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PROGRESS REPORTED AT TALKS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND LEBANON

By David Landau

KIRYAT SHMONA, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- Israeli, Lebanese and American negotiators sat down at this border town today for the second round of talks aimed at defining Israel's future relations with Lebanon.

The actual working session was brief. A communique issued later said progress had been made and "some differences were resolved and others were narrowed." The talks move back to Khalde in Lebanon next week.

Much of the time today was occupied with ceremonies. The Israelis stressed, particularly for the benefit of the Lebanese news media here in force, Kiryat Shmona's powerful symbolic value in the context of peace talks. David Kimche, head of the Israeli delegation, said it was "no accident" that this border town was selected as the Israeli site for the talks.

"This town and its brave people symbolized for us the threat of the terrorist presence in Lebanon, the repeated shellings and Katyusha rocket bombardments and the necessity to remove that threat," he said.

The Israeli, Lebanese and American delegations were welcomed to Kiryat Shmona with the tradition of bread-and-salt ceremony. They thanked Mayor Reuven Robert and the town council for their hospitality. The chief of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fatale, appeared genuinely moved and responded warmly to the greetings.

But the talks themselves did not appear to accelerate. An agenda remains to be agreed on by both parties and Israeli sources said they did not expect this to be accomplished today.

Joint Communique Issued

The joint communique on behalf of the three delegations was read by Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner. It said: "Negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, with the participation of the United States, continued today with the review of the positions of Lebanon and Israel. We continued our discussions about setting up an agenda for the talks. Further progress was made. Some differences were resolved and others were narrowed. The discussions will continue at our next meeting on Monday in Khalde."

Pazner stressed that the atmosphere was "friendly and cordial" but refused to say on what precise points progress was made. The Israeli delegation is under instructions from the Cabinet to stand firm on Israel's demand that normalization of relations with Lebanon be the key item. But Israel will not insist that the term "normalization" must be used.

The Lebanese priority is the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. They have agreed to consider termination of the state of war and security arrangements for Israel.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES ISRAEL'S ARMS SALES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- The fact of Israel's arms sales to many countries throughout the world--

both of new Israeli-designed and manufactured items and also of used war material -- is an open secret.

But details of what is sold, in what quantities and to whom, is a closely guarded secret. There is much speculation and many people not in the know appear to make statements, to the press and elsewhere. But those who know, don't say anything. A request for details is met with a blank stare which seems to say: "How silly can you be to ask such a question?"

Some of the smaller Israeli-produced items which are sold abroad are not such a secret, though little information is available -- apart from photographs in the press and on television. When the President's guards or secret service operatives, or anti-terrorist squads are in action, they frequently are seen carrying Israeli-made Uzzi sub-machine-guns.

These weapons are also supplied to NATO countries. In an attack on President Reagan last year, his security guards were seen brandishing such Israeli-made weapons. Other Israeli-manufactured war equipment on sale can be seen at Israeli pavilions at international air shows such as the prestigious Le Bourget show near Paris.

Highly Satisfactory Sales

Here, in addition to Israeli-made aircraft, Israeli-designed and produced sophisticated electronic equipment, including radar and guidance systems, are on display -- and obviously not for prestige or public relations purposes but rather for sale to anybody or any country interested. The sales are understood to be highly satisfactory.

But while there are few problems in the sale abroad of such wholly Israeli-produced items, there are far more problems with the sale of major items such as aircraft and tanks, part of which -- especially engines -- are imported from countries such as the United States which demand veto rights over the final disposition of the weapons.

Israel is known to have offered for sale its Kfir fighter aircraft to a number of European and Latin American countries. These potential customers have expressed interest in the Israeli product, but sales have been blocked by American refusal to allow the deals to go through because of the U.S.-made engines.

Issue Of Sales To Non-Democratic Nations

Recent visits by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to Latin American countries have focussed interest on the reported sale of used military equipment, including captured Soviet-made weapons, to those countries.

The interest has been aroused in part because of the non-democratic nature of many of those countries, as well as other countries in Africa. Feelings have been expressed that Israel should play no part in arms sales to such regimes.

What is overlooked in almost all such criticism is the fact that other democratic countries, including the U.S., Britain and France are also engaged in secret arms sales to those same countries, despite their dictatorships and other unpleasant characteristics.

Other sales of captured war material which have raised eyebrows throughout the world have included reported sales to Iran and to Argentina before, and during the recent British-Argentine war. Criticism has also been expressed about arms sales to South Africa, because of its apartheid policies. But in none of these cases are any details available about what is being offered or sold, in what quantities and at what prices.

Also undisclosed is whether such sales are direct deals between governments, or whether they are the result of aggressive sales campaigns by Israeli arms merchants who are known to spend much of their time travelling about the world looking for customers for the vast quantities of arms captured in Israeli wars, or offering for sale equipment produced by Israel itself.

Arms sales are big business in any country. And in Israel they obviously are a welcome source of foreign currency, as well as the dubious advantage of helping to win political friends and influence otherwise unfriendly or neutral nations.

STATE DEPT. CONCERNED OVER DECREASE IN NUMBER OF SOVIET JEWS ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE THIS YEAR

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- The State Department, voicing "deep concern" over the large decrease in the number of Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union this year, pledged today to continue efforts to convince the USSR to lift its restrictions on emigration.

Our government is committed to making every effort to try to convince the Soviets to ease their restrictive practices," Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg said. He stated that the figures released yesterday in New York by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry that only 2,670 Jews were granted exit visas in 1982, as compared to 9,447 in 1981, were "basically correct." (See separate story P.4.)

Romberg noted, however, that the State Department does not yet have the official figures for 1982. "Through the first 11 months of this year, 2,512 Soviet Jews emigrated from the USSR and the annual figure will undoubtedly be the lowest since 1970 when large-scale emigration first began," he said. The largest number of emigrants—51,320 — was in 1979.

"The severe constriction of emigration by the Soviet authorities in recent years is a matter of deep concern to the U.S. government," Romberg said, "and this concern has been communicated to the Soviet government at every level, both in public forums and through diplomatic channels. We regard the Soviet reductions in emigration as clearly contradictory to the principle of freedom of movement and family reunification contained in the Helsinki Final Act to which the USSR is a signatory."

He added: "We know that there are still thousands of people in the Soviet Union who want to leave but have been denied that basic right because of procedural pretexts or arbitrary decisions by Soviet officials."

ISRAELI POWs IN LEBANON DESCRIBED AS 'VERY HOMESICK'

GENEVA, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- Representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) stationed in Lebanon this week visited the six Israeli soldiers being held as prisoners of war in Lebanon by the Palestine Liberation Organiza-

tion, the ICRC reported here. The visit took place in accordance with the regulations of the Geneva Convention, which means that the ICRC representatives were accompanied by doctors but no witnesses.

The ICRC spokesman said that according to the report he received, the Israelis were in good health but were "very homesick." The ICRC has been unsuccessful in trying to obtain permission from a PLO splinter group—which is holding two other Israeli soldiers as prisoners of war.

Dr. Ovadia Soffer, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, visited the ICRC last week and expressed concern that the ICRC visits to the Israeli POWs were not frequent enough.

KNESSET CALLS FOR INQUIRY PANEL INTO FATAL SHOOTING BY POLICE OF TEL AVIV SLUM RESIDENT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- The Knesset called yesterday for a judicial inquiry into the fatal shooting by police of a resident of the Kfar-Salemech slum quarter of Tel Aviv last Thursday. Interior Minister Yosef Burg appointed an examining judge.

The victim, Shimon Yehoshua, a 29-year-old Oriental Jew, allegedly opened fire first on police who were summoned to the quarter to quell a disturbance there. The incident touched off a wave of vandalism and defacements against Ashkenazic Jews in Tel Aviv which spread this week to Jerusalem.

The inquiry was supported by all Knesset factions. But during the debate, Likud MKs accused the Labor Alignment of exploiting the incident for political reasons. The Laborites accused Mayor Shlomo Lehat of Tel Aviv, a member of Likud, of "selectivity" in enforcing demolition orders.

The trouble arose in Kfar Salemech when municipal workers were sent to demolish an extension to a dwelling occupied by a large family who allegedly added a room without the required permit. Family members and their neighbors pelted the workers with rocks and burned tires in the street.

EXPERT APPOINTED BY VATICAN TO PROBE BANK SCANDAL SAID TO BE AN EX-NAZI

ROME, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- One of four experts appointed by the Vatican to investigate the Banco Ambrosiano scandal is allegedly a former Nazi, Hermann Abs, who was once a key financial advisor to Hitler.

The Nazi war crimes documentation center in Vienna, headed by Simon Wiesenthal, identified Abs and is urging the Vatican to remove him from the panel. A similar call was issued yesterday by the Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University in Los Angeles.

Abs is presently honorary chairman of West Germany's Deutsche Bank. According to Wiesenthal, he headed the largest bank in Nazi Germany from 1941-45, supervised the expropriation of private businesses and participated with I.G. Farben in building a synthetic rubber plant staffed by slave labor. The Vatican was reportedly embarrassed by these disclosures.

JEWISH GROUP HAILS MOVE BY JUSTICE DEPT. UNIT TO DEPORT FORMER NAZI

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- A move by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) to deport a war criminal was hailed here by Richard Berman, chairman of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Commission on the Holocaust and the Prosecution of Nazi-War Criminals.

A deportation order was signed in Chicago on December 23 against Hans Lipschitz, a 63-year-old retired factory worker. Lipschitz, who served under the Nazis as member of the SS Death's Head Battalion at

Auschwitz and Birkenau and as a camp guard, was ordered to leave the U.S. in 120 days. He has chosen to go to West Germany. He agreed not to contest charges that he had lied to immigration authorities about his past activities when he entered the U.S. illegally in 1956.

Allan Ryan, director of the OSI, said that Lipschis had been among those "intimately caught up in the process of killing as many people as possible as quickly as possible" at the Nazi death camps. Berman expressed hope that the speedy resolution of the case would serve as a model for a number of similar cases pending in the New York metropolitan area and that it could be the first deportation of a Nazi war criminal from this country since World War II.

PERU'S SENATE CALLS FOR— SHCHARANSKY'S IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA) — The Peruvian Senate has unanimously approved a resolution supporting the immediate release from Soviet prison and freedom to emigrate for the Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky, the World Jewish Congress reported today.

Shcharansky is reported to be in poor health resulting from a hunger strike he began on September 27 in Chistopol Prison, a strict regime labor camp. His action was undertaken to protest the Soviet authority's confiscation of his mail and their refusal to allow him to receive visits from his family, despite such allowances under the Soviet penal system.

According to the Latin American Jewish Congress, the resolution was adopted following a motion by Sen. Pedro Yugar Gallegos. The text is unambiguous in its appeal:

"The Senate of the Republic resolves to direct itself to the government of the Soviet Union so that the intellectual Anatoly Shcharansky, who is on a hunger strike and in a grave state of starvation, is freed and given the right to emigrate from the USSR and so give respect to the Helsinki Accords and the moral commitment it has with the civilized people of the world."

The resolution also makes reference to Shcharansky's present circumstances: "This Senate's expression in support of civil liberties reaffirms its fervent desire that Mr. Anatoly Shcharansky be set free before it is too late."

Peru's President Reassures Jewish Community

In a separate development, the Latin American Jewish Congress reported that Peruvian President Belaunde Terry has reassured the Jewish community following an attack on the main synagogue of Lima earlier this month.

The 5,000-member community organized in the Asociación Judía del Perú, member community of the WJC, reported that despite property damage, there were no victims in the attack. The Asociación issued a forceful communique following the attack:

"The establishment in our country of an office of the Palestinian terrorist organization, the PLO—which has a cruel record of terrorist acts in the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America—has been accompanied by the spreading of distressing propaganda, filled with hate and anti-Semitism and fomenting acts of violence. Equal responsibility is borne by certain sectors of the press in this country, which have contributed to the exacerbation of anti-Jewish feeling."

ROSEN SAYS 1,606 JEWS LEFT RUMANIA THIS YEAR COMPARED TO 1,067 IN 1981

BUCHAREST, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania said here today that Jewish emigration from this country has increased by close to 50 percent in 1982 as compared to 1981 in spite of the dwindling community. In a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Rosen said that 1,606 Jews left for Israel this year compared to 1,067 last year and 1,119 in 1980.

Rosen said that 737 have obtained all the necessary authorizations to leave for Israel but have not yet availed themselves of exit visas. He said that according to the lists deposited with the Federation of Rumanian Jewish Communities, 750 people have applied for authorization to leave and are still waiting for the necessary documents.

The Rumanian Chief Rabbi stated last month that no emigrating Jews have been asked to pay the recently legislated education tax which requires all emigrants to repay the State for their free secondary and higher education. Rosen explained that he had obtained assurances from "the highest authorities" that this tax would not be levied on Jews leaving for Israel.

COMPROMISE OFFERED ON STATUS OF REFORM RABBIS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Supreme Court Justice Meir Shamgar proposed a compromise today in connection with efforts by Reform rabbis to gain equal status with the Orthodox religious establishment.

Shamgar suggested that Reform rabbis be permitted to perform marriages in Israel while the Orthodox would retain their prerogative as registrars of all marriages. The Orthodox have enjoyed a government-backed monopoly of religious functions in Israel since the State was formed. Marriages and other rites performed by non-Orthodox rabbis are invalid.

The Reform movement is protesting this situation in a hearing before a panel of five justices. Counsel for the State, which backs the Orthodox rabbinate, claimed it acts on behalf of all Jews in the country, regardless of whether they recognize it. "There is no room for various Jewish religions," he said. The court will hear the appellants' case at its next hearing.

IAI HOPES TO HAVE MODELS OF NEW JETS READY FOR TESTING BY 1986

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) — Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) hopes to have five prototype models of the new Lavie Israeli-designed jet fighter ready for testing by 1986. Line production of the new plane will commence shortly thereafter, following any necessary alterations in light of the test experience.

Brig. Gen. Menachem Eini is leaving the army this weekend to take up a civilian post as director of the Lavie project. He will replace Brig. Gen. Amos Lapidot, who has just been appointed commander of the Israel Air Force, in place of Maj. Gen. David Ivri, who leaves the army today after 30 years of military service. Ivri has been chairman of the Board of IAI.

GENEVA (JTA) — Safwat el Cherif, Egyptian Undersecretary of Information, said here that Egypt will produce full-length films for world distribution dealing with Egypt's military victories in the Yom Kippur War.

TWO JEWISH GROUPS CALL 1982 A DISASTER FOR SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- Two Jewish organizations, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYCSJ) and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ), called 1982 a disaster for Soviet Jewry. Figures released by the two groups showed that the number of Jews allowed to emigrate from the USSR this year was 2,670, the lowest since the two agencies started keeping records 12 years ago.

At a press conference yesterday, at the Association of the Bar, GNYCSJ chairman Dr. Seymour Lachman and NCSJ vice chairman Rabbi David Hill said the number of Jews allowed to emigrate in 1982 represented a drop of about 72 percent from 1981, when 9,447 Jews were allowed to leave. They also contrasted the figures for 1982 with those for 1979, when a record 51,320 Jews were permitted to emigrate.

Lachman, who is also the dean of the City University of New York, illustrated the enormity of the Soviet Jewish emigration problem when he held up four thick Manhattan telephone books.

"There are approximately three million names listed in these books," he said, "the same as the number of Jews in the Soviet Union." Lachman then ripped three pages from one of the books and put them aside. "These few pages represent the number of Jews who left the USSR in 1982," he said. "The four books represent those Jews who remain."

Says The Road To Freedom Is Closed

Lachman declared: "The road to freedom is now closed to Soviet Jews. The number of Jews allowed to emigrate in 1982 has plummeted by a staggering 95 percent in the past three years. In addition to bringing emigration to a halt, Soviet authorities continue their harsh crackdown on Jewish religious and cultural activities."

"In short," he added, "the final years of the Brezhnev regime were disastrous for Soviet Jews. Soviet authorities have systematically isolated Soviet Jews from the world Jewish community and from their historic, religious and cultural roots. It is time for the new Soviet leadership to put the Soviet Union back on the path of international law."

Lachman specifically noted that although the Soviets had signed the Helsinki Final Act in 1975, they have consistently violated its human rights provisions.

Growing Soviet Anti-Semitism

Lachman pointed to a growing pattern of Soviet anti-Semitism. He said that he finds the reinstatement of a Jewish quota system in Soviet universities particularly disturbing. "The pattern of Soviet anti-Semitism is reminiscent of one of the worst features of Czarist Russia, with one difference -- under the czars, Jews were allowed to emigrate. It is a tragic irony that we can make this observation today, exactly 60 years after the Soviet formed a new government in response to the repressive czarist regime."

Lachman urged Western governments and world Jewry to "intensify their efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry and respond vigorously to Soviet oppression." He outlined a two-step strategy.

"First," he said, "Jews in Western countries must demonstrate to their national governments that the issue of Soviet Jewry is at the top of Jewish communal agendas. Second, Western governments must attempt to raise the issue of emigration and the treatment of Soviet Jewry at

every meeting with Soviet officials, on all levels." Hill maintained that the Soviets had "tightened the reins" on Soviet Jews by arresting a number of long-term refuseniks, most recently Novosibirsk activist Feliks Kochubievsky, who received a two-and-a-half-year labor camp sentence.

Former Prisoner of Conscience Iosif Begun, exiled twice before, also was arrested recently and now awaits an unprecedented third trial and a long term in prison or labor camp. Although former Prisoner of Conscience Evgeny Lein was released from labor camp in mid-year, he has already been threatened with re-arrest.

The status of two Jewish Prisoners of Conscience deteriorated significantly this past year, illustrating the endless injustice inflicted on Jews already suffering under the Soviet penal system.

Lachman cited the case of Anatoly Shcharansky, sentenced in 1978 to 13 years imprisonment, who undertook a hunger strike in September to protest his total isolation by Soviet authorities. He also mentioned that Aleksandr Paritsky, sentenced in 1981 to three years in a labor camp, was transferred in October to a strict regime prison as further punishment for refusing to recant his "crimes."

Pressure Against Jewish Life

Hill stressed that Soviet pressure is being directed against all facets of Jewish cultural and religious life. "Hebrew teachers are severely harassed because of their efforts to promote the historic language of their people," he said. Yuli Kosharovskiy and Ravel Abramovich, of Moscow, were forced to curtail their Hebrew instruction following threats of arrest and harm to their families.

"Fortunately," said Hill, "they and others persist in carrying out this vital mission. Hebrew is a lifeline for all Jews, and those who care will not allow it to be cut." He also reported that KGB raids on the homes of Hebrew teachers in several major Soviet cities are "further evidence that the campaign to crush Hebrew study is sweeping the country."

Lachman concluded by saying that Jewish emigration is a "litmus test for the acceptability of Soviet behavior." He called upon Yuri Andropov, the new Soviet leader, to demonstrate that the USSR can live in a society of free nations, within the bounds of international agreements on basic human rights. "Let Soviet Jews live as Jews," he declared, "or let them leave."

TEACHERS JOIN STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA) -- The strike of public employees reached massive proportions today as some 60,000 school teachers walked off the job, canceling classes for over one million children, nearly a third of Israel's population.

The teachers, on a one-day strike, joined 80,000 other civil service and municipal employees who have been striking since the beginning of the week. An additional 40-50,000 workers are in the second day of a two day work stoppage. Non-medical hospital personnel have threatened to walk out next week along with employees of government agencies and institutions.

The strikes were called by Histadrut to back its demand for wage increases for workers whose income has been eroded by triple-digit inflation. Representatives of the labor federation and the Finance Ministry have been locked in negotiations for the past few days but the two sides are said to be still far apart.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Tourism to Israel was down 12 percent this year over 1981, with a consequent drop of some \$200 million in income.