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BETHLEHEM MAYOR URGES ARAB COUNTRIES TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND ALLOW THE FORMATION OF A JORDANIAN-PLO DELEGATION TO HOLD TALKS WITH ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 29 (JTA) — Elias Freij, the Mayor of Bethlehem, urged Arab countries today to recognize Israel and allow the formation of a Jordanian-Palestine Liberation Organization delegation to negotiate with Israel.

But Freij, in an appearance at the American Enterprise Institute, said that unless Israel permits the 150-200 delegates from the West Bank and Gaza to attend a meeting of the Palestine National Council, the Council will never endorse the PLO joining such negotiations.

King Hussein of Jordan cited the failure of the Reagan Administration to pressure Israel to allow the West Bank and Gaza delegates to attend the meeting as one of the reasons for his refusal to enter negotiations with Israel under American auspices.

Freij, who met with Secretary of State George Shultz earlier this week, repeated his often stated position that Israel and the Palestinian Arabs "are destined to live together; whether we like each other, whether we hate each other."

Says Israel Is Creating 'Facts'

He charged that Israel was creating "facts" on the West Bank and Gaza through its bulldozers by building settlements. He said the situation within three years "will become irreversible."

"The more we wait, the more we lose," the Bethlehem Mayor said. "Time is working against the interests of the Palestinian Arabs." He charged that the "Israel government intends to completely annex the West Bank and Gaza."

Freij said the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza "would like the Arab governments to allow the Palestinian people, the PLO and Jordan to reach an agreement and to let us find a political solution through direct talks with Israel."

Scoffs At Arab Diatribes Against Israel

He scoffed at Arab radio and television diatribes against Israel. "Israel will not withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza unless the Arabs offer to recognize Israel and then sit with Israel around the table and negotiate," he said. Freij said that such a position is needed to "convince" both Israel and the U.S. of the Arabs' willingness to make peace.

A supporter of President Reagan's September 1, 1982 initiative, Freij said the U.S. has lost "credibility" because it has refused to prevent Israel from building settlements on the West Bank and Gaza and instead continued to provide Israel with aid.

Criticizes Mondale's Statement

Freij charged that former Vice President Walter Mondale, who is seeking the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination, "abused" the Palestinian

people by his statement yesterday that he was opposed to a Palestinian homeland. (See separate story.)

"Would this honorable candidate give us a state in the U.S. where we can live then?" he asked. He suggested later that if Mondale becomes President he will then change his views because of the realities of the situation.

Says Arafat Has 'Overwhelming Support'

Freij said that what the Palestinians want is "a homeland, an identity, an address." Never using the term "Palestinian state", Freij said that such a homeland could be disarmed, would be "good neighbors" with Israel and would have open borders with Israel. He said it would also be closely tied to Jordan "but would run our own affairs."

To accomplish this, Freij maintained that the Palestinians look to the leadership of Yasir Arafat. "Arafat has overwhelming support in the West Bank and Gaza," he said. "He is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." He said that at recent meetings with Arafat and Hussein, they were urged to seek a "political and peaceful solution." He said this belief in the need for a peaceful solution is the "consensus" of the three million Palestinians who live on the West Bank, Gaza and in Jordan.

While envisaging peaceful relations with Israel, Freij did not see Israelis continuing to live on the West Bank and Gaza unless Palestinians were allowed to return to their pre-1948 homes in Israel.

Warns Against U.S. Embassy Move

Freij also warned that if the U.S. moves its Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, it would have "difficult results" for the U.S. throughout the Arab world and the Moslem world. He said the issue should be resolved as part of the Palestinian question. (Related story, P. 3.)

But if the U.S. acts unilaterally by moving its Embassy, Freij said it would mean that the Arab extremists will be seen as having been right in their claims that the U.S. accepts the annexation of East Jerusalem and the eventual annexation of the West Bank and Gaza. "Jerusalem is not a commodity to be used in electioneering," Freij stressed.

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS CROSS SWORDS ON MIDEAST, OTHER ISSUES

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) — The three Democratic Presidential hopefuls crossed swords last night, in a heated debate on their respective positions on arms control and foreign policy, but the discussion failed to elicit any new positions by the candidates on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East situation.

While former Vice President Walter Mondale affirmed that he opposes a Palestinian homeland, and Sen. Gary Hart of Colorado evaded taking a clear-cut position, the Rev. Jesse Jackson said he supported a Palestinian homeland that should be a "non-militarized state that allows the people, the Palestinian people, to engage in self-government and self-development."

The debate, the sixth between the three Presidential candidates was held at the Low Memorial Library at

Columbia University before some 200 persons and was moderated by Dan Rather of CBS News. It preceded the crucial Presidential primary in New York on April 3 and in Pennsylvania on April 10 where a total of 424 delegates are at stake.

Statements On A Palestinian Homeland

Asked by Rather if the Palestinians "are entitled to something that they would consider to be their homeland," Mondale responded: "No. No. No. I oppose a homeland ... because the Camp David accords, in my opinion, provides the only responsible resolution of this dispute and Israel is a signator and has agreed to negotiate. (King) Hussein (of Jordan) refuses to sit down."

Hart answered by noting that "the organized entity of the Palestinians, the PLO, has a solemn covenant to destroy the State of Israel. I think we can, in fact, achieve some resolution of the Palestinian issue, autonomy or whatever. But only after the other nations in the region are willing to abandon that commitment to destroy that one nation."

Jackson stated, "The Palestinians deserve a homeland just as other nations deserve a homeland. So long as we ignore that basic right and that basic quest we can only prepare for war in the Middle East as opposed to peace." He added, however, that "Israel deserves the right to security within internationally recognized boundaries."

The United States, Jackson continued, remains the only nation which can approach the various leaders in the Middle East and assemble them to discuss peace in the region. He called for the U.S. to "normalize our ties in the Arab world" and said that as long as the U.S. "leadership becomes weak-kneed in the face of that challenge, we'll not have peace in the Middle East."

Commitment To Camp David

Mondale reaffirmed his commitment to the Camp David accords, saying the agreement "provides among other things the parties will negotiate a solution to the Palestinian problem in all of its aspects." He said this begins with a strong strategic relationship with Israel and "involves not trying to pre-negotiate these agreements and above all, it requires that King Hussein show the courage of (the late Egyptian) President (Anwar) Sadat and sit down and negotiate."

Mondale asserted that while serving as Vice President in the Carter Administration he was "a central part of the negotiations" at Camp David between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations and added that former Premier Menachem Begin of Israel "credited me with being the spirit of Camp David."

Continuing, Mondale said there was much "hypocrisy" in the Middle East on the Palestinian issue where the Arab nations have sought to place the burden of solving the Palestinian question "on Israel's lap." He said the U.S. should not "impose a solution" of the Palestinian issue on Israel "in the absence of the willingness of Hussein and others representing their country to sit down...."

Mondale and Hart briefly exchanged verbal barbs on the Carter Administration decision in 1978 to sell advanced F-15 fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia. Hart voted against the sale while Mondale asserted last night that "I opposed (it) in private councils of the Carter Administration."

HERZOG: CAMP DAVID ACCORDS ARE A 'GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY' FOR PALESTINIANS
By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 29 (JTA) -- President Chaim

Herzog of Israel said here tonight that the Camp David accords present "a golden opportunity for the Palestinian Arabs for the first time in their history" to take their own fate into their hands.

"Sooner or later" they will, he said in an address to the annual dinner of the Anglo-Israel Association. He said he based his hope on the "growing sense of disenchantment" among Arab leaders on the West Bank and Gaza with both Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan.

Herzog, accompanied by his wife, Aura, arrived here Tuesday for a five-day visit as guests of the Anglo-Jewish community. In his speech tonight, he paid tribute to Israel's debt to Britain, noting that even at the most bitter moments in their struggle for independence against the British Mandate authorities in Palestine, Israelis never lost "the deepest innate respect for the principles and values of British civilization."

Critical Of Some British Mideast Stances

But the Israeli Chief of State was critical of some aspects of British policy in the Middle East. "There is at times a tendency to ignore the basic facts of life in the Middle East and an unwillingness to break away from traditional approaches," he said.

He suggested that many who deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict suffer from "a lack of perspective. Their whole picture is out of focus. The correct proportions are absent."

Herzog specifically cited a tendency to over-emphasize the Arab-Israeli conflict. If that conflict was resolved, the main centers of bloodshed, warfare and instability in the Moslem and Arab worlds would still persist, he said.

With respect to Camp David, Herzog said it would be tragic for the Arabs to allow that opportunity to slip away as they had with all previous opportunities. Had Jordan and the Palestinian Arabs already entered the autonomy negotiations, provided for by the Camp David agreements, "the Palestine Arabs would now have been living in a regime of full autonomy ... and we would by now have been in the phase of negotiations on the final status of the territories," he said.

Expected To Invite The Queen To Israel

The Israeli President will lunch with Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle next Monday. He is expected on the occasion, to invite the Queen to visit Israel and it is considered most likely that his official invitation will be accepted, at least in principle, even if no date is set.

The Queen presently is visiting Jordan and there has been comment in the media here that while Jordan is the third Arab country she has visited, she has never been to Israel despite the tradition of friendship between that country and Britain.

The omission is blamed by some on the traditionally pro-Arab bias of the Foreign Office. Because the Queen is a constitutional monarch, decisions on, and timing of, her overseas visits are made by the government which attunes them to its foreign policy.

The fact that no reigning British monarch has ever visited Israel does not sit well with the Anglo-Jewish community which has strong pro-monarchist sentiments.

MITTERRAND PROMISES THAT FRANCE WILL CONSIDER ISRAEL'S INTERESTS IN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- President Francois Mitterrand of France told a delegation of American Jewish leaders last night that there is no hostility toward Israel within the European Economic Community (EEC)

and promised that his country would take Israeli interests into consideration in assessing the economic impact of the EEC's expansion by the entry of Spain and Portugal.

The French President met with the Jewish leaders' delegation, headed by Edgar Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress, at the French Consulate General here. Information on the content of the meeting was given to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by a spokesman for WJC.

According to the spokesman, the Jewish leaders discussed with Mitterrand various issues, among them Soviet Jewry, anti-Semitism at the United Nations, the situation in Lebanon in the aftermath of the French troop withdrawal, anti-Semitic extremists in France and Europe, and the effort to extradite Nazi war criminal Walter Rautt from Chile.

The spokesman said the meeting between the dozen Jewish leaders and Mitterrand "was candid and revealing." He said the French President was "very open" and went so far as to speak of the various anti-Israel elements he must contend with both internally and externally, in shaping France's foreign policy. "In sum," the spokesman said, "Mitterrand made clear that France stood four-square behind Israel on matters relating to Israel's survival, but reserved the right to disagree on other issues."

The spokesman added that Mitterrand said he had spoken to Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel. He quoted the French leader as saying: "We love the people of Israel and respect the state."

Among the members of the delegation was Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

REAGAN INDICATES HE WOULD VETO LEGISLATION REQUIRING THE U.S. TO MOVE ITS EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM

WASHINGTON, March 29 (JTA) — President Reagan indicated that he would veto proposed Congressional legislation requiring that the United States move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a move he said would be "most unwise."

Reagan said the bill, introduced by Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D.-N.Y.), "should never had been made because if we are to have a negotiated peace that will end once and for all the hostility between the Arab world and Israel then that would be one of the things to be negotiated."

In an interview published today in The New York Times, Reagan said the U.S. "has no right to put itself in a position to trying to lean one way or the other" on matters such as Jerusalem and the future status of the occupied territories that he said must be solved by negotiations between the concerned parties.

Asked whether he would veto the proposed bill, Reagan said: "I am hoping I won't have to. But like the several previous Presidents before me, I think that it is a most unwise thing."

The proposal to move the Embassy location currently has more than 30 sponsors in the Senate and more than 200 in the House. Secretary of State George Shultz sent a letter to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy (R.-Ill.), saying the Administration opposed the move of the Embassy and expressed concern that it would cause a tide of anti-American sentiment throughout the Islamic world.

The Moynihan bill requires that the "United States Embassy be located in the city of Jerusalem."

4 PROMINENT POLISH AMERICANS URGE EFFORTS TO BRING TO JUSTICE WAR CRIMINALS LIVING IN THE U.S.

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) — Four prominent Polish Americans have urged U.S. Attorney General William French Smith to support continued efforts by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) to bring to justice Nazi war criminals residing in the United States.

A letter signed by Rev. Leonard Chrobot, of the Polish American Congress; Dr. Thaddeus Gromada, Secretary-General of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences; Jan Nowak, former director of the Polish Section, Radio Free Europe, and Rev. John Pawlikowski, Prof. at Catholic Theological Union, was made public today by the American Jewish Committee, which has joined with Polish-American groups in the formation of the Polish American-Jewish American Task Force.

The four identified themselves as "Polish ethnic leaders" who were "painfully aware of how the Nazi efforts brutalized millions of Jews, Poles and others."

In their letter to Smith, the four Polish Americans said that they "firmly support continued funding of this office at a level appropriate for the thorough examination of all pending and suspected cases" and urged that the Justice Department make "every effort to allay the fears of some in the ethnic communities that the OSI will extend its mandate beyond the search for Nazi war criminals and scrupulously protect the civil rights of all who might be charged."

NOTICE

Due to technical difficulties, the Bulletin could not be published Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. All the editions, however, will be published over the weekend and mailed out.

CUOMO LENDS SUPPORT TO YAD VASHEM

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) — Governor Mario Cuomo paid tribute to "the valor of those who resisted the Nazis against impossible odds" and to those "engaged in the sacred task of Remembrance," as he accepted the post of honorary chairman of the New York State Society for Yad Vashem in a recent meeting here.

The Governor said that without Remembrance "the follies and tragedies of history are in danger of being repeated." He lauded the accomplishments of those survivors "who came to this country with their bare hands but strong hearts and minds to help build a better American society."

Cuomo was presented with a replica of the plans by Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust and Remembrance Authority, to build "The Valley of the Destroyed Communities" on eight acres of land at Yad Vashem as a memorial to the 5,000 communities destroyed by the Nazis when they overran 22 countries in Europe.

Martin Heinfing, chairman of the New York State Society, who made the presentation, said his organization has set a goal of over \$1 million in support of the work of Yad Vashem in Israel to be raised over the next few years. Some of the funds to be raised, he said, are to be used in the restoration and micro-filming of some 50 million documents and clippings which expose the diabolical goals of the Nazis. The New York State Society for Yad Vashem is an affiliate of the American Society for Yad Vashem.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES DIASPORA JEWISH EDUCATION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 29 (JTA) -- About 40 to 45 percent of diaspora Jewish children aged three through 17 receive some form of Jewish education, either in day schools or in supplementary education institutions (Sunday school or evening classes).

This is the basic finding of a major scientific survey of diaspora Jewish education undertaken by the Hebrew University's Institute for Contemporary Jewry on behalf of the Joint Program for Jewish Education.

The survey is the first centrally organized census of Jewish schools ever undertaken on a global scale for a single period of time (1982) and using scientific techniques of data collection and processing.

The report, compiled by Prof. Allie Dubb, was submitted recently to the World Zionist Organization chairman Leon Dulzin in his capacity as head of the Joint Program. It covers the entire diaspora, though not the Soviet bloc countries, except Rumania and Hungary which were included. Dubb is the director of the Institute's Project for Jewish Educational Statistics.

A Pronounced Disparity

In absolute terms, the report refers to some 540,000 Jewish boys and girls in the diaspora attending 3,330 educational institutions. The report showed a pronounced disparity between the United States and the rest of the diaspora in terms of school attendance. The U.S. figure, 28 percent, is significantly lower than the overall diaspora average. In England, the figure is 47 percent; and in other countries the figures range from 67 to 100 percent.

These percentages are of Jewish children who receive Jewish education in some form. In the U.S., 72 percent of Jewish pupils enrolled in some institution of Jewish education, attend supplementary education institutions.

For the whole diaspora, the proportion of pupils enrolled in the first six grades of day school is 1.6 times higher than those enrolled in grades seven and up. This may be due, Dubb says, to a preference for public school secondary education or to the more limited availability of Jewish secondary schools because of cost or other reasons.

The dropout rate at Bar/Bat Mitzvah in supplementary schools is found to be even higher than the drop in attendance in the day schools between elementary and secondary levels. Fully 70 percent of supplementary school pupils quit after Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Another Key Finding

Another key finding was that in the entire diaspora, two-thirds of the day schools are Orthodox, ranging from ultra-religious through mainstream Orthodoxy to "traditional." The figure for North America is 63 percent and for the rest of the diaspora it is 69 percent, a two-thirds average.

There is a vast difference between North America and elsewhere, however, in the breakdown of supplementary schools. In North America, the Reform and Conservative movements had more supplementary schools than the Orthodox. In the U.S. the figures for supplementary schools are: Orthodox, 13 percent; Conservative, 43 percent; and Reform, 33 percent. "Other" and "unknown" affiliations account for 10 percent.

In the rest of the diaspora, nearly two-thirds of the supplementary schools are Orthodox; 11 percent are Reform (catering to some 20 percent of the pupils attending such schools); and 25 percent are classified as "other" and "unknown." There are no Conservative supplementary schools as such outside North America, nor indeed Conservative day schools. The day school breakdown outside North America is: Orthodox, 70 percent; Reform, 1.8 percent; and "other" and "unknown," 29 percent.

Cites Basis For Disparity

On the disparity between the Orthodox and the other branches of Judaism in terms of day schools in North America, Dubb writes: "One reason for the difference in distribution between the two types of schools in North America -- suggested by a preliminary examination of school sponsorship -- may be that the day schools are designed to serve the widest possible cross-section and therefore adopt a traditional or mainstream Orthodox orientation. On the other hand, supplementary schools are more closely associated with the synagogue, a large proportion of which are Conservative or Reform."

RIGA ACTIVIST CHARGED

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- Zakhar Zunshain, a Riga activist, has been charged with "defaming the Soviet State" under the Latvian Criminal Code, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today. If convicted, he faces up to three years in a labor camp. According to the Conference, the 33-year-old physicist is being held incommunicado.

Zunshain was arrested last December in Riga after attempting to demonstrate in front of the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow with three other Riga refuseniks, including his wife Tatyana, Aleksandr Umansky, and Leonid Balter. The latter two are among 20 activists who recently signed a petition to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet asking that they be allowed to emigrate to Israel.

The Zunshains, who had protested in a July 1983 petition to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet against the refusal of the authorities to allow them to emigrate to Israel, have been waiting since 1980 to do so.

FOUR ISRAELI SOLDIERS WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- Four Israeli soldiers were wounded by a land mine today while searching for terrorists near Rehav village in south Lebanon.

A military spokesman said the search was mounted after an explosive charge detonated at a roadside as an Israeli patrol passed by. The explosion caused no injuries but the search party sustained four casualties when one of the soldiers stepped on a mine. The search yielded five other explosive devices which were safely defused.

A hand grenade thrown at an Israel army patrol in Sidon today caused no casualties.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Israeli soldiers and Arab civilians were injured Thursday as unrest spread in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the eve of "Land Day" which the Palestinian population marks Friday. A hand grenade wounded three Israel soldiers slightly and injured seven local residents near the Jebeliya refugee camp on the outskirts of Gaza.