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FRANCE DEPLORES U.S. INTELLIGENCE PRACTICES WHICH ENABLED BARBIE TO EVADE JUSTICE FOR YEARS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- France today deplored American intelligence practices which enabled Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie, "the butcher of Lyon," to evade justice for years.

Government spokesman Max Gallo, however, also praised the frankness of the U.S. Justice Department report by Allan Ryan, Jr., a special assistant in the Department's criminal division, but condemned the fact that certain U.S. intelligence agencies "had shielded him (Barbie)" and later "enabled him to escape from Europe to Latin America."

Gallo said that as far as France knew, the American services which had protected Barbie had acted without the consent or even the knowledge of the American government at the time. He confirmed the Ryan report which held U.S. Army intelligence officers directly responsible for slipping Barbie out of Europe but said they had acted on their own.

Barbie, who is now awaiting trial in Lyon on charges of "crimes against humanity," was returned to France from Bolivia some six months ago. If he is found guilty of the charges he faces a life sentence. Gallo said that the main thing now "is that Barbie has at long last been arrested and will be brought to trial on the very site where he committed most of his crimes."

The French Ministry of Justice is investigating charges that Barbie, who served as Lyon's gestapo chief from 1942 to 1944, ordered the execution of some 4,000 people and the deportation of 7,000 more, most of whom never returned from the death camps in Eastern Europe.

REACTIONS TO RYAN REPORT

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Jewish leaders said today that the report by Allan Ryan, Jr., a special assistant in the criminal division of the Justice Department, confirming that U.S. intelligence agencies concealed and utilized the services of Klaus Barbie, the wartime gestapo leader in Lyon, France, revealed a shocking chapter in American history.

Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said the report "is a damning indictment of how the American law was violated to protect a notorious war criminal. We trust that those responsible for taking the law into their own hands will be tried and punished."

Berman applauded President Reagan for "having responded positively to those of us who urged such an investigation" and said that "Now that the truth is out, we must make sure that it cannot -- must not -- happen again."

Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said that "the aid, protection and employment given Barbie as detailed in the Ryan report, 'is a shocking revelation of official misconduct. To shield Barbie from justice, to help him escape prosecution for Nazi war crimes, to pay him for spying while protecting him -- these actions by the Army Counter-Intelligence Corps make

up a record of scandalous behavior by a branch of the government that is totally at odds with the ideals of a nation that prides itself on its commitment to justice and decency."

Schindler said he was consoled "only by the realization that the Justice Department let the chips fall where they may and had the honesty and courage to reveal unsavory facts that reflect such grave discredit on our country."

Further Investigation Urged

Gerald Kraft, president of B'nai B'rith International, denounced those U.S. Army officers who assisted Barbie in his escape from prosecution by France and called for an investigation to learn whether other Nazi war criminals were similarly aided. The report's confirmation of the Army's role in shielding Barbie, "raises the question not only about those directly responsible for aiding Barbie but raises a more frightening question about still other Nazis who may have escaped facing justice for their crimes," Kraft said.

Kenneth Bialkin, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said Ryan's findings "sadly reveal a Nazi skeleton in America's closet. The U.S. should make public and take appropriate action against all those who participated in this violation of the American people's trust. It would be tragic if America and the free world learned no lesson from this shocking and sordid travesty of justice. It must never happen again."

Study Followed Allegations

The 216-page Ryan report and more than 600 pages of supporting evidence, was the culmination of a study of the Barbie case Ryan was asked to undertake last March 15. The study was made after allegations about U.S. complicity in Barbie's escape cropped up after Barbie was extradited in February from Bolivia to France to face charges of crimes against humanity.

In a special three-part series in the JTA Daily News Bulletin last February, Charles Allen, Jr., an internationally prominent author/journalist who has been investigating Nazi war criminals now living in the U.S. for more than 20 years, revealed that in late 1949 and early 1950 Barbie was aided in his escape from Europe by the Vatican, the U.S. Army's Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC) and the International Red Cross.

Allen, in that series, disclosed that Barbie "took the so-called 'monastery route' an underground railroad, so to speak, for scores of wanted Nazi war criminals. The route was known to the U.S. Embassy in Rome which did nothing to stem the flow of wanted war criminals from Europe, most of them originating in the American-occupied zone of Germany."

Claim Barbie Visited the U.S.

Allen also reported that according to ABC-TV News network, one Robert Wilson, a self-admitted international jewel thief, knew Barbie in Bolivia where the Nazi war criminal was living under the name of Klaus Altmann. Wilson alleged that Barbie "freely confessed" his war crimes as well as his in-

vovement with the Central Intelligence Agency. According to Wilson, Barbie claimed he visited such American cities as New Orleans and San Francisco during the course of his work with the CIA. Barbie was picked up from the CIC in 1948 by the CIA, which had absorbed the activities of the CIC, as a "contract agent" for nearly three decades, Allen reported. The CIA has refused comment.

Allen's findings were corroborated several days before his disclosures appeared in the Daily News Bulletin by Dr. Erhard Dabringhaus, a 65-year-old faculty member of Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich. Dabringhaus served as Barbie's case officer in the CIC in Germany in 1948. He told NBC-TV News and the Detroit Free Press that Barbie had been secretly employed as an informer by the CIC in 1948 for the then astounding sum of \$1,700 a month.

EL SALVADOR TO MOVE ITS EMBASSY BACK TO JERUSALEM IN OCTOBER

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Israel will reopen its Embassy in San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, in October, it was confirmed here today. This confirmation followed statements from El Salvador that the Israel Embassy will be reopened there and that the El Salvador Embassy in Israel would be moved back from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The Israel Embassy in San Salvador was closed several years ago by the then Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan for budgetary and security reasons.

The Embassy of El Salvador, along with most other Latin American embassies in Jerusalem, left the city in 1980 after the Knesset adopted the Jerusalem Law, declaring united Jerusalem to be the eternal capital of Israel. Salvadoran officials have said that their Embassy will move back to Jerusalem, by September 15, El Salvador's Independence Day. El Salvador is the second Latin American country, after Costa Rica, to return its Embassy to Israel's capital.

U.S. SAYS IT WILL NOT MOVE ITS EMBASSY BACK TO JERUSALEM

By Hugh Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- The State Department refused to comment today on El Salvador's decision to move its Embassy in Israel back to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, but made it clear that the United States Embassy will remain in Tel Aviv. The Department earlier this week also had no comment on Costa Rica's decision to return its Embassy to Jerusalem.

The State Department cited its position on Jerusalem, declaring it did not consider it Israel's capital and that East Jerusalem was "occupied territory" in expressing U.S. displeasure that Kuwait had refused to accept Brandon Graves, Jr. as its new U.S. Ambassador to the Persian Gulf state because he had been a U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem.

Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg, in confirming the Kuwaiti attitude yesterday, stressed that the U.S. has "no immediate plans to nominate another candidate" to replace the former Ambassador to Kuwait, Francois Dickman. "We profoundly disagree with the suggestion that because one of our finest professional officers has been assigned to one post he cannot be assigned to another," Romberg said.

He noted that the Kuwaiti decision was "especially ironic" considering the U.S. position on Jerusalem and that the Consul General in Jerusalem is not accredited to Israel.

"We had a consistent Jerusalem policy for three decades," Romberg said. "We do not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. We have never recognized unilateral action by any state in the area as affecting the status of Jerusalem."

Romberg added that the U.S. regards "East Jerusalem as occupied territory within the meaning of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and subject to applicable laws and covenants. The Consul General in Jerusalem, therefore, holds a special status. He is not accredited to the government of Israel. He reports directly to the Department of State rather than through the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv."

However, the Consul General office and residence are in West Jerusalem while the Consular and commercial offices are in East Jerusalem. A further irony not mentioned by Romberg is that the Jerusalem Consulate has often been criticized by Israelis as favoring the Palestinians.

Position On El Salvador

On El Salvador, Romberg said today that the location of the Central American country's Embassy in Israel was a matter between El Salvador and Israel. He said the U.S. position continues to be that "the final status of Jerusalem must be resolved by negotiations among the parties concerned in context of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace. Our position is that Jerusalem should remain undivided with full access to the holy places. In accordance with this policy, pending resolution on Jerusalem's status, our Embassy will remain in Tel Aviv."

Romberg said he knew nothing about reports that the El Salvador move, coupled with Israel's planned opening of an Embassy in San Salvador, would lead to the beginning of a supply of Israeli weapons to El Salvador. He said any U.S.-made weapons, or weapons produced in Israel with U.S. licenses, would need U.S. approval before being exported.

He said Israel has made no such request for approval for El Salvador or for any other Latin American country. He said Israeli weapons made entirely by Israel need no U.S. approval for export.

IDF DESTROYING TUNNEL NETWORK USED BY THE PLO TO STORE ARMS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- As part of the Israeli government's redeployment of its troops in Lebanon, the Israel Defense Force yesterday began destroying the extensive tunnel network developed by the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon used for the storage of military equipment.

The IDF began work in the Damour area south of Beirut using hundreds of tons of high explosives to blow up the storage tunnels in what army engineers described as a difficult and complicated operation.

The extensive network of tunnels, dug into hillsides off the main road from Beirut southward, were discovered as the Israeli forces advanced north during the initial stages of the fighting in Lebanon last summer. The tunnels were packed with explosives, arms and ammunition, and in some cases, Russian-made vehicles and artillery pieces.

It was perhaps the destruction of the tunnels which gave rise yesterday to reports that Israel was following a "scorched earth policy," destroying thousands of trees and houses, as part of the IDF redeployment from the Shouf mountain area south to the Awali River. Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy yesterday denied accusations of such a policy, saying, "Isolated trees may be uprooted but in numbers not even statistically significant."

Meanwhile, special U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane today concluded two days of talks with Israeli officials in which sources here said was an effort by the U.S.

envoy to ensure a smooth redeployment without a deterioration of the situation in the Shouf mountains, the site of recent heavy fighting between rival Druze and Christian militias.

Both Israel and the United States maintain informal contacts with the warring factions in the Shouf area. McFarlane is reportedly anxious to establish a framework for close coordination between Israel and the Lebanese government of President Amin Gemayel during and after the redeployment, expected imminently.

But Israeli sources indicated that the refusal of the Lebanese government over recent weeks to hold direct high level meetings with Israeli ministers is still in effect. Defense Minister Moshe Arens made an unexpected visit to Beirut yesterday. McFarlane left Israel to go to Beirut while his assistant, Richard Fairbanks, was scheduled to go to Damascus for talks with the Syrians.

COSTA RICAN ENVOY SURPRISED AT BEING HONORED BY A ZIONIST GROUP By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Jorge Urbina, Costa Rica's Ambassador to the United Nations, expressed surprise last night that his country would be honored by a Zionist organization for the decision to move the Costa Rican Embassy in Israel back to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

"We do not expect any recognition for something we consider natural," Urbina told the more than 2500 persons attending a banquet during the 69th annual national convention of Hadassah at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Frieda Lewis, who was elected today to her fourth term as president of Hadassah, presented a citation to Urbina last night which said that Costa Rica's decision "demonstrates appreciation of the significance of this great city (Jerusalem) in Jewish life, as well as respect for the right of Israel, a sovereign nation, to select its own capital."

Mrs. Lewis also announced that El Salvador has decided to move its Embassy back to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv and will do it by September 15, its National Day. El Salvador was one of several countries with embassies in Jerusalem which closed it in reaction to the Knesset law in 1980 declaring united Jerusalem to be Israel's eternal capital. Israel, meanwhile, said it will reopen its Embassy in San Salvador in October. Mrs. Lewis urged the U.S. to move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Solon Cites Basis For Failure Of U.S. Initiative

In the major address of the banquet, Sen. Joseph Biden (D. Del.) declared that the failure of President Reagan's peace initiative has contributed to the improvement in Israeli-U.S. relations.

"The Reagan initiative was born out of the naive view shared by the last Administration," Biden explained. He said it was based on King Hussein of Jordan, Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat and the Saudi Arabian regime being "capable of independent action" when even if they were positive toward negotiations with Israel, "they are not capable of independent action."

Biden said that Hussein was expected to demonstrate a "courage" that he did not have to go it alone in the Arab world, while Arafat, "even if he wanted to, and I believe he does not, is incapable of bringing along the PLO on any negotiated settlement with Israel." The Saudis have had to make "deals" to keep their oligarchic regime in power and are not "institutionally capable" at this time of supporting peace with Israel, Biden

maintained. But he noted that if either Jordan or Arafat had agreed to go along with the negotiations, Israel would have been painted as intransigent because the U.S. public would not have understood the Israeli refusal to go along based on Israel's knowledge of the inability of the three parties to negotiate peace.

Biden, who said he supported Israel's efforts to destroy the PLO in Lebanon, said the Lebanese action brought U.S.-Israeli relations to an all time low last year. But he said the situation has improved now for two other reasons.

One is Moshe Arens replacing Ariel Sharon as Defense Minister. The other is the Israeli-Lebanese agreement for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon which "made it crystal clear to the United States and to the world that the party that was intransigent was not Israel but Syria and the PLO."

Says U.S. Should Treat Israel Like A Brother

Biden, declaring that Israel is important to the U.S., said that the relationship should be kept on an even keel without the up and downswings in public opinion. The U.S. should be "more vocal in our agreement and more quiet in our dissent." He urged treating Israel like a brother.

"I do not ... when I have problems with my brother, I do not go out of my front lawn and argue with the whole neighborhood to hear," he declared. "But I do and we should when we disagree have sometime violent disagreements in the basement or the den."

Rosenne: Israel Always Sought Peace With Arabs

Israel Ambassador Meir Rosenne stressed to the Hadassah banquet that Israel has always sought peace with its Arab neighbors, even including this desire in its Declaration of Independence.

Rosenne said this effort did not begin with the establishment of the Jewish State. "From the very beginning of Jewish settlements in Palestine in the last years of the 19th century, Jews consistently sought out Arabs for friendship and cooperation."

But he said the effort "was in vain" and the answer has been "jihad" (holy war) and with the exception of Egypt it has remained jihad. "Nevertheless, despite everything we remain wedded to peace, committed to reconciliation, dedicated to the prophecy of Isaiah, ready now for an embrace of friendship and cooperation with our Arab neighbors," Rosenne declared.

BENJAMIN COHEN DEAD AT 88

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Benjamin Cohen, one of the principal architects of President Roosevelt's New Deal, who died Monday in Washington at the age of 88, was lauded today by the American Jewish Committee as "a dedicated public servant and statesman who served his nation and the Jewish people during a career that spanned seven decades."

The Muncie-born member of Roosevelt's "brain trust" served as counsel to the American Zionist Peace Conference from 1919 to 1921, representing the Zionist movement as secretary of the Zionist delegation at the Treaty of Versailles negotiations. He died of pneumonia in Georgetown University Hospital. Funeral services were private.

The AJCommittee honored Cohen on his 75th birthday and described him, in its statement today, as one of the principals in "the laying of the foundation" of Israel, a cause that remained "close to his heart all his life." A spokesman said that, although Cohen never held an official position in the AJCommittee, he had provided the agency with various forms of guidance and counseling.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 5743

By Kevin Freeman

(Part Three Of A Series)

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- While always deeply concerned with developments in the Middle East and the nature of United States-Israeli relations, the American Jewish community also devoted considerable energy to many passionate and sometimes controversial issues such as tuition tax credit to parents who send their children to private schools, and prayer in public schools.

A significant and notable development was the November Congressional elections where Jewish candidates fared better than expected and raised by five to a total of 38 seats the number of Jewish legislators in the 98th Congress. However, the Jewish community also lost a close friend and ally when Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal (D. N.Y.) lost his battle with cancer.

In other developments, many Jewish organizations called for a nuclear arms freeze by both the U.S. and the Soviet Union, maintained a vigilant stand in defense of Soviet Jews and the Black Jews of Ethiopia, commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, and participated in the Gathering of Jewish Holocaust survivors in Washington. By year's end, a series of suspicious fires destroyed parts of two synagogues and the home of a rabbi in West Hartford, Conn.

THE AMERICAN SCENE:
SEPTEMBER 1982 --

The Senate, by a vote of 51-48, defeats an effort to attach a rider permitting officially sanctioned prayer in public schools to a bill raising the national debt ceiling.

The number of Orthodox oriented day schools sponsored by Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools, increases by nine to a total of 495 in the United States.

A study prepared by William Helmreich, professor of sociology and Jewish Studies at City College of New York, indicates that an estimated 9,000 young American Jews above the age of 18 are studying Talmudic lore in yeshivas full time.

OCTOBER --

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) releases a study of television network coverage of the war in Lebanon indicating that the three major networks -- NBC, CBS, and ABC -- ... unwittingly or unconsciously contributed to some distortions and lack of objective perspective in their coverage of the war" from June 4 to September 1, 1982.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee receives donations of over \$325,000 in cash and an estimated \$700,000 in gifts in kind bringing the total committed to Lebanon relief by the JDC to an estimated \$1 million.

A group with ties to the extremist rightwing anti-Semitic Liberty Lobby organization is suspected by ADL officials of the distribution of wall posters in the Los Angeles area linking a proposed state handgun registration measure to Nazi atrocities committed against Jews in the Holocaust.

NOVEMBER --

Thirty-four Jews are elected to Congress, four to the Senate and 30 to the House. Including the four Jewish Senators whose terms were not up this year, the 98th Congress which takes office in January will have 38 Jews compared to 33 in the current Congress.

Some 3,000 Jewish leaders and activists from the U.S. and Canada attend the four-day 50th

anniversary General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in Los Angeles. Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's scheduled address is suddenly cancelled when his wife, Aliza, dies in Jerusalem.

A resolution proposing action for the immediate reduction in the size and deployment of the nuclear weapons arsenals of both the U.S. and the Soviet Union is adopted by more than 1,200 delegates at the annual national convention of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

DECEMBER --

Interior Secretary James Watt tells the semi-annual meeting of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council that both the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust should be remembered not only by memorials but also by "protecting liberty and spiritual freedom."

Actress Jane Fonda condemns the "double standard" applied to Israel since the war in Lebanon and attributes this to the tendency of many individuals to have "knee jerk" reactions on behalf of Third World countries.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, asserts in an address to 300 Reform rabbis that the incorporation of the West Bank into Israel "represents a threat to the Jewish essence of the state and the unity of the Jewish people."

JANUARY 1983 --

A total of 3,050 people make aliya from North America in 1982, representing a 16 percent increase over the number of North Americans who went on aliya in 1981.

After more than doubling for three years in a row, anti-Semitic vandalism in the U.S. declines noticeably in 1982, according to the annual audit conducted by the ADL.

The Jewish Daily Forward, which began publication on April 22, 1897, announces it will cease publication on its Tuesday through Friday basis and would begin publication on a weekly basis.

Benjamin Rosenthal (D. N.Y.), the senior Jewish member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and a staunch supporter of Israel in Congress, dies at the age of 59 after a long battle with cancer. His death reduces the number of Jewish members of Congress to 37.

A commission of prominent American Jews formed to study what the organized U.S. Jewish community did or failed to do to save European Jewry from the Holocaust during the years 1939-1945 makes headlines when it is forced to disband amidst heated controversy. Two weeks later, the commission is reformed minus some key individuals.

FEBRUARY --

Two leading pollsters -- Harris and Gallup -- release separate surveys showing that Americans continue to support Israel in the Mideast conflict and view Israel as the U.S.'s closest ally in the region.

Nine U.S.-based corporations reach agreement with the American Jewish Congress that shareholders will be informed of the extent of the firm's lobbying efforts on behalf of the 1981 AWACS arms package sale to Saudi Arabia. A number of these firms say they will not lobby on behalf of U.S. Mideast policy in the future.

Nearly 500 Jews and Christians express solidarity with the State of Israel at a National Prayer Breakfast in honor of Israel, sponsored for the second consecutive year by the American Forum for Jewish Christian Cooperation and the Religious Round Table.

The Synagogue Council of America appeals to the U.S. and the Soviet Union to agree to a bilateral and verifiable total cessation of the manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons.

(Continued Tomorrow)