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**ARENS: ISRAEL WILL STAY IN
LEBANON 'AS LONG AS REQUIRED'**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Arens declared today that Israel would stay in Lebanon "as long as required" to ensure the safety of its northern borders. He said the entire nation agreed "that if we get out tomorrow it will not be long" before Galilee is subjected to bombardment.

Arens reiterated the government's official policy with regard to Lebanon in an address to the Zionist General Council meeting here. He said it made no sense for Israel to proclaim that "we don't care if Syria stays" in Lebanon when the Lebanese government itself, the U.S. government and most Western governments are demanding that Syria pull its forces out of Lebanon.

The Defense Minister appeared to be replying to rumors that the departure of the Israel Defense Force from south Lebanon regardless of what the Syrians did was an option under consideration by the government. He stressed that Israel's sole aim was "the protection of our citizens" living in the north of the country. The IDF remains in Lebanon in order to establish the security arrangements that will protect the border region, he said.

Labor Accused Of 'Orwellian Doublespeak'

Arens accused the Labor opposition of "Orwellian doublespeak" when it said it favored Israel's unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon and also spoke of security. According to Arens, this was a contradiction of purpose. "We will not listen to counsels of despair. We have the stamina to stay (in Lebanon) as long as required to provide protection for the north," he said.

Informed sources here said later today that Israel expects the Lebanese army to deploy units south of Beirut shortly, along the coastal road leading to the IDF line on the Awali River. If that move is successfully executed -- under the terms of a security agreement under negotiation between the rival factions in Lebanon -- it would accelerate Israel's own withdrawal from Lebanon, the sources said.

Israel Trying To Woo The Shiites

Israel has been trying, with scant success, to establish friendly relations with Shiite military forces in south Lebanon. The objective is to ensure that the Palestine Liberation Organization will not return to the south after the IDF pulls out. Israel is hopeful that the Lebanese army would eventually be involved in such arrangements, as provided by the May 17, 1983 agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

But the sources conceded that relations between Israel and the Shiite Moslems who are the majority population in south Lebanon, have been strained of late. For that reason, the IDF intends to ease restrictions on the Awali River bridges to facilitate the movement of people and goods between south Lebanon and the rest of the country, once the Lebanese army deploys on the north bank of the river.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
LINK BETWEEN GERMAN-AMERICAN GROUP
AND HOLOCAUST REVISIONIST INSTITUTE
DISCLOSED BY THE WIESENTHAL CENTER**

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- The Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University announced today that it has discovered that the German-American National Political Action Committee (GANPAC), a Santa Monica-based organization promoting a new university named after Dr. Werner von Braun, the German rocket scientist who developed the V-2s for Nazi Germany, has links to the Institute for Historical Review (IHR), the California-based group which publishes numerous books and periodicals claiming that the Holocaust was a "Zionist hoax."

Dr. Charles Weber, a professor of German who is on the editorial board of the IHR, also serves on the steering committee for the proposed university. The Wiesenthal Center confirmed this information to Kelly Cooper, an NBC-TV investigative reporter for WAFF-TV in Huntsville, Alabama, who was looking into GANPAC claims of widespread German-American support for the university.

Claims Widespread Support

An October 5, 1983 press release issued by GANPAC announced plans to raise \$15 million for the university which would be situated on a 40-acre site in Huntsville, the community where many former Nazi scientists were brought to during the 1950's to assist the United States' fledgling rocket and space program, the Wiesenthal Center reported.

The press release asserted that the project had garnered financial support from leading German-American organizations, including the Steuben Society, and implied that the goals of the project would meet with the approval of West German leaders such as Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The release also asserted that the university would be "countering political philosophy of over 10,000 Marxist professors currently practicing in American colleges and universities." The Wiesenthal Center noted that the release failed to mention that von Braun's widow did not approve of the project.

Says Group Obscures Its Real Aims

Last November, Mayor Joe Davis of Huntsville was informed by Walt Wiesman, a former colleague of von Braun and a member of the local Chamber of Commerce who was on GANPAC's mailing list, that the organization which claimed on its letterhead that it is "representing the interests of the 52 million Americans of German descent, this nation's largest minority" was, in fact, obscuring its real aims.

Investigation of GANPAC showed that it was actually a group dedicated to whitewashing the crimes of the Nazi era, according to the Wiesenthal Center. Its recent newsletters labelled the television films, "Holocaust," "Winds of War," and "Blood and Honor" as anti-German hate films and called the Holocaust "an exaggeration."

Additional documents obtained by the Wiesenthal Center show that three major German-American cul-

tural groups -- the Steuben Society, the Catholic Society of America, and the German-American National Congress -- purported to have backed the proposed von Braun university were never asked for any support from GANPAC nor would they ever support such an undertaking.

Last month, Mayor Davis told the Huntsville Times, which had assigned its own investigative reporter to check out the proposed university venture, that the "stated plans might endanger the sound personal relationship and mutual trust that have persisted here among native citizens, German-Americans and residents from many other cultures for more than 30 years."

Denies Holocaust Took Place

Despite mounting local opposition, there is no indication at this point that GANPAC is scrapping its plan. Hans Schmidt, head of GANPAC and secretary-treasurer of the Wernher von Braun University Foundation, claimed last month in an interview with the Huntsville Times that the ideology promoted by his organization is "traditional ... somewhat right of center ... the same kind of thinking the forefathers of America had." Asked by the Times whether he believed that six million Jews died in the Holocaust, Schmidt replied: "No, a flat no."

SHARON FAILS IN BID FOR WZO-AGENCY POST By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Ariel Sharon failed today in his bid to be elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization-Jewish Agency aliyah department. In a dramatic secret ballot at the Zionist General Council meeting here 59 votes were cast against the former Defense Minister while 48 were cast in his favor. The wide margin surprised the pundits who earlier were predicting a neck-to-neck vote.

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the WZO executive, said it had been a "democratic session." He said there was no need for him to reiterate his statements made these past few days, namely, that Sharon was unsuitable for the aliyah department post, and noted that the post was being held open for Herut. (Dulzin, of the Liberal Party wing of Likud, runs the department temporarily.) "I hope Herut will nominate a candidate we can all agree on," he said.

Herut Hatzohar chairman Gideon Abramovitz, plainly bitter at the vote, said Dulzin's words were "a contradiction ... we have to put up someone who is going to satisfy somebody living in Los Angeles or wherever ... there is a witch-hunt against a minister of the government." This was a reference to the fact that Sharon serves as Minister Without Portfolio in the present Cabinet.

Broad Political Ramifications

Both Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens urged the Zionist General Council to endorse Sharon's candidacy. The Council's decision to flout their advice made the vote all the more significant in its broader political ramifications. Jerold Hoffberger, of Baltimore, chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, opposed Sharon's candidacy. While he praised the retired general as a military man, he asserted that he was not a person diaspora youth would follow.

Likud Knesset member Ehud Olmert told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, just hours before the vote: "They (Sharon's opponents) want to destroy him politically."

Sharon's rejection by the Council despite heavy pressure exerted by Shamir is a blow to the former Defense Minister's aspirations to make a political comeback. It is also a stinging blow to the prestige here and in the diaspora of Shamir himself.

Influential in the voting was the reported determination of Hoffberger to derail the Sharon candidacy even if it were approved by the Council. Hoffberger reportedly told Shamir in a phone conversation earlier this week that he opposed Sharon and that he would have the Agency's Board of Governors reject him. Without the Board's approval, Sharon could not have taken over the aliyah department post.

Labor Party activists were delighted with the result of the vote. Labor Party secretary Yehiel Leket declared: "Sharon did not succeed in winning rehabilitation from the Zionist movement ... This a great moral and democratic victory."

MIXED REACTIONS FROM JEWISH SPOKESMEN ON U.S.-VATICAN TIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Jewish spokesmen who have been involved in Vatican-Jewish relations offered different views today over the announcement yesterday in Washington and at the Vatican that full diplomatic relations were established between the U.S. and the Vatican for the first time in 117 years.

Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, said the action violated the constitutional principle of separation between church and state. But Dr. Marc Tanenbaum, director of the international relations department of the American Jewish Committee, and Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, hailed the U.S. action.

Siegman said that while the AJCongress shared the Reagan Administration's respect for the espousal by Pope John Paul II of human rights and social justice, "It is our position that formal diplomatic relations with the Vatican violates that (church-state separation) constitutional principle."

Sees No Violation Of First Amendment

Tanenbaum, former director of the AJCommittee's interreligious affairs department, a post in which he was deeply associated with Vatican-Jewish relations, declared that from the viewpoint of church-state separation, "many Protestants joined by the American Jewish Congress view the Holy See as an integral part of the Roman Catholic Church" and "thus the United States diplomatic recognition of the Vatican is perceived as a violation of the First Amendment."

However, Tanenbaum added, "there is a substantial body of scholarship" which makes a case "that both historically and theologically, the Holy See is a 'secular' arm of the Vatican conceived as a sovereign state."

After the announcement of U.S.-Vatican relations, both White House spokesman Larry Speakes and State Department spokesman John Hughes said there was no violation of church-state separation because the U.S. is recognizing the Holy See, rather than the Catholic Church itself. Administration officials, in defending the action noted that 106 other countries have full diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

Tanenbaum also said that another factor in favor of the new ties "is the decline of anti-Catholicism in America, especially since Vatican Council II which strongly committed world Catholics to religious liberty and improved Catholic-Jewish relations."

Tanenbaum used the news of the event to declare that "with this breakthrough" Jews have the right "to

expect now another breakthrough -- the Vatican's establishing of diplomatic relations with the sovereign state of Israel."

Schneider called the agreement "a welcome and positive step." He said the exchange of Ambassadors between the U.S. and the Vatican "carries with it the potential for more effective cooperation on issues of deep concern to the American people and to all mankind -- issues of poverty, hunger, interfaith harmony, religious freedom and world peace."

FELONY CHARGES DISMISSED AGAINST TWO JEWISH YOUTHS

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- A spokesperson for the Brooklyn District Attorney's office confirmed today that charges of felony counts had been dropped against two Brooklyn Jewish youths who, as members of a citizens patrol, seized three youths who had forced their way into a synagogue in the Midwood section of Brooklyn on Halloween night. The three youths, in turn, accused the two patrol members of kidnapping and physically assaulting them.

Samuel Abady, a Manhattan attorney, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "instead of charging the three youths with robbery, criminal trespass and criminal mischief" for breaking into the Beth Torah Congregation, "the police chose instead to charge my clients," Steven Rombom, 24, and Ronald Kahn, 30, "with felony counts carrying up to seven years in prison."

Abady gave the names of the three trespassers as Michael Figueroa, 18, Dennis Kennen, 16, and Kenneth Parenti, 14, all of Brooklyn.

Abady asserted that one of the three apprehended youths had recently been tried on felony charges and that the mother of another of the trio had herself complained about her son's criminal activities.

The attorney said he had become involved in the case at the request of a third party and, after making his own investigation of witnesses, agreed to serve as defense attorney for Rombom and Kahn. He said the police alleged that the trio had been kidnapped in front of the Midwood synagogue when they had, he asserted, entered the synagogue vestibule.

Abady said one of the trio had been wearing "a Hasidische hat which had obviously been robbed from a religious Jew at an earlier time."

Suspected Of Previous Assaults On Jews

Abady said he had learned that "at least two of the youths were suspected of assaults on Jews in the past" and that it was also his belief that "these youths burst into the synagogue for the purpose of harassing members of the congregation who were rehearsing a play that evening."

Abady told the JTA that, in response to the complaints of the three youths, Rombom and Kahn were arrested. He said he appeared in court with them and defeated an attempt by the District Attorney's lawyers to have the two Jewish youths held on \$10,000 bail each. He said the judge agreed, after Abady testified on their behalf, to release them on their own recognizance.

Subsequently, he recounted, after "intense and protracted negotiations, at the highest levels of the District Attorney's office, it became clear there was no real case" against Rombom and Kahn. Abady said that the District Attorney's office "dismissed

the case with an admission, on the record in court, that they could not prove their case at trial."

Asked by the JTA for comment, the D.A. spokesperson said that Susan Whitehead, an assistant district attorney, had said in court that "after an intensive investigation it was determined that, if we took this case to trial, we cannot prove the charges beyond a reasonable doubt and the District Attorney's office therefore moved to have the case" against Rombom and Kahn "dismissed." The action took place before Justice Margaret Coemmerer in Brooklyn Criminal Court. She dismissed the charges on December 7.

The D.A. spokesperson said the office would have no further comment on any of the other Abady statements.

Background Of The Citizens Patrol

Abady told the JTA that the civilian patrol had been formed in response to the "frustration" of Jewish communities in Brooklyn that Jews were not getting sufficient protection against assaults, property destruction and desecration of Jewish holy places.

He said the patrol was organized shortly before Halloween because that holiday has become in recent years a period of heightened anti-Semitic actions.

Abady said the patrol, led by Rombom, had about 70 members who patrolled high risk areas in Jewish sections of Brooklyn. He said the patrol had been endorsed by responsible Jewish community leaders and clergy. He described the patrol as an ad hoc unit organized explicitly in response to the upsurge of anti-Semitic incidents occurring each Halloween.

ISRAEL CONCERNED OVER GERMANY'S INTENTION TO SELL ARMS TO ARABS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- Israel's profound concern over West Germany's intention to sell sophisticated weaponry to Arab countries still in a state of war with Israel, was stressed by Defense Minister Moshe Arens in his address to the Zionist General Council meeting here today.

The pending arms deal between Bonn and Saudi Arabia is "a source of great concern to us," Arens said. It includes "very advanced arms" such as West Germany's Leopard Mark II tank, considered by military experts to be the best in the world, armored personnel carriers and anti-aircraft systems, Arens said.

"We are definitely and completely opposed to this," Arens said. He called on American Jewry to "demonstrate our opposition and your opposition." He maintained that it was "inconceivable" that Germany should contemplate selling arms to a country avowedly at war with Israel.

The arms sales issue is expected to figure high on the agenda of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's talks with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other Israeli officials when the West German leader visits Israel later this month. Bonn has made no secret of its intentions to sell arms to Saudi Arabia but German sources have said privately that the Leopard tank is not included.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Beth Hatefutsot, the prestigious Museum of the Diaspora located on the Tel Aviv University campus, may have to close by the end of this month unless the Treasury withdraws its decision to withhold the monthly government allocation of over 10 million shekels (\$100,000) which covers some 40 percent of the museum's operational expenses.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA THE JEWS OF SOUTH FLORIDA By Arnold Ages

(Part Two Of A Three Part Series)

MIAMI BEACH, Jan. 11 (JTA) -- There are, of course, two separate Jewish communities in Miami Beach -- the permanent population and the transient one. The latter can be further subdivided into two categories: the first, Jewish in name only; and the second, for whom Jewishness is an essential expression of their personality.

The kosher hotel strip along Collins Avenue which begins around 12th Street and which ends at 43rd Street with Waldman's Hotel has as its *raison d'être*, servicing the needs of observant Jews who maintain rigorous standards of *kashruth*.

Sam Waldman, the original owner of the hotel which bears his name, knows a great deal about the development of the Miami Beach area: his family has been involved for more than four decades in the hotel business.

Blames Local Press For Tourism Decline

He acknowledges that there has been a significant drop in tourism, both Jewish and general. Waldman sees the prestigious local daily newspaper, the *Miami Herald*, as one of the agents chiefly responsible for the decline. The paper, he indicates, has consistently highlighted violent crime in the Miami area and as a consequence has fed the image of a city in the grip of a crime wave.

Waldman compares the *Herald's* posture with regard to crime reporting, to a self-destruction exercise in as-much as the newspaper itself is bound to suffer from its "overkill."

(It is interesting to note that in the week during which the conversation with Waldman took place, the *Miami Herald* featured, among its myriad crime reports, an item about two Jewish women being accosted by a purse snatcher in the foyer of Beth Israel Synagogue on 41st Street.)

Waldman is not sanguine about the prospects for an upsurge in the tourist business. He does not, for example, believe that legalized gambling will provide any solutions to the paucity of visitors. The example of Atlantic City, N.J. does not persuade him.

"In fact, studies of the effects of gambling there show that there are few benefits to the general population when gambling is legalized. Only a few benefits from the industry," Waldman observed.

Attraction For Jewish Tourists

The observant Jews who come to Miami Beach do not, of course, need the inducement of blackjack to justify their presence on the Beach. They come from Boro Park in Brooklyn, Montreal, Toronto and other northern points to enjoy kosher cuisine, relax in a congenial atmosphere and worship in a manner to which they are accustomed.

Sabbath services at the Crown Hotel are redolent of Eastern Europe. The *mehitzah* (curtain separating men and women) is five feet high and the *aliyot* are auctioned off to the highest bidder. Yiddish and Hebrew are as common as English among the worshippers.

Religious tradition plays a pervasive role in the life of the kosher hotel habitués. Most of the institutions that cater to the Orthodox provide not only services on a regular basis but also Friday evening *oneg Shabbats* where lecturers and journalists and rabbis hold forth on Biblical, religious and political issues.

Since travel is prohibited on the Sabbath, walking is a major pastime for the religiously observant. On Friday evenings the trajectory between the Saxony Hotel and Waldman's (a distance of about 3/4 of a mile) is covered by hundreds of people anxious to work off some of the calories absorbed during sumptuous dining.

Walking will become an even more pleasurable experience once the Miami Beach authorities complete the wooden promenade they are constructing on the beach between the Fontainebleau Hotel and 22nd St.

The promenade, when illuminated, will permit walkers to enjoy the ocean air--something denied to them by the inhospitable darkness of the beach area at night. There is one problem with regard to the new promenade: it is only about 10 feet wide and will therefore only accommodate a few people at a time. The second problem with the walkway is that it has been built too close to the street, thereby obstructing the view of the ocean from passersby on Collins Avenue.

Potpourri Of Cultural Events

Miami Beach visitors will have much to do whether or not they choose to tread the wooden floor of the promenade. Jewish tourists in particular will find a potpourri of cultural and entertainment events which await their selection. In early 1984 the Fontainebleau, the Beach's premier hotel, will be featuring some top Israeli talent. Anthony Newley and Rosemary Clooney are also slated for the Fontainebleau's night clubs.

Perhaps the outstanding Jewish attraction in Miami Beach in 1984 will be "The Precious Legacy," the well known collection of Judaica from Czechoslovakia assembled by the Nazis and deposited by them in Prague for a "future museum of the Jewish race."

After years of negotiating with the Czechs, American museumologists persuaded Prague to send the display abroad. Miami Beach will be featuring the various objets d'art at the Bass Museum which is off Collins Avenue near 22nd Street.

Viewing the artifacts from a civilization which has disappeared will undoubtedly be an instructive if somewhat melancholy experience.

Since the Beach area is supposed to provide diversification, it might be a useful experience to try a new Israeli-style night club which the Saxony Hotel has just opened up. The club, situated on the "observatory" floor (16th), tries to convey an easy-going ambience where drinks and some light entertainment are available. The Saxony still has to iron out a few wrinkles with regard to timing and format.

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

LONDON (JTA) -- Yaakov Morris, a Belfast-born Israeli diplomat, is to take up his post here this week as minister for public affairs at the Israel Embassy. One of Israel's most colorful and articulate publicists, Morris previously served as Ambassador in New Zealand and as Consul General in India. Now in his mid-sixties, he was a member of the Hashomer Hatzair movement and emigrated to Israel shortly after the country's independence. The present Israeli Ambassador, Yehuda Avner, and press counselor, Yaakov Keynan, are both British-born and Morris's arrival will reinforce their efforts to boost Israel's flagging popularity, especially in the Labor and trade union movements, with whom Morris has many contacts.