

ISRAEL ASKS THE UN NOT TO PROVIDE ARAFAT AND HIS TROOPS SAFE CONDUCT FROM TRIPOLI

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA) — The Israeli government requested Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar today to cancel any arrangements that may have been made to give Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat and his troops safe conduct from Tripoli in northern Lebanon, under the United Nations flag. But the Secretary General demurred, stating that the UN undertaking was on "purely humanitarian grounds."

The request was made by Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum, who spoke during the General Assembly debate on the Middle East. He said that in light of the "horrendous crime perpetrated by Arafat's terrorists" in Jerusalem Tuesday, in which four people were killed and 46 civilians injured, "it is inconceivable that the UN, which is ostensibly dedicated to the preservation of human life and the enhancement of peace, should provide the terrorists with any assistance or facilities whatsoever."

An identical letter was sent yesterday by Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir to de Cuellar. There was no hint in Shamir's letter whether Israel proposed to act independently to prevent Arafat's departure, as Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Minister Without Portfolio Ariel Sharon have proposed.

Abusing The UN Flag

Blum's reference was to the Jerusalem bus bombing for which the PLO claimed responsibility. The Israeli envoy recalled that last year Arafat "and his fellow terrorists were permitted to leave Lebanon on condition that they not return. Nevertheless, in spite of Arafat's commitment we find him in Lebanon again. Under the pretense of leaving Tripoli in order to prevent additional civilian casualties, but actually in order to save his own skin, Arafat seeks in this year's exodus from Lebanon to be extricated once again, this time by abusing the UN flag."

The Secretary General, responding in a statement issued through his spokesman, said: "The reason for authorization of the use of the UN flag was on purely humanitarian grounds to facilitate the resolution of the situation which has already cost many innocent lives and created great destruction."

FRENCH NAVY TO PROTECT SHIPS EVACUATING PLO FORCES FROM TRIPOLI

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 8 (JTA) — The French navy will protect the four Greek ferries and two cargo ships to evacuate PLO chief Yasir Arafat and his men from Tripoli. French official sources confirmed today that French warships will "probably" escort the evacuating vessels as Palestinian spokesman in Paris, Ibrahim Suss, announced.

The ships, flying United Nations and Greek flags, will take part of the Palestinians to North Yemen and the others to Tunisia. Unconfirmed reports say Arafat plans to leave aboard one of the Greek ships and will be landed in Athens.

Arafat took a similar route last summer when he sailed from Beirut to Athens. These unconfirmed reports say he would leave Greece for Algiers where he wants to inspect some 1,500 Palestinian fighters who had been earlier evacuated from north Lebanon.

The French have stubbornly insisted that there can be no peace in the Middle East "without Palestinian participation" and believe that Arafat, whom they consider a "moderate," should be enabled to leave Tripoli "without losing his dignity and personal prestige."

SAUNDERS CALLS FOR RESUMPTION OF THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS TO SEEK SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PALESTINIANS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) — Harold Saunders, who as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs in the Carter Administration helped negotiate the Camp David agreements, called for a "resumption of the diplomatic process" to seek self-determination for the Palestinian people.

Saunders, now a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), said the United States should seek to make up some of the defects of the Camp David accords by pressing for self-determination for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza. However, he added, this did not necessarily mean a Palestinian state and also required safeguarding the self-determination of both Israel and Jordan.

Saunders' remarks were made yesterday at the close of a three-hour panel discussion on the Middle East which was part of the AEI's Public Policy Week, held at the Mayflower Hotel here.

He said it has been so very long since negotiations have been held that it is now necessary to determine the basis on which each of the parties — Israel, Egypt and Jordan — would be willing to enter the talks. Because of this, Saunders said, the Camp David agreements would now be only one of the elements in the negotiations and not the framework for the negotiations.

Likud Government Termed A Liability To The U.S.

One panelist, Anthony Cordesman, international policy editor of the Armed Forces Journal International, charged that Israel's Likud government has been a "strategic liability" to the U.S. rather than an asset.

He called the strategic military alliance between the countries announced last week by President Reagan and Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir, "cosmetic," claiming that the Israeli military could not play a role in the defense of the Arab world in the foreseeable future because it would "alienate" more Arab countries than there would be benefits to the U.S. from the Israeli military contribution.

Cordesman also said that for the U.S. to pre-position military supplies in Israel or even if "it used Israeli medical facilities", it also would be costly to the U.S. in the Arab world. He rejected the view that Israeli military action in Lebanon had provided military benefits to the U.S. because of the lessons learned by the Israelis, saying "those lessons were of marginal value."

Cordesman charged that "every Israeli use of U.S. technology transfers data to the Soviet Union" in such areas as electronic warfare and air defenses. He said it

thus provides billions of dollars of information to the Soviet Union while costing NATO billions of dollars needed to match the knowledge gained by the Soviets.

In remarks that seemed to echo the views of those in the Pentagon opposed to closer U.S.-Israeli military ties, Cordesman said Israel would probably have to receive from the U.S. \$2-\$2.5 billion annually in foreign aid grants in the next decade to meet its defense needs.

"If Israel is to be as dependent on the U.S. as it virtually must be, its going to have to trade some of its political ambitions for that aid and is going to have to act like a strategic asset and less than like a strategic pain in the ass," Cordesman said.

He listed requirements he believed Israel should meet. "At a minimum, it should put an end to military adventures" such as its invasion of Lebanon, he said. He said Israel should also show "military restraint," show active support for Jordan's internal and external security, be willing to see strong U.S. military ties to Arab countries, show greater responsibility in Lebanon and move toward some kind of settlement for the West Bank.

Urges Comprehensive Peace Plan

Philip Habib, who was President Reagan's special representative to the Middle East and recently joined the AEI as a senior fellow, stressed that while attention is being focussed on the crisis in Lebanon, the overall problem of Middle East peace should not be ignored.

"The search for a comprehensive peace in the area must not diminish when one has to deal with crises in an area in which crises are endemic," he said. "If there is to be an end to recurrent crises, it will come from a more comprehensive peace in the region as a whole," Habib said.

DEMONSTRATORS DEMAND U.S. BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SYRIA By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- About 30 persons held a demonstration and prayer service for the American marines and other victims of terrorist attacks in Lebanon outside the Syrian Mission to the United Nations here today and demanded that the U.S. break diplomatic ties with Syria.

The service was organized by Americans for a Safe Israel, the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, the Neighborhood Church of Greenwich Village and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Peter Goldman, director of Americans for a Safe Israel, who urged the U.S. to sever relations with Damascus, said Syria is responsible for the terrorist violence in Lebanon.

He charged that the Syrian government systematically murdered "thousands of Christians and Moslem Lebanese during Syria's seven year occupation of Lebanon."

Rabbi Avraham Weiss, spiritual leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, recited the kaddish in memory of the marines and Israelis killed in the recent terrorist attacks. "We call upon all Americans of good will to do everything within their power to confront and defeat Syrian tyranny," he said. A large menorah was lit during the service in which many participants wore prayer shawls.

IT'S A DIRTY LIE

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- If Ali Treiki, Libya's Ambassador to the United Nations, is to be believed, Jews not only are "the worst people on earth" but they control pornography in New York. Treiki, delivering an anti-Semitic tirade before the General Assembly today, remarked that if one were to look around New York City one would see that the owners of the "porno houses" are Jews who are exploiting the American people. He also called on the General Assembly to work for the elimination "of the Zionist entity."

FOUR LUBAVITCHER HASIDIM INDICTED ON RIOT AND ASSAULT CHARGES By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Four Lubavitcher Hasidim were indicted yesterday on riot and assault charges stemming from a clash with police on the first day of Succot and a Lubavitch spokesman rejected the charges and said the movement would file counterclaims of police brutality.

The indictments of Eric Jacobs, 25, Moishe Rubashkin, 25, Israel Shimtov, 43, and Levi Weingarten, 27, were announced by Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman, who said "assaults on police officers cannot be condoned and will not be tolerated."

Police officials reported statements by at least seven policemen that they had been injured in the incident on September 22 in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, site of the world headquarters of the Hasidic movement.

The Lubavitch spokesman, responding to announcement of the indictments, asserted that a case of "blatant police overreaction and brutality" took place and that the movement would fight this "wrongful action."

Three Charged With 15 Counts

According to Holtzman, Jacobs, Rubashkin and Shimtov were charged with 15 counts of second degree assault, seven counts of third-degree assault and one count of rioting. The three also were charged with obstructing governmental administration, a misdemeanor. They are due in Brooklyn Supreme Court next Tuesday for arraignment.

Weingarten was indicted on a misdemeanor charge of criminal mischief. A spokesperson for the District Attorney told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that no date had been set for his arraignment in Brooklyn Criminal Court.

The spokesperson said all four Hasidim had been arrested at the time of the incident, which began with the throwing of a rock at a city bus, and had been released on bench warrants, adding they remain free pending appearance in the two courts.

The city bus allegedly brushed a pregnant woman, reportedly Weingarten's wife, and the rock was then thrown, touching off a shouting match when the bus driver halted the bus and left it to inspect the damage.

When police on duty near the Lubavitch world headquarters tried to take Weingarten into custody, after a bus passenger pointed to him as the rock thrower, and bring him to the precinct station in a

squad car, he refused, declaring Jewish law banned riding on any vehicle on a religious holiday.

One witness said Weingarten offered to walk to the precinct station but police insisted he get into the squad car. At that point, some 300 other Hasidim clashed with the police, in an effort to prevent Weingarten's being forced to enter the patrol car. The arrests followed.

CHANUKAH 'MIRACLE' AT THE UN

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- On the eighth evening of Chanukah, David Horowitz, a past president of the UN Correspondents Association, hosted a Chanukah party for about 70 colleagues, diplomats and other friends in the UN Correspondents Club.

Among the diplomats present were Panama's Deputy Ambassador to the UN, Abadi-Abadi, and Costa Rica's Deputy Ambassador to the UN, Emilio Castro de Barish. The current UN Correspondents Association president, Pakistani journalist Ifrikhar Ali, welcomed the guests.

Israel's Ambassador Yehuda Blum spoke to the gathering about the spiritual aspect of Chanukah, the meaning of the word Chanukah, and stressed re-dedication rather than the military victory of the Maccabees.

Cantor Joseph Molovsky of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue recited the blessings over the Chanukah candles. Horowitz, who is the editor of the World Union Press and United Israel Bulletin, spoke of the importance of faith in the history of Judaism.

Pianist Strikes Responsive Chords

In another event, two weeks ago, Amiram Rigai, the world-renowned Israeli pianist performed in the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium at the invitation of the chairman of the Cultural Society of the UN Staff Recreation Council, Thomas Prendergast. He received standing ovations from the guests composed of UN staffers representing almost every region of the world.

Rigai's program included works by Beethoven, Chopin, Albeniz and Scriabin. He closed his program with one of his own early compositions, "First Israeli Rhapsody."

SEAL APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JTA; KAYSTON RETIRING AFTER 48 YEARS OF SERVICE TO JTA

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Martin Fox, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, has announced the appointment of Mark Seal, JTA business manager, as executive director. He will replace John Kayston, JTA executive vice president, who is retiring after 48 years. Fox also announced that Kayston was named consultant to the JTA Board of Directors and management.

In making the announcements, at the JTA's recent Board meeting in Atlanta, Ga., Fox stated: "These changes are part of the on-going JTA operational programs to assure that it is the most effective news agency providing in depth and scope the activities of the world-wide Jewish community."

Born in Montreal, Seal studied at Herzliya High School and McGill University. He lived in Israel for four years at Kibbutz Gezer where he was treasurer. While in Israel, he studied management and finance at The Ruppin Institute. Upon his return to the United States, Seal worked as a campus outreach professional at the Jewish Association for College Youth (JACY), a subvention agency of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York.

Subsequently, he was business director at the Jewish Frontier, the American Labor Zionist journal. Seal has been working at JTA since October, 1982 as assistant to Kayston in the position of business manager.

ENVOY SAYS ARABS WANT U.S. TO BE MEDIATOR IN ARAB-ISRAEL CONFLICT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Samuel Lewis, the United States Ambassador to Israel, stressed last night that the Arabs want the U.S. to be a mediator in the Arab-Israel conflict because they know the U.S. is a close friend of Israel.

"Neither side really wants the U.S. to be neutral and we are anything but neutral," Lewis told some 2,000 persons at Baltimore's Convention Center as he received the 1983 Justice Louis D. Brandeis Award from the Baltimore district of the Zionist Organization of America. ZOA national president Alleck Resnick, who is from Baltimore presented the award at the local group's 40th annual donor dinner. Israel's Ambassador Meir Rosenne also participated in the dinner. He was introduced by Eugene Silberman, president of the Baltimore ZOA.

EAST GERMANY WOOING JEWS

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- The German Democratic Republic, which strongly backs the Arabs in their conflict with Israel and provides political and military support to the Palestine Liberation Organization, has shown small but possibly significant signs that it wants to improve its image in Israel and among Jews generally.

One example is the permission granted the only Yiddish theatrical troupe in East Germany -- composed of members of a single family -- to visit Israel. This is the first time such permission was granted. Another recent gesture was more symbolic than substantive but nevertheless demonstrated a positive attitude toward a local Jewish concern.

The East German authorities have always invited Israeli journalists to attend an annual memorial in Dresden to the victims of the notorious Kristallnacht 45 years ago. The journalists are given every facility to transmit their stories. Two months ago, an Israeli journalist reported from Eisleben, birthplace of Martin Luther, that the former synagogue there bore no memorial tablet identifying it as a one-time Jewish house of worship.

Within a few weeks, the authorities reversed an earlier decision and allowed the Jewish community of Halle, nearest to Eisleben, to place a memorial tablet on the building.

BEGIN TO END SELF-IMPOSED ISOLATION

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Sources close to former Premier Menachem Begin said today that he may soon end the self-imposed seclusion which has kept him out of the public eye for the last 100 days. They said he has shaved off his beard, indicating that the skin ailment which plagued him is improved, and that he is gradually emerging from the deep depression that set in following the death of his wife, Aliza, in November, 1982.

Begin has been a virtual recluse in the Prime Minister's residence since he announced his intention to resign last August. The sources said he is now preparing to move to a rented apartment in the Yeffe Neof suburb of Jerusalem, near the home of his son, Binyamin.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

JEWS AMONG THE LARGE NUMBER OF JOBLESS PROFESSIONALS, MANY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LIVES

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- Many Jews throughout the United States are among the "large number of professionals" who are jobless, "many for the first time in their lives," according to the president of the National Association of Jewish Vocational Services (NAJVS), which has monitored the economic and job situation in the United States for the past two years.

NAJVS president John Greenberg also reported "an ever-growing number of small businessmen facing bankruptcies" and "large numbers of young college graduates without any opportunity for employment," as well as "a growing number of young high school and college students who are beginning to feel that it does not pay to complete their education and who are becoming increasingly discouraged and vocationally confused."

Against the background of a steady improvement in the American economy, Greenberg said that the effects of unemployment, which he described as a "growing cancer," included the danger of middle-class families breaking up.

He reported also findings by the NAJVS of single-parent heads of households unable to earn "even a basic subsistence," and that many of the jobless Jews are "finding it increasingly difficult or impossible to make mortgage payments or to pay rent."

Middle Class Stability Is 'At Risk'

In summary, he declared, "the economic and social stability of the middle class," the category comprising most American Jewish families, reeling from the continuing blows of the recession and the impact of a shift of the American economy to a technologically-oriented base, is now clearly "at risk."

Greenberg reported the NAJVS findings in testimony before a Congressional field hearing of the Public Assistance and Unemployment Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee held in Atlanta during the 52nd General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations last month. The text of his testimony has now been released by the NAJVS office here.

Greenberg also told the Congressmen that the voluntary sector was contributing substantially toward solving the problems threatening the viability of the middle class but that the needs remained so great and so critical that it was beyond the resources of voluntary agencies to "achieve the sufficient" without "the full participation" of the federal government.

He reported that a recent national survey, completed by the NAJVS in cooperation with the C.J.F., disclosed that "well over 30,000 of this middle class group have registered for Jewish vocational services over the last 18 months," a minimum increase of 16 percent of the total current caseloads of these agencies."

More Jews Seeking Help

Greenberg said the study supported NAJVS findings "that Jews, like other Americans, are showing up in great numbers at our agencies for service." Specifically, he reported, the Jewish job agencies list "major increases in the 25-55 year age group, particularly the 45 and over segment, and in both college undergraduates and graduates."

Greenberg reported that jobless persons "who had been making \$20,000 to \$45,000" annually "were now registering for service and looking for work for the first time in their lives, and many more female heads of households are applying for assistance."

He declared that 60 percent of the 28 affiliated NAJVS agencies reported a decline of interest by young people concerning college-bound planning. Declaring that there was for him "a special irony" in that finding, he said he had been chairman of the Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation's educational loan service since 1969, "a clearing-house for college students in need of financial assistance."

Greenberg added that, despite the reported drop in interest in college attendance, the young Jews who do still want to go to college "are facing great difficulty." He reported that the loan service, which provides scholarships to those who are indigent or otherwise unable to meet tuition and other college costs, has received "a tremendous increase in requests from middle income (or former middle income) families in the \$20,000 to \$40,000 (annual) income range."

He said that, in that data, "is the tip of the iceberg -- the emergence of the 'new poor.' Because of the great demand, we are now able to fund only 75 percent of the requests" to the loan service.

Profound Economic Challenges

Beyond these immediate concerns, threatening as they are, effective ways must be found to "confront what is by our reckoning the most profound economic challenge since the change from an agricultural to an industrial base" in the American economy, Greenberg said.

He warned that the "high tech" revolution, rather than holding out "a cure for economic and employment ills," presents, on the contrary, new and difficult challenges.

Greenberg asserted that "most new jobs created during the 1980's and 1990's will not be in high technology nor will the new jobs in this field require a vast up-grading of skills." He said that what was more likely would be "the insertion of equipment of a high tech nature" which will "reduce skill requirements," meaning, he asserted, that "the middle range of the job spectrum will continue to shrink."

He said that the voluntary sector, both in the Jewish and non-Jewish communities, "are doing an absolutely outstanding job in addressing the critical human needs of this country." He added that he could cite "numerous programs in the voluntary sector which have proven to be effective" programs, which have "literally turned unemployed and unskilled individuals into above-minimum wage taxpayers."

The Need Is Great And Critical

But, Greenberg declared, "the need is so great and so critical, that while we in the voluntary sector are working to accomplish the necessary, we cannot ourselves achieve the sufficient. There are too many homeless and hungry, too many families in danger of falling apart, too many young people losing hope."

He said the federal government must be a "vital member of the team working with us to do what we in the private sector, both corporate and not-for-profit, are best able and trained to do." He urged "the full participation and leadership of government in the development of public policy which addresses the economic needs of the country and seeks particularly to deal with this growing cancer of unemployment as an essential element of the National Agenda."