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67 LAWMAKERS CONCERNED OVER VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA, PARTICULARLY AS IT APPLIES TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 7 (JTA) -- A bi-partisan group of 67 Congressmen has sent a letter to Argentine President Roberto Viola expressing their "concern" over the violation of human rights in his country, particularly as it applies to the Jewish community there. The signatories included 54 Democrats and 13 Republicans.

Rep. Charles Schumer (D. NY), in releasing the letter today, said he organized the move in the wake of revelations by Jacobo Timerman of human rights violations in Argentina. Schumer said a member of his staff spoke to Timerman recently.

The former editor and publisher of the Argentine daily La Opinion who was imprisoned for 30 months without charges or trial, said he considers it "very, very important" to remind the Argentine junta that the U.S. Congress is watching not only how the government itself acts, but also when it fails to prevent abuses of human rights, Schumer said.

Crux Of The Dispute

Rep. Henry Waxman (D. Calif), one of the signatories of the letter, issued a statement on "Anti-Semitism in Argentina" several days ago in which he noted that Timerman "does not hesitate to liken Argentina to the Third Reich. His detractors take him to task for exaggeration. Surely, Argentina is not Auschwitz, they indignantly state. Jews are not being systematically killed on a mass basis, they protest. That Argentina is not yet Nazi Germany is a point on which most observers agree."

Waxman's statement added: "What is really central to the dispute is the validity of inferring from the fact that Argentina is not Nazi Germany, that it is, therefore, not a virulently and dangerously anti-Semitic society. I would hate to see us reach the point where we became indifferent to manifestations of anti-Semitism which fall short of the 'standards' set by Hitler. It should not be necessary for Jacobo Timerman to prove that Argentina is in a pre-Holocaust situation to convince us that Argentine anti-Semitism is dangerous."

Predicts Opposition To Arms Sales

Schumer, in releasing the letter, noted that the Reagan Administration's effort to lift the ban on U.S. arms sales to Argentina will face stiff opposition in the House because of the human rights situation in that country.

The Congressmen noted that they "welcome the commitment" the Viola government has made to strengthen the democratic process in Argentina but expressed their "particular concern for the continued well-being and safety of the one-half million-member Jewish community in Argentina. They said they "have been deeply disturbed by attacks on a number of Jewish institutions, including the bombing of the Jerusalem Synagogue in Buenos Aires and the desecration of tombstones in

the Liniers Jewish Cemetery in the summer and fall of 1980."

The letter said, "We are alarmed at the marked increase in the public availability of anti-Semitic and Nazi literature; the journals 'Papeles' and 'Cabildo' are two of the most blatant examples of this disturbing development. We are also concerned that no information has been forthcoming about the fate of several hundred or more Jewish citizens who have been listed as 'disappeared' since 1978."

Greater Vigilance Urged

The letter also strongly urged the Argentine government "to exercise greater vigilance in actually combating anti-Semitic acts and in repeatedly condemning anti-Semitic propaganda in whatever form they take. The continued livelihood of the Jewish community in Argentina is of great importance to us as elected representatives of the people of the U.S. and to the citizens of our entire nation. We trust that you will take all necessary steps to foster an atmosphere in which this community may live and flourish without fear."

The Congressmen stressed that "a deeply committed defense of human rights and human dignity by your government in Argentina will greatly contribute to improving relations between our two countries."

BEGIN DENIES ULTIMATUM TO HABIB

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin today denied reports that appeared in some American print and television media that he informed President Reagan's special Middle East envoy Philip Habib that Israel would bomb Syrian missiles in Lebanon within two weeks unless they were removed. According to one report on CBS News, Begin reportedly told "a number of visitors" recently that he informed Habib of his intentions.

However, Begin told Rep. Jack Kemp (R. NY) in a meeting here today that Israel will give Habib the necessary time to mediate in the missile crisis as long as the U.S. envoy can prove that he has a chance of succeeding in his mission. "So far, there are signs that there are certain results to these (Habib's) efforts," Begin said. However, he added that the time given to solve the crisis was not unlimited and that the time available should not be wasted. (See related story from Washington Pg. 2.)

LABOR PARTY REJECTS PROPOSALS FOR NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- The Labor Party has flatly rejected proposals from several sources that it join with Likud to form a national unity government. Convinced that the extremely close results of the June 30 elections show that at least half the population rejects the policies advocated by Premier Menachem Begin and that there is therefore no mandate for a national unity regime, Labor is mobilizing its forces to establish a powerful opposition bloc in the Knesset.

The national unity idea was reportedly raised by Zevulun Hammer, a leader of the National Religious Party, at a meeting yesterday with Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres. Hammer is said to have suggested that such a government remain in office until November, 1982 when new elections would be held coinciding with the municipal elections scheduled for that time.

Peres consulted later with the Labor Party leadership which unanimously rejected the proposal. Hammer reportedly made the offer on behalf of Begin. Begin, appearing on the ABC-TV "Issues and Answers" program last Sunday, dismissed the idea himself.

Labor In Bid For Knesset Positions

But the national unity idea was raised again today by former Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz, the No. 2 man in Moshe Dayan's Telem party, at a meeting with Peres. Peres again turned it down but agreed to further meetings with Hurwitz. The Labor Party leader also met with key members of Geula Cohen's ultra-nationalist Tehiya party. Cohen said afterwards that neither side tried to convince the other but both agreed to meet again.

The Labor Alignment began today to line up key positions in the new Knesset. It is reportedly seeking to install former Police Minister Shlomo Hillel as Speaker of the Knesset, replacing Likud's Yitzhak Berman who announced that he is resigning the post. Labor has indicated that it will demand the chairmanship of at least two of the Knesset's most powerful committees--Defense and Foreign Affairs and the Finance Committee. The latter is also demanded by the four-member Aguda Israel party as part of its price for joining a Likud-led coalition.

Prospects Wane For Dayan

Meanwhile, prospects dimmed that former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan would reach an agreement with Begin to enter his two-man Telem faction into a Likud coalition. Dayan's bargaining position is weakened by the fact that Begin can muster a 61-seat majority in partnership with the three religious parties -- the NRP, Aguda Israel and Aharon Abu Hatzeira's Tami. The latter, which won three Knesset seats and represents Sephardic Jews, is traditionalist rather than strictly religious like the other two.

Although Begin would doubtlessly welcome Telem's two mandates to bolster his fragile majority, the fundamental differences between the two men over autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip seem to preclude an agreement.

Dayan's basic platform calls on Israel to implement autonomy unilaterally if no agreement can be reached with Egypt and the Palestinians. He believes that perpetuation of the present military occupation will result in increasing and endless hostility and violence in the territories. He also reportedly wants Begin to appoint him minister in charge of the autonomy talks with Egypt and the U.S.

Begin, for his part, has indicated that he intends to keep the NRP's Yosef Burg in that position. Moreover, he insists that if the autonomy talks fail, the Camp David accords permit Israel to continue the status quo.

TECHNICAL FAILURE DOWNS DRONE

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- A pilotless plane crashed while on a routine reconnaissance flight over Lebanon today, due to a technical fault, the army spokesman said. The Syrians said the drone was shot down, but the army statement contradicts this claim.

It was the fifth pilotless aircraft lost during flights over Lebanon and Syria since the Syrian missile crisis began earlier this year. The Israel air force has been making more frequent use of Israeli-made pilotless planes recently. Their use reduces

the danger of loss of life and their cost is far less than that of regular manned aircraft.

U.S. AMBIVALENT ABOUT REPORTS THAT LEBANESE CHRISTIANS MIGHT BREAK THEIR TIES WITH ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 7 (JTA) -- The State Department was ambivalent today about reports that the Lebanese Christians might break their ties with Israel.

Department spokesman Dean Fischer had a "no comment" when he was asked about a news report that a Phalangist militia leader Bashir Gemayel announced that the Christian group would sever its ties with Israel. Fischer said the U.S. would welcome any move that reduced tensions in Lebanon and that if a Phalangist break with Israel "led to a reduction in tension" the U.S. "would regard it as a hopeful sign."

The Arab League committee which has been credited with the easing of tensions in the Christian village of Zahle reportedly has been urging the Phalangists to break ties with Israel from which it receives military supplies.

Not Aware Of Threat By Begin

Meanwhile, Fischer said that Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Mideast envoy, will return to the region this week although he could not confirm that he is leaving today. Habib met with Reagan yesterday to discuss the situation in Lebanon resulting from the tension caused by Syria's placement of SAM-6 anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon and Israel's threat to remove them by military force.

Fischer said he "was not aware" of a reported threat by Israeli Premier Menachem Begin that if the missiles were not removed within two weeks, Israel would act. He noted that Begin's spokesman, Uri Porat, had denied the report which was broadcast by CBS News yesterday.

U.S. To Complete Its Review By July 17

Fischer continued to affirm that the Reagan Administration will complete its "review" by July 17 of whether Israel violated an arms agreement with the U.S. when it used American-made planes to destroy Iraq's nuclear reactor June 7. He repeated that he expects the review to be completed before a "decision has to be made" on six F-16s scheduled to be delivered to Israel July 17.

A decision will presumably also be made on whether to lift the suspension on four F-16s that had been scheduled to be delivered to Israel in June but were held back pending the review.

Fischer said that no decision has been made on whether the Administration will present to Congress its proposal to sell Saudi Arabia five AWACS reconnaissance planes and other military equipment. The Administration is holding up submitting the proposal on the advice of Senate Republican leaders who fear it may be rejected by Congress.

JNF HONORS LATIN AMERICAN HERO

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- The 150-member Venezuelan delegation to the Maccabiah was present Sunday at the dedication of an area in a Jewish National Fund forest to the memory of Latin American nationalist hero Simon Bolivar. The occasion marked the 170th anniversary of Venezuelan independence.

The Bolivar memorial is part of the "Messilat Zion" JNF forest in the Jerusalem hills. The Venezuelan ambassador, Luis La Corte, said the JNF's salute in this way to Bolivar was "a perfect act of friendship that symbolizes the ongoing ties between the two nations."

SOME 3,500 ATHLETES FROM 35 NATIONS ARE COMPETING IN THE 11th MACCABIAH

By Haskell Cohen

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- The 11th Maccabiah -- the Jewish Olympic games -- opened in the giant Ramat Gan Stadium last night as some 3500 competing athletes from 35 countries marched onto the field before a wildly cheering crowd of more than 50,000 sports fans and Israeli dignitaries, including President Yitzhak Navon and Premier Menachem Begin.

The Israeli contingent, by far the largest with 900 marchers, was followed in size by the American team numbering 372 and the South Africans with more than 200. The smallest entry was from Singapore which sent two contestants. Others came from such far off lands as Chile and New Zealand. The Dutch squad carried a huge banner reading, "Love From Holland." The Brazilian group danced onto the field in Mardi Gras fashion.

Festive Atmosphere Marks Games

The march-on was preceded by the descent of 16 Israeli paratroopers to the green turf. It was followed by Israel's top seeded tennis champ, Shlomo Glickstein, who raced into the stadium bearing the traditional Maccabiah torch which had been kindled earlier in Modi'in, birthplace of the Maccabees, and run in relays to Ramat Gan.

Contributing to the carnival atmosphere of the opening ceremonies was a gymnastic display by hundreds of Israeli youngsters who released thousands of silver balloons as they completed their exhibition.

Earlier in the evening, Navon and Begin, who arrived in motorcades, were greeted officially by Mayor Israel Peled of Ramat Gan and Michael Kev-ehazi, chairman of the Maccabiah Organizing Committee. The American team marched on the field led by flag-bearer Danny Schayes, a seven-foot tall basketball ace. The marchers were joined by Rep. Jack Kemp (R. NY), who is currently visiting Israel.

He is slated to present medals to the winners of early swimming events before returning to the U.S. Kemp, a one-time professional football player -- with the Buffalo Bills--was instrumental in securing a \$25,000 donation for the U.S. Committee Sports For Israel from the National Football League (NFL). The USCSFI is the American organization that funds and supplies the U.S. Maccabiah teams.

Games To Continue To July 16

With the festivities over, the games began in earnest today and will continue until July 16, featuring competition in 31 sports at 58 locations around Israel. They include basketball, trap shooting, lawn bowling, fencing, golf, chess and bridge. The swimming and track meets are expected to be the most dramatic.

This year, the competing athletes will be housed together according to their sports specialties rather than nationality. It will give the men and women in the same competitive areas a chance to mingle and exchange ideas.

The first Maccabiah games were held in March, 1932. They lasted only two days and drew about 25,000 fans from abroad. This year's Maccabiah is reported to have cost \$3.5 million to mount.

MILITARY COURT RULES IT IS COMPETENT TO TRY FOUR ARABS

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- A military court in Nablus ruled today that it was competent to

try four Arabs for the murder of six Israeli Jews and the wounding of 16 others in an ambush of worshippers on their way home from synagogue in Hebron in May 1980.

The defense had claimed the court had no right to try them as the four were "prisoners of war." The judges refused to allow a delay until the defense appeals to the Supreme Court, but noted the defense lawyers could still do so.

The four Arabs refuse to cooperate with the court. When they were asked today whether they understood the charges against them, which carry a death sentence, they refused to reply, laughing loudly instead and shouting Palestine Liberation Organization slogans.

Their lawyers said they had been instructed by their clients not to question prosecution witnesses on the grounds that a military court was not competent to try prisoners of war. (By Hugh Orgel)

14 YOUNG FAMILIES FROM U.S., CANADA IN DOR HEMSHECH PROGRAM

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Fourteen young families from the U.S. and Canada have arrived in the northern towns of Safed and Carmiel to take part in a volunteering program arranged by the World Zionist Organization's Dor Hemshech section. They are to work half a day in Jewish National Fund forestry projects, in nearby hospitals and in municipal clinics, and devote the other half of their days to studying Hebrew and learning about Israel. The long-range goal is that these families should make aliya and settle permanently in the Galilee. Each family is "adopted" by an Israeli family with similar interests. The program is now in its third year.

PEARL HARBOR ATTACK VICTIMS HONORED

WASHINGTON, July 7 (JTA) -- The National Ladies Auxilliary of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S. has presented a memorial plaque at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, in honor of the men who lost their lives aboard the USS Arizona on Dec. 7, 1941, it was announced here by Iris Goldwasser, special projects chairwoman and Evelyn Mermonstein, national president of the JWV's Ladies Auxiliary.

The plaque was placed in the Shoreside Memorial at Pearl Harbor next to one presented earlier by the JWV, by Lt. Commander Fred Natkin of the U.S. Navy Chaplains Corps who is a member of the JWV in Hawaii.

MAN SENTENCED FOR COMPLICITY IN ARREST, DEPORTATION OF DUTCH JEWS

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, July 7 (JTA) -- A 67-year-old resident of the Hague, Jan Bulder, was sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment by the special tribunal of The Hague District Court today for his complicity in the arrest and subsequent deportation of about 20 Jews from The Hague early in 1944. The public prosecutor had demanded a four-year sentence for having worked at the "Judenreferat" of the German "Sicherheitsdienst" in The Hague. Bulder was arrested shortly after the liberation of The Netherlands but managed to escape and to reach South Africa.

He lived there under an assumed name but returned to Holland, likewise under his assumed name in 1969. Afterwards, however, he adopted his real name again. He was arrested early this year at Schiphol Airport when returning from a short holiday in Spain.

In pronouncing the sentence, the special tribunal took into account on the one hand that 37 years had elapsed and on the other hand that Bulder had been only a very minor official.

TWO JEWISH GROUPS REJECT CHARGES THEY FORCED UNIFICATION CHURCH TO CANCEL CONFAB IN JERUSALEM

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee and the American Jewish Congress said today that they "reject" charges by the Unification Church of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon that the two organizations "used the powerful means which they control" to force cancellation of a "World Conference for Judeo-Christian Dialogue" which the Church planned to hold in Jerusalem next month.

Maynard Wishner, president of the AJCommittee, and Henry Siegman, executive director of the AJCongress said, in a joint statement:

"To the extent that this cancellation is due to action taken by our two organizations, as the Unification Church asserts, we can only be glad. We reject the Church's charges ... that we used our 'power' or acted in ways contrary to the tenets of free speech or tolerance in expressing our opposition. The only 'power' exercised was that of freedom of information, to make public to Jewish scholars our view of the Unification Church as we urged them to turn down invitations to any such conference."

Background Of The Issue

On June 23, Bertram Gold, executive vice president of the AJCommittee and Siegman announced that they had sent letters to Jewish scholars and academicians charging that the writings of Moon "are distinctly anti-Semitic" and that "numerous Jewish homes have been thrown into turmoil and parents subjected to severe suffering" as a result of the widespread proselytizing activities of the Unification Church among Jewish and other youth.

They warned the scholars not to accept the all-expenses-paid invitation to the Jerusalem conference, noting that it and other conferences in various parts of the world were self-serving devices by the Unification Church to associate itself with the names of prominent and respected persons.

The Unification Church claimed that "The charges that the teachings of Rev. Moon are 'distinctly anti-Semitic' are absolutely false" and "we reject" these "slandorous charges." It said the conference was to have been an "ecumenical dialogue" to promote "unity between diverse religious traditions we are opposed to all forms of racism and prejudice and believe that all men are equal in the sight of God."

ISRAEL CONSULAR CHANGES ANNOUNCED

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- Major changes in the staff of the Israel Consulate General here will take place in the next few weeks, it was reported here today. Paul Kedar, Israel's Consul General here, will return to Israel in mid-August. He will be replaced by Naftali Lavie, presently director of the press department and spokesman at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. Kedar has been serving as Consul General since August 1978.

Benjamin Abileah, Deputy Consul General, was appointed a Counsellor in the Israel Embassy in Washington. Abileah, who is scheduled to go to Washington next week, will be replaced here by Uri Bar-Ner, who has been serving until now as Deputy Director of the North American Division of Israel's Foreign Ministry.

Another new appointee in the Israel Consulate in New York is Yitzhak Oren, who replaced Dr.

Emmanuel Lotem as Consul for Academic Affairs. Lotem was appointed First Secretary in the Israel Embassy in South Africa. Gideon Shomron, a Counsellor on Christian issues and Churches here was transferred to the Israel Embassy in Washington as a Counsellor.

Meanwhile, Nachman Shai, Israel's spokesman at the United Nations, is scheduled to leave for Washington next week to assume his new post as spokesman for the Israel Embassy there. Judith Varnai-Dranger was appointed the new Israel spokesperson at the UN.

AIR FORCE ENJOINED FROM TAKING ACTION AGAINST ORTHODOX AIR FORCE MEMBER FOR WEARING SKULL CAP

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- A Washington federal district court judge has issued a 10-day temporary restraining order prohibiting the U.S. Air Force from taking disciplinary or other adverse action against an Orthodox Jewish Air Force member for refusing to remove his skull cap while wearing his service uniform.

At issue is whether the Air Force can enforce its uniform dress standards against Rabbi Simcha Goldman, who serves as a clinical psychologist at March Air Force base in Riverside, Cal. Goldman is being represented in his court action by two Washington attorneys, David Butler, a board member of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), and Nathan Lewin, a COLPA vice president.

At the end of the 10-day period, the attorneys said, Judge Aubrey Robinson III will decide whether to permanently enjoin the Air Force action against Goldman or dismiss the case.

Howard Zuckerman, president of COLPA, said this was the first instance in which Air Force uniform dress standards have been challenged when the individual involved has not been a chaplain.

Zuckerman said Goldman had been wearing his skull cap for a number of years as a psychologist at the Air Force base. When a new base commander took charge, Goldman was ordered to remove his skull cap while in uniform. Zuckerman said COLPA attorneys had been negotiating informally with Air Force officials for about eight weeks. When the Air Force made it clear that it expected Goldman to observe the Air Force dress code by not wearing his skull cap, he asked COLPA to take the issue to the courts.

FREEDOM GOES UP IN SMOKE

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- The pleasure of smoking a cigarette cost one Hebron resident six months in jail. Issa Mohammad Abu Zahara was sentenced by a Hebron court today for desecrating the fast of Ramadan in public. The strict religious rules marking the fast period forbids smoking during the month-long Moslem holiday from sun rise to sun set. Angry Hebron residents nabbed the cigarette smoker, rushed him to the police who took him to court where he was put on trial. The six-month term was the severest penalty for desecrating the Ramadan fast since 1967.

The courts in the administered territories follow the law which was in effect before Israel's occupation of the territories in 1967, in today's case it was Jordanian law. The sentence reflects the spread of Moslem religious beliefs and practices in the West Bank, as well as throughout the entire Middle East. (By Gil Sedan)