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ISRAEL-LEBANON TALKS DEADLOCKED OVER FUTURE ROLE OF HADDAD

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) — Israel, Lebanon and the United States will enter another round of negotiations at Netanyahu tomorrow against a background of deadlock over the future role of south Lebanese militia leader Maj. Saad Haddad.

Negotiating sources in all three delegations say this is the last major obstacle, but it could thwart the entire agreement unless it is resolved. These sources concur in noting a tough and inflexible stand on the part of both Israel and Lebanon regarding Haddad.

The deadlock was highlighted at a lengthy meeting in Jerusalem last night between U.S. special envoy Philip Habib, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Israeli officials present at the session said no progress was achieved on the matter of Haddad.

Habib transmitted the firm Lebanese refusal to have the Major continue at the head of security units in the south. Shamir communicated Israel's adamant insistence that Haddad remain in the area in command of his men, who would be integrated into the Lebanese army as the nucleus of a "territorial brigade" to police the southern security zone.

U.S. Supports Beirut Government

Habib made it clear, according to several sources involved in the negotiations, that the U.S. supports the Beirut government in its refusal to be prevailed upon by Israel to retain Haddad in a key role in the south. Beirut wants to appoint Haddad military attache at its legation in Australia.

These sources said the American proposals presented to Shamir during his talks in Washington early last week are designed to meet Israel's security requirements in the border area without the need for Haddad to stay on in command of forces there. The sources said Shamir and Secretary of State George Shultz disagreed over Haddad during their talks in Washington.

Israel Expected A Trade-Off

On the Israeli side it was plain that the expectation was for a trade-off involving Israel's demands that Haddad should remain in exchange for Israel's waiver of its demand that the IDF maintain manned military posts in south Lebanon for a considerable period of time following the IDF's withdrawal. Shamir indicated in Washington that Israel is prepared to forego the second demand. Israel hoped that in return for this concession, the Lebanese would waive their objections to Haddad.

This did not happen and Habib told the Israelis yesterday that the U.S. does not expect a softening of Beirut's attitude regarding Haddad. Habib is understood to have pointed to other Lebanese concessions, especially their readiness now to agree to joint IDF-Lebanese army cooperation and patrols. Lebanon refers to this as "joint supervision" rather than joint patrols.

Negotiating sources cited three reasons to explain Beirut's negative position on Haddad: he is regarded in some Beirut circles as a deserter from the

Lebanese army; he is considered to be too close to Israel and something of an IDF stooge; Beirut wants to choose its own man to command security forces in the south as an exercise of its sovereign power, without being dictated to by Israel.

The Israeli Position

The Israeli position is that only the indigenous militia force, built up by Haddad with massive IDF support over the years, can be relied on as an adequate and effective buffer against the return of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the area.

Israeli experts argue that the local militia men would have much higher motivation to keep the area free of terrorists than other Lebanese soldiers brought in from outside.

They argue that Haddad is vital to run and command the militia, which they want to see integrated into the Lebanese army's framework as the nucleus of a "territorial brigade" in the south.

Negotiation sources say the Lebanese would be willing to accept Haddad's men and integrate them into the army. But they are firm in their refusal to accept Haddad himself. The Israeli view is that without Haddad, the speciality and drive of his force would soon be dissipated.

The sources say that if this deadlock can be resolved, other outstanding issues in the talks could be concluded with relative ease. As long as it is not resolved, however, most of the other aspects of security arrangements in the south necessarily remain unresolved. Israel sees the entire limited-forces-regime in the security zone as contingent upon Haddad's continued pivotal position in the area.

U.S. SAYS THERE IS NO DEADLINE ON THE ISRAEL-LEBANON TALKS

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA) — The State Department refused to confirm reports today that Lebanon has set a deadline for completing its negotiations with Israel. But the Department denied that there was any deadline.

When asked specifically whether there was a deadline, Department spokesman John Hughes replied: "Not in our sense of the word. Our position has been that we want the speediest possible withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon."

He said special envoys Philip Habib and Morris Draper are in Israel today and that the tripartite negotiations between Israel, Lebanon and the U.S. are "going forward" and will continue to do so.

ISRAEL RAPS EEC MIDEAST STATEMENT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) — Israel lashed back today at the European Economic Community (EEC), denouncing as a "total distortion" the Middle East declaration issued by the heads of its 10 member states at their summit conference in Brussels Tuesday. (See related story from Bonn, p. 2.)

Israel also declared its "utter rejection" of the EEC call for a halt to settlement building on the West Bank, in an official statement released here. The EEC leaders branded the settlements illegal and a "growing and major obstacle" to peace in the region. Israel re-

torted that "the only obstacle to peace is the refusal of the Arab governments to conduct negotiations on the subject without preconditions."

The EEC leaders called on Israel to "show that it stands ready for genuine negotiations." The Israeli statement responded that this was a "total distortion ... for Israel alone among all the parties to the conflict has incessantly demanded peace negotiations."

The statement said it was "incomprehensible" how the EEC leader arrived at their assessment that the resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council at its recent meeting in Algiers were a potential contribution to peace.

The Israeli statement accused the Europeans of "unrealism" and charged that they had "completely ignored the only stabilizing element in recent Middle East developments, the Camp David accords."

FRIENDS OF ISRAEL IN GERMANY ARE DISAPPOINTED BY EEC STATEMENT By David Kantor

BONN, March 24 (JTA) -- Friends of Israel are surprised and disappointed by the Middle East declaration issued at the European Economic Community (EEC) Summit conference in Brussels. They had been led to expect that under the present chairmanship of West Germany, the EEC Council of Ministers would modify the harsh attitude adopted toward Israel, particularly after the war in Lebanon last summer.

But the declaration endorsed by the 10 EEC heads of State Tuesday went beyond even the Venice declaration of June, 1980 which Israel found unacceptable. The European leaders are calling now for implementation of the right of the Palestinian people to self determination "with all that this implies."

Their condemnation of Israel's policies is sharper than ever and implicitly charges that Israel is not ready for "genuine" peace negotiations on the basis of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. The EEC, moreover, strongly affirmed its position that Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are "contrary to international law and a major and growing obstacle to peace efforts."

Only three months ago, Erik Blumenfeld, a member of the Parliament of Europe representing the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), West Germany's ruling party, had assured Israelis in public interviews that under German chairmanship, EEC measures taken against Israel after its invasion of Lebanon would be rescinded.

Blumenfeld, who is chairman of the German-Israel Friendship Association, appeared to be speaking for Chancellor Helmut Kohl who is a close personal friend and political associate.

Now, friends of Israel concede there is little chance if any that the sanctions against Israel will be withdrawn while Bonn holds the rotating chairmanship of the EEC. Those measures include the freeze of a financial protocol that would provide Israel with access to EEC financial institutions and the suspension of all negotiations between the EEC and Israel.

The declaration issued at Brussels was defined officially as "European Council conclusions on the Middle East." They are binding on the 10 member states as policy guidelines. Diplomats here say West Germany had proposed a much more balanced declaration at Brussels but was overruled by its EEC partners.

PARIS COURT DISMISSES LICRA COMPLAINT AGAINST LE MONDE By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 24 (JTA) -- A Paris court today dismissed "on basic legal grounds" the complaint lodged by the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICRA) against the French daily Le Monde and its former editor, Jacques Fauvet.

LICRA had claimed in its plea that the daily had been guilty of "spreading racial hatred and anti-Semitism" by publishing last summer a virulently anti-Israel advertisement. LICRA's attorney and witnesses called by the organization told the court that anti-Zionism is tantamount to anti-Semitism.

The court, however, dismissed the complaint saying it was not justified on legal grounds as it did not fall under the specific law invoked by LICRA's attorney. The court added: "Moreover, it appeared from the court discussions that LICRA's own views on this subject are not shared by all of France's Jews."

MEMORIAL CENTER FOR JEWS DEPORTED FROM HOLLAND DURING WORLD WAR II WILL BE OPENED ON APRIL 12 By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, March 24 (JTA) -- A memorial center for the more than 100,000 Jews deported by the Nazis from Holland during World War II will be opened officially by Queen Beatrix on April 12. The center, sponsored by a private, non-Jewish group, is located at Westerbork in northeast Holland, the site of a transit camp used as a staging area for Jews on the way to death camps in Eastern Europe.

The center will house a replica of the Dutch Pavilion at the Auschwitz memorial in Poland. The displays illustrate Jewish life in Holland before World War II, the persecution of Jews during the German occupation and life at Westerbork when it served as a way station for Jewish deportees. Only a handful of Jews who left Westerbork survived.

Westerbork is located in a remote corner of the province of Drenthe. The camp was built by the Dutch government in 1939 to house German Jewish refugees whom the Dutch did not want to integrate into the country's economic life. It was taken over by the Germans in July, 1942 and from then until September, 1944, a train left each Tuesday with about 1,000 Jews for death camps like Auschwitz and Sobibor. The deportations ended in September, 1944 only because no more trains were available.

Westerbork was liberated by Canadian troops on April 12, 1945. There were still 900 Jews incarcerated at the time. The official opening of the memorial center will mark the 38th anniversary of the liberation.

Dutch Nazi collaborators were imprisoned at Westerbork in the early 1950s and for 20 years afterwards it housed South Moluccan refugees. The barracks have since been demolished. There is now an astronomical observatory near the site of the camp.

N.Y.C. LAWMAKERS URGE PROBE ON CHARGES OF PRICE FIXING ON KOSHER-FOR-PASSOVER PRODUCTS By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- The City Council committee on consumer affairs held today the second hearing in City Council history on kosher food prices and recommended that the city's Department of Consumer Affairs and State Attorney General Robert Abrams investigate widespread charges of price fixing in Kosher-for-Passover products. The first hearing was last year, just before Passover.

Noach Dear, the Brooklyn Councilman who represents the Flatbush and Boro Park districts, which are among the most heavily populated Jewish sections of Brooklyn, served as chairman for the hearing. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he had invited the major producers of Passover products to participate in the hearing "and not one of them showed up."

Dear said the consumer affairs department was conducting a comparison shopping study on Passover prices and planned to publish a list of its findings. He said the consumer affairs committee would conduct a hearing, probably next month, on year-round kosher product prices.

Dear said there was evidence that consumers were complaining to merchants about "exorbitant" price increases before the Jewish holidays and that publicity about the problem had brought decreases in some cases of Passover product prices.

He said he had urged at the hearing that consumers should understand that the more vigorous and frequent their protests were to merchants over unjustified price increases, the more likelihood there was that prices would come down.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON By Haskell Cohen

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- Israel is preparing for one of the largest sports gatherings ever to be staged in Israel, the 12th Hapoel Games. Isaac Ofek, chairman of the Hapoel Games Organizing Committee in Israel, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

More than 3,500 athletes from 30 countries, including Israel, will participate in the Games from May 1 to May 8, Ofek said. The Games will feature 23 championships and invitation events along with exhibition performances in 87 locations in cities, towns and kibbutzim throughout Israel.

The opening ceremony will be held in Jaffa's Bloomfield Stadium, with President Yitzhak Naveh making his almost last public appearance in office. Premier Menachem Begin is expected to attend the closing ceremony in Haifa.

Participants from abroad, most of them Jews but including many non-Jewish world champions, will be coming from Western countries as well as from Eastern Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia. Ofek said that the Asian Sports Federation was hard at work to bar Asian participation, and "I fear they may succeed," he said.

The visiting sports competitors, their team leaders and officials, will be housed in six "Olympic villages" in the Tel Aviv-Netanya area according to sports categories rather than by nationality, Ofek said. This arrangement, he noted, will ensure integration among the competitors on the basis of their skills and enhance efficiency in travelling to their venues.

Preparing Some 140,000 Meals

The visiting athletes will partake in approximately 140,000 meals served in six locations. A committee of Israeli chefs has prepared a special diet of 3,500 calories daily to suit the participants.

For the first time in Israel, results will be reported by a computer system. As in Olympic competitions, a committee will check all athletes to make certain that they are not taking drugs to enhance their performances. A total of 1,100 officials will handle the organization and judging of the hundreds of slated events and trials.

Ofek said that there will be a variety of events each evening in the different Olympic villages. Twenty-four official receptions will be held, by the Israel Olympic Committee, Israel's various sports federations, municipal governments in which competitions take place, the Histadrut, and the embassies of competing delegations.

One of the outstanding features of the Hapoel Games will be a six-day bicycling event from Dan to Beer-sheba, with 50 competitors from six countries racing 100 kilometers each day.

PRESIDENT, LAWMAKERS SIGN 'NATIONAL SCROLL OF HONOR' TO MARK LUBAVITCHER REBBE'S BIRTHDAY By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA) -- President Reagan and members of Congress today signed a "National Scroll of Honor" to mark the 81st birthday of the Lubavitcher rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson. Schneerson's birthday on the Hebrew calendar is tomorrow, the 11th of Nisan.

The scroll, which was a "tribute to the vision and spiritual world leadership provided by the Lubavitcher rebbe," was signed at three separate ceremonies today, culminating in one at the White House Oval Office where Reagan affixed his signature.

A separate ceremony was held this morning in the Senate, sponsored by Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R. Minn.), and the afternoon in the House, sponsored by Rep. Sander Levin (D. Mich.). At both ceremonies, Congressmen and Senators signed the scroll. Rabbi Avraham Shemtov, of the American Friends of the Lubavitch, said he expected that all members of the House and Senate would sign the scroll.

The ceremony, which was held for the eighth consecutive year, also marked "Education Day U.S.A." and "The National Day of Reflection," both of which have been proclaimed by the President and Congress on the rebbe's birthday.

The scroll noted that "The Lubavitcher movement, through its scores of educational centers in this country and abroad, dedicates itself to preserve, protect and foster the universal values that all free men hold dear."

AGREEMENT CANCELLED FOR NEO-NAZIS TO HOLD MEETING IN A PUBLIC BUILDING

BONN, March 24 (JTA) -- The Mayor of Frankfurt has cancelled an agreement with the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD) for use of a city-owned public hall for a party congress scheduled to be held March 27-28. The Mayor acted in response to angry protests from the local Jewish community, the local representatives of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and the local branch of the DGB central trade union, among others.

The cancellation order was issued on grounds that publicly owned facilities should not be rented to extreme rightwing or extreme leftwing organizations. The NPD is expected to challenge the order in court, as it did successfully last year in a case involving another municipally-owned hall in Frankfurt.

The Jewish community warned that the NPD congress was a dangerous and provocative event, aimed at the city's Jews. The organization of persecutees of the Nazi regime has called for a demonstration outside the hall. The SPD said it was scandalous that the city authorities rented the hall for a Nazi rally and showed a lack of sensitivity. The trade unionists declared that they would not tolerate the event and called on their members to demonstrate against the Nazi rally.

FOCUS ON ISSUES THE PAST AS PRESENT

By Arno Herzberg

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- A strange phenomenon is taking place. The events of World War II still reach out to probe the uneasy conscience of humanity. The past refuses to disappear into the nebulous recesses of time or into the musty pages of history books. Again and again the reemergence of events long past arouses emotions and revives images and memories. Opinions clash; there is no letup.

Memories and feelings were jarred anew with the return to France of Klaus Barbie, alias Klaus Altmann, the infamous "butcher of Lyon." His return, after being expelled from Bolivia, has given rise to mixed reactions. Some people are not exactly enthused that he was brought back to France to stand trial for "crimes against humanity."

Mixed Feelings About Barbie's Return

As far as they are concerned, he might as well have remained in Bolivia where rightwing governments protected him since his arrival there some 30 years ago. Too many skeletons are still in the closet, some people feel, and it would be better if these skeletons were not exposed to the glare of publicity.

For other people, the past holds too many horrible, traumatic memories of bitter days and nights, of despair and defenselessness. These memories, these nightmares return to the fore, the psychic wounds are reopened and an outcry emerges that justice be done.

Still others who went through the same days of torment and torture want to forget. Too many years have gone by. There is no use in reliving a period in which a "butcher" had free reign to destroy thousands of people -- resistance fighters and Jews -- for which Barbie now faces trial. His reign as gestapo chief in Lyon was during a controversial period in France's history, not exactly glorious days for the French.

Barbie conducted his butchery with the help of the Vichy government which collaborated with the Nazis after the fall of France. That government sent 110,000 Jews to death camps; only 3,000 adults returned; not one child came back.

Jewish Resistance Fighters

In all the years of the Nazi occupation of France, Barbie reserved his special "treatment" for Jews. One survivor has testified that he hung them by their feet and sent them to agonizing deaths. But he was just as relentless and remorseless about his treatment of resistance fighters, which included many Jews.

The rank and file of French Jews joined the general resistance movement but in addition they had their own underground unit which fought the Germans in a shadow war. There were more than 6,000 persons in this unit, recruited from all walks of life. They were sworn in on a small Bible and a small blue and white flag with a gold cord in the form of a Star of David stitched across it. More than 200 men and women died fighting under this flag.

France never forgot the heroes of the resistance movement. Their deeds and accomplishments have been immortalized on postage stamps that were issued from 1947 until 1961. Jews who served in the Republic and refused to submit to the Nazi occupation have also been honored.

A stamp issued in March 1960 paid homage to Pierre Masse, a member of the Senate. He served in World War I, attained the rank of captain and became an official in the government where he dealt with pensions and military justice. In 1940, Marshal Petain, head of the Vichy government, issued an order barring Jews from serving in the French army.

An aroused Masse wrote a letter to Petain asking him whether he should remove his brother's officer's insignia, a lieutenant killed in 1916, or the officer's insignia of his son-in-law, a lieutenant killed in 1940, or that of his nephew killed in the same year. Masse also asked whether his son, wounded in June 1940, could keep his rank as a lieutenant.

Petaín did not answer the letter, but Masse was arrested and finally deported in September 1942. He could have continued as a free man as a member of the Senate. But he refused. He did not want any special treatment when other Jews had to suffer.

Another prominent Jew urged France to fight on against the Nazis. He was George Mandel, Minister of the Interior in the Cabinet of Paul Reynaud, the last government of the Republic before the fall of France. He wanted to organize resistance against the Nazis from North Africa.

The Vichy police trailed Mandel and he was arrested in Rabat, Morocco. He was put on trial and found guilty of desertion. He was imprisoned and finally deported to Germany. He was an inmate at Buchenwald and Oranienburg and was returned by the Germans to the Vichy secret police who shot him in the forest in Fontainebleau.

Questions That Need To Be Answered

There were many others like Masse and Mandel. The full measure of sacrifice, heroism and endurance they displayed will be told when Barbie goes to trial. Many other facts will also emerge. American intelligence agencies are said to have employed Barbie after the war and helped him to escape from Europe. They will have to explain why they employed him and how they connived to help him escape. There are reports that the intelligence agencies employed Barbie because he could provide them with "information."

But what kind of information could a person like Barbie provide? He could not provide information about the Soviet Union -- a leading bugaboo of U.S. intelligence after the war -- because he spent the war years in France. He could not have offered any news about other Nazis because, as a Nazi war criminal himself, he would have no option but to cover up their nefarious activities and thereby mislead the Americans.

The questions that remain to be answered, therefore, are: what information were the Americans seeking and what information did they get? Moreover, were the Americans really seeking information that Barbie had or was this just a story to cover up American intelligence aid to Barbie and others of his ilk? But to what end? A full Congressional probe is in order.

Barbie And Eichmann

Undoubtedly, people will compare the upcoming trial of Barbie with the trial of Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem some 20 years ago. In Eichmann's case there was the legal problem of how to connect a "desk murderer" with the actual performance of crimes against humanity. In Barbie's case, however, the actual murderer will be on trial.

Barbie will probably, as did Eichmann, plead that he was only doing his duty, that he followed the orders of his superiors. But this rationale has long been put to rest. Barbie cannot use it.