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BEHIND THE HEADLINES

SIMMERING CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND U.S. JEWS OVER THE POLLARD CASE By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 15 (JTA) -- Shlomo Avineri, a distinguished Israeli scholar and academician, has triggered an angry controversy over his charge that American Jewish leaders exhibited a "galut" mentality in their reaction to the case of Jonathan Pollard, an American Jew sentenced to life imprisonment for spying for Israel.

He accused them of "cringing" for fear of charges of dual loyalty, thereby belying "the conventional wisdom of American Jewry feeling free, secure and unmolested in an open pluralistic

society."

Avineri, a Hebrew University professor, historian of Zionism and a world-renowned authority on Marx and Hegel, made his charge in an "open letter to an American friend" which appeared in The Jerusalem Post a week ago.

Theodore Mann, president of the American Jewish Congress, in a letter of reply to Avineri, declared that the Jewish reaction in the U.S. "emanates from anger at Israelis, and not from

fear for their own security."

"... That Israelis, believing that American Jews are vulnerable to the 'dual loyalty' charge, should nevertheless have proceeded to recruit an American Jew as a spy, and that no one was punished for this (quite the contrary), shows a disdain for American Jewry by Israeli leadership that is profoundly insulting," Mann wrote.

Claims U.S. Jews Are 'Cringing'

Avineri, a former Director General of the Foreign Ministry whose name has surfaced as a possible candidate to be Israel's next Ambassador to the U.S., observed that subjectively at least, American Jews were very much in galut.

". In the Pollard case . . a degree of nervousness, insecurity and even cringing is surfacing, Avineri charged. "Let me not mince words: Some of the responses of American Jewish leaders after Pollard's sentencing remind me of the way in which Jewish leaders in Egypt under (Gamal Abdel) Nasser and in Iran under (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini ran for cover when members of their respective Jewish communities were caught spying for Israel.

"... American Jewry has prided itself on being a free community of proud Jews living in an open society in which being Jewish was considered as American as apple pie. How many times have American leaders told me that America is not another exile, that you do not live in the galut...?

"And what do we see now? A person who happens to be Jewish (isn't that your favorite phrase) is caught spying for Israel. You would expect that in a free and open society no guilt by association would be presumed, and that nobody, except Pollard himself, should be held responsible," Avineri wrote.
"Instead, we see some senior American

"Instead, we see some senior American Jewish leaders falling all over each other in condemning Pollard and distancing themselvesand the Jewish community -- from him. When did American Jewish leaders last pontificate on matters of criminal justice? . . . I am reminded of some Jewish reactions in France to the Dreyfus affair: He is guilty. We are not. We are good French patriots . . "

Issue Of Dual Loyalty

Avineri asked, "Why do American Jews qua Jews have to feel the need to distance themselves from Pollard? Shouldn't they be saying that the fact that one American Jewish person is convicted of spying for Israel (or for that matter, for the Soviet Union) is no skin off their nose — and that's that?"

Avineri said he "hears American Jews talking about being accused of dual loyalty. And who among non-lews has accused you of that? Only Jewish people have used the phrase in the context of the Pollard affair — because you, not the non-lews, somehow feel deep in your hearts that despite all of your material success and intellectual achievements, you may not be seen by non-lews as being truly Americans."

Avineri noted that "Zionism grew out of the cruel realization that for all their achievements and successes, when the chips are down, Jews in the diaspora become more vulnerable and defenseless, are seen as aliens — and will see themselves as such. You (American Jews) always told us that America was different. Of course it is.

"But... you are afraid that Jews will not be able to get responsible positions in your bureaucracy, that Jewish employes in the defense and intelligence branches will be under some sort of handicap, that Jews will be denied access to sensitive positions. One Jewish spy — and look how deep you find yourself in galut."

Avineri stressed that he was not condoning what Israel did in the Pollard affair. "What we did was unforgivable — not because of its impact on American Jews, but because of the impact on Israel-US. relations ..."

He added, 'The test of really belonging . . . is when the going gets tough . . Your leaders reacted like trembling Israelites in the shtetl, not like the proud and mighty citizens of a free democratic society. . . '

Avineri's Analysis 'Is A Diversion'

Mann, in his reply, conceded "that 200 years of freedom do not crase a mentality 2,000 years in the making . . But Avineri's analysis is a diversion, having little to do with American Jewish reaction to the Pollard affair. That reaction emanates from anger at Israelis . . . Whether American Jews believe that 'when the chips are down' they will be seen as alien is doubtful. Most I suggest do not . . I can recall no previous incident in the history of Israeli-diaspora relations that has been the cause of so much anger and disappointment among American Jews."

Mann concluded: "That Israel spied on the United States is a serious breach in the relationship between those two nations. That Israel recruited an American spy who was Jewish, is a serious breach in the relationship between our two Jewish communities... That Shlomo Avineri should see in this the vulnerability of American Jews rather than the Israeli disdain for American

Jewry that it so obviously was, evidences a widening gap in understanding between our two communities that bodes ill for both.

Series Of Meetings Planned On Pollard Case

Meanwhile, a 65-member delegation of the Conference of Presidents of American Jewish Organizations will begin a five-day series of meetings with top Israeli leaders this Tuesday to discuss U.S.-Israel relations in light of the Pollard affair and the Iran arms scandal. The delegation will be headed by Morris Abram, Conference chairman.

Abram said they would exchange views with and be briefed by Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other Cabinet Ministers and military and intelligence analysts and labor and industry figures.

Before leaving New York, Abram said the visit had been planned for several months and was not related to statements by Secretary of State George Shultz and Congressional leaders that they were distressed by the Pollard spy case.

"We do, however, expect to raise the matter candidly with Israeli leaders," Abram said. He referred to Pollard's espionage as "a serious crime" that "should never have taken place."

CONCERN EXPRESSED THAT ISRAEL'S RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA MAY FURTHER STRAIN RELATIONS WITH U.S. By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 15 (JTA) - Concern was expressed here over the weekend that Israel's relations with South Africa may further aggravate its relations with the U.S., already under strain from the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres referred to that issue in a speech to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Hadassah here Saturday night on the eve of a State Department report on countries which maintain military relations with South Africa.

Israel will not initiate new military contacts with the Pretoria regime, Peres said, but it would honor past agreements.

Knesset member Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) demanded Sunday that Israel sever all relations with South Africa. He said it would be wise to act quickly to avoid 'the next scandal, with Israeli leaders claiming 'they did not know, did not hear'," a reference to the Pollard affair.

Meanwhile, the defense establishment is awaiting the arrival here Monday of John Marsh, Secretary of the U.S. Army. He is expected to meet with top Defense Ministry officials and other Israeli leaders and will visit military industry plants.

MORE THAN 200,000 PEOPLE MARK ANNUAL PURIM CARNIVAL IN TEL AVIV By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 15 (JTA) — More than 200,000 spectators jammed the sidewalks of Ben Yehuda Street here Sunday morning for the annual "Adloyada" Purim carnival parade, a procession of floats and over 1,000 costumed school children, led by Mayor Shlomo Lehat of Tel Aviv. He rode a bicycle and waved an over-sized parking ticket, an "inside joke" understood by resi-

dents of every traffic-congested metropolis in the world.

The parade almost didn't happen. The municipal authorities withheld permission until the last minute because the weather forecasters predicted cold, rain and high winds. But the day dawned sunny and mild.

The floats were designed by pupils at the High School of the Arts. The youngsaters rode them, accompanied by their proud parents. There were flags, bunting, noise-makers and bands. Ben Yehuda Street, one of the older thoroughfares in Tel Aviv, and its cross-streets were closed to traffic. This resulted in gridlock elsewhere in the city. Most businesses and factories were closed for the day.

There was also a Purim parade in Haifa Sunday, organized by the Technion's faculty of architecture who gave it the name 'Archiparchi.' The Haifa parade dates back more than a half century. It was suspended when Hitler came to power in 1933 as a sign of mourning and was not re-introduced until the State of Israel was founded.

ISRAELIS CONCERNED OVER AIDS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV. March 15 (JTA) - A five-hour radio call-in program offering information about AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) reflected widespread and growing concern in Israel over the fatal disease.

Although most of the victims are homosexual or bi-sexual males, half of the more than 1,000 telephone calls to the radio station last week were from women, according to medical doctors who participated in the program. They wanted to know if they could contract AIDS from public toilets, from kissing or immersion in a public mikveh, the religious ritual baths.

They were assured that AIDS is not transmitted by touch but only by sexual intercourse or a transfusion of blood containing the AIDS virus.

12 Fatalities Reported

Only 35 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed in Israel to date. There have been 12 fatalities. The purpose of the program, which followed a television documentary on the subject a week earlier, was to inform the public of the AIDS diagnostic centers that have been set up at a number of hospitals where blood tests are conducted anonymously.

One surprising aspect of the program, according to a commentator, was the medical opinion offered that infants adopted from Brazil should be tested for AIDS because of the prevalence of the disease in that country. The so-called Brazil Babies' are sought by many israeli couples because of the shortage of babies for adoption in Israel.

Meanwhile, a Tel Aviv district court issued a seven-day ban on meetings between a 12-year-old boy and his uncle who has AIDS. The ban was requested by the boy's father. The AIDS victim is being cared for by his sister, the boy's mother, at the home of his grandparents. The victim, not identified, was described as a well known Israeli fashion designer in his early 40's who has been living openly as a homosexual in London, the U.S. and the Philippines where he discovered he had the disease three months ago. He was brought to Israel by his sister for treatment.

NEW YORK, March 15 (JTA) -- American Blacks and Jews must restore their mutual trust and cooperation -- based on similar heritages of oppression and more agreement than they realize on the domestic political agenda -- a leading Black activist and a noted rabbi declared here last week.

But implicit in restoration are obstacles, as was acknowledged by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, chairman of the National Rainbow Coalition and a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1984 and perhaps 1988, and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee and a fellow civil rights leader.

Tanenbaum spoke for himself, although the program originally was announced on American Jewish Committee stationery.

The obstacles were addressed also by members of the interracial audience of about 2,000 at Queens College, attending "The Religious Leader as Political Activist," the first of three public forums scheduled by the 18-month-old Queens (N.Y.) Black-Jewish People to People Project.

Following the speakers' presentations on the need to find common ground, questioners brought up Black-Jewish disputes over quotas as a vehicle for affirmative action, the infamous "Hymictown" remark during Jackson's Presidential campaign and his support of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

The Ouota Issue

The speakers handled the quota issue swiftly. "Blacks and Jews have very different reactions to the word 'quotas," Jackson said in his prepared remarks. "For Blacks, a quota can be a door to opportunity. For Jews, the quota systems has meant a ceiling on success." He noted that both groups support increased job opportunity.

Tanenbaum agreed that the goal was shared and contended that the real problem was lack of enforcement of current laws.

Farrakhan Issue Not Resolved

The Farrakhan issue was not resolved, as Tanenbaum called on Jackson to distance himself from the man who has criticized Judaism as a 'gutter religion' and has close ties with Libya. Jackson called the issue peripheral.

Saying Jackson can contribute significantly to American social and economic justice, the rabbi nevertheless declared: "I think you're fooling yourself if you think the issue of Louis Farrakhan is marginal altogether. . In Madison Square Garden, 25,000 people give him a standing ovation when he utters the most vile anti-Semitic bigotry . . . We are not dealing with a minor phenomenon."

The rabbi proclaimed that support of Farrakhan is an 'ideological problem of a very profound nature. We have got to deal with that as almost a pathology. If the Vatican and the Catholic Church after 1,900 years after preaching that kind of stuff ... has the courage to face it and say it is wrong ... we have the right to ask that in appropriate way, that it be rejected with no ands, iffs or buts."

If Blacks and Jews "really want to turn the corner," he said, Jackson should feel free to

discuss what Tanenbaum called the racism of Kach Knesset member Meir Kahane, and Jews should feel free to bring up Farrakhan.

Jackson said the conflicts over Farrakhan and the "Hymietown" remark -- for which he said he has apologized -- should not be the "litmus test" for the Black-Jewish relationship.

Pressed on the issue by Tanenbaum's statement and another questioner, Jackson said that "anti-Semitism and racism should be rejected, no ifs, ands or buts."

Jackson said that the mainstream Black community, like mainstream U.S. Jewry, does not share the views of the extremists. "Just as you say to trust you, you must trust me," he said. "Almost nobody Black believes in (Farrakhan's racism)." he stated.

Springboard For Improving Relations

He said Blacks have complaints, too, against whites and Jews— about racist advertisements, about Israel's sale of arms to South Africa and "some rather outstanding Jewish names that are in the media who represents (sic) real, serious threats to life and limb and resources, but we refuse to make that a centerpiece of our relationship, and I hope we never will." There was no elaboration on the comment about the media.

Speaking to a questioner who was the leader of the Jewish students at Queens College, Jackson advocated looking to common issues — such as human rights and funding for education — as a springboard to improving relations between Jewish and Black students there.

The Jewish leader noted that he has failed in attempts to establish a dialogue with the Black student leader, who coincidentally was the previous questioner. Jackson asked the Black leader to approach the Jewish leader, and bade them to shake hands. The audience applauded.

Jackson said the task of the Black and Jackson said the task of take the bits of pieces of broken relationship which will never be whole by definition and to . . . coalesce around a common agenda. That's our choice, and it may be our only chance."

Those issues were in general the domestic agenda of the Democratic Party, he and Tanenbaum agreed,

Jackson said that even during the height of the Black-Jewish coalition in the 1960s there were disagreements, "but we simply chose on a scale of 10, that we agreed on seven out of 10, and let's move on . . . You maximize the plusses, minimize the minuses and move on."

'A Challenge To Come Together'

Speaking afterward to reporters, Jackson evaluated his joint appearance with Tanenbaum as a challenge to come together? for Blacks and Jews. The rabbi said, "We've determined the time has come to make a breakthrough in Black-Jewish relations."

Jackson noted that a Government Accounting Office report on arms sales to South Africa by recipients of U.S. aid, thereby violating a U.S. embargo, would mention Israel. He said all nations listed ought to feel U.S. pressure to stop.

Tanenbaum said that in considering the report, due for release April 1, it is important to note that Israel is only a minor arms supplier to South Africa.

Jackson indicated he was leaning toward seeking the Democratic nomination for President in 1988, and said he would announce his decision in late spring. Preceding the event, several dozen members of the Jewish Defense Group and Jewish Defense Organization protested outside the college auditorium. They chanted and held signs proclaiming Jackson was an anti-Semite and supporter of the PLO.

Security personnel scuffled with them briefly over where they were allowed to stand. No injuries were reported.

PASSPORT OF IRANIAN JEW FROM ISRAEL SEIZED UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN THE ILS.

BOSTON, March 15 (JTA) — Mordechai Yitzhakyam, a 28-year-old Iranian Jew from Israel, is spending the Purim holiday in the Coast Guard detention barracks here. His Iranian passport was seized when he landed at Logan Airport Friday, though it contained a valid U.S. visa, because it was illegally altered, according to U.S. immigration authorities. He faces a hearing Monday.

Rabbi Richard Yellin of Mishkan Tefila Congregation of Chestnut Hill, tried without success to have Yitzhakyam released for the Purim festival. According to Yellin, Yitzhakyam came to Israel in 1979 to escape the regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

He retained his Iranian passport in hope of returning there some day to retrieve property. He mailed it to Iran for renewal before coming to the U.S. and it was apparently altered there deliberately according to Yellin.

PROGRAM TO HELP NAVY CHAPLAINS TO LEARN AND TEACH OTHERS ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST IS LAUNCHED BY U.S. NAVY By Margle Olster

NEW YORK, March 15 (JTA) - The United States Navy has launched an educational program designed to help Navy chaplains to learn and teach others about the Holocaust.

Recently, the Navy published a workbook and resource packet entitled "Horror and Hope: Americans Remember the Holocaust," assembled by Navy Chaplain Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff. The material will be distributed to the more than 1,100 Navy chaplains throughout the world.

The project came in response to a request by U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to the heads of all military branches requesting they initiate programs to commemorate the Holocaust.

Packet Contains Five Sections

The packet is divided into five sections. The introduction defines what the Holocaust was and was not. It notes that the Holocaust was "a separate war ... aimed not merely at killing Jews, but also at dehumanizing them in life, and degrading and denying their memory in death." The introduction puts a special emphasis on the concept of resistance to combat Nazi myths that Jews did not resist.

The second section offers programming suggestions to Navy chaplains including a book of Liturgies on the Holocaust, produced by the Anne Frank Institute of Philadelphia. The book includes prayers for Jewish, Catholic and Protestant services.

Hundreds of pages of selected readings from Elie Wiesel and other Holocaust writings comprise the education section, published by the Anti Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The readings, entitled "The Holocaust and Genocide: A Search for Conscience," include excerpts from World War II documents.

The fourth section, theology, contains eight articles by Jewish and Christian theologians and ethicists provided for the chaplains. The material raises questions of faith after the Holocaust, religious perspectives on the period and issues of conscience.

The final section provides catalogues of resources for Holocaust study and a directory of Holocaust agencies.

'We Know The Truth'

Navy Chief of Chaplains (Rear Admiral) John McNamara, in his opening letter included in the packet, stressed the need to bear winness to the Holocaust. "Already some spread the lie that the Holocaust did not occur at all, that it is a hoax of some sort, that no death camps or ovens or crematoria existed, that no special effort was made to erase the Jewish presence from the earth." McNamara wrote.

"Our nation, and our military personnel, were among those who liberated the death camps. We know the truth. And now our country has reaffirmed its commitment to remember the Holocaust, to ensure that it will not be forgotten; to you that it will not happen again."

REFUSENIKS GET PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 15 (JTA) — Permission has been granted to five, possibly six, refuseniks, in recent days. The list was provided by Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, with biographical background added by Glenn Richter, national coordinator for the Student Struggle for Soviet

Jewry.

* Pavel Astrakhan, 33, of Leningrad. He is a mechanical engineer, married to Sophia, with a daughter, Lily, 3. They have been waiting since 1979 to leave.

* Alexander and Vladimir Belkin of Minsk, both listed as being born in 1959, and therefore presumed to be twins. They applied to emigrate in

1984, and staged a hunger strike in 1985.

Irina Rogovaya of Leningrad, a mechanical engineer. She is listed as having a sister in Canada, Lena Zaslavsky. She is a refusenik since

Lev Sigalov of Leningradskaya Oblast, 31, an engineer, first refused in 1978. He is married to Ludmilla, and they have a son, David, 3. Sigalov has a brother in Israel.

A name, Ujanik, of Talin, Estonia, appeared on the list provided the Long Island Committee. Although they could not clarify who the person is, the SSSJ has a man named Boris Yudeikin of Talin listed as a refusenik, refused permission in 1986.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- CLAL -- The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership -- has purchased a 184-acre site in Goshen, New York, 51 miles northwest of New York City, on which it plans to build a new study-learning center to serve the North American Jewish community.