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THREE NON-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS DEFEATED BY VOTE OF 64-56

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin's coalition handily defeated three non-confidence motions in the Knesset today. The vote was 64-56 against the motions submitted separately by the Labor Alignment, Shinui and the Hadash (Communist) Party demanding that the government resign because of the findings of the commission of inquiry into the Beirut refugee camps massacre.

The heated debate which preceded the voting was one of the rare occasions when all 120 Knesset members were present and in their seats. Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin led off for the opposition Labor Party. He argued that the government should resign because it had ministerial responsibility for the grave faults disclosed by the commission's report.

The commission examined the government's conduct during the three days before and during the massacres -- September 15-18 -- and exposed glaring weaknesses, Rabin said. He added that it was conceivable that the same weaknesses existed throughout the eight months of war in Lebanon.

Responding for the government, Justice Minister Moshe Nissim denied that the commission's report was a condemnation of the functioning of the entire government. On the contrary, he said, the report brought to light specific faults and recommended specific actions and the Cabinet took them "in good time, bravely, no matter how painful they were."

Labor MK Mordechai Gur, a former Chief of Staff, charged that Begin bore a share of the responsibility for the internal violence in Israel that followed publication of the report. He said Begin was responsible because of his inflammatory statements and his failure to condemn forcefully the outburst of verbal violence by the government's supporters.

CHIEF RABBI OF ROMANIA SAYS EDUCATION TAX LAW WILL BE APPLIED TO JEWS SEEKING TO MAKE ALIYA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen, making a reversal from an earlier statement, asserted here that the new Rumanian law requiring all emigrants to reimburse the government for the free secondary and higher education they had received, would in fact be applied to those Jews seeking to make aliya.

"Just as I announced then (last November) the positive approach of the authorities in Bucharest, I feel obliged to report ... on the change that has taken place in Rumania and that the new law also applies to Jews," Rosen told reporters.

The publication of the new directive last November caused widespread consternation among Jews around the world. The Reagan Administration has repeatedly warned that the education tax could affect Most Favored Nation Trade status to Rumania on the grounds that the new law violates

the terms of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment to the Foreign Trade Act which links trade with Communist bloc nations to their emigration policies.

Following the publication of the tax law, Rosen asserted that the Rumanian government, for many decades, has made a distinction between "emigration" and "aliya." He added that Jews seeking to emigrate would therefore be "treated in a totally different way."

Rosen told reporters here that his earlier statement was made after he received assurances from Rumanian officials "at the highest level." He said the Rumanian government did not collect the tariff from some 40 Jews who left the country since the tax was announced. But since then, Rosen added, he has been informed that the authorities resumed collecting the tax from Jews emigrating to Israel.

Rosen was speaking against the background of a report last week from Bucharest which quoted an unidentified Rumanian government official dismissing press reports that Jews and ethnic Germans would be exempt from the education tax. "The decree does not make any distinctions and applies to Rumanian citizens who want to settle abroad," the official was quoted as saying. "It's logical and moral that all citizens reimburse society for investments made for their education."

SPECIAL TO THE JTA BARBIE OPERATED FOR SOME THREE DECADES UNDER ORDERS OF A SECRET UNDERGROUND SS HEADED BY SKORZENY By Charles Allen, Jr.

(Part Two Of A Three-Part Series)

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Klaus Barbie, the gestapo mass killer who bragged to his American intelligence case officer after World War II how he had filled "my mass graves" with French Jews and members of the resistance movement, operated for some three decades beginning shortly after the war under orders of a secret SS underground headed by the Nazi terrorist, Otto Skorzeny.

In piecing together the movements of Barbie since his escape from Europe to Latin America in late 1949 early 1950, this correspondent has learned in detail how Barbie continued to "follow orders" to establish "beach-heads" of fascist "force" and "influence," according to secret American intelligence documents as well as in-depth interviews with former American intelligence officers and wanted Nazi war criminals and collaborators.

Barbie's exploits may be gleaned from the post-war records of the U.S. Army Intelligence Security Command in Europe (USAISC) and such Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Detachments as the 66th, Region IV, 970th and the 7970th. Valuable data are also in the files of the FSD's (Foreign Service Dispatches) 1945-1950, and from the U.S. embassies in Spain, Portugal, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay.

As early as 1946, reports on "21 neo-Nazi subversive" groups referring to both Barbie and Skorzeny were circulating widely in American intelligence departments.

Actually, escape, aid and continuing fascist subversion were planned by hard-core Nazi militarists and SS leaders even before the war ended. An elaborate network of SS, gestapo, SD, Luftwaffe and GfPs (Geheime Feld Polizei -- Secret Field Police) of the Wehrmacht had been planned for a vast Bruderschaft or Kameradenwerke (Brotherhood).

Their code names included: Danube, Skylark, Lock Gates, Green Devils, HIAG (Mutual Aid Society of the Waffen SS), ODESSA (Organization der Entlassene SS Angehoerige -- Organization of Kin of the SS), and Die Spinne (The Spider).

Their first objective was to rescue and help to escape SS, SA, gestapo and Einsatzgruppen personnel who were all under the automatic arrest category of the Allies who presumably were intent on tracking down Nazi war criminals.

For example, an OMGUS (Office of Military Government for Germany U.S.) "Secret" memorandum dated February 1, 1947 stated that the "Quadripartite Intelligence Committee" (composed of the French, British, Soviet and American victors) needed information on ODESSA.

The 1947 secret report said, however, that the Allied combined intelligence group had been shown only "restricted" materials on ODESSA and denied "the (higher classified) remainder of the document ... on that and other subversive organizations uncovered by U.S. intelligence authorities."

ODESSA was described as "active in uniting all SS into a nationwide resistance organization" seeking the rescue of imprisoned SS leaders." Among the names mentioned in this hidden assessment and on subsequent documents were Barbie and Skorzeny, both in the custody of the United States.

The most effective group was Die Spinne. The other organizations faded from the scene by the late 1940s. Die Spinne was operational in getting Nazi war criminals out of Europe until the late 1950's, and some observers contend that it was operational beyond that date up until today.

Background Of Skorzeny

Die Spinne was conceived in the Darmstadt prison for high-ranking SS officers and controlled by the United States. Its creator was Lt. Col (Obersturmbannfuhrer) Otto "Scarface" Skorzeny (SS #272,375, Nazi Party card #1,083,671), who was in the prison at the time awaiting trial on war crimes charges. The imposing 6'4" Austrian Nazi -- who gained fame as the daring rescuer of the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini, off a mountain shelf in Italy in 1943 -- was Adolf Hitler's favorite terrorist.

He had carried out innumerable terrorist bombings, kidnappings, hijackings, sabotage and evasion command acts as well as selective political assassinations.

Skorzeny led a group of SS killers in a parachute drop behind American lines during the Battle of the Bulge. In violation of all the rules of warfare, Skorzeny's men, dressed in U.S. uniforms murdered many G.I.'s. Besides causing havoc in the rear lines, Skorzeny intended to murder the American military commander, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower.

Skorzeny and Barbie were closely allied in the SS plans for the post-war struggles against "world Jewry" and in behalf of fascism. Barbie, of course, supplemented Skorzeny's own talents with his expertise in savage torture and elaborate brain-washing, including

the use of mind-altering drugs to force confessions. Skorzeny was, amazingly, acquitted of war crimes charges by an American war crimes tribunal held at the Dachau KZ. However, he was returned to prison in Darmstadt to await trial on other war-time related charges against him by the Allies. He escaped from prison in 1948 and subsequently wound up in Spain.

Role Of CIC and CIA

At the same time, Barbie, from the same SS detention pens at Darmstadt, was released for secret utilization by the American CIC. Years later in published interviews, Skorzeny detailed how both the CIC and the CIA had "arranged" for his escape. He further claimed that he had already been recruited by U.S. intelligence while undergoing his trial as a war criminal. (Related story, P.4.)

Once on the outside, Skorzeny galvanized Die Spinne. He boasted that his group -- with the assistance of American intelligence and West German industrialists and bankers -- "rescued" more than 500 wanted Nazi criminals, among them Barbie.

Barbie also enjoyed the assistance of the CIC, the Vatican and the International Red Cross in his escape from Europe. (See Part One in the February 16 Bulletin.)

Barbie Ordered To Contact War Criminals

Once in Spain in late 1950 or early 1951, Barbie reported to his commanding officer, Skorzeny, at the offices of the latter's "consultancy" in Madrid. Skorzeny was the secret agent of VOEST, the United Austrian Iron and Steel Works with offices in Latin America. Besides Barbie, such well-known Nazis as financier Hilmar Schacht, banker Hermann Abs, and Rheinhard Gehlen, former German intelligence chief on the Russian front and head of the CIA-directed Gehlen Org in West Germany, were frequent visitors to Skorzeny's Spinne headquarters.

Before leaving for Latin America, Barbie was given his orders to contact key Nazi war criminals in high and low places and was directed by Die Spinne to contribute to the Western hemisphere "beach-heads" of fascist "force" and "influence spheres" -- as was stated in "The Madrid Letter," a Spinne underground publication in early 1951.

A disciplined gestapo officer and a fanatic Nazi, Barbie, who was also at the center of drugs, arms and currency deals, quickly established a working relationship with some of the prominent killers of the Holocaust era who were alive and well in Latin America.

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

SHCHARANSKY ENDS HIS HUNGER STRIKE By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Feb. 16 (JTA) -- Imprisoned Soviet Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky, currently completing the fifth year of a 13-year sentence at the notorious Chistopol Prison, has ended his nearly five-month hunger strike to protest the denial of mail and visits from members of his family, privileges allowed to other prisoners, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and the Union of Councils of Soviet Jews (UCSJ) confirmed here today.

According to the SSSJ and the UCSJ, this information was revealed in a letter Shcharansky wrote, dated February 7 and received yesterday by his mother, Ida Milgrom, in Moscow, that he had re-

sumed eating on January 14. Since then, the letter said, he has been receiving food with vitamins and slowly regaining some weight. But Shcharansky wrote that he continues to suffer from severe heart pains and is unable to participate in the half hour of daily exercise in the prison courtyard, which is the only exercise the inmates receive, the Soviet Jewish groups reported.

Shcharansky ended his hunger strike, which he began on September 27, after he received two heavily censored notes from his mother who in January tried in vain to see him personally. According to published reports today, Mrs. Milgrom was denied access to her son because Shcharansky was still on a hunger strike. But on January 14, the prison officials permitted an exchange of notes, and it was this exchange that is reported to have prompted the Soviet Jewish activist to end his hunger strike.

There have been recent reports that Shcharansky had ended his hunger strike, notably through a letter Yuri Andropov, First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, wrote to French Communist Party secretary general George Marchais stating that Shcharansky ended his strike, was in contact with his mother, and that "he is in satisfactory condition and nothing seems to threaten his life." The letter was published on January 24 in the French Communist Party organ, L'Humanite.

Shcharansky's wife, Avital, now in Paris campaigning for her husband's release, said: "I am extremely concerned about my husband's condition. I ask the Soviet government to immediately release my husband to permit him to recover from his greatly deteriorated condition." Andropov hinted in his letter to Marchais that Shcharansky's sentence might be reduced were it not for the "stormy campaigns and foreign pressures" on his behalf.

SHULTZ: FOREIGN TROOPS WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON DEPENDS ON ISRAELI ACCORD TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (JTA) — Secretary of State George Shultz indicated today that the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon depended mainly on getting an agreement for the departure of Israel's troops.

Answering questions before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Shultz said he could not predict when an agreement would be reached for the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. "The Syrians have said they would leave when the Israelis leave," he added. "The PLO has basically said they would go along with the Syrians."

Shultz's comments were challenged by Rep. Ted Weiss (D. N.Y.) who charged there was an "orchestration" to blame Israel for the lack of progress in Lebanon. Shultz agreed with Weiss that there was no way of knowing that the Syrians and PLO would leave until they did so.

But he said both the Syrians and the PLO have assured Lebanon they would leave when Israel leaves. He added that while the U.S. has no direct talks with the PLO, Syria's Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam had assured him that the Syrians would depart from Lebanon.

Shultz also indicated that one of the reasons that Lebanon does not want to conclude a peace treaty with Israel is out of fear that the Syrians would then not want to leave. He also said that the effort to reconstruct Lebanon requires the reconciliation of various "confessional" groups in that country and they have different views towards Israel.

Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R. N.Y.) suggested that the reason Lebanon did not want a peace treaty with Israel is that Saudi Arabia would then refuse to provide needed financial aid. Shultz repeated what he had told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday, that various countries, including Saudi Arabia, were waiting for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon before providing foreign aid.

Shultz stressed that at the end of the war, there was the "maximum chance" for Lebanon "to put itself back together again." He said there is need for "speed" in reaching agreement because "the longer things drag on the greater the difficulties."

He noted that everyone was "impatient," including the U.S., Israel and Lebanon, but there were "lots of tough issues involved" in the negotiations now being conducted. He said the U.S. agrees that Israel's security interests in south Lebanon are "quite legitimate" concerns and are "worth the care and effort" being given them in the negotiations.

Shultz repeatedly stressed that the Lebanese situation was separate from the overall peace process. "The fundamental priority has to be the basic peace process," he stressed. But he noted that the peace process has affected the situation in Lebanon. He said the deterioration of Lebanon came about because of the problem of Israel's security and the "rights and aspirations" of the Palestinians have not been addressed.

The Issue Of F-16's To Israel

Rep. Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.) said there was a need now for additional steps in the peace process from the Administration. Shultz did not reply to Hamilton's suggestion that he go to the Middle East. However, there have been reports that Shultz may make his first visit to the Middle East as Secretary of State in March.

Rep. Dante Fascell (D. Fla.) suggested that the Administration, by holding up the delivery of F-16's to Israel, was not keeping its commitment to maintain the qualitative and quantitative military effectiveness of Israel. He said this was especially troublesome in view of the Soviet supplies to the Arab countries, particularly the SAM-5s to Syria.

Shultz replied that the delivery of the F-16s is "under consideration by the President." He added that it's hard to believe Israel feels threatened by anyone. However, he said that the delivery of the SAM-5s and their accompaniment by Soviet technicians was of concern.

CORRECTION: Due to a garbled transmission from Paris, a story in the February 15 Bulletin, p. 3 about the village of Izieu stated that the couple who took over the children's home opposed a plaque. It should have stated the couple proposed a plaque and maintained one.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Knesset resumed debate Wednesday over the murder of Emil Grunzweig who was killed when a hand grenade was hurled into a group of Peace Now demonstrators here last Thursday. Nine other persons were injured in the incident. Likud and the Labor Party have failed so far to agree on a joint resolution condemning the attack. Meanwhile, a mass rally will be held Saturday night in Tel Aviv to memorialize Grunzweig.

KLARSFELD CHARGES THE U.S. PROTECTED BARBIE AND FRENCH AUTHORITIES KNEW HIS HIDING PLACE BUT DID NOTHING TO EXTRADITE HIM

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Feb. 16 (JTA) — Serge Klarsfeld, the Nazi-hunter, charged yesterday that not only did the United States use and protect Klaus Barbie, the gestapo chief in Lyon during 1942-44, but that the French authorities knew since 1963 where he was but did nothing to obtain his extradition.

Klarsfeld, who revealed in 1972 that Barbie was living in La Paz, Bolivia, released copies of official French documents proving, according to him, that the French authorities had for some unexplained reason simply failed to act to try to obtain the extradition of the man who was twice sentenced in absentia by French courts for his war crimes.

The document released by Klarsfeld is dated November 7, 1963 and was issued by the French military security. It reports that Barbie is living in La Paz and says he is employed by the CIA and West German intelligence service, BND.

The French security report was issued at the request of the West German prosecutor dealing with war-time Nazi crimes and the federal office for the prosecution of war criminals in Ludwigsburg.

Says CIA Enabled Barbie To Flee To Latin America

In an article in Le Monde, Klarsfeld also said that not only did the CIA employ Barbie as a special agent but that it enabled him to flee to Latin America by granting him a "temporary travel document" registered under the name Klaus Altmann and bearing serial number 0121454, the travel document was issued on February 21, 1951 in Munich and enabled Barbie to obtain an International Red Cross pass in Genoa a few weeks later.

While serving as a CIA informer, Barbie was protected by the American military authorities, Klarsfeld said, which gave him identity papers under the names: Spehr, Behrends, Mertens and Holzer but all giving his first name as Klaus and carrying his real birth date, October 25, 1913 and his birthplace, Bad Godessaerg.

Barbie was expelled from Bolivia two weeks ago and returned to France where he faces trial on charges of crimes against humanity. He is being held in a prison in Lyon.

FAIRBANKS DENIES THAT REAGAN PLAN UNDERCUTS CAMP DAVID PEACE PROCESS

CLEVELAND, Feb. 16 (JTA) — Ambassador Richard Fairbanks, the Administration's special negotiator for the Middle East peace process, denied that President Reagan is "seeking to impose a peace or dictate a settlement." He spoke in response to charges made by a Notre Dame University Mideast expert, Prof. Alan Dowty, that Reagan's Middle East initiative of last Sept. 1 was "leap-frogging" the Camp David peace process.

The criticism and response were expressed to more than 400 delegates from 11 national and 111 community organizations assembled at the four-day annual plenum of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC). The meeting opened here Sunday at Stouffer's Inn On The Square.

Fairbanks maintained that the Reagan plan had "challenged the parties to the conflict to meet at the negotiating table" and that "Arab leaders are now talking about how to make peace with Israel — not whether."

He said the "stream of Arab Kings, Presidents and Foreign Ministers" who have been to the White House to discuss the Reagan initiative, all received "the President's unyielding message" that "the place to negotiate is at the table, face-to-face with Israel." "That was the intent of the President when he launched his September 1st initiative," Fairbanks said, calling the Reagan plan "fully within the Camp David formula."

Mideast Specialist Critical Of Reagan Plan

Dowty, a specialist on Mideast affairs, sharply criticized the public pronouncements of a final arrangement contained in the Reagan initiative, which "forced both Israel and the Arabs to also react publicly instead of moving matters toward negotiations." He warned that attempts to achieve a Mideast peace "all at one leap" with a "blueprint final formula" are doomed to fail. Instead, Dowty called for a gradual approach that sees "peace as a process" and that emphasizes a step-by-step approach as in the Camp David process.

Dowty also criticized the Administration's current "unfair impatience with Israel" over the stalled Lebanon negotiations. He called on the Administration to "state the case" on the Lebanon negotiations by "avoiding setting deadlines" which "only give the message that no concessions are required from Arabs."

Chernin Says U.S. Posture Mangles Camp David

Albert Chernin, NJCRAC's executive vice chairman, who gave the keynote address at the opening session, asserted that "the Camp David peace process sets forth a simple principle that no preconditions should be set as a basis for the parties to come to the negotiating table." "All claims are legitimate and negotiable at an appropriate time as part of the process," Chernin said. But, Chernin charged, "these principles may be mangled by the United States posture."

Chernin charged that "Saudi Arabia exercises the veto over peace in the Middle East." He asserted that "the Saudis have made it clear to (King) Hussein (of Jordan) that he cannot count on their financial support if he comes to the negotiating table," and that "Lebanon has also been threatened with a denial of Saudi financing if it agrees to open borders and normalization with Israel." "But the United States continues to accommodate the Saudis and cites Israel as the obstacle to reaching agreement in Lebanon and the West Bank," Chernin said.

VIETNAMESE 'BOAT PEOPLE' IN ISRAEL MARK THE 'YEAR OF THE PIG'

TEL AVIV, Feb. 16 (JTA) — The "Year of the Pig" was celebrated in Israel this week. It was marked by the 330-member Vietnamese community — the "boat people" — who fled the Communist regime in Vietnam and were granted refuge by Israel in 1977 after being denied haven by their neighbors in southeast Asia.

The Vietnamese held a party at the community center in Azor, a town near Tel Aviv where they live. They greeted their new year with traditional dances in their native costumes and a feast of Vietnamese dishes, some of which have acquired a Middle Eastern flavor. Of the 450 Vietnamese who landed in Israel 6 years ago, about 120 have left for other countries. Those who remain have found employment chiefly in the restaurant and hotel trades.