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HERZOG, FITZGERALD CLASH OVER ISRAEL'S ACTIONS IN S. LEBANON, PARTICULARLY TREATMENT OF UNIFIL BY MILITIAS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 18 (JTA) — Visiting Israeli President Chaim Herzog and Irish Premier Garrett Fitzgerald clashed sharply today over the situation in south Lebanon where Irish troops play a prominent role as members of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

They also differed over the Palestinian issue with Fitzgerald insisting on the need for the Palestine Liberation Organization to be involved in a settlement.

At a luncheon in honor of Herzog and his wife, Aura, Fitzgerald said, "our people have neither understood nor been able to accept the manner in which Israeli forces, and militias supported, armed and advised by the Israeli Army, have harassed and at times physically attacked the UNIFIL forces, including the Irish contingent." He urged Israel to use its influence with the local Lebanese militias to enable UNIFIL to carry out its mandate unhindered.

Sees Role For UN

Fitzgerald dissociated Ireland from the virulent rhetoric and unjustified attacks mounted on Israel at the United Nations, but affirmed that the UN properly could make a significant contribution to peace.

On Arab-Israeli relations, he declared Ireland's backing for the policy of the European Economic Community of which it is a member. This supported the rights of all the states in the region including Israel, to exist in peace and security.

It also maintains that all the peoples of the Middle East have a right to justice. This applies to the Palestinian people and includes their right to self-determination.

Describing the PLO as the acknowledged voice of the overwhelming majority of the Palestinians, particularly those in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, he added that the PLO was showing increasing interest in negotiations and that the PLO-Jordanian accord was a most helpful development.

Herzog Defends Lebanese Militias

In his reply, circulated before the luncheon, Herzog defended the role of the local militias, who have been involved in clashes with UNIFIL forces and said that many incidents would have been avoided had not Lebanon, incited by Syria and the Soviet Union, rejected Israel's proposal for UNIFIL to be given a wider and more flexible role.

Nevertheless, while defending the South Lebanese Army, Herzog said that Israel deeply regretted a number of incidents that occurred in the area.

"I want to emphasize again," he repeated, "how deeply our government regrets some of the incidents which occurred and which are the result of a cruel atmosphere of suspicion and hate. They in no way reflect an attitude towards the countries providing the various contingents in UNIFIL." He also praised

Ireland's role in UNIFIL and described Lt. Gen. William Callaghan, its Irish commander, as a personal friend. (See related story, P. 3.)

BOMBS EXPLODE IN JERUSALEM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) — The chance discovery of a large explosive device near an open-air market south of Tel Aviv this morning averted what might have been a major disaster with injuries to civilians and possible loss of life. But two small bombs exploded in Jerusalem today.

One of them injured a woman at a bus stop in the suburb of Ramot. The other exploded in the French Hill area without causing casualties or damage.

Police in Tel Aviv credited a cleaning man on his early morning rounds at the market with the discovery of a large bomb. A second large bomb was found by police in a search of nearby buildings. Each bomb was timed to detonate during the peak shopping hours. Both were safely defused.

NAVON, RABIN ARGUE OVER WHETHER TERRORIST EXCHANGE SPARKED HIJACKING

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) — Deputy Premier and Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, former President of Israel, has clashed with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin over Navon's contention that there was a causal relationship between Israel's prisoner exchange deal with a Palestinian terrorist group last month and the current hijack-hostage crisis in Beirut.

Navon, like Rabin a leader in the Labor Party, maintained in an Army Radio interview today that Israel's release on May 20 of 1,150 convicted Palestinian terrorists in exchange for three Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon and held by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, a Damascus-based terrorist group headed by Ahmed Jibril, may "logically have encouraged" the hijack of a TWA airliner by Lebanese Shiite terrorists last Friday.

Rabin, who was a central figure in the prisoner exchange negotiations, rebutted Navon's contention. He told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today that there have been nine aircraft hijacks perpetrated by Shiite gunmen since March, 1982, so there could be no causal relationship between the latest hijack and the Jibril deal.

Navon Opposed Exchange

Navon was the only member of the 10-man inner Cabinet—five Labor and five Likud ministers—who opposed the prisoner exchange. He said the government "ought to have had the moral strength to tell the families (of the three captured Israeli soldiers) that there is a line beyond which we could not go." According to Navon, the prisoner exchange "warped our criteria."

But Navon hinted that his position might be different if and when the Cabinet is called upon to decide whether to release more than 600 Shiite guerrillas captured in Lebanon and presently held in the Atlit detention camp near Haifa in exchange for some 40 Ameri-

can airline passengers being held hostage by the hijackers in Beirut. This is the primary demand of the hijackers.

Navon said if there were "direct approaches" the Cabinet would weigh them, "taking into account the specific facts in the case." The approaches would have to be made by the U.S., however. Israel would not act without an American request, Navon said.

The U.S. has made no such request of Israel so far and the Reagan Administration has stressed that it will not ask Israel for any concessions to the hijackers. Rabin told the Knesset committee that Israel is sticking to its official position of non-involvement in the hijack crisis since it has received no requests from the U.S. or the International Red Cross with respect to the hijackers' demands. He noted that the hijackers "address" their demands to Washington.

Navon's view that last month's prisoner exchange was a contributory factor in the hijacking is shared by a growing number of Israelis. More and more Israelis of all political persuasions are now maintaining that the lopsided prisoner exchange was one of the worst mistakes Israel ever made and will have grave consequences in the future.

Shamir Trying To Shift Blame On Labor

Although the exchange deal was implemented by the Labor-Likud national unity coalition government, Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister in that government, is now trying to place the onus on his Labor partners. At a meeting yesterday with leaders of the religious party, Morasha, Shamir said "perhaps the government went too far," adding that had Likud been the sole governing party of Israel, the prisoner exchange would not have taken place.

Laborites, for their part, contend that it was the Likud government, headed by Shamir, that contracted the basic principles of the exchange before the unity government took office last September and there was little choice but to go through with the deal.

Specifically, Labor claims that the Likud government agreed not to "veto" the names of any Palestinian terrorists submitted by Jibril, who he wanted released in return for the three Israeli soldiers he was holding in Damascus. The Likud government also agreed that the terrorists, once freed, could return to their homes in the West Bank, Gaza Strip or even in Israel if they had been legal residents at the time of their arrests, the Laborites say.

As a result, terrorists serving life sentences for murder were freed and about 600 of them elected to return to their homes in Israel or the administered territories.

Shiite Situation Different

The situation with the Shiite prisoners at Atlit is different. They are not terrorists but guerrillas captured in Lebanon where they were attacking Israeli troops in the process of withdrawing. They were not tried or convicted of any crimes. It was in fact, Shamir's intention to release them once the withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force from south Lebanon was completed.

The Israelis say they would have been freed by now had it not been for the tense situation that developed in the south Lebanon security zone last week after the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) detained 21 Finnish soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The soldiers have since been released.

SUPREME COURT AGREES TO HEAR CASE ON WEARING OF YARMULKE By Theo Stone

WASHINGTON, June 18 (JTA) — The Supreme Court agreed yesterday to decide for the first time whether an Orthodox Jew may wear a yarmulke while on duty in any of the United States armed forces.

The case centers around Rabbi Simcha Goldman who, while on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, was ordered to remove his yarmulke. Chaplain Goldman had served in the Air Force for three years when a new base commander ordered him, on pain of disciplinary action, to remove his skull cap.

Before his stint in the Air Force, he had served as a chaplain in the Navy for several years, a period during which his wearing his yarmulke was not challenged by his superiors. After leaving Navy service, he obtained a doctorate in psychology and enlisted in the Air Force to serve as a psychologist.

Lower Court Decision Reversed

After the warning from the new base commander, Goldman filed suit in the federal district court in Washington in 1981 and a decision in his favor was handed down in 1982. A circuit court of appeals reversed that ruling, upholding the authority of the Air Force. An appeal was filed with the Supreme Court, which is expected to hear the case during the fall 1985 term.

The defense has been handled by Nathan Lewin, a vice president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA). Lewin has argued there is a constitutional right to wear a yarmulke under the freedom of religious expression clause of the First Amendment, and that this does not interfere with the military functions of the wearer.

Case Has Broader Question

Lewin declared that the Defense Department has argued that any variation in the uniformity of the military dress code would result in disintegration of morale and discipline in the armed forces, a position sustained by the appeals court.

Lewin said the case represents the broader problem between exercise of religious belief and laws which appear to be prohibiting the exercise of those religious beliefs. He said an important larger question is: When does a general obligation have to yield in the face of a religious conviction?

Goldman quit the Air Force but retained reserve status. He is now a practicing psychologist at Chabad House in Los Angeles.

ISRAELI FIRMS BUSY IN CHINA By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 18 (JTA) — There are no diplomatic relations between Israel and the Peoples Republic of China but the two countries are cooperating on a variety of projects.

Maariv reported yesterday that more than 60 Israeli firms are currently involved in establishing enterprises in China or are in the final stages of agreements with the Chinese authorities. The projects include an airfield and 10 hotels, solar energy plants and agricultural development involving Israeli know-how, capital and technology. The Chinese provide the manpower and land and do the actual construction, Maariv said. Two Israeli experts have just been granted visas by the Chinese and will travel there on their Israeli passports. Others have gone to China on non-Israeli passports. Many Israelis hold dual nationality for business purposes.

HERZOG DEFENDS ISRAEL'S POLICIES BEFORE HIS HOSTS AT IRISH DINNER

By Maurice Samuelson

DUBLIN, June 18 (JTA) — President Chaim Herzog of Israel, on his five-day state visit to Ireland, changed what his hosts regard as a mainly ceremonial occasion into a platform for forcefully putting Israel's case on Middle East and world affairs.

Departing from the non-controversial style of most Israeli heads of state, the President last night used a State dinner at historic Dublin Castle to launch into the kind of lengthy speech reminiscent of his period as Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations.

His purpose is to counter what he termed the lack of perspective and distortion of the picture presented about Israel and about the Israeli-Arab conflict.

President Patrick Hillery of Ireland, Premier Garret Fitzgerald and other members of the Cabinet listened in polite silence as Herzog applied to the Palestinian issue the Irish government's own formula for rejecting the use of terror and murder in Northern Ireland.

Positive Links Stressed

He also dwelt at length on the positive links between Israel and her neighbors, as well as the good relations between Jews and other communities inside Israel in contrast to the conflicts sweeping other parts of the area from Afghanistan and the Gulf to Sudan and the Western Sahara.

He reminisced about his childhood and early youth in Ireland and stressed repeatedly the historical parallels in Israel's and Ireland's struggles for independence and their common devotion to the democratic system.

"I grew up in the throes of the Irish struggle in which part of the Jewish community was involved," Herzog said. "I personally had the privilege of participating in the struggle for our independence in Israel and I was very considerably influenced by our experiences in Ireland in the early formative days of the Republic."

Ireland Plays Key Role

The President has adopted his high profile because of the Irish Republic's key position on the political map. Besides being an active member of the United Nations and the European Economic Community, it is influential in the Third World and has its diaspora of some 40 million Americans and five million Australians of Irish extraction.

Before the visit there had been speculation that Herzog might press for the establishment of an Israeli Embassy in Dublin. But this now seems incidental to the grand themes adopted in his first major speech here last night, the first of four which he will make over the next three days.

He is also influenced by the fact that apart from a trip to Holland some 30 years ago, this is the first full State visit by an Israeli president to any Western democracy.

Hillery, addressing the 220 guests at last night's Dublin Castle dinner, devoted his speech almost entirely to the achievements and patriotism of Ireland's small Jewish community and to Irish-Israeli relations. Ireland and Israel have long histories, he said. "Our cultures and traditions are rich and ancient. As independent nations we are relatively young, but we share a deep respect for the democratic system which we cherish. Your visit," he told Herzog, "reminds us of the bonds of friendship and goodwill which exists between Israel and Ireland."

ATTACKS CONTINUE AGAINST IDF

TEL AVIV, June 18 (JTA) — Military activity continues in the south Lebanon security zone two weeks after the Israel Defense Force officially completed its withdrawal. Three Katyusha rockets were fired at IDF troops in the Shakif el-Hardoun region of the zone yesterday.

The IDF responded by firing eight mortar shells in the direction of the rocket-launcher, Lebanese sources reported, and IDF infantry aided by helicopters searched the area for the attackers. But the IDF had no comment on these operations. Its policy apparently is to play down reports of Israeli forces still active inside Lebanon.

Two soldiers of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were wounded yesterday by mortar fire in the security zone. Small arms fire was also aimed at an SLA position near Hasbaya.

SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad said meanwhile that he did not think the security situation in south Lebanon would be affected if Israel released more than 700 Shiite guerrillas, demanded by the hijackers of TWA Flight 847 in exchange for the American hostages they are holding in Beirut.

The Shiites were captured in Lebanon and transferred to the Atlit detention camp near Haifa after the IDF withdrew from south Lebanon. According to Lahad, "generally, we find that once a man has spent time in detention he does not return to terrorist activity."

Relations between the SLA and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) have improved since the SLA freed 21 Finnish UNIFIL soldiers it seized two weeks ago. UNIFIL is now allowing SLA units to pass unhindered through its check points. Previously it would try to disarm the SLA men because the UN force does not recognize the Israel-backed militia.

JOURNALISTS DEMAND GUSH APOLOGIZE FOR TV REPORTER BEING ROUGHED UP

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) — The Jerusalem Journalists Association has demanded that the Gush Emunim apologize publicly for a physical attack on television reporter Menashe Raz during a mass rally they organized in Tel Aviv Sunday night.

The rally, which drew a crowd of about 40,000 to Malchei Yisrael Square in Tel Aviv, was billed as a demonstration of support for 20 alleged members of a Jewish terrorist underground currently on trial for acts of violence against Arabs in the West Bank and others already convicted and serving sentences.

But it degenerated into angry polemics against Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir and the news media, especially television, which Gush Emunim speakers accused of bias against Jews and in favor of Arabs. Raz was roughed up by the crowd and his camera was smashed after a speaker shouted from the rostrum, "Menashe Raz—may his name be blotted out — is here. Israel television ought to be burned down."

The Journalists Association said if an apology is not forthcoming within 48 hours the media will boycott the Gush Emunim.

At least one of the speakers at the rally, MK Avner Sciaky of the National Religious Party, expressed disgust at the behavior of the demonstrators. He said he would not have attended had he known the demonstration would have clearly racist overtones, a reference to the denunciations of all Arabs as terrorists.

Likud MK Michael Eitan, who left the rally before his turn to speak, said he did so because it was taken over by Kach activists.

33 CONGRESSMEN COMPLAIN TO MEESE ABOUT PROSECUTION OF RABBIS ARRESTED AT SOVIET EMBASSY PROTEST By Theo Stone

WASHINGTON, June 18 (JTA) -- Thirty-three Congressmen have signed a letter addressed to Attorney General Edwin Meese III asking him why the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia is prosecuting 24 rabbis and one Lutheran minister who were arrested last month for protesting in front of the Soviet Embassy.

The letter, which is dated June 11, 1985 and was sent on the stationery of the House Judiciary Committee, was signed by the entire committee with the exception of three members. It asks the Attorney General why the rabbis and the minister are being prosecuted. The 25 men and women were arrested on May 1 and accused of violating a law which prohibits protesting within 500 feet of an embassy.

The rabbis, who were protesting to dramatize the plight of Soviet Jewry, were using the same technique which has proved so successful in the anti-apartheid protests at the South African Embassy. Whereas more than 2,000 protesters have been arrested at the South African embassy on the same charges as the rabbis, the U.S. attorney has decided not to prosecute the South African protesters.

Treatment Of S. African Protesters Contrasted

The letter said, "these members of the clergy were protesting the difficult plight and discriminatory treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. Like the more than 2,000 people who have demonstrated in front of the South African Embassy, the 24 rabbis and one Lutheran minister's demonstration was peaceful and did not disrupt the conduct of business at the Embassy."

The letter asks Meese, "Why has the government decided to prosecute these members of the clergy when it has dropped the charges against all of those who have done the same thing at the South African Embassy?" The letter goes on to say, "The behavior of both groups was identical. Absent of a sound explanation, the decision to prosecute in these cases appears to be arbitrary and discriminatory. Even if the Soviet Union has requested prosecution, we believe that the decision who to prosecute and who not to prosecute for exercising their First Amendment rights to demonstrate should not depend upon the requests of representatives of foreign governments."

The office of the Attorney General has refused comment on the Judiciary Committee letter.

Second Arrest Of Rabbis Protested

Meanwhile, the Rabbinical Assembly has also sent a telegram to Meese protesting what the rabbinical group charged was the denial of "basic rights" by the police to a group of 21 rabbis arrested last week outside the Soviet Embassy.

According to the RA, the organization of 1200 Conservative rabbis, the 21 rabbis arrested on June 10 were incarcerated for six hours and were not allowed to meet with their lawyers for five hours. "They were also denied the right to make telephone calls, have food or water, (and) decent bathroom facilities," the RA said in the telegram.

"Moreover, many of these leaders in their 60's were forced to remain standing for a three hour stretch while kept in a tiny cage," the telegram said. "These men suffered the indignity of body searches and were kept in a cage with drunks and drug addicts while incarcerated in the Washington Superior Court."

"We strongly object to this denial of basic rights to a group as distinguished and significant as these 21 rabbis. Furthermore, we vow to promote additional peaceful demonstrations and arrests if necessary until Soviet Jews will be allowed the freedoms guaranteed in the Helsinki Accords."

The telegram was signed by Rabbi Alexander Shapiro, RA president, and Rabbi Allan Meyerowitz, RA Soviet Jewry chairman.

CANAL PLAN KILLED FOR LACK OF FUNDS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 18 (JTA) -- The Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal, a hydro-electric project enthusiastically backed by the former Likud-led government, is dead. The Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure concluded last week that it was no longer feasible, due in large measure to lack of funds, and ordered a halt to preliminary work which has already cost some \$15 million.

The original idea was to use the more than 1,000 foot drop from sea level to the Dead Sea to generate electric power. The canal was supposed to revolutionize Israel's energy systems. On that basis, the Israel Bonds Organization raised substantial funds overseas.

But Israel's economic crisis overwhelmed the plans. The \$15 million spent was for an exploratory tunnel in connection with a proposed power station. The study required an additional \$2 million which the Energy Ministry, subject to new budgetary constraints, refused to invest. Premier Shimon Peres has suggested that the monies be diverted to the development of two new technological zones, one in Galilee and the other in the Negev.

GERMAN INTERIOR MINISTER REJECTS GALINSKI DEMAND TO BAN SS MEETING

By David Kantor

BONN, June 18 (JTA) -- Heinz Galinski, chairman of the Jewish community in West Berlin, is engaged in an angry public controversy with Friedrich Zimmermann, Interior Minister of the Bonn government, over the annual reunion meetings of veterans of Nazi SS divisions which are allowed in the Federal Republic although Nazi activities are banned by law.

The reunions, held in remote resort villages, attract worldwide attention to the detriment of West Germany's image and are often the scene of protest demonstrations by anti-Nazi groups. Galinsky recently wrote to Zimmermann asking for legal action to ban the SS meetings.

The Interior Minister rejected the idea out of hand. He contended, in reply to Galinski that the SS veterans behave properly and in no way pose a danger to the democratic system. The Berlin Jewish leader has now published an open letter to Zimmermann charging that his attitude encourages old-time Nazis and neo-Nazis as well.

Galinski also expressed concern about West Germany's credibility as a democratic state committed to combat Nazi ideas. He noted however that Richard Von Weizsaecker, President of the Federal Republic, has strongly and publicly criticized the indifference of Germans toward the Nazi persecution of Jews.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The economic crisis seems to have its affect as less Israelis are going abroad. Some 42,000 Israelis left Israel in May, a drop of 22 percent compared to the same period last year. This drop was recorded even before the doubling of the travel tax to \$300, at the end of May. It is likely that the statistics of this month will show an even larger drop.