two terrorist networks have established links through financial support, weapons and joint terrorist training operations.

Link With U.S. Nazis

According to the study, prepared by Jerome H. Bakst, ADL research department director, the terrorist networks are backed by powerful propaganda machines that attack western societies and disseminate anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic materials.

The study reported that West German's principal neo-Nazi, Manfred Roeder, has American connections, which include George Dietz of West Virginia, who operates "one of the biggest anti-Jewish and neo-Nazi propaganda factories" in the United States; and the Washington-based Liberty Lobby, headed by Willis Carto, the anti-Semitic propagandist.

One of the goals shared by the "red" and "black" networks, Greenberg said, is the destruction of Israel. He said that to the Soviet Union, "without which the 'red' terrorists international and its Arab allies could not function on the scale they do today, Israel is a major obstacle to deeper Soviet penetration of the Middle East."

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(There will be no JTA Daily News Bulletin dated Monday, June 8 because of the Shavuot holiday.)

THE ISRAELI ELECTION SCENE HARD-HITTING LIKUD CAMPAIGN FOCUSSES ON TREATY WITH EGYPT

By Hugh Orgel

(This is the first in a series of articles examining the political parties running in the June 30 Knesset elections.)

TEL AVIV, May 31 (JTA) -- With the balloting just 4 1/2 weeks away, Premier Menachem Begin's Likud alliance is conducting a hard-hitting re-election campaign, its confidence buoyed by public opinion polls which show it to have come from far behind to run neck-and-neck with the opposition Labor Alignment.

Its full-page press advertisements say that "peace is only the beginning" and go on to promise that the party will prepare the country for the 1990s.

As the present coalition ends its four-year term of office its major component, the Likud alliance, is really a misnomer. It is totally dominated by Herut which, in turn, is completely dominated by Begin. If he had decided, for any reason, not to run in the elections, Likud's chances of success in the June 30 voting would be far slimmer.

Apart from Herut (Freedom Movement, as it is officially called) the other components of the "alliance" have declined in importance and in policymaking or have all but disappeared. Ariel Sharon's Shlomzion Party, which stood for election in 1977 as a separate entity disappeared within the Herut fold immediately after his entry into the Cabinet.

The La'am (Towards the People) faction, which consists of parts of the Free Center Party, the StateList, the Greater Land of Israel Movement and Ahdut (Unity) Party, a splinter of the old Independent Liberal Party which joined Likud in 1977, have little support today though all are demanding representation on the Knesset list.

The few members of the former Rafi faction have left Likud, largely to join Moshe Dayan's new Telem party. Apart from Herut, the Liberal Party remains the only large and politically significant element to balance Herut in the Likud alliance.

American Style Campaign

The Likud election campaign, long in preparation, uses hard-hitting American methods which were studied closely by a young and enthusiastic team. It concentrates on the Party's undisputed major achievement in its four years in office -- the peace treaty with Egypt. Its second major claim is massive Jewish settlement on the West Bank which it claims has prevented the establishment of a Palestinian state at any time in the future.

While admitting that it has made "some mistakes" during the past four years, they are attributed to inexperience after 30 years in opposition. According to Likud, its shortcomings have been corrected by four years of on-the-job training, and the "bad inheritance" passed on by former Labor governments, has been overcome.

The names of two men largely responsible for the peace negotiations -- Moshe Dayan and Ezer Weizman -- are conspicuously absent from the Likud election propaganda. Both have left the Administration. Also glossed over is the fact that the treaty was ratified by the Knesset only thanks to the votes of the opposition; many Likud members voted against it or abstained.

Likud spokesmen appear sensitive to opposition criticism that of the 144 new settlements which the Likud claims to have added to the map, fewer than a dozen are on the West Bank, with a population of only a few thousand. Likud is competing with the National Religious Party (NRP) for the credit of ensuring Israel's hold over the "Biblical Land of Israel."

Indeed, one of the most successful publicity projects undertaken by Likud has been Sharon's "We Are On The Map" campaign -- full-page newspaper ads showing maps of the 144 new settlements, and organized bus tours (free or almost free) -- "to let the people see for themselves what we have done," as Sharon puts it.

Likud's Weaknesses

The trips are confined to a half-dozen Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) settlements. Sharon said when he inaugurated the tours that he hoped 100,000 people would visit the area before election day. With four weeks still to go, over 200,000 have taken advantage of the cheap outing.

Likud propagandists are hampered however by the absence of any party platform planks other than the political (peace treaty) one; and even that contains many issues not clearly defined. Social and economic plans, where Likud is weakest, have yet to be fully formulated.

The main thrust of the political plank is the promise to continue implementation of the normalization process with Egypt under the peace treaty, with indications that the party will be prepared to reconsider final withdrawal from Sinai next year if a multinational force to police Sinai is not established and in position by the scheduled final withdrawal date, in April, 1982.

Begin will certainly continue to hammer home what he likes to term the identity of thought and interests between Israel and the U.S. under the Reagan Administration. Critics point out, however, that many of his protestations of sweet harmony are somewhat one-sided and far more fervent on Begin's side than on Reagan's.

Likud advertisements stress that its administration has managed to hold unemployment down in Israel while it is rising throughout the world. In this way they try to divert attention from Israel's inflation rate of 133 percent last year, the highest in the world. It has been running at the same rate so far this year.

Party spokesmen claim this is due to the errors of the previous Labor administration. Ignoring recent Central Bureau of Statistics figures that show a decline in real earning power of some nine percent last year, they insist that the public has never been as well off as now. This may be true but only of the largely self-employed middle class and senior officials.

To enhance the impression of prosperity and well-being, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor gained widespread support by reducing sales taxes -- and thus the purchase price -- on a wide range of consumer goods including color televisions, cars, air conditioners and washing machines. But the massive 10.7 percent rise in the cost-of-living index for April came as a severe blow to the Treasury, which had hoped to show that the lower prices reduced the rate of inflation.

Begin's Possible Successor

A month before the elections, the value of the Israeli Shekel was down to one-tenth of its value when the Likud took office four years ago and the cost-of-living index was up tenfold.

By mid-May, two weeks before the legal date for presentation of election dates, the various components of Likud had chosen their candidates, but without yet placing them in order of precedence, an opera-

tion which caused internal disputes in the Likud as it had for Labor. The only prominent new name in Likud (and Herut) is that of Yaacov Meridor, Begin's old comrade-in-arms who he recalled to political life after two decades in business.

The voting for Herut candidates surprised Begin who clearly hopes that Meridor will be his successor if he has to step down. Meridor came only seventh on the list. Begin himself, who originally said he would retire at age 70, in two years time, now says he will complete a full term, if his health permits.

Meridor is one of the "fighting family" which forms the core of Herut. Begin loves to stress the "fighters" of the dissident Etzel (Irgun) and Stern Gang hinting that it was they who brought about the Jewish State, rather than the much larger Labor-led underground Hagana which Begin never mentions by name.

Although rarely alluded to, Begin's delicate health is of considerable concern to party members. After suffering two heart attacks and a minor stroke, Begin ranges from periods of quiet and apparent depression to hyper-activity and ebullience. He said recently that the anti-coagulant medication he takes is not the cause of this behavior.

Missile Crisis

By the end of May, it was still unclear what effect the Syrian missile crisis and Begin's handling of it—including his disclosure of secret orders to bomb the missile sites -- will have on the election campaign. If the missiles are withdrawn without war, Begin's continuing "peace efforts" will figure large in last-minute campaign propaganda. If war were to come, the elections would probably be postponed. Political analysts and commentators are pointing out that it would be the first Israeli war about which many Israelis would have doubts and might feel that the fighting could have been avoided.

150,000 AT 'SOLIDARITY SUNDAY' RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- About 150,000 people, according to police estimates, gathered at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, across from the United Nations, for the tenth annual rally for Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry today.

The marchers paraded for ten blocks down Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, led by a group wearing prison uniforms to represent Jewish Prisoners of Conscience in Soviet prisons and labor camps. They carried pictures of Soviet prisoners Anatoly Shcharansky, Vladimir Kislik, Kim Fridman and those of many others jailed.

Richard Allen, National Security Advisor at the White House was greeted with boisterous chants of "No arms to Saudi Arabia." Allen said that the United States' "determination to oppose terrorism in no way contradicts our support for human rights." This statement was greeted with more chants.

Largest Rally Ever For Soviet Jews

Allen stressed that the foreign policy of the U.S. is essentially linked to human rights. Dr. Seymour Lachman, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, said Allen's appearance was the highest Presidential representative sent to a gathering of this kind. Lachman also said that "this is the biggest demonstration for Soviet Jewry" in the history of the demonstrations.

Actress Jane Fonda, in what was believed to be her first appearance at a rally for Soviet Jews, said that Ida Nudel, now serving a prison term on trumped-up charges of hooliganism, had been convicted for "fighting for the right of Jews to emigrate."

Gov. Hugh Carey of New York said that "we will not ... avert our eyes or lower our voices or lessen our concern" for the rights of Soviet Jewry. "To do so would be not only to betray Soviet Jewry or Israel or our allies, it would be to betray ourselves." He also said "the Soviet Union is put on notice that its violations of human rights, abrogation of international law, its intimidation of other nations and its disregard for the dignity of the individual, leave it outside the pale of civilized nations."

Iosef Mendelevich, who was released recently from a Soviet prison and settled in Israel, received from Mayor Edward Koch the key to the city he was recently awarded. Mendelevich told the crowd "because of your prayers and hard work, I was finally able to leave the Soviet Union and to resume the practice of my Jewish faith without fear of persecution." Fonda, Carey and Mendelevich were enthusiastically applauded at the rally.

Mayor Koch announced that a street would be named for Shcharansky "to serve as a reminder of the persecution of men and women" who battled for freedom.

Near the close of the rally, some 20 members of the Jewish Defense League demonstrated on Fifth Avenue in front of the office of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline. A bottle was thrown at the window which was apparently shatterproof. Nothing happened to the window but the bottle broke.

Some 20 police officers, many on horseback, forced the yelling JDL members away from the Aeroflot office. There were two arrests made.

RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS STONE BUSES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Ultra-Orthodox Jews stoned two Egged buses in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem today smashing their windshields in a continuing demonstration against Sabbath traffic on the Ramot road which passes through the religious quarter.

The stoning followed riots last night by hundreds of religious zealots who attacked buses and police vans after the police prevented them earlier from attacking Sabbath drivers. One person was reported slightly injured. The mob was dispersed with tear gas. No arrests were made.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Jerusalem Day festivities, marking the 14th anniversary of the reunification of the city, began here Sunday night with a festive concert at the Sultan's Pool, at the foot of Mt. Zion. Leonard Bernstein conducted the Israel Philharmonic, playing among other works, the first performance of a piece for flute composed by himself in honor of flutist Yadin Tennenbaum who was killed in the Yom Kippur War. About 50,000 pilgrims are expected to attend the other major festivities Monday.

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WASHINGTON (JTA) -- Maxwell Rabb, a 70-year-old New York lawyer and president of Temple Emanu-el in Manhattan, was named by President Reagan Thursday as U.S. Ambassador to Italy. Rabb, who was Secretary to the Cabinet during the Eisenhower Administration, was an active member of the Coalition for Reagan-Bush in the 1980 campaign.