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'BUTCHER OF LYON' IS RETURNED TO FRANCE; IS FORMALLY CHARGED WITH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- Klaus Barbie, one of the most notorious Nazi war criminals still alive, was returned last night to Lyon, the French city where he served as gestapo chief during World War II. He will go on trial for his role in the deportation of thousands of French Jews, the murder of French resistance leader Jean Moulin and other crimes which earned him the title "butcher of Lyon" 40 years ago.

Barbie, 69, was handed over to French authorities yesterday after his expulsion from Bolivia, a country where he found haven shortly after the war and obtained citizenship in 1952 under the alias Klaus Altmann. Upon his arrival in France aboard a military plane he was flown by helicopter to Lyon where an investigating magistrate formally charged him with crimes against humanity. If found guilty, he faces life imprisonment.

Although French courts sentenced Barbie to death in absentia in 1946 and 1954, capital punishment has since then been abolished in France and the death sentences have been voided by the statute of limitations. Meanwhile, he is being held in Montluc Prison in Lyon.

Might Take A Year Before Trial Starts

Legal experts say that Barbie's trial will start in a year, at the earliest, as hundreds of witnesses have to be heard and tons of documents have to be studied. Legal experts also say that his trial will have to be based on his anti-Jewish activities since his responsibility in the arrest, torture and murder of resistance fighters is also voided by the statute of limitations and could be challenged in court. The "butcher of Lyon" is expected to appoint West German lawyers specializing in the defense of former Nazis, as his attorneys.

French individuals interviewed yesterday and today on radio and television networks generally said they strongly favor Barbie's arrest and trial. Moulin's widow said last night, "What Barbie deserves is death. I hope someone will manage to kill him."

(The Israeli Justice Ministry said today in Jerusalem that it has not yet received a formal request from France to supply evidence or witnesses for Barbie's trial. Officials said that once a request is received, the necessary information could be prepared in a few days. Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir stated: "I am satisfied that one of the known war criminals will be brought before a tribunal in France and justice will be done and he will be punished for the crimes he committed during the war.")

Whereabouts Known Since 1972

Although Barbie's whereabouts have been known at least since 1972 when Nazi hunters Serge and Beate Klarsfeld identified Altmann as Barbie from old photographs, requests for his extradition to France were rejected by the Bolivian authorities.

The former gestapo officer lived and apparently prospered in La Paz under the protection of a succession of rightwing military governments. But the new civilian government of Bolivia ordered his arrest last month on charges of fraudulently obtaining \$10,000 from a State-owned company.

Barbie was stripped of the citizenship he obtained under a false name, and, with extradition requests pending from France and West Germany, he was ordered expelled, apparently to avoid prolonged hearings by the Bolivian Supreme Court, the outcome of which was uncertain.

Involved In Some 11,000 Deaths

His pending indictment for crimes against humanity is said to involve responsibility for the deaths of at least 11,000 persons including Jews and members of the French resistance. He headed the gestapo in Lyon from 1942-1944.

One document, found in German archives after the war, shows that he personally organized the arrest of 41 Jewish children, aged 3-13. All were deported to the Auschwitz death camp. He also rounded up thousands of local Jewish refugees and had them sent to Drancy, the notorious transit camp on the outskirts of Paris, from where they were deported to death camps in East Europe.

Barbie will be the first major Nazi war criminal to be tried in Western Europe, outside of Germany, in nearly a generation. But Barbie's trial could reopen old wounds and stir up a hornet's nest in France. Barbie claims that Moulin, the French wartime resistance chief he is accused of murdering, was alive when he handed him over to the Vichy authorities.

Barbie also claimed recently in La Paz that many prominent Frenchmen were involved in the betrayal and arrest of Moulin whose death caused the complete reorganization of the top echelons of the resistance.

BEGIN ORDERS TONING DOWN OF RHETORIC BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U.S. OVER U.S. MARINE, IDF TANK SQUAD INCIDENT By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin ordered his ministers to tone down the angry rhetoric between Israel and the U.S. over an incident last Wednesday when an American marine officer confronted an Israeli tank squad south of Beirut. But government sources stressed today that this would "depend on the Americans" allowing the tension over the incident to die down.

Summing up an angry Cabinet debate today, Begin overruled several ministers who had suggested strong public action by Israel to emphasize that it was in the right in the tank incident. Some of them urged Begin to make an official statement or send a public letter to President Reagan.

But Begin said such steps would needlessly exacerbate the tension and would play into the hands of those in the U.S. Administration who want to foment trouble between Washington and Jerusalem. According to Begin, it was those elements who deliberately exaggerated the incident for their own purposes. Defense Minister Ariel Sharon reportedly supported Begin's "play it cool" approach.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir appeared conciliatory when he told reporters, before his departure on a brief visit to West Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg today that he hoped the incident will not affect the friendly relations between Israel and the U.S.

"These accidents in Beirut are very regrettable. I think they will not change the character of the friendly relations with the United States," he said, adding that neither country needed or wanted such incidents. He was referring to the episode last Wednesday when a marine officer, Capt. Charles Johnson, halted a column of three Israeli tanks and, brandishing a loaded pistol, warned that they could advance only over his dead body.

The incident occurred near the Beirut airport. Israel insists the tanks were on a routine patrol in their legitimate area of operations at the time and that the Americans later conceded this. Begin and other ministers expressed distaste today over reports in the Israeli media citing Israeli sources to the effect that Johnson had been intoxicated when he confronted the tanks. But Cabinet sources said the ministers, regardless of their differences over how to handle the incident, were united in their anger and resentment against the Administration for allegedly exaggerating it.

Much of the blame was heaped on Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger who, it was felt here, deliberately over-reacted to the affair in order "to besmirch Israel."

Confirm Tanks Were In Their Own Territory

Officials and military officers assert that when American and Israeli officers and diplomats inspected the demarcation line shortly after the incident, it was confirmed that the tanks were in their own territory and that the marine captain had to leave his forward post to confront them. They said that colored barrels erected since then to define the demarcation line proved this.

The officials appear disturbed over what they perceive to be a deliberate attempt by Washington to exaggerate a minor incident which they admit was the result of a "misunderstanding." The Israelis say that despite the alleged American admission that there was no serious incident or confrontation, the Americans tend to blame Israel for what could have happened or what might happen in the future.

The tank incident has drawn sardonic comment from Israeli army officers who say it "ranged from the ridiculous to the unhappy to the absurd. They seem to take offense at the fact that Johnson has become what they call derisively America's new "folk hero" who "single-handedly repulsed three Israeli tanks by brandishing his pistol."

In an ironic twist, the Israeli tank commander involved in the incident, identified only as a Lt. Col. Rafi, was slightly wounded today when two explosive charges detonated near a patrol he was leading in the Shuafat area, in the vicinity of the confrontation with the marine. A military spokesman said the attackers fled westward toward the area patrolled by the multinational force made up of the marines and French and Italian contingents.

Meanwhile, Maj. Saad Haddad, commander of the Christian militia in south Lebanon and Israel's principal ally, blasted the U.S. at a press conference in Metullah Friday. He claimed the marines were incapable of halting Palestinian terrorist attacks on Israeli troops in Lebanon and

charged that "the marines are there for political purposes" and "to protect the PLO."

Haddad, who many Lebanese officials regard as a renegade, also charged that President Amin Gemayel "does not have the power to force" the Syrians to leave Lebanon. He scorned the Lebanese regular army as a "collection of soldiers even the best of weapons will not improve."

Elsewhere in south Lebanon, fierce fighting was reported today between Druze villagers and Christian militias in and around Aley on the main Beirut-Damascus road. According to reports from Beirut, the Druze are helped by the PLO.

REAGAN: INCIDENTS IN LEBANON BETWEEN MARINES, IDF CAN BE AVOIDED BY WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- President Reagan said the best way to prevent such incidents as occurred between a U.S. marine and Israeli troops is "to expedite" the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

"These incidents are the type of thing that can happen," the President said at a brief White House press conference last Friday, which was called to enable the President to announce a drop in the unemployment rate. "The best answer to them (the incidents) is for the Israelis, the Syrians and what remnants of the PLO there are to go back beyond their own borders."

Although Reagan said the U.S. has "assurances" from Israel that the incident will not reoccur, he directly blames the Israelis for trying to penetrate the marines lines. He said the same Israeli commander had tried to go through the same line three times. The marine officer who brandished his revolver to stop three Israeli tanks Wednesday did the "only thing he could do," Reagan said.

He stressed that the U.S. and other contingents of the multinational force are in Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese government so that that government can "try to establish stability." He added that he believed "our forces are behaving very well." Reagan repeated his often stated position that he could not "set any time" for how long the marines would have to be in Lebanon.

CRANSTON URGES CONTINUED HIGH LEVEL OF AID TO ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- Sen. Alan Cranston (D. Calif.), who last week became the first Democrat to announce his candidacy for the presidency in 1984, today stressed that the U.S. must continue a high level of aid to Israel as long as it also supplies the Arab countries with sophisticated weapons. (Separate story on U.S. aid, P. 4.)

Cranston's remarks were made on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" when columnist Rowland Evans challenged him for leading the move in Congress to spend more "taxpayers' money" in providing additional grants to Israel in military and economic aid.

"I think we would be in a better position to cut back on aid to Israel if we were not arming Arab nations that were in a state of war with Israel with sophisticated equipment, like the AWACS we supplied to Saudi Arabia which eroded the qualitative edge of Israel," Cranston said.

He explained that Israel must maintain a qualitative edge since it will never have a quantitative edge because there are "many more Arabs" than Israelis. "Their strength, their security depends on a qualitative edge," Cranston stressed. "When we provide AWACS and other equipment to a nation at war with Israel we erode the one security upon which Israel can depend."

Cranston said he would "not advocate" that Israel leave Lebanon until the Syrians and "the PLO remnants who are now returning withdraw, I would like to see all of them leave very very soon."

Cites Basis For 'Misunderstandings'

The Senator said he would also like to see the U.S. marines leave Lebanon soon. While maintaining he supported the U.S. in its recent argument with Israel over the demarcation lines in Lebanon, he said the "misunderstandings" have arisen because the marines have been ordered not to have any contact with the Israeli military since the U.S. does not want the Arabs to believe the U.S. is working closely with Israel.

Cranston, the deputy leader of the Democrats in the Senate and a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has long been a leading supporter of Israel in the Senate.

KREISKY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT REAGAN'S MIDEAST INITIATIVE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (JTA) — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky indicated here that he was optimistic about the prospects for President Reagan's Middle East peace initiative but was "skeptical" about an early withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from Lebanon.

Kreisky's remarks were made at a press conference last Thursday after his two-hour meeting with Reagan at the White House earlier in the day in which the main topics of discussion were the Mideast and Poland.

The Austrian Chancellor denied he had carried any message from Arab leaders to Reagan, noting that the President has established "close" relations with Arab leaders and "doesn't need me as a go-between." But he said he gave Reagan his "impressions" of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat with whom Kreisky has met.

Kreisky said he is "skeptical" about an early withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon because both Israel and Syria "like to have their troops in Lebanon." However, he said Reagan was "quite optimistic" about the prospects for withdrawal.

Sees Meeting Ground Between Arabs And The West

The Austrian leader said that he believed that there was "plenty of room" between the "new approach" in Reagan's peace initiative and the Arab League's Fez communique for "exploratory talks" between the Arabs and the West.

He said that while Israel would not take part in these exploratory talks they could "create an opinion" that would influence Israel. But he warned that it is "very important" that the momentum not be lost.

In this context, Kreisky expressed the hope that the Palestine National Council take the "realistic" approach which he said was being taken by Arafat. He said the Palestinians should take note that in Washington he found "no longer" a "negative attitude" to the "Palestine Liberation movement as there has been in the past."

He said that the Camp David accords were "important" for an Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement but "not for the solution of the Palestinian problem." He said the Reagan peace initiative is a "step forward" because it shows understanding of the Palestinian problem.

Kreisky said the Palestinians should also see change in what he called "quite a significant speech" by Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress to the WJC's Governing Board which held its biennial meeting here last week. Bronfman stressed the right of Jews to criticize Israeli government policy.

ISRAEL REJECTS EGYPTIAN COMPLAINTS ABOUT TABA AREA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (JTA) — Israel has discounted and rejected Egyptian complaints that Israeli soldiers have breached any agreements in the Taba area.

The Egyptians complained officially to the Israeli Charge d'Affaires in Cairo that a visit to the disputed Taba area just south of Eilat by Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Moshe Levy and a party of about 20 fellow officers last week, was a violation of the peace agreement.

Israel has responded by saying there are no restrictions under the agreement on the entry to the Taba area of "any Israeli, whether civilian or military."

The Foreign Ministry says that Levy did not go "one millimeter outside Israeli territory." Both Israel and Egypt claim ownership of the Taba area on the Red Sea coast.

RARE MANUSCRIPT BY STRAVINSKY DONATED TO HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA) — Mayor Teddy Kolkolek has donated a rare manuscript by composer Igor Stravinsky to the music department of the Jewish National and Hebrew University Library. The manuscript is the only complete manuscript version of "Abraham and Isaac," a ballad for baritone and chamber orchestra. It consists of 34 pages, with a market value of about \$40,000.

"A document such as this should not be in private hands," Kolkolek said in a brief ceremony last week.

Commissioned by the Israel Festival in 1962, the ballad was first performed in 1964 in Jerusalem as part of that year's festival. Stravinsky dedicated the 12-minute work "to the people of the State of Israel." The composer gave the original manuscript of the work to Kolkolek. It will be on display throughout this month at the Library's exhibit.

ARIDOR VISITING SOUTH AFRICA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA) — Finance Minister Yoram Aridor will ask South Africa for more economic aid when he visits Pretoria this week. He will also reportedly ask that South Africa lift the taxes, at least partially, on goods imported from Israel. South Africa imposed those taxes about a year ago. Aridor is also expected to request the expansion of fishing rights for Israeli boats in South African waters. Most of the issues to be discussed are part of existing agreements which Israel and South Africa signed five years ago.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) — Three minor earthquakes shook the Eilat area last week in the fourth series of shocks and tremors in the region during the past week. In all, over a dozen tremors have been recorded by Israeli seismologists. But even in Eilat and its immediate area, most residents did not know they had experienced an earthquake until they heard about it on their radios. No damage or casualties have been reported. The center of the quake activity has been at Nueiba, some 25 miles south of Eilat.

AGUDATH ISRAEL TASK FORCE TO FIGHT RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA) — A special Task Force to fight the efforts of Reform and Conservative Judaism to win recognition in Israel was created at a meeting last week of the Vaad Hanhala of Agudath Israel of America.

The meeting mapped out a broad range of plans to "mobilize American Orthodox Jewry to save Israel from the tragic consequences of transporting to the Holy Land the concept of recognizing 'three wings of Judaism' which has been a prime factor in the spiritual assimilation rampant in the United States today."

The meeting, chaired by Rabbi Shlomo Oppenheimer also urged the Agudath Israel in Israel to forge complete unity within its ranks in order for the movement to continue using its political clout with the government to thwart the "expansionist plans" of the Reform and Conservative groups.

Charges Against Reform, Conservative Movements

The organization's ranking body acted after a detailed presentation about the issue was made by Rabbi Moshe Sherer, president of the American Agudath Israel movement, and Rabbi Nosson Scheman, co-chairman of Agudah's Committee on Torah and Ideology Projects.

Using a series of documents, they demonstrated how the Reform and Conservative movements have in recent months "displayed unprecedented militancy in an accelerated campaign to abolish the sole jurisdiction on religious rites enjoyed by the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel."

They expressed even greater concern over the methods used by the Conservative group to win official religious status in Israel, because the Conservative's "mask of traditionalism could dupe the unwary Israeli public, ignorant about their rejection of the divine origin of Torah, into perceiving Conservatism as an authentic expression of Judaism."

The Agudath Israel organization announced that it will soon publish extensive informational material to "clarify how the deviationist groups of Conservative and Reform by steering masses away from classical Judaism, represent a clear and present danger to Jewish survival."

MAPAM RESOLUTIONS SEEN AS POTENTIAL SOURCE OF FRICTION WITH ITS LABOR ALIGNMENT PARTNER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (JTA) — The Central Council of Mapam has ended a two-day conference here with the adoption of a number of resolutions which go far beyond the principles laid down in the Labor Alignment platform. They represent a potential source of friction between itself and its partner in the Alignment, the Labor Party.

The resolutions include support for "a Jordanian-Palestine State" to the east of Israel comprising the West Bank and Jordan, most of whose residents are Palestinian, anyway.

The Council also approved a resolution calling for the mutual, simultaneous recognition between Israel and the PLO — a proposal which went far beyond the previous proposal by Meir Yariv and Victor Shemtov which suggested recognition of the PLO if it abandoned and amended its anti-Israel national charter.

Shemtov explained that Mapam had advanced from the earlier position "because we want to find

ways to facilitate mutual recognition and bring the two sides to negotiations. This is why we have, for the first time, adopted this new resolution."

Another resolution which can cause difficulties with the Labor Party is a call for an immediate freeze on all West Bank settlement activity. This goes beyond Labor Party policy which, while opposed to the Likud's widespread settlement policy, does not bar settlement completely.

Labor forums have so far defeated all attempts to pass resolutions calling for a settlement freeze. The Labor-dominated Histadrut recently overruled proposals to halt Solel Boneh and other Histadrut-affiliated construction work on the West Bank, for fear of the unemployment which might result in Histadrut-owned enterprises if private contractors took over the construction work.

U.S. AID PROPOSAL FOR ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (JTA) — The Reagan Administration is proposing that the U.S. provide Israel with \$2.485 billion in military and economic aid in the 1984 fiscal year, the same as this year, but less of the military aid will be in the form of a grant.

The proposal is part of a \$9.2 billion foreign aid program for 1984 which was outlined by Administration officials Friday. More than half of the program is for the Middle East. Israel is the largest single recipient and Egypt, which is to receive \$2.05 billion, also the same as this year, is the second largest recipient.

The Administration is asking \$1.7 billion in military aid for Israel, \$550 million of which will be a grant, and \$785 million in economic assistance, all a grant. For Egypt, military aid will total \$1.275 billion of which \$425 million will be a grant and \$750 million in economic aid, all a grant.

The Administration is proposing that Israel and Egypt receive \$50 million more in military grant aid than it recommended last year. But for Israel, this is a decrease since Congress voted last December to give Israel \$750 million in military grants.

The Administration officials said Friday that the increased grant for Israel reflects the concern in Congress but does not go all the way because the U.S. has "limited resources" and needs funds to provide other countries with aid. This was one of the arguments made by the Administration last year when it opposed the move in Congress to increase grant aid for Israel.

The proposed 1984 foreign aid budget also asks for a \$40 million increase in military aid for Jordan, to \$115 million. Jordan will also receive \$20 million in economic aid, the same as this year. The Administration officials denied that the increase to Jordan was for any specific weapons such as Hawk anti-aircraft missiles or advanced fighter planes. They said Jordan needs to "modernize" its army and that the figures are based on estimates of what Jordan might propose, even though the actual weapons Jordan might need could be double the amount.

The budget also proposes increased aid for Lebanon, including \$251 million in a supplementary budget for 1983 which is being used to modernize Lebanon's army. Another \$150 million is being proposed for economic aid to Lebanon to reconstruct its infrastructure and for agricultural improvements. The budget proposes \$1 million for military training for Lebanon.

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AMSTERDAM (JTA) — The Israel-born Elyakim Shapira has been appointed conductor of the Overijssels Philharmonic Orchestra in Holland. He takes his post next September. Shapira, who studied at the Julliard School of Music in the U.S., was for a time the conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of Malmo, Sweden, before his appointment here.