

22 LAWMAKERS OUTRAGED AT INDIA'S DECISION TO BAR ISRAEL FROM AN INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONFERENCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Twenty-two members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee have sent a cable to Prime Minister Indira Ghandi of India expressing "outrage" at her decision to bar the Israeli delegation from attending an international energy conference which opened in New Delhi earlier this week.

The cable, initiated by Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.), noted that "India, as one of the few democracies in the world, should welcome the participation of the democratic state of Israel." The signatories of the cable included Rep. Clement Zablocki (D. Wisc.), the committee chairman, and Rep. William Broomfield (R. Mich.), the committee's ranking Republican member.

Secretary of Energy Donald Hodel announced last week that neither he nor any of the other American delegates would attend the conference because of the decision to bar Israel. South Africa was also barred from attending.

DISPUTE ERUPTS OVER INSTITUTION OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Underlying tensions between the Ashkenazic and Sephardic communities which have long plagued Israeli society appear to be behind an angry dispute that erupted this week over whether the recent institution of junior high schools will lower educational standards.

Large numbers of elementary school teachers staged a two hour strike Tuesday morning in support of parents and some teachers in the Rishon LeZion area south of Tel Aviv who object to the educational reform.

Classes which normally start at 8 a.m. did not begin until 10 a.m. Communities from Hadera, midway between Haifa and Tel Aviv, to Gedera, south of Tel Aviv, were affected, but not the greater Tel Aviv area.

Unwritten, Unpublicized Issue

The unwritten and unpublicized issue is busing, which the Education Ministry ordered because the junior high schools draw their student bodies from wider areas than local high schools. Sephardic youngsters have to be bused to schools in largely Ashkenazic neighborhoods and vice versa.

The junior high school plan, 15 years in the making, has proceeded smoothly in most of the country. The Rishon LeZion parents complain, however, that the quality of education is being compromised.

The ethnic basis for the conflict is hinted in their position, although the terms "Sephardic" and "Ashkenazic" are never mentioned. Some observers see a parallel to the controversy in the United States when white parents objected, on educational grounds, to court-ordered busing for

the purpose of integration. Interviews and statements on Israel radio in recent days indicate that with municipal elections coming up shortly, some individual parents and teachers are raising the issue for political purposes.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

A REPORT THAT ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT

By Charles Allen, Jr.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The media and the public were recently inundated by the massive and seemingly comprehensive Justice Department report on "Klaus Barbie and the U.S. Government."

Allan Ryan, who had headed the Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), had been asked last March to devote his full time to studying all the facts, facets and nuances of any possible American involvement with Barbie, "the butcher of Lyon." He proceeded to do so and released his report to the media on August 16.

Aside from the fact that Ryan himself indicated almost two weeks earlier that he was ready at that time to release his report, the five-month investigation into the U.S.-Barbie connection appeared to have progressed in an orderly fashion and without any problems regarding the contents and release date of the findings.

What was not known at that time, in fact, not until now, was the story of the politically motivated behind-the-scenes maneuverings, false starts, timid beginnings, attempts to block and then water down the report's 216 pages of text and nearly 600 pages of declassified intelligence documents.

In certain respects, this story is highly significant, particularly in view of the growing number of criticisms from the Jewish community concerning the final report.

No Initial Excitement Over Barbie's Ouster

When Barbie, the wanted wartime gestapo chief of Lyon, was expelled from Bolivia to France last February 4, the Attorney General of the United States, William French Smith, a Reagan appointee, was not excited over the event.

While conceding what he called "the general historic interest" in Barbie's expulsion to stand trial in France for "crimes against humanity," Smith had not the slightest inkling of that singular act's implication. The man who ultimately authored the Justice Department's report on Barbie, Ryan, by and large initially shared his boss' point of view.

Journalists Sound Warnings

A few journalists pointed out to Ryan at the time that the Barbie matter was just beginning; that the clearly persuasive accounts of American intelligence involvement with Barbie would set loose an avalanche of worldwide revulsion.

Less than two weeks after Barbie was returned to France a special three-part series by this writer disclosing the role of the Vatican, the U.S. Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) and the International Red Cross in helping Barbie escape from Europe to South America appeared in the JTA's Daily News Bulletins of February 16, 17 and 18.

A prominent by-liner of The New York Times suggested that the U.S. government had better check out the JTA series as the Vatican had been cited in them as running

"illegal" escape routes after World War II to help more than a few wanted Nazi war criminals, among them Barbie.

The day the JTA series began, Ryan called this writer for copies of them. One of the country's best-known TV reporters told Ryan, "In a matter of weeks, the Barbie story will be running story commanding worldwide headlines."

By March 14, Ryan's own vigorous advocacy of a full, unbiased investigation of a possible government involvement with Barbie carried the day when he was ordered to make an investigation of allegations that were beginning to surface and spread.

Even at that time, a few critics objected that the government would be investigating itself, that the results were not to be trusted. But the media blitz apparently forced the Administration's hand and sparked the order for an investigation by Ryan.

Another Factor Cited

Another salient which succeeded in rousing the Reagan Administration to undertake the investigation came from a pro-Reagan "major Jewish organization" executive. According to a Congressional source, the executive told the White House that the Barbie case "could blow up in your face unless you do something. Otherwise American Jews will react negatively and we're getting too close to the 1984 elections."

Ryan and his OSI staff conducted a vigorous search for documents and witnesses. They pursued leads into Bolivia, France, Great Britain and throughout the United States. They dug up surviving agents of the CIC which had been the foremost user of Barbie "from early 1946," according to a CIC "Top Secret" document of May 11, 1950.

The CIC report was signed by Capt. Eugene Kolb who now resides in the U.S.. Kolb became a TV personality, as it were, after the Barbie case exploded. His rationalizations "justifying" the use of the gestapo butcher prompted many sharp reactions from the world Jewish community. Yet the Ryan report insists that Barbie was not used by the CIC until late 1947 despite Kolb's own documented reports based on interrogations of Barbie himself.

Ryan stoutly defended the cooperation he received during the course of his investigation from the State Department and the CIC -- both of which organizations the Justice Department fully exonerates of any involvement with Barbie and its ancillary matters.

Skepticism Over Ryan's Report

Many reporters covering the Barbie story received Ryan's conclusions with open skepticism, some with ridicule. In the intense hunt for documents and witnesses, the paths of the Justice Department sleuths and investigating journalists often crossed. On occasion there was competition between the two sides. Sometimes documents were exchanged. Often the media beat the government to the punch.

John Martin, ABC-TV's crack correspondent, tracked down and unearthed much of the basic documentation in Bolivia itself. It was Martin -- not the government -- who secured the most crucial evidence; Barbie's 1941 "legal" Bolivian visa.

The visa was secured in Rome through a priest who was in charge of an illegal emigration route whose escape port was in Genoa. Through that

escape hatch, scores if not hundreds of wanted Nazi war criminals may well have escaped after the Holocaust. (See JTA series last February as well as the JTA Daily News Bulletin August 2.)

In the Justice Department's report on Barbie there is a footnote acknowledging that Barbie's "travel document was obtained by the Justice Department from a source in La Paz, Bolivia in April 1983." The source was ABC-TV. In fact, more than a few of the documents were secured from the American news media. Others were obtained through the Bolivian Ministry of Interior (Security).

It was also that Ministry which told ABC-TV in April 1983 that "the CIA had contacts with Barbie as late as 1974, 1975." The story of how the Justice Department secured through this writer the "Top Secret" 1947 La Vista Report was related in the August 24 JTA Bulletin.

A Basic Failure Of The Ryan Report

That was the truly historic investigation of the State Department into the "illegal" emigration operations by some 22 nationality "Welfare Units" that "operated under the protective benevolence of the Vatican."

Yet no connection is made in the Justice Department's report on Barbie between the CIC's "rat lines" through which "embarrassing" cases (like Barbie) were secreted out of Europe via the "monastery routes" and funneled out of Genoa to South America as were documented in the La Vista Report.

This writer questioned Ryan on precisely this point after the Barbie report had been released. Ryan said: "There was no connection with it (the La Vista Report) and American intelligence."

On the contrary, the CIC documents on Padre Dragonovich, a foremost operator of the "monastery routes" uncovered by Vincent La Vista, an international lawyer who in 1947 was the military attache to the American Embassy in Rome and a skilled intelligence/diplomatic State Department officer, coupled with proof on how Barbie escaped from Europe by using his Bolivian visa with Dragonovich as his sponsor demonstrated that there was collusion between these "illegal" operations and American intelligence throughout the early 1950's at the very least.

Ryan's adamant insistence that Barbie was neither related to the Vatican routes nor, later, to the CIA is curious in the light of the extraordinary documentation he himself unearthed.

"Don't blame Ryan," a Washington source told this writer. "He's just following the company line. Listen, Reagan's covering the CIA and at the same time he's as worried about any Catholic reaction to the Barbie thing as he is about the Jews."

That is why, in a sense, Ryan's release of some 600 pages of American intelligence documents must be commended. "The rightwingers in the Administration went crazy when they heard about that proposal," said a Congressional staffer.

Obstacles In Ryan's Path

There were more than a few obstacles in Ryan's path from inside the eminently rightist Administration camp. Attorney General Smith at first balked at the notion of releasing the intelligence documents along with revealing that U.S. intelligence agencies had employed Barbie. Ryan was "moving too fast and too strong," a Justice Department source said, for "the Reagan crowd -- both Justice and State."

When Secretary of State George Shultz heard that Ryan wanted to release the intelligence documents along

with his report Shultz "blew his top," according to the Justice Department source as well as others. Ryan's suggestion that the U.S. officially apologize to France for having hidden Barbie from French justice after World War II was "derided" at the State Department, these same sources said.

In point of fact, Ryan's staff had virtually completed its findings by July 1. Reporters who talked with Ryan found that he was chafing at the bit to "let fly and let the whole damn thing hang out," as Ryan himself was reported to have said. But his superiors balked. It was not until July 21 that the Justice Department's top brass allowed the hitherto "Top Secret" reports to be declassified.

A top Congressional aide told this writer: "Reagan finally got the message from off-the-record talks with major Jewish organizations biggies in New York. They warned him that Ryan's route was the way to go. Anything less might hurt him (Reagan) for 1984."

Court Actions To Force The Report's Release

By then, several large news organizations had moved in court to force the Justice Department to release Ryan's report on Barbie. As late as August 12, the Justice Department was still balking. "National security" might be jeopardized, Justice lawyers claimed.

ABC-TV moved aggressively that very day and went to court to ask that the Ryan report be released. The judge agreed with ABC and told the government to release the report "forthwith." On Tuesday, August 16, the UPI moved an item over its national wire to all subscribers, few of whom ran it. The item stated:

"The report on Barbie and U.S. intelligence was redrafted over the past couple of weeks after high-ranking Justice Department officials found the report had 'harsh language' in it critical of U.S. intelligence ...

"The State Department refused comment that it had objected to the report's suggestion that the U.S. apologize to France. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz objected, according to sources. The Department of State refused comment on this latter report." Just hours later, Ryan, at a jammed press conference covered by the world media, released his report.

Questions will remain, therefore, for those who know the background of the report's origin and evolution: just how much of Ryan's original report was redrafted, and to what effect? What was toned down and just what documents, if any, were deleted or otherwise "sanitized?"

Furthermore, is the report the full product of Ryan's investigation? Or is it the extremely well done sleight-of-hand of an Administration bent on protecting the CIA while keeping one wary eye on the American Jewish community with the other eye sharply focused in the direction of the Vatican just before the formal beginnings of the 1984 Presidential campaign? These questions need to be answered.

U.S. STRESSES THAT DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING TO ACHIEVE A CEASE-FIRE IN LEBANON

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration stressed today that the diplomatic efforts to achieve a cease-fire in Lebanon are "contin-

uing very actively." U.S. special envoy Robert McFarlane was in Damascus today where he reportedly met with the Syrian Foreign Minister, Abdel Halim Khaddam, and with Walid Jumblatt, leader of the Lebanese Druze who are fighting the Lebanese army from the Shouf mountains.

The Administration is pressing the diplomatic effort not only because it wants Congress to adopt the compromise agreement allowing the U.S. marines to stay an additional 18 months in Lebanon, but because; as President Reagan made clear yesterday, the Administration believes that if the effort in Lebanon fails, it will take down with it any remaining hope for the Reagan Middle East peace initiative.

Answering questions from regional editors and broadcasters at the White House yesterday, Reagan said if the cease-fire effort fails, "the peace plan for the whole Middle East that we had proposed and offered our help in bringing about, based on Camp David and the UN resolutions ... I think also goes."

Reagan Assails Syria

Reagan, in his talks with the visiting journalists, stressed, as did Secretary of State George Shultz in testifying before Senate and House committees yesterday, that Syria is to blame for the lack of progress in Lebanon. "They've made it pretty apparent that they have a proprietorship over much of Lebanon," the President said of Syria.

"They, and I think under the influence of the Soviet forces that are there in their own country, are behind much of what is presently going on," he added.

Shultz said yesterday that there are about 7,000 Soviet advisors in Syria, but at the same time, he asserted that Syrian President Hafez Assad still is capable of making his own decisions.

Shultz also expressed concern yesterday that the Syrians have allowed the Palestinians to infiltrate back into Lebanon in violation of the agreement by which the Palestine Liberation Organization was evacuated from Beirut last year. But he was not clear whether the Palestinians he was talking about were members of the PLO.

'Variety Of Palestinians' Are Back In Lebanon

State Department spokesman John Hughes said today that there are "a variety of Palestinians" who have infiltrated back into Lebanon, some of whom are "loyal" to PLO chief Yasir Arafat and some "not so loyal" to Arafat. He said some of them are members of the PLO while others are part of the Syrian-sponsored Palestine Liberation Army.

Reagan, however, said that it was the PLO which has reinfiltated and "have moved into the fighting." Hughes indicated that the Palestinians seem to be taking turns with the Druze in doing the fighting. He explained that probably, as one group comes under shellfire and withdraws to re-group, the other takes over the fighting.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A story in the September 12 Bulletin reported that the Jewish National Fund Board of Directors approved the JNF's annual 1983-84 budget of \$66.7 million, 75 percent larger than last year's. This figure neglected to take account of the JNF's land development programs which are undertaken by the JNF's land development section -- and which brings the JNF's total budget up to \$100 million. This figure is approximately the same as the JNF's budget last year.

**ANTI-JEWISH MATERIAL STILL APPEARS
IN SOME EGYPTIAN PUBLICATIONS**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Openly anti-Jewish material continues to appear in the publications of opposition elements in Egypt despite that country's formal peace treaty with Israel, says a report issued here by the Institute of Jewish Affairs.

The report by Dr. Raphael Israeli, Director of the Hebrew University's pre-academic studies and an expert on Islam and Chinese history, concludes that no substantial changes occurred in the popular Egyptian conception of Jews, Israelis and Zionism during the years immediately after President Anwar Sadat's peace mission.

Dr. Israeli's report is based on his forthcoming book analyzing the Arabs' stereotype descriptions of Jews and the wide ranging accusations levelled at Israel.

Of particular concern, he writes, are a number of publications, published at least until 1981, which were based on the infamous "Protocols of the Elders of Zion", and blood libel themes.

He cites two popular books -- "The War of Survival Between the Koran and the Talmud" and "The Jews, Objects of the Wrath of God" -- which were in demand by the Egyptian public during the Cairo book fair of February 1981.

In Dr. Israeli's view, the existence of anti-Semitic publications places "a long dark tunnel at the end of the light which the peace treaty has kindled."

JNF MEMORIAL FOREST FOR JACKSON

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund will establish the Senator Henry Jackson Memorial Forest in the American Independence Park in the Judean Hills near Jerusalem, it was announced by Charlotte Jacobson, president of the JNF. The forest will be dedicated early November.

Mrs. Jacobson said that the forest will be a "living memorial" to a man whose "far-reaching social and humanitarian concerns, devotion to the finest values of American life and championship of the cause of Israel and Soviet Jewry have earned him the love and esteem of all Jews and the respect of all nations."

According to the JNF, the establishment of the Jackson forest is in response "to many inquiries and requests from individuals, organizations, Federations and Jewish community councils." Dr. Samuel Cohen, JNF executive vice president, said a special mailing campaign will commence soon to raise the funds needed for the memorial forest.

**ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNEARTH CANAANITE
SETTLEMENT FROM 3100-2900 BCE**

HAIFA, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- An archaeological team sponsored jointly by Haifa University and the University of Marburg in West Germany has unearthed the remains of a Canaanite settlement dating from approximately 3100-2900 BCE at Tel Acco, near Acre north of Haifa bay.

According to Prof. Moshe Dothan, head of Haifa University's archaeological department, who directed the dig, the various clay vessels found indicate the settlement pre-dates earlier estimates by about 1,000 years. He noted that "this early settlement was not fortified and was probably agricultural in nature."

The skeleton of a horse was found in a layer of rubble dating from the middle Canaanite period, Dothan called that discovery "one of the most remarkable finds ever made in Israel." Graves from the late Bronze Age were also uncovered at the site, several containing clay vessels including very rare pieces decorated in two tones. A jar in a style known as "chocolate and white" is only the second piece of its kind to be found in Israel, Dothan said.

One grave yielded scarabs, some of them combined with gold rings. In another, clay vessels were found similar to those of Syrian or Turkish origin. In other areas of the hill, relics were found dating from the Iron Age and late Canaanite period, including clay vessels the archaeologists associate with the Sharden people, sea-faring mercenaries who settled the coastal area at about 1200 BCE.

Among the rare pieces found were an ivory cosmetic container in the shape of a duck and a bronze image of the ancient deity, Baal, which are believed to date from the 13th century BCE. The archaeologists from the two universities were assisted in the digging by volunteers from the U.S., England, West Germany and Denmark.

**DULZIN PLEDGES WZO'S SUPPORT
FOR A WEST BANK SETTLEMENT**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, has pledged the WZO's support for the establishment of an educational institution for diaspora youth at the settlement of Brach, near Nablus.

Bracha, dubbed "upper Nablus" by its detractors, is one of the most controversial of the new West Bank settlements. Its critics claim it was set up by Ariel Sharon with a view to its becoming a major Jewish town overlooking the large Arab town of Nablus. It is situated on a high peak just south of the city.

Some 30 families are presently living there, but a broad highway leading up the hill to Bracha indicates that its planners were instructed to prepare a blueprint for a major urban development. Bracha hit the headlines earlier this year when its official inauguration ceremony in the presence of Deputy Premier David Levy was disrupted by a Peace Now demonstration and had to be held indoors instead of outdoors as planned.

Dulzin, on a tour of the settlement this week, said the Bracha residents had proved themselves eager and resourceful and that the WZO would be happy to help them -- as it would help any Jew contributing to Zionist settlement in Eretz Yisrael.

2,000 OLIM CAME TO ISRAEL IN AUGUST

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- For the first time in three years, more than 2,000 immigrants have arrived in Israel in a single month -- the month of August. The precise figure, issued by the Jewish Agency aliya department, was 2,167. Four-fifths of that number were olim from Western countries -- reflecting the continued upward trend in Western aliya.

Aliya figures for the first eight months of the current year show a 28 percent increase over the same period last year. The figure for January-August 1983 is 10,788 olim. Of these, 2,578 came from North America -- representing a steep rise over the previous year; 40 percent. Similarly, impressive increases were recorded in the number of olim coming in from Latin America and from France.