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TWO PALESTINIAN NOTABLES INDICATE WILLINGNESS TO BE MEMBERS OF A JOINT PALESTINIAN-JORDAN GROUP IN PEACE TALKS WITH ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Mayor Elias Freij, of Bethlehem, and Rashad A-Shawa, the deposed Mayor of Gaza, both indicated today that they would be willing to be members of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to engage in peace talks with Israel.

Their names were among a half dozen Palestinians mentioned by the Saudi Arabian newspaper Ar-Raya yesterday as proposed members of a joint delegation. Freij and A-Shawa said they welcomed the idea but could not vouch for the accuracy of the newspaper report.

The others mentioned were Anwar Al-Khatib, the former Governor of Jerusalem when it was under Jordanian rule; Jamil Sabry Khalaf, Mayor of Jericho; Fahd Kawasme, the former Mayor of Hebron who was deported by the Israeli authorities; and Hikmat Al Masri, of Nablus, a former Speaker of the Jordanian parliament.

None of these men can be identified as a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization. But none is likely to be unacceptable to the PLO should negotiations with Israel materialize. The issue of non-PLO Palestinian participation with Jordan in peace talks has been one of the major issues in the recent discussions between PLO chief Yasir Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan.

Ar-Raya reported yesterday that Arafat has agreed to such participation to overcome Israel's refusal to negotiate with the PLO. But PLO radicals issued a statement yesterday condemning President Reagan's Middle East initiative and the Arafat-Hussein dialogue. This indicates a split within the PLO and casts doubt on Arafat's ability to honor any commitment toward peace talks.

U.S. INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS BELIEVE USSR IS DEPLOYING SAM-5 MISSILES IN SYRIA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- American intelligence officials believe that the Soviet Union has deployed SAM-5 ground-to-air missiles in Syria, thus lending support to Israeli government officials who earlier this month claimed that missile sites had been prepared in Syria.

According to the U.S. officials, the sites are located near Damascus and Homs, north of Lebanon. This would put most of Israel's air space within Syrian range, they added, noting that the missiles have a range of about 200 miles. The officials said that the SAM-5s, although fully effective for a shorter range, would nevertheless pose a new threat to Israel.

Both Israeli officials earlier, and U.S. intelligence officials yesterday pointed out that this is the first time that the SAM-5s, the Soviet Union's principal air defense missile, had been deployed outside the USSR and the Warsaw Pact nations. The U.S. officials said there had been two sea shipments of SAM-5 canisters to Syria last week and there was no reason to believe that they did not contain SAM-5s.

These missiles replace the 30-mile-range SAM-6s which the Syrians deployed in the Bekaa valley, east of Beirut, and which Israeli armed forces knocked out during their invasion of Lebanon last year.

FORMER FRENCH CABINET MINISTER TO BE CHARGED WITH INVOLVEMENT IN DEPORTING JEWS DURING WWII

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Maurice Papon, who served in the Cabinet of former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, will be formally charged in Bordeaux tomorrow with "crimes against humanity" allegedly committed when he was an official of the Vichy government during World War II. The charges against him include, among other things, facilitating French police participation in rounding up Jews for deportation to death camps.

Papon, who was Giscard's Secretary for Budget and previously served as Prefect of Police in Paris, requested the investigating magistrate, Jean-Claud Nicod, to prefer charges against him so that he would have access to documents on which the charges are based. He has denied the accusations and claimed they are politically motivated.

Several Jewish families in Paris, Bordeaux and Rheims have been urging an investigation of Papon since the newspaper Canard Enchaîné accused him of wartime collaboration with the Nazis two years ago.

Papon was a senior official in the Vichy Interior Ministry during the war. Jewish groups have charged that he signed orders providing for French police to round up Jews for deportation in the Gironda Prefecture which was under his jurisdiction. About 1,700 Jews were deported from that region. Few survived.

Papon claims in his defense that he was an active member of the French resistance and served the Vichy regime at its request. A commission appointed by a group of ex-resistance fighters investigated Papon's activities after the Canard Enchaîné article. It came to the conclusion that he should have resigned his Vichy post in 1942. On the other hand, it credited him with trying to help some Jews arrested by the Nazis or on their wanted list.

REPORT ISRAELI EXPORTS TO LEBANON HAVE JUMPED FROM \$800,000 LAST JUNE TO \$9.3 MILLION IN OCTOBER

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Israeli exports to Lebanon have "taken a quantum leap" since last June, rising from a mere \$800,000 to \$9.3 million in October, according to the Financial Times of London.

The paper's Beirut correspondent, Nora Boustany, quotes an Israel army spokesman as estimating that Israel's trade with Lebanon is already averaging \$20 million a month, half in transit goods and half in Israeli-made exports, which is around 10 percent of Lebanon's estimated imports last year.

This trade is flourishing despite threats by Lebanese Premier Shafik Wazzan that dealers in Israeli produce will be stripped of their nationality.

Hundreds of Lebanese entrepreneurs have been requesting leaflets and catalogues about Israeli suppliers from David Katarivas, an Israeli trade official based northeast of Beirut, The Financial Times added.

Reporting that hundreds of Lebanese tourists, smugglers and businessmen are entering Israel every day, the paper said this de facto normalization was most evident at Christmas when thousands of Lebanese took package tours to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and other places.

Israelis Visit Lebanon Freely

In the opposite direction, Israeli businessmen and truck drivers visit Lebanon freely. "Fifty to 60 trucks laden with Israeli bananas, apples, avocados, tangerines, passion fruit, sugar, poultry, candy and biscuits, plastic ware and construction materials file through Rosh Hanikra daily," The Financial Times reported.

The Lebanese government, worried by this "dumping" of cheap Israeli goods, is said to have approached Eastern bloc countries to find markets for local agricultural production which would otherwise be unsold.

Twenty litres of Israeli olive oil were selling at 150 Israeli Shekels in south Lebanon, half the cost of producing the same amount in Lebanon. The Financial Times described the southern town of Nabatiyeh as "brimming with Israeli goods" and quoted a local trader as angrily rejecting Lebanese government complaints. "We buy what we can afford," he said.

On the streets of Beirut, the paper's reporter saw Israeli avocados being sold in boxes labelled "new fruit." A Moslem vendor of Israeli tangerines said his local Moslem priest had told him "it was all right as long as Israel was not written on the boxes."

Lebanon may also be serving as a conduit for Israeli goods entering other Arab countries, The Financial Times suggested. It quoted Katarivas as saying that at the beginning of the Israeli push into Lebanon last year, Lebanese interest was mainly focussed on food products. "Now this is dying out and giving way to other goods, such as shoes and plastic ware."

The Israeli port of Haifa was also being used by Lebanese importers, cutting Lebanese government income from customs income. The transshipment through Haifa opened during the Israeli siege of Beirut and is still operating.

4 ISRAELIS KILLED IN FREAK ACCIDENTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Unrelated freak accidents took the lives of two Israeli soldiers and two civilians yesterday. A third soldier was injured. A Tel Aviv municipal worker sustained superficial injuries when his vehicle struck a mine near Kfar Saba this morning. Police sealed off the area and detained about a dozen Arabs found in the vicinity for questioning.

The two soldiers were killed when a civilian semi-trailer truck halted at a military roadblock in the Jordan Valley, rolled over on top of a pup tent in which three off-duty soldiers were resting. One soldier was killed instantly and another died a short while later. The third soldier was hospitalized as was the truck driver who suffered from shock.

At a railroad siding at Bnei Brak yesterday, two civilian workers were caught in a giant vacuum machine which sucks grain from railroad

cars into trackside storage silos. Both men were buried alive under tons of grain. One had reportedly slipped and fell into the suction machine and the other was sucked under when he tried to rescue his companion.

CHURBA: ECONOMIC GREED RULES U.S. POLICY IN THE MIDEAST

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., Jan. 18 (JTA) -- "Commercialism -- economic greed -- rather than the best security interest of the United States is dominating our policy," Dr. Joseph Churba, head of the Center for International Security, told the National Board of Hadassah at its opening session of the midwinter meeting here at the Concord Hotel.

Churba, a former top official in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said that now that Eugene Rostow, who was dismissed last week after a stormy tenure as the director of the same agency, following the resignations of Secretary of State Alexander Haig and National Security Advisor Richard Allen, "the pro-Saudi Arabian group is in full control, and those who believe in the intrinsic values of Israel as America's best ally in the Middle East are no longer represented among the policy makers."

Churba stressed that "it is now up to Congress and the people of the United States to let the President know that they value the Israel connection. And I am not referring to the Jewish community. The general American public and retired military leaders who are free to express themselves, all understand the geopolitical importance of Israel in the Levant."

Furthermore, Churba said, "If the present Administration team should attempt to exert leverage on Israel in favor of the Palestinians to placate their Saudi-Arabian clients, Israel could 'go it alone'."

Israel Has New Military Significance

Churba said that "Israel has assumed a new military significance for the U.S." He pointed out that "within the space of one week (during the Lebanon war) it destroyed \$3 billion worth of Soviet equipment and captured \$2 billion worth of the same, while utilizing no more than 10 percent of its capabilities. Were the superior Israeli war technology and tactics grafted onto the NATO capabilities, it would be possible to eliminate the Soviet superiority on the Central Front."

Israel, he pointed out, "has military self-sufficiency, superior manpower and advanced technology. One cannot stabilize the Middle East theater without Israel any more than Western Europe without West Germany, or the Far East without Japan."

Churba downgraded the threat of a general Arab-Israel war for the balance of this decade saying "Arab military power has virtually collapsed notwithstanding the Soviet replenishment to Syria. The Persian Gulf region remains the epicenter of global politics and whichever way the Iraq-Iran war goes, Saudi Arabia stands to lose. Events there will prove paramount to the Palestinian issue."

'The Boys From Bechtel'

Calling Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, and President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, Philip Habib, "the boys from Bechtel," Churba asserted that as long as policy making is in their hands U.S. power and diplomacy will be irrelevant in the region. "The three Secretaries were officials of the Bechtel Corporation before joining the Reagan Administration. Given Bechtel's business interests in Saudi Arabia, many Congressmen and Jewish leaders were concerned that they would "tilt" toward Saudi Arabia in their Administration functions.

"But Saudi Arabia is no longer the all-powerful banker who pulls the strings," Churba said. "Between the oil glut and the world-wide depression -- as well as the religious and political ferment in the Arab world -- it is a country at risk and growing weaker. Its importance to the present U.S. team is not as a guardian of the Persian Gulf but as a market for U.S. goods."

Churba maintained that the Administration will continue its present campaign of pressuring Israel and threatening to delegitimize it until 1983-1984.

U.S. AGREES WITH FORD'S, CARTER'S VIEW THAT ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS POSE A PROBLEM TO MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The State Department said today that former Presidents Carter and Ford, in a jointly written article, have "focused rightly on Israeli settlements on the West Bank as a "problem" in the Middle East peace negotiations.

But while Department spokesman John Hughes said the settlements were a "problem which President Reagan has identified as an obstacle to peace," he refused to go along with the two former Presidents who said it was the "major obstacle" for moderate Arabs to join the peace process.

In the copyrighted article in the forthcoming February Readers Digest, Carter and Ford said, "Israel must halt the settlement policy -- a move that might alone break the diplomatic logjam." (See full story in January 18 Bulletin.)

Noting that Reagan urged a freeze on further settlements in his September 1 peace initiative, Hughes said, "Israel's long term security can only be assured by real peace and real peace can only be achieved through a negotiated exchange of occupied Arab territories." He stressed that the Reagan Administration has said "on a number of occasions" that the settlement policy "damages the chances for peace."

But Hughes refused to restate the position of the Ford and Carter Administrations that the settlements are illegal. The Reagan Administration has never questioned their legality but only said that they are "unhelpful" to the peace process.

UN TO EXTEND UNIFIL MANDATE

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The Security Council will meet tomorrow to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which expires tomorrow. Brian Urquhart, Undersecretary General for Special Political Affairs of the UN, said today that he expects the Security Council to extend the UNIFIL mandate for a period of six months. He said Israel and Lebanon have consented to this extension.

VATICAN GUIDELINES FOR TEACHING RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AWAITED

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Italian Jewish leaders are awaiting with intense interest publication of a Vatican document which, among other things, will contain guidelines for the teaching of religion in public schools. Catholicism is presently a compulsory subject from which students may be excused only on written request.

The Church announced yesterday the imminent publication of the document, drafted under the auspices of Msgr. Clemente Riva, head of the

Ecumenical Commission of the Diocese of Rome. It is titled "An Outline for An Ecumenical Pastoral," and contains a special section on "relations with the Jews." The document will also serve as a guideline for teaching catechism and for the content of sermons and homilies delivered by priests in the Roman diocese.

It comes at a time when the Jewish community in Rome has been moving steadily toward cooperation with civic authorities and joint actions to combat anti-Semitism in the aftermath of the fatal attack on worshippers outside the Main Synagogue last October 9. Part of the program to combat anti-Semitism is to spread knowledge about Judaism in the city.

The Jewish community here has had no official contacts with the Catholic hierarchy since Pope John Paul II met briefly with the Chief Rabbi of Rome, Elio Toaff, two years ago, in a church compound near the old Jewish ghetto. Toaff has spoken recently of the "lack of developments" issuing from that much publicized encounter. It remains to be seen whether the forthcoming Vatican document reflects such developments.

VIGILS FOR WALLENBERG

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- About 20 persons held a 30-minute candlelight vigil across from the Soviet Embassy here last night to mark the 38th anniversary of the arrest of Raoul Wallenberg by the Red Army in Budapest. The Swedish businessman-diplomat, who is credited with saving more than 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis, is believed to be still alive in a Soviet labor camp.

Stewart Klein, a member of the Free Wallenberg Committee, which sponsored the demonstration, read a letter addressed to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov urging him to free Wallenberg. The demonstrators unsuccessfully tried to deliver the letter to the Embassy. Klein mailed a copy of the letter to the Embassy and to Moscow.

The letter, similar to the one the Wallenberg family has sent to Andropov, noted that "a mistake was made" when Wallenberg was arrested by the Soviets. "How greatly to your credit it would be to rectify this tragic error at last," Andropov was urged. "It is now within your power to right this terrible wrong."

The letter also suggested to Andropov that there could be no "better way to show the sincerity of your new government's intentions to a doubting world than to free Wallenberg." A similar candlelight vigil was held last night across from the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Meanwhile, New York State Senators Carol Berman, Manfred Ohrenstein and Donald Halperin, all Democrats, have introduced a resolution in support of the efforts of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States and as an expression "of our concerted support and of our unyielding commitment to effect the immediate release of Raoul Wallenberg from the Soviet Union."

In an effort to establish lasting recognition for Wallenberg's efforts, Berman and Ohrenstein have written to the chairman of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, to nominate Wallenberg for the Nobel Peace Prize. Berman has also proposed that Chancellor of the State University of New York, Clifford Wharton, award an honorary degree to Wallenberg, as an appropriate commemoration by the people of New York State.

ATHLETES FROM LATIN AMERICA TO PARTICIPATE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HAPOEL GAMES IN MAY

By Haskell Cohen

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Athletes from Central and South American countries will participate for the first time in the Hapoel Games this year in Israel, it was announced here by Isaac Ofek, president of the Israel Olympic Committee and chairman of the Hapoel Games organizing committee.

Ofek, addressing a group of labor leaders at a luncheon at the Sheraton Centre last Friday, said that Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, San Salvador and Guatemala have accepted invitations and will send their elite squads to the Games which will be held in stadiums throughout Israel May 1-7. He also said that African countries which have accepted invitations to the Games are Kenya, the Ivory Coast and Zaire.

Ofek surprised his audience by announcing that Egypt likewise had accepted an invitation but said he was not certain whether Egypt would follow through and send a team because of the change in the political situation in the Middle East between the time it accepted the invite and now.

In addition, Ofek said he will meet with the president of the Lebanese Olympic Committee delegation in Los Angeles this week and intends to invite him to send athletes to the May events, which he termed "the Peace Games." The president of the Lebanese Olympic Committee is Pierre Gemayel, the father of President Amin Gemayel. Representatives of Olympic Committees from around the world, including Israel, are meeting this week in Los Angeles.

Star Athletes To Participate

The Israel Olympic Committee chairman said that a total of 1,500 athletes will perform at the various competitions. The United States is expected to send 100 star athletes, he said. He indicated that Rumania's great gymnast, Nadja Cominici, has already accepted an invitation and will perform in the gymnastics competition.

Ofek said that Sebastian Coe, the British star runner, who earlier this month was a guest of honor at a luncheon given by the Hapoel Organizing Committee in Tel Aviv, told the gathering there that he might also participate in the Games.

The quadrennial event is under the patronage of President Yitzhak Nivon. He will be the honored guest at the opening ceremonies in Jaffa on May 1. Premier Menachem Begin will be the honored guest at the closing ceremony in Haifa on May 7, Ofek said.

ORTHODOX RABBI CALLS FOR UNITING WITH ALL BRANCHES OF JUDAISM TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING JEWS

SPRING GLEN, N.Y., Jan. 18 (JTA) -- A leading Orthodox rabbi said here tonight that the only way to successfully address the many challenges facing Jews and Judaism "is to regroup and strengthen our forces by uniting with all branches of Judaism in those areas where we can be most effective without yielding our own individualities and loyalties. This would also require a wide reappraisal of areas in which existing organizational functions overlap."

Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, also told the more than 200 rabbis attending the Council's midwinter conference at the Homowack Lodge that they must "reach out beyond the confines of the congregation and create a corps of volunteers to serve" in various community efforts.

He pointed out that "we often overlook the crying needs that are just beyond our immediate congregational perimeters." Referring to the Jewish poor who are generally outside of the organized congregation, the rising rate of violent crime in the synagogues and such international issues as the almost total shutdown of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, Klaperman declared:

"We must initiate a significant program to rehabilitate the poor, economically and socially, to restore dignity and fellowship as well as food and lodging to their tired lives. Rabbis should also join community efforts to fight and contain the violent crime which is shrinking and inhibiting the functional use and pleasures of city living. We cannot just sit back and decry the infringement on our freedom of movement and enjoyment without actively joining the effort to contain and diminish crimes."

Forging New Partnerships

Klaperman also called for "forging new partnerships" with the young people and the slowly rising members of "baale teshuva" (newly returned Jews) to religious observance. He pointed out that the "baale teshuva" find themselves lonely travelers on the road to Judaism because they have left their families and friends behind as they are absorbed into their new way of life.

He called upon the rabbis to help integrate "baale teshuva" into their congregations by encouraging them to become part of their congregations and by twinning them with families more securely rooted in Judaism. He also urged that the rabbis strengthen new partnerships with the young people of their congregations.

"Our leadership is getting old and we have to develop and encourage replacements from the ranks of the young," Klaperman said. "In some cases we will have to take chances on some young people -- but they must be shown that we see them as part and parcel of the Jewish caravan and who must ultimately take their places at its head."

Soviet Jewry Issue

Klaperman, who is a former chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry and one of its early organizers, said the rabbis "must also become activists in an all-out battle to help free the imprisoned Jews of the Soviet Union" and to exert every effort to keep Soviet Jewish emigration at the top of the Jewish action agenda.

He decried the policies of American Jewish organizations which have assisted Soviet Jewish emigres to come to the U.S. rather than to Israel. Calling that policy "shortsighted," he pointed out that this policy deprived Israel of a vital resource of manpower to help develop the land and at the same time furnished the USSR with an excuse "to shut down the gates to Jewish freedom."

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VIENNA (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism has declined appreciably in Austria, especially among young people but there has been a "dramatic drop of sympathy" for Israel according to the results of a survey published in the January issue of the Journal Fuer Sozialforschung (Journal for Social Research).