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HIGHEST ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUE SINCE WAR BROKE OUT IN LEBANON IS TAKING PLACE IN CAIRO

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The highest level diplomatic dialogue between Israel and Egypt since the outbreak of the war in Lebanon in June, 1982, is presently taking place in Cairo, it was disclosed here today.

David Kimche, director general of the Foreign Ministry in the Egyptian capital for political talks which Israeli sources said will cover the entire gamut of Middle East issues and a review of bilateral relations between Israel and Egypt.

Kimche left for Cairo yesterday and is expected to return late tomorrow. He is accompanied by the Ministry's legal aide, Elyakim Rubinstein. The two Israeli officials are scheduled to meet with Egypt's Foreign Minister, Kamal Hassan Ali, and to hold working sessions with top officials of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. Kimche may also call on President Hosni Mubarak, though no meeting between them has been announced.

The Israeli sources said the visit emerged from "bilateral diplomatic contacts." They conceded, however, that the United States has been applying pressure on Egypt for some time to thaw the "cold peace" that has existed since Israel invaded Lebanon. The sources firmly denied that Kimche's visit was connected in any way with the current tension in the region involving Syria and the U.S.

WEST BANK VIOLENCE ESCALATES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Violence escalated on the West Bank today despite Defense Minister Moshe Arens' urgings to the Palestinians to "sober up," stop supporting the PLO and make peace with Israel.

The most serious incident occurred in Hebron where a 12-year-old Israeli girl from Moshav Yatir was hospitalized for injuries sustained when Arab youths stoned her schoolbus bound for Kiryat Arba, the Jewish township adjacent to Hebron. Armed Jewish settlers guarding the bus fired into the air to disperse the stone-throwers.

Later, the settlers broke into the local Arab high school and forced the headmaster to accompany them to the police station. He was released only after Israeli soldiers intervened. Meanwhile, angry Arab students demonstrated in the streets and pelted the offices of the Israel-backed Village Leagues with stones, smashing windows.

The Israeli authorities clamped a curfew on the Nablus casbah today and on the Jalazoun refugee camp near Ramallah after stones were hurled at Israeli military and civilian vehicles. A curfew imposed yesterday on the Dahaysha refugee camp near Bethlehem remained in force. All adult males were rounded up in the village square and warned that they would be held responsible to see that the stonings ceased.

Tires were burned in the East Jerusalem Arab neighborhood of Wadi Joz which is adjacent to Jewish neighborhoods.

Meanwhile, the government appeared to be hoping that the bloody civil war between PLO elements still loyal to Yasser Arafat and Syrian controlled PLO dissidents would once and for all discredit the terrorist organization in the eyes of West Bank Palestinians. Arens' message was directed to them. He heaped scorn on the PLO as "a bunch of terror gangs which managed to convince most countries that they were a national liberation movement but are now spilling each others' blood in pointless rivalry."

But the majority of West Bank Palestinians remain loyal to Arafat. Their demonstrations yesterday were aimed against the "Syrian-Libyan aggressors" who are trying to destroy Arafat. Today their anger and frustration was directed at the Israelis.

TENSION IS INCREASING IN LEBANON WHERE ISRAELI AND SYRIAN TROOPS ARE FACING EACH OTHER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The front line in Lebanon, where Israeli and Syrian troops face each other across a few hundred yards of open terrain has become a focal point of the world news media in recent days.

Reporters and television crews from many countries are on hand in anticipation of hostilities following Syria's mobilization of its reserves Monday and a practice call-up of Israeli reserves today -- which the Israelis insist is a limited drill planned long before the current escalation of tension. (See separate story.)

The front remained quiet. But the media had a chance to observe interesting differences between the Israelis and Syrians. On the physical level, Israeli units are warm and dry in outposts insulated against the cold, damp weather heralding the onset of a harsh winter in the Lebanese hills. The Syrian troops, in contrast, huddled in wet open trenches within sight of the Israeli positions.

A Dramatic Event

But an event which some reporters found more dramatic and significant than military operations occurred yesterday when Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir toured Israel Defense Force positions, accompanied by Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy and other senior officers.

Shamir, a Likud hardliner, was confronted by a reserve soldier, a kibbutznik, who told the Premier: "I have more of a statement than a question: I feel like an actor in a film of the Germans in Europe in World War II or the Russians in Afghanistan. I am on the roads here a lot and I wonder what we are doing to the local population. How long are we going to remain here?"

Shamir retorted, apparently without rancor, that such comparisons should not be made. In any event, the IDF will remain in Lebanon only long enough to ensure Israel's security, he said.

The confrontation took place in the presence of the media. Shamir told reporters later that he was impressed by the behavior of most of the soldiers. He admitted that there was what he called a "very vocal minority" imbued with "negative ideas."

He added, "But this is no discredit. It proves the tolerance of Israel and its democratic basis." Shamir left to the imagination of the journalists whether such an exchange could have taken place between a Syrian soldier and President Hafez Assad.

Other soldiers fully supported the Israeli presence in Lebanon. They told the Premier they were angered by the relatively light punishment meted out to reservists who refuse to serve in Lebanon. Many are simply assigned to other duties. Those who face military courts are usually sentenced to no more than 35 days in jail.

RESERVISTS MOBILIZED

TEL AVIV, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Israel Radio repeatedly broadcast 14 code words today ordering military reservists to report to predetermined assembly points. The mobilization exercise for service personnel and vehicles was planned some time ago and military spokesmen stressed it was not hostile in intent or a response to the mobilization of Syria's reserves ordered Monday.

That message was directed especially toward Damascus in an effort to reduce the tension which escalated after last Friday's truck bomb attack on Israeli military headquarters in Tyre. The Israelis held Syria responsible, at least indirectly, but insisted that Israel was not threatening any country.

Military spokesmen said today's mobilization drill would be of short duration. As soon as the reservists check in or deliver their vehicles to the proper places, they will be dismissed and sent home, the spokesmen said.

RIEGNER SAYS IT IS IMPROPER TO SECOND GUESS WHAT COULD OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE TO HELP RESCUE EUROPEAN JEWRY DURING WORLD WAR II
By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Dr. Gerhart Riegner, who in 1942 as representative of the World Jewish Congress in Geneva first informed the Western world of the Nazi plan for the genocide of the Jewish people, indicated today that he felt it improper to cast judgement today on what should have or could have been done to help rescue European Jewry during World War II.

"Certainly we could have rescued more, but don't have any illusions that we could have rescued millions," Riegner told a group of American representatives of the World Jewish Congress at the Minskoff Center here. He said the international political situation was different and the American Jewish community's influence was limited compared to what it is today.

Observers interpreted Riegner's remarks, which included a reference to Stephen Wise, the former president of the American Jewish Congress, as having been a direct reference to the ongoing investigation under the chairmanship of former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg into what the Jewish community did or did not do in its efforts to save European Jewry. An interim report issued by the Goldberg group has specifically cited Wise's wartime efforts.

The gathering today was in commemoration of the 45th anniversary of Kristallnacht (Night of Shattered Glass), when Nazi anti-Jewish attacks on the night of November 9-10, 1938, decimated Jewish-owned property and synagogues throughout Germany. The event is considered a turning point in the treatment

of German and Austrian Jewry marking an end to independent organized Jewish life, with the dissolution of cultural and communal bodies and the banning of the Jewish press.

While no complete tally of the destruction exists, reports said at least 30,000 Jews were arrested in Germany, some 8,000 in Austria, and were sent to concentration camps in Dachau, Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen.

Reports said 815 Jewish-owned shops were destroyed, and 29 warehouses and 171 dwellings set on fire or otherwise destroyed; 191 synagogues were set on fire and a further 76 completely demolished. Thirty-six Jews were killed and 36 severely injured in the anti-Jewish attacks.

'A Day And Night Of Horror'

Rabbi Arthur Schneier, spiritual leader of the Park East Synagogue and who participated in today's discussion, was in Vienna 45 years ago and said he was a boy on his way to school on November 9, 1938. "It was a day and night of horror. I can still here the shatter of glass, see the burning of the synagogues and see hundreds and hundreds of Jewish men lined up waiting for shipping to Dachau and Buchenwald."

It was Riegner who in 1942 transmitted a telegram directed to the U.S. State Department and British Foreign Office that contained the first authentic news about Hitler's decision to exterminate the Jews. The name of the informant who passed the information to Riegner has remained a mystery until just several months ago when historians verified the informant as German industrialist Edward Schulte. But Riegner, who is the last person alive to know the identity of the informant, will not verify whether it was Schulte, saying he gave his word not to reveal the informant's identity.

Despite Warnings, 'Nothing Happened'

According to Riegner, the Jews outside Germany could not comprehend what was taking place although he said it was clear in three separate instances that what was occurring would be fatal to the Jews. This included a 1933 Nazi ouster of Jews from professional positions, the 1935 Nuremberg laws, and the 1938 night of shattered glass. He said despite the warnings, "nothing happened."

Riegner said he was not seeking to "exonerate" anyone for what they did or failed to do but pointed out that it is essential to put actions by individuals in historical context. This, he said, included an assessment of the actions of President Franklin Roosevelt, who at that time was confronted with challenges from isolationists and the strictures imposed by U.S. public opinion.

Meanwhile Neal Sher, who is the acting director of the Office of Special Investigations, the Justice Department's office responsible with investigating and prosecuting war criminals living in the United States, said today that Israel is ready to seek the extradition of war criminals from the U.S. He said he could not go into details of who those persons are or when formal action may begin.

ISRAEL'S CHIEF RABBI LEAD PRAYER RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Israel's Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapira and Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliyahu led a prayer rally for Soviet Jewry here today. The rally, sponsored by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYCSJ),

was held on the street where the Soviet Mission to the United Nations is located. A few hundred people, mostly students of Hebrew schools in the metropolitan area attended.

"We came here to protest the terrible oppression of Russian Jews," Shapira declared. He charged that the Soviet authorities "want to liquidate the entire Jewish culture" in the Soviet Union by banning the teaching of the Hebrew language and the Jewish religion.

"There was never such a cruel attempt in history to cut an entire nation from its culture and roots," said Shapira, whose address in Hebrew was translated to the audience. He called on world Jewry to continue its struggle on behalf of Soviet Jews. "And to our brothers and sisters in the Soviet Union I have to say this: Be brave because we are with you."

Eliyahu, also addressing the rally in Hebrew, said that the more the Soviet Jews are oppressed the more they remain alive and determined to remain Jewish. He called on the Soviet Union to let the Jews come to Israel. "The Soviet Union and all other nations who cannot tolerate their Jews, send them to us, to Israel, we will accept them with love."

Efforts To Aid Soviet Jews Must Continue

Herbert Kronish, chairman of the GNYCSJ told the gatherings: "The Soviets have once again targeted a captain of Jewish culture in hopes of stifling the Jewish spirit. The 12-year sentence imposed on emigration activist Isosif Begun is an affront to those of us who share the belief in basic human rights. And now we are witnessing the provocation against Prisoner of Conscience Lev Elbert." He said that in the face of the crisis situation facing Soviet Jewry, efforts on their behalf must be increased.

Many at the rally carried placards calling for the release of Begun, Ida Nudel and Anatoly Shcharansky. The rally was concluded with a delivery of a letter from the Chief Rabbis, addressed to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov. The letter, which urged the release of Begun, Shcharansky and Elbert, was not accepted at the door of the Soviet Mission and was left on the doorsteps of the Mission.

Shapira and Eliyahu are currently on a 10-day-vizit to the United States. They arrived here last Thursday to meet with leaders of Orthodox Judaism in America.

In a reception on their behalf given by the Rabbinical Council of America at the Fifth Avenue Synagogue, the two Chief Rabbis said they intended to discuss with their American counterparts issues of "high importance," such as conversion and matters of personal status like marriage and divorce. The Chief Rabbis were honored last night at a reception tendered by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York.

SHULTZ TO ADDRESS THE C.J.F.

NEW YORK, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz has accepted an invitation from the Council of Jewish Federations to address its 52nd General Assembly on the night of November 19 in Atlanta, Ga. it was announced here today. Shultz will address the Assembly on the topic of "U.S. Foreign Policy Goals: Achieving a Just and Peaceful World Order." This will mark the first time in several years that a high Administration official will address the GA.

On the evening of November 17, President Chaim Herzog of Israel will address a major plenary session. Among other featured speakers at the GA will be Ambassador Meir Rosenne of Israel, author Elie Wiesel, and C.J.F. president Martin Citrin.

During the GA, which begins November 16 and concludes November 20, there will be, among the numerous plenary meetings and workshops, sessions on Soviet Jewry, Ethiopian Jews, Israel-diaspora relations, the Middle East, the "new anti-Semitism," and aliya. At one of the sessions, the Public Assistance and Unemployment Compensation Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee will hold a hearing on the effects of federal budget cuts and unemployment on Jews, Jewish agencies and other human service providers.

More than 2,500 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada are expected to attend the GA, according to Osias Goren, of Los Angeles, GA program committee chairman. The theme of the gathering is "Coping with Change: Federations Confront the Challenges of an Uncertain Future."

U.S. 'REVOLTED' THAT LEBANESE CIVILIANS ARE ENDANGERED BY FIGHTING BETWEEN PALESTINIAN GROUPS IN TRIPOLI By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration, declaring that it was "revolted" that Lebanese civilians in Tripoli are being endangered by the "brutal behavior" of Palestinian groups fighting among themselves, today urged neighboring governments to use their influence to stop the carnage.

The Administration's plea, contained in a statement read by State Department deputy spokesman Alan Romberg, was an attempt to keep Tripoli from being used as a battleground between Yasir Arafat's decimated Palestine Liberation Organization loyalists and dissident Palestinian groups backed by Syria and Libya. The plea was apparently aimed at Syria although Romberg refused to be specific as to what was meant by neighboring governments.

At the same time, Romberg announced that the U.S. is contributing \$1 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to be used for relief in Lebanon.

He said the U.S. urges all governments to be open to suggestions from groups like the ICRC and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) "for humanitarian and relief efforts to alleviate the suffering."

He added that the U.S. is a major contributor to UNRWA and is presently discussing with that organization what further steps should be taken.

In the statement on the fighting in Tripoli, Romberg said: "We are revolted that once again the people of Lebanon have been subjected to terror and injury -- this time against Tripoli by the radical and brutal behavior of Palestinian factions and their supporters."

"It is tragic that once again, the civilian population of Lebanon is again victim to hostilities not of their making and over which they are unable to exercise influence and control. We urge governments in the area to bring their influence to bear constructively to end the fighting."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE JEWS OF KENYA

By Aviva Cantor

(Part Three Of A Three Part Series)

NAIROBI, Nov. 9 (JTA) -- The Nairobi Hebrew Congregation was founded in 1904, but no minutes were kept until 1907, when 11 men adopted the name officially. One year later, the British colonial administration offered the congregation land for a synagogue, but fund-raising problems prevented construction until 1913. The cornerstone ceremony, attended by Kenya's 30 Jews, was based on Masonic ritual, with prominent Royal Arch Mason present in full regalia.

The history of the congregation, according to Rev. Julius Carlebach, who wrote a pamphlet on the "Jews of Nairobi" published in 1961, "is an almost continuous record of apathy and financial difficulties caused by (dues) arrears and personal strife."

The friction among members caused presidents and councils to be attacked, to resign and be reinstated many times in the course of the congregation's first 30 years. Carlebach attributes this "inevitable friction" to the "individualistic nature of the Jewish settlers." Concerned to prevent a small group from taking power, they invested it in the general membership meeting, "of which," notes Carlebach, "there were many."

An Interesting And Feisty Lot

The picture that emerges from Carlebach's congregational history, however, is not as bleak as he himself summarizes it. Throughout its history services were held -- not always with good attendance -- children's classes went on -- often without great parental support -- and the congregation responded warmly and generously to fund-raising appeals from abroad.

The matzot it imported from Britain and sold to the well-off, it gave away free to the poor. And, as even Carlebach points out, one or two men always came forward at the times of the worst financial crises to prevent congregational bankruptcy. All in all, the congregation members seemed an interesting, and feisty lot.

Facing The Greatest Challenge

The congregation faced its greatest challenge with the rise of Nazism. As early as June, 1933, several months after the first anti-Jewish boycott in Nazi Germany, congregation president Edward Rubin summoned the Jews of Nairobi to a meeting on the "grave situation" there. Its representative at the Board of Deputies of British Jews in London, Cyril Henriques, spoke out many times, unsuccessfully though, for an anti-German boycott.

The first Jewish refugees arrived in Kenya in November 1933, and continued to trickle in. The problem was that under British dominion, every refugee had to be found a job on a farm as a farm manager. The Jews of Kenya responded by establishing the Plough Settlements Association to train and settle German Jewish refugees on Kenyan farms. As late as 1938, it sent a recruiting committee to Germany -- and returned with 27 refugees.

The next year, the Kenyan Jewish Council for Training and Settlements bought Upper Gilgil Training Farm to further help "absorb" refugees. (With the outbreak of the war, the area was declared a military area, which it remains today.)

In the mid-1940's, 94 Polish Jews were interned in camps in Uganda and Tanganyika (today Tanzania). They were among the 10,000 Poles who had fled to Eastern Poland in 1939, were interned and later allowed to leave for Persia. The congregation kept in touch with them, supplying them with matzot and placing some of the children in private schools. It also aided a synagogue established by the 37 Jews at Tanguru Camp in Tanganyika.

A Congregation Is Founded

Jews, mostly refugees, living outside Nairobi (declared off-limits to them as a security area) joined the congregation but held their own services. In 1941, a congregation was founded in Nakuru by refugees and South African Jewish soldiers.

They met in a converted garage and later built a beautiful little synagogue in 1956 (later sold to the Children's Welfare Society). Jews in the Kitale/Eldoret area 200 miles from Nairobi held services in members' homes in the late 1940's. By the early 1960's these communities had ceased to exist.

During the war, the congregation also stayed in touch with Jewish soldiers stationed in East Africa, hosting them at seders, conducting special services for them, and sending them matzot.

Some of the refugees remained in Kenya after the war; many had changed their lines of work. Carlebach's book notes that an artist became a hotel manager; a furniture dealer, an accountant; a corset-maker, a salesperson, among many others. Polish Jewish refugees, who refused repatriation, were helped to find jobs and relatives in other more congenial countries.

Membership in the congregation reached a peak of 500 during the war, declining to 176 in 1952 after many left for Britain, Australia and Israel, and to 142 ten years later. (Women were not counted officially as members until 1945, so the number of actual members in the early years was obviously larger.)

Jews continued to be active in the Kenyan economy after Kenya attained independence from Britain in 1963. One immediate positive effect of independence was that the social clubs which had excluded both Blacks and Jews under the British became open to both after they had departed.

"Jews and Israelis can work here freely," said business executive Dr. Manfred Lehmann. He said that President Daniel arap Moi had expressed interest in the prayer the congregation says on Shabbat for the welfare of the government and its leaders (a standard part of Jewish services), and Dr. Lehmann had the prayer itself printed up for him.

Many African non-Jews came to Shabbat services and often there is a question-and-answer session afterward on what Judaism is all about. Lehmann said that before the advent of the missionaries, East Kenya was a "monotheistic society with an invisible god." Some Black Africans feel closer to Old Testament Judaism than to Christianity, he said, and are eager to be in contact with Jews and to visit Israel.

The membership of the congregation today -- male and female -- is about 125. "There was a theory 12 years ago that we wouldn't be here," said Ivor Davis, a former congregation president and now its public affairs person. "But we didn't lie down and die. It's a challenge to keep the community together."