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PERES SAYS FRANCE IS ONE OF ISRAEL'S MAJOR ALLIES

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres proclaimed here last night that France ranks as one of Israel's major allies. "Israel needs and now has two major allies -- the United States of America and France," Peres declared in response to a toast at a banquet given in his honor by Premier Laurent Fabius.

The Israeli leader arrived here yesterday for a three-day official visit, the first incumbent Israeli Premier to come to France since the late David Ben Gurion. The especially warm welcome he received at Orly Airport and at an appearance before the National Assembly was reflected at the banquet where Peres and Fabius stressed the renewal of the Franco-Israeli "special relationship" after a 20 year break.

"France is and will remain loyal to her friends. I welcome our friend Shimon Peres, Prime Minister of our friend, Israel," Fabius declared before the dinner guests who included a half dozen ranking Cabinet ministers.

Detailed Talks On Mideast Scheduled

Peres will meet today with President Francois Mitterrand for what is expected to be a detailed discussion of Middle East issues and bilateral relations. Mitterrand is the only Western statesman to have met in recent months with a wide array of Arab leaders.

These include King Hassan of Morocco, President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, Col. Muammar Qaddafi of Libya, King Hussein of Jordan, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and President Hafez Assad of Syria.

Peres is said to be anxious to hear Mitterrand's first hand impressions of the role at least some of these leaders might play in the Middle East peace process. He is especially interested in Mitterrand's assessment of Assad's intentions which could directly effect Israel's current negotiations with Lebanon for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from south Lebanon and the future security of Israel's northern borders. Peres is also aware of Mitterrand's desire that France play a key role in Mideast peacemaking.

Nuclear Power Station For Israel Discussed

But the most interest aroused here since Peres' arrival centered on reports that he and Fabius had discussed the purchase by Israel of a nuclear power station manufactured in France. It was said to have been one of the bilateral subjects that came up during the 45 minute private meeting the two premiers had yesterday.

Fabius confirmed to reporters last night that the sale of a power station had been discussed. He refused to specify the type of generator but he did not rule out nuclear power.

French officials said the only problem is that Israel is not a signatory to the Vienna Convention which provides for regular inspection of nuclear installations by the Vienna-based Atomic Energy Commission. The inspection is to ascertain whether nuclear weapons are being produced. The officials said Israel might circumvent this obstacle by agreeing to open its French-made installation to inspection.

Peres will host a reception at the Israeli Embassy here this afternoon and will be guest of honor tonight at a dinner given by the French Jewish community. He is due to return to Israel Saturday.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA
SPAIN AND ISRAEL**

By Milton Jacoby

MADRID, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- For the first time in 500 years, Spanish national and municipal government leaders and other influential non-Jews are making substantial efforts to support and enhance the Jewish presence in their flourishing nation.

They also continue to strengthen their ties with Israel and to encourage Jews from abroad, notably from the United States, to forge new bonds of friendship with their fellow Jews in Spain.

Both the Socialist government and the opposition parties in the Parliament seem united in their desire to extend full diplomatic recognition to Israel, notwithstanding the fact that during an Arab conference held in Madrid in October, the Secretary General of the Arab League made strong representations to Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez that such an act would adversely affect Spain's relations with the Arab world.

In recent interviews in Madrid with top Jewish leaders, it was indicated that the exchange of Ambassadors between Spain and Israel does not seem imminent. Such a step, they said, is closely linked to Spain's projected entry into the European Economic Community (EEC) on January 1, 1986.

It appears that Spanish participation is dependent on the resolution of protests from EEC member-nations such as France, West Germany, Italy and even Israel, all of whom feel that Spain's entry poses a serious competitive threat.

Issue Of Spanish Envoy to Israel

It had been reported from Bonn in October that a well-known Socialist political figure, Enrique Mugica-Herzog, might become the first Ambassador to Israel, if and when full diplomatic relations are launched. According to Samuel Toledano, head of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Spain, Mugica-Herzog has a Jewish mother and Catholic father.

Toledano said that Mugica-Herzog "is held in high esteem by the Jewish community as a good friend of Israel and he would make an excellent Ambassador, but we have no definite news of his selection by the Prime Minister, and we must therefore consider the report as a rumor, and in any case, quite premature. We have every confidence, however, that we shall have a Spanish Ambassador to Israel within the next several months, and it may possibly be Mugica-Herzog."

Meanwhile, it was noted by Jewish viewers who tuned in along with the rest of the populace to a nationwide television address in October on "The State of the Nation" by Prime Minister Gonzalez, that neither Israel nor the Middle East was once mentioned, although he covered a broad range of subjects. It was learned that the government, including the opposition parties, had decided in advance that it would be discreet not to discuss relations with Israel while the Arab League was holding its conference in Madrid.

As in many other countries, oil-rich Arabs are busy trying to get even richer by buying heavily into some of the largest Spanish banks and hotel chains.

CJF MEMORANDUM POINTS OUT THAT TREASURY PLAN WOULD HAVE SEVERE IMPACT ON CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCIES

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA) — The Council of Jewish Federations has sent a memorandum to each of its constituent Federations pointing out that some suggestions for revising the federal income tax system, as unveiled at a press conference by Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, could have a severe impact on charitable contributions to public service agencies, a CJF spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The CJF has thus joined a wide range of religious groups, universities, foundations, cultural institutions and associations providing services to the needy, which are bombarding the Regan proposals which could cut sharply charitable giving.

Mark Talisman, director of the CJF Washington office, said this week that the Treasury plan, which would sharply reduce income tax deductions for such contributions, underscored the need for a public policy debate on income tax revision.

Talisman said, "we understand what a budget squeeze means and the need to increase revenues, but human values also are important. We cannot be exhorted to take up the slack in providing for people and at the same time have our fund-raising tools removed. That's the bottom line."

The CJF spokesman told the JTA that the CJF is maintaining consultation with other umbrella agencies for organizations which depend largely on charitable contributions to implement their programs such as the United Way.

The spokesman said the CJF was studying the situation, planning to make clear to the Reagan Administration and Congress "our concern with ideas which might imperil charitable giving."

CJF Might Take Further Steps

The CJF spokesman said that if such Treasury proposals as limiting deductions for charitable contributions to amounts exceeding two percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income, and repealing the 1981 legislation which permits charitable deductions for taxpayers who do not itemize deductions moved beyond the current stage, the CJF would take further steps.

He said Talisman had simply made a public statement of concern but had not made a direct approach to either the Administration or the Congress at this stage.

The spokesman said the CJF memorandum also indicated that the CJF was monitoring the proposals at this early stage and would keep the Federations informed.

The experts said that while the Regan proposals would most certainly not be submitted as a package for legislation, the possibility could not be ruled out totally that some elements of the Regan proposals — including the sharp cuts in exemptions for charitable giving — might emerge in legislation as the Reagan Administration and the Congress grappled with tax revision, if the whole idea is not detailed by federal officials and Congressmen insisting on budget-balancing measures having first priority.

For one thing, President Reagan will submit his proposals for such tax revision in his State of the Union address in January. There are two tax revision bills which have been introduced in the

House, which differ with the Regan proposals, as well as with each other, in many respects. Finally any tax revision bill must be acceptable to the Democratic-controlled House Ways and Means Committee, a fact which could generate problems for any tax revision bill which has Republican backing.

Despite these indications of a long and rough legislative gauntlet ahead for any tax revision measure, the CJF and similar agencies are gearing up for a major effort to head off any prospects of tax law changes which might bring sharp cuts in charitable giving that could cripple their public service programs.

RECONSTRUCTIONIST COLLEGE GETS \$1 MILLION CHALLENGE GRANT

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6 (JTA) — The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College here has received a \$1 million challenge grant from Marjorie and Aaron Ziegelman of New York, it was announced by college president Ira Silverman at a commemoration at the college in honor of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, the founder and leader of Reconstructionism. The grant was made in memory of Kaplan.

The gift, when matched by other donors, will create an endowment fund which will insure the financial stability of the 16-year-old college, Silverman said. It will create an inviolable account which will earn annual income for the college's operating expenses.

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, which trains both men and women, offers an innovative program which includes preparation for the rabbinate "through course in personal skills, dynamism and an outlook concerned with the continuing renewal of American Judaism," according to a statement issued by the college.

The Ziegelmans came to the Reconstructionist movement after a long absence from Jewish activities. In describing the return to Jewish activities, Aaron Ziegelman said:

"The Yom Kippur War aroused in me feelings of 'Why am I not helping?' I began to think about why someone with my background — educated in a yeshiva in Poland — didn't identify with Jewish institutions. I had moved away from Orthodoxy and not found anything to replace it until I discovered Reconstructionism." Ziegelman, a New York real estate entrepreneur, is vice chairman of the college's Board of Governors.

ISRAEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE FOR 1985 AWARDED TO TWO TEL AVIV U. SCIENTISTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 6 (JTA) — Two Tel Aviv University scientists have been awarded the 1985 Israel Prize — the country's most prestigious award — in medicine, it was announced here this week by Leonard Strelitz, chairman of the University's international board of governors. The laureates are Prof. Henry Neufeld, selected for his achievements in cardiology, and Prof. Baruch Padeh, for his pioneering achievements in public health.

The Israel Prize, presented annually on Independence Day by the President, is given in the fields of science, medicine, the humanities, biblical studies and the performing arts.

Neufeld, born in Poland in 1923, is one of Israel's leading cardiologists. After completing his medical studies in Austria, he emigrated to Israel in 1951. He was a visiting professor at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., for several years.

Neufeld helped develop the cardiology department at Tel Aviv University's Sackler School of Medicine and served as department chairman.

He is vice president of the International Society of Cardiology, served as chief scientist of Israel's Ministry of Health, president of the Israel Heart Association and president of the Asian-Pacific Society of Cardiology.

Padah was born in Belorussia in 1908 and emigrated to Palestine in 1934. A leader in the field of internal medicine, he helped develop Tel Aviv University's medical school and served as chairman of its department of genetics. He was a founder of the medical corps of Israel's Defense Forces and the Institute for Chromosome Research.

Padah retired in 1974 but has continued to work in community medicine and has served as a medical consultant to settlements in Israel's northern Galilee region.

4 DEMONSTRATORS, 2 OF THEM RABBIS, ARRESTED AT A SOVIET JEWRY RALLY

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- Four demonstrators -- two of them rabbis -- were arrested last night after handcuffing themselves to the iron gate surrounding the Soviet Consulate here to protest the recent arrest of Hebrew teachers and Jewish activists in the Soviet Union.

While the four were handcuffed to the gate, a voice over the intercom from within the Consulate building was heard by reporters to say, "Shalom you Jewish scum. Go home."

Across the street from the Consulate, 50 placard-waving demonstrators chanted Hebrew slogans and demanded that Soviet Jews be allowed to emigrate. Nine of the demonstrators wore striped prison uniforms and were chained to one another.

Around their necks hung signs with the names of recently arrested Hebrew teachers including Alexander Kholmiansky, Yuli Edelstein, Yakov Levin and Mark Nepomniashchy. The name of Soviet Jewish activist Yakov Mesh, who was also recently arrested, was around the neck of another demonstrator.

Those arrested were Rabbi Ari Cartun, director of Hillel at Stanford University; Rabbi Sheldon Lewis of Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto; Kathy Citrin, program director of Hillel at the University of California at Berkeley; and Joy Asfeld of Stanford Hillel.

The demonstration was organized by B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations at Stanford, U. of Calif. at Berkeley, San Francisco State University, San Jose State University and the U. of Calif. at Santa Cruz.

GROUP APOLOGIZES FOR ACCEPTING AD FOR ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK IN ITS MAGAZINE

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- The American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) has publicly apologized for an advertisement for an anti-Semitic book which it says was "inadvertently accepted" for publication in the Winter, 1984 edition of its periodical, The German Quarterly.

The AATG Executive Council, meeting in Chicago on November 16, unanimously adopted a resolution tightening procedures for accepting advertisements for the Quarterly and declaring that it "categorically repudiates and condemns the dissemination of material that is anti-Semitic or that can be construed as an apology for Nazism. The Council regrets and apologizes for any inadvertent misuse of AATG offices to publicize such material."

The advertisement that appeared in The German Quarterly was for a book published by the Califor-

nia-based Institute for Historical Review which specializes in disseminating propaganda that the Holocaust was a myth perpetrated by Jews to serve their own interests.

The resolution adopted in Chicago stated, "A committee will report to the (AATG) Executive Council on the events that led to the publication of the IHR advertisement" and "will also look into the dissemination by outside agencies of offensive material to AATG members."

Though not stated, this appeared to suggest that individual members of the AATG have been recipients of direct mail propaganda of the type put out by the IHR. The Executive Council announced that the next edition of the AATG Membership Directory and the next issue of its Newsletter would contain the warning that "Unauthorized use of this list (the Directory) is expressly forbidden" under the copyright laws.

In addition, the AATG Executive Council resolved that an advisory committee will be formed to assist the Executive Director "in evaluating questionable advertising" and that The German Quarterly and other AATG publications will henceforth carry the statement that "The AATG reserves the right to restrict advertising to that which it considers appropriate for its journals."

STOLEN IDF PROPERTY WORTH \$3 M RETURNED By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 6 (JTA) -- Stolen army property amounting to a virtual weapons arsenal valued at about \$3 million was returned to the Israel Defense Force last month. The IDF had declared November a "month of grace" during which citizens could return illegally obtained equipment to military bases or police stations without questioning or risk of punishment.

According to the IDF, the grace period yielded 670 Soviet-made Kalachnikov assault rifles, a favorite weapon of the Palestine Liberation Organization and other terrorist groups, large numbers of which were captured during the war in Lebanon.

Other weapons turned in included large calibre artillery shells, Uzi submachineguns, hand grenades and thousands of army-issue sleeping bags and quilted jackets.

The military police announced that a new search for stolen army property will be undertaken this month. Police will conduct the search in various factories and will check civilians at bus stops for items "borrowed" from the IDF, a spokesman said.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The only good economic news this week was the decision by the Knesset House Committee to reduce the overnight hotel allowance for Knesset members who live outside Jerusalem but must spend the night there to attend morning sessions. The reduction is from \$50 to \$35 per night which means the MKs must stay at a three star rather than a five star hotel -- unless they want to dig into their own pockets to pay the difference.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry Thursday "welcomed" the statement by leaders of the European Economic Community (EEC) this week that direct negotiations are essential to advance peace in the Middle East. But it took sharp exception to the view that the Palestine Liberation Organization must be "associated" with the peace efforts.

RABBIS AMONG WARRIORS

By Albert W. Bloom
(Fifth in an Eight-Part Series)

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Dec. 6 (JTA)—A parachuting chaplain-rabbi needs no further credentials whenever he delivers a Shabbat or Yom Tov sermon "from on high!"

Chaplain Avi Weiss, 33, an Army major and an Orthodox rabbi from California with a "smicha" (ordination) from Yeshiva University, New York, is in such a position.

Before being assigned here at one hub of U.S. Headquarters for Europe (USAEUR), Chaplain Weiss made 27 parachute jumps with the famed 82nd Airborne Division as an infantry battalion chaplain, at Ft. Benning, Ga.

"With the paratroops, jumping is the key to being with the people of your unit. It's like medicine; you take it and you are one of the boys." Rabbis among Warriors!

"You Are Always Scared When You Jump"

Scared? "You are always scared when you jump. I'm still scared when I jump. I did it because I enjoyed duty by being with my unit."

An eight-year veteran, Chaplain Weiss is still a "jumping chaplain," but in a different way these days during his two-year tour in West Germany—which he will probably extend to a third year.

It's different over here and challenging in the Frankfurt sector, where Chaplain Weiss is jumping from a thousand-and-one duties and obligations a chaplain has—especially a Jewish chaplain whose "congregation(s)" are scattered far and wide, from the teeming city to remote duty stations.

Rabbi Weiss is one of the eight Jewish chaplains assigned to Europe. Each one is especially selected and officially endorsed by the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy (JWB-CJC), the agency acting as the American Jewish community's representative to the U.S. Department of Defense in a unique relationship.

JWB-CJC is a unifying force and sets an example for the civilian American Jewish community by bringing all wings of Judaism together to make decisions in harmony for the benefit of Jewish men and women in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Frankfurt Is Proving Ground for Human Relations

Weiss keeps on the jump in the Frankfurt area, where the military, the military-civilian community of family and employees, and the West German-Jewish community interface daily. This is a proving ground for human relations. And it tests Chaplain Weiss' energy, fortitude—as well as the good-natured cooperation of his family—wife Elcya, and children.

"The kids wonder what he's doing home when he's home," Elcya laughed.

Living in a military-city-within-the-city of Frankfurt enables Rabbi Weiss to use the effective volunteer lay leader system which military chaplains are encouraged by JWB-CJC to develop.

Thus religious services, religious school (which opened its new semester for both children and parents when we were there), adult education, and social services are part of an extended program.

Relationships with the West German Jewish community find Rabbi Weiss reading the Torah for a synagogue minyan and assuming a role with the Frankfurt "Gemeinde."

In addition, there is the Army's 300-bed, 97th Corps General Hospital in Frankfurt, where Chaplain John Magalee cooperates with chaplains of all faiths to ease the pain of the sick and injured.

Says Magalee on the chaplain's role in hospitals: "God produces the illness and He's got to be part of the healing team."

In the military, "It is a mistake to think that you are a religious leader in the normal religious sense," Chaplain Weiss asserted.

The problems are often much more humanly involved, he said. "How do you handle a situation like this? A young wife is dying of cancer. Her paratrooper husband breaks his leg in his 127th jump. They are the parents of two young children.

"In the military, you are a social worker, a facilitator of Jewish services, a custodian of funds, an ecumenical spokesman; you have the American flag and the religious pennant.

When I was jumping with paratroops, I spent about 90 percent of my time on duty with non-Jews." Every chaplain is a chaplain for soldiers of all faiths when on duty.

"Further, in military Jewish society, life is often very assimilated. One can be as observant as he chooses in military life, but he or she has to work at it harder than he or she would in civilian life. The Jewish chaplain has to meet every such need."

A chaplain-rabbi in the military "poskens" (hands down interpretations of Jewish religious law) for all types of Jews in the service. Those types vary widely. Both rabbi and serviceman or woman has to be flexible to solve religious problems in the military.

Marriage, a brit-milah at a post far away from the chaplain's station, bar and bat mitzvah, inter-married couples, "part-Jewish" individuals, rocky family relationships, families where wife or husband "wants to be" Jewish and the other does not—almost all of these are problems like the ritual circumcision first mentioned far from the chaplain's home office and far from a close-knit Jewish community at home—and are only a few examples of how complicated Jewish socio-religious issues can be in a military setting.

Nagging Question of Jewish Life in West Germany

Then there is the nagging question of re-constituting Jewish life in West Germany after the Holocaust—serving on that blood-soaked soil of persecution in a protective role to help keep Western Europe free.

Once in West Germany itself, the issue is different. It is no longer theoretical or academic. You can push it aside, agonize over it, debate it within or without your own mind and heart, or you can forget it for the time.

Some "over here" say we make too much of it "over there." There is "a new generation," a "new Germany," a "new democracy," "new problems," a "new threat" from the superpower to the east.

Yet, you still look closely at any West German over 60. You leave unspoken the question, "What were you doing 'then'?" Many are likely to reply, if at all, "I was on the Russian front." That response could come from your barber on a U.S. military base.

"I Don't Think of German History in My Role"

"In Germany, I don't think of German history as part of my role here at all in terms of my functions as an American chaplain. I could have been sent to Italy or to some other country just as easily," Chaplain Weiss said.

"Troops who are asked the question about Germany do not see it as their role to deal with the problem on a personal basis.

"I do not speak of it from the pulpit. But it is certainly still an issue. We must think about it more. Some people try to avoid it. Some choose not to think about it at all."

German life in Frankfurt is comfortable and prosperous with upper middle class patterns. The commercial and fiscal capital of the country, Frankfurt is often jokingly called "Bankfurt."

Rebuilt, you would not recognize it from the heavy pasting it took from Allied air and ground forces during World War Two. The rubble is gone. Streets, subways and parks are sleek and clean.

Yet, the American military, dependent families and civilian employee components can live side by side with the West German population and hardly notice one another. People are polite, sometimes friendly, sometimes even warm. But there is a distance. Yet, there are numerous examples of close individual relationships.

America's chaplains have learned to function in many military and social settings over the centuries since 1775, when the Continental Congress provided for the first Army chaplains.

Chaplain Weiss would like to see more and more Jewish citizens serve their country in the armed forces and thus step up the need for more Jewish chaplains as a visible sign of citizen service.

"We have our full fair share of chaplains. We are about three percent of the population in the U.S. and perhaps less than one half of one percent of the population in the military services. We have to show the flag.

"Every person who lives in America has a responsibility to support the military with some form of services. It is just like taxes," Chaplain Weiss believes.

Next: The mystic and the military