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10 EEC LEADERS DENOUNCE ISRAELI MEASURES ON THE WEST BANK, GAZA

BRUSSELS, March 30 (JTA) — The leaders of the 10 nations comprising the European Economic Community (EEC) today "denounced" recent Israeli measures on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but refrained from calling for any sanctions against Israel and from an initiative in the Middle East.

The EEC leaders, including President Francois Mitterrand of France, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany, issued a joint statement after their two-day summit meeting and specifically attacked Israel's dismissal of the mayors of El Bireh, Ramallah and Nablus.

The joint statement expressed "deep concern at the grave events" and launched an appeal "for an end to the cycle of violence and repression. The 10 EEC leaders "particularly denounced the repression imposed on the Palestinian population" and mentioned in that connection the dismissal of "the democratically elected mayors."

Mitterrand Calls For Tough Text

French sources told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Mitterrand asked his European partners to "toughen up" the wording of the text but also appealed to them to refrain from any diplomatic initiative.

During today's session, Mitterrand briefed the other Presidents and Prime Ministers on his recent trip to Israel, reportedly saying that Europe should abstain from trying to impose a solution or favor one of the sides involved in the conflict.

Arab states yesterday appealed to Western European leaders to "pave the way to peace" by launching a new diplomatic initiative to follow their June 1980 Venice declaration. The Arab League issued today, after a ministerial meeting in Tunis, a warning saying "the troubles (on the West Bank) could spread to other areas" and endanger world peace. Arab sources in Tunis said they were "deeply disappointed" with the European declaration which they termed "grossly pro-Israeli."

KIRKPATRICK REFUSES TO MEET WITH THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, March 30 (JTA) — The U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, who is currently President of the Security Council, turned down a request by the Palestine Liberation Organization observer, Zehdi Labib Terzi, for a meeting in her capacity as President of the Council. That fact was disclosed today by Terzi who addressed the Security Council debate on the situation on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Terzi complained that "it was not fitting" that the President of the Security Council should refuse to meet with him when he asked for a meeting. He said Kirkpatrick should have had "the courage and the decency to honor" his request and accused her of not performing her duty as President of the Security Council.

Kirkpatrick, who presided at today's meeting, did not respond to Terzi's accusation during the

debate. Sources here claimed that she maintained that since the PLO is not a member-state, she was not obliged, as President of the Security Council, to meet with its representative.

The Security Council, in a brief meeting here today, heard several speakers, Terzi among them. One speaker, Harry Ott of East Germany, said the Palestinian people are protesting the "prolonged occupation, (and) refusal of Israel to apply the Geneva Convention and the establishment of the civilian authority" in the occupied territories.

The representative of Iran, Said Rajaie-Khorasani, said the answer to the Palestinian problem "lay only in vigorously convincing the usurping agent that it could no longer count on the inactivity of the majority of the inhabitants of the occupied territories and that it could no longer impose tranquility on the area by means of military power."

The Security Council adjourned without setting a date for continuation of the debate. Sources here said that no date was set for a vote because the Council members are deadlocked in their efforts to draft a resolution that would be acceptable to all members and especially avoid a U.S. veto.

LAND DAY GENERAL STRIKE A MAJOR SUCCESS IN THE TERRITORIES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL IN ISRAEL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) — The general strike called to observe Land Day was only partially effective among Israel's Arab population today although tension ran high and there were scattered disorders. But unrest seethed on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem where the strike was virtually total and about 35 persons were arrested in widespread disturbances.

Israeli authorities said today that only nine of the 21 Arab municipal councils in Galilee participated in the strike called by the Hadash (Communist) Party and that 60 percent of the Arab work force showed up for their jobs in factories and service industries despite pressures to stay away. Elementary school children attended classes in Arab towns and villages. Teachers also showed up in face of disciplinary measures threatened by the civil service authorities. But high school students took the day off.

Most Effective In Nazareth

The strike was most effective in Nazareth, a Communist stronghold where most shops were closed and schools were empty. Some local merchants said they shut down because of threats from radicals. The strike was observed in Arab villages near Nazareth but hardly noticeable in those further away. In some localities, Arab youths set up road blocks, burned tires and stoned vehicles. A few Palestinian flags were raised but were immediately torn down by police.

About 2500 people marched peacefully in the Arab village of Taibe near Kfar Saba. But in Arab village in Galilee, local residents stoned the police station and were dispersed with tear gas. Several persons were arrested.

Eight members of the strike committee in Nazareth were arrested but released later in the day.

No significant disturbances were reported in the "mixed cities" such as Jaffa, Acre and Ramle which have sizeable Arab minorities. The Druze and Bedouin communities ignored the strike.

Most Serious Incidents In Jerusalem

The most serious incidents inside Israel occurred in Jerusalem. A hand grenade exploded in the parking lot of a department store in the center of the city causing no casualties. But several cars were damaged. Police said the grenade was thrown from the upper floors of an adjacent building. A search was underway for the perpetrators.

An Egged bus travelling from central Jerusalem to the suburb of Neve Yaacov was stoned as it passed through the Arab village of Shuafat. The driver fired into the air and was detained by the police for investigation. A Palestinian flag raised on the mosque in Shuafat was torn down by police.

Six Arabs from the Beit Zefafa suburb of Jerusalem were arrested when they tried to block the road into the village and the railway line from Jerusalem to the coastal plain.

Strike Paralyzes West Bank

East Jerusalem and most towns and villages on the West Bank were paralyzed by a general strike called in sympathy with Israeli Arabs marking Land Day. Security forces were kept busy removing roadblocks and barriers of burning tires and dodging rocks thrown at Israeli vehicles. The security officer of the Etzion bloc of settlements south of Jerusalem was attacked by stone-throwers but escaped unharmed.

About 20 people were arrested in the Samaria district for allegedly inciting the local population to violence. The Balata refugee camp near Nablus and the Deheyshe refugee camp near Bethlehem were placed under partial curfew.

The strike was almost total in the Gaza Strip where several military vehicles were stoned and tires were burned. No demonstration were reported there.

About 15 employees of the East Jerusalem Arabic newspaper Al-Fajr were arrested when they marched in protest against censorship by Israeli military authorities and the restrictions imposed on distribution of the paper on the West Bank. The arrests were made after the employees refused police orders to disperse. Al-Fajr and another Arabic paper, Al-Shaab did not appear today in solidarity with the strike.

ISRAEL HOPES CARRINGTON'S VISIT WILL SMOOTH OUT PAST IRRITANTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) -- On the eve of British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's visit here, Israeli sources said they hoped past "irritants" in the relationship between the two countries would be "smoothed out" in the course of two days of talks.

Carrington is due to arrive late tonight aboard a special plane. He has been attending the European Economic Community (EEC) summit in Brussels and is also occupied with the British dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

Israeli sources, briefing reporters, pointed out that Carrington has been Foreign Secretary for more than three years but this will be his first visit here. It was "too long a time to wait for the Foreign Minister of a friendly state,

the sources said. "It would have been better had the visit been earlier."

They sought to distinguish between "differences of approach" which they said were to be expected, and "misunderstandings" of which they said there had been more with London over recent months than with any other Western government. They cited the EEC Venice declaration of 1980 and its aftermath, and the more recent quarrel over EEC states' participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force.

Hectic Schedule For Carrington

Carrington will meet with Premier Menachem Begin. Both sides are hoping they will be able to develop a personal rapport which will help dissipate the lingering impressions of their past public quarrels.

The British diplomat will also hold three working sessions with his host, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. He will meet separately with Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Labor Party leader Shimon Peres. Carrington will also call on President Yitzhak Navon and Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor. He will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

Carrington will hold a press conference in Jerusalem tomorrow before visiting the Weismann Institute of Science in Rehovot and later in the day will visit nearby Kibbutz Naan. He will leave Israel Thursday evening.

Australian F.M. Calls For Palestinian Homeland

Meanwhile, Australian Foreign Minister Anthony Street called here yesterday for "a Palestinian homeland alongside Israel." Winding up a four-day visit that included a meeting with Begin and political talks with Shamir, Street declined to specify how this solution was to be achieved. He was cautious, too, in his comments on the West Bank disturbances, expressing "concern" at the "unhappy events."

He said they had "not been helpful in making progress towards a settlement of the Palestinian issue, the central, crucial issue" of the Mideast conflict.

Today, Street visited the Australian unit serving with the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in Sinai. He told reporters that Australia viewed the MFO and the Sinai withdrawal as "separable" from the problem of the West Bank.

Street also met "privately" with Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and said the talk was "a very valuable addition" to his visit. He goes on to Egypt and Jordan late today.

JULES BACKMAN DEAD AT 72

NEW YORK, March 30 (JTA) -- Jules Backman, chairman of the board of governors of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and research professor emeritus of economics at New York University, died March 25 at his home in Scarsdale, N.Y. after a brief illness. He was 72 years old.

Backman was elected to the board of governors of Hebrew Union College in 1963 and has served as its chairman since 1976. The college is affiliated with the Reform movement.

A nationally prominent authority on prices, labor and antitrust problems, Backman taught at New York University for more than 40 years where he was the recipient of a number of awards. He wrote more than 100 books and articles on various economic and industrial subjects and frequently served as an economic consultant to industries and corporations as well as to federal, state and municipal agencies. For many years he was an editorial writer for The

New York Times. Long active in Reform Jewish affairs, Backman served as national chairman of the Reform Jewish Appeal from 1965-1969, and was a member of the executive committee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. As chairman of the board of Hebrew Union College, he led the campaign to build the recently constructed Brookdale Center, the new home of the college's New York School.

Backman was born in New York and was educated in the city's public schools. He held four degrees from New York University — Bachelor of Commercial Science, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, and Doctor of Commercial Science.

SINAI EVACUATION IN SLOW MOTION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) — With less than 36 hours to go before the Yamit area and the rest of Sinai still in Israeli hands is declared a military area closed to civilians, the work of transferring farm equipment and household effects seems to be progressing at a snail's pace.

Although scores of large trucks and transporters carrying giant containers have been sent to Yamit and its surrounding villages, the work of loading furniture and moving it northwards is in slow motion.

It is almost as though the residents are waiting for a miracle to descend from the heavens or a good fairy to wave a magic wand, reversing the Knesset decision to evacuate the area and implement the Israeli-Egypt peace treaty April 25 and clear civilians out a month earlier.

Deadline Is Midnight Wednesday

The army has declared midnight Wednesday as the time for the departure of civilians, though no attempt will be made to remove those still there until the beginning of next week. But those who stay are likely to be without water, electricity or telephone services.

While residents are making their evacuation preparations slowly, the squatters from the Movement to Prevent the Sinai Withdrawal, who have occupied empty houses already abandoned by their former owners and are even rumored to have fortified them in preparation for a confrontation with the army, are acting as though there was no evacuation deadline.

In the village of Atzmonah, established without government permissions after the Camp David accords were signed, Orthodox squatters continued today to build a synagogue, vowing to pray there in the years to come.

900,000 PEOPLE IN HOLLAND SIGN PETITION ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY

AMSTERDAM, March 30 (JTA) — Foreign Minister Max van der Stoep was presented with a petition on behalf of Soviet Jewry this week bearing over 900,000 signatures collected in Holland. The presentation was made by Rabbi Avraham Soetendorp, as chairman of the Dutch Solidarity Committee with Soviet Jewry. The signatures were collected at churches, in schools and in public buildings.

Although they fell slightly short of the one million target, more signatures were collected in Holland than in most other countries. Van der Stoep called them "impressive." They will be joined with petitions from other European countries for presentation to the Parliament of Europe in Strasbourg this May.

Soetendorp noted in making the presentation that the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union has deteriorated this past year. The petition demands an improvement. Van der Stoep promised that the Dutch government would continue its efforts against discrimination anywhere in the world and noted the special role Holland is playing through its Embassy in Moscow to increase Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

CONFERENCE ON THE HOLOCAUST TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL IN JUNE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) — Some 400 representatives from all over the world will attend a workshop and conference on the Holocaust and genocide, to be held in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in June.

Conference chairman Prof. Israel Chamy, of Tel Aviv University, and conference co-director Prof. Shamaï Davidson, of Bar Ilan University, said the aim of the conference was to foster understanding of the roots and implementation of genocide in order to intervene in time to prevent it.

Participants will come from countries as far apart and disparate as the United States, Europe, Armenia, Biafra, Japan and Tibet, with national representatives analyzing instances of genocide to their own peoples. The organizers point out that if there had been a sufficient outcry at the Armenian massacre after World War I the Holocaust might not have occurred to Jews in World War II.

The president of the conference will be Elie Wiesel. It will be held in conjunction with the Holocaust Survivors Memorial Foundation in the U.S., with co-sponsorship of Hunter College in New York, and the Henrietta Szold National Institute for Research in the Behavioral Sciences in Jerusalem.

PROGRAM TO INDUCE CHILDREN OF YORDIM TO RETURN HOME

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) — Gadna, the Israel army's youth training branch, is continuing a program to induce the children of yordim to return home. For the second successive year it will operate a summer camp for 15-18 year-old children of Israeli families living permanently abroad.

About 200 carefully selected teen-agers will attend the camp where they will mingle with their Israeli peers. The project has attracted the personal attention of Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan and Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives.

A film of the camp's activities was screened for the WZO executive this week and will be distributed among Jewish communities in the U.S. One of the participants in last year's six-week Gadna camp is Shirin Bar-Sela of Houston, Texas who appears in the film. She is returning to Israel in April to fulfill her military training obligations. The film deals with the doubts and debates in the Bar-Sela family before she decided to join the Gadna camp last year.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Cameri Theater has appealed to the Supreme Court against a ban by the censors that could prevent the performance of its latest production, "The Great Harlot of Babylon" which is scheduled to have its premier Saturday night. The censorship board, known officially as The Public Council for Criticism of Motion Pictures and Plays, approved the play by Israeli writer Hanoch Levin but objected to "full nudity" called for in the script.

'GENOCIDE' WINS AN OSCAR

LOS ANGELES, March 30 (JTA) -- The film "Genocide," which depicts the rise to power of Nazism in Germany and the Holocaust which followed, was honored last night by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences with an Oscar for the best feature-length documentary.

In accepting the award, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, who co-authored the film's script, said that the film "is dedicated to the million of victims of the Holocaust; they have no graves but their memories will live on until the end of time." Hier also thanked Wiesenthal, the famed Nazi-hunter, who provides the prologue in the film, "as the man who stood alone for more than three decades so that the world will not forget."

"Genocide," a unique multi-image documentary produced by Hier and Arnold Schwartzman, combines historical narrative with actual stories of ordinary people caught up in the Nazis' reign of terror. Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Welles contributed their talent and time to co-narrate the film. British historian Martin Gilbert co-authored the film's script. It began its national tour in New York City earlier this month and was hailed by a number of film critics.

Hier, in commenting about the Motion Picture Academy's recognition of the film, said: "The honor is much more significant with the knowledge that because of it millions of people throughout the world, especially young people, will be exposed to the film's important message... that the Holocaust was, to a large extent, preventable; that the apathy and the indifference of a silent majority which allowed National Socialism to strike roots in the first place are not tied to any specific time or place; that such complacency even exists today -- in our own country."

NCJW-Funded Film Also Wins An Oscar

An Oscar for the best documentary short subject was also presented last night for "Close Harmony," a film made possible by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Brooklyn Section and produced by Nigel Noble.

Filmed at the NCJW Council Center for Senior Citizens in Brooklyn, the film tells of the senior citizens' chorus and the children's choir from the Brooklyn-Friends School about to participate in a joint concert.

When the music teacher, Arlene Symons, who works with both groups, discovers the seniors' isolation from others and the youngsters' feelings that "old people don't like kids," she decides to get the groups together. The "pen pal" project she develops to bridge the generation gap and the early joint rehearsal that brings the groups together for the first time, form the focus of the film.

Since its nationwide premiere on PBS in November, "Close Harmony" has garnered many raves and honors. In January it was shown at the United Nations for some 400 Non-Governmental Organizations' (NGO) representatives as part of a briefing on the Assembly of the Aging. It is scheduled to kick off the National Conference on Aging in Washington, D.C. tomorrow. The film is also planned for the NGO meeting on the Aging to be held in Vienna March 29 to April 2.

JEWISH FEDERATION PROTESTS HIGH COSTS OF KOSHER FOODS FOR PASSOVER

NEW YORK, March 30 (JTA) -- Commercial exploitation of needy Jews during the annual Passover celebration has been denounced in a statement by the Committee on Religious Affairs of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies which said it had met with manufacturers and suppliers of Passover products over "the spiralling costs of kosher foods, especially at Passover."

Rabbi Gilbert Rosenthal, referring in the statement to such pricing practices, added that "this practice will, as in the past, cause untold suffering to poor, old and middle-class Jews."

The statement said that the Federation Committee joined with the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and the New York Board of Rabbis to express "profound concern" over such price boosts.

Will Continue To Monitor The Situation

"The Committee has met with manufacturers of kosher foods and meat and poultry suppliers and will continue to monitor the situation to alleviate the plight of harried consumers who are finding it exceedingly difficult to make ends meet," the statement said.

The statement called "upon wholesalers and retailers to hold the line on kosher food prices for Passover," and urged homemakers and shoppers "to exercise good judgment and selectivity in purchasing Passover products while shunning over-priced, non-essential items."

Rosenthal said the Federation committee was grateful that other organizations such as Young Israel, an association of Orthodox congregations, and the Rabbinical Alliance of America "are also concerned about this serious situation and are making their voices heard."

Young Israel set up the first Kashruth Consumer Protective Commission to spotlight kosher product price abuses. The Rabbinical Alliance recently issued a statement denouncing "greedy" producers and vendors of kosher-for-Passover products, urging shoppers to persistently protest such increases.

GOREN TO MEET WITH REAGAN

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) -- Israel's Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi, Shlomo Goren, will meet with President Reagan in Washington late this afternoon. But Premier Menachem Begin's office has firmly denied that Goren is on a political "mission" or is bringing Reagan a political "message" from Begin.

The denial was issued after Israeli radio and television correspondents in Washington said last night that Begin had assigned Goren to engage in a special political dialogue with Reagan. Uri Parat, Begin's press spokesman, said today that Begin had simply briefed Goren on current issues after the Chief Rabbi informed him that a meeting with Reagan had been set up. The Premier gave Goren no message or mission, Parat said.

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GENEVA (JTA) -- A Geneva based correspondent of the South Korea Press Agency said that an article which recently appeared in Korean newspapers noted that Israel rates as one of the most popular countries among Koreans. Other popular countries are the United States, Switzerland, France and England.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- Jewish activists in Leningrad have been warned by Soviet authorities that no more than six persons may gather in any private home for a Passover seder, it was reported here by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.