

SPECIAL CABINET SESSION FRIDAY TO ACT ON DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR ISRAELI TROOPS WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 5 (JTA) -- The Cabinet will meet in special session tomorrow to decide whether to accept a draft agreement for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon worked out by Secretary of State George Shultz in a week of intensive shuttle diplomacy between Jerusalem and Beirut.

Acceptance of the draft apparently will entail a degree of compromise by Israel. Officials here explained that a special Cabinet meeting was necessary because the ministers will be asked to amend certain previously held positions. This means, in effect, they will have to authorize Israeli concessions.

Because of the crucial nature of these decisions, the meeting, which would have been held today, was postponed until tomorrow to allow ministers presently abroad time to return home. The latter include former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, a hardline opponent of any concessions, who cut short a speaking tour in the U.S. and is expected here later today.

Political observers expressed confidence that a majority of the ministers would endorse whatever decision Premier Menachem Begin supported. The decision to convene the Cabinet was announced late yesterday after a hectic round of meetings between Shultz and Begin and his senior ministers. Begin told reporters that there were still a number of differences between the parties but that he would summon the Cabinet to make "important decisions."

Begin's caution contrasted with the jubilation American reporters said prevailed among members of Shultz's party who appeared confident yesterday that a breakthrough has been achieved. Shultz is expected to fly to Damascus Saturday and then to Paris for a NATO meeting early next week. American sources said he does not plan to return to the Middle East from Paris but will go directly to Washington with an Israeli-Lebanese agreement in hand.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir also appeared optimistic when he spoke to reporters here last night. He would not reveal details of the draft agreement to come under Cabinet scrutiny tomorrow. It appeared from statements by Shultz and Begin that agreement has been reached on most crucial points, including the future status of Israel's ally, Maj. Saad Haddad, and the nature of the joint supervisory units to monitor security on Israel's northern border.

Unconfirmed Version Of The Draft

Unconfirmed reports broadcast by Voice of Israel Radio yesterday said the draft calls for an end-of-belligerency agreement between Israel and Lebanon and a variety of security measures along the Israeli-Lebanese border. The accord affirms the right of both countries to take self-defense measures if the agreements are violated, the radio reports said.

It provides further that the two countries will begin normalization negotiations six months after the

last Israeli troops are pulled out of Lebanon. One of the obstacles holding up an agreement was Israel's insistence that it be signed by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries and by the U.S. as guarantor.

The Lebanese want the signatories to be the heads of the negotiating delegations who rank below the ministerial level.

According to the unconfirmed radio reports, the U.S. circumvented that issue by agreeing to circulate letters of guarantee to both parties by the end of this week. The Americans also believe they have solved the key question of joint supervisory teams in south Lebanon to prevent the return of Palestinian terrorists to the region.

American officials spoke of Israeli soldiers acting as advisors to Lebanese units but not participating in hot pursuit of terrorists, should any be encountered.

The draft agreement apparently contains a formula for Haddad's future role. Israel had insisted that he be placed in supreme command of security forces in south Lebanon. The Lebanese government balked. The nature of the American formula is not known. Haddad said today he would "wait and see."

RIGHTWING PARTY OUSTS MEMBER FOR HIS ANTI-SEMITIC VIEWS

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, May 5 (JTA) -- The rightwing Social Credit Party of Canada has ousted James Keegstra, a high school teacher and Mayor of the village of Eckville, Alberta, who taught his classes that Jews are the root of all evil in the world and that the Holocaust never occurred.

Martin Hattersley, national leader of the Social Credit Party, said he requested and received Keegstra's resignation only 10 days after the teacher was elected to the party's executive at its recent convention and three days after a federal judge upheld Keegstra's dismissal from the Alberta school system.

According to Hattersley, a lawyer from Edmonton, Alberta, the party delegates "did not realize it was the same Jim Keegstra" when they elected him third vice president. Keegstra's views are "not compatible" with present day party politics, Hattersley said.

He acknowledged, however, that the theory of an international Jewish conspiracy, propounded by Keegstra, was popular with some Social Credit factions in the 1930s when the movement was transplanted to Canada from Britain and "there quite likely are other Social Credit members today who hold these views privately."

Disavows Outside Factions

But Hattersley insisted that the national party is "an open party (which) cannot take stands critical of any race or peoples." He disavowed any party affiliation with outside factions that distribute Social Credit and anti-Semitic literature.

Keegstra, 48, taught social studies for 14 years at the high school in Eckville, a hamlet of 763 persons about 100 miles from Edmonton, the provincial capital. He became a figure of national controversy last December after some parents complained

about his anti-Semitic indoctrination. There are no Jews in Eckville.

Keegstra was dismissed for failure to follow the prescribed curriculum after several warnings from the school board. His appeal for reinstatement was rejected by a Court of Queens Bench Judge after lengthy public hearings.

David King, the provincial Minister of Education, told the Alberta legislature last week that he was considering steps to revoke Keegstra's teaching license. The Social Credit Party, which was in power in Alberta for more than 35 years, ending in 1971, presently has no seats in the legislature.

A WORLD ASSEMBLY TO COMMEMORATE JEWISH RESISTANCE AND COMBAT DURING WORLD WAR II WILL CONVENE IN JERUSALEM OCTOBER 2-6

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- The World Assembly to Commemorate Jewish Resistance and Combat During World War II, which will convene in Jerusalem October 2-6, will be the largest assembly ever of its kind with some 25,000 participants expected from all over the world, according to Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky, who is head of the Assembly's organizing committee.

The Assembly, under the patronage of Premier Menachem Begin, will bring together survivors of the Holocaust and resistance fighters as well as Jewish soldiers who served in the armies of the Allied forces who fought against the Nazis, Shilansky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He said that some 1.4 million Jewish soldiers served in the Allied armies, half a million of them in the U.S. armed forces alone. He said that delegations representing these soldiers will attend the Assembly.

In addition, Shilansky said, the Assembly's organizing committee decided to invite all the officers who took part in the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps to attend the Assembly in Jerusalem. "We are inviting these officers, Jews and non-Jews alike, to come to Jerusalem with their children and grand-children," Shilansky said. He said that special invitations will be extended to David Eisenhower, grandson of the late American President, and to the son of the late French General and President Charles de Gaulle.

Sees Assembly As a Landmark Event

"As both a citizen of the State of Israel and a survivor of the Holocaust, I see the forthcoming Assembly as a landmark event which will send a message across the world," Shilansky said.

"Our message will be that we, a people whose eradication was sought with a brutality unprecedented in history, now gather in the heart of the free Jewish State. We gather to stand witness to the past, to transmit our warning to the present, and to hand on the ever-burning torch of Jewish endurance to the future."

Shilansky said that at least one-third of the participants -- about 7,000 -- will come from abroad while the rest of the participants will be survivors of the Holocaust, resistance fighters and soldiers in the Allied armies who are now citizens of Israel. One of the largest contingents will be from South Africa, with about 1,000 men and women, Shilansky said.

NAVON THANKS PERCY FOR HIS EFFORT TO GET INFORMATION ON ISRAELI POWS

WASHINGTON, May 5 (JTA) -- Israeli President Yitzhak Navon has sent a letter to Senator Charles Percy (R. Ill.) saying he was "deeply grateful" for Percy's efforts to obtain information about Israeli soldiers being held in Syria.

Percy, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has been particularly interested in the whereabouts of Zachary Baumei, an American-born Israeli soldier, and four members of his tank crew who were captured in Lebanon last June 11.

Percy said that he has sought information from the Syrian Ambassador to Washington, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the National League of Families. He said he has also urged the State Department to act on Baumei's behalf since he is an American citizen. Percy has written to Syrian President Hafez Assad asking him if he would give his personal attention "to this humanitarian matter."

ORTHODOX RABBIS DENOUNCE CCAR RESOLUTION ON THE JEWISH IDENTITY OF CHILDREN OF MIXED MARRIAGES

SPRING GLEN, N.Y., May 5 (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Council of America, an association of Orthodox Rabbis, approved a resolution today at its 47th annual convention, which "deplored and denounced" a resolution adopted for the Reform movement at the March convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) proposing changes in procedures for determining Jewish identity of children of mixed marriages.

The Rabbinical Council resolution declared that "Jewish identity by birth throughout the ages has been determined by all Jews as deriving from the Jewishness of the natural mother. This principle has preserved the unity of the Jewish people."

The resolution declared that the CCAR action "is destroying the oneness of the Jewish people and publicly inviting and encouraging intermarriage. A child born to a non-Jewish mother is not Jewish and no statement to the contrary can legitimize its Jewish identity."

The Rabbinical Council delegates "urged" the CCAR "to reverse this deplorable decision," and called on the Rabbinical Council president to name a commission "to educate the Jewish community to this schismatic nature and dangerous implications" of the CCAR resolution.

The Rabbinical Council resolution asked that the proposed commission "take whatever actions are necessary to insure the halachic integrity of the Jewish family."

STUDY SHOWS SLIGHT DROP IN PRICES IN SOME KOSHER FOOD IN NEW YORK

By Ben Gallab

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, which makes a weekly comparison of retail food prices in some two dozen groceries and supermarkets, made a special study of kosher food prices during March and April which indicated a slight drop in the prices of some kosher foods before Passover, this year, City Councilman Noach Dear, a Brooklyn Democrat, said today. Dear, who was chairman of a City Council hearing on the recurrent problem of sudden jumps in kosher product prices before Passover and the High Holy Days, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he felt that "public pressure"

had brought the price declines. Dear said another indication of such pressure was a hearing two weeks earlier than the City Council hearing, a joint State Assembly-Senate hearing here under the chairmanship of Assemblyman Sheldon Silver (D. Manhattan) and Sen. Carol Berman (D. Nassau).

Simon Gourdine, City Consumer Affairs Commissioner, also said it was "possible that the publicity concerning the investigations of kosher food products held prices down this year."

Dear said that the consumer affairs department representatives made four comparison visits to the stores they regularly check for the department's weekly "Market Basket" report on prices.

Dear said Gourdine had promised that his department would make a special survey in metropolitan New York on kosher prices before Rosh Hashanah, which Dear said would be first city survey of prices relative to that holiday. Dear said he was told the department's comparison shoppers would make at least four weekly visits to the stores before the High Holy Days and possibly two weekly visits after the holiday for comparison of any price changes in kosher foods.

The kosher-for-Passover products for which prices were checked before last Passover were borscht, gefilte fish, horseradish, matzoh, matzoh meal, chocolate macaroons, kosher chicken and canned fruit cocktail. The figures showed that prices went up by slight increases for four of the nine products but that there was a drop of 37 cents per pound for matzoh and 22 cents per pound for chocolate macaroons. Non-kosher chicken rose slightly in price per pound while kosher chicken dropped six cents per pound.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA BEGIN'S SON SAYS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT OF LIKUD GOVERNMENT IS ITS SETTLEMENT POLICY By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- Dr. Zeev Benyamin Begin, the 40-year-old son of Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin, says that the major achievement so far of the Likud government is its settlement policy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

"We are now beyond the point of return" as far as Israeli settlements are concerned, Begin said. "But we have to do even more and establish more settlements in order to avoid the establishment of an Arab state in these areas."

Begin made his remarks in a conversation with this correspondent last night during a fund-raising reception held here to help raise at least \$50,000 to enable an eight-member team of Israeli handicapped youngsters to participate in the 1983 International Summer Special Olympic Games, July 12-18, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The reception was sponsored by AKIM, USA, the American branch of the Association for the Rehabilitation of the Mentally Handicapped in Israel. It was held in the home of Alain and Nora Coblence in Manhattan.

Very Close to His Father

Begin, who strongly resembles his famous father, described his relationship with his father as being "very close." But he scoffed at the suggestion that he serves as an unofficial advisor to the Premier. "My father has his own advisors," he said.

Asked if he sees eye to eye with his father on the various issues confronting Israel he said "I

happen to be supportive of the views of my father. In fact, I do support his policies ever since I was growing up. But I do not expect my children, for instance, to support all my attitudes when they grow up. We live in a democracy..." The younger Begin has six children.

Begin Family Is Immune To Criticism

Begin, who is a geologist and came to the U.S. to participate in a seminar in Nevada at the invitation of the Geological Society of America, said that his father and the rest of the Begin family are by now "immune" to the sharp criticism from various quarters in Israel and abroad against the Begin policies. "But this is a free world and people are entitled to their views," he said.

Begin said he is not interested in entering politics. He also said there is a remote possibility that elections will be held in Israel this year, giving the impression that if they were held, his father would run again at the head of the Likud list. He refused, however, to say if his father would be a candidate for Premier in 1985, when the general elections in Israel are scheduled to take place. "It's a long time from now," he said.

Begin said that during his two-week visit to the U.S. which ended today, he had felt a change of attitude toward Israel in America. "I did sense a positive climate. People are now aware that the obstacle to peace in the Mideast are the Arabs, because of their unwillingness to enter into direct negotiations with Israel, especially after King Hussein (of Jordan) decided not to enter into negotiations with Israel," Begin said.

Begin's participation in the reception last night in the effort to help the handicapped was in line with a family tradition started by his late mother, Aliza Begin, who worked for AKIM and served as its honorary president for many years.

UJA WASHINGTON MISSIONS RAISE \$13 MILLION IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1983

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- Participants in the United Jewish Appeal's Washington Mission Program pledged nearly \$13 million to the 1983 UJA/Community campaign in the first three months of 1983, Jerome Dick of Washington, D.C. the program's national chairman, announced today.

Dick, a UJA national vice chairman, said that 821 community leaders from throughout the nation participating in 21 missions pledged more than \$9.8 million to the 1983 Regular campaign -- an increase of 24.1 percent over their gifts during the same period in 1982 -- in addition to almost \$1.5 million to the Israel Special Fund and more than \$1.6 million to Project Renewal.

"The Washington Mission Program has been sponsored by UJA in cooperation with the Council of Jewish Federations since 1980," Dick said, "and it has solidly established its value. In 1982, 1,698 people participated in 62 Washington Missions, which raised more than \$22.2 million

"The program, however, raises consciousness as well as funds," Dick stated, "by giving our leaders an 'insider's' view of the decision-making process on foreign and domestic issues of concern to the Jewish community."

CORRECTION: A statement by President Reagan on the Arabs and PLO in the May 5 Bulletin should have read that it has to be Arab states "agreeing to go forward in negotiations without the PLO."

FOCUS ON ISSUES THOUSANDS OF JEWS AFFECTED BY RECESSION, CJF SURVEY SHOWS By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, May 5 (JTA) -- Symptoms of economic hardship affecting thousands of Jews were reported by most of the 22 Federations responding to a Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) survey in January, and special aid programs have been started by the Federations, according to a CJF report.

A CJF spokesman, noting that a number of individual Federations have issued reports on efforts to aid Jews in their communities hard hit by the recent recession -- many for the first time in their lives -- said that the CJF's 22-Federation report was the first to deal with that impact on such a large proportion of American Jews.

Joblessness, requests for financial help and for job training and funding, and Jewish Family Service (JFS) and Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) caseloads were reported to be above normal in seven of the eight large-city Federations participating in the CJF survey.

Among Federations of the 10 large intermediate cities participating in the survey, eight indicated above normal joblessness among Jews in their communities and seven reported increased requests for financial assistance and increased JFS caseloads.

All four of the Federations in small cities responding to the survey cited increased requests for loans and scholarships and for job funding help. Three of the Federations indicated above normal joblessness.

The survey also sought information on action programs the Federations had started to deal with the recession-induced problems. Seven of the large-city Federations reported providing increased emergency financial help since 1981, as did half of the Federations of the large-intermediate cities and three-quarters of the Federations of small cities.

Extent Of Economic Impact

Federations of large cities indicated a significant rise in participation in coalitions to aid victims of the recession; inter-agency meetings; and public policy statements and lobbying efforts. In the 10 large-intermediate Federations, up to six indicated rising activities in such action programs and in information/referral services and job placement services. Federations in small cities also reported a rise in emergency loans and food parties.

In studying the findings of the CJF surveys, Lester Levin, director of the CJF Community Planning Department, reported on April 18 that there are emergency needs which Federations "must respond to now, as well as long-term needs, which will be with us for several years or more." He cited as among human examples, unemployment, poverty and transients.

Levin said the unemployed in the reporting communities included Russian Jewish immigrants, professionals and corporate executives. The Philadelphia Federation of Jewish Agencies reported jobless Jewish men walking into agencies with the attitude: "I am no longer a man; I can't support my wife and family." Family counselors in Philadelphia Jewish social work agencies are finding more marriage break-ups, spouse beatings, child abuse and suicide attempts "traceable to unemployment."

The Chicago Jewish Federation provided in 1982 emergency cash to 1,050 Jews; food to 6,425 Jews; clothing to 240 Jews; loans to 240; scholarships to

815; transportation to 2,700; and medication drugs to 500.

The Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation estimated the poverty level at eight percent, some 6,400 Jews. Basic services provided in 1982 and to the survey date in 1983 included \$115,000 in financial aid to 267 Jews. The Cleveland and Baltimore Federations reported considering creation of special funds for Jewish families facing foreclosures.

More Consequences Of The Recession

The Jewish Community Federation of Metropolitan New Jersey reported that applicants for Supplementary Security Income (SSI) are finding it more difficult to apply because of more stringent eligibility requirements. Long delays were reported between application for benefits and arrival of the first check.

The Philadelphia Federation reported that recent college graduates looking for their first job have had to take low-paying marginal jobs, a condition which is resulting in stress, loss of self-esteem and self-confidence, as well as depression and withdrawal from normal social activities.

In the category of transients, the Federations reported an increase in transient Jews looking for work, emergency housing, food and money.

Levin commented that for the Federations, "these case histories represent increased requests from our normal caseloads of the elderly, the sick and disabled, the low income, and, in addition, new types of clients whom we do not usually see -- college graduates unable to find a job; high-income individuals unemployed for the first time ever; women who need to work for a second income to meet household expenses; and families facing mortgage foreclosures or evictions."

A New Group Of Near-Poor Jews

Levin added that "these are the general problems of unemployment and economic and emotional stress. Less obvious is what is happening to participation in Jewish education programs, Jewish Centers, Jewish camps and Jewish organizations, as a result of the recession."

"Fortunately, poverty has not been a major problem in the Jewish community, but there is growing evidence that we have a new group of near-poor Jews, living on the edge of poverty," Levin declared. "In addition the cost of 'being Jewish' is getting beyond increasing numbers of Jews -- one-parent families, young marrieds, and middle-income families, to name the more obvious."

He warned that "hard choices are being made today between mortgage payments and Jewish education, and annual campaign contributions; between volunteer work and the second income."

Among the programs reported under consideration by the Federations are more emergency shelters, food cooperatives, group homes, additional education support for laid-off men and women, and job banks.

The eight large-city Federations are those of Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Montreal, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and St. Louis.

The 10 Federations of the large-intermediate cities are those of Buffalo, Central New Jersey, Dallas, Hartford-Houston, New Haven, North Jersey, Oakland, Seattle and Southern New Jersey. The federations of the four small cities are in Charlotte; New Bedford, Mass.; Newport News, Va.; and Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds reported awards of \$252,684 in scholarships to high school students in Israel as one aspect of total disbursements of \$5,008,960 to 297 institutions in Israel during the 1982 fiscal year, Sidney Musher, president, reported.