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ILO REJECTS ARAB RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI LABOR PRACTICES

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 20 (JTA) -- A week-long debate ended Monday in defeat for an anti-Israel resolution sponsored by the Arab states at the International Labor Organization's annual conference here.

It was one of the rare victories for Israel in this United Nations agency, especially since the resolutions committee was heavily weighted in favor of the Arab bloc.

The measure, which the committee sent to the conference plenum, stalling all other business for a week, accused Israel of physical violence against Palestinian workers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It also called for the establishment of a permanent ILO committee to monitor Israeli labor practices in the territories.

To have done so would have put Israel on a par with the apartheid regime of South Africa, the only country under such scrutiny by the ILO. It would have paved the way for Israel's eventual expulsion from the ILO conference.

Israel put up a vigorous fight. Labor and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav flew to Geneva for one day last week to address the conference and rally support from the Western countries.

ILO Secretary-General Francis Blanchard promised Katsav he would intervene personally against the resolution.

Little Help From U.S.

The European and American delegations promised to help. But in the end, they did little. U.S. Labor Secretary Ann McLaughlin, who attended the conference, hedged when asked if the Americans might walk out of the ILO if the resolution passed.

But Gideon Ben-Israel of Histadrut proved an effective lobbyist. The defeat of the Arab resolution was attributed to the popularity of Israel's labor federation with the international trade union movements represented here and the stubbornness of the Arabs, who refused to accept an amendment to their original draft.

The resolution itself accused the Israelis of deliberately breaking the bones of Palestinian youths to cripple them for life.

Addressing the conference last Friday, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Pinchas Eliav, charged that the resolution was reminiscent of the "blood libels raised against Jews in the past."

20 ARABS BEING HELD AS SUSPECTS IN BRUTAL MURDER OF MOSHAV MEMBER
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 20 (JTA) -- At least 20 Arabs are being held as suspects in the murder of Eliahu Cohen, 33, whose mutilated body was found Monday morning in the vineyard of Moshav Shekef, in the Lachish region.

Gen. Amram Mitzna, Israel Defense Force commander of the central sector, said the murder was most likely political. But the police have not

ruled out other motives, though robbery apparently was not one of them.

Police investigating the crime said, Cohen appears to have been stabbed first and then hit in the head with an iron bar. The upper half of his body was mutilated.

But police said that his personal possessions were untouched and the tractor he was driving was intact.

When Mitzna visited the moshav later in the day, he was greeted by angry residents. They charged that neighboring Arab villagers have been harassing them for months and the army ignored their complaints.

"Shekef is not alone. The war here is very complicated and difficult," Mitzna told them.

The moshav was established seven years ago. It consists of 33 families who tend vineyards and orchards. Many also work outside the moshav.

ISRAELI HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP CITES VIOLATIONS IN THE TERRITORIES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 20 (JTA) -- Israel's Civil Rights Association charged Monday that efforts to suppress the Palestinian uprising have resulted in a rapid deterioration of human rights in recent months.

The association said in its annual report that this underlines the "substantive clash between continued military rule over a civilian population and the observance of human rights" in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Judge Eli Natan, chairman of the association, said at a news conference here that a chief item of concern is the large number of administrative arrests.

Administrative arrests, a holdover from the British Mandate, allow the authorities to detain people for renewable six-month periods without trial or formal charges.

About 2,500 Palestinians are presently under administrative detention, according to a story last week in the magazine Koteret Rashit, which cited Israel Defense Force statistics.

The introduction to the annual report, written by Natan, states that "steps taken by the authorities to suppress the uprising in the territories have often led to severe and exaggerated physical violence and other measures which have done harm to basic human rights."

Natan said that so far, 20 Palestinians in the territories have been killed in incidents unrelated to clashes with IDF soldiers. The police have not solved these killings.

Arab Complaints Unheeded

He charged that Arab complaints against soldiers and border police are not seriously dealt with, unless they are publicized in the news media. As a result, Natan said, even Arabs who in the past complained, no longer bother to do so.

He recalled that it was only because his association appealed to the Supreme Court that the authorities were forced to give residents of Beita village, near Nablus, 48 hours advance notice that their houses were to be demolished.

That enabled them to appeal to the high court for a stay, but not before a dozen houses

were bulldozed.

The villagers were being punished for a clash on April 6 with a group of teen-age Israeli hikers from a nearby Jewish settlement. The clash resulted in the death of one of the hikers, 15-year-old Tirza Porat.

In the West Bank, meanwhile, security forces closed down a family center in Ramallah on Monday after finding what they alleged was "anti-Semitic material" on the premises.

An IDF spokesperson held a news conference here to screen video tapes prepared by the center of a student play.

In the play, an actor in the role of an Israeli teacher beats up an Arab student for refusing to say that Israel extends from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Samiha Khalil, director of the center, called her own news conference to explain that she allowed children to make up games based on the Israeli occupation. She denied that the center disseminates anti-Semitism.

Two incidents of Arab violence inside Israel were reported Monday. An Egged bus was stoned passing through the Arab district of Shuafat in Jerusalem. It was bound for the Jewish neighborhood of Neve Yaacov. No one was hurt.

Three Arabs were grabbed by police after a bottle was thrown at a car near the Poria hospital in Tiberias. No one was hurt. The Arabs worked at a nearby moshav.

RABIN CONDUCTING DIALOGUES WITH INFLUENTIAL PALESTINIANS By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 20 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has been holding dialogues with influential Palestinians "of all political camps" in the administered territories, the Defense Ministry confirmed Monday.

His intention is to try to improve the atmosphere with residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip while continuing to employ tough measures against the Palestinian uprising, now in its seventh month.

The Palestine Liberation Organization has urged Palestinian political figures to boycott such talks, but has not been able to prevent them.

The defense minister's strategy was questioned at Sunday's Cabinet meeting by Housing Minister David Levy of Likud. This followed reports that one of Rabin's interlocutors was an author of the PLO's notorious Covenant.

The Covenant, drafted when the PLO was founded in 1964, calls for the destruction of Israel by armed struggle. Even Israelis who support negotiations with the PLO demand the Covenant be rescinded as a pre-condition for talks.

The author, one of four Palestinians with whom Rabin reportedly met this month, was not identified. According to one source, he is a well-known figure in the Gaza Strip.

The Defense Ministry has justified keeping these people anonymous for their own safety. The ministry said names would be disclosed only with the approval of the people involved.

Ministry sources said Rabin will continue and intensify his conversations with Palestinians this week before he leaves on a trip abroad.

Yediot Achronot reported Monday that one prominent Palestinian had turned down Rabin's invitation to talk. He was identified as Hilmi Hanoun, the elderly mayor of Tulkarm, a town in the West Bank.

RABIN TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON SUNDAY FOR MEETINGS WITH REAGAN AND CARLUCCI By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 20 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin will arrive in Washington Sunday for talks with President Reagan and members of his administration, the Israel Embassy announced Monday.

The visit is part of the semiannual meetings Rabin has with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci and other Pentagon officials.

Yosef Gal, the embassy's spokesman, said that Rabin will use next Tuesday's meeting with Reagan to thank the president for his support of Israel, particularly the development of strategic cooperation between the two countries.

This may be the last official meeting between the two, since Reagan ends his term in January and Israel is scheduled to have an election for the Knesset by November.

Rabin has a full schedule of meetings set for next Monday with Carlucci, Secretary of State George Shultz and Colin Powell, Reagan's national security adviser. He is to meet with members of Congress next Tuesday.

Rabin is also scheduled to address the National Press Club next Wednesday.

13 INJURED IN HERZLIYA GAS EXPLOSION By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 20 (JTA) -- A cooking-gas explosion injured 13 people Monday in Herzliya Petuach.

Most of the victims were residents of an old-age home that occupies the upper floors of a building housing a restaurant, where the blast occurred.

Hospital sources said one woman was seriously injured. Two other people had medium injuries and the rest were only slightly hurt.

Police ruled out terrorist activity as the cause of the explosion.

They said the restaurant owner had been storing a larger than usual stock of cooking-gas cylinders, because of a recent strike by the gas distributors.

The restaurant is on De Shalit Square, near the posh Sharon Hotel. Herzliya Petuach is an affluent suburb of Herzliya, a fashionable seaside resort north of Tel Aviv.

HAIFA IS SITE OF WINDSURFING FINALS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 20 (JTA) -- Haifa's commodious horseshoe-shaped bay is playing host this week to the windsurfing championship finals for the 1988 Olympic Games this September in South Korea.

There are 125 competitors from 25 countries. The Israeli organizers reported no cancellations for political or other reasons, something that happens frequently when Israel hosts an international event.

Windsurfing is making its first appearance as an Olympics competition this year. On the opening day of the finals in Haifa, Herve Piegelin and Robert Nagy of France led the field in the lightweight division, with an assist from strong offshore winds.

Italians Luca de Pedrini and Paco Wirz led the Heavy Division, and Anne Francois and Valeri Capart of France led the Women's Division.

ISRAELI POLICY CHANGE ON VISAS MAY NOT IMPEDE FREEDOM OF CHOICE

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, June 20 (JTA) -- Changes in Soviet emigration policy have diminished the impact of the Israeli Cabinet's decision Sunday to extend visas only to those Soviet Jews intent on making aliyah, according to Jewish organizations and resettlement agencies in the United States.

Leaders of organizations that deal with the problem say they remain committed to the concept that Soviet Jews should be free to choose where to live and not be coerced to settle in Israel. But they add that new Soviet willingness to honor invitations from relatives in the United States leaves open an alternative exit route for emigres.

The Cabinet decision was aimed at reducing the number of Soviet Jewish "dropouts," those who leave the Soviet Union with Israeli visas, then opt to go to the United States and other Western countries, instead of Israel.

The implication of the decision was that Soviet Jews with Israeli visas would have to fly directly to Tel Aviv via Bucharest, Romania.

The current transit point is Vienna, where last month 90 percent of the emigres chose the United States or Western Europe over Israel.

Recent actions by the Soviets, including a remark by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, indicate that Soviets are now ready to recognize the right of Jews to immigrate to countries other than Israel.

According to Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, 300 Soviet Jews since January have received permission to leave the USSR based on invitations originating in the United States. That number is triple the amount permitted all of last year, and 10 times the number for 1986.

Abram said the Cabinet decision is a "welcome step and a positive response to recent changes in Soviet emigration policy."

Freedom Of Choice

Saying "we trust" that Soviet authorities will increase the number of exit visas for Jews seeking to immigrate to Israel, the United States, Canada and other countries, Abram said the new Israeli procedure reaffirms the principle of freedom of choice.

"Jewish emigrants who intend to settle in Israel will be able to proceed directly to Israel via Bucharest," Abram said. "Those who wish to immigrate to the United States and Canada should be able to do so."

The relative relaxation of the Soviet visa policy encouraged HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, to announce late last week its plans to mobilize the American Jewish community to "test the waters" of Soviet policy.

HIAS currently registers and assists those Soviet Jews in Vienna who wish to resettle in the United States.

The mobilization effort, calling on Jewish family services and federations to aid in preparing the letters of invitation, anticipated the Cabinet decision, Philip Saperia, HIAS assistant executive vice president, said in an interview Monday.

"The Israelis have complained about the system insofar as it is a misuse of the Israeli visa.

"The 'dual-track' system helps to maintain the integrity of the Israeli visa while maintaining

the principle of free choice for Soviet Jews," he said.

Asked if Jewish organizations would be less sanguine toward the decision if Soviets were to reverse their current visa policy, Saperia replied, "One could argue that, but there is no use speculating."

Dr. Micah Naftalin, national director of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, also played down the significance of the Cabinet decision.

A Note Of Caution

In a telephone interview, Naftalin declared that "the fundamental principle of freedom of choice has to be preserved," but added that with the Soviet willingness to accept American invitations, "Jews will have the same choice in Moscow that they now have in Vienna."

Still, Naftalin sounded a note of caution. Like Israeli emigration activists quoted Sunday, Naftalin warned that the decision could discourage Soviet Jews from seeking invitations or applying for exit permits.

"If Jews in the Soviet Union believe Israel is the only way out -- after 40 years of anti-Israel propaganda and little knowledge of Israel except the terrible things they've heard -- they may be discouraged from exercising their right to emigrate," said Naftalin.

The Reagan administration issued separate but similar statements on the Cabinet decision, one from State Department officials in Washington and another from White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater in Toronto, where President Reagan is attending the seven-nation economic conference.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said, "Our position on the question of emigration remains one of firm support for the principles of freedom of movement and freedom of choice."

The administration has denied Shamir's request to revoke refugee status for Soviet emigres.

Among American Soviet Jewry activists, the strongest support for the Cabinet decision came from Rabbi Avi Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

"When Soviet Jews come to the United States they leave one exile and move to another exile," Weiss said. "The U.S. is not Israel, not the homeland of the Jewish people. The country best equipped to absorb Jews is Israel, not the United States."

Weiss acknowledged his views do not reflect the consensus even within his own organization.

GRENADES THROWN AT PARIS JEWISH CENTER By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 20 (JTA) -- Two shrapnel grenades were thrown at a Jewish community center in a Paris suburb Sunday night. They caused no casualties or damage.

About a dozen students were attending classes at the center at the time of the attack. The grenades were packed with nails. The police said that had the explosive charge been stronger, the grenades could have caused serious casualties.

No graffiti or leaflets were found and no group has claimed responsibility. The police are investigating.

The assault was the second against a Jewish institution in 24 hours. On Saturday night, vandals broke into a Marseille synagogue and set fire to prayer books and Torah scrolls. They left no clues behind.

THE BIG GIVERS ARE STILL JEWISH, BUT THEIR BIG GIFTS MAY NOT BE

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, June 20 (JTA) -- In the early 1970s, when Jews contributed more than \$1 billion per year to philanthropy, two-thirds of the total went to Jewish causes.

Today, annual Jewish contributions to all charities have risen to \$3.5 billion. But as older givers are supplanted by their younger, more secularly oriented counterparts, the share of contributions going to Jewish causes has dropped to around 50 percent of the total, according to Dr. Barry Kosmin, a New York sociologist.

"The Jewish philanthropic dollar seems to be increasingly secularized," Kosmin said last week. Or, as a fellow sociologist put it, Jews who once gave with their "kishkes" (guts) and hearts are now giving with their heads.

Social scientists, community leaders and professional fund-raisers donated two days last week to discussing the changing nature of Jewish philanthropy.

The conference, "Jewish Philanthropy in Contemporary America," was co-sponsored by the City University of New York, the Institute for the Study of Modern Jewish Life at City College and the North American Jewish Data Bank, a joint project of the CUNY Graduate School and the Council of Jewish Federations.

Presenters outlined a number of challenges to Jewish fund-raisers, including the increasing role women are playing in raising and donating funds, changes in the tax laws and reappraisals of Israel's influence on Jewish communal identity.

Acculturation Trend Cited

There was also discussion of philanthropies representing new, sophisticated constituencies, including the New Israel Fund and the Jewish Fund for Justice. Both bypass such centralized philanthropic channels as the United Jewish Appeal to fund specific projects or organizations in Israel and other countries.

Kosmin, who is director of the Jewish Data Bank, and Dr. Paul Ritterband, director of the Center for Jewish Studies at CUNY, co-chaired the conference. Both agreed in presentations and interviews that of all these changes, however, the most significant remains the growing secularization and acculturation of the American Jewish community.

Kosmin described the traditional Jewishly oriented philanthropist as someone born in the 1920s who remembers the Depression, World War II, the old Jewish neighborhood and the sound of Yiddish.

But with each succeeding generation, said Ritterband, the probability of giving to a Jewish cause and the relative size of the contribution both shrink.

A Jew born in the 1940s, for instance, may be as likely to belong to the board of a major American ballet company or orchestra as he or she would that of a Jewish community center or national defense organization.

"If fund-raisers continue to play the same old game, they're going to go straight down the tubes," said Ritterband.

Still, Ritterband insisted that the conference was not about raising money, but understanding a people.

Said the sociologist, whose department has more social scientists dealing with Jewish life

than any university outside of Israel, "What you put your money into is a telling indicator of where you stand."

FORMER REP. GLADYS SPELLMAN DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 20 (JTA) -- Former Rep. Gladys Noon Spellman (D-Md.), one of six Jewish women to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives during the last two decades, died Sunday at the age of 70.

Spellman went into a coma when she suffered a severe heart attack on Oct. 31, 1980, just days before she was re-elected to her fourth term. She never regained consciousness.

In February 1981, the House declared her seat vacant, the first time ever this was done because of a disability.

Her husband, Reuben, ran for the seat but lost in the Democratic primary to Steny Hoyer, the current representative of the district, which is just outside Washington.

During her six years in Congress, Spellman was a staunch advocate of Israel and the struggle for Soviet Jewry. She visited the Soviet Union to meet with refuseniks and Soviet government officials.

Born on March 2, 1918, in New York, Spellman grew up in Washington and was graduated from George Washington University. She was elected to Congress in 1974.

The only Jewish woman currently in Congress is Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.). Rep. Sala Burton (D-Calif.), who was also re-elected to the current Congress, died last year.

Three other Jewish women members of Congress, Bella Abzug and Elizabeth Holtzman, both New York Democrats, and Bobbi Fiedler (R-Calif.), gave up their House seats to make unsuccessful bids for the Senate.

NEO-NAZIS CLASH WITH PROTESTERS AT WEST GERMAN UNITY DAY MEETING

By David Kantor

BONN, June 20 (JTA) -- Riot police separated neo-Nazis and anti-Nazi demonstrators in Muenzenberg, a town in the federal state of Hesse Friday.

About 150 anti-Nazis exchanged insults with about 100 members and supporters of the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party. About 30 helmeted cops armed with truncheons kept the two groups apart.

The occasion was a NDP meeting and rally marking German Unity Day, a national holiday celebrated in West Germany to commemorate the uprising of East Berlin workers against the Communist regime, 35 years ago.

The celebrants, including members of nearby Jewish communities, protested against the neo-Nazi presence. They were especially angered by a court decision which allowed the rental of a publicly-owned hall to the right-wing extremists.

The courts have routinely ordered local municipalities to honor rental agreements signed with neo-Nazi groups. As long as such groups are not outlawed, the courts ruled, there is no way to prevent them from renting meeting facilities.

In some cases, municipal officials knowingly and willingly rent to neo-Nazis. But often the officials are misled by groups using outlandish names to mask their neo-Nazi identity.