

SECOND STAGE WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTH LEBANON SEEN AS THE MOST DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS FOR THE IDF

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The second stage of the withdrawal from south Lebanon will be the most difficult and dangerous for the Israel Defense Force and may leave it temporarily exposed to attack by Syria, according to the senior officer in command of the IDF in Lebanon.

Maj. Gen. Ori Orr, commander of the northern front, was quoted by Israel Radio today as saying that the second stage, which will pull Israeli troops out of the eastern sector of south Lebanon where they face Syrian forces, will take 10-12 weeks.

IDF Patrol Kills 11 Terrorists

A military spokesman announced, meanwhile, that an IDF patrol killed 11 terrorists today and captured nine of a heavily armed gang which crossed the Awali River. There were no Israeli casualties. Large quantities of arms, ammunition and sabotage material were seized.

The first stage, withdrawal from the Awali River line to new positions on the Litani River, will be completed on schedule next Monday, February 18. Orr said the last IDF troops left in the Sidon area will move to their new lines within an hour or so after receiving the pull-back order.

The first stage, almost completed, has been fraught with difficulties, including harassment by terrorists and other hostile elements which have inflicted casualties on the IDF.

IDF Searches For Terrorists

Israeli troops were occupied during their final days in the Awali River-Sidon area with searches for terrorists and other harassing forces. IDF units checked the Shiite Moslem village of Burj Rakkhal today. One local resident was killed and another was wounded in the operation, according to a spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Voice of Lebanon Radio claimed the IDF destroyed a building in the village where arms were found. An IDF spokesman said a terrorist gang was pursued by Israeli troops across the Awali River yesterday afternoon and four were captured.

The IDF liaison office building in Nabatiya was fired on this morning for the 16th time in the last few weeks. A South Lebanon Army (SLA) patrol was attacked on the outskirts of the town. There were no casualties in either incident.

Expect Terrorist, Guerrilla Attacks To Increase

IDF officers in Nabatiya were quoted as saying yesterday that terrorist and guerrilla attacks can be expected to increase after the IDF withdraws from the Awali River line. The new line runs over hilly terrain from the Litani River, then west of Nabatiya and northwards, skirting Jezzine, to the listening post on top of Mt. Barukh.

The officers expect a tough time on the new line because it passes through groups of Shiite villages and the terrain makes it difficult to prevent terrorist or guerrilla incursions.

Gen. Orr was quoted as saying, "We'll defend the Israeli units. We're not going to defend the area." According to his estimate, the second stage of the withdrawal should be completed by the end of April. But by its nature it could possibly reduce Israel's deterrent power against Syria in the short term, while it is taking place, he said.

However, Orr did not think the Syrians would move into the area vacated by the IDF on the eastern front. He predicted that area would come for the most part under the control of Abu Moussa, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization dissidents opposed to Yasir Arafat. His command headquarters in the Bekaa valley was bombed by the Israel Air Force this week.

The third and final stage of the withdrawal, bringing the IDF to the international border, is expected to be completed by next summer. Premier Shimon Peres declared in a television interview last night, "We won't spend another winter in Lebanon."

U.S. WANTS ISRAEL TO PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS PROVIDING AID TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) — The United States wants Israel to participate in programs providing aid to Third World countries, especially in Africa, according to Kenneth Bialkin, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Bialkin said this was stressed by M. Peter McPherson, Administrator of the Agency for International Development (AID) during a briefing by Reagan Administration officials with some 100 Jewish leaders this week at the old Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House. McPherson is encouraging Israel to bid on various AID projects.

In addition to McPherson, the Presidents Conference was briefed by Allen Wallis, Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs; Elliott Abrams, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs; Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff; James Covey, the National Security Council's Middle East director; and Marshall Breger, President Reagan's assistant for liaison with the Jewish community.

'A Good Exchange Of Views'

Bialkin said that the meeting provided for "a good exchange of views" and the Presidents Conference hopes to have a similar session with Congressional leaders.

Wallis reiterated the Administration's view that Israel will have to take even more stringent economic measures before the Administration decides to provide the \$800 million Israel has requested as a supplement to the \$1.2 billion in economic aid it is receiving this year, according to sources who attended the meeting. Wallis said Israel would also receive \$1.2 billion in the 1986 fiscal year.

While Wallis stressed that the U.S. is not telling Israel what to do, he said there was a need for further budget cuts and to reduce the number of government employes and shift them into "productive jobs." He also said the Shekel was over-valued and that it should be pegged against a basket of foreign currencies, including the U.S. Dollar and European currencies. But, Wallis added, the U.S. believes Israel should not cut its defense budget.

Covey stressed that President Reagan's September 1, 1982 Middle East peace initiative was designed to get an Arab negotiator to the table with Israel.

In discussing Soviet Jewry, Abrams urged the Jewish community not to despair about the present worsening situation of Jews in the Soviet Union. He stressed that the community should remain united because he predicted a Soviet effort to divide it.

Regan discussed domestic issues. Bialkin said the former Secretary of the Treasury denied that the Administration's tax reform proposals which would limit deductions for charity, would affect large gifts. But he said he would be interested to see any study that demonstrated a different view.

MAJOR STUDY ON NAZI WAR CRIMINALS IN CANADA SAYS THAT THE CRIME OF MURDER 'SHOULD NOT GO UNPUNISHED'

MONTREAL, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- "Nazi war criminals were able to enter Canada after World War II. Their Jewish intended victims fleeing the Holocaust were denied entry by Canada before and during World War II. Except for the recent extradition proceedings against Albert Helmut Rauca, alleged Nazi war criminals have remained in Canada free from any attempts bringing them to justice."

This scathing indictment of Canada's laxity in dealing with Nazi war criminals is made by David Matas, a Winnipeg lawyer who is chairman of the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith Canada, in his report, "Bringing Nazi War Criminals to Justice in Canada."

The 122-page report, published by the League and released this week, states that it "has a basic and simple point to make: the crime of murder should not go unpunished. Nazi war criminals in Canada should be brought to justice. Canada has no statute of limitations for murder ... Canada should not impose upon itself a statute of limitations for these (Nazi) murders."

The report points out that Canada, "has said that the prosecution of war crimes and crimes against humanity constitutes a universal commitment for all states. It has maintained that position year after year at the United Nations, from 1946 to the present. In 1981, at the General Assembly, Canada even proposed that position. Canada should do what it has committed itself at the UN to do. Canada must not say one thing abroad, and do something else at home."

Legal Options Cited

The report examines the legal options available for bringing Nazi war criminals in Canada to justice. It deals with five options: extradition, deportation, prosecution under existing legislation, prosecution under new legislation and naming. The report also determines if there are legal difficulties in pursuing the options and recommends how the alleged difficulties can be overcome.

"These remedies are all available now," said Matas. "Most have been available since the end of World War II. Any one of them is preferable to doing nothing, yet until the recent Rauca extradition proceedings, none has been pursued."

Of the options available, extradition for trial in the Federal Republic of Germany or any other country with which Canada has an extradition treaty, where the crimes were committed is seen as the best solution of all.

Nevertheless, the report points out that for war criminals from Eastern bloc countries, extradition may not be possible because Canada's extradition

treaties do not allow for it, or because Canada has not received extradition requests. In such cases, Matas states, "there should be prosecution in Canada rather than simply letting the crimes go unpunished."

"Soon all the accused, all the witnesses, all the survivors of the Holocaust will be dead. The chance of justice being done will disappear. If Canada is not to have a permanent stain on its justice system, it must act now to bring Nazi war criminals in Canada to Justice, he said.

The League has sent the report to the Federal Justice Minister John Crosbie with a letter requesting a meeting with Jules Deschenes, chairman of the recently established Federal Commission on Nazi war criminals, to discuss the legal options available to Canada as indicated in the report.

ISRAEL'S MILITARY SUPERIORITY OVER SYRIA IS A SHORT-TERM SITUATION, SAYS FORMER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CHIEF

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- Israel can maintain its military superiority over Syria in the short term -- the next three years -- but Syria, its most dangerous foe, is rapidly improving its military capabilities, according to Maj. Gen. (res.) Aharon Yariv, director of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies of Tel Aviv University.

Yariv, a former chief of military intelligence, gave that assessment Tuesday in presenting the latest edition of "The Middle East Strategic Balance 1984", a 316-page volume published by the Jaffee Center, to the press. According to Yariv, Israel, facing severe budgetary constraints which include defense, is losing its military edge over its Arab neighbors.

As a consequence, he said, Israel must concentrate on "qualitative improvements" in its military personnel rather than attempt to maintain numerical equality with the military hardware the Arab states are receiving in massive quantities from both East and West.

He said the Syrians are aiming at military parity with Israel. They already have "a very serious defensive capability" and in a matter of years will acquire an offensive capacity against Israel as well.

The "Strategic Balance," published in both Hebrew and English editions, has become an essential source book for Middle East experts. The English edition is printed and distributed in Israel by The Jerusalem Post and in the United States by Westview Press. The Hebrew edition is printed and distributed by Yediot Achronot.

LUXEMBOURG READY TO AID ISRAEL IN EEC

LUXEMBOURG CITY, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Jacques Santer declared that Luxembourg would not hesitate to intervene in the European Economic Community (EEC) for the edification of relations between the EEC and Israel. He also reaffirmed the necessity of guaranteeing Israel's security permanently.

Santer made these statements Tuesday at a government dinner for Israel President Chaim Herzog, who was in Luxembourg with his wife, Ora, on an official two-day visit, after which he left for Strasbourg and Brussels.

At the dinner, the Prime Minister also praised the natural and sincere friendly relations between Luxembourg and Israel, and called attention to his own personal relationship with Herzog. Earlier in the visit, Herzog met with Santer and with Foreign Affairs Minister Jacques Poos, to discuss bilateral relations between the two countries and between Israel and the EEC, and the Mideast.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES A MONSTER CALLED MENGELE

By Daniella Niv

JERUSALEM, Feb. 14 (JTA) — One after another they took the witness stand. In a crowded and hushed auditorium they broke their 40-year silence. In quiet, level voices they told stories of horror, stories of heroism, stories of desperate attempts to retain their human dignity in a world which had lost all remnant of humanity.

Thirty survivors of the Birkenau concentration camp — where Josef Mengele carried out his notorious medical experiments on twins and others — took the stand during a three-day public hearing at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem last week.

It was the main event of the first international convention of survivors of Mengele's experiments, which marked the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the camps.

The panel of six judges was headed by Yad Vashem Council chairman Gideon Hausner, who acted as prosecutor at the Adolf Eichmann trial 23 years ago. It included lawyers, experts on the Holocaust and on terrorism, and a geneticist. Judge Zvi Terlo, who helped prepare the case against Eichmann, interrogated the witnesses.

It looked almost like a real trial — except for one detail. The accused, Josef Mengele, known to the camp inmates as the "angel of death", was missing.

Recent stepped-up efforts to locate and apprehend the Nazi war criminal have so far been unsuccessful, Mengele, who fled Germany in 1953, is now thought to be hiding in Paraguay, protected by President Alfredo Stroessner.

An Eye-Witness Account

The atmosphere in Yad Vashem was tense as the witnesses talked about the atrocities.

Aliza Baruch, 57, recalled her memories as a 15-year-old girl in Auschwitz's experimental Block no. 10: "We were put, twenty girls, in a closed room with no windows. Our first fear was of death, because we knew that a sealed room meant gas. When the door finally opened we all crowded into a corner. Nobody wanted to be singled out. But somebody had to be first, of course, and a girl was taken into an adjacent room.

"We wanted to know what was going on inside. We couldn't hear crying or complaining. Through the keyhole we could see she was standing naked in the middle of the room, between two machines. It was radiation of course, but we did not know that then.

"When she came out, she told us: 'It's nothing, it's nothing.' Thinking we would be let out of the closed room afterwards, each girl wanted her turn to come quickly.

"But by the time the third girl's turn had arrived, the first had begun to vomit. After the treatment was over, it took us almost six hours to return to our block. We were very weak and vomited the whole time. There were terrible signs on our bodies. Our skin was a black strip where the machine had been."

Baruch pointed to her stomach and said "All our body hair fell out — we became like four-year-olds." She received radiation treatment three times, and then was operated on.

'They Split My Stomach Open'

"They split my stomach open," she said. "They gave me a double injection because I struggled. I was asleep for four days. When I awoke, a Jewish

doctor called Shmuel said to me in French: 'It is over, my little child! I put out my hands and felt tissues covering my stomach. He gave me another injection to make me sleep again, so I would not cry.'"

Baruch's voice quivered as she talked of the doctor who saved her life. Continuing, she said:

"The second day my whole stomach was infected, the stitches came undone. Shmuel took them out, looking me in the eyes all the while, as if to say: 'Have mercy on this girl!' My stomach opened as if lava was pouring out. It was full of pus. He told Mengele I had a small sore that hadn't quite healed."

Baruch recalled that "when one of the girls asked for water, they injected something into her spine. We did not know what death was then. We thought she had gone to sleep. She snored, and from time to time her body quivered. We called a nurse to give her more blankets, and she looked at us as if we did not understand. She said: 'she will soon fall fast asleep and then we will take her out.'"

'We Were Afraid To Die'

"But from the way they dragged her out, we understood, and from then on we learned silence. With each girl who died we became more and more silent. With the pain in our stomachs we tried to twist our mouths into a laugh. We were afraid to die."

In 1946, after the war, Aliza Baruch came to Palestine. Sixteen years later she underwent a second operation. The doctors found that one ovary and half of her womb had been removed in Auschwitz, Baruch said. They had to remove the rest then as it was full of tumors.

"Do you have any children?" asked interrogator Terlo. "That's what Shmuel meant when he kept saying to me just stay alive," said Baruch, crying. "I have two children."

In addition to the public hearing, which lasted three mornings, a symposium and workshops on ethical, medical and sociological aspects of the Holocaust took place during the afternoons. Survivors discussed with experts the dilemma of Jewish doctors forced to help Mengele with his experiments, the moral implications of experiments on humans, and other topics.

At the end of the public hearing, the panel called upon governments throughout the world to help apprehend Mengele, now 73 years old. "It cannot erase our memories, but I want to know that the 'angel of death' is not allowed to live and die in peace," said one survivor.

CLARIFICATION

MONTREAL, Feb. 14 (JTA) — David Matas, chairman of the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith Canada, today issued a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency clarifying his statement earlier this week regarding three Canadian Prime Ministers. His statement said:

"I have been reported as accusing two Canadian Prime Ministers, William Lyon Mackenzie King, and Louis St. Laurent and possibly a third, Lester Pearson of anti-Semitism. While Mackenzie King's anti-Jewish remarks are a matter of public record, I made and make no accusations about any of them.

"On February 11, in Montreal, the League for Human Rights at a press conference released a report that I authored titled 'Bringing Nazi War Criminals in Canada to Justice.' In answer to a question from a reporter about anti-Semitism as a cause for inaction, I speculated that anti-Semitism may have been a possible explanation for the inaction of the King, St. Laurent and Pearson governments in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice, an explanation consistent with the refusal of

the King government to admit Jewish refugees to Canada fleeing the Holocaust. "However, it is not the only explanation, nor the one I, myself, believe. As I said at the press conference, "the inaction in bringing Nazi war criminals in Canada to justice, in my belief, comes from a sense of insularity. Because the crimes were committed outside of Canada by non-Canadians against non-Canadians, Canada has not acted in this area."

ISRAEL SEEMS SATISFIED WITH REAGAN-FAHD TALKS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (JTA) -- Israel appeared satisfied with President Reagan's two day of talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia because Reagan repeatedly stressed the need for the Arabs to engage in direct negotiations with the Jewish State. But it is concerned about the next step in U.S. Middle East diplomacy, the meeting in Vienna next week between the American and Soviet officials dealing with the region.

Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne, during a 75-minute meeting with Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs yesterday, expressed satisfaction with the President's reaffirmation of the need for direct negotiations, according to Victor Harel, the Israel Embassy spokesman.

But Harel told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Rosenne also voiced Israel's concern about the talks Murphy will conduct in Vienna with Vladimir Polykov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near East Division.

Negative Role Of The USSR In The Mideast

Rosenne outlined the negative role the Soviet Union has played in the Middle East, including its opposition to the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. He noted that the USSR has refused to have diplomatic relations with Israel and pointed to the current anti-Semitic campaign against Soviet Jews.

Murphy stressed that the meetings in Vienna next Tuesday and Wednesday will be discussions, not negotiations. He also assured Rosenne that the U.S., like Israel, continues to oppose the Soviet Union's call for an international conference on the Middle East.

This position was stressed today by State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb. He said the meeting in Vienna would be "an exchange of views" between the U.S. and the Soviet Union on "Middle East regional issues. The talks will not constitute negotiations nor are they intended to lead to broader negotiations," he said.

View Of Vienna Talks

Kalb added, "These talks are not a precursor of any agreement nor are we going to seek any agreement in Vienna. They remain within the context of our bilateral relations with the Soviets."

In announcing the date of the talks yesterday, Kalb said among the issues expected to be raised are Afghanistan, the Iraq-Iran war, south Lebanon and Arab-Israeli issues. He said, "the discussions are intended to contribute to our mutual understanding of those problems and are part of the ongoing effort to engage the Soviets in a full agenda of issues, including regional questions, human rights, bilateral issues as well as arms control."

Kalb added that the talks "do not represent any change in the U.S. position regarding issues affecting the region, nor do we expect them to result in changes in the Soviet position."

Reagan Optimistic About Hussein-Arafat Accord

Meanwhile, it was still unclear here as to whether the agreements in Amman between King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat for a framework for common action would lead to negotiations with Israel. Reagan, leaving the White House yesterday for a brief vacation in California, told reporters that "It seems as if some progress has been made," adding, "We're being optimistic about it."

Later, a senior Administration official in California called the agreement a "milestone" but said it was but "one step on a long road." State Department officials stressed that there is no sign as yet that Hussein and Arafat had agreed to direct negotiations with Israel on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. They said if this happened, it would be progress.

Jordanian news reports said the agreement accepted UN resolutions calling for the return of land in exchange for peace. But State Department sources said that this in no way was an endorsement of the two key resolutions.

Communique On Reagan-Fahd Talks

Fahd is scheduled to leave Washington tomorrow. The White House issued a communique which said that during his talks with Reagan, the President reiterated his commitment to his September 1, 1982 Middle East peace initiative and said the U.S. "will support those positions in direct negotiations involving the parties most concerned."

The communique said Fahd expressed his support for the September 1982 Fez plan which he said expressed an Arab consensus. The plan calls for complete Israeli withdrawal from all areas captured in 1967, including East Jerusalem; dismantling all Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza; establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital; and a UN Security Council guarantee for peace among all states in the region.

The communique said that Reagan and Fahd "stressed that a stable peace must provide security for all states in the area and for the exercise of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Meanwhile, Reagan's next Middle East visitor will be President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on March 12. While the Middle East peace process will be high on the agenda, it may be overshadowed by economic issues. Egypt has asked the U.S. for \$1 billion more in 1986 than the \$2.1 billion in economic and military aid it is receiving this year. But the Administration has appropriated for 1986 only a \$110 million increase.

In addition, Kalb confirmed today that Egypt has fallen behind by \$250-\$300 million in repayment of its \$4.5 billion military debt to the U.S. He said the U.S. is concerned about this and hopes that the emergency problem can be solved soon.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Hundreds of Jewish youths are expected to come to Israel this summer on the same route taken by illegal immigrants 40 years ago. They will reconstruct the voyage of a Maapilim (illegal immigrants) ship, en route to the First World Conference of the Young Guard for Zionist Renaissance, to take place in Jerusalem.