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SUSPECTS IN ATTEMPTED SABOTAGE OF ARAB BUSES ALLOWED TO SEE LAWYERS
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 10 (JTA) -- Several suspects in the attempted sabotage of Arab-owned buses met with their lawyers today for the first time since their arrest last month.

The meeting took place in a prison in the Russian Compound here. Three lawyers attended. The number of suspects was not given. They are the first of the 25 men linked to a Jewish underground terrorist group on the West Bank allowed to consult with legal counsel. The law allows suspects to be held incommunicado during the early stages of a criminal investigation.

The meeting between lawyers and suspects was ordered by the Supreme Court after an appeal from the family of one of the detainees. This followed heavy pressure from settler groups on the West Bank. But it also indicated that the first stage of the investigation may have ended.

News Blackout Continues

No information was released beyond the fact that lawyers and clients were meeting. The news blackout on the investigation remained in force. But the news media continued to report on various aspects of the case.

While there was no inkling what line the defense might take -- should the suspects indeed be indicted -- Voice of Israel Radio said today that the accused would admit planting time bombs in Arab-owned buses in East Jerusalem but would insist that their intention all along was that the bombs should be discovered before they exploded.

The suspects will claim their act was intended only as a warning to the government to change its policies which they perceive to be too "soft" on Palestinian Arabs in the occupied territories, Voice of Israel Radio said.

The newspaper Hadoshot reported today that a Lt. Col. from Kiryat Arba, the Gush Emunim stronghold adjacent to Hebron, organized the theft of weapons from an army base. The paper also reported that the police are in possession of the car used in the attack on the Islamic College in Hebron last July in which three Arab students were killed and 33 wounded. Maariv reported today that the arrest of five "spiritual leaders" of the Jewish underground is imminent.

The underground has been linked to the attack on the Islamic College and to the car bombing in June, 1980 which crippled Mayor Bassam Shaka of Nablus and Mayor Karin Khalaf of Ramallah, according to media reports.

Shamir Disassociates Himself From Neeman's Remarks

Today, Premier Yitzhak Shamir disassociated himself from the remarks of Science Minister Yuval Neeman that the attempted assassination of the two mayors four years ago had some "positive aspects." Neeman, leader of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya party, took the position that the attacks were justified because the mayors were pro-PLO agitators inciting violence against Israel.

His remarks created a furor and demands that he be removed from the Cabinet forthwith. Shamir's response was relatively mild. He said only that Neeman's views were contrary to his own.

But former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman joined Shinui MK Mordechai Virshubsky in urging Shamir to demand Neeman's resignation. Former President Yitzhak Navon said he could not understand how a Cabinet minister could make statements condoning acts of terror.

Neeman Modifies His Statement

Neeman repeated his remarks today, though somewhat modified. Speaking at a rally on the Golan Heights, he claimed there was a "major moral difference" between the attacks on the Islamic College where innocent people were killed and the attempted assassination of mayors Shaka and Khalaf.

He insisted, however, that he opposed individuals who took the law into their own hands. He dismissed the public outrage over his comments as proof that the media and the country's political leaders are "captives of cliches."

HERUT LIST FOR JULY ELECTIONS ASSURES SHARON AN INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN PARTY'S LEADERSHIP

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 10 (JTA) -- The order of candidates selected by the Herut Central Committee for the July 23 elections yesterday assured former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon of an influential role in the party's leadership forums but removed him as an immediate threat to his successor, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, political observers said today.

Sharon has frequently criticized Arens' policies in public and made no secret of his desire to have his old job back. He also mounted an unexpectedly strong challenge to the leadership of Premier Yitzhak Shamir last month.

Political prudence dictated that Sharon be granted a position of power in the party's top echelons which would prevent him from building a personal power base as an "ousted underdog," the observers noted.

This, precisely, was the outcome of the Central Committee's secret ballot which placed Deputy Premier David Levy second to Shamir, followed by Arens and then Sharon. Sharon is expected to hold fifth or sixth place on the combined Herut-Liberal Party list which will constitute the Likud ticket presented to the voters in July. Relatively few of his supporters among Herut's panel of candidates won safe spots.

By contrast, supporters of Levy did well. But observers saw it significant that the selection process placed Sharon immediately behind Arens and former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor immediately behind his successor, incumbent Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad. They suggested that this could be a warning that the performance of the incumbent ministers will be under scrutiny should Likud win the elections.

One surprise outcome of the Herut balloting was relegation of Communications Minister Mordechai Zipori to the 29th spot. He will sink even lower on the Herut-Liberal combined list and may be denied reelection to the Knesset. Transport Minister Haim Corfu was downgraded to 15th place and Deputy Minister of

Education and Culture Miriam Tassa-Glazer drew the 16th spot. Friends of Zippori claimed the minister was being "punished" for his independent positions, especially his criticism of the conduct of the Lebanon war.

Complaints By Young Generation And Old Guard

Both the Herut young generation and the old guard had cause for complaint after the Central Committee completed the list. Two promising newcomers, Cabinet secretary Dan Meridor and Eli Landau, often described as the "second generation of the Herut founders" were denied places that would guarantee their election to the Knesset.

The same was true for Herut veteran Eitan Livni who said the party list "rang down the curtain on the old fighting family (Irgun and the Stern group) who have now been cast aside."

This, perhaps, could not have been avoided, given the departure from political activity of former Premier Menachem Begin. Begin refused even to allow his name to be placed in an "honorary" last place on the election list, though it might have helped the party's election prospects.

Generally speaking, according to observers, Herut is now headed by men who, though committed to its ideology, are more pragmatic politicians than ideologues.

Labor Begins Election List Process

Meanwhile, the opposition Labor Party has only just begun the process of building its election list. Unlike Herut, which uses the secret ballot, this will be done by an appointments committee, the size and composition of which will be decided by the Labor Party's political bureau which is scheduled to meet later today.

There was some trouble on the far right today. Tzomet, the new party founded by former Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan, decided against running on a joint list with the ultra-nationalist Tehiya party. This posed a dilemma for Eitan who was just designated No. 2 man on the Tehiya list, following Science Minister Yuval Neeman.

ISRAEL STUDY GROUP OF NCCJ CRITICAL OF BAVARIAN PASSION PLAY

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- The Israel Study Group, sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, has declared its opposition to the 1984 Passion Play in Oberammergau, West Germany.

The group of 22 Christian scholars who study Judaism and the Jewish people has sent a letter to the mayor of the Bavarian village and the director of the Passion Play protesting the continuation of the structurally anti-Semitic drama.

"The play continues to use the tradition of dramatic anti-Judaism despite some attempts at revision," said Fr. John J. Kelly, spokesman for the group. "The Second Vatican Council denounced anti-Semitism and absolved Jews of any blame for the crucifixion of Jesus."

"We recognize that there have been some well-intentioned efforts made to revise the play, but those well-meaning modifications are undermined by the drama and the way the story develops. We ask that visitors to the play be aware of the anti-Semitic aspects of the presentation and voice their opposition to this play which Adolf Hitler praised in the 1930's."

This year marks the 350th anniversary of the play which begins this month and has been put on

every 10 years. More than 500,000 persons are expected to attend the performances which run four times a week through September.

In 1634 the people of Oberammergau vowed to present the Passion Play if relieved from the black plagues which had decimated their village. Miracle plays were popular in 17th century Europe and the play in Oberammergau has become an institution.

Hundreds of villagers -- actors, choir, orchestra and production -- are part of the six-hour presentation in an outdoor theater seating 5,000 people. The 1970 production was boycotted because of anti-Semitism in the presentation.

COURT RULES THAT THE SLOGAN 'JEWS OUT' IS ILLEGAL BUT SLOGAN 'TURKS OUT' IS NOT NECESSARILY SO

By David Kantor

BONN, May 10 (JTA) -- The Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe has ruled that the slogan "Juden Raus" (Jews Out) constitutes an incitement to racial discrimination that is punishable by law but the slogan "Turks Out" is not necessarily illegal. Both exhortations are favorites of neo-Nazi agitators.

The decision by the court, the Bundesgerichtshof, was taken in the case of a 30-year-old neo-Nazi who had appealed against his 26-month prison sentence by a lower court for various offenses including daubing walls with both of the slogans. The appeal succeeded when a higher court returned the case to the lower one for reconsideration.

The case was sent to the Karlsruhe court, the highest in the Federal Republic, which rules on constitutional issues. But it is the differentiation between incitement against Jews and incitement against Turks rather than the case itself that has drawn most attention. The West German media, including the State-owned television, has put sharp questions to the Karlsruhe judges, implying that they applied a double standard.

There are more than two million Turkish nationals living in West Germany, including several hundred thousand "guest workers" and their families. The Jewish population is about 30,000.

Differences Between The Two Slogans

The Constitutional Court stated that the persecution of Jews by the Nazis made it obvious that the slogan "Jews Out," accompanied by swastika daubings, is a clear call to violence and terrorist measures. This is not necessarily so with respect to "Turks Out," the court said, adding, however, that the slogan clearly implies that Turks, as foreigners, are being called on to leave the country.

But according to the court, there are no generally known incidents which would indicate beyond any doubt that the call is for violence and terror to oust aliens from the country. Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that problems involving the integration of the Turkish community in various parts of West Germany are more acute than those related to the tiny Jewish population.

A spokesman for the Karlsruhe court sought to minimize the impact of the ruling. He insisted to reporters that the court treated all manifestations of hatred against aliens as a grave offense.

CORRECTION

The May 9 Daily News Bulletin mistakenly reported that the Egyptian Ambassador to the United Nations, Ahmed Khalil, did not attend a reception marking Israel's 36th anniversary. He did attend.

8 JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS JOIN NATIONAL COALITION TO OPPOSE EQUAL ACCESS BILL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 10 (JTA) -- Eight Jewish organizations have joined a coalition of 22 national organizations to oppose a bill requiring public schools to allow students to meet voluntarily for religious purposes.

The measure, known as the equal access bill, introduced by Reps. Don Bunker (D. Wash.) and Carl Perkins (D. Ky.), chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, would deny federal funds to any secondary school which permits groups formed by students but prohibits any such group if it is for religious purposes, to meet on school grounds.

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill Jr. (D. Mass.), as a special favor to Perkins, has agreed to bring up the bill early next week under a special rule that permits no amendments and limits debate to 20 minutes for each side.

At a press conference at the Capitol today, members of the coalition charged that the bill, now in the House, would give its supporters everything they sought in the Constitutional amendment allowing prayer in public schools, which was rejected by the Senate earlier this year.

Compared To School Prayer Amendment

"Those who are supporting the bill can legitimately feel that it does what the school prayer amendment was designed to do," Norman Redlich, dean of the New York University School of Law and chairman of the American Jewish Congress' Commission on Law and Social Action, said.

Redlich charged that the proposed bill would allow cults, proselytizing groups and other religious groups, no matter how small, to go into schools and "proselytize and divide our young men and women, boys and girls."

Linda Tarr-Whelan, Director of Government Affairs of the National Education Association, said at today's press conference that public school administrators and teachers are concerned about the cut-off of federal funds provision since a small group could thus threaten the funding of programs needed by large numbers of students. She also noted that secondary school students in some states could be as young as 12 years of age.

Redlich said that the bill would take away the "discretion" from a high school administrator on what groups would be allowed in a school, which, he noted, is not a public forum but an educational institution which children are required to attend.

Danger Of Proposed Bill Cited

He said high schools would then become either a "London Hyde Park" type of place in which all groups, regardless of what they advocate, would be permitted, or an "intellectually barren desert" in which all groups would be banned in order to prevent religious groups. He said the proposed law would allow Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan and other hate groups to have an "additional First Amendment argument" to get into schools.

Pat Ryan, daughter of the late Rep. Leo Ryan (D. Calif.) who was killed several years ago while investigating the Jonestown cult in Guyana, said the bill would be used by every cult group to gain entry to the public schools.

Rabbi Joseph Glaser, executive vice president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), noted that he had been chairman of Religion

in American Life which sought to bring people back to the churches and synagogues. But, he said, the sponsors of the bill were "dumping the failure of the clergy and congregations to attract people to churches and synagogues" on the schools.

He said that religion belongs in the church and the synagogue and in the home and not in the school where it would divide students and make this country "into another Lebanon."

Rev. Charles Bergstrom, executive director of the Office of Government Affairs of the Lutheran Council, said the bill would "cheapen religion and undermine education."

Says Problems With Bill Will Be Corrected

Tarr-Whelan rejected the argument that the problems with the House bill would be straightened out in a conference session with the Senate. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio) has prevented a Senate version, which does not include the threat of a federal funding cut-off, from coming to the floor. Tarr-Whelan noted that all amendments to the House bill were rejected by Perkins' committee.

The members of the coalition opposed any bill and Redlich noted that any students who feel their rights have been violated can seek remedies in the courts.

Supporters of the bill were prompted to introduce it by federal court decisions prohibiting bible classes in public schools. But Redlich noted that this was only a small part of the proposed bill. He said it would allow outsiders to come into the schools to conduct religious services and prayer meetings.

The eight Jewish organizations in the coalition against the bill are: American Jewish Committee; American Jewish Congress; Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; B'nai B'rith International; B'nai B'rith Women; National Council of Jewish Women; National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council; and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The rest of the coalition is composed of educational, civil rights and religious groups and others, such as the National Coalition for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL).

IDF OFFICER NAMED SENIOR FELLOW AT WASHINGTON HERITAGE FOUNDATION

WASHINGTON, May 10 (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Amir Drori, who headed the Israel Defense Force Northern Command from 1981-83, has been named a Senior Fellow in foreign military affairs at the Heritage Foundation here.

During his nine months at the Washington think-tank, the 47-year-old Drori will write on small nations warfare and will participate in a number of Heritage Foundation programs, including its military assessment project.

Drori, a native of Tel Aviv, had a distinguished career as a commander of armored and infantry units of the IDF. It was marred when he was named in the Kahan Commission report of February, 1983 among the senior IDF officers cited for various degrees of culpability for not preventing the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps massacres by Christian Phalangists in West Beirut in September, 1982. In Drori's case, the rebuke was mild and no further action was recommended.

Drori served from 1977-78 as head of the operations branch of the IDF General Staff and is a former head of the training and doctrine branch of the General Staff. A graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, he studied archaeology and geography and is a member of the Israel Exploration Society and the Nature Preserve Society.

COLPA TO SEEK REHEARING ON COURT RULING THAT AN ORTHODOX JEW CAN'T WEAR A SKULLCAP WHILE ON DUTY AS A MILITARY OFFICER

By Ben Gall'6b

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- An official of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) said today that agency would seek a rehearing by the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals of its ruling Tuesday that an Orthodox Jew could not wear a skullcap while on duty as a military officer.

Dennis Rapps, executive director of COLPA, which has represented Captain S. Simcha Goldman since the Air Force banned Goldman from wearing a skullcap while on duty in July, 1981, said that if the appeals court refuses a rehearing, COLPA will probably seek a review of the case by the United States Supreme Court.

Goldman serves as a clinical psychologist at the Mental Health Clinic of the Air Force Regional Hospital at March Air Force Base in Riverside, Cal. The 3-0 circuit court ruling reversed a federal district court decision in Washington by Judge Aubrey Robinson who had held in April, 1982 that the Air Force had failed to show why it could not accommodate Capt. Goldman's request to wear a skullcap and enjoined the Air Force from interfering with that practice.

The appeals court acknowledged that Goldman had made a persuasive showing that he should be permitted to wear a skullcap, as he has throughout his military career. The court added that "the peculiar nature of the Air Force's interest in uniformity renders the strict enforcement of its regulation permissible."

"That interest lies in the enforcement of regulations, not for the sake of the regulations themselves, but for the sake of enforcement," the appeals court said in its ruling. But that court sent the case back to the lower court with instructions that the district court "should determine whether, in light of the difficulty of the issue and the good faith of the parties, equity requires that Goldman's military record be expunged of any negative materials related to the issues in this case."

Background of the Case

Between September 1, 1977 and May 8, 1981, Goldman wore a skullcap at all times, a practice required by Jewish Law, while on duty as a psychologist. At no time, his COLPA attorneys testified, was he told that wearing a head covering while in uniform was a problem.

On May 8, 1981, Goldman was informed by Col. Joseph Gregory, then the hospital commander at March base, that wearing a skullcap while in uniform violated an Air Force regulation on military uniforms. He was told to stop the practice or face a court martial. Goldman sought legal and religious advice and continued to wear the skullcap. He then received a Letter of Reprimand.

On July 2, Goldman filed suit in federal district court in Washington, challenging the regulation of first amendment grounds. The district court granted a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction on enforcement of the dress code regulation pending a full hearing.

At that hearing, the Air Force argued that strict observance of its regulations was necessary to preserve morale, lest other officers not excused from observing the admittedly arbitrary rules become resentful.

Judge Robinson discounted those arguments on grounds the Air Force did not present objective studies to verify its contention that exceptions for religious reasons would erode morale and obedience. He issued a permanent injunction barring the Air Force from refusing Goldman permission to continue wearing his skullcap and from punishing him for refusing to stop wearing it. It was that district court decision which the appeals court reversed.

Rapps said that the petition to the appeals court for the rehearing will be filed by Nathan Lewin of Washington, and David Butler, a COLPA attorney, who represented Goldman in earlier phases of the litigation.

FORMER FRENCH CABINET MINISTER IS URGING WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS TO TRANSFER THEIR EMBASSIES IN ISRAEL TO JERUSALEM

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, May 10 (JTA) -- Olivier Stirn, who was a Cabinet minister in the government of former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, is urging France and all Western European governments to transfer their embassies in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Stirn heads an opposition minority list, supported by a splinter faction comprising ecologists who are running for election to the Parliament of Europe on July 23. He said that once his faction is seated in the Parliament, he would "tirelessly press" for the move.

"Jerusalem must be recognized by all Western Europe as Israel's capital," he said. He did not expect any Arab opposition. He predicted that "An Arab Palestinian state will come into existence one of these days but such a development is not connected in any way with the future status of Jerusalem."

Neither the government nor the major opposition parties have commented on Stirn's proposal. Unofficial spokesmen said the former minister was making an open bid for Jewish votes. Election to the European Parliament is by proportional representation in each country, a system that favors the smaller parties.

Stirn returned recently from a visit to Israel sponsored by Siona, an organization of North African Jews. The group consisted of 47 members of the French Parliament representing all parties except the Communists. They toured Israel, the West Bank and the Lebanese border. They also met with Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Deputy Premier David Levy and Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Jean-Pierre Michel, Deputy President of the Parliamentary Legal Committee, who headed the group, said on his return that the deputies agreed unanimously "that all the religions enjoy equal rights in Jerusalem."

NEW YORK (JTA) -- "A Dictionary of the Jewish Christian Dialogue" -- a book designed to explain where common concepts in both faiths agree and differ -- is being distributed nationally by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The 215-page book, published by Paulist Press, is edited by Geoffrey Wigoder of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University and Rabbi Leon Klenicki, associate director of ADL's department of interfaith affairs.