

### Sly and Shifty Arafat

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- Contrary to some reports, the conniving Yassir Arafat continues to pull all the strings in blood-soaked Lebanon. His latest meeting with Syria's President Assad, during which the two worked out one more in a series of abortive accords for the PLO - disrupted country, bears out what this writer had stated some seven months ago when he warned that "Damascus has always considered both Lebanon and Palestine as part and parcel of a 'Greater Syria' and that it is in this con-

### FATE OF JEWISH PRISONER UNCOVERED

NEW YORK -- The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has recently learned of the fate of Rostislav Natanovitch Eppelfeld, a 33-year old Jew from Kharkov apparently sentenced to a six-year term in a Soviet labor camp in

1971. Little information is available but, according to the NCSJ, Eppelfeld was found guilty of offenses constituted as "anti-Soviet propaganda and agitation." He insisted that his "guilt" consisted of being pro-Israel and of wishing to emigrate to Israel.

During the first year of his term, under the provisions of a hard-labor "special regime," Eppelfeld continued to protest the anti-Semitism of camp officials. As a result of his efforts he spent three years in the notorious Vladimir Prison, about 100 miles from Moscow, where he met David Chernoglaz who is now in Israel.

Eppelfeld, whose case was only recently brought to public attention, is back in a labor camp in Mor-dovia. His wife Sofia and 10-year old daughter are living in Kharkov.

text that one must view the present turmoil in Beirut.

We further stated that "under the pretext of 'saving' the situation by pretending to act as 'mediators' between the feuding Christian-Moslem-leftist elements, Arafat and Assad are secretly and under-handedly provoking the antagonists by goading one against the other. So long as the PLO terrorists remain in Lebanon as a sort of 'government' within a government there can be no hope for that strife-torn country."

What Arafat's terrorists failed to do in Jordan in 1970 they now appear to be accomplishing in Lebanon with the help of Syria and Libya. "Having apparently lost Egypt as a possible ally in their avowed aim to undo Israel, and uncertain of Jordan's role in any future military Mideast showdown, the Soviet-supported Syrian - PLO - Libyan alliance is doing everything within its conspiratorial means to exacerbate the Lebanese crisis to the point of no return as far as Beirut's 'independence' is concerned. The goal is to create a pro-Syrian-PLO regime under Soviet tutelage aimed primarily as a new springboard, a new front, against Israel," this writer warned.

Events in Lebanon since your correspondent penned these words in his column of 31 October 1975 have confirmed these stark facts. The sly and shifty Arafat, in connivance with Assad, is running the show. There can be no doubt, Arafat, the PLO 'godfather', remains the master-mind behind the doings in bloody Lebanon. Even Assad is beholden to the modern Hitler, and most of the other Arab leaders fear him and his gang of assassins.

Let us take note of the fact that the latest Arafat-Assad accord was formulated without the presence of any of the other Lebanese factions. Said the former Lebanese Christian President Chamoun: "No one can accept the agreement reached in Damascus. It must be regarded with great suspicion."

Mr. Chamoun would like to see the UN play a role in the current crisis. And although Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim had made a move in this direction by bringing the Lebanese situation to the attention of the Security Council, the Arab delegates here, in deference to Arafat and Assad, thwarted the move and nothing came of it. In the meantime, scores of lives are lost daily and, as a result, the Mideast peace hangs in the balance.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Leon Dulzin, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, has announced that 10 new settlements -- eight moshavim and two kibbutzim -- will be established in the near future in the Raffah approaches to the Gaza Strip.

AMSTERDAM (WNS) -- The mother of Alexander Aaronson, the Dutch Jew executed by the Iraqi government last December, returned to Holland from Baghdad after Iraqi officials refused to hand over her son's body for burial in the Netherlands.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Nir Shamir, a 16-year-old Israeli, won the 200-meter swimming competition at the Inter-European Youth Championship in Luxembourg. He also won two gold medals and was named the "best overall swimmer."

### ISRAEL OPENED BORDERS TO LEBANESE REFUGEE

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Defense Minister Shimon Peres has instructed the army to open Israel's northern borders to Christian refugees fleeing Lebanon.

The Israeli move was taken after top level consultations in response to appeals from various Christian religious and secular institutions in Israel. Refugees from Lebanon could expect to find shelter in the Maronite Christian communities of northern Israel.

Israeli authorities do not expect a large influx of Lebanese refugees inasmuch as a cease-fire is in effect there and the bloodshed has ended for the time being.

But Israeli sources have been informed by Lebanese villagers in the border region that southern Lebanon remains under terrorist control and Christians who fled villages with Moslem majorities have not returned to their homes. They still live in fear as the civil administration has ceased to function in the region and the Lebanese army

has not returned to the positions it evacuated before the cease-fire. Israeli sources were told. The Lebanese informants indicated that elements of the Syrian-commanded Palestine Liberation Army have been spotted on the northern banks of the Litani River but have not crossed to the southern bank which would bring them closer to the Israeli lines.

The opening of Israel's borders to Christian refugees is viewed here as a humanitarian gesture involving a certain risk to Israel of terrorists infiltrating the country in the guise of refugees. Because of terrorist activity Israel's northern border has been its most heavily patrolled and tightly guarded frontier. The welcome extended to refugees however is intended to underscore the indifference shown by the Christian world toward the plight of Christians in Lebanon.

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