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CABINET HEARS BEGIN REPORT ON WASHINGTON TALKS; DECISION NOT TO INVADE W. BEIRUT CONTINUED

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) -- The Cabinet met for more than three hours today to hear Premier Menachem Begin's report on his visit to the U.S. and to consider the current situation in Lebanon. The ministers deliberated under a cloak of secrecy and no details of their discussion were released.

Cabinet sources said earlier today that the decision taken a week ago not to have Israeli forces occupy west Beirut where Palestine Liberation Organization and Syrian forces remain entrenched, is still valid. The decision was taken while Begin was in Washington against strong opposition from Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

The sources defined west Beirut as including the Palestinian refugee camps bordering the Lebanese capital. There had been reports that Sharon was pressing for an attack on the Burj el-Barajneh refugee camp. The sources explained that Israel has not repeated its decision to exercise restraint because to do so would have weakened the psychological and military pressure on the PLO.

Peres Warns Against Entering W. Beirut

Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres warned on a television interview last night that any attempt by the Israeli army to enter west Beirut would be a "dreadful risk." He said "Everyone should think more than one step ahead." In that connection, he warned that an attack on the PLO-held, largely Moslem quarter of Beirut would exact a heavy toll of casualties, both Israeli soldiers and Lebanese civilians.

Peres warned that Israel should not be the party that sets up a strong Lebanese central government lest it give the impression that it intends "to stay forever" in Lebanon. For Israel to occupy any Arab capital, he said, would antagonize and unite the entire Arab world which is now seriously divided.

U.S. special envoy Philip Habib has been in Beirut for the past week attempting to negotiate a compromise that would disarm the PLO and pave the way for a Lebanese government to assume authority. Habib was expected in Jerusalem this morning with new proposals from the seven-man Committee of National Salvation set up by Lebanese President Elias Sarkis. But officials here said today they had not heard from Habib and had no idea when he would arrive. They noted that communications with Beirut are difficult.

Meanwhile, a well placed Cabinet source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that there was "just no basis" for mounting charges in government and Knesset circles that Sharon has been conducting the war in Lebanon as he chose, misleading his Cabinet colleagues and MKs alike or providing them with only meager information.

Those charges have been widely reported in the press in recent days. But according to the Cabinet sources, the majority of ministers are fully satisfied with Sharon's briefings and are confident of their

ability to control the military situation in Lebanon. An aide to Begin denied vehemently that the Premier felt Sharon was "leading him on," a suggestion voiced recently by some politicians and media commentators. "Begin is not naive," the aide said. Moreover, according to the aide, Begin and Sharon "share the same basic goals." He said both saw the destruction of the PLO in Lebanon as a possible lever to advance Begin's autonomy scheme on the West Bank and Gaza.

2 SYRIAN MIGS SHOT DOWN

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 24 (JTA) -- Israel Air Force fighters shot down two Syrian MIG fighters in renewed aerial warfare over Lebanon today, a military spokesman reported. He said the Syrian planes had attempted to interfere with Israeli attacks on Syrian artillery which had been shelling Israeli positions near the Beirut-Damascus highway.

Heavy artillery exchanges were reported today along a 30 kilometer front east of Beirut.

KLARSFELD BARRED FROM DAMASCUS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 24 (JTA) -- Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld was today turned back at Damascus Airport and sent back to France. Klarsfeld had come to Syria to demand the extradition of one of Adolf Eichmann's former aides. Klarsfeld said upon his return that he had brought with him to Damascus official documents showing that former SS Hauptsturmfuhrer Alois Brunner was living in Syria under the name of George Fischer.

Half a dozen countries, including West Germany, Austria, France, Greece and Israel, have issued international arrest warrants against the former deputy chief of the SS Jewish Department. In France, a military court sentenced him to death in absentia in 1954.

The 70-year old Brunner served as one of Eichmann's deputies first in Vienna, then in Berlin and Salonika and finally in Paris. After the war he was on the Allies list of most wanted Nazi war criminals and is believed to have lived for the last 20 years in Damascus.

JEWISH AGENCY GOVERNORS KICK OFF CAMPAIGN WITH \$10 MILLION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 24 (JTA) -- The members of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, both rich and not-so-rich, dug deep into their pockets this week and came up with \$10 million as the kickoff contribution to the special "Peace for Galilee" fund announced by the government and the Jewish Agency in the wake of the war in Lebanon.

The collection, which was made in an emotional atmosphere, followed the Board's two-day tour of the northern Israeli settlements and the Lebanese front, including the captured Palestinian stronghold of Nabatya.

The Board resolved that the special campaign would aim at \$300 million in addition to regular United Jewish Appeal-United Israel Appeal con-

tributions and contributions to "Project Renewal." "It was the first time funds were raised at a session of the Board of Governors and it was the occasion for some remarkable expressions of solidarity. One member pledged half of his year's pension as a Holocaust victim from Germany. Another said he would give half of savings he had set aside to buy his daughter a flat in Israel."

Other Board members, among them some of world Jewry's well-known philanthropists, gave sums running into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Month's Salary Pledged

Two Jewish Agency Executive members from Israel, Avraham Katz and Avraham Avihai, pledged one month's salary whereupon Jewish Agency Executive chairman Leon Dulzin said he would suggest that this pattern be emulated by all Executive members. In an address closing the Board's deliberations, Dulzin warned of media "distortion" abroad that could erode support for Israel even among Jews.

The main challenge, highlighted by the present emergency situation, was aliya, Dulzin stressed. For Jews to come to Israel at this time was the most meaningful expression of solidarity, he said.

ALLEGED WAR CRIMINAL CHARGED

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- A 67-year-old former Latvian policeman, Elmars Sprogis, now a retired construction worker living in Brentwood, Long Island, was accused by the Justice Department yesterday of concealing wartime aid to the Nazis in the killing of Jews and Soviet prisoners of war when he applied for and obtained American citizenship in 1962.

The complaint, filed in federal district court in Brooklyn, was the first step in the department's effort to strip Sprogis of his citizenship so that he can be deported. Sprogis was charged specifically with concealing his role as an assistant police chief in Gulbene and as police chief in Madona, both in Nazi-occupied Latvia.

The department charged that Sprogis helped the Nazis murder Jews and confiscated their property in Gulbene and that he took part in the murder of Soviet war prisoners in Madona. The department asked the court to cancel Sprogis' citizenship. Sprogis, who came to the United States in 1950, has 20 days to answer the department's complaint.

Sprogis confirmed he had been a Latvian policeman during the Nazi occupation of Latvia but denied he took part in any atrocities.

BRONFMAN TO ADDRESS UN

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress (WJC) will address the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament tomorrow in the name of the 67 national communities represented by the WJC. It will be the first time that a representative of an international Jewish organization speaks before the General Assembly.

Soviet, American and Israeli diplomats were among the guests at the reception yesterday by the WJC for participation in the special session. Also present were religious leaders from around the world.

Bronfman told them that the WJC hopes to underscore the concern expressed by spokesmen of the world's major religious faiths on the

challenges posed by the disarmament issue. There is "an enormous return to religion all over the world" and this is related to the massive yearning for peace expressed by peoples in all countries, Bronfman said. "As a result leaders will be forced to pay attention to what their people want and hope for," he added.

CUBA CALLS EMERGENCY SESSION AIMED AT ISRAEL'S LEBANON OPERATION By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, June 24 (JTA) -- Cuba, chairman of the group of nonaligned nations, requested here today the convening of a special emergency session of the UN General Assembly to discuss the situation in Lebanon, diplomats said here.

According to the diplomats, the emergency session will open tomorrow afternoon and will last at least three days. The emergency session is a resumption of the emergency session on the Palestinian problem which was held in July 1980, and suspended without conclusion. It was resumed again last April.

The Arabs and their allies considered the convening of an emergency special session after the U.S. vetoed two weeks ago in the Security Council a resolution that condemned the Israeli invasion and demanded an immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon. They discarded the idea then fearing that an emergency session could result in the expulsion of Israel -- an action that the U.S. is likely to oppose with sanctions against the UN.

Diplomats said today that the Arabs are sure to receive an overwhelming vote for any anti-Israeli resolution they will present.

Meanwhile, it was learned here that President Francois Mitterrand has called for an emergency session of the Security Council to discuss the Lebanese crisis. He reportedly wants west Beirut put under the control of UN observers.

TECHNION GETS NEW PRESIDENT

HAIFA, June 24 (JTA) -- Yosef Singer, 59, a member of the faculty of the aeronautical engineering department of the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology, has been named president of the Technion by the Institute's Board of Governors.

Dr. Singer, the first president to be chosen from the Technion faculty, succeeds Amos Horev, who is retiring after nine years as president.

Born in Vienna, Singer was brought to Israel in 1933, when he was 10. He was graduated with honors in mechanical engineering by the Imperial College of the University of London in 1948 and received a diploma in aeronautics from the Imperial College in 1949.

In 1957, he received a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. During World War II, he served in the Royal Air Force and then returned to Israel where he held the rank of major in the test and development section of the Israel Air Force from 1953 to 1955.

He joined the aeronautical engineering faculty of the Technion in 1955 and became a professor in 1965, serving twice as dean of the faculty. From 1971 to 1973 he was senior vice president for engineering in Israel Aircraft Industries. He currently holds the L. Sharley Tark Chair in Aircraft Structures at the Technion.

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- The State Department said Thursday that "consular and other services normally provided" at the U.S. Chancery in west Beirut "will continue from the Ambassador's residence in Yarzeh."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES FRENCH PUBLIC OPINION TURNS AGAINST ISRAEL OVER LEBANON

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 24 (JTA)—The editor of the traditionally pro-Israel weekly *Canard Enchaîné* expected a storm of verbal outrage when he showed his editorial board last week a vehemently anti-Israel article describing the Israeli invasion of Lebanon as a "massacre." To his surprise, after a moment of silence, someone asked "Shouldn't we hit harder?"

What happened at the *Canard* is typical of the overall reaction in France where public opinion and militants, belonging to both the government and opposition parties, are far more outspoken in their denunciation of "Israel's aggression" than the traditional political leadership.

For the first time, the split is between a pro-Israel leadership, relatively moderate in its condemnations of Israel's policies, and a far more vehement public opinion. Traditionally, the rift had always been the other way round, as Presidents Charles De Gaulle, Georges Pompidou and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing learned at their expense.

The process of this dramatic turnaround was slow. For the first two days of the "Peace for Galilee" operation, public opinion and the press reacted in the traditional way as for as Israel is concerned. Admiration was expressed for the valor of Israel's troops and understanding for the need to clear the Palestinian terrorists out of southern Lebanon to prevent them from threatening Israeli settlements and the civilian population in northern Galilee.

Both television and the print media stressed the "defensive" opinion that the campaign was launched in retaliation for the attack on Israel's Ambassador in London. Syria, moreover is probably the most unpopular foreign country in France both for historic reasons and the suspicion that Damascus was behind the recent terrorist attacks which killed and maimed dozens of Frenchmen.

But as Israeli troops pushed deeper into Lebanon's heart marching on Beirut, public opinion started to switch. For a day or two, it seemed uncertain but as television newsreels started showing the shelling and bombardments of civilian areas, including some of Lebanon's main towns, public opinion turned the other way.

Newspapers Rap Israel

One paper after another, first the usually anti-Israel *Le Monde*, but then the rest of the press and television networks, began to speak of "massacre" and even "genocide." The usually pro-Israel *France Soir*, France's largest circulation daily, described the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories as "a journey into hell." The paper's correspondent who followed on the tracks of the Israeli troops, wrote: "Lebanon's coast, from the Israeli border and up to the outskirts of Beirut, has become a land of fear, death and destruction. This coast used to be the equivalent of France's Cote d'Azur, a place where it was pleasant to live. Now, driving up the coast is a journey into hell."

Most of *France Soir*'s editors and publishers are Jews who are actively pro-Israel. The rest of the French press used far harsher terms to describe the effects of Israel's bombardment and the results of the occupation. The few editors who tried to stop the avalanche of apocalyptic descriptions were

faced with near editorial revolts. Even part of the Jewish community was influenced by the press and television reports.

The French Jewish community was split over Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Most of the traditional Jewish leaders assured Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, during his three-day visit to Paris last week of their solidarity and support. But hundreds of others, including prominent Jewish intellectuals, openly and publicly appealed for an immediate Israeli withdrawal.

Sixteen Jewish scientists, including three Nobel Laureates, cabled Premier Menachem Begin to call "for an immediate halt to the murderous (Israeli) bombings of Beirut's civilian population." Another group consisting of some 100 intellectuals, mainly Jews, launched a public appeal to call "for an immediate stop to Israeli aggression in Lebanon which nothing can justify." The appeal, signed by some of France's best known writers, philosophers and scientists condemned Israel's action for "having criminal consequences."

Last week several hundred Jewish demonstrators calling for an end to Israel's intervention in Lebanon clashed, at times violently, with a large group of Israeli supporters. The two demonstrations took place in front of the Israeli Embassy while Shamir was holding a press conference. The reporters in the building could hear the shouts of the demonstrators, the police sirens and the tumult of the fights which broke out.

Among those who called for the anti-Begin demonstration were Jewish philosopher Vladimir Yankelievitch and Nobel Prize winner Andre Kastler.

The embarrassing point is that most of the intellectuals who now protest Israel's action in Lebanon had previously been associated with various pro-Israeli movements and had generally played a highly active role in various humanitarian efforts such as the campaigns on behalf of Soviet Jewry. All three Nobel Laureates who are now protesting, have traditionally defended Israel's cause.

Jewish Groups Close Ranks

Most Jewish leaders are assuring the Israeli Embassy of their continued loyalty and over 600 people gave Shamir a standing ovation at a banquet organized by the French section of *Herut* last week. The protesters were denounced by the *Herut* loyalists as "self-hating Jews."

Since then, the organized French Jewish community and Israel's friends in France have closed ranks in support for Israel's action in Lebanon. Fifteen organizations, within the framework of a "Joint Front for Israel," approved the military campaign yesterday, which, they say, "aims at forcing out of Lebanon two occupation armies, the Syrian and the Palestinian, and returning the country to its legal owners." Among the "Fronts" members are several non-Jewish organizations such as the Christian Committee for Israel and Jewish Christian Meetings.

The French Zionist Federation voted Tuesday for a resolution expressing its support and several other organizations, which include the Orthodox Bnei Akiva, the right-wing *Beitar*, but also the Labor Zionist *Habonim* and the Association of Jewish Socialist Students denounced Lebanon's invasion "by the Syrian army and Palestinian terrorists."

At the same time, however, several left-wing Jewish organizations, including the Zionist Hashomer Hatzair and the French Friends of Peace Now, an Israeli dovish organization, denounced the Israeli government for having transformed the "Peace for Galilee" operation into "A War of Conquest in Lebanon." The left-wing movements called on

France's Jews to show their solidarity with Israel's "Peace Camp."

Several Christian organizations, including the Protestant Federation of France and various Catholic movements also called for support for the Israeli "Peace Camp" and for an immediate Israeli withdrawal.

Former Sheli MK, Israeli Gen. (Ret.) Matityahu Peled, and Ha'alam Haze editor, Uri Avneri, both members of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, called at the Elysee Palace this week to clarify the position "of a large part of Israeli public opinion in favor of peace." The two Israeli doves were met by members of President Francois Mitterrand's personal staff and later conferred with the Secretary General of the Socialist Party, Lionel Jospin.

Politicians Keep Low Profile

The paradox is that France's main political leaders, government and opposition alike, tried to keep a low profile. Most either refused to comment or denounced Israel in relatively mild terms -- Mitterrand because of his deep personal commitment to Israel; others, because of electoral considerations. In most political parties, lower level politicians were openly unhappy with this situation. At a Cabinet meeting last week, Minister of State (the second highest rank after that of Prime Minister) Jean Claude Chevenement protested against Mitterrand's moderation and suggested France extend an official invitation to PLO chief Yasir Arafat to come to Paris.

Mitterrand turned this suggestion down at once but ministers grumbled. Similar incidents occurred within the opposition as several Gaullist and centrist deputies urged opposition leader Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac to denounce "Israeli aggression." He refused.

It took Mitterrand himself a full week and the pressure of his own party leaders to bring himself to publicly condemn Israel and call for a cease-fire in Lebanon.

Dozens of committees, some sponsored by the Communist Party, but most created at the initiative of private intellectuals, writers, scientists, philosophers, have sprung up to demand Israel's withdrawal. One of these committees, headed by a prominent Jewish writer and historian, Jacques Vidal Anaquet, published full page ads in the country's leading newspapers to "describe the situation" and call for mass action against Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

The feeling here is that it will take many years and hard work for Israel to regain its lost image and popularity in France.

REAGAN SENDS SCHOOL TAX CREDIT BILL TO CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, June 24 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration sent its controversial tuition tax credit bill to Congress Tuesday. It would allow parents of children attending parochial and other private schools to deduct up to 50 percent of each child's tuition from their taxable income.

The measure, similar to one introduced early this year by Sens. Daniel Moynihan (D. N.Y.), Robert Packwood (R. Ore.) and William Roth (R. Del.), would allow a maximum deduction of \$100 per child in 1983, \$300 in 1984 and \$500 in 1985 and thereafter. The cost to the Treasury by 1987 is estimated at \$1.5 billion.

The bill is expected to be introduced in the Senate this week by Robert Dole (R. Kan.) and in the House by Reps. Willis Gradison (R. Ohio)

and Mario Biaggi (D. N.Y.). It is strongly opposed by civil libertarian and civil rights groups which question its constitutionality. It is equally strongly supported by Roman Catholic and Orthodox Jewish groups.

Under the Administration bill, the maximum deduction would be phased out for families with annual incomes over \$50,000 and would not apply to those with incomes over \$75,000 or to college students. The Administration measure also contains an anti-discrimination provision which has come under attack by civil rights groups. The latter contend that it is without substance because it would place the burden of proof of discrimination on individual complainants rather than on schools accused of racial or religious discrimination.

Orthodox Back Bill

Rabbi Menachem Lubinsky, director of government and public affairs for Agudath Israel of America, who attended the ceremony at which President Reagan announced his transmittal of the tuition tax credit proposal to Congress, said he told the President that "Orthodox Jews, regardless of background, are united in support" of the measure.

He also said the "Reagan initiative" finally recognized "the rights of parents of children in private schools instead of treating them as second class citizens."

He said Agudath Israel plans to mobilize its "network of committees and coordinators in 31 states," organized as the "Campaign to Relieve Independent Education" for an intensive campaign to win support for passage in the Congress.

In a statement, Agudath Israel said the Reagan proposal met all the objectives Agudath Israel established "when it first became one of the leading advocates for tuition tax credits 15 years ago."

The Orthodox agency rejected arguments that tax credits would encourage parents to shift to non-public schools, calling it "inconceivable" that parents of public school pupils would give up the benefits of a free education "for a minor tax credit."

Agudath Israel Stresses Constitutionality

The agency also asserted that the "strict" anti-discrimination enforcement expected for the measure also guaranteed that the proposed tax credit measure would not support racially segregated schools. The agency also said its attorneys were confident that the measure, if adopted, would be upheld as constitutional.

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, Agudath Israel president, expressed the hope that secular Jewish groups, which have consistently opposed such tuition tax credits, would recognize that such credits did not pose a threat to the constitutional separation of church and state. He said the relief which would be provided to parents was "a recognition of their legitimate rights" in no way meant "to change the role of religion in our society."

NATHAN PESKIN, DEAD AT 65

NEW YORK, June 24 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Nathan Peskin, the executive director of the Workmen's Circle, who died yesterday at his home in Long Beach, Long Island. He was 65.

Peskin was national organizational director of the Workman's Circle and was a member of the national executive committee of the Jewish Labor Committee. He held many positions in the Workmen's circle in the past 47 years and last May was re-elected to his position as executive director, a position which he originally succeeded William Stern.