



REPORT ARENS ORDERS REASSESSMENT OF ISRAEL'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WARRING FACTIONS IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Arens was reported today to have ordered a reassessment of Israel's attitude toward the warring factions in Lebanon.

According to Israel Radio's political correspondent, Arens decided that Israel will not continue to rely entirely upon the Christian Phalangists, the party of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, but would seek to open and maintain relations with the Lebanese Druze who are considered to have a stronger motivation than the Christians. Israel has a large Druze population of its own which is becoming increasingly restive as their Lebanese brethren battle the Christians.

According to the correspondent, the U.S. is displeased by Arens' switch. But the argument here is that Israel must give first priority to its own security.

Attitude Of Israel's Christian Arabs

The attitude of Israel's Arab Christian community is also cause for concern. Israeli Christian leader Ibrahim Sama'an, asked by an Israel Radio reporter why his people have not spoken out more firmly against the killing of Christians in Lebanon, replied that Israeli Christians were in a "difficult and special situation." He explained that inside Lebanon "the Christians are fighting against our fellow Palestinians."

He added that it would be wrong to introduce elements of the Lebanon war into Israel. He criticized Israeli Druze for announcing their wish to fight alongside the Druze in Lebanon. Sama'an said that many Arab Christians in Israel feel that Israel, which went to war in Lebanon to support Lebanese Christians, now is doing little to help them. "There is a feeling among some Israeli Christians that Israel cannot be trusted," he said. The Israeli operation in Lebanon may still be a subject of debate.

U.S. CONCERNED ABOUT SYRIAN SUPPORTED PALESTINIAN FORCES INVOLVED IN FIGHTING IN LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration expressed concern today about the presence of "Syrian-supported Palestinian forces" involved in the fighting in Lebanon. State Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg gave no details as to how many Palestinians are involved or where they are located.

White House press spokesman Larry Speakes was more specific. He told reporters today that "Druze militia and Palestinian forces probably under Syrian control and with Syrian logistical support engaged in direct attacks on the Lebanese army" in the strategic Suq Al Gharb region overlooking Beirut.

Romberg said "There is increasing evidence that some Syrian supported Palestinian forces are involved in the fighting in Lebanon." He said this involvement of Palestinians, some of whom are members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, is a "serious breach" of the agreement last year by which

the PLO was evacuated from Lebanon. He said the involvement of the Palestinians increased the concern the U.S. already has over the fighting going on in Lebanon. The U.S. again urges all parties involved to recognize that "further conflict in no way serves the cause of peace in Lebanon," Romberg said.

Speakes said the U.S. was continuing to seek a diplomatic settlement in Lebanon between the government of President Amin Gemayel and the various Moslem factions. He said U.S. special envoy Robert McFarlane, presently in Beirut, "is working around the clock" toward that end.

"We're hopeful that those participating in the fighting and those instigating the fighting in that area will recognize the answer lies in the opportunity to stop the fighting and seek a peaceful solution," Speakes said.

3 ISRAELI SOLDIERS WOUNDED IN LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- Three Israeli soldiers were wounded in south Lebanon yesterday, an army spokesman reported today. He said they were hit by small arms fire and a hand grenade thrown at an Israel army vehicle from a road ambush, several kilometers north of the Israeli border town of Metullah. The Israeli is returned the fire.

Druze forces, meanwhile, were reported today to be in control of virtually all of the Shouf mountain region, vacated by Israeli troops a week ago. Only one Christian village, Dier el-Kammar, was reported holding out against attacks by Druze and their allies. The town is said to be packed with refugees from surrounding villages overrun by the Druze.

According to Israeli sources, the Druze are supported by elements of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Syrian artillery fire. Lebanese Druze leader Walid Jumblatt has strongly denied that the PLO was aiding his forces. The Lebanese army however showed reporters the bodies of three soldiers who were allegedly carrying PLO and Syrian documents when they were killed.

PROLONGED DEBATE IN CONGRESS EXPECTED ON U.S. ROLE IN LEBANON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- Escalating warfare in Lebanon and what the Administration can or should do about it, considering the precarious position of U.S. marines in the multinational force, promises to set off a prolonged debate in Congress which returned from its summer recess today.

A lack of consensus among the lawmakers was indicated by the remarks of four prominent Senators -- three Republicans and a Democrat -- in appearances on various television panel discussions yesterday. Robert Byrd (D. W. Va.), the Minority Leader, thought it was "obvious the situation requires the application of the War Powers Act" because "there is no question that there are hostilities."

But Richard Lugar (R. Ind.) disagreed on grounds that the American position in Lebanon is "clearly defensive." The War Powers Act requires that troops sent overseas where a war situation exists must be withdrawn between 60-90 days unless otherwise authorized by majorities of both houses of Congress.

Howard Baker (R. Tenn.), the Majority Leader, observed that "What we need to do is to decide what is our policy going to be in the Middle East and what role if any the American military will have to play." His colleague, Robert Dole (R. Kan.) declared flatly that

"The last thing America wants is to get embroiled in their (the Lebanese) civil war." President Reagan acknowledged over the weekend—for the first time -- that a civil war exists in Lebanon and admitted that this had not been anticipated when he ordered the marines to Beirut a year ago.

The Warring Factions in Lebanon

The Lebanese civil war is pitting the forces of the Beirut government -- the Lebanese army and the Christian Phalangist militia -- against Druze and Moslem leftist militia entrenched in the Shouf mountains of central Lebanon, an area vacated by the Israel Defense Force barely a week ago. According to the Israelis and some Western sources, the Druze are supported by Syria and backed in the field by various anti-Western forces, including elements of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Iranians.

In recent days, the Druze have scored significant military victories locally amid charges by both sides that civilians were being massacred. Marine positions at the Beirut airport have come under shell and mortar fire from either the Druze or Moslem leftists, sustaining casualties. Casualties have also been suffered by the French and Italian contingents of the 5,400-man multinational force.

Lebanese Envoy Urges Western Support

In an appearance on the ABC-TV "This Week" program yesterday, Lebanon's Ambassador to the U.S., Abdallah Bouhabib said his country required stronger support from the Western nations. He would not say what the nature of that support should be but said "There is no need for the marines or the multinational force to be increased. That is not the only option."

Just last week, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel was urging the U.S. and its allies to strengthen their forces in Lebanon and enter the Shouf area. The Administration rejected his appeal. Bouhabib contended that the U.S. and the West "can do more than they are now doing to help us." He acknowledged that the recently formed Lebanese army is no match for the forces arrayed against it.

Jumblatt Denies Role Of PLO

Walid Jumblatt, leader of the Lebanese Druze who was interviewed on the same program, strongly denied Israeli and Western claims that 1,000 Palestine Liberation Organization men were fighting alongside the Druze. "There are no Palestinians helping me. I don't need their help. It's a purely Lebanese internal problem," he said.

Jumblatt accused the U.S. of pro-Christian bias and aiding the Lebanese army against the Druze. "If I am to defend myself, I will fire" on the multinational force, he said. He would not say if Druze artillery fire was aimed at the marines, claiming that the Americans were dug in side-by-side with the Lebanese army around Beirut airport. "How can I know who is firing on me, marines or the Lebanese army?" he asked.

Jumblatt defended the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon on grounds that they had been invited by the Beirut government in 1976 to try to restore peace between warring Christian and Moslem factions. He contended that if the Syrians were to leave, there would be more rather than less violence.

SHARON, ARENS IN BITTER QUARREL OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR WARFARE BETWEEN DRUZE, CHRISTIANS IN LEBANON By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- A bitter public quarrel has erupted between former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and his successor, Moshe Arens, over responsibility for the current bloody warfare between Druze and Christians in the Shouf mountains of central Lebanon from which Israeli forces withdrew only a week ago.

An angry exchange of barbed comments between the two men at yesterday's Cabinet meeting was apparently sparked by Arens' reported decision to reassess relations with Israel's Christian Phalangist allies in Lebanon and to seek closer relations with the Lebanese Druze. (See story P. 1.)

According to Israel Radio, Sharon and Arens clashed again over the telephone this afternoon. Sharon accused the Defense Minister of masterminding an "ugly press campaign" against him. He told Arens he had made "serious mistakes" in handling the Shouf mountains situation and that Arens' aides were now seeking to shift the blame on Sharon.

Sharon cited a press headline this morning which quoted Arens as saying "I want nothing to do with that man" (Sharon) and noted that Arens did not see fit to deny it.

Arens Cites The 'Original Sin'

At yesterday's Cabinet session, Sharon, a Minister-Without-Portfolio, accused Arens of mishandling the re-deployment of the Israel Defense Force in Lebanon. Arens reportedly replied that the "original sin" was allowing the Phalangists to move into the Shouf, a Druze stronghold in the first place, a policy implemented when Sharon was defense chief.

Israel Radio said the telephone call today was initiated by Arens to invite Sharon to dinner. Sharon declined and said he "could not accept (Arens') methods," the radio report said. The sharp differences that led to the angry exchanges stem from Israel's concern over the strife in Lebanon which escalated as soon as the IDF was pulled back to more secure lines on the Awali River.

Israeli policymakers can hardly conceal their consternation and chagrin over this development which, from Israel's point of view, is unfavorable. They are alarmed by reports that hundreds or possibly thousands of Palestine Liberation Organization fighters are filtering back into the region vacated by the IDF and into the Beirut area as well, on the heels of the victorious Druze militias.

A PLO return to Beirut would be an embarrassing demonstration of the ephemeral quality of Israel's victory in the long drawn out, costly war in Lebanon.

Policy Shift Seen

Sharon and other critics of Arens contend that the Defense Minister has tilted Israel's policy away from the Christians toward the Druze. At the very least, Israel's formerly exclusive support for the Christians has been diluted and there are reports of frequent contacts between Israeli officials and Druze leaders in Lebanon.

Sharon apparently feels that this shift contributed to the Druze military victories over Christian Phalangists and the danger of a large scale return of the PLO to the parts of Lebanon from which they were evicted more than a year ago. Arens is understood to believe that the Druze will not permit their victory to be exploited by the PLO for its purposes.

Israel reiterated its warnings to the Lebanese Druze today not to collaborate with the P.L.O. Mattityahu Shmuelevitz, Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, repeated the warning at a meeting with Israeli Druze leaders who support their brethren in Lebanon and obtained a statement from them echoing the same sentiments.

Nevertheless, Israel's relations with the Christian Phalangists who it supported with arms and money since 1976, have soured. The turning point was the massacre of Palestinian civilians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in west Beirut a year ago when the IDF was in control of Beirut. A senior government official was quoted as saying today, "The Phalangists burned us last year ... Now we are looking after our own interests."

LEBANESE ENVOY SAYS ALL FOREIGN FORCES ARE EQUALLY UNWELCOME By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- Lebanon called today on "all non-Lebanese forces" to leave Lebanon immediately and urged the Security Council to help achieve a cease-fire in view of the growing hostilities between various factions in Lebanon.

In a brief meeting of the Security Council this afternoon, which was convened at the request of Lebanon, Ambassador Ghassan Tuani, Special Envoy of Lebanon, said that all foreign forces in Lebanon are "equally unwelcome and all equally illegitimate." He charged that Lebanon became "the arena for everyone's war and everyone's revolution." He said that the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Shouf mountains had triggered the escalation of the present hostilities. Tuani was the only speaker at today's session.

ARABS SURROUND SYNAGOGUE DURING ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES AND SHOUT ANTI-SEMITIC, ANTI-ISRAEL SLOGANS By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- Arab demonstrators surrounded a synagogue in Vitry, a Paris suburb, on the second day of Rosh Hashanah shouting anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic slogans.

The president of the Vitry Jewish community, Dr. Maurice Ruah told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the city police in the Communist-controlled municipality had acted to protect the synagogue but in what seemed a half hearted manner. He said better police protection was provided after two Deputy Mayors, both Socialists, were alerted and visited the site.

There are some 750 Jewish families, some 4,000 people, in the large working-class suburb in Vitry in the south of Paris. The mayor, a Communist, took a strong anti-Arab stand before the last legislative elections in an apparent bid to win extreme right votes. Since then, say members of the local Jewish community, he has taken a strong anti-Israeli stand in what seems an effort to "clean the slate."

Ruah said the municipality is responsible for the anti-Israeli climate which was conducive to the demonstration. He said the synagogue, which was not damaged, was actually defended by local Jewish defense groups. There were no reports of other incidents during the Rosh Hashanah holiday.

Throughout Paris and France synagogues were jammed for Rosh Hashanah services and synagogue officials say they have an unprecedented

number of requests for Yom Kippur seats in synagogues and improvised temples operating during the High Holy Days to accommodate the exceptionally large number of worshippers.

Some observers in the Jewish community believe that the heightened wave of Jewish identification and upsurge of Jewish tradition coincides with the end of the war in Lebanon and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Beirut area. Many Jews, observers note, feel this to be an appropriate time to express their solidarity with Israel and their pride in being Jewish.

President Francois Mitterrand sent a Rosh Hashanah message assuring France's 700,000 Jews that his government is pledged to do the utmost to ensure the community's safety and well being. Chief Rabbi Rene Sirat responded by calling for stronger measures to combat racism and anti-Semitism.

RUSSIANS BAR 49 BOOKS ON JEWISH ISSUES AT MOSCOW BOOK FAIR

NEW YORK, Sept. 12 (JTA) -- The Soviet authorities have barred 49 books on Jewish issues at the fourth Moscow International Book Fair, according to reports reaching here today.

Organizers of the stand mounted by the Association of Jewish Book Publishers of New York told reporters in Moscow yesterday that the Soviet authorities banned 49 of their titles, among them *The American Jewish Year Book*; *The Jewish Catalogue*; "History of the Jews" by Cecil Roth; the memoirs of former President Jimmy Carter; "The History of Israel" by Howard Sachar; "My Name is Asher Lev" by Chaim Potok; "Many Faces of Anti-Semitism"; "Arab Israeli Wars" and 15 books in Russian on Jewish holidays.

According to Janet Scharfstein, one of the organizers of the Jewish stand, the Soviets had held up several of their titles on arrival. Last Friday, four days after the opening of the exhibit, the authorities informed the organizers that the books will be banned all together, she said.

The Jewish stand at the Moscow exhibition, which is held every two years, has been an attraction for Soviet Jews who come to the fair from all parts of the Soviet Union. According to Scharfstein, the Soviet authorities had barred only five titles during the last fair in 1981.

Exhibitors from Israel reported in Moscow yesterday that only a few of their titles were barred. Observers said that the Soviets decided to show a strict hand with the American Jewish group to demonstrate displeasure with the organizers of the Jewish stand who openly fraternized with the many Soviet Jews flocking to their exhibit.

Unlike other exhibitors, the Jewish publishers do not seek sales of rights and titles in the Soviet Union but to introduce Russians to a literature largely denied them in the Soviet Union.

That is also the case of publishers from Israel and American Protestant publishers. The Protestant publishers, like the Israelis, reported having only a few titles barred this year.

In 1977, when the first fair opened in Moscow, American publishers agreed to participate on the condition that Jewish publishers and Israel will be allowed to participate as well.

LATE BULLETIN: JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Likud coalition parties signed an accord Monday night pledging to support Yitzhak Shamir for Premier and to reconstitute the existing coalition under his leadership. The accord opens the way for Premier Menachem Begin to tender his formal resignation to President Chaim Herzog.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES SOVIET AND AMERICAN MILITARY MIGHT; THE JEWISH FACTOR By Arnold Ages

(Part Two Of A Two-Part Series)

TORONTO, Sept. 12 (JTA) — Edward Luttwak does not agree with Andrew Cockburn. Luttwak is the brilliant defense analyst and one-time Israeli resident who wrote what has been called one of the major books in political science, "The Coup d'Etat." He is probably the only political scientist to have a word, Luttwakian, coined after his name. The term is synonymous with brilliant analysis.

Now working as a consultant to the United States Department of Defense (and a lecturer before various university and academic constituencies) Luttwak has authored a study of the Soviet Union which is diametrically opposed to the conclusions reached by Cockburn. Luttwak's book, "The Grand Strategy of the Soviet Union" (St. Martin's Press), is a frightening look at the imperial designs of the Russian colossus.

It is significant that Luttwak, who wrote a doctoral dissertation on the Roman empire, considers the Soviet Union today to be a modern incarnation of the ancient empire. He sees uncanny similarities, particularly between the expansionist patterns which ancient Rome undertook and current Soviet practices. In fact, Luttwak sees Soviet expansionism as almost inevitable.

No Equivalent Arms In The West

Whatever weaknesses may have existed in the Soviet armed forces (and Luttwak recognizes that they did and do exist), they are now under control. Luttwak believes that in the last 10 years the Soviets have effected enormous improvements both in their military hardware and in their battle planning.

According to Luttwak, the Soviets not only have impressive military equipment of immense destructive power, they also have armaments for which no equivalent as yet exists in the West.

These include automatic trench-diggers and ribbon-bridges; the latter were put to effective work in the Egyptian crossing of the Suez Canal in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War. Luttwak says that while the Russians were at one time behind the Americans in helicopters, the Soviets are now on a par with this brand of weaponry.

On the issue of the ramifications of the various Arab-Israeli wars, Luttwak does not share the same conclusions as Cockburn does. Luttwak denies that Soviet equipment was found wanting in the confrontation with Israeli soldiers.

"They tell us more about Israeli skills than about the quality of Soviet equipment." Western armies, says Luttwak, would not have found it so easy to develop the projectiles and strategy which destroyed so many Russian tanks.

In his analysis of Soviet military production, Luttwak suggests that the West not be fooled by allegations about Russian inefficiency. The Americans might have a slight lead in ordnance, says Luttwak, but that is more than offset by the faster Soviet production cycles.

Luttwak is concerned that the experience of Soviet armies in Hungary and Czechoslovakia not be used as a paradigm of future Soviet strategy. He agrees with Cockburn that the Russians performed

very poorly in both theaters and that had either the Hungarians or the Czechs fought back, the Soviets would have lost many men.

The example of Afghanistan, according to Luttwak, shows that the Russians have improved tremendously since their actions in 1956 and 1968 in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. In fact, the invasion of Afghanistan demonstrated a Soviet capacity for boldness in planning and execution that were uncharacteristic of traditional Russian patterns of military thinking. This means that Russian military men have opted for a new kind of flexibility in their grand strategies.

Basis For Soviet Expansionism

Luttwak's most important insights derive from his perception that the Soviet Union's expansionist future is a function of its volatile political and ethnic makeup. Using the example of ancient Rome, Luttwak paints a scenario which sees the Russians eventually gobbling up those countries adjacent to it in order to protect its own vital life lines.

This problem is compounded by the fact that within 20 years, if demographic trends continue, the Russians will be a minority in their own country. The Asian populations will have become the dominant group in Soviet society. This change in the ethnic strands of Soviet society will contribute to the disequilibrium of the country.

It is interesting to note that neither Cockburn or Luttwak consider as decisive factors the intelligence information on Soviet weaponry supplied to the United States by Israelis.

It is, of course, impossible to test the validity of either the Cockburn or the Luttwak thesis. That would require testing parameters too horrific to conceive — namely, global war between the United States and the Soviet Union. Hopefully, the debate will remain on the academic level.

SAUDIERS MAY BE BUYING INTO GERMAN FIRM WHICH PRODUCES LEOPARD TANK CANNON

BONN, Sept. 12 (JTA) — The Rheinmetall Company which manufactures the powerful Leopard 2 tank cannon has refused to confirm or deny reports that Saudi Arabia is soon to buy 24 percent of the firm. A company spokesman in Duesseldorf simply said yesterday that they were "surprised."

The Saudi bid to buy shares of Rheinmetall has been interpreted here as a move which will give them access to sensitive military technology and which will place them in a better position to eventually purchase the Leopard 2 tanks.

Israel has opposed any move by West Germany to sell the tanks to Saudi Arabia, stressing that Israel's national security would be gravely endangered. Israel has also expressed criticism of any move that would enable the Saudis to be represented on the Board of Rheinmetall because of the undue influence it would have in the firm's operations and sales.

BONN (JTA) — A Muenster court has reaffirmed the ban on recordings of the Nazi era which a Duesseldorf firm sought to have lifted. The recordings, produced by a Lichtenstein-based company, were marketed in Germany by the firm as scientific documentaries. The court ruled they were nothing but propaganda for the Nazi ideology. The records carried titles such as "Waffen SS", "Feldzug Im Westen" and "Blitzkrieg In Polen". They contained speeches, songs and news reports.