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PERES PROMISES TO REMOVE TROOPS FROM LEBANON IF LABOR WINS; HE AND SHAMIR DEBATE ON FRENCH TV
By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 13 (JTA) -- Israeli Labor Party leader Shimon Peres said last night he would offer a definite timetable for the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon if he becomes Premier after the upcoming Knesset election.

The withdrawal "would take from three to six months" and could be a unilateral decision, Peres said in a debate on French television with his Likud opponent, Premier Yitzhak Shamir. He said his proposal has the approval of three former chiefs of staff and a former Minister of Defense.

Israel's presence in Lebanon could be replaced by a system of advanced warning stations and a mobile and flexible force stationed in northern Israel, Peres maintained.

Shamir Wants Arrangements First

But Shamir stressed that Israel would leave Lebanon only after it had reached a satisfactory agreement with the Lebanese government or the local authorities in south Lebanon. He said Israel was forced by circumstances and history into Lebanon. "We had no choice," he said. "Chasing the PLO gang from our northern border was a historic must."

Shamir and Peres did not meet face-to-face during the hour-long confrontation. Shamir was in his office in Jerusalem and Peres in the television studio. Both spoke in French. It was their first television debate for the July 23 elections.

The Premier avoided discussing in any detail the future of the West Bank. But, he stressed, that if Likud wins Israel will not annex Judea and Samaria. "One does not annex what already belongs to one," he said. He stressed that Likud would continue its settlement policy.

Peres: No New Settlements

Peres said a Labor government would stop creating new settlements in densely populated Arab areas, but would leave intact existing settlements.

Both condemned the Jewish terrorist organization recently uncovered in Israel. Shamir called it a "deviation" from Israeli policy and moral attitude.

The two carefully avoided elaborating an economic program to solve Israel's three digit inflation economy.

LABOR UNREST BECOMES CAMPAIGN ISSUE
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 13 (JTA) -- The surge of labor unrest sweeping Israel this week has triggered the first major pre-election battle between the government and the Labor opposition.

Likud has charged that the sudden series of work stoppages, strikes and threats of strikes to come was fomented by the Labor Party and Histadrut to embarrass the government and further injure the economy with elections less than two months away.

Labor spokesmen fiercely deny this and accuse the government of grossly mismanaging the economy and renegeing on promised improvements in wages and working conditions.

Today, elementary and junior high school teachers returned to their classrooms, ending a one-day strike after an all-night bargaining session with the Education Ministry. But the 60,000-member civil servants union announced this morning that it plans a work stoppage in two weeks.

Many On Strike

Still on strike are the staff of the Foreign Ministry; truck drivers; engineers and technicians at the atomic energy research facility; managerial personnel of the Broadcasting Authority; postal workers; telephone service engineers; and Transport Ministry personnel.

Labor disputes that could lead to strikes or work slowdowns are in full swing at the Israel Electric Corp. and among government-employed nurses, social workers, scientists and academicians; also at the Defense Ministry; the Dan bus cooperative which serves the Tel Aviv area and among public service lawyers.

The teachers strike, which affected about one million pupils from kindergarten to ninth grade, ended with claims of victory by both sides. The issue was implementation of agreements reached several years ago for higher pay, adjustment of school hours and autonomy for school districts.

Finance Minister Blames Alignment

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad charged today that "The strikes and labor unrest has been fomented by the Labor Alignment. They know full well the economy cannot pay for the extra wages demanded and Histadrut and Labor support for these demands is pure politicking."

But Cohen-Orgad himself was accused of indulging in "election economics." That charge was levelled by Emanuel Sharon who resigned Sunday as Director General of the Finance Ministry. The circumstances of his departure were said to reflect the view of many Treasury officials that the government is abandoning its austerity economic program to curry favor with the voters in the upcoming Knesset elections. A case in point was Cohen-Orgad's agreement to higher wages for the regular army and police at a time when the government claims to be fighting triple-digit inflation.

DE CUELLAR VISIT HELPS EASE ISRAELI-UN RELATIONS BUT NO CHANGE IN POSITIONS ON MIDEAST
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 13 (JTA) -- Israel's frequently strained relations with the United Nations may have been eased somewhat but there were no indications of a meeting of minds during the 48 hour visit here of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Although the talks between de Cuellar and Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other government officials were cordial, basic differences remain in their respective long term and short term approaches to the Middle East conflict. The Secretary General rejected a proposal by Shamir that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) be deployed as a buffer between the Israel Defense Force and the Syrian army which face each other in eastern Lebanon.

According to de Cuellar, such a move would further weaken Lebanese sovereignty and lead to partition of

country. Shamir, for his part, forcefully rejected the Secretary General's long standing proposal to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East under UN auspices. Israel objects most vehemently to any peace process that would include the Soviet Union and the Palestine Liberation Organization, as envisaged by de Cuellar.

Nevertheless, de Cuellar told the Israeli leaders that he would make an effort to improve Israel's relations with the UN and to end the anti-Israel campaign at UN forums. He was referring to Israel's complaint, conveyed to him on his arrival at Ben Gurion Airport yesterday by David Kimche Director General of the Foreign Ministry, that the world organization has often dealt with "issues concerning Israel and the region ... in a manner which we consider to have been unjust, to say the very least."

Kimche, in fact, informed the Secretary General immediately on his arrival that "there exists a sense of disappointment and disillusionment" in Israel over the UN role in the Middle East.

De Cuellar's stopover in Israel marked the end of his first Middle East tour since taking office. He visited Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan in that order. He said, on his arrival, that he hoped to achieve "something of benefit to Israel and the area" by his trip. "I earnestly hope that we may together be able to agree on some constructive, positive, just steps in order to improve the present situation in the area for the benefit of your country, for the benefit of the area, for the benefit of the world," he said.

Effort For Israeli Prisoners Promised

Meeting with President Chaim Herzog today, de Cuellar promised that the UN will continue to try to establish the fate of Israeli soldiers still missing in Lebanon. "I will make every effort in order to help them," he told reporters after leaving Herzog's residence. He said he would be in touch with the International Red Cross to learn whether the combined efforts of the IRC and the UN could help resolve the problem. He stressed, however, that in order to succeed, he had to act in a most discreet manner.

De Cuellar described his visits to five Arab countries and Israel as "preventive diplomacy." He said the UN wanted "to be prepared when the situation becomes much more difficult."

The situation in Lebanon was high on the agenda of de Cuellar's talks with Israeli leaders. Kimche urged him to use the influence of the UN to persuade the Arab countries, especially Lebanon, to enter into direct negotiations with Israel.

The Secretary General received a petition from representatives of 19 Arab refugee camps in the occupied territories urging him to oppose any cuts in welfare payments and employment services by the UN for the refugees.

MURDER CHARGE DROPPED AFTER SUSPECT IS FIRST TO ADMIT HE IS MEMBER OF JEWISH TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 13 (JTA) — A suspected member of a Jewish terrorist underground who was indicted for attempted murder, had the charges against him reduced today after confessing to membership in a terrorist organization.

The suspect, not identified, is the first of 27 defendants to admit to membership in a terrorist group. His case is the second in which plea bargaining resulted in reduced charges against an alleged member of the underground believed responsible for acts

of violence and planned acts of violence against Arabs on the West Bank and East Jerusalem. According to the prosecution, the confession will help prove that more than 20 other suspects facing trial were members of a terrorist underground. The defendant, by admitting to a lesser offense, faces a maximum penalty of five years in jail instead of the 20 year sentence he could have drawn if convicted of attempted murder. The attempt dated back to 1980 when suspected Jewish terrorists tried unsuccessfully to kill two members of the now outlawed Palestinian National Guidance Council — Dr. Ahd Natsche and Ibrahim Dakkak.

Last week, Noam Yinnon of Moshav Keshet on the Golan Heights, was sentenced by a Jerusalem district court to 18 months imprisonment. A second 18 month sentence was suspended. Yinnon, the first of the suspects to go to trial, received a light sentence as a consequence of plea bargaining in which charges of attempted murder were dropped in exchange for a confession to illegal possession and transportation of explosives. The explosives were intended to blow up Islamic shrines on the Temple Mount.

Meanwhile, two army officers, Maj. Shlomo Levytan and Capt. Ronni Gilla continued to deny charges of complicity in the June, 1980 car bombings that maimed Mayors Bassam Shaka of Nablus and Karin Khallaf of Ramallah and permanently blinded a Druze police sapper.

The existence of a Jewish terrorist underground, long suspected, was finally confirmed when security forces, acting on inside information, foiled a plan to blow up five Arab owned buses in East Jerusalem last April 27. The bombs planted in the buses were timed to detonate during the peak of rush hour on the Moslem sabbath when the vehicles would be passing through densely populated Arab neighborhoods. Had the plan succeeded, incalculable damage would have been done Israel's image abroad.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other leaders of the government and opposition promptly denounced the plot and the Jewish terrorists believed responsible. But as the investigation proceeded, linking the suspects with prominent figures in the West Bank settlement movement, militants of the Gush Emunim and other extremists hailed the defendants as heroes who were forced to act because the government failed to protect Jews against Arab terrorist acts.

One of the suspects was released from custody for six hours yesterday to attend the wedding of his sister at the Patriarchs Tomb in Hebron. The wedding became an enthusiastically rally for all of the suspects. Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, who performed the ceremony, praised the indicted men and proclaimed that the Land of Israel belongs to the Jews by the power of "the Patriarchs and Matriarchs buried here."

At the other end of the political spectrum, Prof. Ephraim Uhrbach, president of the Israel Academy of Sciences, accused the leaders of the government of indirect responsibility for the existence of Jewish terrorists because they created "an atmosphere of unbridled euphoria." Uhrbach, who is an Orthodox Jew, spoke at a meeting of Netivot Shalom, a religious peace group.

SOVIET EMIGRES SEES NO FUTURE FOR JEWS IN USSR

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 13 (JTA) — "Under present conditions, there is no future for Jews who wish to live as Jews to do so in the Soviet Union," Yuli Tartakovsky told a panel of Congressmen yesterday. He testified at hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Commit-

tee on protecting and promoting religious rights in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The hearings are related to a bill introduced in the Senate on June 7.

"For most Jews there are only two alternatives: to assimilate or to leave. Neither option seems possible at the present time," the 37-year-old credit analyst, now an American citizen, said while relating his harassment after filing an application for an exit visa from the Soviet Union.

Eight experts on regional religious issues, religious issues in specific countries, and law and practices of the Warsaw Pact states testified before the committee chaired by Sens. Charles Percy (R. Ill.) and Claiborne Pell (D. R.I.), who are co-sponsors of the bill.

In his opening remarks, Percy emphasized the need for regular summit conferences between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. "Certainly, I am confident that human rights, would be on the agenda at such summit meetings," Percy stated, "and President Reagan would make the case emphatically that the Soviet Union has an international commitment and a moral obligation to end its harassment of religious believers once and for all."

Korey Sees 'Crisis' For Jews

Dr. William Korey, director of International Policy Research of the B'nai B'rith International Policy Council, told the panel, "the plight of Soviet Jews has reached crisis proportions which warrant the urgent attention of the international community."

Korey said the most critical aspects of their plight are: anti-Semitism in the Soviet mass media; anti-Jewish discrimination in higher education and employment; the official drive against the study and teaching of the Hebrew language and Jewish history; the current attempt to sever links between Soviet Jews and their brethren abroad; and the virtual halting of Jewish emigration.

"Anti-Jewish discrimination in higher education is particularly disturbing for Soviet Jewish youth who now must envisage a future of severely limited opportunities," Korey stated. "Data on the admission of Jews to universities and post-graduate studies show an incredible 50 percent decline during the past decade."

"Samizdat information reveals Jewish applicants are given especially difficult oral examinations in order to weed them out. The inevitable result is a sharp drop in the number of Jews annually entering the scientific professions while the 'security' professions of diplomacy and the military are practically Judenrein," Korey said.

He added that "Jewish culture and tradition in the USSR have been subjected to crippling blows. It is supremely ironic that the USSR with some 2.5 million Jews has no means for the training of rabbis and has had to obtain half of its approximately half-dozen rabbis from Hungary where only 70,000 Jews reside. The current total number of Soviet rabbis together with the total number of synagogues—about 55 — is a tragic commentary upon a once-flourishing tradition," Korey stated.

To fill this vacuum, Jews have organized self-study groups to learn Hebrew and Jewish history, Korey explained. "But these groups are today being threatened and intimidated by the authorities. The official press has warned that the teaching and study of Hebrew border on the subversive."

Dr. Ernest Gordon, president of the Christian Rescue Effort for the Emancipation of Dissidents (CREED), described Soviet repression against Evangelical Christians, Mennonites, Baptists and Pentecostals. "The Communist dominated countries of Eastern Europe seem to follow the same pattern as that initiated by the Soviet Union," Gordon stated.

SMALL ARGENTINE JEWISH COMMUNITY TARGET OF ANTI-SEMITIC SWIRS

BUENOS AIRES, June 13 (JTA) — The small Jewish community of Salta, in northwest Argentina, has been subject to a series of anti-Semitic incitement in the last several weeks, the World Jewish Congress reported today.

Among the latest of the incidents cited by the Latin American branch of the WJC, was a statement by Martin Pfister, a priest and lecturer at the Catholic University of Salta, against what he termed "Zionist perfidy." In the same university, another Catholic priest, Ernesto Escobar Saravia, denounced the "messianic mission" which he said Zionist Jews attribute to themselves in seeking to rule the world.

In addition to these pronouncements, "Patria," a Salta weekly which is blatantly anti-Semitic, printed an article entitled "Ovens for the Jews at the University." The article is replete with Nazi insinuations and attacks on Osvaldo Camisar, former president of the Jewish Community of Salta, elected in the recent elections to the National Parliament for the Province of Salta as a representative of President Raul Alfonsín's Radical Party.

At its meeting yesterday here, the DAIA, the representative body of Argentine Jewry and the WJC affiliate here, decided to immediately intervene with the central authorities in support of the Salta Jewish community.

JUDGE HARRY BADSHAW DEAD AT 83

MONTREAL, June 13 (JTA) — Harry Badshaw, the first Jew to be appointed a Quebec Superior Court Judge, in 1950, died yesterday at 83. After serving more than 27 years, Judge Badshaw retired in 1977.

He had been a founding director of the Canadian Human Rights Foundation and of the International Law Association committee on human rights, as well as founding president of the Canadian Friends of the Alliance Israelite Universelle.

Born in Russia, he was brought by his parents to Canada in 1904. He graduated in 1924 with top honors from McGill University's law faculty and won a travel scholarship which enabled him to do postgraduate work at Grenoble and Sorbonne Universities.

A dedicated Zionist, he participated in public and private efforts all his adult life to strengthen ties between Canada and Israel. At a dinner last year, a foundation was established in his name to help subsidize the Keren Institute, which trains secondary school humanities teachers in Israel.

PLO WANTS ITS OWN PASSPORTS

LONDON, June 13 (JTA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization would like to issue passports to replace the troublesome travel documents used by its officials, according to Arab media sources monitored by the World Jewish Congress here. A Tunis radio broadcast said the PLO is currently holding talks with Arab countries on the issuance of "Palestinian passports" which would "replace the present travel documents which cause a great deal of trouble to Palestinians."

TEL AVIV CONFERENCE ON HUMOR FINDS THAT WHEN JOKES ARE ANALYZED THEY ARE NOT FUNNY By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 13 (JTA) — The 112 papers presented to the first international gathering on Jewish humor, being held this week, led one observer to suggest that all the scientific analyses of humor was similar to a school teacher attempting to dissect a Shakespearean comedy to discuss the plot, character structure and its grammar. "The teacher took all the fun out of the comedies, all the jokes out of the text," the observer suggested.

Nevertheless, the first colloquium on Jewish humor and the fourth international congress on humor, held consecutively at Tel Aviv University, may have turned out to be a bit less than one would expect from a gathering of humorists speaking on their favorite subject. But it attracted more than 100 people — teachers, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists and others — to hear 42 presentations from experts on Jewish humor and then some, mostly from Israel and the United States.

The organizer of this meeting is Prof. Avner Ziv, a psychologist who heads Tel Aviv University's Department of Educational Sciences. Ziv, acting as chairman of both the colloquium and the congress, said in a recently published book that people who tell jokes and enjoy comedy, practical jokes and cartoons, but dislike satire, black humor and ethnic jokes, are probably people who are sociable, talkative, confident and independent with distinct leadership qualities.

Ziv, who presented an address at the opening session on "Psychological characteristics of Jewish humor in diaspora and in Israel," also found in his studies that people who write humor for a living tend to be highly motivated, introverted, anxious and insecure, and come from a lower middle class family where parental conflict was common.

No Jewish Humor In Israel

According to Ziv, Jewish humor is one of the main characteristics of the Jewish people — but unfortunately not in Israel. And in a paper, "Do Jews in Israel still laugh at themselves," Haifa University's Ofra Nevo showed that on the basis of her research, Jews in Israel preferred jokes in which Arabs were the victims, but the reverse was not true for the Arabs.

"It is possible that the enjoyment of self disparaging humor is a particular trait of oppressed minorities," Nevo declared. "Self judgement constitutes one of the well known characteristics of Jewish humor in the diaspora. This serves as a defense mechanism for anxiety."

Some of the papers presented during the week-long series of meetings and workshops include: "Developmental change in humor"; "Humor and psychotherapy"; "Humor and education"; and "Structural affinities between the comic and the sublime in pictorial imagery." In addition, symposia and workshops are being held on the following:

No Jokes For Computers

Humor and literature; humor in therapy; humor and mental health; humor in education; humor and personality; political and social aspects of humor; children's humor; linguistic aspects of humor; humor and communications; methodology in humor research; humor in arts; theoretical aspects of humor; humor and sex; and humor research in the public's eye and in the scientific community.

Israeli humorist Ephraim Kishon said he and a computer expert sought to program a computer to tell jokes and appreciate humor. "It seems that the only thing a computer cannot be taught to do is appreciate a joke, or make one up," he said. Columnist Art Buchwald was scheduled to be the guest speaker but cancelled his appearance for personal reasons.

WASHINGTON EXHIBIT CELEBRATES DANISH JEWRY, WORLD WAR II RESCUE By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 13 (JTA) — Three dates stand out boldly in the history of the Jews of Denmark — the founding of the Danish Jewish community 300 years ago, the establishment of its "new" synagogue 150 years ago and 1943 when a secret rescue operation, carried out with the cooperation of most of Denmark's Christian citizens, transported more than 7,000 Danish Jews to safety in Sweden in a makeshift fleet of fishing boats.

These three events are commemorated in a unique and graphic manner at an exhibit opened at the B'nai B'rith Klutznick Museum here Sunday titled "King and Citizens, The History of the Jews in Denmark, 1622-1983." This exhibit, circulated by the Jewish Museum of New York under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, will be on view in Washington until September 15. The portion of the exhibit devoted to the rescue of the Danish Jews will remain on view until Oct. 15.

Throughout the exhibit, original artifacts, photographs, and audio tapes blend to portray the events of three centuries of Danish-Jewish life. The religious life of both individuals and the community is illustrated by lovely ceremonial objects on loan from the Copenhagen Jewish community and rare Hebrew manuscripts from the Copenhagen Royal Library. Also on view are many paintings from the golden age of Danish painting which depict Jewish life in Denmark and the community's special relationship with the Danish monarchy.

The heroic rescue of the Danish Jews and the Danish resistance movement is highlighted in the World War II section of the exhibit. Artifacts loaned by the Freedom Museum of Copenhagen include one of the original fishing boats used in the daring rescue four decades ago.

Victor Borge Participates

Victor Borge, the Danish-born entertainer who uniquely combines music with comedy, officially opened the exhibition. Borge was a leading Scandinavian entertainer when the Germans invaded Denmark. He was a target of the Nazis because of his biting satire of Hitler, but he escaped to the United States on the last ship to leave Finland where he had fled to escape capture.

Borge, who is a presidential appointee to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, stated that Denmark's rescue of its Jewish population "is inscribed in history's chapter of man's noblest deeds ... even as it happened, it was so remarkable it became a legend. Years have passed but the legend is forever true, forever beautiful."

Other dignitaries who spoke at the opening were Denmark's Ambassador to the U.S., Eigil Jorgensen; former U.S. Ambassador to Denmark, John Loeb, Jr.; and Chief Rabbi of Denmark, Bent Melchior. Loeb brought greetings from President Reagan which stated, "This exhibition will enhance our understanding of the deep cultural bonds and traditions that meant so much to the Danish people for centuries." One of Loeb's direct ancestors, Abraham Mathias Levy, is among those whose story is told in the exhibit.