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SYRIAN ENVOY IN PARIS PREDICTS WAR IS 'IMMINENT'; CHARGES ISRAELI, U.S. PLOT

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, May 31 (JTA) -- Syria's Ambassador to France said today that a new war in the Middle East is "imminent" and accused Israel and the United States of "plotting" an attack on Syria.

Ambassador Yussuf Chakur, a former Syrian army Chief of Staff, also said that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement of May 17 is jeopardizing Syria's basic security.

The envoy, who addressed a press conference said, "Syria is made to appear like the bad guy in the withdrawal process. Actually, Syria is ready to withdraw its forces from Lebanon as soon as Israel carries out an unconditional evacuation of its own troops and does nothing to affect Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity."

Chakur revealed that 4,500 Syrian soldiers including 90 pilots were killed during last June's brief fighting in Lebanon. He said "Syria wants to avoid a new war but without compromising its security and independence." He claimed that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement threatens Syria's security as it provides for the presence of Israeli forces in a security zone in southern Lebanon only 15 miles from Damascus.

Europeans Blame Syria

West European governments and public opinion increasingly tend to blame Syria for the stalemate in the withdrawal process from Lebanon. Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, due here tomorrow, is expected to hammer home during his meetings with French ministers and top aides, the scope of Israeli concessions and to stress Syria's direct responsibility in the current crisis.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, currently on an official visit to Luxembourg, Belgium and Italy, is trying to obtain West European diplomatic pressure on Damascus for the evacuation of Syrian troops stationed in the Bekaa valley.

Arens, officially the guest of the Paris Air Show and French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, will visit the Israeli pavillion tomorrow afternoon. On Thursday he will confer with a number of French ministers and other top Presidential aides. He will return to Israel Friday shortening his trip by two days because of the tense political situation in Lebanon.

2 GAZA ARABS GET LIFE SENTENCES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Two Gaza Strip

Arabs were sentenced to life imprisonment by a military court in Lod today for a grenade attack on an Egged bus four months ago in which eight passengers were injured.

The defendants, both in their twenties, are residents of Deir Al Balah village and the Maazi refugee camp. The president of the court said the life sentences were justified because the attack was planned and premeditated with the intention of killing civilians.

The two men were charged with throwing grenades at the bus as it passed through a sparsely populated area in the southern outskirts of Tel Aviv on a Saturday evening. According to the court the men had planned the terrorist act for a week. They toured the area, familiarized themselves with the bus schedules and carefully chose the position from which they launched the attack, the court said.

LIBERAL SPLIT WIDENS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- The split within Likud's Liberal Party wing widened today when Leon Dulzin, a veteran party leader, demanded that Justice Minister Yitzhak Modai abandon his plans to establish an independent faction within Liberal ranks.

Modai announced his intentions last week, with the support of four other Liberal MKs. He said the new faction would insist on being consulted separately on all coalition decisions. Dulzin, who is chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, confronted Modai at a meeting of the Liberal Party Presidium. He said he was trying to avert a looming crisis in the party.

Modai replied that he would postpone further action if certain demands are met. These include the immediate establishment of a new television channel in addition to the existing State television and educational channel; the immediate introduction of a State health insurance bill; and the appointment of several members of his group to senior positions in the party's Knesset faction.

2 KNESSET COMMITTEES DEMAND REPORT ON VIGILANTISM

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Two Knesset committees are demanding the right to see the report submitted to the government more than a year ago by a special judicial panel that investigated Jewish vigilantism on the West Bank. But Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir insists the time is not ripe to publish the report and have it discussed in the Knesset.

Zamir told the Knesset Interior Committee today that to publicize the findings and recommendations of

the committee, headed by Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp, would be contrary to "proper administrative procedures" at this time since various ministries are presently involved in implementing the recommendations. He offered the same argument before the Knesset's Constitution Committee.

Karp has resigned from the panel, originally set up by the Justice Ministry. She charged that the Ministry failed to act on its recommendations. She also complained that her investigation was hampered by the failure of the military and police authorities on the West Bank to cooperate. The investigation focused on a long series of incidents on the West Bank from mid-1980 to the end of 1982 in which acts of harassment, vandalism and violence allegedly by Jewish settlers against West Bank Arabs went unpunished.

The report was said to have found that the police on the West Bank, who are controlled by the army, have been unable to cope with offenses by Jewish settlers because of a shortage of competent manpower, lack of coordination between police and the military and the refusal of settlers to cooperate in the investigation of Jews suspected of offenses against Arabs.

Want Police Function Defined

Members of the Interior Committee insisted that the status and function of the Israeli police in the occupied territories be clearly defined so that they could investigate cases of alleged Jewish vigilantism. Yehezkel Karti, chief of the investigations division at police general headquarters, told the committee the police were powerless because they were subordinate to the military authorities in the territories.

Zamir told the committee that the still unsettled situation in Lebanon was one reason for delaying a discussion of the report. He apparently convinced the Interior Committee to wait another month for the ministers of defense, justice and interior to complete their study of the Karp report and issue directives. The Constitution Committee insisted that the Attorney General submit the report at once.

U.S. REPORTS EASED TENSION, BUT URGES CONTINUED RESTRAINT

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- The State Department indicated today that it was encouraged by the apparent easing of tension in the Middle East over the weekend but repeated its call to all parties to exercise "utmost restraint."

Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg told reporters, "We once again urge the parties concerned to exercise the utmost restraint in order to reduce the risk of conflict." He had no comment on reports that elements of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Syrian-held Bekaa valley of Lebanon had mutinied against PLO chief Yasir Arafat.

Asked about reports that Lebanon has approached France to mediate the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, Romberg said, "I'm not aware of that

particular report. My understanding is that there have been some discussions between the Lebanese and Syrians and that the Lebanese are looking forward to having some further discussions, but I don't have any indications to back it up."

He said the U.S. would not have any objections to France playing a role, but he was not aware that this was actually happening. He said, "Obviously we have remained in very close touch with all of our allies, particularly the MNF (multinational force) contributing nations, so a French role is not surprising."

3 CANADIAN MPs ASK PROBE OF ANTI-ISRAEL TEACHERS' MATERIAL

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 31 (JTA) -- Three Montreal area members of the federal Parliament have called for a parliamentary investigation of an anti-Israel poster and pamphlets produced by the Quebec teachers union and distributed to teachers in the provincial schools. The poster and pamphlet accuse Israel of "genocide" against the Palestinian people.

The protesting MPs -- David Berger, Pierre Deniger and Celine Hervieux-Payette -- were joined by Dr. Luc Larivee, chairman of the Montreal Catholic School Commission, who condemned the poster because "the role of teachers is not to take one side or another in political or ideological disputes."

Yvon Charbonneau, president of the 70,000-member teachers union, said the poster and pamphlets were distributed to teachers for their information, not as teaching material and to raise funds for the victims of Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

The three MPs have asked for a parliamentary committee to study racism all over Canada and to investigate the activities of the Quebec teachers union. They charged that the union headquarters in Montreal houses a wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization which operates under the name of "Quebec Movement to Fight Racism." According to the MPs, that organization is linked to the "International Organization for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination," based in Tripoli, Libya which is, in turn, linked to the World Council for Peace. The MPs claimed the latter is a "puppet of Moscow."

Charbonneau acknowledged that his union headquarters houses a Palestinian information office which "disseminates information about the Palestinian cause. The teachers union is anti-Zionist but not anti-Semitic," he said.

According to Charbonneau, the MPs are trying to divert attention from the visit here tomorrow of former Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon. He said his union and affiliated organizations planned to demonstrate in front of Sharon's hotel tomorrow to protest his presence in Canada.

The Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith and the Canadian Zionist Federation have called for a mass rally outside of teachers union headquarters to support Israel and denounce Charbonneau as "an enemy of the Jewish people."

VISITING U.S. CONGRESSMEN HEAR BEGIN'S CONCERN ABOUT CASUALTIES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin told a group of American Congressmen today he was concerned over Israeli casualties in Lebanon.

Begin did not speak of a war of attrition. But Sen. Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) said that Begin made clear that Israel would do "what is necessary."

The Congressmen met Begin today as part of their study tour of the Mideast. They have already visited the Galilee and the Golan Heights.

"We have seen the tanks and the concentration of Syrian forces," said Specter, adding that Begin expressed his worry over the situation. Specter said that although there was American pressure on the Syrians to withdraw from Lebanon, "they are being very stubborn about it."

He also said it was unrealistic to expect the U.S. to send more marines to the multinational force should Israel decide to engage in unilateral withdrawal to the Awali River.

Another member of the delegation, Rep. Bob Edgar (D. Pa.), said the relations between Israel and the U.S. were now at their best since the start of the war in Lebanon. Edgar suggested that Begin be invited to address a joint session of Congress when he visits the U.S.

The other Congressmen hosted by Begin at today's meeting were Reps. Stephen Solarz (D. N.Y.), Robert Kastenmeier (D. Wis.) and Harry Reid (D. Nev.).

SHOPPERS STORM STORES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 31 (JTA) -- Israeli shoppers stormed electrical appliance stores and automobile show rooms today in anticipation of an imminent sharp rise in import duties. The Ministerial Economic Committee, which was meeting this afternoon, is expected to announce a series of measures to cut down imports and curb run-away inflation.

In addition to raising duties on imports, the government is expected to re-introduce compulsory deposits by importers, which is an indirect tax and to increase the sales tax on imported items. Customers jammed shopping centers to make their purchases before the expected deadline. Shekem, one of the largest department store chains, reported increases of 17-22 percent in the sale of electrical appliances during the past week. Automobile salesmen reported a surge in demand with customers ready to pay cash for cars if they are delivered immediately.

The measures planned by the Treasury to curb imports by higher levies and taxes are a substitute for a higher rate of devaluation of the Shekel which the Finance Ministry considers ineffective and inflationary. The immediate result has been a heavy demand for foreign currency during the past three days which has sent the cost of dollars soaring.

LOOKSTEIN, AT NYANA ANNUAL MEETING, URGES CONTINUED PROTESTS OF 'DANGER' FACING JEWS IN THE SOVIET UNION

NEW YORK, May 31 (JTA) -- The vice chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, said here that continued restrictions on Soviet Jewish emigration and the oppression of Soviet Jewish cultural activities "places them in terrible danger."

Addressing some 75 persons at the 34th annual meeting of the New York Association for New Americans (NYANA) last Sunday, Lookstein said that "Jews in Russia are neither permitted to live Jewishly nor to emigrate to lands where they might live as they wish. The resulting pressure places them in terrible danger."

He added: "To protect our fellow Jews in the Soviet Union, we will protest every outrage. We must let the Soviet government know that we will not tolerate criminal conduct ... we will not be silent ... we will not be still in the face of the threat to the lives and security of Jews in the Soviet Union."

The NYANA, founded in 1949, is the principal Jewish agency responsible for resettling Jewish refugees in the New York metropolitan area. The annual meeting elected Paul Alter of New York as president for the year 1983-1984. Also, the meeting paid particular tribute to "its professional personnel who have maintained the highest standards helping newly arrived immigrants to rebuild their lives."

11,430 Refugees Aided

Arthur Chernick, who served as NYANA president from 1980-1983, and who was elected chairperson of the resettlement agency's executive committee, said that from 1980 through 1982, the NYANA aided 11,430 refugees, including 1,000 Indochinese refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia at the request of the U.S.

Chernick also said that in the last ten years, "NYANA helped more than 40,000 Russian Jews to establish new lives in New York City."

In the past 34 years, the NYANA, according to Chernick, helped more than 238,000 Jews, including survivors of the Nazi Holocaust, and refugees fleeing oppression in Hungary, Egypt, Rumania, Syria, Iran, Czechoslovakia, Poland and other areas, who were resettled here by the agency.

From 1980 through 1982, NYANA's assistance program for refugees cost more than \$26 million. The funds were provided, according to the NYANA, by the national United Jewish Appeal and a federal government block grant made available through the Council of Jewish Federations.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Dale Miller, a 20 year old journalism senior at the Boston University School of Public Communications, this month was named 1982 winner of the JDC/Smolar Student Journalism Award. The \$1000 award was announced by Ralph Goldman, executive vice president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the sponsoring organization. Ms. Miller, a resident of Providence, Rhode Island, and a native of South Africa, received the prize for the series of articles which appeared in the Boston Jewish student newspaper, "Genesis."

EXPERT ON SOVIET UNION REJECTS ASSERTION JACKSON-VANIK LAW HARMED SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION

WASHINGTON, May 31 (JTA) -- Recent assertions by former President Richard Nixon and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger that the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the Foreign Trade Act is a deterrent to detente between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and to Soviet Jewish emigration was rejected yesterday by a noted scholar on the Soviet Union.

Dr. William Korey, director of policy research for the International Council of B'nai B'rith, declared in a paper presented at the annual spring meeting here of the B'nai B'rith International Board of Governors, that contrary to that thesis, the Jackson-Vanik amendment would strengthen and legitimize detente by "holding it accountable to fundamental principles of international and human conduct" and emphasize the U.S. commitment to human rights.

He added that the amendment, which ties benefits, including most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status treatment, credits and investment guarantees to the removal of obstacles to emigration from the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc nations, had a decisive and positive effect on Soviet Jewish emigration even before the measure was enacted into law in 1975.

Nixon wrote in an article last summer that Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union jumped from 1,000 in 1968 to 35,000 in 1973. This, he said, was due to "private pressure" or "quiet diplomacy." He said that the Soviets want what the Western nations produce and are willing to give up something to get it. However, he emphasized "they will give up more in private than they will in public."

The former President charged that the Jackson-Vanik amendment put the Soviets on the spot publicly by tying trade to emigration policies. Consequently, he added, Jewish emigration plummeted.

Diplomacy Played Little Part

Kissinger, meanwhile, in his memoirs, "Years of Upheaval," echoed Nixon's viewpoint although the two apparently split on the theory of linkage. In his article, Nixon wrote, "The key is to make very clear to them (the USSR) that there is an iron link between their behavior and the West's willingness to make the trade deals they hope for while not doing so in such a way that they lose face." Kissinger rejected trade linkage to internal Soviet behavior, stating that linkage was acceptable to international conduct, not domestic behavior.

Korey, in his study, found that the early rise in Jewish emigration had little to do with diplomacy. He credits the increase to "the extraordinary courage of Soviet Jewish activists whose exodus movement, stimulated by a growing

anti-Semitism, could not and would not be halted by... Soviet judicial trials and harsh sentences imposed in late 1970 and 1971" and resulting "massive outcry of world public opinion."

Besides international public outcry for easing of emigration restrictions in the Soviet Union, Korey asserted that the Kremlin was also prodded by its desire for detente. The Soviets sought detente, Korey said, in order to defuse international tensions, stabilize the status quo in Central and Eastern Europe, and obtain extensive trade with Western industrial powers, especially the U.S. However, as long as the right to emigrate was not respected, "discussions leading to detente would inevitably be strained," Korey said.

Thus the doors to Jewish emigration were opened further. As the number of Jews seeking to emigrate increased three fold, the Kremlin imposed a "diploma tax," which required emigrants to pay an exorbitant sum, supposedly in compensation for the cost of their education, according to Korey. It was at this time that the amendment linking trade benefits with the removal of obstacles to emigration was proposed by Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.).

Amendment Serves 2 Functions

Moreover, a Soviet delegation was told by then Sen. Edmund Muskie that "Americans properly perceive the tax on Jewish emigrants ... as being in violation of fundamental human rights and freedoms." Korey said that Secretary of State George Shultz, then Treasury Secretary, visited Moscow and relayed the same message to former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

"The impact was extraordinary," said Korey. "Probably for the first time in Soviet history, an edict was made null and void only six months after enactment ... Jackson-Vanik clearly played a decisive role in affecting Soviet Jewish emigration in a positive manner"

Concluding, Korey asserts that the Jackson-Vanik amendment serves two crucial functions: First, it does not obstruct the flow of immigration; rather it emphasizes and symbolizes America's commitment to human rights. And second, it legitimizes detente by holding it accountable to fundamental principles of international and human conduct. "To do otherwise would make a mockery of the process," Korey declared.

DOCTORS BREAK OFF NEGOTIATIONS

TEL AVIV, May 31 (JTA) -- Efforts to settle Israel's three month-old doctors' strike suffered a setback today when representatives of the 8,500 publicly-employed physicians broke off negotiations with government representatives early this morning after 30 hours of talks. A spokesman for the Israel Medical Association said the employers made no new offers and the doctors were not prepared to continue "useless talks." The employers are the government, represented by the Treasury, Kupat Holim, the Histadrut sick fund, and representatives of Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. They had hoped that three days of intensive negotiations would bring a settlement. Meanwhile, Kupat Holim doctors who set up "alternative clinics" where patients are treated for a fee of 600 Shekels (about \$13) raised their fees today to 900 Shekels (over \$20).