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GENERAL STRIKE PARALYZES WEST BANK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- A general strike paralyzed most West Bank towns today. The strike, called to protest the ouster of the elected mayor and town council of El Bireh last Thursday was to have ended today. But West Bank mayors called for an extension until Wednesday.

All shops, schools and places of business were shut down in Ramallah, Halhoul and El Bireh. The latter town is under a dawn-to-dusk blockade with residents unable to leave or enter between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Related story P. 2.)

Shopkeepers Forced To Open Businesses

In Hebron and Bethlehem, Israeli soldiers forced shopkeepers to open for business this afternoon. In East Jerusalem, where the strike spread, hundreds of Israeli police visited the homes of local merchants early this morning with written orders from the central command to open their businesses immediately.

Dozens of shopkeepers were transported in police vans to their shops which they were forced to open under the eyes of the police. But at least half of East Jerusalem remained strikebound during the day.

The police tactics drew an angry protest from Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek who complained that the security forces neither consulted nor informed him of their plans. He said he was opposed to opening businesses by force, especially in Jerusalem.

Police were stoned this morning near the Herod Gate and Lions Gate entrances to the Old City. There were further incidents of rock-throwing on the West Bank. A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli army officer in Jenin but he was not hurt.

Meanwhile, a Jewish settler from Shiloh on the West Bank was taken into custody yesterday on suspicion of murder. The arrest followed the discovery over the weekend of the body of 17-year-old Mohammed Abdullah Suhweil who lived in a nearby Arab village. His family had reported that he and several other teen-agers were kidnapped by Jewish settlers from Shiloh last Friday after a stone-throwing melee.

New Flare-Ups Expected Next Week

Israeli sources said today that the level of violence on the West Bank seemed to be abating for the time being. But new flare-ups are expected next week when Israeli Arabs mark Land Day on March 30, the anniversary of the seizure of Arab lands in Galilee by the Israeli government several years ago. Land Day has usually triggered violent demonstrations on the West Bank.

Premier Menachem Begin's government shows no signs of relenting in its crackdown on West Bank officials who refuse to cooperate with the Israeli regime. It faces a vote of no-confidence in the Knesset tomorrow on motions submitted by the opposition Labor Alignment and Shinui factions and the Communist Party. But despite the narrowness of Begin's Knesset majority, the motions are expected

to be defeated, as similar motions have in the past. Yesterday the Cabinet voiced its approval of the army's actions on the West Bank and Begin congratulated the soldiers for showing restraint, although 18-year-old Ibrahim Ali Darwish was killed by soldiers in El Bireh Saturday and at least five other Arab teen-agers were wounded. Defense Minister Ariel Sharon said the tough policy was intended to eliminate Palestine Liberation Organization influence from the territory.

According to Sharon, the policy is succeeding. He claimed that for the first time since 1967 there are leaders on the West Bank who are not obedient to the PLO. He was referring apparently to local Arabs who have joined the Israel-financed and protected Village Leagues.

Sharon said this group was not necessarily pro-Israel and included partisans of Jordan and advocates of a Palestinian state. But all of them show an independent approach to problems and it is therefore in Israel's interest to strengthen this group, Sharon said.

WHITE HOUSE, STATE DEPARTMENT DEPLORE VIOLENCE ON THE WEST BANK

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA) -- The White House and the State Department today both deplored the "violence" on the West Bank over the weekend and called on all concerned to do everything to "calm the situation."

However, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer refused to reveal whether the United States had made any special comments to the Israeli government about the situation. But he noted that the U.S. was in "very frequent, almost constant" contact with the Israeli government through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv.

In response to a question about the shooting of an Arab youth and the wounding of others by the Israeli army over the weekend, Fischer read the following statement: "We are following the increased confrontation and violence on the West Bank with particular concern. We deeply regret the bloodshed that has occurred, particularly the tragic loss of life. We hope that all those in a position to do so will exert their best efforts to calm the situation. We are especially concerned about the use of lethal and potentially lethal force."

Earlier White House deputy press secretary Larry Speakes told reporters: "We are concerned over the violence in the region. We deeply regret the loss of life over the weekend." He added: "We want to reemphasize the need to move ahead with the Camp David process and deal with the autonomy issue."

Fischer indicated that the U.S. does not believe the incidents on the West Bank will hamper the autonomy talks between Israel and Egypt. He said that the U.S. believes "progress" can be made. Fischer also noted that the U.S. considers as a "bilateral" problem the dispute between Israel and Egypt over Egypt's refusal to hold the autonomy talks in Jerusalem and the unresolved question over the border between Israel and Egypt over Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai April 25. But he noted that the U.S. is in frequent consultations on various autonomy issues with Israel and Egypt.

ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILL ARAB TEENAGER

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- A 17-year-old Arab youth was fatally shot today by Israel Defense Force members during a riot at the Dir Amar Refugee camp near Ramallah. Three other persons were reported wounded at the end of another day of violence in several towns in the West Bank.

In a symbolic gesture, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon toured the trouble spots personally, and then called on the head of the Hebron Village League, Mustafa Dudein. Sharon is seeking to build up the anti-PLO leagues as a counterweight to the pro-PLO mayors on the West Bank.

Dudein said they had not talked about politics, but rather about the needs of the villages in the Hebron area for new development projects.

"The officer in charge of the central command, Maj. Uri Or, said tonight he was hopeful the wave of disturbances would now decline. He said today had been quieter than yesterday and also that the violence affected only certain towns -- especially Ramallah, El Bireh and the Nablus sector -- but 70 percent of the West Bank remained quiet.

Maj. Or said in the quiet parts the IDF was hardly present at all and the local people went about their lives as normal. He said as military commander it was his job to keep the area quiet and maintain law and order, enabling the political level of government then to carry through its policies.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL EXPECTED TO TAKE UP WEST BANK SITUATION

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, March 22 (JTA) -- The current President of the Security Council, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick of the U.S., has agreed to convene an urgent meeting of that body to discuss the situation on the West Bank, according to the Jordanian Ambassador, Hazem Nuseiba, chairman of the Arab Group at the UN, who met with Kirkpatrick today.

Speaking at a press conference, Nuseiba said he made the request for a Security Council meeting on behalf of the Arab Group. He said a formal written request would be made later this afternoon and that the Security Council will meet, probably as early as tomorrow, to take up the outbreak of violent clashes between Israeli troops and Palestinian demonstrators on the West Bank.

The Security Council is presently discussing a Nicaraguan complaint that the U.S. is planning to invade Nicaragua and therefore, the issues of the West Bank and Nicaragua will be discussed concurrently at separate meetings of the Council, Nuseiba said.

The Jordanian envoy also said he asked Kirkpatrick to urge Washington to intervene in the West Bank situation and he understood she has already done so.

The press conference was addressed by the Palestine Liberation Organization observer at the UN, Zehdi Labib Terzi, who charged that Israeli actions on the West Bank were aimed at provoking the PLO "into a major confrontation." Terzi repeatedly referred to Israeli actions as a "Nazi" operation and to Israeli soldiers as "Israel SS troops."

Meanwhile, UN Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar warned in a statement issued here today through his spokesman that developments on the West Bank "can only increase overall tension in the area at a time when the situation is already extremely volatile." He said he is "deeply disturbed at the current developments on the West Bank, at the casualties that have occurred in the clashes between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians and the loss of life among the Palestinians." He appealed "to all concerned to exercise maximum restraint at this difficult time."

QUAKER STUDY URGES U.S. TO BEGIN DIALOGUE WITH ISRAEL, ARAB STATES, PLO TO MOVE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA) -- The principal author of a Quaker study on the Middle East urged the United States today to begin a serious dialogue with Israel, the Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization in order to push the Middle East peace process forward.

Everett Mendelsohn, chairperson of the American Friends Service Committee's (AFSC) Middle East Working Party, also called on Israel to end its "de-facto annexation" of the West Bank and be ready to withdraw from occupied territories. At the same time he called on the PLO to show their willingness to recognize Israel's right to exist.

The comments by Mendelsohn, a professor of the history of science at Harvard, were made at a press conference at the National Press Club at which the AFSC released the working party's 226-page report, "A Compassionate Peace: A Future for the Middle East." It is the first full length study by the AFSC of the Middle East since 1970.

Mendelsohn said the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is an "important breakthrough in an otherwise stalemated situation." But he said it has failed to solve what he called the "core" conflict in the Middle East, the Palestinian problem. He contended that the Arab states, as demonstrated by the plan proposed by Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia and other recent developments, have shown that they are ready to accept Israel but only after a settlement of the Palestinian problem and the creation of a Palestinian state.

Outlines Steps For A 'Serious Dialogue'

Mendelsohn, who last visited the Middle East in January, accused the Reagan Administration of placing the Palestinian problem on the "back burner." He stressed that peace cannot be "imposed from the outside" but only made by negotiations by the parties in the region. But, he said the U.S. can play an important role in pushing the peace process forward.

In doing so, Mendelsohn said the U.S. should abandon its "shadow dialogue" with Israel and conduct a "serious dialogue." He said the U.S. should make it clear that it rejects what he called Israel's "de-facto annexation" of the West Bank, and if necessary back this rejection up with a decrease in aid.

He said the U.S. should also reiterate its support for United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 which he said requires Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, with adjustments for security reasons after its borders are recognized.

Mendelsohn said the U.S. must have a real political dialogue with the PLO to involve them in the peace process. "Peace will not be made in the region without them," he said. "Peace cannot be

made for them by someone else." At the same time, Mendelsohn said the PLO must announce its willingness to recognize the existence of Israel and declare what it wants in return for this recognition. He conceded that the Palestinians have made an error in not joining in the autonomy talks. However, he pointed out that the events in the last few days on the West Bank in which violence has occurred proves the situation there is "explosive" and must not be left unresolved.

On the question of Jerusalem, Mendelsohn said most people are in agreement that it should remain undivided and he believes that its final status should be established as part of an Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

MUBARAK'S POLITICAL AIDE ARRIVES IN ISRAEL TO PATCH UP DIFFERENCES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- A high ranking Egyptian envoy arrived in Israel this evening with a message from President Hosni Mubarak to Premier Menachem Begin. Osama el-Baz, the Egyptian leader's political aide who is also a senior official in Egypt's Foreign Ministry, is to meet with Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir tomorrow morning.

Observers here believe his visit concerns the dispute between the two countries over the Taba beach, south of Eilat, where a border disagreement remains unresolved. There was also speculation that el-Baz's mission would deal with the proposed visit to Israel of Mubarak, originally scheduled for March but now hanging fire because of a row over Mubarak's refusal to visit Jerusalem and Begin's insistence that he do so.

The quarrel was exacerbated over the weekend by Egypt's postponement of an autonomy working group meeting due to have convened in Jerusalem yesterday. Egyptian officials cited Israel's insistence that the session take place in Jerusalem as the reason for their move.

These developments have created something of a crisis atmosphere in relations between Egypt and Israel which are already tense a month before Israel's final withdrawal from Sinai.

Shamir sought to ease the tension today. Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, he said the Taba dispute was a difference of opinion and that any talk of a "crisis" was out of place. Israel, he said, would certainly agree that the issue be resolved "in accordance with the peace treaty."

Observers pointed out that the peace treaty calls for "conciliation" or "arbitration" in the event that the two sides fail to reach a negotiated resolution of a dispute.

The Cabinet yesterday endorsed an interim proposal made by Begin to Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali here last week whereby the Taba area would be part of the buffer zone, with an Israeli hotel there continuing to operate without restriction while the question of sovereignty is dealt with in further negotiations, or if they fail, presumably through "conciliation or arbitration."

Defense Minister Ariel Sharon in a speech in Haifa last night, insisted that Israel would make no further concessions on Taba. (See related story.)

Sources close to Begin dissociated themselves from statements attributed to Sharon that Israel would refuse to complete the Sinai withdrawal unless the Taba issue is satisfactorily resolved. The sources said they preferred not to adopt threatening or ultimative tones.

SHARON: NO SINAI WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Ariel Sharon warned last night that Israel will not withdraw from Sinai by the April 25 deadline if there is no agreement with Egypt by then on the exact location of the international boundary.

He told a Herut Party rally in Haifa that it was preferable for Israel to stay put in Sinai than risk a new war with Egypt on an unagreed frontier. He also declared that Israel has reached the limit of the concessions it is prepared to make in return for peace with Egypt. He said the autonomy talks with Egypt in the future must be held either in Cairo, Washington or Jerusalem, not in any other location in Israel as proposed by the Egyptians.

Sharon accused Egypt of violating the Camp David accords and the peace treaty by deploying more troops than it was allowed in Sinai under the terms of those agreements. He boasted that Israel could move back into Sinai within 24 hours. Sharon also said that Israel is continuing to establish new settlements on the West Bank.

EBAN SAYS ISRAEL HAS BANNED SOME 2,000 BOOKS ON THE WEST BANK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- Labor MK Abba Eban has called on Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to make available to the Knesset a list of some 2,000 books banned on the West Bank. Eban said the books include George Orwell's "1984," Alan Moorehead's famous accounts of the search for the sources of the Nile, and "Song of the Wind," written 50 years ago by a leading Egyptian author, Tawfik el-Hakim.

Eban wanted to know why a book dealer in Nablus could be prosecuted for selling books that are freely available in Arabic translation in East Jerusalem. He said the ban was ridiculous inasmuch as many of the books are classics which could hardly be considered politically dangerous. According to the Jerusalem Post, Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" in Arabic is also on the proscribed list.

Eban submitted his question in writing. It will be answered by the Defense Minister at a later date. The former Foreign Minister urged the government to see to it that all books of cultural and literary interest available in Israel and elsewhere in the free world are also available in the occupied territories.

In a related move, Eban wrote to Eliahu Ben-Elissar, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, proposing that it create a special subcommittee to oversee government activities in the territories. He said these activities should be closely watched and subject to Knesset scrutiny but there is no parliamentary body at present for such a task.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Avi Farhan, spokesman for the "Stop the Withdrawal" movement, says that he and his colleagues are arranging a mass seder service in Yamit, and expects "thousands" to take part.

SPECIAL REPORT JEWISH MUSEUM OF BUDAPEST TO BE MODERNIZED BY JEWISH COMMUNITY WITH FINANCIAL HELP FROM COMMUNIST REGIME

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 22 (JTA) — The Jewish Museum of Budapest, recording the history of Hungarian Jewry, is to be modernized by the Hungarian Jewish community with financial help from the country's Communist government.

The museum, on the site of the house where Theodor Herzl was born, will be closed in September for restoration work which is expected to last two years, this correspondent was told in Budapest last week.

The building's present dilapidated condition is in danger of damaging its contents, possibly the finest collection of Jewish treasures outside Israel. They include gravestones from the Roman period, indicating a Jewish presence in Hungary centuries before the invasion by the Magyar ancestors of most modern Hungarians.

It also contains documents illustrating Hungarian Jewry's involvement in Hungary's struggle for independence in the 19th century. A separate section illustrates the community's sufferings in World War II when some 600,000 Jews, mainly from the provinces, were sent to the death camps, and a fate shared by many of those in the capital.

The main contents of the museum were saved from destruction or pillage when they were concealed in the Budapest National Museum cellars to protect them from air raid damage.

Reminded Of Herzl's Budapest Origins

A visitor is reminded of Herzl's Budapest origins by a bronze portrait of him in the entrance hall. The house where he grew up, and where the present museum stands, is adjacent to Budapest's chief synagogue, a red brick building in Moorish style, with twin towers almost 150 feet high. Situated in Dohany Street, it is one of 29 Budapest synagogues which the community says are still used.

Near the museum are the offices of the community's central council in Sip Street, whose courtyard contains a mass grave of people who died in the nearby ghetto at the end of 1944 and the first few days of 1945.

There is also a marble tablet in memory of the Hebrew poet, Hannah Senesh, executed after secretly returning to Hungary from Palestine in a forlorn bid to organize Jewish resistance to the Nazis.

Support From The State

Hungary's present Jewish community of more than 80,000 people benefits from the relative liberalism of the Kadar regime. In addition to state support for its communal organization, it also boasts a rabbinical seminary attended by students from other Soviet bloc countries.

The community is affiliated to the World Jewish Congress and last November was visited by a high level delegation from the Congress's European branch. Diplomatic and consular relations between Hungary and Israel are handled by Switzerland in the absence of direct relations.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY REPORT SAYS FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ARABS, ISRAEL CONTINUED THROUGHOUT 1981

By Monika Brenner and Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, March 22 (JTA) — The Austrian government's foreign policy report for 1981 said that the tradition of friendly relations with the

Arab world and Israel had continued throughout 1981. It acknowledged that there had been differing opinions between Austria and Israel concerning the question of the Palestinians and the ways and means towards a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The report, presented last week to the press by Foreign Minister Willipod Pahr, also said that the relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization, which Austria recognizes as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians, had not undergone any change. On the other hand, this does not mean that Austria has approved everything the PLO or its representatives have done or said, the report added.

The Austrian foreign policy report differed from a paper recently issued by the Israel Embassy in Washington, which dealt with PLO terrorism in Israel and abroad. That paper held the PLO responsible for the attack on the Jewish Community Center in Vienna last August.

The Austrian report said two men arrested last summer for trying to smuggle arms into Austria belonged to the PLO, but the attackers of the community center did not.

The Austrian report said it is not justifiable to hold the PLO responsible for, or connect it with, attacks by groups which are outside of the PLO and have often attacked the PLO or its representatives.

Foreign Minister Pahr, who briefed the U.S. Administration on the recent visit to Austria by Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, said that U.S.-Austrian relations were not damaged by that visit. It is the duty of a neutral country to talk to any country that wants these talks, Pahr said in defense of Qaddafi's visit. "Our everlasting neutrality does not mean that we have to remain ideologically neutral," he added.

Asked if he would visit Israel in the near future, Pahr said he would like to. He recalled that he met Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in New York last year and said he would be pleased if Shamir visits Austria.

BOOK TRACING ROOTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM TO CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT THEOLOGIAN HAS BECOME A BIG SELLER IN HOLLAND

AMSTERDAM, March 22 (JTA) — A book by a Protestant minister, which traces the roots of Nazi and post-war anti-Semitism to the doctrines of both Protestant and Roman Catholic theologians, has become a big seller in Holland despite its price of 85 Guilders, nearly \$40.

The scholarly work, by Rev. Hans Jansen, titled "Christian Theology About the Jews After Auschwitz," sold out its first printing of 3,000 copies in a few weeks. A larger second printing is in preparation and translation into English is contemplated.

The author, who was originally Catholic, appeared on a 50-minute television panel show broadcast last Thursday night by the Roman Catholic Dutch Broadcasting Organization, KRO. Jansen was joined in a discussion of his book by Orthodox Rabbi Hans Rodrigues Pereira and Liberal Rabbi Abraham Soetendorp. The program was aired in connection with the official establishment last week of the Consultative Council of Jews and Christians (OJEC).

PARIS (JTA) — France announced Sunday that it has ratified the United Nations Convention against racism and racist discrimination. The announcement was made by Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson to coincide with the International Day Against Racism decreed by the UN. The French government's decision must now be ratified by the parliament.