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ISRAEL ACCEPTS NEW CEASE-FIRE AFTER ISRAEL AIR FORCE BOMBS SYRIAN ARTILLERY NEAR BEIRUT

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA) -- Israel informed U.S. special envoy Philip Habib in Beirut today that it was prepared to renew the cease-fire in Lebanon. The message was sent to the American diplomat by acting Premier Simcha Ehrlich after he conferred by telephone with Premier Menachem Begin in Washington.

The Israeli offer to halt all hostilities as of 6 p.m. local time today, provided that Syrian and Palestinian forces did the same, followed an escalation of fighting this morning during which the Israel Air Force was employed for the first time in a week. A military spokesman said Israeli warplanes bombed Syrian artillery east of Beirut after the Syrians opened fire on Israeli positions and an artillery duel ensued.

Artillery exchanges also took place today between Israeli forces south and east of Beirut and Syrian and Palestinian forces holding out in west Beirut.

Ehrlich, who is Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture, is presiding over the government while Begin is abroad. He held a series of meetings with leading political figures today, including Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres.

The Israeli cease-fire offer reached Habib in Beirut after a meeting of the National Salvation Committee, a body organized by Lebanese President Elias Sarkis in an attempt to establish a central authority representative of all political factions in Lebanon. One of the members, leftist leader Walid Junblatt who heads Lebanon's large Druze community, said when he left the meeting that there was nothing to talk about as long as the shooting continued. The cease-fire is expected to help Habib speed up political negotiations to enable the Lebanese army to enter west Beirut to disarm the Palestinians.

ARABS CONSIDERING UN ASSEMBLY SESSION

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, June 22 (JTA) -- Arab and nonaligned delegates met here today to discuss the convening of a special emergency session of the UN General Assembly on the continued hostilities in Lebanon, sources here said today. According to the sources no decision has been reached during today's meeting.

This is the second time in the last two weeks that the Arabs and their allies were considering the possibility of an emergency special session to deal with the situation in Lebanon. The first time was after the United States vetoed two weeks ago in the Security Council a resolution that condemned the Israeli invasion and demanded an immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanon.

But the Arabs were reportedly divided then on the effect of an emergency session in resolving the Lebanese crisis. The moderate Arabs also feared that an emergency session could result in the expulsion of Israel from the UN, a situation that

would only complicate matters and might even result in severe sanctions by the U.S. against the UN.

In order to convene an emergency session the Arabs need the endorsement of at least two-thirds of the entire UN membership, which, in the view of diplomats here, the Arabs can count on.

Meanwhile, in another development regarding the Lebanese situation, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), estimated today that about 60,000 refugees are camping in areas around the city of Sidon, including some 25,000 registered Palestinian refugees.

PLO HOLDS ISRAELI PRISONER

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 22 (JTA) -- The International Committee of the Red Cross told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it had received notice from the Palestine Liberation Organization that they held one Israeli prisoner. It is presumed that he is the downed pilot Aharon Achiaz who was interviewed on television in Beirut. The ICRC has asked to visit him but so far was not given permission. The ICRC said their representatives visited 18 Syrian prisoners captured by Israel.

BEGIN SAYS U.S., ISRAEL WORKING TO REMOVE FOREIGN TROOPS FROM LEBANON

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 22 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin was due to leave Washington for Israel this afternoon following two days of meetings with President Reagan and other top Administration officials. He conferred with Reagan for nearly three hours at the White House yesterday.

He met with Secretary of State Alexander Haig at a working breakfast here this morning, their third meeting since the Israeli Premier arrived in the U.S. last Tuesday. Speaking to reporters afterwards, Begin said the U.S. and Israel were working to achieve the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and expressed optimism that "the results may be in the offing."

Haig reported that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib is currently meeting with Lebanese leaders in Beirut and others to help reestablish the authority of the central government in Lebanon. Haig also expressed hope that Habib's efforts would lead "to a positive outcome in the hours ahead."

According to a senior Administration official, the meeting yesterday between Reagan and Begin was "frank, bordering at times on direct and even blunt." The official said the possibility of an increased peace-keeping force in south Lebanon and humanitarian aid for the war-stricken area were discussed. He told reporters that Begin had expressed Israel's preference for a multinational force outside United Nations control that would include American troops.

The President told Begin he would be "less than enthusiastic" about U.S. participation, the official said, because of problems this proposal would encounter in Congress. But according to the official,

the President "will make a final decision at the appropriate time in the best interests of the peace and security of the region."

1500 Rally In Support Of Begin

While Reagan and Begin were meeting in the White House yesterday, some 1,500 hundred persons gathered in Lafayette Park then marched past the White House in a demonstration of solidarity with Israel.

Sen. Alan Cranston (D. Calif.), who addressed the rally which was sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, said the Israeli military operation provides an historic opportunity to stabilize the region, including efforts to ensure Israel's security.

Cranston said that with the military defeat of Soviet-made Syrian weapons by the American made Israeli weapons, the United States will no longer be susceptible to Saudi Arabian or Jordanian threats to buy Soviet military equipment. He also called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, including Israel, from Lebanon.

Other speakers included Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry; Norman Goldstein, chairman of the Israel Committee of the JCC of greater Washington; Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee; and John Steinbruck, pastor of the Luther Place Memorial Church.

Congress Supports Aid For Lebanon

In related developments the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee both acted on humanitarian aid for Lebanese civilians affected by the war. The Senate today tentatively approved an increase of the sum for humanitarian assistance from \$20 million to \$50 million. Democrats on the Committee called the Administration's \$20 million "inadequate" and said they might raise the amount even more when the bill gets to the Senate floor.

The measure is expected to be brought before the full Senate for a vote before Congress recesses Thursday until July 12. The funds will be earmarked for distribution through international and private relief organizations to furnish medical care, food and shelter to the victims of the fighting in Lebanon.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee also voted today to increase the aid sum from \$20 million to \$50 million and sent the measure to the House floor for a vote. Committee chairman Clement Zablocki (D. Wisc.) said he hoped it would be passed by the House tomorrow.

LEBANESE CALLS ISRAELI ACTION IN LEBANON 'LONG OVERDUE'

By Judith Kohn

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA) -- Calling Israel's invasion of Lebanon "long overdue," a representative of the Lebanese Christian community appealed today for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from his country and urged that a multinational force be established that would include the United States.

Dory Chamoun, Secretary General of the National Liberal Party of Lebanon and the son of former Lebanese President Camille Chamoun, spoke at a press conference he held here this morning.

"For most of us Lebanese, the Israeli invasion has been long overdue. Having failed politically and diplomatically to rid Lebanon of

Syrian and Palestinian occupation, we became more and more convinced that Lebanon could only be freed by military action," Chamoun said. He added that because of PLO behavior in Lebanon and its attacks across the border with Israel, "we knew that there would come a time when Israel would have to perform that surgical operation which we had been unable to accomplish."

Chamoun, whose party has backed the leadership of Major Saad Haddad in that country's southern enclave, noted that Lebanese Christians had warned Palestinian and Arab leaders that the PLO behavior in his country would ultimately evoke an Israeli response. He said that "warnings also went to the Western world which was at one time prepared to see Lebanon disappear under the Palestinian and Syrian boot, not realizing that in so doing they were in reality making of Lebanon a gift to the Soviet Union."

Awaiting Final Outcome

But he stressed that the outcome of Israel's action was a greater source of worry to his party than the invasion itself. "Will this finally mean freedom, security and the end of a nightmare," he asked, "or will U.S. pressure once again force a solution of compromise which will satisfy no one and just perpetuate the miseries of the inhabitants of that region?"

In response to a question, Chamoun offered a series of steps to bring an end to the fighting and the restoration of authority to the Lebanese Army and Government. He called for a "complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon," beginning with the Palestinians, who would be followed by Syria's forces and finally by those of Israel. Chamoun also appealed for the establishment of a multinational force "to help the Lebanese Army control the situation in Lebanon." Calling American participation essential, he said "The United States cannot remain outside and just looking over the fence." Also essential for a lasting solution, Chamoun said, is the holding of free presidential elections and the receipt of substantial foreign political and economic aid.

Figures received from his party last night put the number of civilians killed since the Israeli invasion at about 2,500 -- far below the figures which have been offered by the Lebanese government and the International Red Cross. He estimated the number of people made homeless at 100,000.

But Chamoun's comments were not entirely in harmony with Israel's public position. He said that he continued to call the Israeli action an "invasion," because "from my point of view, as a Lebanese, my country is being invaded." Premier Menachem Begin, said yesterday in Washington that "invasion" was a misnomer, since Israel had no interest in conquering Lebanese territory.

MILSON SAYS PLO DEMORALIZED

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA) -- Menachem Milson, head of the civilian regime on the West Bank, claimed today that Palestine Liberation Organization supporters in the territory were totally demoralized by the Israeli victory over the PLO in Lebanon and that a moderate Arab leadership was emerging willing to reach a political agreement with Israel. Milson rejected assessments by Israeli political analysts that the military defeat in Lebanon only served to radicalize the PLO. According to Milson, the radicals are "confused, disorganized and have no place to go." He said the emergence of a newspaper published by the government-supported Village Leagues on the West Bank signaled the existence of an alternative leadership not identified with the PLO.

LABOR ARGUES OVER WHETHER TO SUPPORT GOVERNMENT ON LEBANON

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA) -- The Labor Alignment is once again embroiled in a bitter debate over whether or not to support the government's handling of the war in Lebanon as rumors floated that Labor was prepared to join Likud in a national unity government.

Labor MK Dov Ben-Meir revived talk of an all-party coalition when he told newspaper and radio reporters today he was sure Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres would agree to a united front with Likud if Premier Menachem Begin asked him to. He said he thought former Premier Yitzhak Rabin felt the same. Neither man would comment immediately. But Peres let it be known this evening that the Labor Alignment did not "presently" contemplate a national unity government.

Moshe Shahal, chairman of Labor's Knesset faction said the subject was not even being considered and told newsmen the country had far more serious problems to deal with. But the war in Lebanon, which appears to be continuing in and around Beirut has sharpened divisions between hawks and doves in Labor ranks. The party's Knesset faction postponed a political debate on the war until Begin returns from the U.S. and reports on his talks with President Reagan.

Doves Demand Denunciation Of Government

Dovish MKs such as Yossi Sarid, Uzi Baran and Nava Arad are demanding that the Labor Alignment publicly denounce the government for deviating from its originally stated war aims. When Israel invaded Lebanon on June 5, Begin told the world its objective was to secure a 40 kilometer (25 mile) zone in south Lebanon to assure the safety of northern Israel from terrorist rocket and artillery attacks. But in the first week of fighting, Israeli forces advanced more than double that distance into Lebanon and now surround Beirut.

Labor hawks, led by Rabin, fully justify the conduct of the war to date and are urging Labor to back the government. Peres took the position that the chief concern now is to end the war as soon as possible with as few casualties as possible.

An aide to Peres said today that Labor might be better able to influence the course of the war in Lebanon as a member of the government than in opposition. Some Labor leaders reportedly feel the only way to check Defense Minister Ariel Sharon is by enlarging the Cabinet. The hawkish minister has dominated Cabinet debate over the war and has been accused by colleagues of initiating actions in Lebanon without prior consultation, though apparently with Begin's personal approval.

Tehiya Rejects Joining Likud Coalition

But Sharon was forced to retreat last Sunday when the Cabinet majority decided against the entry of Israeli forces into Beirut to root out Palestine Liberation Organization and Syrian troops barricaded in the western districts of the city. Sharon said he would abide by the decision although he opposed it. But yesterday, he told Israel Radio that the army has not achieved all of its objectives because the PLO still retains some fighting capacity in west Beirut.

Meanwhile, the ultra-nationalist Tehiya party rejected by a 16-4 vote a proposal by its MK Geula Cohen to join the Likud coalition. Nevertheless, the party secretariate expressed complete support for the operations in Lebanon and warned the government not to "squander the gains of the military through political concessions."

PRESSURES ON SAUDIS, JORDAN URGED

MONTICELLO, N.Y., June 22 (JTA) -- In the wake of the "new reality" that has emerged in the Middle East with the Israeli invasion into Lebanon and the significant military set back to the Palestine Liberation Organization, Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), said the U.S. should now press Saudi Arabia and Jordan to participate in direct negotiations with Israel.

"Today, the PLO military structure lies in ruin and international pressure is mounting for the removal of all military presence from the country -- Syrian as well as Israeli," Dine declared in an address to the some 600 delegates who attended the four-day 73rd annual convention of B'nai Zion here last weekend.

Dine urged the simultaneous withdrawal of Israel and Syrian forces and the introduction of "a true peace keeping force" to prevent the PLO from reforming as a military power. This presence he suggested, could be either a strong Lebanese force patrolling a widened buffer zone between Israel and Lebanon, a multinational peacekeeping unit or an apolitical force.

Also hailing the opportunity which has arisen from the Israeli operation, was Dr. Joseph Sternstein, president of the American Zionist Federation, who said at the opening session last week that the Reagan Administration could now launch a new effort to promote peace, security and stability in the Middle East.

Sternstein hailed the opportunity which he said had been created by Israel's Defense Force, to restore Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Declaring that the PLO "must not be permitted to re-establish itself," Sternstein said, "we call upon the United States not to pressure Israel into withdrawing from Lebanon until guarantees to Israel's security and Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom are arranged and implemented through a multinational peace keeping force with strong United States participation."

ALLEGED WAR CRIMINAL GRANTED BAIL

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, June 22 (JTA) -- A 73-year-old alleged Nazi war criminal accused by West Germany authorities of participating in the killing of tens of thousands of Jews in a concentration camp near Kovno, Lithuania during World War II was granted bail today pending an extradition hearing in September.

Albert Helmur Rauca, born in Saxony, was granted bail which was set at \$150,000. But the judge ordered that Rauca must not leave metropolitan Toronto and must report every day to the Royal Mounted Police office until the extradition hearing.

A lawyer representing the Canadian Jewish Congress, Burt Raphael, said this stringent condition is equivalent to virtually having not been granted bail at all. Rauca arrived in Canada in 1950 and has become a naturalized Canadian citizen. Prior to his arrival here, he told the court today, he worked for the police in Saxony and the state security police in the 1930s.

RABBIS URGED TO PROVIDE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, NOT JUST SPIRITUAL

SPRING GLEN, N.Y., June 22 (JTA) -- Declaring that rabbis "for too long have accepted a too narrow view of rabbinic leadership," a leading Orthodox rabbi called on rabbis throughout the country to provide political leadership for the Jewish people.

Addressing several hundred rabbis attending the 46th national convention of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) here last night, Rabbi Shubert Spero, a vice-president of the RCA urged rabbis to get deeply involved in Federation and welfare funds, as well as to become leaders in national Jewish and Zionist organizations.

Spero, who is from the Young Israel of Cleveland and a member of the board of trustees of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, told the RCA convention delegates that "the title 'spiritual leader' for a rabbi is a type of straight jacket. The lay community sees this term as a delineation of the limited area in which rabbis are supposed to lead such as a narrow ritual area."

"We have permitted ourselves to be misled by the linguistic conventions," said Spero, adding, "There are in Judaism no clearly defined generally recognized areas of positions of leadership which can be distinguished as require 'lay leadership' on the one hand, and 'rabbinic leadership' on the other. Rabbinic leadership can simply mean leadership by the rabbis with no inherent limitations on the area in which they are to operate."

Active Federation Role Needed

Spero said rabbinic leadership was needed today to devise effective social measures to remedy contemporary social problems such as the increasing incidents of Jewish divorce, the cost of Kosher products and the migrating tendencies of the Jewish people which lead to the breakup of neighborhoods.

Speaking on how to make rabbinic leadership more effective, he said that "regarding issues facing the American Jewish community, whether it be Jewish education, Aliya, Soviet Jewry and Israel, fighting anti-Semitism, the Federation presides over the decision making process. The Federation, he added, "controls the significant fund raising apparatuses, not only for Israel through the UJA, but for all the local agencies in the country. Rabbis should become leaders in the Federations," he declared.

Spero disagreed with those whom he said have felt that Federation structures are closed. "Federations are acceptable to rabbis who can work their way to leadership positions, and ultimately nationally. There are no barriers thrown up, no discrimination against Orthodox Jews," he said.

RECONSTRUCTIONIST PANEL AGREES INTERMARRIED FAMILIES SHOULD BE WELCOMED INTO JEWISH COMMUNITY

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., June 22 (JTA) -- A Reconstructionist panel on mixed marriages agreed here over the weekend that, with some 40 percent of all Jewish marriages involving non-Jews, it was urgent that the organized Jewish community warmly welcome intermarried couples and urge them to become active members of the Jewish community.

The discussion was a feature of the 22nd annual convention of the Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot, and the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, attended by 155 delegates.

Dr. Carl Sheingold, executive director of the National Havurah Coordinating Committee and a sociologist, who headed the panel, said that "in most mixed marriages, there is a potential for Jewish life" which, in most cases, "is not realized due to the indifference, ambivalence, confusion, or lack of knowledge on the part of the Jewish spouse."

He said that spouses converting to Judaism in an intermarriage are often more deeply interested in Judaism and Jewish affairs than the families into which they marry. He said most Jews in mixed marriages "do want to remain Jewish" and that "when the Jewish spouse wants to raise his or her children as Jews, that is how they are raised." He asserted that one-third of those non-Jews who marry Jews and then convert make the decision after the marriage rather than before.

'Separation and Segregation' Opposed

He said he opposed Jewish efforts to prevent mixed marriages through "separation and segregation," urging that, instead, the Jewish community "accommodate" itself to the problem as a development "here to stay," and make the accommodation in "a spirit of optimism, honestly confronting its implications" and confident of the "meaningfulness and potential appeal of Judaism."

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association (RRA) has not taken a final position on mixed marriages but there is a consensus in the RRA that "the primary goal is not the containment of the rate of intermarriage but the revitalization of Jewish life in America." The report was made by Dr. Jack Staub, an assistant professor at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., chairperson of the RRA committee on intermarriage.

Staub reported the RRA believes that "conversionary marriages are a good thing" but that for all intermarried couples, synagogues should "establish lines of communication" and that mixed couples should be welcomed by congregations and other Jewish communal organizations.

Disagreement Over Performing Marriage

He reported disagreement remained among Reconstructionist rabbis on whether a rabbi should perform a marriage ceremony between a Jew and a non-Jew when the non-Jew indicates a willingness to become involved with the Jewish community but is not yet ready to convert to Judaism.

Rabbi Linda Holtzman of Congregation Beth Israel in Coatsville, Pa. urged that synagogue programs be geared to acceptance of intermarried couples to make them "feel at home." She said the "importance of belonging and the beauty of belonging" to a congregation should be stressed.

Holtzman reported that successful workshops have been held in some Reconstructionist congregations to help intermarried couples find "a place in the Jewish community."

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- About 100 new immigrants are spending this week in volunteer work in the northern settlements, a project organized by the World Zionist Organization's immigration and absorption department. A group of 50 new immigrants from absorption centers in Jerusalem and Lod are helping out in settlements in Galilee. The others, from Ashdod and Rehovot, went to settlements on the Golan Heights. A group of students at the ulpan in Kibbutz Mayan Zvi will begin volunteer projects next week packing food parcels for Israeli soldiers in Lebanon.