TA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036-2574

Vol. LX - 65th Year

Friday, October 29, 1982

No.205

BG AIRPORT OPERATIONS RESUME; EL AL MANAGEMENT AND HISTADRUT RESUME TALKS AFTER BEGIN INTERVENES By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 28 (JTA) — Normal operation were resumed at Ben Gurion Airport body following its take-over yesterday by sme I, 000 EI Al workers and their families protesting the government's decision to stut down the cirline. The demonstrators left last night when the EI Al management announced it would resume negotiations with Histadrut aimed at salvaging the financially troubled carrier.

Flights which had to be diverted to a military airfield in the Negev yesterday arrived at and departed from Ben Gurion Airport this morning as clean-up crews removed the debris from the airfield. Three EI Al jets with deflated tires which the workers had used to black runways were towed to the parking area offer being made fit for service. But it may be some time before they take off. EI Al was grounded by management decision six weeks ago and the fate of the airline remains uncertain.

It depends upon the outcome of labor negotiations which are just getting under way. They are based on a set of management principles which could lead to a reduced A with a much smaller work force represented by a single union instead of separate committees for each job category as has

been the case until now.

Management suspended talks last week when the pilots committee refused to accept its principles. They were resumed today on the direct intervention of Premier Menachem Begin. Begin was urged to act by Labor Minister David Levy, who is a Deputy Prime Minister and has successfully intervened in past labor-management disputes at El Al.

But Levy's nole was not viewed kindly by the Transport and Finance ministries which have taken a much tougher line toward the workers. Their threat to sell El Al to private investors after the Cabinet agreed in principle to liquidate it only inflamed the workers and was responsible in part for the take-over of Ben Gurion Airport yesterday.

INQUIRY PANEL GETS TESTIMONY FROM THE HEAD OF THE SHIN BET By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 28 (JTA) — The commission of inquiry into the Beirut refugee comp massacres met in top secret closed session yesterday to hear testimony from the head of the Shin Bet, Israel's security agency. His appearance before the three-member panel was not announced until this morning so as not to alert the media.

The identity of the director of Shin Bet is a closely guarded sceret. The agency is issued is equivalent of the FBI and Britain's M-I5. The director of Mossad, Israel's external intelligence agency, also appeared before the commission in closed session at an earlier time, it was disclosed today. His identity, too, it sop secret.

So far, the commission held one public session when Defense Minister Ariel Sharon appeared before it Monday. He read a prepared statement and was subjected to close questioning for about two

hours before commission chairman Justice Yitzhak Kahan ordered the remainder of the session behind closed doors.

The commission has also questioned army officare and Israel Television's military correspondentwho was in Beirut at the time of the massacre September 16-18. He testified that he had alerted Sharon to reports he heard from Israeli soldiers that Christian Phalangist units were murdering civilians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in west Beirut.

The commission disclosed that the army is trying to trace foreign doctors and other medical staff who were in the camps during the massacre to give testimony. It has also received reports from foreign journalists who were near the scene. The government press officer is assembling press clippings on the episode and Israel radio and television have provided the commission with relevant material in their possession.

UNRWA CHIEF CONCEDES THAT ONE OF ITS SCHOOLS NEAR BEIRUT WAS USED BY PLO AS A TRAINING CENTER

VIENNA, Oct. 28 (JTA) — The head of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) acknowledged in a report here yesterday that its Siblin Training Center, a vocational school near Beirut, had, been misused by the Palestine Liberation Organization which forced military training and indoctrination of 781 students over a period of

Olaf Rydbeck, Commissioner-General of the Vienne-based agency, said this was a blatant violation of the school is regulations and purpose and announced that its principal has been suspended and that disciplinary action has been taken against

him and other faculty members.

Rydbeck's report essentially confirmed charges by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in an address to the UN General Assembly last month, that UNRWA had become "a tool to preserve the refugee camps in which idle people were subjected to ingitement and coercion in the service of terrorist organizations," Rydbeck had vigorously denied the charges at the time.

U.S. Reaction To The Report

One immediate reaction to his disclosure was the reported demand by the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Jeane Kirkpatrick, that the U.S. withhold a \$15 million donation to UNRWA pending a full inquiry. UNRWA was established 35 years ago specifically to aid Palestinian refugees in camps in Israel and other countries. It has been financed by donations from UN member-states.

According to Bydbeck's report, the Siblin Center allowed ammed PLO instructors to live in the school facilities, store arms in a basement that was made off limits to UN employes and sent radio messages from it. In addition, the PLO conducted military classes for young men and women studying trades. The report noted that diplomas were withheld from vacational graduates until they had served a year with the PLO. -2-

Rydbeck's report said "The agency is satisfied that its training center in Siblin was misused. The center's premises were evidently used to provide systematic military training to the center's students," an obvious violation of UNRWA regulations.

The report added: "It was clear for around two years prior to 1982 a parallel program of organized military training by the PLO has been carried out within the center's premises which is totally incompatible with the agency's status and functions.

FOCUS ON ISSUES THE SORROW AND THE SYMPATHY By Lisa Palmieri-Billia

ROME, Oct. 28 (JTA)-The three weeks since the machinegun and grenade attack on the main synagogue here which took the life of a two-year-old child and wounded 33 men, women and children has witnessed a tremendous outpouring of sorrow and sympathy for the Jewish commun-

It comes from all levels of the Catholic Church hierarchy; from lay leaders and humble parishoners; from non-Catholic Christians and from Italians in all walks of life. But coupled with the deeply felt shock and grief is a sense of confusion.

It is visible in the reactions of people who are unable to explain the magnitude of anger and bitterness expressed by Italian Jewry in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy, not only for the perpetrators -- who have still not been identified or apprehended -- but against the Pope, the Vatican, the highest government officials and the media.

Background Of Initial Shock

When the bloodshed and terror ended, Rome's 15,000 lews withdrew literally into them-selves. They chose to mourn alone, rejecting the offerings of condolence as they did official tri-

butes of flowers. In their initial shock, they saw the murderous attack outside the landmark synagogue as a direct result of a climate created by events that preceded it: the audience granted by Pope John Paul II to Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat; the warm reception Arafat received from President Sandro Pertini and Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo; the endless drumbeat of criticism of Israel by much of the Italian news media for its war in Lebanon, particularly after the massacre of Palestinians in west Beirut by Israel's Christian Phalanaist allies.

Effort At Reconciliation

Many Italians are puzzled by this linkage and Jews too are wondering, in retrospect, whethe the cause-and-effect juxtaposition of events is as clear cut as initially it appeared to be. Mean while, as both communities strive to unravel their feelings, a reconciliation has been taking place.

Two of the 33 wounded were Catholic. One was a youth studying for conversion to Judaism; the other was the fiancee of a Jewish young man who was attending the Sabbath and Simchat Torah services. Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff recalled seeing a Catholic woman bend to kiss the ground where the blood of the victims was spilled as ambulances were rushing the wounded to a nearby hospital.

That spontaneous gesture matched "the spirit with which so many Italians 40 years ago risked their own lives to save the lives of other Italians of Jewish faith, "Toaff said referring to the Nazi era. He said it reaffirmed his faith in the Italian people.

There were many other manifestations of solidarity with Rome's Jews. Wounded children in the hospitals received piles of letters from Catholic schools. One, from a grade school in Vallecrozia run by a Salasian nun, said: "Don't think everyone wants to kill you, Twenty-two children love you." Another said: "I will pray that the PLO will repent."

The Waldensian and Methodist churches of Rome sent messages to the Jewish community saying they had confessed their sin and recognized their share of responsibility because they had not worked hard enough for justice and peace." A delegation of Polish bishops and priests, themselves concentration camp survivors, visited the Jewish wounded at the Fatebenefratelli Hospital near the main synagogue.

The delegation came to Rome for the beatification of Maximilian-Kolbe who offered his life in exchange for a Polish father doomed to death by starvation at Auschwitz. Msgr. Kazimiev Majdariskij, Bishop of Stettin who was confined to Dachau from 1939–1945, recalled that the child slain by the terrorists in Rome, Stefano Tache, reminded him of the Jewish children in Dachau a generation ago.

In fact, it was just 39 years ago, on a Sabbath in October, that the grandparents of little Stefano and his own parents, then children themselves, and his aunts, uncles and cousins, were deported by the Nazis-to Auschwitz. Of the two large families, only 15 surviv-

There is a strong temptation to bitterness over this tragic irony. The two children who lived through Auschwitz to become Stefano's parents, also lived to see one child murdered and another, Stefano's sister, wounded in a senseless attack on Jews. But should the race be directed at fellow-Italians?

Italy Not Infected By Anti-Semitism

In all of Europe, the modern Italian state has been among the least infected by anti-Semitism. The Italian people have not been and are not now anti-Semitic. With respect to racism, Mussolini was a reluctant partner of Hitler. While political pressures instigated the blustering but weak Italian dictator to promulgate his version of the Nuremburg laws during World War II, Italians by and large tried to help their Jewish neighbors.

Some Jews recalled, after the synagogue attack, that Italian soldiers gave haven to French Jews fleeing the Vichy regime which only too willingly collaborated in the Nazi deportations.

Today there are also political interests at work which, through alliances with extremist Arab groups and the more doctrinaire sections of the Communist-dominated Italian trade union federation, try to exploit anti-Semitism. But most of the Italian population has remained immune to these attempts.

Some Questions Asked

So Italians ask: Why do the Jews insist that the terrorist attack would not have occurred but for a carefully prepared climate of anti-Semitism? The teriorists almost certainly were Arabs, probably Palestinians, probably members of Abu Nidal's fanatical Al Assifa which even the PLO claims to disown.

Italians were in no way involved, they say. Moreover, terrorism is one thing, a plague of the times which has caused death and destruction not only to Jews; anti-Semitism is something else, an ancient prejudice

discredited by decent people.

So why were the Jews so quick to cast blame? their fellow Italians ask. Is criticism of the policies of Premier Menachem Begin and his Defense Minister

-3-

Ariel Sharon to be equated with anti-Semitism and thereby be made exempt from all criticism? Many Jews the world over are among the severest critics of the Begin-Sharon government and they can hardly be accused of anti-Semitism, the Italians say.

The confusion perhaps stems from the belief grief and anger over the attack, they are a monolithic community. In fact, Italian Jews arealy, seek with one voice but in many, often contradictory voices. When emotions run high, however there is a fendency to generalize. Long-time friends are mistaken for enemies. Thus the Pope and the President of Italy are accused, in the heat of the moment, of "causing" the terrorist assault because they received Arafat.

Logic And Reality

That logic does not hold water for long. Many, not not) Jews, agreed that the Pope's audience with the PLO leader was at the very least controversial and inapportune, a "political "inches; but certainly not an anti-Semitic gesture or an endorsement of the PLO's methods and soals,

Italian Jews, who in the aftermath of the attack believed herwise, forgot some important facts. On September 12, when 'Arafat's visit was imminent, the Union of Italian Jewish Communities made specific demands of the government: "To condemn terrorism on all sides and firm by insist on the revision of the PLO charter drifting the coming encounters (with Arafat) ... in the light of a negotiated solution of the Middle East conflict."

Contrary to the belief of some sections of Italian and world servy, that appeal did not foll on deaf ears, either in the government or the Vatican. On September 15, right after Arafot's meeting with the Pope, the Vatican Press Office issued a statement saying that the Pope had expressed to Arafot "... His wish that a just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict will soon be reached which, excluding recourse to ams and violence in every form, and above all to terrorism and reprisals, may lead to the recognition of the rights of all peoples and in particular of the Palestinian people, to a homeland, and of Israel to its security."

Later, the Press Office reiterated that "...
When receiving Arafat, (the Pape) emphasized the necessity to exclude recourse to arms, to violence, to terrorism in order to reach peace in the Middle East." At a televised round-table discussion three days after the synogogue attack, Don Vigillo Levi of L'Osservatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper, repeated that statement and soid Arafat had "agreed."

Government Responded To Jewish Concerns

The Italian government responded similarly to the Jewish concerns. Foreign Minister Colombo told the foreign affairs committee of the Italian Senate on September 22:

". The problem that we consider central to a reciprocal recognition between the PLO and israel was one of the cardinal points in the conversation between myself and Aratia, and, as a premise to this, the abolition of the reference to the destruction of the 'Zionist entity' contained in the national Palestinian, charter which, in the interpretation given it, corresponds to the will of the PLO to destroy the State of israel."

Premier Giovanni Spadolini, the only ranking government official who refused to meet with Arafat, has also called for "a reciprocal; unequivocal and simultaneous recognition between the PLO and the State of Israel." The meaning of those words is clear; the PLO cannot expect recognition as long as its aim is the destruction of Israel and it employs terrorism to achieve that aim.

ADMINISTRATION PONDERING INCREASING NUMBER OF U.S. MARINES IN LEBANON By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration will not decide whether to increase the number of U.S. marines in Lebanon until the operational method is decided upon for the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian froops and Palestine Liberation Organization forces.

This was stressed today by Defense Secretary . Capar Weinberger in a Pentagon press conference and at the State Department by spokesman John Hughes. Hughes said that once the plan for withdrawal is developed the U.S. "would have to see what the role for the multinational force would be in that plan, if it indeed changes."

The 1,200 marines in Beirut along with the French and Italian mops have been keeping peace. in the Lebanese cayernment would like the multinational force of 3,800 persons expanded to about 30,000 with a wider range of responsibility in the country.

Hughes said that President Reagan would have to see whether the multinational force as it now exists could perform the mission assigned to it, if one will be, under the withdrawal agreement and then decide whether to increase the U.S. forces.

Draper In Beirut For Withdrawal Talks

Morris Draper, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Neer Eastern and South Asian Affairs, who is a special envoy for negotiations on Lebanon, began, talks with the Lebanese government on withdrawal today. He is expected to go to Israel next and then by Syria. In Jerusalem, a government spokesman said Draper is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir there tomorrow.

According to reports from Beirut today, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al-Wazzan, who along with President Amin Gemayel attended the talks with Drapy, said the two sides had formulated the basis of future. talks on the withdrawal of the Israeli, Syrian and PLO forces from Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Hughes said he could not estimate how much aid the U.S. will be giving Lebanon to rebuild its amy. He said no decision would be made until a Pentagon team that visited Lebanon makes its report. But he stressed that President Gemayel during his visit here made a "strong impression" on the Administration as to the "vigor" he intends to employ in rebuilding Lebanon. Hughes said that the U.S. wants to be "supportive" in this effort.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Yitzhak Navon of Israel will meet with President Reagon at the White House on November 23, the White House announced Thursday. The Israel Embassy here said Navon will be on a 10-day visit to the U.S. during which he will meet with Jewish leaders and with American Jews considering immigration to Israel. An Embassy spokensm noted that Premier Menachem Begin is expected to meet with Reagon shortly after he addresses the Council of Jewish Federations General Assembly in Los Angles November 13.

ADL STUDY SHOWS HATE GROUPS ARE TURNING TO VIOLENCE

HOUSTON, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- Organized a racist and anti-Semitic groups have increasing-Ly turned to violence in the past few years, according to a 90-page report made public today by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The ADL report, titled "Hate Groups in America: The Record of Bigotry and Violence. focused on the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi organ izations and such hatemongering fringe groups as the Christian Patriots Defense League; the Covenant, the Sword, the Arm of the Lord; the National States Rights Party (NSRP) and the Aryan Nations organization.

Seymour Reich, chairman of the ADL's nation al civil rights executive committee, who presented the report to ADL's national executive committee meeting here, today through Sunday, said the document is a comprehensive study of violence-prone hate groups.

The study, Reich said, exposes the extremsts' organizational and ideological links, and details their record of violence, lawlessness, intimidation and threats of force since the late 1970's, which includes assaults and conspiracies against blacks, Jews and other minorities, sometimes involving firearms and bombs: establishment of paramilitary camps and training courses to teach adherents weapons training. demolition and querrilla warfare tactics; and use of inflammatory hate language directed against minorities, including calls to arms and warnings to adherents to prepare for civil strife or race wars, allegedly in self-defense.

Urges Unity Against Bigots

"If America is to meet the challenge of violence by organized bigots, " Reich asserted, "all institutions of American society, including law enforcement officials, schools, churches and business and labor organizations must unite against them.

One of the "most disturbing" elements of the trend to violence, Reich said, is paramilitary training that takes place in camps operated by Klan organizations and other extremist groups, such as the Christian Patriots Defense Legaue.

These clandestine facilities, the report said, provide instruction in weapons and killing techniques. The operators of these camps frequently speak of the "coming race war" in the United States.

Examples Of Extremist Operations

A typical Klan paramilitary aperation has been conducted in rural areas of East Texas. according to the report, which cited a special camp near Houston, which was exposed in 1981, for training youths in handling of weapons. The Texas Emergency Reserve, the paramilitary arm of the Klan in Texas, received training in tactical maneuvers, military drills, map reading and weapons proficiency.

Another illustration of the extremists' use of paramilitary training is provided in a "survival" camp run by the Covenant, the Sword, the Arm of the Lord, according to the report. Operated in northern Arkansas, it offers courses in urban warfare, riflery, pistol shooting, military tactics, martial arts, wilderness survival and "home defense."

Several states -- California, Connecticut, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island -- have recently enacted anti-paramilitary training statutes based on a model statute drawn up by the League.

The U.S. Department of Justice, which seeks through its Community Relations Service to help communities resolve racial and ethnic disputes, reported that in 1979 and 1980 it responded to 68 alerts related

to Klan activities. These included cross burnings, armed rallies in opposition to minority protestors, fire bomb-ings, challenges to police and general harassment of blacks and Hispanics -- a new target of hate groups in the past few years.

Other Hate Groups Cited

Although total Klan membership in the U.S. is estimated between 8,000 and 10,000 members, the report said, as many as 100,000 could be considered active sympathizers, judging by Gallup polls, the attendance at Klan rallies and subscribers to Klan literature.

Other hate groups include neo-Hitlerian organizations, which, like the Klan, have become fragmented beginning in the 1970's. Among the most notarious. the report said, are the National Socialist White People's Party and the National Socialist Party of America (NSPA)

An NSPA official, Michael Allen of Chicago drew nationwide attention when he claimed that John Hinckley, Jr., the would-be assassin of President Reagan, had been a member of the organization. Allen alleged, however, that Hinckley was expelled in 1979 because "he wanted to shoot people and blow things

Among the factors contributing to the trend toward increased violence by hate groups, Reich cited what he called "a sense of frustration of a small minority of whites in the face of changing race relations, leading some to seek the simple answers offered by extremist movements." In some cases, "the extremists have exploited frustration and resentment, turning them into hate and then violence," the ADL official said.

SEARCH UNDER WAY FOR KILLERS OF THREE UNIFIL SOLDIERS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 28 (JTA) -- A search is under way for unknown gunmen who fatally shot three Irish soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) yesterday and wounded a fourth. The latter is expected to be able to offer some clues to the identity of the killers when he recovers from the heavy sedation administered because he was in a state of shock.

The killings occurred at the Irish-manned checkpost near Tibnin village in south Lebanon, a UNIFIL spokesman said. He said each soldier was hit by 6-7 bullets fired at point-blank range. The search is being carried out by UNIFIL troops and elements of the Leban-

The dead men were identified today as Cpl. Gregory Morrow, 20, and Pyts. Peter Barke, 20, and Thomas Murphy, 19. The wounded soldier is Pyt. Michael MacAleavy, 21.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A proposed cooling-off period for Presidents before they can enter politics will not apply to the incumbent President Yitzhak Navon under draft legislation being prepared by members of the Likud Knesset faction. A majority of the faction executive opposed the notion that the cooling off law apply to Navon. They feared this might be seen by the public as an expression of Likud's fear of Navon as a political rival.