

ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN ENVOYS TO THE U.S. DISAGREE ON THE ROOT CAUSE OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- The Israeli and Egyptian Ambassadors to the United States disagreed Sunday on whether the Palestinian issue was at the root of the Arab-Israel conflict and whether solving it would end international terrorism.

Israel's Meir Rosenne and Egypt's El Sayed Abdel Raouf El Reedy exchanged their views at the closing session of the 80th anniversary meeting of the American Jewish Committee at the J.W. Marriott Hotel.

"The Arab-Israel conflict is essentially an Israel-Palestinian conflict," Reedy maintained. He said the other Arab countries "were dragged in to this conflict" because of "solidarity" with fellow Arabs.

But Rosenne pointed out that Israel was attacked by Arab countries in 1948, not because of their concern for the Palestinians, but because "they wanted to destroy the State of Israel." He added that except for Egypt, the Arab states have refused to "sit down and negotiate because they are against the existence of the State of Israel."

On terrorism, Reedy said "there is a link between the increase of terrorism and the absence of peace." He said a whole generation has grown-up that has been subjected to violence, hopelessness and despair and has been "exploited" by others for various causes.

He said a "credible peace process, even if it triggers initial and instant violent action on the part of the peace spoilers," will lessen terrorism because young people will see that there is hope.

Need For International Cooperation

But Rosenne stressed that "terrorism is not linked to the situation in the Middle East." He warned that the world will have to live with terrorism. "As a result of the action of the United States there will be less terrorism because nobody wants to be bombed either by the United States or any other country," Rosenne stressed.

Reedy agreed that there has to be international cooperation against terrorism. But he warned that there is a "new and alarming tendency" to "identify terrorism with the Arabs."

"It is not only erroneous and unfair, it is extremely dangerous," he said. "It tends to radicalize the Arab masses, alienate those who aspire to a peaceful settlement and drive a wedge between the Arab and Western world."

Reedy stressed that "the continuation of the status quo would increase the tendency to violence on both sides." He said that the February 11, 1985 agreement between King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat is still in effect and expressed confidence that progress can be made. He maintained that Arafat wants to find a way to negotiate peace with Israel.

Rosenne said that every Israeli government has wanted to make peace with all its Arab neighbors. He said negotiations must be direct and without pre-conditions. He stressed that Israel is still willing to meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. "We are not going to decide the identity of the Palestinians that are going to negotiate with us," Rosenne said.

He added, however, that Israel will never negotiate with the PLO, reminding Reedy that Arafat rejoiced when Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was assassinated. He asked how Israel could be expected to reach an agreement with Arafat if Hussein was unable to do so. "You don't need to negotiate with your friends, you need to negotiate with enemies," Reedy replied.

He said that the Palestinians need a "Palestinian entity" in which they can "live and die as free Palestinians." Rosenne noted that from 1948 to 1967, Jordan and Egypt controlled the West Bank and Gaza and they never did anything about establishing a Palestinian state. He said the reason was that such a state would endanger the existence of Jordan.

WIESENTHAL AND AUSTRIAN JEWISH LEADER ASSAIL WJCONGRESS FOR ITS TACTICS IN UNCOVERING WALDHEIM'S WAR-TIME PAST
By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress was strongly criticized this weekend by Vienna-based Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal and the head of the Vienna Jewish community over its handling of the charges against Austrian Presidential candidate Kurt Waldheim, the former United Nations Secretary General accused of misrepresenting his past war-time activities as a Wehrmacht officer.

Wiesenthal charged that the WJC tactics used in uncovering the Waldheim documents linking him to war-time atrocities against Yugoslav partisans has aided in stirring anti-Semitic sentiment in Austria. He also lashed out at comments attributed to WJC officials Elan Steinberg and Israel Singer in a recent interview in the Austrian magazine Profil.

"Do you know what is reviving anti-Semitism here," Wiesenthal was quoted as saying in an interview published here Friday in The New York Daily News. "It is not their (WJC) revelations about Waldheim's past. No. It is an interview by Israel Singer of the World Jewish Congress, telling Austrians that Bitburg was one bitter day for President Reagan and that if Austrians elect Waldheim, the population of Austria is going to get six years of Bitburg," a reference to the controversy surrounding President Reagan's visit to the German military cemetery at Bitburg last year. Edgar Bronfman, WJC president, and other Jewish community leaders seemed puzzled over Wiesenthal's criticism of the WJC, which has played a leading role in uncovering documents and other information on Waldheim's past activities. Waldheim has denied any role in war-time atrocities against Yugoslav partisans.

The 77-year-old Nazi hunter, head of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna, repeated his charges against the WJC handling of the Waldheim affair in a weekend interview with The New York Times. He accused Singer, WJC secretary general, of having made "threats" to the Austrians if they voted to elect Waldheim Austria's next president. He is favored to win the June 8 Presidential run off.

An Opportunist, But Not Yet a War Criminal

But, in both interviews, Wiesenthal indicated that he has not given any support to Waldheim. He said Waldheim was an "opportunist" but that he should not yet be considered a war criminal. "I don't support him. I don't believe him," Wiesenthal said. "I have told him that to him directly and I will not defend him."

The president of the Vienna Jewish Community, Ivan Hacker-Lederer, broadly confirmed Wiesenthal's accusations, saying television appearances by Singer in Austria have had a "terrible effect" and had improved Waldheim's electoral chances. He said he was in favor of bringing out the truth of Waldheim's past activities, but that he disagreed with the manner in which it was being conducted. He said he did not believe Waldheim had personally committed war crimes.

Charges Against Waldheim Are 'Serious'

Wiesenthal issued a statement Friday through the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center seeking "to clarify my position" on Waldheim. He called the charges against Waldheim "serious." He said questions as to whether Waldheim is a war criminal "can only be fully answered when all of the documents in various archives throughout the world are released and made public."

"I challenge Mr. Waldheim to join me in demanding that the government of Yugoslavia release his file," the statement added. Wiesenthal has called on the Yugoslav government to open its files on Waldheim. He said the Yugoslavs have information on Waldheim, who was investigated after the war by the Yugoslav War Crimes Commission which called for his arrest for murder of Yugoslavs during World War II.

JEWISH LEADER DEPLORES WIESENTHAL'S 'INTEMPERATE ATTACK' ON THE WJCONGRESS

SWAN LAKE, N. Y., May 18 (JTA) -- Barnett Zumoff, newly re-elected president of the Workmen's Circle, said Sunday that he "deeply deplores the intemperate attack of Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal on a respected Jewish organization, the World Jewish Congress, for its efforts to expose to the world the disgraceful wartime activities of Kurt Waldheim," the former UN Secretary General who is running for the Presidency of Austria.

Zumoff, speaking at the closing session of the Workmen's Circle's four-day national convention here, said, "Wiesenthal's actions represent a worst example of the type of internecine warfare within the Jewish community that seriously endangers that community and diverts our energies from dealing with the real problems that threaten all Jews." Zumoff said Waldheim's war record merits the outrage of "all freedom-loving and democratic people -- not just the Jewish people -- and should disqualify him from high office in Austria."

Zumoff added that "to blame the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Austria, with its long and inglorious history of both covert and open anti-Semitism, on the campaign against Waldheim, is an example of blaming the victim for the crime." He called for "all Jews to stand together to combat openly if necessary, their real enemies and not attack each other."

LABOR PARTY CONVENTION ENDS IN UNITY By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- The Labor Party ended its convention with a strong display of unity after unanimously electing a 1,300-member Central Committee with greatly expanded powers at the second and final session in Tel Aviv shortly before midnight Thursday.

The new body, carefully selected to represent every group and trend within the party, will draft the lists of Labor candidates for the Knesset and office holders in such institutions as Histadrut and the World Zionist Organization. The Central Committee thereby replaces the various "arrangements committees" that were formerly activated for such tasks before elections.

The change gives Labor a broadly based central body such as the rival Herut Party has had for some time. In theory at least, it removes the selection of candidates from party leaders and power brokers in favor of a more democratic system. Herut now seems to be in a position somewhat analogous to the badly divided Labor Party before the 1977 elections when Labor was unseated for the first time in 30 years by Likud under the leadership of Menachem Begin.

With Begin in retirement, a bitter power struggle developed in Herut where David Levy and Ariel Sharon is each seeking to replace Yitzhak Shamir as party leader. Levy and Sharon joined their factions in an alliance of convenience against Shamir, causing the Herut convention last March to break up in chaos before any leader was elected.

Since then there have been desultory behind-the-scenes efforts to heal the rift and reconvene the convention to complete its business. Shamir, who is scheduled to replace Shimon Peres as Prime Minister when the rotation of power agreement goes into effect next October, remains nominally the Herut leader.

Meanwhile, a new political faction, the Liberal Center Party, will hold its founding convention in Tel Aviv next week and is expected to elect Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lehat its leader. The Liberal Center comprises disaffected members of the Liberal Party wing of Likud who have balked against the projected merger of the Liberal Party with Herut.

SHULTZ GOES TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY TO GET SUPPORT FOR SAUDI ARMS SALE By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 19 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz took the Reagan Administration's effort to get Jewish support for President Reagan's proposed \$354 million missile sale to Saudi Arabia directly to the Jewish community.

The vote to sustain or override the President's veto of the resolution adopted by Con-

gress rejecting the sale has "an added dimension," Shultz told the annual banquet of the American Jewish Committee's 80th anniversary meeting at the J.W. Marriott Hotel last Thursday night.

He said it would not be "simply a vote on Saudi arms, but a vote on whether we want to say to our President that we support him and the world can see that the President, in the clutch, will have support on something that he feels very deeply about."

Shultz's remarks were greeted with silence, which is a reflection of the negative attitude in the Jewish community since Sen. Richard Lugar (R. Ind.) suggested last Tuesday that Reagan seek Jewish support.

Both the government of Israel and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) opposed the sale but decided not to lobby against it. Reagan is scheduled to meet Monday with Jewish leaders on this issue.

It takes a two-thirds vote of both the Senate and House to override a Presidential veto. The Saudi sale was rejected by a 73-22 vote of the Senate and a 356-62 vote of the House. The White House is concentrating on the Senate where it must get 23 Senators opposed to the sale to change their vote.

Context Of Support For Arms Deal

Shultz, who was presented with the AJCommittee's highest award, the American Liberties Medallion, urged support of the sale to the Saudis in the context of support for the U.S. strike against Libya.

He said the raid has resulted in forcing Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi to "retreat, and Syria is uneasy -- a reaction which may induce that country to think hard about involvement in murderous adventures."

Noting that the use of military force caused controversy, Shultz said "it is precisely at such times that solidarity counts. We all noticed that Israel was quick to support our action against Libyan terrorism and aggression."

He then stressed that "this principle also applies to America's need to support -- under carefully limited conditions -- Saudi Arabia's effort to defend the Persian Gulf."

He added that if "Khomeinism" spread in that area it will harm the strategic interests of both the U.S. and Israel. "There are many in the Arab world who want peace and stability and moderation -- and who can be brought to accept the permanent reality of the State of Israel," Shultz said.

"But if America cannot demonstrate that we are a constant, effective, strong and responsive presence in the Middle East, those with the best of intentions inevitably will make their accommodations with those who bear the worst intentions toward us." Earlier in his speech, Shultz departed from his text to recall his meeting last Tuesday with Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky.

He noted that he rode with Shcharansky to the White House in the Secretary's limousine which was larger than the cell Shcharansky was confined to in the Soviet Union.

"From that cell he rallied people in every part of the world behind the great cause of Soviet Jewry and the great cause of freedom," Shultz said.

He said Shcharansky presented his ideas on how to help Soviet Jewry. "Whatever our tactics of the moment may be, we must never compro-

mise, we must never give up, we must keep the faith of this cause," he pledged.

Shultz then introduced to the audience Rozanne Ridgeway, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs, who, he said, was responsible for the successful negotiations leading to Shcharansky's release from the Soviet Union.

The AJCommittee also presented awards Thursday night to Dr. Abram Sachar, the first president and now chancellor emeritus of Brandeis University, the Akiba Award; and television producer Norman Lear, the Mass Media Award.

LEVY: U.S. AND ISRAEL STAND TOGETHER IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM

DALLAS, May 18 (JTA) -- "The people of Israel and of the United States are a beautiful combination, standing together in the struggle against terrorism" Israel's Deputy Prime Minister David Levy told more than 800 people during an Independence Day celebration last Wednesday evening.

The celebration, "Jerusalem, A Praise in all the Earth," was sponsored by an interreligious National Committee chaired by Dr. W. A. Criswell, a former president of the 13 million member Southern Baptist Convention, and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, the largest Baptist church in the world.

During the festivities, Criswell presented Levy with a proclamation, which stated, in part, "We extend to the people and nation of Israel our full measure of love, friendship and support."

Criswell told the Deputy Prime Minister, who is also Minister of Housing and Construction, that his visit to Dallas "has strengthened the relationship between our citizens and the valiant people of Israel."

In his address, Levy stated that his generation, "has taken an oath that our enemies will not drive us from the land of Israel. Our heroes are youngsters," he continued, "youngsters of eighteen and nineteen who are ready to sacrifice everything because they know the prayers of their people are with them. They know that for us it is forbidden to lose a war."

Proceeds of the celebration will benefit the American Friends of Beit Halochem, a project of the Bnai Zion Foundation, and will be used to construct the Beit Halochem Center in Jerusalem, serving Israel's disabled veterans.

Invites Business Leaders To Israel

In addition to participating in Wednesday evening's celebration, Levy met the next morning with leaders of the Dallas Jewish community at a breakfast sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas. He then toured the Dallas World Trade Center and addressed a luncheon of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce.

Discussing Israeli advances in high technology, Levy also briefed the audience on the Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Israel. "The agreement presents unparalleled incentive for any investor," he stated, inviting Dallas business leaders to visit Israel to examine investment possibilities. Responding, John Johnson, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, announced that discussions will begin soon concerning a Dallas economic mission to Israel.

U.S. REFORM JUDAISM URGED TO SET UP CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS PLURALISM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ISRAEL

ST. LOUIS, May 18 (JTA) -- The American movement of Reform Judaism was urged Friday to establish a center for religious pluralism and social justice in Israel to help the country resolve "the burning issues of Arab-Jewish relations, respect for the democratic process, women's rights and toleration of diversity."

The appeal was issued at the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The chief topic of the weekend meeting in the Doubletree Hotel was the denial of religious rights to the Reform movement in Israel.

In a Sabbath sermon to some 750 people at Congregation Shaare Emeth, Rabbi Charles Kroloff of Westfield, N.J., president of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, called on the Reform movement to help Israel develop a society "where Jewish pluralism and tolerance will flourish."

Declaring that "the survival and unity of our people are at stake," Kroloff urged Reform Jews to bring to Israel "the message that pluralism and social justice are at the core of Jewish history and central to progressive and enlightened political theory." Israel's future, he said, "is as dependent on resolving some of these issues as it is on a strong defense."

Israelis Will Be 'Receptive'

Noting that polls in Israel "demonstrate that the majority of Israelis support equal treatment of all streams of Judaism and welcome help in improving governmental process and the quality of life," he declared: "I believe that if we go to the people of Israel, we will find them receptive to joining us in building a more just society."

"Israel has the most respected army in the world and the least respected synagogues; while her sophisticated high-technology propels her into the 21st century, unremitting intolerance in some quarters pits Jew against Jew. Israel has liberated our people and, at the same time, has subjected them to a small cadre of medieval legalists."

As an example, Kroloff cited the case of Morton Berman, a Reform rabbi and lifelong Zionist from Chicago who settled in Israel in 1962 and who died there last year. "A few weeks ago members of his family visited his grave on the Mount of Olives for an unveiling service," Kroloff recounted. "There they found that an extremist Orthodox group had built a concrete wall around his grave so that Rabbi Berman would not 'contaminate' the cemetery."

"Despite these provocations," Kroloff said, "we are not anti-Orthodox. We are pro-Israel. Precisely because we love Israel so much, we cannot ignore Israel's need for a religious Judaism that her citizens can respect."

MAYORS AT JERUSALEM CONFERENCE EXTOL SAFETY OF ISRAEL FOR TOURIST TRAVEL

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- Thirteen international mayors attending a conference here last week presented a resolution to Prime Minister Shimon Peres expressing their appreciation of Israel's security at a time when instability and terrorism in the Middle East "has gripped our cities and nations," and encouraging their countrymen to show support for peace in the region

by "visiting, vacationing and travelling to the great democratic nation of Israel."

Mayors from the United States, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and Norway spent a week in Israel for the seventh annual Jerusalem Conference of Mayors sponsored by the U.S. Congress, the United States Conference of Mayors and the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies.

The resolution by the mayors stated: "We have come to the end of what has been for all of us a very constructive and personally rewarding experience. We came to Israel at a time when concern for safety and security of tourist travel has gripped our cities and nations."

"After flying to Israel, travelling its roads and walking its streets, we are impressed by the physical and spiritual qualities of Israel in general and the city of Jerusalem in particular. And, beyond this, we are impressed by Jerusalem's atmosphere of security and friendliness."

"To all of our colleagues, friends and fellow citizens, we can, based on our own experience, offer our counsel: There are many good reasons to travel to Israel, and concern for safety is not a reason to stay away."

"Therefore, be it resolved that we unanimously join together to promote and encourage our citizens, our fellow countrymen, and all the people of the world to endorse our ideals and hopes for an overall peace in this area of the world by visiting, vacationing and travelling to the great democratic nation of Israel."

YEHUDA HELLMAN DEAD AT 66

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- Yehuda Hellman, for 25 years executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, died of a heart attack Saturday in a St. Louis, Missouri, hospital. He was 66 years old and lived in Manhattan.

Hellman was delivering a speech to the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations at the Doubletree Hotel in Chesterfield, a suburb of St. Louis, when he suffered the attack. Efforts to revive him failed, and he died shortly afterwards at St. John's Hospital in Chesterfield.

Born in Riga, Latvia, Hellman was a graduate of the American University in Beirut. He worked as a foreign correspondent in London, Paris, Beirut, and Damascus for various publications, including The Jerusalem Post.

A leading authority on the Middle East and U.S. foreign policy, Hellman conferred with numerous foreign dignitaries, including the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. He met President Hosni Mubarak on several occasions in his capacity as executive vice chairman of the Presidents Conference, the umbrella group of the 40 largest American Jewish religious and secular bodies.

Hellman was also a member of the International Steering Committee of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry and was a former secretary general of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations and Communities on Soviet Jewry.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated May 26, Memorial Day, a postal holiday.