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SPECIAL TO THE JTA PENTAGON OFFICIALS SAY THAT 'MODIFICATIONS' WILL GROUND ALL F-16s INDEFINITELY

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- The F-16 warplanes for Israel, which were released from the embargo the U.S. had imposed, will continue to be grounded for an indefinite period, Pentagon officials said today. The officials told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the planes are under flight restrictions because of "modifications" that must be made. "We are not even in a position to guess on when we will have them ready," the JTA was told.

The Pentagon began repairs on the F-16s last week after one of the planes crashed in Utah and its pilot was killed. The U.S. grounded all the F-16s in this country and other countries with U.S. made F-16s did so "voluntarily," a Pentagon official said. The problem reportedly is with the planes' flight control computers.

Meanwhile, Pentagon officials said today that the F-15s due for delivery to Israel, now at the McDonnell-Douglas plant in St. Louis, "will depart for Israel after the U.S. Air Corps and tanker support have been arranged and when all required preflight tests have been made. We do not have an exact time yet."

President Reagan ordered an embargo on 14 F-16s and two F-15s after Israel bombed the nuclear reactor plant in Iraq last June and the terrorist installations in Beirut last month. He ordered the embargo lifted on all the planes Monday.

A Unique Post Office

LUBAVITCH CAMP OPERATING A POST OFFICE WHERE ALL MAIL WILL BE POSTMARKED 'KIRYAT GAN ISRAEL'

By Ben Gallob

PARKSVILLE, N.Y., Aug. 19 (JTA) -- A unique post office, a unit of the U.S. Postal Service operated at and by a Lubavitch summer camp for boys, was dedicated near here today at Camp Gan Israel.

The principal speaker at the dedication ceremonies for "Kiryat Gan Israel (zip) 12786" was Robert Hardesty, chairman of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, who made a special trip to participate. Commenting that this was the first time in the history of the United States postal system that a "Hebrew name appears in a postmark in America," Hardesty said the Hasidic camp post office "symbolizes recognition of creativity."

The building housing the post office was erected on a parking lot of the Lubavitch boys camp facing Old Route 17 in the heart of the Sullivan County Catskill resort area. The Gan Israel camp is located on a tract on the other side of the road, opposite the parking lot.

The first piece of mail postmarked in the Gan Israel post office today was a parchment scroll signed by the 330 campers, aged six to 15, and 100 teenagers studying at two outdoor yeshivas on

the camp grounds, as well as by the 100 staff members who are mostly volunteers, according to Rabbi Abraham Shemtov, the camp's executive director.

On the parchment is a message, addressed to the Lubavitcher rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, describing the accomplishments of the camp. The message, prepared to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the camp, was written by two authorized scribes who are on the camp staff, according to Shemtov.

The message was timed to arrive at the world headquarters of the Lubavitch movement in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn tomorrow, the yahrzeit of Rabbi Schneerson's father, Shemtov told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He said he had been assured there would be no inadvertent delays which might prevent delivery of the message on schedule.

Idea Behind The Post Office

Shemtov also told the JTA that the idea for the unique post office was his and that his motivation was a wish to obtain recognition for the achievements of Camp Gan Israel, which he said has led to the creation of 70 similar camps throughout the world.

He said he had come to the conclusion that establishment of a post office, under auspices of the movement and by contract with the U.S. postal service, would bring merited recognition in a way that would be both practical and dignified. Shemtov said that when the proposal was submitted to the Postal Service headquarters, officials agreed, negotiations followed, and a contract between the Postal Service and the movement was signed two weeks ago.

He said that while the Gan Israel post office will be serving primarily campers and personnel of Gan Israel, it also is accessible to residents and travelers in the area. He said there are many summer camps between Liberty, N.Y. a major center of Jewish resort hotels, and Parksville.

Will Perform The Usual Functions

The Gan Israel post office will be performing the usual functions of such a federal establishment, including accepting and postmarking mail, stocking and selling stamps and providing other post office services. Shemtov said Postal Service officials had been informed that there are 600 to 700 persons in the area during the summer months who needed post office services.

The post office is operated by a camp employe, serving on a dollar-a-year arrangement with the Postal Service. The post office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the camp months -- July and August. Shemtov stressed this was a temporary arrangement and that plans were under consideration to expand camp operations eventually to a year-round status.

Shemtov described the camp as "a little United Nations." He said boys were in attendance from Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Britain and Mexico. Most of the campers come from the New York area and Philadelphia, he said.

THOUSANDS PROTEST CAMPAIGN AGAINST CITY OF DAVID DIG

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Some 5,000 demonstrators gathered today at the Western Wall for a

rally in support of the archaeological dig in the City of David outside the Wall. Mayor Teddy Kollek, former Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, and veteran archaeologist Prof. Binyamin Mazar, called for the protection of the freedom of research, and reprimanded the two Chief Rabbis for their intervention.

Yadin, himself a noted archaeologist, was especially critical of the rabbis: "What is it their business to determine where the graves were? This is not only of the problem of archaeology, this is the problem of the very existence of the Zionist and democratic State of Israel." The two Chief Rabbis, Shlomo Goren and Ovadia Yosef, visited the site today. They were expected to rule by tomorrow whether the excavations were taking place within an old Jewish cemetery.

MAZEL TOV FIVE TIMES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Hefzibah Sharvit, a 37-year-old mother of four children, from Petah Tikva, entered a local maternity hospital yesterday and within hours found herself the mother of nine children when she gave birth to quintuplets.

Mrs. Sharvit, in her seventh month of pregnancy, called the hospital to complain that she was feeling queasy. An examination showed that she was carrying quintuplets and while further tests were being conducted she went into labor. Doctors performed a Caesarian operation and reported afterwards that the three male and two female babies were all doing well.

While the operation was taking place, her school teacher husband who is Orthodox stood outside the operating room reciting Psalms. After the babies were delivered the father said: "Thank God, he will provide."

Doctors said Mrs. Sharvit had received hormone treatments after she failed to conceive following the birth of her now eight-year-old son. Her other children are aged 12, 14 and 16.

BONDS MARKS 30th ANNIVERSARY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Israel Bonds, frequently referred to as "the brain-child of the first Premier of Israel, David Ben Gurion," celebrated its 30th anniversary yesterday. Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, presided at the dedication of a plaque in the lobby of the King David Hotel, where the conference which launched the Bond concept was held in 1950.

Dr. Renana Ben Gurion Leshem, daughter of Ben Gurion, unveiled the plaque in the presence of Israeli government leaders, including three former Cabinet Ministers and American leaders who attended the 1950 ceremony.

Among those present were Moshe Kol, who represented the Jewish Agency, and later served as Minister of Tourism; Zeev Sharef, then Secretary of the Cabinet and later Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister of Finance; Yitzhak Rafael, later Minister of Health and Religion; Esther Herlitz and Mayor Teddy Kollek, who then represented the Foreign Ministry; Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, then representing the U.S. Mizrahi; Julian Venezky, then chairman of the executive committee of the United Jewish Appeal; and Rothberg, who was then national chairman of major gifts of the UJA.

Prior to the dedication of the plaque, Venezky read the four-point program adopted at

the 1950 conference, which resolved that the government of Israel float a public loan in the U.S. Other points stressed were the importance of expanding UJA activities, the importance of expanding private investments in Israel, and the necessity of convening a national conference of American Jews to adopt the conclusions of the Jerusalem conference.

Rothberg paid tribute to Henry Montor, first head of the Israel Bond Organization, and to the late Dr. Joseph Schwartz, who replaced Montor.

JWB AT MOSCOW BOOK FAIR

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- The JWB Jewish Book Council, in cooperation with the Association of Jewish Book Publishers, has coordinated an exhibit of Jewish books that will be on display at the Moscow Book Fair, to be held Sept. 2-8. Dr. Robert Gordis, president of the JWB Book Council, has announced.

"While the Association will display the books of Jewish publishers, the JWB Book Council will exhibit books of Jewish interest issued by general publishers," Gordis said. Books of fiction, non-fiction, adult and children's books of the following publishers will be exhibited: Bantam Books, Basic Books, Charles Scribners, Crown Publishers, Dell Publishing, Doubleday & Co., Farrar Straus & Giroux, Fawcett Books, Holiday House, Knopf, New American Library, Pocket Books, Putnam, Random House, Simon & Schuster and University of Chicago Press.

Together with the books of the Jewish publishers, there will be over 1,000 titles exhibited. A bilingual catalogue in English and Russian will list all the titles with their publishers and prices. "At the Second International Book Fair in Moscow in 1979, Soviet citizens stood for hours reading the volumes that we displayed," Gordis said. "Russian-Jewish authors asked whether the Council could advise them on the publication and translation of their works."

JEWS OF POLAND RENEW TIES WITH JDC

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- A visit to Poland last month by the leaders of the Joint Distribution Committee brought yet another Eastern European country to the list of those in which the JDC has been invited to reestablish direct contact with the Jewish community in recent years.

Participating in the visit to Poland, which included stops in Warsaw, Auschwitz and Lodz were JDC president Henry Taub and his wife Marilyn, Ralph Goldman, executive vice president of the JDC, and Akiva Kohane, JDC representative for Eastern Europe. The JDC visit was made in response to an invitation from the Union of Religious Jews of Poland. It is estimated that only 6,000 Jews remain in Poland out of a pre-Holocaust population that exceeded three million.

In January 1980, direct contact between Hungarian Jewry and JDC was established. Contact with the Jewish community of Czechoslovakia followed in February 1981. The JDC has had relations with the Jewish communities of Rumania and Yugoslavia for a number of years.

JDC's association with Poland extends back to World War I, when it brought aid to the Jews trapped between the warring forces. It was forced to cease operations in 1941 but returned after the surrender of Germany. Contact was broken again in 1949 and re-established in 1956. It was broken again from 1967 to 1981.

JOURNALIST POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED

LONDON, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- The Guild of Jewish Journalists has made its award for 1981 to a Roman Catholic journalist who died almost 40 years ago. The posthumous recipient is John Segrue, who wrote for the "News Chronicle" and whose dispatches from

Nazi Europe about what was happening to Jews "alerted the world to the true evil of the Nazi philosophy," said Joseph Grizzard, chairman of the Guild, in announcing the award.

Segrue was expelled by the Nazis from Berlin and from Vienna for denouncing their persecution of the Jews. He was captured in Zagreb in 1941 and held prisoner in upper Silesia until his death the following year. To commemorate the award, the guild plans to plant trees in Israel in Segrue's name. Details of his heroic efforts on behalf of Jews have been passed on to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem for its archives.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS WHO LIED ABOUT THEIR AGE CAN NOW GET FEDERAL AID FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Holocaust survivors who lied about their age in Nazi captivity to save themselves from extermination and were barred from Social Security benefits in this country for lack of records to prove their true age can now get federal help to establish eligibility, according to a report in "Shoah," the publication of the Holocaust Resource Center here.

The report said that the Social Security Administration (SSA) has revised its procedures to help Holocaust survivors establish their true birth dates. The number of Holocaust survivors resident in the United States who may benefit from the revised rules was estimated in the report at around 10,000.

According to the report, there was no administrative method in federal regulations before Oct. 15, 1980 which would help Jews who had lived in areas controlled by the Nazis during the 1930s and 1940s and who falsified their ages to avoid persecution or death. The report said the SSA had adopted new rules to help resolve that problem.

Under the old rules, each applicant for Social Security benefits had to attempt by his or her own efforts to prove that his or her birth records did not exist. Now, according to the report, the SSA and the State Department will help survivors with that problem.

Previously, the survivor needed sworn testimony from unrelated parties to establish a corrected age. Under the new policy, the SSA will "accept a written statement from the individual attesting to the circumstances under which the age was falsified and establish the person's date of birth as alleged."

Element Of Fear Removed

Formerly, the report said, survivors were afraid to correct their records out of concern that this would expose them to deportation or other punitive proceedings from the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The report said that now survivors "need not fear U.S. government agencies when applying for administrative relief to obtain rightful Social Security benefits."

According to the report, the old procedures required numerous applications and appeals which were "tedious and intimidating." Ultimately, a survivor "might have needed a hearing before a federal administrative law judge before records could be corrected and benefits granted. Now the entire process is condensed and handled at the SSA field office level."

The report said the SSA rules changes stem from a case involving Bessie Moscowitz, who sur-

vived a Nazi concentration camp near Riga. She was 33 when she was sent to the camp where she was informed that the Nazis had a rule that any woman over 30 years of age was sent to the gas chambers. She told her captors she was 25 and they believed her. Her six brothers and sisters were murdered by the Nazis.

After the war, she married another survivor and they had a child while they were living in a DP camp. Out of fear of bureaucratic entanglement, she repeated her false birthdate when she applied for entry to the United States.

When she became 62 in 1972, she sought to apply for Social Security benefits but, according to her declaration of intention to become an American citizen, her age was 54 and the SSA rejected her application. Despite documentation from witnesses who testified to the truth of her claim of being 62, the SSA continued to deny her benefits. SSA requires such evidence of date of birth as public records or church or synagogue records and such documents are not available to many survivors.

The Turning Point

The turning point came when Mrs. Moscowitz met David Kotok, a member of the United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Cabinet, who brought her case to Rep. William Hughes (D. N.J.), who agreed to take the case to the then Attorney General Griffith Bell and to the State Department. The appeals dragged on until May of 1978 but Kotok refused to accept a negative response and asked for an appeal before an administrative law judge.

Kotok obtained letters from Lucy Dawidowicz, a Holocaust historian, and Michael Berenbaum, former associate director of Zochar, the Holocaust Resource Center, and then deputy director of the President's Commission on the Holocaust. According to the report, what convinced the judge was evidence that it was an established concentration camp practice for inmates to change their birthdate to a later date to avoid the gas chambers. The judge ruled in Mrs. Moscowitz favor.

Kotok then contacted Richard Schweiker, the then Republican Senator from Pennsylvania. Schweiker and Hughes introduced legislation in Congress to make it possible for all survivors with that problem to have it resolved promptly. The legislation also guaranteed the survivors would not face deportation proceedings over false statements about their ages made in Nazi death camps.

The legislation also would have required the SSA to help survivors find their birth records, particularly in dealing with Communist bloc countries which the report said were relatively uncooperative when asked for such records.

According to the report, the prospect of such legislation becoming law spurred the SSA to announce the rule changes which included acceptance of written statements attesting to a survivor's age and an outreach program to locate the estimated 10,000 Holocaust survivors in the United States who might benefit from the new SSA rules.

In a related case, Bet Tzedek Legal Services of Los Angeles recently asked the federal district court in Los Angeles to reverse an SSA ruling that receipt by a Holocaust survivor in Los Angeles of reparations from the West German government disqualified her from Supplementary Security Income (SSI) disability benefits.

Attorney Josh Lazar of Bet Tzedek said Felicia Grunfelder, whose disabled status is not disputed by the SSA, was rejected on grounds her reparations payments, about \$200 a month, were countable income in determining SSI eligibility. Lazar filed a motion for summary judgement with federal Judge John Kronenberg. A hearing in the case is expected in the fall.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW THE BIALIK INSTITUTE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Within a matter of weeks, journalist-economist Yitzhak Taub, 54, altered courses. He gave up his Tel Aviv office as editor of the popular economic monthly "Ksafim" ("Money") and returned to his home town Jerusalem to head the money losing publishing house of the World Zionist Organization, the Bialik Institute.

From now on, Taub would no longer advise other people how to make money, but would work on a similar -- yet very much different -- project: publishing quality books, and not necessarily losing money. "My philosophy is that you don't have to be ashamed to make money," Taub said in a recent interview in his modest office, located within a few minutes walk from the WZO headquarters in the Rehavia district in Jerusalem. The previous director general of the Bialik Institute, Haim Milkov, retired at the end of last year after many years at the head of the organization.

The Bialik Institute was founded 45 years ago, to an extent as an implementation of what was considered the will of "the national poet," Haim Nahman Bialik. Shortly before his death, Bialik urged the Zionist movement to compile quality publications, especially in the field of Judaica.

Publishing Quality Books

Once founded, the Institute began publishing quality books, original and translated, both in the fields of Judaica and general literature. Its catalogue includes a variety of publications, such as the monumental Biblical Encyclopedia, which is now in the process of completion, the writings of Martin Buber, and even the translation of Charles Darwin's writings.

"The idea was to have serious publications which are worthwhile for the people of Israel to preserve," Taub explained. But due to financial difficulties, the output of the publishing house gradually decreased from a record of 20 books a year to fewer than six books a year. "I have the feeling that the previous director felt he was under siege for not having sufficient funds to promote the project," Taub said.

"Thus, I was not brought here to deal with the questions of spirit, but rather because there was an understanding that the Institute was in trouble. I told them: Gentlemen, if you want to get the institution out of the red, we shall need money. Not that they have already given me money, but I think the idea is hitting home."

Main Problem Is Money

The previous budget of the Bialik Institute was one million Shekels, of which two-thirds went for salaries to the staff of 11 workers. Taub now spoke in terms of four million Shekels. "We have dozens of manuscripts waiting to be published," he said. He noted that with a proper setup of sales, the publishing house could once again blossom. "The main problem is to inject money into the circulation, so that we can go ahead and publish books and avoid the embarrassing situation in which there is demand for a certain book and we just don't have the necessary funds to complete the publication."

Taub is one of the veteran economic journalists in Jerusalem. He began working as an economic reporter during his student days at Hebrew University 30 years ago on Mapam's *Al Hamishmar* and later on *Zmanim*, the daily of the then Progressive Party.

Later he joined the Bank of Israel, first in the bank's research department, later as a bank spokesman and eventually as the secretary general of the bank.

He spent a sabbatical year in London trying to write a book about the economies of newly established developing countries, arguing that political independence has set these countries back to colonial times as far as their economies are concerned. But he did not have sufficient time to complete the book. Back in Israel he became the director general of the Securities Authority, which he left after six years to edit the economic monthly.

"I regard work at the Bialik Institute as a challenge," he said shortly after taking office earlier this year. He has no doubts about the quality of material published by the Institute. The Institute's Board of Governors includes some of the leading figures in Israel's economic world such as Ephraim Uhrbach, Natan Rotenstreich, Yeshaya Tishbi, Gershon Sholem, Binyamin Mazar and poet Haim Gury.

A Potential World Market

Although all books are published in Hebrew, Taub is confident that there is a potential market for them throughout the world. Any Judaica library, or any library that deals with Israel, should have on its shelves several books that were published by the Bialik Institute.

Discussing the completion of the Biblical Encyclopedia which was begun in 1945, Taub said "This is a giant and unique project, which should be a must for every student of the Bible beginning with the high school students and ending with the university instructor." Once completed, Taub said, the Encyclopedia would be widely sold, which would, of course, improve the economic situation of the Institute.

Taub wants to push ahead with an already existing program of basic books on various subjects, which would serve as introductions to these subjects for students as well as instructors. The first book in this series (on musicology) has already been published. Others were not, for financial difficulties.

Need For Dynamics

Taub also wants to promote special publications which were printed specially for various festive occasions. These were usually distributed for free and later were discovered as a popular -- and expensive -- item among collectors. "Why not resume these publications and make some money?" he asked. "We can sell such publications for half a million Shekels, enough to publish a new book."

Musing about the potential of such a venture, Taub said: "Don't get me wrong. It is not that I came here expecting that things will change suddenly. All I want to stress is the need for dynamics, so that everybody involved will understand that we have the potential for an economic enterprise. I believe that the people of Israel can publish good and beautiful books -- and not necessarily lose money on it."

If Taub is successful, he may create a worthwhile cooperative venture between the people of the book and the people of the check book.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Over half-a-million Israelis emigrated from 1969 to 1979 and there was a net loss of over 126,000 according to a study by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs just published. The report, prepared by Yitzhak Berman of the Ministry's data unit, said a total of 384,064 new immigrants arrived during those 10 years and 510,528 of them and other Israelis left the country. Emigration peaked in 1974, after the Yom Kippur War.