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ZAIRE, ISRAEL SIGN ACCORDS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir wound up his three-day visit to Zaire today with the signing of a number of mutual cooperation agreements, including the fields of agriculture, construction and military technology. Zaire has also reportedly agreed to sign an agreement on landing rights in Kinshasa for Israeli aircraft.

Israel correspondents accompanying Shamir reported today that Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko told them during a cruise aboard his official yacht yesterday that his recognition of Israel and resumption of relations did not alter his view that the PLO was the sole spokesman for the Palestinians, who deserved a homeland of their own. Mobutu also said that Israeli troops should leave Lebanon immediately.

JEWISH SETTLERS ON WEST BANK TO TRIPLE OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- A government official told the Knesset's Economic Committee today that the number of Jewish settlers on the West Bank will be tripled over the next three years. The Jewish population will reach 75,000, according to Michael Dekel, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

Dekel said interest in settling on the West Bank was rising, not only among the traditional supporters of a "Greater Israel" such as the Orthodox Gush Emunim, but among Israelis who want to improve their housing and quality of life. He said trade unions and employers were interested in establishing new settlements for specific groups of workers and there were government plans in that direction.

The Likud government heavily subsidizes housing for Jewish settlers on the West Bank where homes cost a fraction of what they cost in Israel. The aggressive settlement policy has brought Israel sharp rebukes from Washington on grounds that it undermines the peace process.

One of the main points of President Reagan's Middle East peace proposals, announced September 1, was a call on Israel to immediately freeze settlement activity in the occupied territories. That was promptly rejected by Premier Menachem Begin.

In another development it was announced today that a new college will be established at the religious settlement of Kedumim on the West Bank to serve the Jewish population in the territory. It will be affiliated with Bar Ilan University in Ramat Gan, an Orthodox-sponsored institution.

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL BLAMES ISRAEL FOR SNAG IN TALKS ON TROOPS WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam today blamed Israel's insistence on Jerusalem as one of the sites for the Israeli-Lebanese talks for the delay in beginning negotiations on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

"The current Israeli position is unacceptable to the Lebanese government," Dam told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "The success and the stability of that government depends on the support of those within Lebanon and throughout the Arab world for whom the status of Jerusalem remains a critical issue."

"The United States acknowledges the importance of Jerusalem to Israel and to all Arab states. But insistence on a Jerusalem venue should not be made an obstacle to the start of talks on the withdrawal of external forces from Lebanon."

Goes Beyond Earlier Statement

Dam, in testifying before the committee on the situation in Lebanon, seemed to go further than the State Department's official statement yesterday in which it said it was not taking sides on the Jerusalem venue issue. Dam, who is acting Secretary of State while George Shultz is out of the country accompanying President Reagan in Latin America, has worked closely on the Lebanese problem.

In his testimony today, Dam said that the start of Israeli-Lebanese talks could provide the "stimulus" for talks to begin between Lebanon and Syria and between Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the removal of their forces.

"The continued occupation of Lebanon by foreign forces -- forces that imperil Lebanese sovereignty and threaten Israeli security -- is dangerous and should be unacceptable to the parties," he said. "President Reagan is determined to see the parties get the dispute out of the trenches and onto the table. Wrangling over procedures must end, and substantive negotiations must begin."

Once the talks began, Dam said he doubted it would take much time for arrangements for withdrawal and he believed it was still possible to accomplish this by the end of the year as the Administration had hoped. He said the U.S. has had high level talks with Syria and is convinced that Syria will withdraw its troops because it wants Israel to withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

Dam said the PLO forces that are protected by the Syrian troops would also leave. There might be some delay with other PLO forces since arrangements for finding them a new country to go to, such as was done for the PLO in Beirut, would have to be made, Dam said. He conceded that some PLO "fighters" who evacuated Beirut have infiltrated back into the Bekaa valley. But he put the figure at hundreds not the thousands Israel claims.

Dam noted that once there is a withdrawal, the multinational force (MNF) now in Beirut may have to be expanded to fill the "vacuum" that may be created before the Lebanese army could take full control of security. He said this vacuum "could endanger Lebanese sovereignty and Israeli security."

Lebanon asked yesterday for an increase of the MNF and Dam admitted today that the U.S. was asked to double its Marine contingent to about 2400 men. But he stressed that no decision would be made until agreements have been reached on the withdrawal of foreign forces.

Sen. Charles Percy (R., Ill.), the Committee's chairman and other Committee members stressed the need for the Administration to closely consult

Congress on the use of U.S. troops in Lebanon. Percy praised the democratic manner in which Israel was conducting the investigation into the Beirut massacres keeping the public informed of the evidence. He asked Dam if he could say anything about the secret investigation the Lebanese Attorney General was conducting into the massacres. Dam couldn't but said he was assured it was as "serious" as that investigation being conducted by Israel. He stressed that the U.S. at this time must show "confidence" in the new Lebanese government "in every way."

Cites Administration's 'Separate Tracks'

Dam said that while the Lebanese situation and Reagan's Mideast peace initiative were being pursued by the Administration by "separate tracks," there was a relationship between them. That relationship is symbolized by the President's appointment of Ambassador Philip Habib as his special representative with a new mandate involving Lebanon and the broader peace process.

Dam insisted that progress was being made on the peace initiative. He said King Hussein of Jordan in his public statements has been "more forthcoming" although he has not taken "the final step" on agreeing to represent the Palestinians in the autonomy negotiations. Dam noted that "if King Hussein comes to the table, we are confident that the Israeli government will not refuse to negotiate."

Meanwhile, it was reported today from Amman, Jordan that the PLO has agreed to participate in a commission with Jordan to draw up proposals for Middle East peace talks which will be presented to Reagan when Hussein meets with him in Washington December 21.

Reportedly, the commission will propose a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for the negotiations which will include such Palestinians as the ousted mayors of Halhoul and Hebron, Mohammed Milhem and Fahd Kawasme, who are not official PLO members. If this was unacceptable, a reported second proposal would be for an Arab delegation which would also include Palestinians who are acceptable to the PLO but not members.

Hike In Aid To Israel

In another Middle East development, the Senate appropriations subcommittee approved adding \$125 million in economic assistance and \$350 million in military aid to Israel's 1983 foreign aid package. The Administration has urged that Congress approve its request for \$1.7 billion in military aid and \$785 million in economic funds for Israel.

The entire issue may be academic since the lame-duck Congress now in session is not expected to act on the 1983 foreign aid bill before the Congress expires around December 17. The bill would then be considered by the new Congress which takes office in January.

LEADER OF ULTRA-RIGHTWING CHRISTIAN GROUP IN LEBANON SAYS LEBANON SHOULD SIGN PEACE AND MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY WITH ISRAEL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Etienne Sacre, leader of the ultra-rightwing "Guardians of the Cedars" movement in Lebanon, declared here today that Lebanon should not only sign a formal peace treaty with Israel but also a treaty of mutual defense, and fully backed Israel's terms for withdrawing its forces from Lebanon.

Sacre, a Maronite Christian also known as Abu Arz, demanded that all Palestinians be forced to leave Lebanon and claimed that the Syrians and the Palestine Liberation Organization "are now already coming back to Beirut."

He refused to condemn the massacre of Palestinians in the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps in west Beirut last September, calling the killings a Lebanese reaction to "eight years of bloody fighting and killings" which culminated in the assassination of Lebanon's President-elect Bashir Gemayel, leader of the Christian Phalangists.

Movement Founded In 1973

During his two-day visit to Israel, Sacre and his associates were received by Premier Menachem Begin and met with officials of the Foreign Ministry and members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee.

The far-right movement he heads was founded in 1973 as a military and political force aimed at ousting all foreigners from Lebanon. The movement is described as a small, tightly knit unit among the various Christian militias of which Gemayel's Phalangists are the major force.

Endorses Israel's Position

Sacre attacked Lebanon's incumbent Moslem Prime Minister, Shafik A-Wazzan as a member of the "old guard of corrupt politicians" and denounced him for making anti-Israel statements. He endorsed the Israeli position that negotiations with Lebanon on the withdrawal of foreign forces should take place "on a very high level, in Beirut and in Jerusalem, leading not only toward peace but toward a defense treaty."

Sacre agreed with Israel that the withdrawal of the PLO and the Syrian army should precede withdrawal by Israeli forces. "Otherwise the Syrians and the PLO will come back to Beirut, and they are now already coming back to Beirut."

He said he would like to see all Palestinians out of Lebanon because "They abused Lebanese hospitality and posed a demographic problem for the country. Let them go to the Arab countries. They are rich and empty," Sacre said.

Jumblatt Escapes Assassination Try

In other developments today, Lebanese Druze leader Walid Jumblatt narrowly escaped an assassination attempt when a bomb exploded close to the car he was driving in west Beirut. Jumblatt was hospitalized but released shortly. He is one of the chiefs of Lebanon's Druze community which has been battling Christian militias in the mountains of southeast Lebanon for the past month.

Mubarak Warns Israel

Meanwhile, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, currently visiting New Delhi, called last night for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and warned Israel not to try to achieve a peace treaty with Lebanon while its troops occupy a large part of that country.

Speaking at an official dinner in the Indian capital, Mubarak said the Palestinian problem was central to the Middle East dispute. He criticized Israel for violating the territorial integrity of Lebanon. "We cannot allow sheer force to shatter the system we founded on the rule of law and legitimacy. Israeli forces must withdraw totally from Lebanon at once," the Egyptian leader declared.

EL AL WORKERS LOSE COURT BATTLE OVER LIQUIDATION OF AIRLINE By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- El Al workers

have apparently lost their court battle to prevent the shareholders from going ahead with plans to liquidate the national airline and place it in receivership. They also lost battles with local police. A Knesset motion charging police brutality in scuffles with El Al employees last night and this morning was stricken from the agenda today.

The angry demonstrations by airline workers followed the Tel Aviv labor court's rejection yesterday of an appeal by Histadrut for a permanent restraining order. The national labor court in Jerusalem refused today to overturn the lower court's decision and ruled that a temporary injunction issued last week pending the labor appeal, will expire this Friday. The El Al shareholders will then be free to petition in district court for a liquidation order and the appointment of a receiver.

Workers And Police Clash

Two El Al workers and two policemen were hurt last night in demonstrations outside the Herzliya home of El Al board chairman Nahman Perl. Police and workers skirmished outside the Abu Kibir jail south of Tel Aviv this morning where 10 airline employees arrested last night were being detained. There were no injuries. The workers called the police "Nazis" and chanted "police state."

In the Knesset today, Labor MK Shoshana Arbely-Almosino charged that the police used excessive force to disperse the demonstrators. She blamed certain "elements in the government" for encouraging them to take a "hard hand" against El Al workers. Police conduct was also attacked by Laborite Jacques Amir and Communist MK Toufik Toubi.

But Interior Minister Yosef Burg, replying for the government, said he left it to the police to decide what was "an acceptable use of force." He asked the opposition MKs how they would "recommend the police to act when they are being called Nazis." The Knesset voted 46-42 to strike the motion from the agenda.

Some Pilots Return To Work

The fate of El Al was sealed last week when the shareholders, mainly government proxies, voted to wind up the money-losing carrier. Histadrut and the workers accused them of bad faith on grounds that all of the airline workers, except the pilots, had agreed to stiff management terms to keep El Al flying. The pilots balked at demands that they work 16 hour shifts which they said would jeopardize aircraft safety.

But some El Al pilots were back at work today. The airline, which management grounded after a wildcat strike two months ago, resumed cargo flights to Europe this morning, carrying fresh cut flowers to West Germany.

The cargo flights were not affected by the original grounding order because of the urgent need to fly perishables to west European markets. They were suspended earlier this month when the pilots and other workers walked out. About 40 workers returned to their jobs today under court orders.

FOREIGN TEACHERS CONTINUE TO BALK AT SIGNING ANTI-TERRORIST PLEDGE By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Some 100 foreign academicians teaching at West Bank universities will continue to refuse to sign an anti-

terrorist pledge demanded by the civil administration even though the form of the document has been changed.

A decision to that effect was taken at a meeting in East Jerusalem Monday but the administration was not immediately notified of it. The document requires the applicant to sign an undertaking not to support the PLO or any other hostile group as defined by law as a condition for obtaining a work permit in the territory.

So far, 21 foreign lecturers have been forced to leave the country and two others are expected to leave in a few days when their work permits expire.

Originally, the pledge was a separate form. In response to widespread protests in Israel and abroad, the civil administration, which operates under the Defense Ministry, incorporated the text into the regular application form for a work and residents permit. The heads of Arab universities on the West Bank acknowledged that this represented "some change." But the instructors insisted that the change was only cosmetic because the objectionable text remained intact.

They said they would willingly sign a commitment not to support a hostile organization but not one which mentioned the PLO by name. They maintained that to do so would be tantamount to taking sides in a political dispute and therefore an infringement on their academic freedom.

Meanwhile, Lt. Col. Shlomo Illia, an army intelligence officer, is expected to be named shortly as the new head of the civil administration on the West Bank. He will replace Hebrew University Prof. Menachem Milson who resigned in September because of the government's initial refusal to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into the west Beirut refugee camps massacres.

CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST EX-NAZI

BONN, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The State Prosecutor has dismissed charges against Kurt Becher, a Bremen grain merchant and former SS officer accused of complicity in the mass murders of Jews and other atrocities during World War II.

Becher, said to have been a confidant of SS chief Heinrich Himmler, was slated to go on trial after charges against him by a local journalist triggered a public demand for an official investigation. Last summer he resigned as a member of the board of directors of Hapag-Lloyd, the giant West German shipping company.

But the prosecutor found that similar charges against Becher had been investigated twice in Munich between 1965-70 and in each case there was insufficient evidence to bring him to trial.

UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES UPBRAIDED

BONN, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The university authorities in Kiel have been taken to task by Mayor Karl Heinz Luckhardt of that north German city and by the Social Democratic parliamentary faction of Schleswig-Holstein for refusing to establish a foundation in the names of former professors, most of them Jews, who were ousted from their jobs during the Nazi era. The Social Democrats called the university position "an alarming manifestation of disregard for the fate" of Nazi victims.

The idea for the foundation originated with students who did research on the Nazi era in Kiel. Their report noted that the city and the university in particular, were among the earliest strongholds of Nazism in Germany. They proposed the establishment of a post-graduate scholarship on the Nazi era to be awarded once every five years.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES PEACE NOW LEADER SAYS AMERICAN JEWISH AND ISRAELI PUBLIC OPINION DIVIDED OVER ISRAEL'S POLICY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- American Jewish public opinion is divided on policies of the Israel government in the same way that Israeli public opinion is divided on the same issue, Tzaly Reshef, 29, chief spokesman of the Peace Now movement, and one of its founders, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Reshef returned from a two-week visit to 10 American cities, in which he presented the views of his movement, and tried to boost the activities of American Friends of Peace Now which supports the Israeli dovish organization, Reshef noted, though, one major difference between American Jewry and Israeli public opinion.

"Whereas we have no problems expressing our criticism of the government, American Jews have a difficulty expressing it," he said. Although Reshef is well aware that American Jews do not wish to interfere in the internal issues of Israel, one of his efforts during the tour was to convince them to speak out.

"First I tried to convince them of the positions of Peace Now. Then I told them that those who agree with us, but still keep quiet, harm the State of Israel," Reshef said.

Uses Arens As An Example

In all the meetings, Reshef brought up the example of a recent recommendation by Israel's Ambassador, Moshe Arens, to the government to freeze the settlements on the West Bank for a period of half a year.

"I argued that Arens, who is not suspected of having anything against the settlements, would not have made such a recommendation had it not been for the influence of Israel's friends in the U.S. -- Jews, Senators and newsmen," Reshef stated.

A lawyer by profession, Reshef was one of the founders of Peace Now in March 1978, when the movement was formed as an extra-parliamentary movement, designed to push the government toward successful conclusion of the peace negotiations with Egypt. In 1980 he left for the U.S. for graduate law studies at Harvard University.

During his absence, the movement underwent a crisis, with most of the original leaders leaving. The crisis continued until after the general elections. Reshef returned last year, to help put the movement back on its feet -- and soon engaged in public campaigns, demanding a completion of the withdrawal from Sinai -- at the time the movement to halt the withdrawal picked up momentum, criticizing the settlements policy in the territories, and recently, denouncing the war in Lebanon.

Peace Now was one of the main organizers of the massive demonstration in Tel Aviv last September in which some 400,000 Israelis gathered to demand that the government appoint a judicial commission into the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

Following the rally, overseas interest in Peace Now mushroomed and Reshef was sent to the U.S. and Canada where he visited, among other cities, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., New Haven, Toronto, and Los Angeles. In the latter city he met with delegates attending the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

The visit, which included meetings with Jewish officials and grass roots Jews, reinforced his impression that the Israeli government was "misleading the Israeli public" that it enjoyed total support of world Jewry, specifically North American Jewry. "There is no such total support," Reshef said, neither in the leadership nor among grass roots Jews. By way of confirming this, he cited an example:

"On the way back to Israel, in Zurich, I met government Secretary Dan Meridor, who returned from a United Jewish Appeal tour to America. Meridor was under the impression that support for the government is greater than he had expected. My impression was completely to the contrary. Of course part of the explanation is that we each spoke to audiences which came to hear each one of us, but I am convinced that the line of Peace Now enjoys considerable support in the U.S."

Peace Now objected to the war in Lebanon, and is in favor of a territorial compromise in the administered territories. As such it came out in support of President Reagan's plan. Reshef said that Peace Now considers the main goal to be Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, and to work for the full implementation of the decisions of the commission of inquiry once it completes its investigation into the massacres in the west Beirut refugee camps.

ISRAEL VOLUNTEERS FORM ALIYA GARIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- A group of 54 young Americans who volunteered to work in Israel during the "Peace for the Galilee" campaign have joined together to form an aliya garin (nucleus) and will be emigrating to Israel together, Moshe Shechter, director of the Israel Aliya Center of North America, announced.

The members of the garin are college students and young people from the New York City area. The name they chose, Garin Makseh, is a shortened form of Garin Mischevrat Kayitz Shalom HaGalil, commemorating their summer of volunteer service in Israel during the war in Lebanon.

The young people went to Israel as part of the Israel recruitment drive, which sent over 750 Americans to Israel this summer to help ease the manpower shortage in Israel caused by the massive call-up of civilian reservists for active military duty. The volunteers worked in storehouses and helped save the summer harvest in the Golan, where the young people may end up living one day if they can make their dream come true to establish a young American settlement in Israel.

LEVITAS REELECTED TO CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Rep. Elliott Levitas (D. Ga.) was reelected by a two-thirds margin in his fifth term yesterday, bringing the number of Jewish Congressmen in the next House of Representatives to a record 30. Seven of them are newcomers. The next Senate, to take office in January, will also have a record number of Jews -- eight, of whom two are newcomers.

The election date for the 51-year-old Levitas and another Atlanta area Democrat incumbent, Wyche Fowler, was postponed from November 2 because of a reapportionment dispute. Levitas, an Atlanta-born lawyer, defeated Dick Winder who had received heavy support from the National Republic Congressional Committee. Fowler also won re-election.

PARIS (JTA) -- The French central welfare fund, Fonds Social Juif Unifié (FSJU), intends to strengthen its links and increase its cooperation with the Council of Jewish Federations in the U.S., David Saada, FSJU director-general, said here, upon his return from the CJF Assembly in Los Angeles.