

ISRAEL HAS NO OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO REPORT OF A HUSSEIN-ARAFAT ACCORD

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) — Israel has had no official reaction to the report from Amman yesterday that King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat have agreed on a joint framework for negotiations with Israel. (See P. 2 for reaction from Washington.)

But Premier Shimon Peres mentioned it today in the course of a question-and-answer session with youngsters who are pupils at the ORT school in Kiryat Motzkin, currently celebrating its jubilee.

"First of all, let's see what they have agreed between themselves," Peres cautioned, "if they have agreed to make peace among themselves or if they are proposing peace with Israel." He stressed that "It is still not clear what they did in Amman. Let us wait patiently and not give way to nervousness." The report from Amman, by Jordan's official news agency, Petra, gave no details of the purported agreement.

Criticizes Israelis' Meeting With Arafat

Peres was critical of the meeting last weekend of six Israelis — three Jews and three Arabs — with Arafat at his Tunis headquarters. "I don't see any use in such a meeting. If anyone wants to accept dictation from Arafat he doesn't have to travel to him. It's enough to write him a letter," Peres said. The six Israelis are members of the Progressive List for Peace, and two of the group hold Knesset seats.

Peres cautioned the youngsters not to "forget that Yasir Arafat and his organization continue, at this very moment, to direct terrorism against us, without discrimination between civilians and soldiers, men, women and children. To my mind, Israelis should not lend a hand, directly or indirectly to that organization," the PLO.

HERZOG RECEIVES STANDING OVATION AT PARLIAMENT OF EUROPE ASSEMBLY

By Edwin Eytan

STRASBOURG, Feb. 12 (JTA) — President Chaim Herzog of Israel received a standing ovation when he addressed the 10 member-state Parliament of Europe here today. The Assembly, convened in special session for the occasion, was packed with deputies and guests.

The President of the Parliament, Pierre Pflimlin, told Herzog that "Through your person we want to pay tribute to the State of Israel to which we are bound, since 1975, by juridical and economic links which we consider vital to both Europe and Israel."

In his address to the Parliament, Herzog referred to his country's vital economic stake in access to the European markets, its growing concern over the deteriorating plight of Jews in the Soviet Union, and its willingness, at all times, to negotiate with any or all Arab states for a peaceful, just solution of their conflicts.

Herzog paid his own tribute to the European Parliament which, he said, has brought together former enemies. He said he offered a silent prayer that "one day we will be privileged to have such an institution in which the representatives of the countries

in the Middle East will meet to discuss their problems in free and open debate and not, as in many instances now, in hostile and menacing diatribe."

Herzog stressed that Israel's economy is particularly vulnerable at this time and would be severely hurt if the 10 member states of the European Economic Community (EEC) do not take proper measures to safeguard Israel's exports to Europe after Spain and Portugal are admitted to the Common Market.

He noted in that connection that Israel exports 80 percent of its flowers, 60 percent of its citrus, 85 percent of its citrus by-products and up to 90 percent of its strawberries to Western Europe. Israel's balance of trade with the EEC is far and away in the latter's favor, he said, and Israel asks only for protection of her current exports which is essential to her economic survival.

He urged the European Parliament to help persuade the Soviet authorities to grant Jewish citizens of the USSR equal rights with all others, to let those who want to join their families in Israel do so.

Herzog, accompanied by his wife, Ora, is visiting Luxembourg, Strasbourg and Brussels. They were guests of the Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg yesterday and are scheduled to leave Strasbourg tomorrow morning for a two-day visit to Brussels. They will return to Israel Friday.

CANADIAN B'NAI B'RITH OFFICIAL ACCUSES TWO FORMER PRIME MINISTERS OF HAVING BEEN ANTI-SEMITES

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Feb. 12 (JTA) — An official of the B'nai B'rith of Canada has accused two former Prime Ministers of Canada of having been anti-Semites and a third former Prime Minister of possibly having been one. All three men are deceased.

According to David Matas, chairman of the League for Human Rights of the Canadian B'nai B'rith, this explains why for so many years Canada was lax in attempting to bring Nazi war criminals living in the country to justice.

Matas spoke to reporters yesterday in connection with the release of a 122-page report by his organization on Nazi war criminals in Canada. He claimed that William Lyon MacKenzie King, Prime Minister from 1935-48, and Louis St. Laurent, Prime Minister from 1948-57, were anti-Semites, and that Lester Pearson, Prime Minister from 1963-68, may have been anti-Semitic.

King died in 1950; St. Laurent, who was Secretary of State for External Affairs in 1946, died in 1973; and Pearson, who joined the St. Laurent government in 1948 as Secretary of State for External Affairs, died in 1972.

Quotes From Book To Substantiate Charges

To substantiate his charges, Matas quoted extensively from the book, "None is Too Many," by Irving Abella and Harold Troper, which deals with Jewish requests for admission to Canada between 1933, when the Nazis took power in Germany, and 1948.

Matas claimed that King and St. Laurent were "actively supportive in encouraging the refusal to allow Jewish refugees to come into Canada during the Nazi rule" and Pearson, although not reported to have made anti-Semitic statements, "was also part of the attempt to

blockade Jewish refugees." Abella quoted King as defending restrictions on Jewish immigration on grounds that "Jews would pollute Canada's bloodstream." He said King's diaries contained "all sorts of derogatory statements about Jews." The writer also accused the St. Laurent government of allowing "thousands of Nazi collaborators into Canada, while some of Pearson's policies and some of his statements while a diplomat might at one time have led one to believe that he shared some of these feelings against Jewish immigration."

He contended that although Pearson "seemed to agree with the policy of keeping Jews in DP (displaced persons) camps while other refugees were being allowed into Canada," he was "only a civil servant applying policies made by others" whereas King and St. Laurent applied policies they themselves helped make.

Absolves Recent Prime Ministers

Matas conceded there is no "documentation" of anti-Semitism behind the Canadian government's "inactivity" in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice. But he claimed "it would be perfectly consistent with what MacKenzie King and St. Laurent did in not allowing Jewish refugees to come to Canada to show inactivity in bringing Nazi war criminals in Canada to justice as well."

Replying to a reporter's question, Matas said that while Pearson was Prime Minister, anti-Semitism could have been a factor in the inaction of the Canadian government. He absolved more recent Prime Ministers.

According to Matas, the late John Diefenbaker, former Prime Ministers Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Joe Clarke, and the present Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney, "did not manifest any anti-Semitism whatsoever."

DOLE: U.S. AID TO ISRAEL IS ONE OF THE 'BEST INVESTMENTS' IN FOSTERING STABILITY IN THE MIDEAST

PALM BEACH, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R. Kan.) declared that American assistance to Israel is one of the "best investments we can make in fostering the stability of the Middle East and furthering our own interests in that important region."

The Senator told a dinner meeting of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith at The Breakers hotel here that aiding Israel is the "right thing to do for one of our staunchest friends."

Stating that the United States is now in "close touch" with Israel to arrange an economic aid program, Dole said that he expects the Administration to seek "supplemental" emergency assistance for fiscal 1985 in addition to a boost in military aid. For fiscal 1986, he added that he anticipates a level of assistance "at or above" the 1985 figure of 1.2 billion dollars.

Dole delivered the keynote address at a dinner honoring Madame Bea Alexander, founder and president of the Alexander Doll Company, on the occasion of her 90th birthday. More than 500 community leaders, including former New York Senator Jacob Javits, were in attendance at the opening session of the ADL's policy-making national executive committee three-day annual meeting here.

Israel Must Put Its Economy In Order

While stressing the need to provide assistance for Israel, Dole said, however, that the U.S. "can provide emergency and ongoing assistance only if the

Israelis take decisive steps to put their own economic house in order." He added that "by all accounts the Israeli government understands and agrees to that central point."

Dole asserted that America's ability to aid its friends and allies -- "particularly Israel" -- is based on preserving its economic strength which, in turn, is dependent on reducing the U.S. budgetary deficit.

The Senator underscored the American commitment to advancing a Middle East peace settlement. He said that President Reagan's 1982 peace proposal, which he described as a "major and innovative step," is the "most attractive vehicle for waging peace" in the region.

"This nation, this Administration, remains as committed as ever to the peace process, and the President, the Secretary of State and others continue to give the matter their most serious attention," he told the ADL gathering.

U.S. TAKING A CAUTIOUS APPROACH TO REPORT ON HUSSEIN-ARAFAT ACCORD

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration appeared today to be taking a cautious approach to the announcement in Amman yesterday that King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat had agreed on a framework for a joint approach to the settlement of the Palestinian issue.

"We would note that any declared intention of pursuing a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict would be a constructive step," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said. "It is crucial, however, that the settlement be pursued at the table in direct negotiations, based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 242. If the discussions in Amman help move the parties toward the negotiating table, then it is a welcome development."

Speakes said the Administration wanted to learn more about the agreement in Amman which came as President Reagan held two days of talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia in which Reagan urged the need for an Arab partner for direct negotiations with Israel.

The Fahd-Reagan talks included a meeting yesterday morning, a State dinner last night and a breakfast meeting this morning. Speakes denied that the announcement in Amman yesterday was the reason the breakfast meeting was scheduled.

Getting To Know Each Other's Positions

Only six persons were present at the hour-and-fifteen-minute breakfast this morning -- Reagan; Secretary of State George Shultz; National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane; Fahd; Prince Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister; and Prince Bandar, the Saudi Ambassador. This allowed a fuller discussion of all the issues that were gone over yesterday, according to Speakes.

The meeting allowed the two leaders to get a better understanding of each other's positions, according to Speakes, although both apparently continue to have differing perspectives on the achievement of progress in the Middle East peace process.

The King explained an Arab belief that now is the time for the U.S. to help "reinvigorate the peace process" because the Arabs are concerned that "the potential for damage in the area is growing," a senior Administration official said. But he said Fahd was not specific about what the U.S. should do except that it should be "a full partner" and "they'd like us to use our influence with Israel." The Arabs have long

sought U.S. pressure on Israel for concessions before negotiations. The official stressed that the U.S. is involved in the Middle East. "Our real engagement comes when there is an on-going negotiation and an Arab interlocutor at the table," the official said. He added that the U.S. cannot act alone in the Middle East. "We can't want it (peace) more than the people in the area," he said.

The U.S. believes the "interlocutor" should be Jordan. Speakes said that the U.S. feels the first step is for Hussein and Arafat to come to an agreement allowing Hussein to negotiate with Israel.

Putting Some Building Blocks Together

Meanwhile, at a State Department luncheon yesterday, Shultz stressed to Fahd that the U.S. is presently engaged in "putting some building blocks together" in order to promote confidence toward negotiations, according to the official. He explained that one such block is the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon coupled with security for Israel's northern borders. The U.S. believes Israel does intend to leave Lebanon, Fahd was told.

Other building blocks outlined by the official were efforts by the U.S. to improve Egyptian-Israeli relations and the quality of life for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. The official said that Fahd discussed the controversy over water rights in the West Bank.

There was no disagreement between Reagan and Fahd that the legitimate rights of the Palestinians have to be taken into account in any negotiations, the official said. Fahd called for self-determination for the Palestinians but did not at any of the meetings ask the U.S. to recognize the PLO.

The official also noted that there was no question Israel would negotiate with Palestinians if they were in the Jordanian negotiating delegation, but not with the PLO. He said in the Camp David accords Israel agreed to talks with "credible Palestinians." He defined these as residents of the West Bank and Gaza, adding that any Palestinians from outside those territories would have to be mutually acceptable.

Reagan reiterated his commitment to his September 1, 1982 Middle East peace initiative, but the official stressed that the initiative was not a required basis for negotiations while UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 were.

The U.S. would like to continue the process which started with the Egyptian-Israeli talks which led to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty "and to our great disappointment, froze up there," the official said. He said the Reagan initiative was a set of ideas to get negotiations started and it had been hoped that it would "trigger" direct talks.

The official said the Arabs have been asked to "come forward for direct talks" and like Israel, they can bring with them any proposals including the Fez declaration, any modification of it or anything else.

No Discussion On Arms

The official said the King and Reagan did not discuss arms but he stressed that once the U.S. completes its strategic review which includes the Middle East peace process and arms sales, there is no doubt that it will propose arms for Saudi Arabia.

Reagan, in an interview with The New York Times published today, said he feels arms sales are necessary as "a part of convincing the Arabs that we do sincerely intend to be their friends also." Presumably, discussion of arms will come up when Fahd meets tomorrow with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Reagan, in his talks with Fahd, agreed that Iran is the aggressor in the Persian Gulf war and that Iraq has been trying to seek peace. The official said the U.S. promised to continue efforts to prevent arms going to Iran. In response to a question, he said there is no evidence Israel has been sending arms to Iran "in recent years."

In addition to his meetings with Weinberger tomorrow Fahd will also meet with other Cabinet members and with former Presidents Carter and Ford today and with former Secretaries of State Cyrus Vance and Henry Kissinger Thursday. After a dinner hosted by Vice President George Bush Thursday night, Fahd will leave Washington Friday.

AJCOMMITTEE LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO MARK CHANGES IN CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS INITIATED BY VATICAN COUNCIL II

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) — The American Jewish Committee has announced a year-long program to mark the historic changes in Catholic-Jewish relations initiated by Vatican Council II 20 years ago.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, national interreligious affairs director of the AJCommittee, stressed that the purpose of the program, which began officially last week, was "not to be an exercise in nostalgia but rather to deepen and strengthen mutual understanding between Christians and Jews." He called it "the most extensive program of Catholic-Jewish relations ever undertaken in the United States."

"Vatican II provided the catalyst and we must continue to build on it," Rudin said. Vatican Council II, convened by the late Pope John XXIII from 1962-65, is considered a turning point in relations between the Jewish and Catholic faiths.

One of the most important documents issued by the Council, the "Nostra Aetate" (In Our Age) repudiated the idea of collective Jewish guilt for the Crucifixion and stressed the spiritual bond between Catholics and Jews. It called for mutual understanding between the two faiths.

Program Seen As Having A Major Impact

Mimi Alperin, chairperson of the AJCommittee's Interreligious Affairs Commission, said, "We believe this program will have a major impact in developing closer relations between Catholics and Jews on a wide range of critical issues. We have been pleased by the positive response from the Catholic community in joining with us to commemorate the positive achievements of Vatican II."

The first program in the series took place in Philadelphia last week. Programs will be held in Long Island on February 14; Detroit, February 18; Los Angeles, March 21; San Francisco, May 15; Miami, May 23-24; and later in the year in Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Kansas City, Mobile, New York City, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Seattle and Washington, D.C.

The programs were developed by the AJCommittee's Interreligious Affairs Department with Catholic dioceses and Committee chapters nationwide. They include public assemblies, seminars, teacher-training sessions, lay dialogue groups, seminarians' conferences and audio-visual productions.

The AJCommittee is issuing a comprehensive package of materials titled "Resource Kit: Vatican Council II and Catholic-Jewish Relations, 1965-1985" as a program aid. It was written by Rabbi Alan Mittleman of the Interreligious Affairs Department and contains suggestions for groups planning interreligious programs related to the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Vatican Council II.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY IS
STILL GOING STRONG AT 60
 By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) — The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel's largest and most renowned institution of higher learning, is alive and well and celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

Despite the country's severe economic crisis, the university continues with more than 2,500 research programs, and the rate of student enrollment continues to grow. This year, some 30,000 students are attending the university, 17,000 of them studying toward academic degrees and the rest in various programs offered by the university.

"This is a far cry from the less than 100 students the university had when it was established on April 1, 1925," Bernard Cherrick, vice president of the Hebrew University said in an interview here. He noted that when he joined the university in 1947, there were only 900 students there.

Cherrick, who was elected vice president in 1968, said that the university on Mount Scopus has been a major contributor to the scientific, cultural and social life of Israel and the Jewish people around the world.

Reputed For Its Various Departments

Even today, when Israel has a number of other universities, the Hebrew University is the only one that has a faculty of agriculture, a school of pharmacy and a librarian school, Cherrick said. Later this year, he added, the university will inaugurate a veterinary school. "This will be the first and only school of its kind in Israel," he said. "It will end the need to send Israeli students to study veterinary medicine abroad."

Ironically, despite the precarious state of the Israeli economy, the Hebrew University continues to have a reputation for maintaining one of the best economic departments of any university in the world, Cherrick said. It is also reputed for its mathematics and archaeology departments, and has the largest department of Jewish studies worldwide, he noted.

Feels Pinch Of Economic Crisis

Although the economic crisis in the country did not affect the enrollment of new students, the university feels the pinch of hard economic times, Cherrick said. He pointed out that the Israeli government cut its support of the \$100 million yearly budget of the university from 75 to 65 percent this year.

"This will have a certain affect on the fellowships we have been giving to students for second and third degrees," he noted. Another area that will suffer, he pointed out, will be the purchase of new equipment -- mainly for the sciences -- he said, as well as books -- many of them very expensive and out of reach for the average Israeli student -- for the university's libraries.

Tuition, which is \$600 a year per student, amounts to five percent of the budget, while the Friends of the Hebrew University around the world, especially in the United States, raise about 35 percent of the budget, Cherrick said.

Cites A Major Challenge

One of the developments in recent years, Cherrick said, is the growing number of Jewish students who come to study at the university from all over the world.

"I see it as a major challenge for the Hebrew University to cater to Jewish students from abroad," he said, adding that last year alone there were more than 2,000 Jewish students enrolled in what is known as the Overseas Studies program. Many of the students enroll in the regular degree programs at the university after the first year during which they enjoy the benefits of being taught in their own language -- English, Spanish or French.

The university is also known for having a large community of Israeli Arab students. According to Cherrick, there are presently about 1,000 such students attending the university. Many of them live in the students' dormitories, mingling with the other students.

Cherrick conceded that there has been some tension between Arab and Jewish students on the campus. He said that tension flares usually when the political situation in the Mideast is tense, or when hostilities between Arabs and Israelis occur. He said the university allows the Arab students to hold nationalistic meetings on campus, "but only indoors, not in open areas."

Looking Ahead

What are the major challenges for the university in the future?

Cherrick replied, "In my view, the challenges for the next 20 years are the same in principle as they were when the university was established, although the subjects are different." The challenges today are in the fields of research and science, Cherrick said, noting that the university "started as a research institute" then turned and opened its doors to undergraduate students in line with the needs of the country.

But now, with other universities in Israel, the emphasis will be shifted once again to research -- in the fields of energy and science, to help Israel develop science-based industries, Cherrick said. He said that science can help Israel develop industry and put it on the road to economic recovery.

HUNGARY TO ISSUE FIRST STAMPS ON JEWISH THEME

BUDAPEST, Feb. 12 (JTA) — Hungary is to issue postage stamps featuring objects contained in the Hungarian Jewish Museum, marking the first appearance of stamps on a Jewish subject in the country's history, the World Jewish Congress reported today.

According to the WJC, seven stamps comprise the series to be issued by the post office under the title of "Jewish Art in Hungary." The announcement by Hungarian authorities said the stamps would "depict the most beautiful items of the Hungarian Jewish Museum."

The announcement coincided with a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial wall in the cemetery next to the Dohany Street synagogue commemorating the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Budapest Ghetto. Radio Budapest reported that Imre Heber, president of the Jewish community, delivered a memorial speech at the commemoration attended by "representatives of the State Office for Church Affairs, other state party and social organizations, and representatives of the Soviet Embassy in Budapest."

REMINDER: There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated February 18, Washington's Birthday, a postal holiday.