

IRAQ REPORTED TO HAVE MISSILE-CARRYING NUCLEAR WARHEAD CAPABLE OF REACHING MAJOR CITIES IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 5 (JTA) — Iraq has developed a medium-range missile, possibly with Egypt's cooperation, that could carry a nuclear warhead and reach major population centers of Israel, the Israeli press reported Wednesday.

Israeli officials expressed concern at the reports that the Iraqi missile may be capable of carrying a nuclear weapon and causing considerable damage even if it misses its target.

Haaretz Wednesday quoted an Iraqi news agency report that Iraq and Egypt, the two most technologically advanced Arab states, are collaborating in building a medium-range ground-to-ground missile capable of flying 400 miles.

Haaretz military correspondent Zeev Schiff reported that military sources are concerned by Baghdad's announcement Tuesday that the first test rocket flew 380 miles. Israel has known for some time that Iraq was developing such a missile. The Iraqis have said the missile is capable of hitting Teheran, but it can also reach any target in Israel, Schiff reported.

Chemical Warhead Missile Possible

Egypt and Iraq reportedly began cooperating on the project during the Iran-Iraq war. The cooperation likely assures that Iraq will succeed in producing a missile capable of carrying a chemical warhead sooner than anticipated. Some military sources have speculated that Iraq has already developed a missile with the range and accuracy claimed in this week's reports.

Iraq's announcement of the missile test could be aimed to raise the war-torn country's morale. But Iraq may also want to answer to Israel's development of the medium-range missile, the Jericho 2.

Syria and Egypt have already acquired growing numbers of ground-to-ground missiles capable of striking Israeli population centers. For this reason, the IDF must devise some form of protection from the threat. One such solution is the Barak anti-missile missile, Schiff suggested.

FRANCE DENIES PROMISE TO IRAQ TO HELP REBUILD NUCLEAR REACTOR DESTROYED BY ISRAEL SIX YEARS AGO

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 5 (JTA) — Prime Minister Jacques Chirac denied Wednesday a press report saying that he had secretly promised Iraq to rebuild a French-made nuclear reactor destroyed by Israel six years ago.

Chirac also told Israeli Ambassador Ovadia Soffer that not only is the report "false and groundless" but that there have been no negotiations with Baghdad on this subject and that as far as he is concerned "this issue is definitely closed."

A usually reliable weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, claimed Wednesday that Chirac had promised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to rebuild the two reactors, Tamuz One and Tamuz Two, bombed

by Israeli Air Force planes in June 1981. The *Canard Enchaîné* report was based on an official letter from Chirac to Saddam Hussein recalling their past relationship and referring to "the negotiation you know about" without giving further details. Chirac's letter, dated June 24, 1987 also served to introduce Foreign Trade Minister Michel Noir, who met with Hussein in Baghdad a few days later.

Both the French Foreign Ministry and sources close to the Elysee also denied the report. The Atomic Energy Commission, in charge of nuclear cooperation abroad, also said it had had no contacts with Iraq since the beginning of the year.

Jewish sources stress that the man the *Canard Enchaîné* said was in charge of the negotiations, Noir, is known as one of Israel's best friends in the current administration and would most probably refuse to carry out this sort of mission.

IDF, UNIFIL DIFFER ON SHOOTING INCIDENT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 5 (JTA) — The Israel Defense Force and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) differed Wednesday over what happened in south Lebanon Saturday night when two Norwegian soldiers were injured by Israeli gunfire.

The IDF, which has appointed a commission of investigation, insists that the Israeli soldiers fired on suspicious persons walking in the middle of the night on the edge of the security zone, in a region not usually patrolled by UNIFIL and without prior notice being given to the IDF to avoid incidents.

But the UNIFIL command, and especially its Norwegian contingent, insist with equal strength that the IDF had been notified that a UNIFIL unit would be operating in that region. It said the IDF was fully aware of the exact route the Norwegian patrol would take.

The Norwegian Ambassador in Israel registered a sharp protest with the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem Wednesday. The incident is reported to have aroused great anger in Norway. Norwegian television crews visited the site Tuesday to prepare extensive reports.

ARAB BOYCOTT COMPLIANCE MOVE MAY REMOVE MARKETING FIZZ FROM SCHWEPPE'S

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 5 (JTA) — British opponents of the Arab boycott are looking to the United States to put pressure on Cadbury-Schweppes, the international United Kingdom-owned soft drinks and confectionery group, which is considering reducing its ties with Israel in order to have its name removed from the Arab blacklist.

This has emerged following disclosure of a letter from a Cadbury-Schweppes senior director to the Arab boycott office in Damascus discussing the prospects for ending the group's bottling and trademark arrangements with Israel's Jaf-Ora Company, based in Rehovot. The British anti-boycott committee, which as a matter of principle is

opposed to all boycotts, is apparently reluctant to advise British friends of Israel to take retaliatory action against Cadbury-Schweppes should it terminate its trade ties with Israel.

However, Cadbury-Schweppes, which was highly embarrassed by the leak of its exchanges with Damascus, has evidently been informed through other channels that it could lose far more than its relatively minor business in Israel if it succumbed to Arab pressures.

Possible Reactions In Britain

In Britain, the company could earn the displeasure of major retail chains, such as Marks and Spencer and Tesco, renowned for their active support of the State of Israel. Both these companies are biding their time before taking any public action.

But boycott watchers here believe there would be a far stronger backlash in the U.S. because of the greater militancy of the American Jewish community and because, unlike Britain, the U.S. has legislation outlawing compliance with the Arab boycott by American companies or American subsidiaries of overseas concerns.

The world's third biggest soft-drinks company, Cadbury-Schweppes sees its biggest opportunities in North America, where last year it realized a pre-tax profit of 415 million Pounds Sterling, nearly a quarter of its world-wide profit.

Together with its newly acquired subsidiary Canada Dry, it controls around 3.2 percent of America's huge soft drinks market. While still dwarfed by Coca Cola and PepsiCo, it is confident of further growth there.

Confidential Letter Disclosed

The group's bid to conciliate the Arabs emerged in a confidential letter from Mervyn Blakeney, managing director of Schweppes International, to the Damascus boycott office, which had been circulated anonymously to various Jewish organizations before being quoted in the Israeli press last week.

In this letter, Blakeney had said the company "undertakes, that at the request of the Central Office for the Boycott of Israel, it will formally instruct its wholly owned subsidiary Schweppes International Limited (SIL) . . . to give formal notice on April 30, 1988, to Jaf-Ora Limited that SIL will terminate its bottling and trade mark arrangements on April 30, 1989."

Such a move would have serious consequences for Jaf-Ora which employs 400 people and last year had a turnover of \$30 million, of which \$20 million was directly concerned with Schweppes.

From brief public comments by Blakeney and Danny Bibro, chairman of Jaf-Ora, it appears that delicate negotiations are also going on to ensure that Jaf-Ora will not go out of business should the bottling agreement be terminated.

Blakeney has been reported as saying "we have every reason to believe that these negotiations will end successfully and that production will continue in Israel." Bibro has made similar upbeat comments.

PRAYER RALLY AT SOVIET UN MISSION FOR SOVIET POCs AND WALLENBERG By Haviva Krasner

NEW YORK, August 5 (JTA) -- About 100 people gathered in front of the Soviet UN Mission to the United Nations Tuesday to pray for Jewish Prisoners of Conscience in the Soviet Union. With

temperatures in the 90's, many of those present were fasting as the rally coincided with Tisha B'Av (the ninth of the month of Av), when both the first and second Temples were destroyed.

The prayer service was dedicated to Alexai Magarik, a cellist and unofficial Hebrew teacher who is carrying out his three-year sentence in a Soviet labor camp, and Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved tens of thousands of Jews in Hungary during the Holocaust. Wallenberg would be 75 years old if, as many believe, he is still alive in a Soviet labor camp.

The men, wearing prayer shawls and phylacteries, read from an open Torah scroll as the women followed along from behind a police barricade, which served as a buffer to separate the men and women during the service. A special prayer was recited for Magarik and all the others in the Gulag.

Following the service, Rabbi Moshe Morduchowitz of the West Side Institutional Synagogue in New York and Rabbi Fredrick Werbell, author of "Lost Hero: The Mystery of Raoul Wallenberg" on which the NBC mini-series was based, walked with the Torah and pictures of Magarik and Wallenberg to the door of the Mission to symbolically confront the Kremlin. The Soviets refused to accept the pictures, so the rabbis left them at the door.

Morduchowitz and Werbell addressed the rally as did three women who recently visited refuseniks in the Soviet Union. "The last thing each one (of the refuseniks) said to us was, 'Don't forget us!' and looking around today I see that we have not forgotten them," one woman said.

To conclude the service, the audience sang Hatikva, Israel's national anthem, as Jewish passers-by stopped to join in. The crowd slowly dispersed. Some went from there to the West Side Institutional Synagogue to watch a 45-minute-long video tape from the Soviet Union on the destruction of synagogues there.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR WALLENBERG By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- Nine members of Congress held a 75th birthday party Tuesday for Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved the lives of nearly 100,000 Jews during World War II before mysteriously disappearing in the Soviet Union.

"He put his own frail body against the Nazi war machine and he triumphed," Rep. Tom Lantos (D. Calif.), who hosted the event, told the some 70 individuals, including the Swedish Charge d'Affaires, gathered in the sweltering heat on the steps of the Capitol. "In 1945 Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet authorities and he has been languishing ever since. We call upon the Soviet authorities to let him go so he can live his remaining years among his friends, among his family and among his people."

"Raoul would want us to be hopeful," said Lantos as he lead the crowd in singing Happy Birthday. "This is not a solemn occasion."

A petition urging Wallenberg's release will be sent to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Wallenberg story became known through the efforts of Annette Lantos, who, along with her husband, was among the many Hungarian Jews saved by Wallenberg. Mrs. Lantos knew only vaguely of the Swedish diplomat ten years ago when she chanced to read about him. She was

determined that his story become known. "At a time when the world was blind and deaf to the suffering of millions, Wallenberg fought like a tiger," she said. "He was a figure of life and he will stand as a witness to many more who could have been saved if only a few more could have been willing to help."

Wallenberg was made an honorary U.S. citizen in 1980 by Congress, a distinction given previously only to Winston Churchill. In addition, the site of the Holocaust museum here will be constructed on a street bearing his name.

Wallenberg, a wealthy Swedish businessman, went to Budapest in 1943 where he made it a personal mission to save as many Jews as possible. Known as the "Angel of Rescue," he issued thousands of Swedish visas and even pulled Jews off trains headed for concentration camps. In 1945 when the Soviets liberated Budapest, Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet officials and disappeared. Under pressure by the Swedish government for news of his whereabouts, Soviet officials said he had died in 1947 of a heart attack.

But several former inmates of Soviet prison camps and a former KGB agent say they have seen Wallenberg alive and that he is being kept in isolation in a Siberian prison camp.

AUSTRIAN GROUP CALLS FOR THE RESIGNATION OF AN OFFICIAL WHO MADE ANTI-SEMITIC REMARKS

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- A large poster has been put up in Vienna and all Austrian provincial capitals calling for the resignation of the vice mayor of the provincial capital of Linz for anti-Semitic remarks he made in a letter to World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman earlier this year.

A group of Austrian intellectuals, artists, journalists and politicians signed the poster calling for the resignation of Carl Hoedl, following publication of a letter he sent May 12 to Bronfman defending Austrian President Kurt Waldheim shortly after the WJC head stated at the organization's Conference in Budapest that Waldheim had been "part and parcel of the Nazi killing machinery."

In his letter, written on official stationery, Hoedl, a member of Waldheim's conservative People's Party, compared Jewish criticism of Waldheim to the crucifixion of Jesus. He also cited the Jewish precept of "an eye for an eye" as not being "our European concept."

Hoedl's letter was published in Austria in early July, prompting a storm of protest. Chancellor Franz Vranitzky joined the protesters, and several top conservative politicians asked for Hoedl's resignation. Nevertheless, People's Party leaders, including Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Alois Mock and provincial party leader Governor Josef Ratzenboeck, supported Hoedl. In a resolution, the city assembly of Linz condemned anti-Semitism and Hoedl's letter, and Hoedl himself voted in favor of the resolution.

Poster Has Wide Support

The poster, signed by 742 people including two Cabinet ministers, several Vienna city government members and several members of Parliament, was put up Tuesday. Plans call for plastering the poster on several hundred billboards. The appearance of the first posters made front-page

news in some Austrian newspapers and led to extended television and radio coverage.

The poster reads: "Dear Dr. Hoedl, as vice mayor of Linz, you made anti-Jewish statements. You represent a way of thinking which we deeply reject in Austria. As a contemporary witness, you ought to know the results of such an attitude. It endangers our democracy. Thus you are unacceptable as a public representative. We ask you to resign."

The poster campaign was organized by a group of business journalists in Vienna, with the signatories paying its costs. Wolfgang Hauptmann, an economics editor, said "We could not write about things we dislike in the current political development, since our issues are business oriented. But as private citizens, we can express our views."

Split Over The Issue

The People's Party seemed split over the issue. Marilies Flemming, Minister for Families and Ecology, who signed the poster, called for Hoedl's resignation for the sake of Austria and the party. "We do not want to be put in a certain corner," she said.

Ratzenboeck said that Hoedl had excused himself for the "very unlucky wording" and no new manhunt should come from this "political mistake," alluding to the widespread criticism of Waldheim. Socialist Party secretary general Heinz Keller said Wednesday that Hoedl had not done enough by voting for the resolution condemning anti-Semitism. Many Austrians thought that the resolution had not dealt with the matter correctly.

The poster campaign was not the first non-Jewish action against anti-Semitism in Austria. Two weeks ago, a group of young people in Vienna approached worshippers leaving the main synagogue after Friday night prayer and handed them carnations and leaflets, saying they feel sorry for the occurrences and that they will fight them. They added that they hoped the Jewish community here will prosper and grow in the future.

ISRAEL CONDEMNED AT UN CONFERENCE

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Aug. 5 (JTA) -- A Cuban-inspired resolution condemning Israel for hampering the industrial development in the administered territories was adopted here on the conclusion of a four-week session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The resolution, roundly condemned by the U.S. which voted against it along with Israel, was approved by delegations of 77 developing nations.

Thirty-two countries, including all the European, abstained. The resolution also called for establishing an independent Palestinian organization to handle the marketing and distribution of Palestinian products, which are now handled by the Israelis.

Dennis Goodman, who headed the U.S. delegation, said the adoption of the resolution showed that UNCTAD has lost its credibility and that its future is not certain. Pinchas Eliav, Israel's Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, condemned the Arab states for habitually and routinely including an anti-Israel resolution in every UN conference. He also noted that Arab commerce in the territories had in fact improved and grown extensively in recent years.

DEMJANJUK IS STICKING TO HIS ALIBI

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (JTA) — John Demjanjuk, into his second week of testimony in his own defense, is plainly not going to be broken by the prosecution in one sudden collapse of his alibi. Rather, as the long court sessions proceed, it seems clear that State Attorney Yona Blattman and his able assistant, Michael Shaked, hope to chip away at the accused man's story, bit by painstaking bit, and in this way cause it to crumble eventually in the eyes of the three-judge Jerusalem court.

The court for its part is watching attentively to see whether the prosecution's cumulative assault will undermine the defendant, or whether, after his gruelling weeks in the witness box, Demjanjuk can emerge with his story, though bruised and buffeted, still sufficiently intact to avoid a conviction.

On Tuesday, Judge Dov Levin gravely and repeatedly warned Demjanjuk that he was undertaking a "grave responsibility" by not giving direct answers to the prosecutor.

The questions, though seemingly technical, were key to his wartime alibi. They focused on his admittedly false entries on his U.S. immigration application, submitted at a displaced persons camp after World War II. The defendant had written that he spent the war years as a farmer in Poland in the village of Sobibor.

Questioned about the actual process of filling out that form, Demjanjuk seemed to be avoiding answering, incurring Levin's wrath. "We will take that into account" Levin thundered.

Reason For Lying To The Americans

Demjanjuk says he lied to Americans in order to avoid being repatriated to the USSR. The prosecution says he lied in order to conceal his true identity — Ivan the Terrible, butcher of Treblinka.

His claim to have lived outside Russia prior to and during the war, Demjanjuk says, left the Americans no reason to suspect him of membership in the Red Army, even though he was of conscription age at the start of the war.

In fact, he says, he did serve in the Red Army. He claims to have feared repatriation because of his alleged membership in the turncoat Vlasov army, a Russian POW division that fought on the German side. In Russia he would have been considered a traitor and would have been executed.

Demjanjuk's lie may have been understandable in the circumstances, Shaked conceded, but why did he choose the town Sobibor as his false residence in Poland? Why not choose a place he claims to have been familiar with, such as Rowno, the POW camp in Poland where he spent two weeks, or Chelm, where he claims to have been imprisoned 18 months?

The prosecution places Demjanjuk at the Treblinka death camp during that 18 month period, where he is accused of driving hundreds of thousands of Jews to their deaths in the gas chamber.

Demjanjuk claims his choice of Sobibor was arbitrary. Aided by a helpful friend at the DP camp, he says he picked any Polish town that came to mind. But he insisted — repeatedly during this week's proceedings — that he had never actually been in Sobibor (nor in Treblinka).

But Sobibor was an unfortunate choice if it really was arbitrary as the defendant claims, for the town of Sobibor hosted another notorious concentration camp. And Sobibor is also mentioned on the defendant's alleged SS identity card, as the camp he was sent to on completion of his SS guard training at Trawniki.

Demjanjuk maintains that the card, a central piece of evidence in the case, is a KGB forgery as the Soviet Union's revenge against him.

But perhaps, Shaked pressed on, Demjanjuk chose the town of Sobibor because he was indeed familiar with it — it being fairly close to Treblinka — and because he preferred for obvious reasons not to cite Treblinka itself.

Demjanjuk replied that the friend had suggested Sobibor because it had a substantial Ukrainian population.

Contradicting his previous testimony, he does not now claim that Sobibor was a misspelling on his U.S. immigration form, and that the town in fact chosen was Sambor. He now says that only years later in the U.S., possibly after proceedings against him had begun, he tried to find Sobibor on a map. When he was unable to find it he presumed that the choice must have been Sambor.

Refers To The Fedorenko Case

To press his point home further, Shaked referred to the case of Fedor Fedorenko, a convicted Treblinka guard recently executed in the USSR, whose history allegedly followed similar lines to Demjanjuk's. Fedorenko, also a Ukrainian, had, like the defendant, been imprisoned at Rowno and then at Chelm. But he admitted being recruited there by the SS.

Fedorenko was posted to Treblinka and later to another camp at Pelitz. He had used the town of Pelitz as his false residence on his U.S. immigration application. Obviously he had thought it wiser to name Pelitz rather than Treblinka.

At this reference to Fedorenko, Demjanjuk repeated the phrase that has cropped up again and again during his cross-examination: "I was never at Treblinka nor at Sobibor."

Canadian Lawyer To Join Defense Team

The defense team, meanwhile, is soon to be strengthened by a Canadian attorney, a Queen's counsel from Toronto, who speaks Ukrainian.

Paul Chumak, 42 years old, who has served as a public prosecutor for the province of Ontario, is already attending the daily sessions, listening to the translation from a place in the public section. But he is expected to be granted soon the necessary license to practice temporarily in Israel — and will join Yoram Sheftel and John Gill as Demjanjuk's defense team.

Demjanjuk's son, John Jr., told reporters this week that the family had paid some \$600,000 over the past five years to attorney Mark O'Connor, of Buffalo, N.Y., whom the defendant dismissed as his lead attorney earlier this month.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 5 (JTA) — Dutch Jews eager to trace their family roots have welcomed the establishment of a Dutch Society for Jewish Genealogy in this city. More than 150 persons visited its office here on its first day of operation Monday after reading a short notice about it in the press, and indicated their willingness to become members.