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ISRAEL, LEBANON SIGN PACT; U.S. PLEDGES 'FIRM' SUPPORT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 17 (JTA) -- Israel and Lebanon signed their agreement on troop withdrawals and security today and got a pledge of "firm" support from the United States, a co-signator.

There were two signing ceremonies, the first, at 9 a.m. local time at Khalde, a Lebanese town just south of Beirut, and three hours later, at Kiryat Shemona, an Israeli town on the Lebanese border where, as in Khalde, many of the negotiating sessions leading to the agreement were held.

David Kimche, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who headed the Israeli negotiating team, signed for Israel. Antoine Fatale, chief of the Lebanese delegation signed for the Beirut government. U.S. special Ambassador Morris Draper added his signature on behalf of the United States. All three made it clear that this was not a formal peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon but nevertheless a major step on the road towards peace.

Draper noted that both parties had fought hard during the five months of negotiations for their national aspirations and requirements. "But in the process of meshing these aims, both countries found they had many goals and aims in common, including an enduring and friendly relationship between them," he said.

Draper added that it was fitting that the U.S. was present to witness the signings. "The U.S. is a warm and reliable friend of both countries. It is not only a witness to this accord but will remain a firm supporter of the understandings which have been reached," the American diplomat declared.

The signings followed the endorsements of the agreements by the Lebanese and Israeli parliaments yesterday. The Lebanese Parliament unanimously approved the accord. The Knesset registered its approval last night by a vote of 57-6 with 45 abstentions (not 55-8 with 46 abstentions as initially reported.)

'A New Chapter In Our Histories'

Four copies of the agreement were signed today -- in English and French, the official versions, and in Hebrew and Arabic. Three of the signed copies are for Jerusalem, Beirut and Washington and the fourth for the United Nations archives in New York.

Kimche said at the signings, "The signatures are just the beginning of a new chapter in our histories. Many obstacles still stand in our paths and there are many who would wish to render the agreements meaningless... But you cannot go against the will of the people" of Lebanon and Israel.

He stressed that Israel's final withdrawal from Lebanon is contingent on the departure of all Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization forces from that country and the return by Syria of all Israeli prisoners of war.

The understanding of the conditional nature of Israel's pledge to withdraw was affirmed in sideletters from the U.S. to Israel and Lebanon which are part of the agreement. Fatale, speaking in French, noted that "The agreement is not perfect, but then perfection belongs to God only."

Much of the agreement and its annexes deal with security arrangements in south Lebanon where Israel and Lebanon will establish a Joint Liaison Committee with U.S. participation. The Lebanese army to be stationed in the south Lebanon security zone will be limited to two brigades with their normal equipment.

Anti-aircraft or ground-to-sea missiles are excluded, as is radar capable of scanning Israeli territory. The security provisions provide for direct radio and telephone communications between the Israeli and Lebanese military commanders and face-to-face consultations.

According to the annex of the agreement, "Within 8 to 12 weeks of the entry into force of the present agreement, all Israeli forces will have been withdrawn from Lebanon. This is consistent with the objective of Lebanon that all external forces withdraw from Lebanon."

"The Lebanese armed forces and the Israel defense forces will maintain continuous liaison during the withdrawal and will exchange all necessary information through the Security Arrangements Committee. The Israel defense forces and the Lebanese armed forces will cooperate during the withdrawal in order to facilitate the reassertion of the authority of the government of Lebanon as the Israeli armed forces withdraw."

The annex also states: "Three months after completion of the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon, the Security Arrangements Committee will conduct a full-scale review of the adequacy of the security arrangements delineated in this annex in order to improve them."

A Major Achievement For Diplomacy

The signings today represented a major achievement for diplomacy in which the U.S. played an overriding and probably decisive role. The final accord was reached after two weeks of strenuous shuttling between Jerusalem and Beirut by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

But as Shultz himself stressed, Israel and Lebanon had by then reached agreements in principle on most points during the months of negotiations in which Draper and U.S. special envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib participated.

Both Kimche and Fatale had fulsome praise for Draper and Habib. But despite the satisfaction expressed by all parties with the achievement consummated today, the fate of the agreement clearly depends on whether Syria will agree to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

Damascus exerted severe pressure on the government of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to reject the accord with Israel on grounds that Israel gained politically and militarily from it.

Fatale, in his remarks today, stressed that Lebanon remained faithful to its commitments to the Arab world but it required an end to warfare if it is to rebuild a country shattered by seven years of civil strife. He referred pointedly to the fact that Syria itself reached an accord with Israel in the form of the 1974 disengagement agreement on the Golan Heights.

U.S. HAILS ISRAEL-LEBANON PACT AS A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD PEACE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration, obviously pleased that Israel and Lebanon signed their agreement today for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, continued to express confidence that Syria would agree to leave too.

"We believe that this (signing) is a major achievement that proves that peace negotiations can work in the Middle East," Nicholas Veliotis, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, declared in briefing reporters on the agreement.

President Reagan hailed the signing today as "a positive step toward peace in the Middle East." Speaking to Congressional leaders at a budget meeting, Reagan also called on Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization to "agree to withdraw as well" so that all foreign forces would be out of Lebanon and that country can regain its sovereignty and a control of its territory.

The President thanked Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and Lebanese President Amin Gemayel for the courage and statesmanship they showed in the negotiations for troop withdrawals, and he particularly thanked Secretary of State George Shultz for his efforts that led to the agreement signed today.

The First Essential Step

Veliotis said the agreement worked out by Shultz during his two week mission to the Middle East is "the first essential step in achieving the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon." He said the agreement becomes officially effective when Lebanon and Israel exchange the documents of ratification.

But he stressed that it is "understood" that Israel will not begin withdrawing its troops until there is an agreement for the withdrawal of Syrian troops and PLO forces. When this is done, the Israeli withdrawal would take 8-12 weeks to complete, he said.

The U.S. expects Syria to abide by its "long-standing" public and private assurances that when the Lebanese government tells it that the Syrian army's presence is "no longer necessary" it will withdraw, Veliotis said. He noted that Israeli troops in Lebanon are only 25 miles from Damascus.

"We assume that the withdrawal of those troops is some form of reassurance to Syria's security concerns," he said. He added that the U.S. cannot see how the security arrangements worked out for south Lebanon between Israel and Lebanon where, he repeatedly stressed, the Lebanese army will be in complete control, could be seen as a threat to Syria.

Rejects Any Linkage

Veliotis rejected any linkage of the Golan Heights issue to Syrian withdrawal. He pointed out that while Reagan did not mention the Golan in his September 1 peace initiative for the Middle East, the U.S. stressed on the very next day that it considers the Golan Heights part of the territories occupied by Israel, as defined by UN Security Council Resolution 242.

Veliotis said he did not believe the Soviet Union could veto Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon. He said he believed the government of Syria will make its own decisions. "We hope they make the right decisions so everyone will get out," he said.

He added that history shows "the longer they stay" the more there is a chance of conflict.

Meanwhile, U.S. special Ambassador for the Middle East Philip Habib will return to Beirut tomorrow to begin the U.S. efforts to gain Syria's withdrawal, Veliotis said. No mention was made of Shultz returning to the Middle East. President Gemayel, in an interview published in The New York Times today, urged Shultz to return as soon as possible. But Shultz reportedly believes the main effort should not now be made by the Arab countries to get Syria to withdraw.

Says U.S. Did Not Pay A Price

Veliotis replied with a firm "No" when he was asked if the U.S. had to pay a price to gain Israel's agreement to withdraw from Lebanon. "It wasn't a question of buying the Israelis out of Lebanon," he said.

Veliotis, who accompanied Shultz on his recent mission to the Mideast, said it was clear in the talks that "the Israelis did wish to leave Lebanon" but it was a question of finding the "proper circumstances" under which their security could be safeguarded. "The Israelis clearly demonstrated in the negotiations that they have no desire to create a Northern Bank in Lebanon," he stressed.

Veliotis said the agreement serves Israel's "legitimate self-interest" and seeks to ensure that a situation will not be recreated in which "terrorist acts" against Israel will once again occur. The agreement also prohibits both Israel and Lebanon from using each other's territory to launch attacks against a third country.

Veliotis noted that Reagan, in April, linked removal of the embargo on the sale of 75 F-16 jet fighter bombers to Israel with Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. He agreed there was a "change in the atmosphere" now. But he said Reagan is "in the process of considering" what action to take now. This seemed to be an indication that an announcement on the F-16s may be made soon.

HAIG: THE U.S. DID NOT PROVIDE ISRAEL WITH A 'GREEN LIGHT' TO INVADE LEBANON LAST JUNE

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- Former Secretary of State Alexander Haig maintained here last night that the United States did not provide Israel with a "green light" for its invasion of Lebanon last June. He said any suggestion that the U.S. did is the "consequence of mischievous political activity" in Israel and the U.S.

At the same time, while expressing cautious optimism at the accord reached between Israel and Lebanon for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, Haig suggested that there have been "lost opportunities" and "complicating factors" in recent months which may impede implementation of the accord.

Haig, who was Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration from January, 1980, until he resigned his post several weeks after Israel's invasion of Lebanon, reportedly over a split in foreign policy decisions within the Administration, made his remarks at a public dialogue at the Sutton Place Synagogue with the synagogue's spiritual leader, Rabbi David Kahane.

Summarizing some of the events which immediately preceded the Israeli action, Haig recounted that in a foreign policy speech he delivered last May, he warned that "time was running out in Lebanon" and of the increasingly deteriorating situation in that country. Furthermore, Haig said that the Israelis "had put the world on notice" that continued provocations from Palestinian terrorists on Israel's northern settlements would result in retaliation.

According to Haig, he personally told Israeli Premier Menachem Begin that any action by Israel against terrorist strongholds in Lebanon would have to be the result of "a perceivable and recognized international provocation. And second, a reaction itself should have been proportional to that provocation and perceived to be." It was unclear whether Haig personally perceived Israel's action to be "proportional" to the provocation which preceded the invasion.

Cites New Spirit Of U.S.-Israel Cooperation

Haig said it would be "hard not to welcome" the Israeli-Lebanon accord for the withdrawal of Israeli forces, which was signed by the two countries today. But he noted that the Israeli withdrawal is contingent on a withdrawal of Syrian forces as well as a withdrawal of the some 8,000-12,000 Palestinian terrorists in Lebanon.

He said the mission of Secretary of State George Shultz which led to the agreement has resulted in a "new spirit of cooperation and consultation" between Israel and the U.S. He asserted that "the only solution for Lebanon is the removal of all foreign forces."

The former Secretary touched on several other issues, including the massacre of Palestinians in the Beirut refugee camps last September. He suggested that some responsibility lies with the U.S. for creating a "vacuum" when it pulled the marines out of Lebanon following the evacuation of the PLO from west Beirut.

Because of this vacuum, Haig continued, the Israeli military leaders decided to enter the city in an effort to prevent a "collapse into bloodshed" of the Lebanese capital. He said these leaders have "paid the consequence," a reference to the Israeli commission of inquiry report which led to the resignation of Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and other military officials.

Objectable Element On Reagan's Plan

While Haig said he supports President Reagan and his efforts for peace in the Middle East, he said that does not mean he favors the September 1 Middle East initiative in total. He said he found objectionable the initiative's call for a halt to Israeli settlement activity on the West Bank.

He said that he was against the settlements, as being "counterproductive" to the peace process and had even suggested to Begin that the Israeli government "terminate" settlement activity. But Haig pointed out that this is an Israeli "trump card" that should not be tossed on the bargaining table before negotiations on the future status of the occupied territory begins.

NEW C.J.C. LEADER INTENDS TO PROMOTE UNIVERSAL AND JEWISH VALUES By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 17 (JTA) — Milton Harris, newly elected president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, told the closing session of the organization's 20th triennial plenary here that he intends to "promote universal and Jewish values" during his term in office and to foster firm cooperation between the C.J.C. and the other national Jewish organizations, B'nai B'rith and the Canadian Zionist Federation.

Harris, who succeeded Prof. Irwin Cotler, stressed that Jewish concerns and national concerns dovetail. "As a Zionist and as a Jew I support the efforts of French Quebecois to preserve their cultural values and their language," he said. He also promised to pursue the struggle for justice for Soviet Jews and treat it as a human rights issue.

"We shall involve ourselves in native rights and will support other national minorities' aspirations," he said. Referring to Nazi war criminals still at large — more than a few living in Canada — Harris said:

"We shall intervene with Western European governments in order to make them ask the Canadian government for the extradition of their nationals, mass murderers hiding in Canada. We shall also ask the Canadian government to proceed with the extradition process. If new legislation is necessary to implement the extradition process, we shall ask the Canadian government to bring in that legislation," Harris said.

He also stressed that "the development of Canada-Israel relations remains one of our principal goals."

Lloyd Axworthy, the Minister of Immigration and Manpower who brought greetings from Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, declared, "The agonizing problem is how to reconcile our liberal tradition of granting asylum to oppressed and persecuted people with the growing unemployment of our own nationals."

He invited the Jewish community to share the government's anguish and noted the positive collaboration of his department and the Canadian government in saving the lives of a number of Ethiopian Jews.

EEC WELCOMES ISRAEL-LEBANON PACT

BONN, May 17 (JTA) — The European Economic Community has welcomed the accord reached between Israel and Lebanon and signed by the two countries today. West Germany's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher made that point at a press conference here yesterday following a two-day informal meeting of the foreign ministers of the 10 EEC-member states.

But Genscher, who currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the EEC Council of Ministers, gave no indication of the European reaction to Syria's rejection of the agreement, which could render it inoperative. There was an understanding here that the European Community will try to exert influence on Damascus to pull Syrian forces out of Lebanon. German sources could not say how the Syrians would be addressed or on what level.

Unless Syria withdraws from Lebanon, the Israelis will not pull out their troops, and the status quo in Lebanon will remain. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned that the EEC Foreign Ministers did not consider lifting the partial sanctions imposed on Israel after its invasion of Lebanon in June, 1982. Sources here have said such a move was possible only after the actual withdrawal of Israeli forces takes place.

Prior to the ministers' meeting, sources said it was "premature" to speak of lifting the sanctions and there was not even a remote chance to reach the needed consensus to do so at this time. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shalom is due in Brussels some time next month for talks with Belgian and EEC officials. Israel's demand that the sanctions be lifted is expected to be high on the agenda.

VIENNA (JTA) — Friedrich Peter, a leader of the Freedom Party, junior partner in Austria's new Socialist-led coalition government, stepped down Tuesday as a candidate for the office of Third President of Parliament because of widespread protests over his Nazi past. Peter was a former officer of the First SS Infantry Brigade which was notorious for mass murders during World War II.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated May 19 because of Shavuot.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES EXPERT ON THE 'ARAB MIND' SAYS ARAB PSYCHE HAS UNDERGONE SUBTLE CHANGES DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS By Arnold Ages

TORONTO, May 17 (JTA) — Raphael Patai, the first man to receive a Ph.D from the Hebrew University (1935) and the author of more than a dozen books, including the much acclaimed "The Arab Mind" (1973), says that there have been some subtle changes occurring in the psyche of the Arab world as a consequence of the frequent military encounters with Israel.

Patai, an anthropologist who has studied Middle-eastern culture, suggests that a new form of society, entirely uncharacteristic of the Arab mind, is now part of the world of discourse among Arab intellectuals.

The Israeli-trained scholar, who now resides in the United States, makes this observation in a new paper-back edition of his much heralded work on the Arab mind. In the preface to the book published by Scribners, Patai says that for the first time democratic sentiments are being expressed by Arab writers.

An Unprecedented Statement

He quotes the former Kuwaiti minister of finance, Abdul Rahman Al-Atiqi, as being one of the later. Al-Atiqi has publicly deplored the "constant oppression" under which Arabs live, contrasting this deplorable state with the democratic freedoms of Israel where people have the right "to criticize their own leader."

Patai indicates that Al-Atiqi's statement, made just recently, is unprecedented and that it bodes well because heretofore Arab explanations of Israeli successes have all been based on presumptions of superior Israeli resources and technology. The infusion of democratic ideals can only help moderate the tensions in the Mideast, Patai indicates.

In his survey of events which have convulsed the Arab world since the first edition of his book appeared in 1973, Patai notes that the euphoria which the Arabs experienced in the wake of their partial victory during the Yom Kippur War, has all but dissipated. Dreams of conquest, the restoration of Arab dignity, Arab unity — all these have given way to a more sober rendering of reality.

His reading of the Arab press leads Patai to conclude that Arab intellectuals are becoming far more sober in their criticisms of traditional Arab rigidities in language, thought and action. The tendency towards "mubalagha," hyperbolic speech and exaggerated rhetoric, while still part of Arab cultural patterns, is becoming more muted in recent times.

The Factor Of Economic Power

One factor which militates against further progress on this front is the economic power which the Arabs have obtained through petrodollars. The transference of vast sums of money to the oil-rich states have fuelled illusions about a return to the kind of hegemony which the Arab-Muslim civilization enjoyed during the pre-medieval period.

"What it has done to Arab pride cannot be underestimated," says Patai. "Yet at the same time the financial power which the Arabs have required is frightening, because the responsible attitude, which alone can make such power beneficial, could not be acquired as rapidly as the wealth itself."

On the plus side of the ledger, Patai notes that the Arab world, so long resentful of the technological advances of the West, has finally come to an accommo-

dation with it. This has been effected in part through the simple purchase of Western technology and know-how and it remains for the Arab world to integrate these advances within "the context of Arab culture."

Cites Progress By Women

Patai is also impressed by the progress which has been made by women in Arab society. While the concept of women's liberation, in the Western sense of the word, is unknown in Arab lands, there has been a rapid improvement in recent years in women's rights.

Patai makes this statement after years of monitoring both the popular and scholarly publications emanating from Arab countries. Arab women themselves are becoming more vociferous in denouncing injustices against their sex and in demanding more equitable treatment from a male dominated culture.

Origin Of 'Conflict Proneness'

In one area Patai finds little or no change in the Arab psyche — "conflict proneness." Since the 1970's Patai observes that Arab countries have been involved in 11 different armed conflicts which have drawn the bloody participation of Jordan, Syria, Libya, South Yemen, Oman, Iraq, Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Chad and, non-Arab Iran.

Patai traces the origin of these conflicts to the obsessive pursuit among the Arabs of the elusive "unity," — the mystical oneness to which the Arabs aspire but which is inevitably beyond their reach.

The famous anthropologist believes that the Arabs will be able to cope successfully with the ordeal of modernity only when they rid themselves of their obsession and hatred of Zionism and can overcome their conflict proneness, "and can devote their best talents not to fighting windmills, but to constructing the new Arab man."

According to Patai, the Arabs now have a better chance to achieve this than any time in the recent past because they have become aware of the fact that they are a people "who counts in the world."

SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVIST SCHEDULED TO BE TRIED FOR 'DRAFT EVASION'

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) — The National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) reported today that Lev Elbert, a 35-year-old refusenik activist from Kiev, is scheduled to be tried for "draft evasion" on May 25.

Elbert refused to comply with an unusual draft summons ordering him to begin reserve duty on April 6. Such duty is generally served only by high-ranking officers. Elbert, who completed his term as a private in the army nine years ago, appeared at the draft office to request that he not be sent to a secret unit. His request was denied and the summons issued.

Elbert was denied an answer by military authorities to his question concerning the reasons for the summons, unusual at his age. The denial was given under the pretext of state security. Refusal to comply carries a penalty of one year in prison.

Elbert, his wife, Inna, and their son, Kami, have been waiting since August, 1976, for permission to emigrate to Israel. They were initially denied visas because of "classified information" that Elbert allegedly had access to during his army service.

The current move appears designed to make this allegation stick, the National Conference said. It could also be in response to a recent KGB interrogation in which Elbert was threatened with the effect a possible prison camp sentence would have on his son's future and asked to supply information about other Jewish activists. Elbert, a victim of repeated harassment, refused.