

JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement.

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. LXI - 66th Year

Monday, May 16, 1983

No. 93

ISRAEL AND LEBANON SET TO SIGN ACCORD ON TUESDAY

By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA) -- Israel and Lebanon will sign their agreement this Tuesday for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and related security and bilateral matters. This was confidently expected here today after the Lebanese Cabinet unanimously endorsed the accord in Beirut last Friday, despite severe pressure from Syria to reject it.

The Israeli and Lebanese negotiating teams held their final meeting in Netanyahu today after completing line-by-line scrutiny of the text in its four language versions -- Hebrew, Arabic, English and French.

The meticulous examination of the text began last Friday to make sure there were absolutely no misunderstandings between the parties and that the meanings were the same in each language.

The agreement is expected to be ratified tomorrow by the Lebanese Parliament and the Knesset. Israel Radio reported today that the formal signing Tuesday, on the eve of Shavuot, will take place in two separate ceremonies, first in the Lebanese town of Khalde just south of Beirut and then in Netanyahu.

The signatories will be the chiefs of the two negotiating teams, David Kimche, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who headed the Israeli delegation during the more than four months of negotiations, and Antoine Fatale, head of the Lebanese delegation. The two men will travel from Khalde to Netanyahu by helicopter, Israel Radio reported.

Lebanese Government Praised

Government sources here praised the government of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel for steadfastly standing up to Syrian pressure. They expressed hope that Lebanon's resolve would withstand continuing Syrian efforts to torpedo the agreement when it is placed before Parliament in Beirut. Only a simple majority is required for approval in the Lebanese chamber. Knesset endorsement is also expected, though not required by law to formalize the pact.

Damascus has denounced the agreement, worked out by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, in the harshest terms. Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam declared Friday, "We have rejected it in form and substance." Later in the day, President Hafez Assad of Syria said Syria "does not agree at all" with the accord but he did not use the word "reject."

The Israeli-Lebanese agreement cannot become operative unless Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization agree to pull their forces out of Lebanon simultaneously with an Israeli withdrawal.

After the Lebanese Cabinet approved the agreement Friday it set up a special team, headed by Premier Shafik Al-Wazzan to negotiate with the Syrians for the pull-out of the their forces. If the Syrians withdraw, the PLO would have no choice but to do the same as its forces in Lebanon are protected by the Syrian army.

(President Reagan said at Camp David Friday that he hoped Syria would withdraw from Lebanon despite its negative reaction to the agreement. Asked by reporters if he thought the Syrians would now change

their mind, Reagan replied, "I am going to continue to hope they will." White House deputy press secretary Larry Speakes said later that the U.S. would continue to work through various channels to persuade the Syrian government to cooperate.

(But the State Department made it clear on Friday that there are no plans now for a high visibility American role with respect to Syria's moves. The Department's deputy spokesman, Alan Romberg, told reporters, "There is an agreement between Lebanon and Israel that would bring about a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces. The issue now rests with Syria and the PLO to reach agreement with Lebanon to get their forces out." He noted that U.S. special envoy Philip Habib was in Beirut and could possibly go to Damascus.)

Israel Is Taking Precautions

Knowledgeable circles in Israel indicated today that despite Syria's intense pressure against the agreement and war talk from Damascus, they do not believe there will be war between Israel and Syria. Nevertheless, Israel is taking precautions. A long period of heightened tension is expected as the backdrop against which the diplomatic process will operate and hopefully culminate in the eventual withdrawal of the Syrian army from Lebanon.

Israel Radio cited high sources as expecting armed incidents on both sides of the Lebanese front and possibly on the Golan Heights in the weeks ahead, but no full scale war with Syria.

HARVARD U. JEWISH STUDENTS APPEAL TO JEWISH COMMUNITY TO HAVE THE UNIVERSITY REMOVE JOHN McCLOY'S NAME FROM A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Jewish Student Association of the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government appealed today to the American Jewish community to "impress" upon the university to remove the name of John McCloy from a new German-American scholarship program.

The spokesman, Joseph Cislowski, who is a student at the School of Government, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his organization, along with other university Jewish groups and Asian-American student groups had hoped to persuade the school's administration to remove McCloy's name from the new program which will be financed by a \$2 million initial grant by the Volkswagen Foundation of Hanover, West Germany.

McCloy, 88 years old, is a partner in the New York City law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCloy and was Assistant Secretary of War during World War II and American Military Governor of Occupied Germany from 1949 to 1952. The February edition of Harpers magazine described McCloy as "the most influential private citizen in America."

Charges Against McCloy

Jewish student groups at Harvard have charged that McCloy was instrumental in persuading President Roosevelt in the Allied decision to not bomb Nazi

death camps during World War II, which the Jewish student groups said could have saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

Cislawski, as well as Alan Dershowitz, a Harvard Law School professor, are among those who have charged McCloy with having pardoned a number of Nazi war criminals immediately after World War II in his capacity as high commissioner of occupied Germany. Furthermore, Dershowitz has charged that while acting in the capacity of a private citizen, McCloy lobbied the Nixon Administration against sending U.S. defensive weaponry to Israel during the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Asian-American student organizations at Harvard object to the scholarship named for McCloy because they charge that he was instrumental in the government's decision to place thousands of Japanese-Americans in internment camps, a decision that McCloy recently defended as necessary and justified in wartime because of the perceived threat of an imminent Japanese attack on the U.S. A national commission has asserted that the internment of Japanese-Americans at that time was rooted in "race, prejudice, war hysteria and failure of political leadership."

School's Dean Defends McCloy

The scholarship program, announced last March, will bring 10 German students each year beginning this September to Harvard to foster "strong German-American understanding" and to study American methods of public management and policy analysis at the School of Government.

In a statement released last Thursday, Graham Allison Jr., dean of the School of Government, said that McCloy "was not responsible for the evils" charged by the student groups and described him as an American who "more than any other, helped transform U.S.-German relations from the depth of a world war that claimed 51 million victims to a special relationship between closely allied democracies."

PERES SAYS HE HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN THE ISRAELI-LEBANESE ACCORD

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 15 (JTA) — Shimon Peres, chairman of the opposition Labor Party, lacks confidence in the Israeli-Lebanese agreement because Lebanon is in "a state of weakness" and cannot control the activities of the Palestine Liberation Organization on its soil.

The Labor Party, Peres said in a weekend radio interview, should not support the Likud government on the agreement because to do so would create unwarranted euphoria in Israel that finally all was well. He urged, instead, concentration on the security of Galilee and solution of the Middle East conflict as a whole.

"We were not a partner either to the decisions of the war (in Lebanon) or to the decisions on the negotiations and we are not willing or ready to identify ourselves with the ways, the priorities and the emphases the government has selected to introduce in these negotiations," Peres said. He added, however, "We are responsible enough not to endanger any chance of bringing our army back home as soon as possible..."

Peres insisted that "the problem with Lebanon was not the state of war" which the agreement ends, because "Lebanon never in fact made war with Israel. The problem with Lebanon was not a state of war but a state of weakness, and unfortunately

I feel that Lebanon is going to remain as weak as it was before the war." Peres said he did not think the Soviets are looking for a direct confrontation with the United States in the Middle East but are trying to keep the region divided because "it gives them spheres of interest ... it maintains the depth of dispute between the Arabs and ourselves and it will show that without the Russians ... that nobody can move seriously in the Middle East in either direction."

CJC LEADER SAYS CANADA HAS NO INTEREST IN PROSECUTING WAR CRIMINALS LIVING IN THE COUNTRY

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 15 (JTA) — Prof. Irwin Cotler, outgoing president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), charged that Canada had the worst record among all the democracies of admitting wartime Jewish victims of Nazism and asserted that the present Canadian government has no interest in prosecuting Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

Cotler addressed 1,500 delegates attending the CJC triennial plenary in place of Solicitor General Robert Caplan who had been scheduled to speak on "Mass Murderers Resident in Canada." Caplan cancelled his appearance.

Cotler cited the case of Albert Helmut Rauca, a 74-year-old retired hotel manager, who gave up a fight to prevent his extradition to West Germany to face trial on charges of murdering 11,584 Jews in German-occupied Lithuania between 1941 and 1943.

Cotler said the Rauca case reflected the Canadian government's lack of interest in prosecuting Nazi war criminals because Rauca's extradition is on the basis of a West German initiative.

"Most of the Nazi criminals in this country are not extraditable because we have no extradition treaties with some countries or because we will not extradite them for internal political reasons," Cotler said.

Cites The Issue Of Principle

Declaring that bringing Nazi criminals to justice is directly connected with the victims of the Holocaust, Cotler said the principle should be that the murderers should not go unpunished anywhere. Adding that there are various legal remedies for the problem, he said "what is important is the political will. It is the right of the government to revoke the citizenship of and extradite Nazi criminals."

Cotler listed international legal opinions and the charter of Canada to support his view there are enough means at present to prosecute Nazi criminals, adding it is not his intention to act in any way which would infringe the principle of non-retroactivity.

"So long as the government does not exercise its legislation to punish war criminals, it will not fulfil its international obligations," Cotler said. "We must continue to make political representations to the Minister of Justice so that criminals are prosecuted and sentenced."

Asserting that the Holocaust was a Jewish experience but that it has a universal connotation for defending human rights, Cotler said it was the duty of the media to sensitize public opinion and of the community to mobilize scholars and lawyers for action that will make it impossible for the government not to react.

Urges Establishment Of Special Unit

"We ask the government to set up immediately a special unit to investigate, apprehend and bring to justice Nazi criminals in Canada," Cotler said. "If the government does not, it will show that it is not interested in bringing such criminals to justice."

He said "we want to bring the criminals to justice by all available means, such as revocation of citizenship,

extradition, sentencing. The government must inquire whether there was any collaboration between Canadian officials and Nazi criminals which enabled those criminals to enter Canada."

Cotler said it was easier to get into Canada during wartime as a Nazi than as a Jew. Cotler added: "If this country has the worst record of all democracies during World War II" in admitting Jewish refugees fleeing Nazism, "it has a special responsibility to bring the criminals to justice."

Milton Harris, a Toronto industrialist, was elected the new president of the CJC, and Dorothy Reitman was elected the new chairperson, both by acclamation. Prof. John Humphrey, former dean of McGill University's law faculty and director of the human rights division, was presented with a special award for his fight for human rights in Canada.

SHARON: USSR NOT SEEKING MIDEAST WAR BUT SUPPORTS RETURN OF TERRORISM TO GET THE U.S. OUT OF LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 15 (JTA) -- Former Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon maintained that the Soviet Union is not seeking a new war in the Middle East but is supporting the return of terrorism and shelling as a means of getting the United States to leave Lebanon.

"Their target is to bring the Americans to pull out of Lebanon," Sharon said, in response to questions during a luncheon at the National Press Club last Friday. But at the same time, Sharon rejected the suggestion that Israel would use force against the Syrian troops and Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists that have been increasingly moving into the Bekaa valley.

"Why should we do something?" he asked. "We have achieved what we thought was and is important to us." This, he explained, was the removal of the terrorist threat to Israel's northern border and to "prevent any possibility for the terrorists re-group, restore or to reorganize themselves."

He said as a "by-product" of the Israeli action in Lebanon last year, Israel destroyed in Beirut the military and political headquarters for terrorism not only for the area but worldwide.

Cites Task Of The U.S.

But as for removing the Syrians and the PLO now from the 40 percent of Lebanon which he said they control, Sharon stressed that this should be the task of the United States. He said it was a "failure of American diplomacy" not to have pressed for the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, instead of just concentrating on Israel. "Israel was under heavy pressure for being stubborn," he said. "Nobody said a word about Syria. Nobody even asked them."

But he noted that after Secretary of State George Shultz got Israel and Lebanon to reach an agreement on the Israeli troop withdrawal, Shultz went to Damascus and it took less than half an hour for him to get a Syrian rejection.

Sharon said there should have been two parallel negotiations all along, one for the removal of all foreign troops, and the other between Israel, Lebanon and the United States on security arrangements and normalization of relations.

Sharon, who was one of two Cabinet members to vote against the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, said he opposed it because the security arrangements were

not effective. He called it a "beautiful" political agreement except that he noted Lebanon does not exist politically, and controls only 10 square kilometers of Lebanon's 10,000-square kilometers of its territory.

Once security arrangements are in place and the area is "stabilized" then the other issues can be worked out, Sharon said. He noted that he had personally tried to seek an agreement with Lebanon for a long time, meeting secretly in Beirut five months before Israel went into Lebanon last June.

Formula For A Stable Lebanon

The Former Defense Minister gave his own formula for providing stability in Lebanon. He said the first step was not to weaken Maj. Saad Haddad's forces in south Lebanon, an area which covers one-third of the country, and which, he said, is the "only place in Lebanon where life is normal."

All Lebanese army units should be concentrated in the Beirut area and, together with the multinational force, they should go into the Shouf mountains and clean out the terrorists who are now shelling Beirut, Sharon said. He predicted that if this was not done, the United States marines would soon come under heavy shelling from the terrorists.

A third step urged by Sharon was that the 6,000 troops in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, who he said are now "suffering unemployment" in south Lebanon, be moved into lines separating Israeli and Syrian troops.

Sharon also said there were two steps the United States had to take. The first was to stop withholding promised arms to Israel. "Every situation where Israel is weakened incites Syrian-PLO, backed by the Soviets' aggression," he said. He added that the U.S. must let the Soviets know "in very clear words" that it will not allow any Soviet action against Israel.

At the end of the luncheon, Don Byrne, president of the National Press Club, presented Sharon with a hard-hat since he had come to the luncheon through the extensive renovation that the National Pressing building is undergoing. "I got such a warm reception in the states I do not know why I need it," Sharon quipped.

3 ARABS WOUNDED IN NABLUS IN CLASHED WITH ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES

JERUSALEM, May 15 (JTA) -- Three Arabs were wounded, two of them by bullets, in clashes with Israeli security forces in Nablus today. The clashes followed a new outbreak of rock-throwing, occasioned by the 35th anniversary of Israel's independence which falls on May 14 according to the Gregorian calendar. There were also rock-throwing incidents in Ramallah where windshields were smashed on several Israeli vehicles.

Security sources said one person trying to escape arrest was shot in the leg by Israeli soldiers and was hospitalized. Another was injured by glass splinters when he crashed through a window trying to escape. A third person was found with a bullet wound near a mosque. The circumstances of that shooting are unknown and under investigation.

Meanwhile, public criticism is mounting in Israel against the failure of police and security forces to impose law and order on Jewish settlers on the West Bank suspected of damaging Arab property. The windshields of Arab-owned cars were smashed in four incidents of vandalism during the last two months in various parts of the West Bank but no arrests have been made. Israeli authorities have also been criticized for failing to stop development work by Jewish settlers on land Arabs claim to own.

WEINBERGER INSISTS THAT HE IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA) — Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger denied publicly allegations that he was anti-Israel and declared that he is a strong supporter of Israel and believed that a strong Israel is in the best interests of the United States.

Addressing some 600 Jewish leaders at a luncheon given by the American Jewish Committee at the New York Hilton hotel last Friday, the Secretary declared:

"I want to say, as forcefully as I can, that this (the allegation that he is against Israel) is simply not true. I am a strong supporter of Israel and an admiring witness to the democracy they have built and preserved under the most trying conditions. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit (to Israel) last year and was most hospitably received.

"We have all had occasional disagreements with some policies of Israel, as with other sovereign nations. I have, as is my responsibility, sought to pursue policies in these matters, as in all others, that I felt in the best interests of the United States."

He continued: "But even if I were not a strong admirer of Israel, which I am, and all they have accomplished, even if the American people were not bound to Israel by emotional ties, as Secretary of Defense I would still be a strong supporter of Israel."

U.S. Has A Stake In Israel's Survival

Weinberger said, "leaving all sentiments aside, looking only at our own national interests, it is clear that we in the United States have an important stake in Israel's security." He asserted that the United States has an enormous strategic interest in the Middle East and that Israel is a most effective military force, and that because it is a democracy, it is one of the most stable governments in the region.

Weinberger observed that the Soviets "would dearly love to control the Middle East resources and strategic checkpoints; but Israel stands determinedly in their way." He affirmed America's commitment to Israel, declaring that the U.S. is bound to Israel by strategic interests.

U.S. Worried About Soviets Arms Buildup in Syria

The Defense Secretary warned of what he said is "the heightened danger" of direct conflict between Israel and Syria. He said the U.S. is most worried over the Soviet military buildup in Syria. He noted that the Soviets have "literally flooded Syria with new arms and they have issued provocative statements disparaging United States, Israeli, Lebanese efforts to bring peace and stability to Lebanon. They have also sent Soviet troop units to Syria, not just 'advisors' or trainers."

This stepped-up Soviet involvement in the region, Weinberger warned, "makes a solution to the crisis in Lebanon more difficult to achieve, and heightens the danger of direct conflict between Syria and Israel."

The Defense Secretary said the Soviet Union is making "a profound mistake" if it thinks that by belting out statements, it can pressure the United States not to support Israel.

As for the agreement between Israel and Lebanon on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, achieved through the mediation of Secretary of State George Shultz, Weinberger said that it was a major step forward "for advancing the cause of peace in the Middle East." He continued, "I hope Syria will soon see that it is enormously to its advantage also to agree to withdraw its troops from Lebanon."

Weinberger also stated peace cannot be achieved without strength, and "states that do not feel secure cannot be expected to take risks for peace. Israel cannot be expected to expose itself to the risks of territorial withdrawal if it is not confident about its own defense capabilities, about the security arrangements that accompany any withdrawal, and about the strength and permanence about our United States commitment to Israeli security."

But at the same time, he said, if the moderate Arabs are to join the peace process, "they must feel capable of withstanding the inevitably retaliatory threats from the radicals and rejectionists they are sure to confront. And that means they, too, must be confident about their own capabilities and our commitment to their defense."

In that connection, Weinberger said, in response to a question at the end of his address, the United States supplies the moderate Arab countries, notably Jordan and Saudi Arabia, with advanced American arms only for defense purposes.

He also said, in response to another question, that the memorandum of understanding between Israel and the U.S., which he said was suspended by the Reagan Administration after Israel invaded Lebanon, could be reinstated. He did not say when. Actually, the memorandum of understanding was suspended by the Administration in December, 1982, after Israel annexed the Golan Heights. It was about to be reinstated last spring when Israel invaded Lebanon.

Weinberger was interrupted three times by applause and ovations and was given a standing ovation at the end of his address.

Hundreds Of People In Anti-Weinberger Rally

As Weinberger was addressing the AJC Committee luncheon inside the hotel, several hundred protesters staged a peaceful anti-Weinberger demonstration outside. The rally was co-sponsored by Americans for a Safe Israel and the National Council of Young Israel. A third group involved was the Jewish Mobilization Committee.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss, spiritual leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale (N.Y.) and one of the coordinators of the rally, explained that the thrust of the 90-minute demonstration was to carry a message to Weinberger that he is in fact "the symbol of this Administration's abandonment of Israel." The protestors shouted, in unison, "Weinberger must go," and some of them carried a large banner stating, "Cap, The Knife."

MAN CONVICTED OF VANDALIZING PROPERTY OF JEWISH NEIGHBORS

NEW YORK, May 15 (JTA) — Brad Barry, a Kings Point, L.I., man convicted of vandalizing the property of Jewish neighbors, was sentenced to 5-15 years imprisonment by a Nassau County Court Friday and ordered to pay \$16,000 to cover the damages.

Barry was found guilty last March on charges of arson and criminal mischief against his neighbors, Yaacov and Hanna Elkon. The charges included daubing the Elkons' garage with swastikas and anti-Semitic slogans, trying to set fire to their house and leaving a voodoo doll on their lawn with a Star of David on the doll's chest and a hypodermic syringe piercing the doll's eye.

Judge Marie Santagata, who pronounced the sentence, said it was "for punishment, deterrence and protection of the community." Last week the Jewish Advocacy Center in Washington told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that it has filed a \$6 million suit in federal court in Brooklyn against Barry and two other Kings Point men for terrorizing the Elkons for the last three years. (See JTA Daily News Bulletin of May 13.)