

TURMOIL IN LEBANON SEEN AS DIMMING PROSPECTS THAT GEMAYEL CAN SURVIVE THE LATEST CRISIS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA) — The new turmoil in Lebanon, capped by the resignation of Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan's Cabinet today, have dimmed the prospects that President Amin Gemayel can survive the crisis, political sources here said today.

But government sources maintained that even if Gemayel relinquishes or is removed from the Presidency, Israel can make desirable security arrangements in south Lebanon to protect its northern borders. The Israelis are reportedly continuing to work with local forces in the south which could be capable of assuming security responsibility in the area, possibly with only a limited Israel Defense Force presence.

It was with the Gemayel regime that Israel finally concluded a withdrawal and security agreement signed last May 17, but never ratified by the Lebanese government. The accord, which fell far short of the peace treaty Israel had been seeking was reached, after many months of negotiations, through the direct intervention of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

While both Israel and the Reagan Administration stand by it, sources here say the U.S. is disenchanted with the situation in Lebanon because of Gemayel's failure to include the Druze and other opposition elements in his government.

Israel Does Not Intend To Intervene

The Israelis are watching the situation in Lebanon closely but have no intention to intervene, the sources stressed today. Israel has refrained for some time from making any promises to the Gemayel regime, as it had done in the past when Gemayel seemed to have the ability to effect national reconciliation, a strong central government and a viable Lebanese army.

The resignation of Wazzan, a Sunni Moslem, was seen as a move to pave the way for the establishment of a more representative Cabinet.

40,000 PEOPLE COMMEMORATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF GRENADE MURDER OF PEACE NOW ACTIVIST GRUNZWEIG
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA) — An estimated 40,000 people marched and massed in the heart of Jerusalem last night to commemorate the first anniversary of the grenade murder of Peace Now activist Emil Grunzweig. There were no incidents.

The demonstration, organized by the Peace Now movement, was the largest ever held in the city. In addition to demands that the killers of Grunzweig be brought to justice, the demonstrators called for the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and urged the Likud government to step down.

Grunzweig, a 33-year-old teacher, was killed when a hand grenade of Israel army issue was thrown into a crowd of Peace Now demonstrators on the night of February 10, 1983, outside the Prime Minister's Office.

The Cabinet was meeting in special session inside and the demonstrators were demanding that it implement in full the Kahan Commission's recommendations

that senior political and military leaders found indirectly responsible for the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps massacres the previous September resign or be retired. Most prominent among them was then Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

Last night the marchers bearing torches formed a human chain along Ben Yehuda Street, one of Jerusalem's main thoroughfares and ascended the hill to the government offices. It was the same route followed by the Peace Now group, Grunzweig among them, almost a year ago. Last night was the first anniversary of his death according to the Hebrew calendar.

Wams Of Terrorism In Jewish Community

The memorial rally began with a minute of silence for Grunzweig. Speakers who addressed the throng included Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem. He said the grenade which killed Grunzweig was a warning that terrorism had infiltrated the Jewish community and was being used by Jews against Jews. The warning was not heeded and terror continued and was even strengthened, the Mayor said.

He was referring, apparently, to the recent grenade and bomb incidents at Christian and Moslem religious shrines — most recently on the Temple Mount — attributed to Jewish extremists. "Either we control terror or terror will control us," Kollek warned.

Tzaly Reshef, a Peace Now leader, declared that the memory of Grunzweig can be honored by continuing in his path and demanding that those in responsible positions be held accountable for their actions. He cited mounting demands for a withdrawal from Lebanon. "More and more people support Peace Now, fewer and fewer are willing to support a failing policy such as that of the government," he said.

Shaul Friedlander, a professor at the Hebrew University, aimed his remarks at the Likud government. "You have been here too long for the too little good you have done. In the name of God, go," he demanded. Yitzhak Ben Aharon, a veteran Laborite, accused the Likud government of upsetting the norms which had prevailed in Israeli society for 40 years. It is high time for a change, he said.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
THE JEWS OF ARGENTINA**
By David Landau

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 5 (JTA) — The Jewish community of Argentina, as a vital and long-established part of this vast country with its troubled recent history, is sharing in the current psycho-political upheaval that is engulfing Argentina with the return of democracy after seven years of military dictatorship.

Like the rest of the nation, the Jews of Argentina follow avidly and with strong feelings of relief, tempered with national shame, the day after day discoveries of new mass graves in remote areas, yielding their gruesome contents of tortured and murdered bodies.

Informed observers estimate that a solid majority of the Jews voted for Raul Alfonsín, the Radical Party leader who swept to victory in the Presidential election on October 30, 1983. Many Jews here have always felt suspicious and fearful of Peronism.

(An important young Jewish Peronist member of Congress, Diego Guelar, warned this reporter, however,

not to believe everything one is told by anti-Peronist Jews. He contended that the Peronist movement as such was never anti-Semitic, though he conceded that on its ultraright fringe there has always been a neo-fascist element.)

In a key respect, though, the Jewish community here is stirred and troubled even more than the general public over the brief and bloody history of the military dictatorship.

Profound Heart Searching

There is profound and at times acrimonious heart-searching within the community over the question of whether the leadership did enough to protect and save young Jews persecuted by the military.

While statistics are still sketchy and investigations and revelations continue, it is already quite clear that the Jews suffered -- proportionately to their strength in the population -- considerably more than other sections. There were perhaps four times as many "disappeared persons" among the Jews than among the general population.

Most Jewish observers here do not believe that people were kidnapped and killed by government thugs merely because they were Jews (though there are some Jewish and Israeli observers who are not convinced of this). But the evidence clearly shows that Jews, once incarcerated, were worse treated, more brutally tortured, than other prisoners.

And if one was Jewish, says Sofia Eppelbaum, mother of three disappeared ones, the chances of ever getting out alive were certainly slimmer.

Community Leadership Faulted

Mrs. Eppelbaum, a leading figure in the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo group, is among those Jews here who fault the community leadership for inaction during the military dictatorship. She accuses the then president of the DAIA, the representative body of Argentine Jewry, of urging Jewish organizations abroad to mute the tone of their protests and not to intervene overtly over the Jewish disappeared ones issue.

Former Argentine newspaper publisher Jacobo Timerman, in his book, "Prisoner Without A Name, Cell Without A Number," also faults then-DAIA president Nehemias Reznizky and the Jewish establishment here, at one point flinging out the dreadful accusation, "Judenrat."

(The Judenrats, or Councils of Jews, were set up by the Nazis in occupied Europe and they in effect helplessly assisted the Germans in the process of ghettoization and eventual extermination. There were some Councils that, vainly tried to resist the Germans.)

In the later years of the military dictatorship, the Jewish Movement for Human Rights was set up here, led by American-Argentine Rabbi Marshall Meyer and leftist newspaper editor Herman Schiller, as a counterweight to the establishment leadership, to press persistently and vociferously on the human rights issue.

Jewish Leader Denies Allegations

Reznizky, in an interview last week, vehemently and bitterly denied the allegations against him. He argued that the DAIA, at the helm of the community, had been more active than any other sectional group in the land on behalf of the missing persons and their anguished families.

Each month, he recalled, he himself would present a list of Jewish missing persons at the Ministry of Interior. "I didn't help much, but we kept at it.

No one could help much -- even the Vatican, even the French and Italian governments," he said.

Reznizky flatly and passionately denied that he had urged Jewish organizations in the United States and elsewhere to be silent or keep a low profile. On the contrary, he said, "Whenever I was asked I told the whole truth about the terrible situation of the Jews in Argentina and I urged everyone to do what they could."

Reznizky shows a warm and admiring letter to him, dated January 1977, from Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, director of the Latin American affairs department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, totally scotching the suspicion that arose then that Reznizky had been cowed into passivity by the arrest and subsequent release of his own son, Marcos.

Marcos was hauled off by 12 armed men from Reznizky's home in the dead of night. But Reznizky senior was able to intercede with the Interior Minister, General Harguindeguy, and secure his release after four days of brutal interrogation about Zionist plotting and international Jewish conspiracies.

"Yes, I know," he says, "that other people were not able to appeal to Harguindeguy. The minister knew this case would cause an uproar, but the minister told me that my son would be freed because he was not involved in subversion -- otherwise not even Harguindeguy would have helped." After the release, Reznizky immediately sent Marcos and his other two children to Israel. Marcos still lives there.

Reznizky insists that he and the DAIA continued after this episode as before, doggedly presenting their lists of missing persons, publicly fighting against neo-Nazi literature then pouring onto the market, and generally ensuring that Jewish life, religious and communal, continued to flourish in these trying conditions.

'Everyone Was Afraid'

A third and less subjective perspective on this poignant problem was offered to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by Jacobo Fiterman, now president of the Argentine Zionist Federation. Fiterman sympathizes with the Jewish human rights movement, but he does not dismiss or discount the efforts made by the DAIA during the bad years.

"We were afraid," he says candidly. "But in this, the Jews were no different from the rest of the country. Everyone was afraid."

Sub-Debate Over Israel's Role

Complicating the controversy is a sub-debate over the role of Israel. On the one hand, Israeli diplomats and other emissaries here were active discreetly in rescuing young Jews. Hundreds were quietly flown to Israel, and even now much of the story is untold and unknown.

On the other hand, the Israel government had -- and indeed still has -- a close arms-supply relationship with Argentina. During the junta period, the Argentine Air Force built up a large fleet of Israeli warplanes which proved themselves convincingly in the Malvinas (Falklands) war.

There are critics here, and in Israel, too, who believe it was morally reprehensible for Israel to supply a rightist regime, with a crude anti-Semitic tinge, with military hardware. But others contend that it was the close relationship between the two countries defense establishments that enabled Israel to act quietly to save at least some endangered young Jews.

CABINET AGREES ON STRONGER MEASURES TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- The Cabinet agreed unanimously today on stronger measures to maintain law and order in the occupied territories and immediately drew a skeptical response from Jewish settlers.

The "Guidelines for imposing law and order in Judea, Samaria and Gaza" make it clear that only "the security branches" will deal with and impose law and order in those territories and no others would be allowed to act. Anyone who violates that directive will be punished, the Cabinet resolution stated. This appeared to be an oblique warning that the government will not tolerate vigilanteism on the part of the Jewish settlers.

The guidelines also promised that harsher measures would be taken against anyone throwing stones or Molotov cocktails at Israeli military personnel or civilians, a warning aimed primarily at Arabs. Israeli security forces in the territories will be strengthened, the Cabinet said.

Spokesmen for Jewish settlements in the territories said there was nothing new in the Cabinet's decision. The question remains how it will be implemented in practice, they said. They wanted to know what measures will be taken to impose law and order and what means of self-defense the settlers will be allowed. They demanded that a definition of "self-defense" be incorporated in the guidelines. According to the settlers, existing directives on the use of fire arms by the settlers are unclear.

Karp Report To Be Published This Week

Meanwhile, the Karp report on the difficulties of imposing law on the Jewish settlements in the territories is scheduled to be published this Tuesday by the government.

The report, prepared by Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp, charged that Jewish settlers failed to cooperate in the prosecution of Jewish violators, that there was poor intelligence work, poor liaison between civil and military authorities in the territories and a general shortage of manpower to ensure law and order.

PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE SPONSORS 6-DAY MISSION TO ISRAEL AT THE INVITATION OF PREMIER SHAMIR

NEW YORK, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- The most representative group of American Jewish leaders ever to visit Israel together will leave New York Saturday night, February 11, on a six-day mission sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The presidents of 23 national Jewish organizations will be among the 72 men and women participating in the mission, which is being undertaken at the invitation of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir. The group will fly non-stop to and from New York via El Al jumbo jet, returning to New York on February 17.

Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference, will head the delegation of Jewish leaders, who will meet with key officials of the Israel government, the opposition Labor Party, Israel-based Zionist bodies and top American diplomatic personnel stationed in Israel. The delegates will be the guests at a dinner in the Knesset hosted by Shamir and will be briefed on Israel's security needs by Defense Minister Moshe Arens and top military officers.

Special emphasis will be given to Israel's economic situation, with briefings by Finance Minister Yitzhak Cohen-Orad, Economics Minister Yaacov Meridor, Energy Minister Yitzhak Modai, and Trade and Industry Minister Gideon Patt. Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem will also meet with the Conference of Presidents leaders, as will Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Party; the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis; and Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency executives.

In announcing the mission, Berman declared: "This visit to Israel comes at a crucial moment in the history of the Middle East and of U.S.-Israel relations. The military and economic agreements reached by Prime Minister Shamir and President Reagan have opened a new era that holds the promise of great future progress. At the same time, Israel faces deteriorating conditions in Lebanon and an economic situation that demands great sacrifices at home and strong efforts by Israel's friends to help the Jewish state move toward economic independence.

"These are some of the issues that will be on our agenda in the face-to-face talks that we expect to hold with our Israeli hosts. The full spectrum of American Jewish life, representing all shades of political opinion, will be included among our delegates."

SECTION OF AN EL AL PLANE TURNED INTO INTENSIVE CARE WARD FOR PARALYZED PASSENGER By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- The El Al airline transformed a 16-seat section of its passenger aircraft into a special intensive care ward for a paralyzed passenger on its flight to Johannesburg last week.

The passenger, William Frazer, a South African citizen who had worked for the Save the Children Fund in Lesotho, arrived in Israel from India two weeks ago but became paralyzed while here.

A South African expert who flew here to examine him decided that Frazer should be flown home for treatment. A South African doctor and nurse arrived in Israel last week with special equipment which was installed by El Al in a specially-cleared rear section of the aircraft. It included a respirator, electric monitors and large oxygen tanks.

The cost of the installation and transfer of the patient and his medical attendants is being borne by Frazer's health insurance policy.

KAHANE IDENTIFIED AS THE 'SPIRITUAL FATHER' OF TNT GROUP

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- A Hebrew University expert on terrorism identified Rabbi Meir Kahane as the "spiritual father" of a group that has claimed responsibility for the recent wave of bomb and grenade attacks and attempted attacks on Moslem and Christian religious sites in the Jerusalem area and on the West Bank.

But Prof. Ehud Sprinzak, of the political science faculty, does not believe Kahane is personally involved with the group which calls itself "Terror Against Terror" (TNT). He said on a radio interview over the weekend that the type of weapons and explosives used, all Israel army issue, led him to believe that the perpetrators were regular soldiers or reservists with military training, not Arab provocateurs as suggested in some circles. "I am not saying Rabbi Kahane is in any way involved personally," Sprinzak said. "All I can say is that he is their spiritual father, his is the ideology they want to put into practice."

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SEEKS TO DEPORT ALLEGED WAR CRIMINAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- The Justice Department said it will take legal action to deport an alleged Nazi war criminal who served in the Nazi-controlled Ukrainian police force during World War II and persecuted unarmed Jewish civilians.

The man, identified by the Department as George Theodorovich of Albany, N.Y., was stripped of his U.S. citizenship for failing to comply with a court order requiring him to give a deposition to government investigators. He failed to appear at the Department on December 1 to hand in a sworn statement. On December 15, U.S. District Court Judge Charles Richey ordered Theodorovich to appear for a deposition on December 28, but he failed to comply, according to the Justice Department.

The Department filed suit against Theodorovich in August 1983, claiming he obtained his American citizenship illegally by concealing from U.S. officials his Nazi connections.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS AT UN DECRY ANTI-SEMITISM IN WORLD BODY

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- In an unprecedented action, a joint statement by representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations from the major religious bodies at the United Nations, have expressed concern that attacks against Israel in the General Assembly have "degenerated into blatant anti-Semitism," the World Jewish Congress reported today.

The statement was approved last Thursday by the caucus known as "Religious NGO's" and was incorporated into the annual assessment of the work of the General Assembly issued by the group. According to the WJC representatives at that meeting, Elan Steinberg, the statement, though of a general nature, was intended to be an explicit repudiation of the anti-Semitic remarks of the Libyan representative to the General Assembly on December 6, 1983.

On that occasion, the Libyan Ambassador, Ali Treiki, said: "It is high time for the United Nations and the United States in particular to realize that the Jewish Zionists here in the United States attempt to destroy Americans. Look around New York. Who are the owners of pornographic film operations and houses? Is it not the Jews who are exploiting the American people and trying to debase them?"

In response to the Libyan outburst, Secretary-General-Javier Perez de Cuellar the following day issued a statement calling on delegates to refrain from such "unbecoming language."

Statement Of Concern

According to the WJC UN office, a meeting of all the representatives of Jewish NGO's was held three weeks ago and a decision was made to seek condemnation of the Libyan's diatribe from appropriate quarters. The initiative to approach the religious NGO's on the issue came from that meeting.

The statement of concern was incorporated in the report approved last Thursday entitled "Assessment of the 38th United Nations General Assembly of Religious Non-Governmental Organizations." The lengthy annual report is divided into disarmament questions, economic questions, and social and humanitarian questions. The statement of anti-Semitism is contained within the social and humanitarian section.

The final text, as approved Thursday, reads:

"One of the troubling developments at the 38th session of the General Assembly was the recurrence of manifestations of racist rhetoric. For example, certain attacks against Israel degenerated into blatant anti-Semitism. The Secretary-General appealed 'to all members to refrain from language unbecoming to serious international debate,' and we strongly endorse his appeal."

FIRE GUTS HAARETZ OFFICES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- Fire gutted the basement of the Haaretz newspaper's editorial offices and printing presses here last night. Police and fire fighters said the blaze appeared to have been set by an arsonist, but they have not yet completed their investigation. The fire destroyed most of the paper's newsprint stocks stored in the basement.

Haaretz management said most of the damage was due to the large amount of water poured onto the blaze. The water and fire together destroyed the electric wiring, putting the paper's communications equipment out of commission. The paper published a smaller edition this morning, printing it on another press borrowed from a nearby weekly newspaper. A similar fire was set by arsonists at the Haaretz plant in 1976.

2 KILLED, 11 INJURED IN HOTEL FIRE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- Two persons were killed and 11 were injured in a fire that swept through the top two floors of a five-story luxury hotel on the slopes of the Dead Sea. Four other persons were at first reported missing, but they had apparently checked out earlier. The Tourism Ministry has appointed a commission to investigate the cause of the fire.

The blaze broke out this morning on the upper floors of the Moriah Hotel. Fifteen persons who sought shelter on the roof soon found themselves trapped by the fire. Army helicopters sent to rescue them gave up their efforts when it was found that the downdraft of the copters' rotors was only fanning the flames. The 15 persons were finally taken off the roof by cranes rushed up from the nearby Dead Sea potash works.

It took some six hours for fire fighters to bring the fire under control. Their efforts were hampered by strong winds. According to police, the hotel had been full of Israeli and foreign tourists, but most of them left last night. The 11 injured were taken to hospitals in Jerusalem and Beersheba by army helicopters.

HOOPSTERS APPEAL REJECTED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court has rejected an appeal by two American basketball players that they be recognized as Israeli citizens. The two, who are not Jewish, married Israeli women in wedding ceremonies in Cyprus in an effort to qualify to play in league basketball games in Israel. The court refused to recognize a change in their status and ordered them to pay 200,000 Shekels in court costs.

Over the years, numerous non-Jewish athletes from the United States have undergone marriages of convenience or quickie conversions to attain Israeli citizenship to qualify for basketball teams. Frequently, managers of teams have accepted these players, despite strenuous objections by the rabbinate.