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ISRAEL TO LAUNCH NEW PEACE OFFENSIVE ONCE THE PLO AND SYRIAN FORCES LEAVE LEBANON

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Israel will launch a new peace offensive immediately after all the terrorists and Syrian forces withdraw from Lebanon, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor announced today following the weekly Cabinet session. But Meridor made it clear that while the government of Israel "will initiate action for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East" it will do so "in accordance with the Camp David accords."

In reference to voices heard both in Europe and the United States in favor of an early solution of the Palestinian problem, Meridor declared: "There will be no negotiations on any proposal whatsoever which deviates from the framework of peace as established in Camp David."

His statement, presumably echoing the view of the Cabinet, followed a series of reports from Washington over the weekend that the Reagan Administration was working on extending the dimension of the Camp David accords and the expectation that West European governments would also re-initiate their Mideast peace efforts.

France-Egyptian Plan Under Discussion

(In Paris, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Boutros Ghali, is scheduled to hold talks tomorrow with Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson. They are expected to discuss the situation in Lebanon and a Franco-Egyptian peace plan for Lebanon which is now being reviewed by the United Nations Security Council.)

(The government of President Francois Mitterrand is seeking to play, as Mitterrand said last week in his television address, an even-handed role in the Mideast. He underlined this when he stated: "The Israeli policy of France should not be anti-Arab, and the Arab policy of France should not be anti-Israeli.")

A Troublesome Statement From Washington

One of the more troublesome statements to emerge from Washington was that by Secretary of State George Shultz, political analysts said here today. Shultz told a news conference Friday, his first since being named Secretary of State, the Camp David accords had "lots of room for ideas" and that the Reagan Administration was forming its own views. He said the Administration expected to be moving on the issue of Palestinian rights, but he did not elaborate. (See separate story from Washington.)

Mubarak Raps Israel

(President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt also zeroed in on the Camp David accords, saying that Israel "is maintaining a narrow and unbelievably restricted interpretation of the provisions of the 'framework'."

(Writing on the op-ed page of today's Washington Post, Mubarak said three steps needed to be implemented to reach a long-term settlement of the Palestinian question; the U.S. should recognize the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination;

all settlement activities in the occupied territories must halt; and "certain confidence-building measures" must be taken to "restore the trust of the Palestinian inhabitants on the West Bank and Gaza."

(He wrote that the "conversion of Arab land into Israeli settlements is causing a steady erosion of good will and hope" and called on the Palestinians and Israelis to mutually and simultaneously recognize each other. Shultz, in his press conference Friday, also stated, in response to a question, that settlements in the occupied areas were "not constructive" to a comprehensive peace in the Mideast.)

At today's Cabinet meeting, Premier Menachem Begin told the ministers that the Cabinet would begin a review of the entire "Peace for Galilee" operation and that he would address the Knesset on this issue. Following that, Israel would launch its new peace initiative.

Cease-Fire Violations Must End

Meanwhile, Meridor said Israel was demanding the immediate end of cease-fire violations from behind the Syrian-held territories in Lebanon. He noted that Israel did its best to enable the evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut to proceed smoothly and emphasized that Israel made it "very clear" to the Americans, and through them to the Syrians, "that the violations ... should cease immediately."

While the Beirut area is quiet, PLO forces hiding between the Syrian lines on the eastern sector of the front continued to snipe and harass Israeli troops. An Israeli soldier wounded in an exchange of fire over the weekend died of his wounds this morning, an army spokesman said. Three terrorists were killed in the exchange and others were routed as they tried to infiltrate into Israeli-held territory.

Syrian forces in Lebanon, including in the Bekaa valley, where they face Israeli forces, are estimated at 30,000, including several thousand Palestinian terrorists. The Israeli and Syrian armies face each other along a 50-mile line about 12 miles east of Beirut, on the Beirut-Damascus highway, to the eastern side of the Bekaa valley, about five miles from the Syrian border.

TEMPORARY SNAG IN THE EVACUATION OF PLO FORCES IS RESOLVED

By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- The departure of some 1,000 PLO terrorists from Beirut aboard a ship bound for Cyprus ran into a temporary snag today. Israeli officials in the port of Beirut complained that the PLO evacuees had taken aboard 21 British-made jeep-like vehicles and 41 Soviet-made anti-tank rocket-propelled grenade launchers, as well as some of their wives and children, in contravention of the withdrawal plan worked out by U.S. special envoy Philip Habib.

The ship was detained by Israeli missile boats while urgent discussions were held between Israeli, American, French and Lebanese officers and officials. Habib's aide, Morris Draper, rushed to the port area to confer with the Israeli liaison officer, Brig. Gen. Eitan Barak, and then with the northern area commander, Maj. Gen. Amir Drori, together with Lebanese and French army officers.

Several hours later, Israel agreed to let the ship sail after receiving assurances from the U.S. that the jeeps would be unloaded before the terrorists reached their final destination of Tunisia. The first group of PLO evacuees yesterday also took with them a number of rocket launchers, but Israeli officials took action to bar them only today.

Most of today's evacuees are members of Yasir Arafat's mainline Fatah organization together with some Fatah service units, including the editorial staff of its newspaper and Arafat's personal medical staff. Also on board is a unit of the Ein Jalloud brigade of the Palestine Liberation Army who are to be flown on elsewhere from Tunis. No immediate reason was given for the ship's detention.

Israel Protests To Habib

Israel also protested today to Habib that no attempts were made to verify the identities of the terrorists who sailed from Beirut to Cyprus yesterday. An official here expressed concern that the violation of this part of the evacuation agreement raised the question of whether other aspects of the agreement would be honored.

The official explained that under the accord, the verification of the identities of those leaving was the responsibility of the Lebanese army, but that the army had not done so. The Israeli protest to Habib included a demand that verifications must be carried out. Israel fears that the PLO might try to have substitutes leave Beirut and that dangerous terrorists would remain.

The 400 evacuees who left for Cyprus yesterday -- the first batch of an estimated total of 7,100 terrorists and their families who are scheduled to leave -- emplaned from Limasson Airport aboard three aircraft today, bound for Amman, Jordan, and for Baghdad, Iraq.

'Primary Objective' Achieved

The evacuation of the terrorists from west Beirut, beginning a two-week withdrawal that will scatter the PLO forces throughout the Arab world, and the end of the Israeli siege of the Lebanese capital, was hailed by both Israeli and PLO leaders as a victory for their side. The Israeli military command said that with the evacuation of PLO forces it had achieved the "primary objective" of its "Peace for Galilee" operation.

Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, who has begun calling the evacuation the "expulsion of the terrorists from Beirut, starting their complete ouster from Lebanon," and Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan said the PLO's "expulsion" resulted from the intense military pressure by the Israel Defense Force on west Beirut. (In Washington, President Reagan sent a telegram last Friday to Habib, praising him for his efforts in achieving a settlement of the crisis of Beirut. "Yours is truly a sterling achievement. You have succeeded against staggering odds.")

Sharon and Eitan said Israel had done a great service for the entire world, not just Israel, by smashing the PLO centers in Beirut which served as command, training and planning centers for international terrorism.

But they warned that the job would not be done properly and completely until all foreign forces, including the PLO and Syrians as well as the Israeli army, had left Lebanon and enabled that country to rebuild itself as an independent state.

A top PLO leader, Farouk Kaddumi, who greeted the first group of PLO men in Cyprus today, hailed the orderly departure of the group from Beirut, carrying their "personal weapons," which included Soviet-made assault rifles and rocket launchers, as a victory for the PLO which he said was still intact and intent on carrying on its struggle for an independent Palestine.

Cypriots Confiscate Weapons

When the group of 400 terrorists arrived at Limassol Airport, journalists saw Cypriot officials confiscating hand grenades which the PLO men tried to conceal in their knapsacks as they were boarding planes to fly to Jordan and Iraq. Posing for reporters, the men waved Palestinian flags and pictures of Arafat, but except for chants in Arabic the men were silent and refused to speak to reporters.

The start of the evacuation began inauspiciously Friday when the return of two Israeli soldiers who had been prisoners and the bodies of nine soldiers who had been killed in Lebanon was delayed shortly before the start of the Sabbath. Israel had warned that if the two prisoners and the nine coffins were not handed over by the start of the Sabbath, the evacuation could not begin the next day.

The army spokesman said today the bodies of the nine men had all been positively identified by this morning and their funerals could now take place.

SHULTZ CONFIDENT EVACUATION WOULD PROCEED AS SCHEDULED

By Kevin Freeman and Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz said he was confident that the evacuation of the Palestine Liberation Organization from the port of Beirut would continue as scheduled despite the hitch that developed today.

Shultz, appearing on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" program confirmed reports from Beirut that Israel had blocked a Cyprus-bound vessel with PLO evacuees because they had jeeps and other military equipment aboard.

Nevertheless, Shultz said U.S. negotiator Philip Habib was in the process of working to resolve the dispute and said it was not the first problem to arise and "I'm sure it won't be the last and we expect it to get resolved." He said he expected it to be resolved today. It was several hours later.

At the same time, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger charged that Israel had no right to block the departure of the ship from Beirut, contending that the port "is supposed to be under the control of the French." Appearing on the CBS-TV "Face the Nation" program, Weinberger described the problem as a "little glitch." Twenty jeeps seem to be the major part of the dispute, Weinberger said, adding, "It's a lawyers dispute."

Shultz, questioned today on a number of Middle East issues, including the stalled autonomy negotiations and Israeli settlement policy on the West Bank, refused to be drawn into criticism of Israel. He said he did not want to leave "a tone that all problems" in the region are "created by Israel."

He said, for example, that Israel's settlement policy on the West Bank is "not constructive," a phrase which he said has been amplified before by President Reagan. When pressed for his opinion of the settlement policy, Shultz said he agreed with the President.

The Secretary of State, in his first television interview since taking office, said that Israel continued to remain a true friend and ally of the United States. "I believe," Shultz said, "that in all the things that we do, we must be always cognizant and careful about the security of Israel."

At a press conference Friday, Shultz also said that despite the Israeli action in Lebanon, U.S.-Israel rela-

tions remain strong. "We are completely committed to the support of the security of Israel." But he acknowledged that there were "strains" in relations between the two countries during the past two months and "there were some occasions when it seemed to us that the Israeli military actions were excessive and we said so." However, Shultz added: "Underneath it all, the relationship between the U.S. and Israel remains a strong one."

He also said at his press conference, that there was "no question" that relations between the U.S. and the Arab states had been strained "as they have seen the suffering in Lebanon and the great destruction in Beirut."

'Ideas' For Reviving Autonomy Talks

While Shultz, in his TV interview, would not detail what he termed the Administration's "ideas" toward reviving the long-stalled negotiations for Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said that for there to be a "genuine peaceful outcome" that is widely accepted in the region, other countries would have to be involved in the negotiations. He would not clarify which other countries would be needed to participate or how they would be brought into the peace process.

Shultz said the Camp David framework along with UN Resolutions 242 and 338, the bedrock of U.S. policy toward the Middle East, continue to be an "ample basis and a good basis for any ongoing negotiations." He pointed out that Richard Fairbanks, a State Department official, continues to provide assistance on the negotiating issue and said that it remains to be seen whether he would appoint anyone as a special U.S. negotiator to the autonomy talks when they are revived.

Camp David Can Be Interpreted In Many Ways

Shultz said that success in the negotiations "involved delicate interplay between the processes that are involved and the substance you are trying to achieve." He said the Camp David process can be interpreted in many ways and that negotiations were crucial for a resolution.

He added that the Palestinians should have a role in determining the conditions under which they live, obliquely referring to some form of Palestinian participation in the negotiating process.

At his press conference last Friday, Shultz also said the Administration was forming its own views on the issue of Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank. He said the Camp David process had "lots of room for ideas."

He said "the prospects for peace, particularly in the light of the conflict in Lebanon... should convince people that if there is any genuine prospect for peace it should be seized, and perhaps that would be an incentive for everyone to give and take and try to construct something that might work."

Shultz said Friday that the Syrians promised to leave when asked to do so by the Lebanese. He indicated that the process will take time and that the Administration is seeking a process whereby the Lebanese government "increasingly takes control."

The Secretary of State, who succeeded Alexander Haig on July 16, described Habib as a "truly great American" and we "owe him a wonderful debt of thanks."

President Reagan sent a telegram to Habib on Friday after a Rose Garden Press conference, praising his envoy for his efforts in achieving a settlement to the Beirut crisis. "Yours is truly a sterling achievement," the President said. "You have succeeded against staggering odds."

Earlier, Reagan said that the 800 marines who will participate in the evacuation of PLO forces from Beirut will play a "carefully limited non-combatant role." He said if the marines are shot at they would be removed immediately. "In no case will our troops stay longer than 30 days," he said.

Reagan said the withdrawal "will set the stage for the urgent international action required to restore Lebanon's full sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, obtain a rapid withdrawal of all foreign forces from that country, and help ensure the security of northern Israel." He called for swift action under the Camp David peace process to "resolve the Palestinian issue in all its aspects."

**Photograph Mislabeled
AN ALLEGEDLY ARMLESS LEBANESE
CHILD, WOUNDED BY ISRAELI BOMB,
ACTUALLY HAS BOTH ARMS INTACT**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- An allegedly armless child, whose picture is reportedly displayed on President Reagan's desk as a symbol of suffering in Lebanon, turns out to be a boy, not a girl as alleged, with both arms intact. The child, identified as four-month-old Eli Massou, whose mother is 16 years old, was discharged from the hospital a few days after the picture was taken.

According to the caption accompanying the United Press International photo distributed throughout the world, it was a picture of a baby girl swathed in bandages after both arms had been blown off by a misdirected Israeli bomb. The child was seen held in the arms of a nurse.

After a news report that Reagan had publicized the picture as a symbol of suffering in the Lebanon war, the Israeli medical corps started to track down the infant and the nurse holding him.

The nurse and the doctor who treated the baby were found, and sworn depositions were taken from them. The child was tracked down along with his mother in a Lebanese village where they had taken refuge after they were both released from the hospital.

According to the medical report, one of the infant's arms was broken in a bombing raid. The arm and his face were also slightly burned. His mother was also slightly injured in the raid and his father was killed. Doctors said the child was completely swathed, as shown in the UPI photo, because that is the standard procedure of dealing with an infant whose arm has been broken to prevent unnecessary movement during medical treatment.

Photographs of the apparently now healthy baby were published in Israeli papers today. Copies have been sent to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, which presumably sent a copy to the White House to replace the incorrectly-captioned picture on the President's desk.

**UN ASSEMBLY VOTES 120-2 TO ENDORSE
PALESTINIAN STATE AND CONDEMN ISRAEL**
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- Concluding four days of debate at an emergency session on the Palestinian question, the General Assembly voted 120-2 Thursday night to endorse the establishment of a Palestinian state "in Palestine" and to condemn Israel for failing to comply with previous UN resolutions that it withdraw from Lebanon and dismantle the Jewish

settlements on the West Bank. The United States and Israel voted against the resolution. Twenty countries, mostly Western democracies, abstained.

The resolution called for "the free exercise in Palestine of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference and to national independence." The resolution also called indirectly for sanctions against Israel by urging the Security Council to take "practical" measures against Israel if it failed to withdraw from occupied territories and from Lebanon.

The Assembly also decided, in another resolution, to convene an international conference in Paris next August on the Palestinian question. The vote on this resolution was 123 in favor, with the United States and Israel again casting the only negative votes. Eighteen countries abstained.

Noting that the Paris conference would cost the UN \$5.7 million, Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, said it was a scandalous waste of money that could be used to feed hungry mouths instead of "playing up to the vanities of the PLO benchmen."

The Assembly also voted to observe June 4 as "Innocent Children Victims" day. The vote was 102-2, with the U.S. and Israel opposed, and 34 abstentions. The June 4 date is to mark the day Israel prepared to enter Lebanon. The actual incursion was June 6.

Initially, the Arabs wanted to place a plaque at the UN that would have been dedicated to the "innocent Palestinian and Lebanese children, victims of Israeli aggression." The plan was dropped at the urging of UN officials who argued that this would be regarded as an affront by Americans in general and New Yorkers in particular.

CABINET REAFFIRMS PREVIOUS DECISION TO HALT EL AL SABBATH FLIGHTS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- The Cabinet today reaffirmed its previous decision to stop all El Al flights on Saturdays within 10 days, as the Knesset Finance Committee convened in Jerusalem to approve the government's decision. The Cabinet asked the El Al management to readjust the airline's schedule so that it will no longer include flights on Saturdays and holidays.

According to the Cabinet decision, El Al will no longer accept orders for Saturday and holiday flights. However, the decision noted that "in view of international commitments, two El Al flights will go on with their present schedule for a limited time."

The Finance Committee, however, did not complete its session. Both Likud coalition and Labor Alignment opposition MKs asked for further details on the economic implications of halting the Sabbath and holiday flights.

The El Al workers committees presented their case against the ban and were expected to continue their presentation at another meeting of the Finance Committee which is scheduled for tomorrow.

The workers complained that the ban would lead to a slow death of El Al. Gaby Saltzman, spokesman for the workers, noted that a previous curback program resulted in the dismissal of 150 employees who left the country.

However, Transport Minister Haim Corfu, who came to the Committee armed with the Cabinet's fresh decision, said there was no going back on the decision. Agudat Israel spokesmen said that much of the envisaged \$40 million loss due to the ban would be balanced by religious travellers who would fly on El Al.

JAMES KAHN DEAD AT 74

BOSTON, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- James Kahn, publisher of the Jewish Times of Brookline, died August 11 at the New England Deaconess Hospital, after a brief hospitalization for heart problems. He was 74 years old. Funeral services were held at Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline, on August 12.

Kahn was born in Worcester, Mass., and had resided in the Boston area for many years. A graduate of Boston University School of Business Management, Kahn was a salesman of advertising, and as such he represented many newspapers in Massachusetts. More than two decades ago Kahn established the Jewish Times as an alternative voice of the Jewish community in the Metropolitan area.

Kahn was a member of Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline, the B'nai B'rith, the Zionist Organization of America, the Mens Association of the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged, and the Tub Thumpers, a fraternal organization of persons affiliated with the advertising business.

STUDY SHOWS ARAB PROPAGANDA FLOURISHES IN FRANCE

LONDON, Aug. 22 (JTA) -- A comprehensive study which finds that a concerted Arab propaganda effort in France has been backed by both leftwing and rightwing elements and which warns that "Arab propagandists will intensify their methods," has been released by the World Jewish Congress.

The commissioned study, issued by the WJC research and publications unit, the Institute of Jewish Affairs, shows that France's Middle East policies and its position within the European community were key factors in its emergence as "ideal territory for the propaganda of the Arab states involved in the Middle East conflict."

Among official Arab bodies, the PLO office in Paris is cited as the most important source of anti-Israel opinion. The PLO office, the report notes, has concentrated on building up its press contacts to the point that "whenever events in the Middle East attract the attention of journalists, the PLO office is one of the places to which they go for information and news."

Apart from the specifically Arab organizations, run by Arabs, the Associations of French Arab Solidarity spread the Arab cause through French sympathizers. They publish numerous magazines, provide material aid for the Palestinians, and organize demonstrations with the aim of becoming centers of media attention.

The study shows that some of the organizers of Arab propaganda groups have strong extreme rightwing political links. The Committee for Peace in the Middle East, for example, "which is widely believed to be financed by Iraq" is headed by two individuals associated with the extreme right, including one, Gilles Munier, who was "an active neo-Nazi."

On the left, two important anti-Israel political forces are "Temoignage Chretien" (Christian Witness) and the French Communist Party. The study says the future aims of Temoignage Chretien are two-fold: "As a Christian movement, it will try to break the silence, observed till now by the clergy on the Middle East question, and as a leftwing movement, it will try to bring the Socialist Party round to a less favorable position towards Israel."

A limiting factor however, stems from the presidency of Francois Mitterrand -- "whose policy is much more Israel oriented than that of his predecessors," the report said.