

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library  
Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:**

Green, Max: Files, 1985-1988

**Folder Title:**

Jewish Telegraphic Agency Bulletins (6 of 15)

**Box: 14**

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov)

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

**PERES SAYS HE IS ENCOURAGED BY HIS TALKS WITH TWO SOVIET OFFICIALS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 9 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres returned from Europe Thursday saying his meeting with two senior Soviet officials in Rome Tuesday night encouraged his hope that Israel could negotiate peace with the Arabs without superpower intervention.

The meeting, which had been unscheduled, followed Peres' two-day official visit to Spain. His stopover in Rome was to attend the opening of the Socialist International conference Wednesday.

Peres told reporters at Ben Gurion Airport that his 90-minute private discussion with Karel Bruten and Alexander Zutov of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's international affairs department, was conducted in a serious and balanced atmosphere. He said he found "openness" on some of the matters on the agenda but no agreements were reached.

"I can tell you that I return encouraged by the chances of reaching direct negotiations without international powers, including the Soviet Union, trying to impose solutions on us," Peres said.

**A Beginning, Not An End**

"As for the Jewish question, it should be noted that there have been several important changes," he told reporters. He said they were "not all we would like to see . . . the number of immigrants -- or more accurately of those leaving -- has increased. Six of the eight Prisoners of Zion have been released. And a low-level Soviet delegation will probably arrive (in Israel) to discuss limited issues.

"I don't think that is the end, I think it is a beginning," he said, "and I think we can work toward expanding the opening which has been made, and also to ensure that those leaving (the USSR) will probably come direct to Israel."

Peres summed up his conversation with the Soviet diplomats as "the first serious direct dialogue between us and Soviet representatives. I am not ready to go into further details."

**Dismisses Likud Protests**

Peres dismissed the storm of protest raised in Likud circles by his advocacy of an international conference for Middle East peace. He stated before leaving for Madrid Sunday that one of his objectives was to solicit Spanish support for such a forum. Premier Yitzhak Shamir stated publicly that he hoped the Foreign Minister "would not succeed."

"Israel's foreign policy is not an article here or there, or a blessing or the opposite of a blessing," Peres said, "but a continuation of the peace process and the process of opening up the gates of emigration" from the Soviet Union.

Peres said he would be reporting to Shamir on his trip and would take up their differences when they meet. Shamir for his part, told a group of Likud Liberals Thursday that the idea of an international conference was "crazy" and advised Peres to forget it and get down to the "serious day-to-day problems facing Israel."

**HERZOG URGES WEST GERMANY TO REFRAIN FROM STRENGTHENING ISRAEL'S ENEMIES**

By David Kantor

WEST BERLIN, April 9 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog of Israel declared here Thursday that "Germany has an historic responsibility to help Israel in the vital task of survival and to abstain from any act which might strengthen those who are at war with Israel and are its declared enemies."

His remark was a departure from the prepared text of his speech at a dinner given in his honor by the Berlin Press Association. It was in direct response to an article published Wednesday by Franz-Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, who strongly advocates the sale of advanced German weaponry to Saudi Arabia.

Strauss is leader of the Christian Social Union (CSU), the Bavarian sister party of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Herzog, who is winding up a five-day visit to West Germany, the first ever by a President of Israel, considered the subject important enough to address.

In fact, some of the President's aides urged him to use much stronger language. But Herzog rejected that. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "I know the attitude of Strauss on this matter. There is nothing new in it."

He stressed in his speech that Germany has a lasting moral responsibility toward the survivors of the Holocaust. He recalled the Kristallnacht in 1938, the first organized pogrom against German Jews. It led eventually to Auschwitz, Treblinka and other symbols of Nazi crimes. "It was the night which led to the most terrifying Holocaust in the history of man," he said.

Herzog also told the prominent West German journalists attending the dinner that too much emphasis has been given the Arab-Israeli conflict. "If, hopefully, it is resolved, by whatever peaceful means, the main centers of bloodshed, warfare and instability may well persist" in the region, he said. He chided the media for "lack of perspective and therefore a failure to gauge the advance which has been made toward peace in the Middle East."

Herzog appealed to the Soviet Union to open a new chapter in relations with the Jewish people and Israel. "Let us cease talking about each other and start talking to each other, even about our different approaches to the world's problems, including those of the Middle East," he said.

Herzog was welcomed to West Berlin by Mayor Eberhard Diepgen. Accompanied by his host, President Richard von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic, the Israeli President placed a wreath at the Ploetzensee Memorial to Germans who had opposed the Nazi regime and paid with their lives. It was a symbolic act greatly appreciated by the West Berliners.

Herzog also offered them hope that their city may not forever be divided. "I stand before you as a President who lives in Jerusalem and who brings a message of hope from a thriving city which was once divided to a city which is, alas, still divided," he said.

Herzog visited the local Jewish community Thursday afternoon. He placed a wreath at the Holocaust Memorial. His host, Heinz Galinski, president of the Berlin Jewish community, said German Jews took inspiration from Israel and would continue to demonstrate their solidarity and support for Israel.

#### **JORDAN'S PRIME MINISTER AIRS VIEW ON CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE** By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 9 (JTA) -- Jordan's Prime Minister Zeid Rifai stressed here that Jordan still views an international conference that includes the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council as a means to negotiate Middle East peace.

"We're not talking about peace between Jordan and Israel," Rifai said after he and Foreign Minister Taher Masri met with Secretary of State George Shultz at the State Department Tuesday. "We're talking about a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli problem."

He said this includes the problem of the Golan Heights with Syria, southern Lebanon and the Palestinian problem "which is at the core of the Middle East conflict."

Rifai was apparently giving a different explanation for Jordan's need for a peace conference than that stated by King Hussein since last year when he said on a visit to Washington that he wanted an international conference as an "umbrella" for negotiations with Israel.

Shultz indicated, as he did when he met with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir here last month, that the U.S. is considering an international conference if it would lead to direct negotiations. He stressed that it is up to the parties themselves to agree on the method of negotiations.

Shultz praised King Hussein for his efforts to improve the economic situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said the U.S. is seeking a way to provide an extra \$10-\$30 million for this effort.

#### **TEL AVIV CHIEF RABBI PROPOSES INSTITUTION OF CIVIL MARRIAGE** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 9 (JTA) -- Religious circles expressed astonishment Thursday at a proposal by Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi Chaim David Halevy to institute civil marriage in Israel and, as a logical consequence, civil divorce.

Halevy made the suggestion during a conference on oral law Wednesday. He said civil marriage might solve the problems of what he called "permissiveness" in Israeli society where an increasing number of Jewish couples live together out of wedlock or simply co-habit.

He stressed that non-religious weddings would still have to conform to halachic standards. The couple would have to prove they were not previously married and if they were, that their divorces were religiously acceptable. The ban on a Cohen marrying a divorced woman would be upheld.

Halevy said that couples married in a civil ceremony would be able to obtain civil divorces, avoiding the lengthy often complicated religious divorce procedure. The civil divorce would have

no bearing on future religious marriages and the problem of "agunah" (abandoned woman) would be solved. A woman whose spouse refuses to give her a religious divorce has the permanent status of agunah and can never re-marry according to religious law.

Reactions in Orthodox circles were generally angry. Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliyahu of Rishon LeZion said he could not believe Rabbi Halevy made the statements attributed to him. Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer said the Tel Aviv rabbi should be credited for having an "open mind" but his ideas offered no solution to the problems between Orthodox and secular Jews.

According to Hammer, if civil marriage was offered in Israel, arrangements could also be made to allow secular Jews to desecrate the Sabbath and to consume forbidden foods.

#### **FUCHS-RABINOVICH IS FREE** By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 9 (JTA) -- The long ordeal of Michael Fuchs-Rabinovich is over. The seven-year refusenik arrived in Vienna on Wednesday, accompanied by his wife, Marina, and son, Mishka.

Michael and Marina Fuchs-Rabinovich staged a hunger strike in January to dramatize their plight following an invitation by a Wellesley, Mass., synagogue to Bar Mitzvah their son. As it looks now, Mishka Fuchs-Rabinovich will be Bar Mitzvahed as planned at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley. The synagogue's rabbi, Ronald Weiss-- a strong activist on behalf of Soviet Jewry along with his entire congregation -- adopted case of the Fuchs-Rabinovich family and received the support of a large cross-section of Massachusetts legislators and religious figures, both Jewish and Christian.

On March 17, Fuchs-Rabinovich went to demonstrate in front of the Lenin Library in Moscow, as planned and announced to Soviet authorities, but was stopped from demonstrating by his wife, who came from OVIR (emigration office) with the news that the Soviet authorities would be making a decision on their case within a week. Fuchs-Rabinovich made a lot of people laugh when he told OVIR authorities inviting him to their offices for that morning, "I'm sorry, I'm busy. I'm demonstrating."

The 50-year-old meteorologist was refused first in 1979 for having access to "secrets" at work. He was stripped of his Ph.D in mathematics, and demoted from his position of manager to that of simple engineer, with a large decrease in pay. In January 1983, he was fired from his job.

Last week, Fuchs-Rabinovich telephoned his friends in Andover, Massachusetts, Eduard and Galina Nizhnikov, and told them he would be arriving in Vienna on Wednesday with his family. Galina went to Vienna to meet them, along with Weiss' wife and daughter.

According to HIAS in New York, large numbers of Soviet Jews are arriving in Vienna these days. During the first three months of this year, 704 Jews have been permitted to leave the USSR, according to HIAS, a figure considerably higher than last year. On Wednesday, 81 Jews arrived in New York from Rome, where the emigres go from Vienna to be processed for entry into the U.S. In addition, there were 11 Iranian Jews and six Rumanian Jews on the same flight.

## ISRAEL LOOKS AHEAD THE RESTORATION OF 'HATIKVAH'

By Murray Zuckoff

(Part Four Of A Five-Part Series)

JERUSALEM, April 9 (JTA) -- A group of pre-teen children sit in a classroom in a school in the Ramot Eshkol neighborhood of Lod, poised in front of desk-top computer consoles. At a signal from their teacher they push down appropriate keys and words appear on the screens. There is an outburst of giggles. They have just had their first lesson in how to operate computers.

\* In the Giora neighborhood of Hod Hasharon, 18 kilometers northeast of Tel Aviv, people wait patiently for a bus at a bus stop. Within a few minutes a bus arrives and passengers get off and on. Nothing dramatic, almost routine. But until recently there was no bus stop there and the Giora residents had to walk some four kilometers through orange groves to the center of town to do their daily chores.

\* Along a row of streets in the Hatikvah quarter in Tel Aviv there are new and refurbished houses with lawns and gardens around them. Adults stroll under a warm sun and children are romping through a playground. Not long ago this was a slum neighborhood, but now the neighborhood exudes vitality and even a modicum of prosperity.

\* In Givat Hamoreh and Afula Illit, where a large number of Ethiopian Jews have settled, children are offered classes in Hebrew, Torah, mathematics and English. These classes are helping the youngsters to integrate into Israeli society.

\* In Sderot, a development town in the Negev, residents are smiling more broadly these days. For years they were without a dentist. But since 1981, more than 100 American volunteer dentists, members of Alpha Omega, the fraternity of Jewish dentists in the U.S., have helped establish a comprehensive dental program for the town's 9,000 inhabitants.

### New Form Of 'Chalutzit'

These examples can be multiplied by the dozens throughout the country. The renewal of poverty neighborhoods in the large cities and development towns and the infusion of "hatikvah" (hope) into the lives of tens of thousands of Israelis who had all but forgotten the meaning of the word, has been made possible by a new form of "chalutzit" (pioneering) and practical Zionism: Project Renewal. In its distilled essence, Project Renewal is the rehumanization of what had become over the decades dehumanizing conditions.

This awesome and massive undertaking was initiated in 1977 by then Premier Menachem Begin as a partnership between the Israel government and the organized worldwide Jewish diaspora. In the United States the partner is the United Jewish Appeal and the local Jewish Federations with whom the Israeli neighborhoods were twinned. In the rest of the world the partner is Keren Hayesod. The Jewish Agency serves as the implementation body for all the Project Renewal undertakings initially funded by diaspora communities.

Project Renewal has sought to deal with two interlinked problems: social justice and economic equality. When Begin initiated the Project, he said: "The promises of a better life in our national homeland has not been kept for many of our earlier immigrants and their children. Many live

in great distress, in sadness and in anger, in poor neighborhoods throughout Israel."

Most of the poverty neighborhood residents were Sephardic Jews who were dumped into "maabarot" (immigrant transit camps) and decaying sections of large cities and development towns in the 1950's and 1960's.

These immigrants, who were dubbed the "reluctant pioneers," felt that the successive Administrations then proceeded to neglect and abandon them without establishing proper infrastructures providing for jobs, and educational, health, recreational and transportation facilities. Their anger and resentment finally crested in the early 1970's against a complacent Ashkenazic government. Its political expression was the Black Panther movement of Israel.

### Social Problems Engendered By Neglect

A report by the Project Renewal Department of the Jewish Agency last December stated: "Throughout the years, the educational infrastructure in development areas had been neglected. Thus, many schools lack basic laboratories, workshops, science and nature rooms, while many existing facilities are out of date and run down."

At the same time, the report continued, "there is a shortage of specialized teachers in the crucial sciences and technology fields, in particular in physics, chemistry, computers and advanced technology. As a result, the achievement levels of graduates of development area high schools are unsatisfactory and many students do not complete their studies."

Aside from the social problems engendered by these conditions, there were also economic problems. Israel, in the midst of technological changes and advancement, requires a literate and skilled labor force capable of supporting and furthering such developments, a labor force which was not traumatized by unbearable living conditions.

The idea of Project Renewal was not immediately embraced by either Israeli or diaspora leaders. Many viewed it as a boondoggle or as just another stab at remodeling neighborhoods along the lines of the Model Cities program in the U.S. in the 1960's and the Office of Economic Opportunity Neighborhood Youth Corps program--neither of which solved the social and economic problems of the urban and rural poor.

### Radically Different Approval

But Project Renewal was radically different in its approach to human and physical rehabilitation. The two key concepts that marked Project Renewal, which were missing from the American programs, were accountability and participation. It meant the remodeling of neighborhoods could not be haphazard nor capricious, it had to have lasting social value, and programs could not be imposed on neighborhood residents but only in conjunction with them as active participants in the process.

Yigal Barkan, director of Project Renewal in Israel, emphasized that the story of Project Renewal is the story "of people, of people who wanted to help themselves but didn't have the opportunity. Project Renewal means that there is an opportunity to change things, that things need not be as they are. The secret to the transformation of lives is the unique partnership that we have between diaspora twinning communities and renewal neighborhoods in Israel; the knowledge of renewal neighborhood residents that there is

someone out there who cares, who really cares." The caring on the part of diaspora communities "is enhanced by the fact that neighborhood residents say we want to change our lives but we can't do it alone, we need help. People don't ask for handouts but for things the entire community can enjoy and partake of," Barkan said. "The tremendous dynamism Project Renewal has is that all sections of the population are touched as one section of the population is touched and elevated in their living conditions."

By last January there were 82 neighborhoods in Project Renewal with a total population of 450,000. There are 55 neighborhoods twinned with U.S. communities and 249 U.S. Jewish Federations are twinned with renewal neighborhoods, according to the latest available UJA fact sheet. The total Project Renewal expenditure for UJA up to February 28, 1986 was \$129,723,105. The total UJA pledge to January 1987 was \$168 million, according to the fact sheet.

If Project Renewal was responsible for introducing a major innovation into Israeli political life by creating new instruments for decision-making at local levels, the twinning arrangement was another major innovation. For the first time, fundraising leadership from diaspora communities is involved in decision-making processes in Israeli neighborhoods, helping to establish priorities and to set budget goals.

The rebuilt neighborhoods provide not only "shtoltz" (pride) to their residents. They also attract new industries, lay the basis for future investments, and develop the technical and educational facilities that will eventually provide a skilled labor force.

#### Success Stories Abound

Many of the Project Renewal neighborhoods are immeasurably successful. A case in point is the Giora neighborhood in Hod Hasharon which is twinned with South Broward and Palm Beach, Florida, communities. Giora was constructed in 1962 to provide housing for inhabitants of local immigrant transit camps who came to Israel from Morocco, Iraq, Libya, Iran and Rumania.

Before Project Renewal was initiated there, Giora "was the most socially problematic neighborhood in the town," explained Elizabeth Homans, the Project Renewal representative there who immigrated to Israel in 1983 from Hollywood, Florida, with her husband and three daughters.

Giora had a high concentration of crime among adults and youth, drug addiction, delinquency, family and personal problems, illiteracy, violence and vandalism against property, Homans said. "Over the years, there had been a constant turnover in the neighborhood population," she noted. "Residents whose financial status improved tended to leave the neighborhood, as did all the families of European origin and a number of large families who obtained better living conditions in other parts of Hod Hasharon."

Since Project Renewal, values of apartments have substantially increased and out-migration has almost ceased. In 1979, before renewal, 77 percent of the kindergarten children suffered from retarded development, compared to 40 percent in 1984, since renewal; in 1979, 70 percent of pupils tested were found to be below educational standards, compared to 46 percent in 1984. A club for the elderly has been established and the facilities are sometimes used to operate pre-school enrichment programs. Residents have become more active in decision-making and neighborhood processes.

Some of the renewal efforts have unintentionally proved to be too successful. Ramot Eshkol has become so attractive that Arabs living nearby are beginning to buy apartments and buildings in the neighborhood with money they got from the government for land they had owned at one time in and near Ramot Eshkol and from relatives who work in Saudi Arabia. There is now concern that Arabs may soon displace Jews by buying them out.

#### Lives Will Never Be The Same Again

Of course, Project Renewal cannot go on forever. It was originally visualized as a five-year plan, but some neighborhoods have required much more time for renewal. What happens if the financial well runs dry and construction and labor costs exceed budgets?

"Solid structures and infrastructures must be in place within five to seven years or the process becomes reversible," Barkan said. Hagit Hovav, the government's Project Renewal coordinator, said, "Stopping Project Renewal may cause frustration and regression in the neighborhoods." In fact, she added, residents have warned that unless a solid social framework is left behind, the program's success would quickly disappear.

There are successes and there are also failures, half starts and false starts. But success or failure, the lives of the people touched by Project Renewal will never be the same again.

(Monday: Part Five)

#### **HIGH COURT ISSUES LANDMARK DECISION**

**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, April 9 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court issued a landmark decision upholding the right of journalists to protect their sources of information, except in the most serious cases of wrong-doing.

Supreme Court President Justice Meir Shamgar ruled Tuesday that a journalist must reveal his sources only if a crime carrying a five-year maximum sentence or a lesser crime with grave consequences, was involved. He said in the case of a serious civil crime, disclosure would be required only if it was essential in the interests of justice.

The ruling was on the case of two journalists, Ben-Zion Citrin and Yifat Nevo, who appealed to the high court against a demand by the Israel Bar Association's disciplinary tribunal that they reveal the sources of published information in the trial of two lawyers charged with violating the Bar's code of ethics.

The tribunal wanted the journalists to disclose whether the information they published originated with the accused lawyers. The case was the first to come before the Supreme Court questioning a journalist's right to protect his sources.

Shamgar stated in his decision that a democracy can exist only if it recognizes the right to gather and publish information. "The right to gather information includes the need to protect the sources of that information," he said.

\* \* \*

There will be no Bulletins dated April 15 and 16, Passover. Hag Sameach to all.

**PERES AND HUSSEIN HAVE REPORTEDLY WORKED OUT ELEMENTS OF AN AGREEMENT ON A CONFERENCE FOR MIDEAST PEACE**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, April 30 (JTA) -- The Israeli media reported Thursday elements of an agreement reportedly reached between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and King Hussein of Jordan on an international conference for Middle East Peace. The two were said to have met recently in London.

But Peres' office issued a strong denial later in the day. It said the report of an agreement between Peres and Hussein in London was "without foundation" and "part of the production of a rumor and speculation factory aimed at torpedoing the peace process." The statement added that those efforts were doomed to failure, an implication that there was a deliberate campaign afoot to wreck negotiations by publishing rumor.

The media reports referred variously to a working paper or memorandum of understanding which sets the terms of reference and procedures for convening an international conference and has the backing of the United States.

**Points In The Agreement**

According to the media, the United Nations Secretary General will summon the five permanent members of the Security Council -- U.S., USSR, Britain, France and the People's Republic of China -- and the parties in the Middle East to a conference aimed at achieving a comprehensive peace settlement in the region based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and providing for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The conference will serve as an opening and introduction to meetings of bilateral committees, each composed of Israel and an Arab neighbor. The bilateral committees would attempt to resolve the outstanding differences between the parties in order to reach a comprehensive settlement.

Israel Radio reported Thursday that the memorandum contained a secret annex that includes a Jordanian undertaking to Israel not to include on the Jordanian negotiating team members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, whose presence would cause Israel to immediately to break off the talks.

But there was no commitment that Israel would have advance knowledge of the Palestinian representatives in the Jordanian delegation, Israel Radio said.

It said the annex was an American document conveyed by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering to Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres. Likud has charged that the entire plan is Peres' and that Pickering in effect served as a "postman" between the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister.

**U.S. SAYS THERE HAS BEEN 'SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS' TOWARD PEACE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE MIDEAST**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 30 (JTA) -- The State Department maintained Thursday that there has

been "significant progress" toward bringing about peace negotiations in the Middle East, but would not give any details.

Specifically, Department spokesman Charles Redman would not comment on reports from Israel that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin discussed the way of bringing about an international conference during a secret meeting with King Hussein of Jordan last week.

Redman reiterated the United States position that it was seeking a comprehensive peace in the Mideast through "bilateral direct negotiations."

He repeated that the U.S. is discussing with the parties whether an international conference, as Hussein demands, can bring about such direct talks. But he said that, as yet, "it remains unclear" whether such a conference would lead to "prompt direct negotiations."

**Declines To Provide Details**

But "clearly there has been significant progress," Redman added. However, when pressed to describe the progress, he refused.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who is strongly opposed to such a conference, received a letter from President Reagan this week, urging him not to miss the "historic opportunity" to achieve peace. While Reagan did not ask Shamir to agree to an international conference, he suggested that the proposal be examined.

Shamir's office reiterated Israel's willingness to begin direct talks with Jordan, Egypt and Palestinian representatives based on the Camp David formula. Shamir's position was described to Secretary of State George Shultz last week by Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens during a quick visit to Washington. Peres, who denied meeting with Hussein, continues to press for an international conference that would lead to direct negotiations.

According to reports in Israel, Hussein told a visiting American group, the American Council on Foreign Relations, that he would be willing to enter direct negotiations with Israel, following an opening ceremony by an international conference, without the Palestine Liberation Organization. Hussein stressed there would have to be Palestinian representatives.

This is something on which all sides in Israel agree. They also reject any participation by the PLO.

If real progress is achieved it could be signaled by a decision of Shultz to visit the Mideast. Redman said there were no plans at present for Shultz to go to the area. He repeated Shultz's year-long position that he would go to the region "if such a trip can be constructive to help move the peace process forward."

Meanwhile, the next major event in the effort will come when Peres visits Washington in mid-May.

**BUSH FAVORS MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE**

By Yitzhak Rabi

WASHINGTON, April 30 (JTA) -- Vice President George Bush said Wednesday that he is in favor of an international conference for peace in

the Middle East, provided that the conference is designed to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan.

But, the Vice President stressed that he would object to such a conference if it would bring the Soviet Union into the peace process and the Mideast.

Bush made his remarks at a Republican Presidential candidates' forum at the Four Seasons Hotel here, sponsored and organized by the National Jewish Coalition (NJC). He said that while he is aware of the differences between Premier Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on the issue of an international conference, he generally welcomes the idea as part of the search for a solution in the Mideast. Peres favors an international conference while Shamir is opposed.

In reply to a question by NJC Board member Dr. Mordechai Hacohen, whether the U.S. plans to demand of the United Nations that it open to the public its files on suspected Nazi war criminals, Bush said he is not fully aware of the Administration's action in this matter but promised to look into it.

Two others who are seeking the Republican nomination as candidates for the Presidency, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Rep. Jack Kemp of New York, vowed their continued support for Israel and their commitment to Israel's security and well-being.

Kemp vowed that as President he will recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, move the American Embassy, presently in Tel Aviv, to Jerusalem, and appoint former UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, a staunch supporter of the Jewish State, as his Secretary of State.

**POLICE EXPERT SAYS THERE IS A 'VERY HIGH PROBABILITY' THAT A PHOTO ON AN SS I.D. CARD IS DEMJANJUK'S**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 30 (JTA) -- A West German police expert said Tuesday that there is a "very high probability" that the photograph on an SS identification card is that of accused war criminal John Demjanjuk, on trial in Jerusalem district court.

Reinhard Altmann, head of the fingerprint and photographic criminal identification unit of the German federal police, said his conclusion was based on a detailed comparison of seven photographs of the defendant with the photograph on the ID card issued at the Trawniki camp where Demjanjuk allegedly was trained for guard duty at Treblinka.

Altmann, appearing for the prosecution, described the sophisticated technique developed by his unit in Wiesbaden to compare photographs. He said two pictures for comparison are sliced in half vertically and half of one is mounted with half of the other to form a video montage. He said it was thus possible to discern minute facial characteristics which, when combined, "make up the uniqueness of every man."

Altmann told the court that "very high probability" is the second highest on the scale used by his department. The highest level is "near certainty" which, he said, is rarely used because it can be applied only to very detailed photographs taken under very similar circumstances. But the difference between the two levels is "very fine," he said. Demjanjuk's defense contends that the ID card, obtained from the Soviet

Union, is a KGB forgery. Last week a West German handwriting expert testified it was "almost certain" that the signature on the ID card was Demjanjuk's though he could not be positive.

**THREE MEN, ONE OF THEM JEWISH, ARRESTED FOR VANDALIZING A PREDOMINANTLY JEWISH COUNTRY CLUB**  
By Lisa Hostein  
Jewish Exponent Staff Writer

PHILADELPHIA, April 30 (JTA) -- Three men, one of whom is Jewish, have been arrested for vandalizing a predominantly Jewish country club in Cherry Hill, NJ. They could face five years in jail and/or \$7,500 in fines, according to Camden County, NJ Prosecutor Sam Asbell, whose office is now preparing the case for the county grand jury.

Police in Cherry Hill, where the vandalized Woodcrest Country Club is located, arrested the three men on April 23 and charged them with creating fear of bodily violence and criminal mischief for their attack on the club on April 18.

Maintenance workers discovered anti-Semitic slurs and obscenities spray-painted on the club's main building, on the sidewalk and on a car left overnight at the club. Observers said it was the worst act of anti-Semitic vandalism in years. Black swastikas were also painted on the club's golf course.

After receiving a tip, police arrested Cherry Hill residents Matthew Tannenbaum, 18, and Todd Munro, 19, and Lindenwold resident Jae Kim, 21, according to Cherry Hill police sergeant Frank Ward. All were former employees of the club. Two of the suspects were released on \$5,000 bail and one on his own recognizance.

Asbell said the charge against the three falls under the category of ethnically or racially motivated vandalism, which under New Jersey law is a felony and carries the maximum five-year sentence. He said he did not know when the trial would begin.

**Shocked That One Vandal Was Jewish**

Woodcrest general manager Robert Sierra expressed "shock" that one of the suspects, Tannenbaum, was Jewish. "Not being a Jew, I just didn't think a Jewish person could be involved in something like this."

Alan Respier, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey, called Tannenbaum's involvement "very disconcerting."

"I don't know what was going through his mind," said Respier, adding that because he was Jewish "doesn't mitigate the fact that he took part in anti-Semitic vandalism and terrorism. The law has to apply to him as it does to anyone who engages in such acts."

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA  
BEIJING UNIVERSITY TO OFFER FORMAL COURSES ON ISRAEL AND JUDAISM**  
By Rochelle Saidel

ALBANY, April 30 (JTA) -- A university in the People's Republic of China will for the first time offer formal courses on Israel and Judaism this semester. Martin Edelman has been appointed a Visiting Professor in the Department of International Politics at Beijing University.

Edelman, who teaches in the Department of Political Science at State University of New York

(SUNY) in Albany, will teach three courses in Beijing: Israeli politics, Jewry and Jewish culture, and a graduate seminar on American politics in the Middle East.

"Given the previously strained relations between the People's Republic of China and Israel, the fact that these courses will be taught is certainly an indication things are indeed opening up in the right direction," Edelman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "Beijing University is the premier university in the country. Students in these classes will be the next generation of faculty members and government experts on foreign policy."

Edelman will teach at Beijing University during May and June. Several faculty members and advanced graduate students from Chinese universities have studied with him at SUNY in the past, as part of an exchange program between the schools.

The author of "Democratic Theories and the Constitution" and articles on the Israeli courts and political system, Edelman is currently working on a book on Israeli courts. From 1982-1983, he was a visiting professor at Tel Aviv University's political science department.

#### DEMONSTRATIONS IN SOVIET UNION

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 30 -- Two hundred Soviet Jews gathered April 26 in the Jewish section of the Moscow cemetery for services commemorating Yom Hashoah, according to the National Council for Soviet Jewry (NCSJ). The gathering was led by former Prisoner of Conscience Iosif Begun.

There was also a demonstration of 30 people in front of the offices of TASS, the Soviet news agency, asking for the right to go to Israel, the NCSJ said.

It was also announced that Soviet prisoner and refusenik Aleksei Magaryk's three-year sentence for alleged drug possession was reduced by half and he will be released in September, Magaryk's wife, Natasha Ratner Magaryk, told the NCSJ.

Nevertheless, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, Magaryk's father, Dr. Vladimir Magaryk, is so concerned about his son's current state of health in a labor camp that he is coming to the U.S. to lobby on his behalf next week. Aleksei Magaryk was reportedly severely beaten in camp.

#### Edelshtein Due To Be Released Tuesday

In addition, Prisoner of Conscience Yuli Edelshtein is scheduled to be released Tuesday from a labor camp, according to Jewish activists in Moscow, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and the SSSJ reported.

Edelshtein was arrested in September 1984 and sentenced in December 1984 to three years, which includes the time served from the day of arrest, according to Soviet law. He is being released four months early. He was also sentenced for alleged drug possession.

But bad news was received on Wednesday from the New England Medical Center with the report that severely ailing refusenik Benjamin Charny of Moscow has been refused a visa once again. Charny, 49, a cancer patient suffering from acute coronary disease and dangerously high blood pressure, has been trying since 1979 to leave the Soviet Union to join his brother, Leon, in Needham, Mass. On Wednesday, Benjamin Charny was

told not only that he was refused, but that he should not reapply until 1995.

Leon, a candidate for a Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been lobbying in Congress and through as many channels as possible for his brother's emigration. Last month, Leon Charny staged a solitary vigil in front of the Soviet Embassy in Moscow.

In early April, he gave testimony on Soviet cancer patients before a hearing of the House Subcommittee on Health at which scientists from the National Institutes of Health and National Cancer Institute discussed an agreement on cancer research between the U.S. and the USSR, which was initiated in 1972, and the issue of divided cancer patient families.

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) initiated a letter to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev asking that Benjamin Charny be permitted to emigrate. The letter was signed by the entire U.S. Senate, a move Leon Charny believes is "unprecedented." Nevertheless, his brother's emigration outlook appears even more distressing. He believes his brother's life expectancy is extremely short.

#### JEWISH-MOROCCAN RELATIONS BOOSTED

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 30 (JTA) -- Jewish-Moroccan relations were boosted as a leader of the American Sephardic Jewish community was awarded one of Morocco's highest honors.

Liliane Shalom of New York, a native of Casablanca, is the first Moroccan woman to receive the Commander of the Ouissam Alaouite, the order of the royal Moroccan dynasty. The award has been presented to one other woman - former United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick.

"His Majesty (King Hassan II) wants to demonstrate that she remains faithful among the faithful, although she left the country," said Moroccan Ambassador M'hamed Bargach, newly arrived in Washington, as he presented the award to Shalom at the Embassy on behalf of the King. "She is striking evidence of the fidelity of Morocco towards its son and its religious tolerance."

Shalom, 47, was choked with tears as the award was fastened around her neck, and for several minutes she was unable to speak. Her husky voice quivered as she told the guests how during World War II King Muhammod V, the father of Hassan II, protected his Jewish subjects from the pro-Nazi Vichy government.

#### '... A Debt I Can Never Repay'

"I have a debt I can never repay for the 300,000 co-religionists who owe their lives to his majesty. How much more can one owe but one's life?" Shalom said. "If I had been born in Europe, just fifteen miles away I would have been a victim. But instead I am blessed with three cultures - Jewish, Arab and French."

Shalom is vice president of the Rassemblement Mondial du Judaïsme Marocain which seeks to bring together Jews and Arabs. She is also founder and president of American Sephardic Federation, an umbrella group for Jews of Sephardic origin, and is active in the United Jewish Appeal and Project Renewal.

About 100 persons attended the kosher lunch at the Embassy on Sunday, including Shoshana Cardin, president of the Council of Jewish Federations.



**FEDERAL CRACKDOWN ON EXTREMIST GROUPS**  
By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA) -- The latest wave of indictments and arrests of anti-Semitic hate group members in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Denver, Colorado, is part of one of the Federal government's most aggressive crackdowns on criminal activity among extremists in decades, according to an expert of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Three federal indictments handed up last week charged 15 members of white-supremacist hate groups with the murder of Denver talk show host Alan Berg, plotting to murder a federal judge, and engaging in conspiracy to overthrow the American government.

All those charged are affiliated with one of two hate groups, the Aryan Nations and/or the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord (CSA), according to Irwin Suall, ADL fact-finding director.

Two of the most powerful national leaders of the extremist movements were among those charged and arrested last week, "Reverend" Richard Butler, head of Aryan Nations, and Robert Miles, a former Ku Klux Klan (KKK) member and Midwest coordinator of Aryan Nations.

Butler, 67, is the "pastor" of the vehemently anti-Semitic Church of Jesus Christ Christian in Hayden Lake, Idaho, the headquarters of Aryan Nations. Miles is a one-time Grand Dragon (State leader) of the KKK in Michigan.

**Four Indicted In Murder Of Berg**

A federal grand jury in Denver indicted four people under the Federal Civil Rights Act in connection with the machine-gun slaying of Berg, a Jewish radio talk show host who provoked racists during his program. Berg was gunned down outside his Denver home in June 1984.

The four indicted, all members of The Order, an Aryan Nations splinter group, were David Eden Lane, 48, Richard Joseph Scutari, 39, Bruce Carroll Pierce, 32, a leader of The Order, and Jean Margaret Craig, 53. Lane and Pierce are both affiliated with the Church of Jesus Christ Christian in Hayden Lake.

Federal authorities allege that Pierce carried the sub-machinegun used to murder Berg and was accompanied by Scutari and Lane. Craig allegedly followed Berg and possibly acted as lookout during the murder. The charge carries a maximum life sentence.

Smith, Scutari and Pierce were also named in the indictments in Fort Smith. The Fort Smith federal grand jury indicted the three along with Butler, Miles, Louis Ray Beam Jr., a former Texas Klansman and Aryan Nations "ambassador," Louis Ray Beam Jr., and six others and charged them with sedition, or conspiracy to overthrow the government. Also charged in this indictment were Robert Neil Smalley, 31; Ardie McBrearty, 59, Andrew Virgil Barnhill, 30, and Richard Wayne Snell, 56.

They are charged with counterfeiting and armed robbery as part of the conspiracy to finance their revolution. If convicted, the charge carries a maximum 20-year prison sentence and \$20,000 fine.

Five others were named in a separate indictment in Fort Smith charging them with a plot to murder a federal judge and other officials. They are Snell, named in the sedition charges also, William Wade, 68, Ivan Ray Wade, 34, Lambert

Miller, 36, and David Michael McGuir, 24. Seven of the 15 indicted are currently serving terms in federal prisons. The other eight are either under arrest or being sought.

The federal government has stepped up investigations and prosecution of the hate groups in the past two to three years and is pursuing the members more aggressively and successfully, Suall said.

The increased activity began with the exposure of The Order in 1984 after Robert Jay Matthews, the group's leader and founder, died in a shootout with more than 100 law enforcement agents in Puget Sound.

Since the gun battle, 24 members of The Order were convicted or pleaded guilty to charges of racketeering, murder, bombings and armed robbery.

Two years ago, in April 1985, 300 state and federal officers raided a CSA camp in the Ozark Mountains near Mountain Home, Arkansas. Inside the camp, they discovered an arsenal of machine guns, antitank rockets, grenades, plastic explosives and an abundance of anti-Semitic and racist literature.

The members trained in minefields, and in an area used for target practice the officers found a wooden target which pictured a state trooper with a Jewish star on his chest.

Members of The Order had trained and resided at the CSA camp. In the wake of the raid, four Order members were discovered hiding in the camp and they surrendered.

The leaders of at least two other hate groups, the Arizona Patriots and Committee of the States, are awaiting trials, Suall said.

**'A Serious Blow To Hate Movements'**

"There is no question that the latest indictments represent a serious blow to hate movements in the U.S.," Suall said. "Depending on the outcome of the trial, it could significantly cripple the hate movements."

Aryan Nations and CSA have been called neo-Nazi, racist, white supremacist and extremist. But according to Suall, the groups are first and foremost anti-Semitic. Jews are considered their main enemy, he said.

"They don't actually call themselves 'Nazis or neo-Nazis'," Suall said. "But most admire Hitler and the Third Reich." They employ Nazi symbols and aspire to establish a separate all-white state in the Northwestern United States.

The members of Aryan Nations and The Order call the United States government the "Zionist Occupational Government (ZOG)" and characterize Jews as the children of Satan.

The hate groups are loosely linked in their adherence to a philosophy known as the Christian Identity Movement. The violently anti-Semitic teachings of the movement claim that Jews are the offspring of Satan. Some elements preach the extermination of Jews. The Church of Jesus Christ Christian adheres to the Christian Identity philosophy.

Suall estimates the Aryan Nations have about 500 followers nationwide.

\*\*\*

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union in April totalled 717, of whom 168 went to Israel, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Thursday.

**SHAMIR INTENDS TO PRESENT THE  
INNER CABINET WITH HIS OWN PEACE  
PLAN BASED ON DIRECT TALKS WITH  
JORDAN AND THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS****By David Landau**

JERUSALEM, May 10 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Sunday he would present the Inner Cabinet with his own peace plan, based on direct talks with Jordan and on the Camp David Accords. In a television interview on the eve of the fateful Inner Cabinet debate on an international conference for Middle East peace, Shamir said his plan would also contain "places, times and procedures -- that is, matters of tactics." But he would reveal these only to the Inner Cabinet itself.

The 10-member Inner Cabinet is to meet Monday morning to begin what is likely to be a long discussion of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' proposal that Israel agree to an international conference -- on certain conditions. Peres has pledged that if the Cabinet balks at his plan, he will urge Shamir to agree to dissolve the Knesset and hold new elections.

Shamir in his interview said that he objected to Peres' proposals and that they were unrealistic. His own proposal, on the other hand, accorded with the original coalition agreement of the unity government, and he urged that the government stay in power and act according to its original platform. To force elections now would be "irresponsible," Shamir added. He did not rule out an effort by Likud to set up a narrow-based government if Labor left the unity coalition.

**Shamir's Top Aide Flies To Washington**

Earlier Sunday, Shamir's top aide, Yossef Ben-Aharon, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office, flew to Washington to brief Secretary of State George Shultz and other key Administration figures on Shamir's plan and on the Premier's and Likud leader's objections to Peres' proposals.

Peres' bureau stated Sunday that this high official's mission was arranged without the Foreign Minister's prior knowledge or consent.

Political observers said Ben-Aharon's purpose in meeting with U.S. Administration officials, the Congress and the media, would be above all to counter the Likud's negative and anti-peace image.

In his interview, Shamir cast doubt on Peres' scenario of an "international opening" to be followed at once by substantive bilateral negotiations between Israel and each of the Arab parties in regional working groups. He said Peres was "the only one using this term 'international opening,'" and that "we know the Russians demand a real conference -- not merely a ceremonial start."

Regarding Peres' assertion that the U.S. was committed to leave the conference, along with Israel, if other parties contravened the agreed-upon ground rules, Shamir said this too was unrealistic.

"One does not enter into such a serious thing as a conference in order to leave it," he said. Israel would stay, even if the course of events at the conference did not go according to

its liking. "Therefore we ought not to rely on the memorandum of understanding between Peres and Shultz or on similar things," the Premier said.

He rejected the view that Likud was confronted with the option of "peace or territories" and said that if real negotiations got under way he would have "offers to make to King Hussein . . . not necessarily territorial . . . One must use one's imagination."

**Refuses To Withdraw Accusation Against Peres**

The Premier did not withdraw an accusation attributed to him in the media here that Peres is ready to negotiate with the PLO. He said he could not disclose the factual grounds for this charge. But he conceded that one piece of evidence was the weekend statement of the Maltese Prime Minister that Peres' aide, Avraham Tamir, had sent messages, through him, to PLO chief Yasir Arafat and to Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi.

Tamir and Peres' spokesman, Uri Savir, Sunday both denied this. Shamir said he did not believe "one hundred percent" either the original statement by the Maltese leader or the denial . . . "

Peres, meanwhile, has cancelled a visit to Argentina and other South American countries scheduled for next week.

He intends to fly to the U.S. for a brief visit this week where he will meet with the Secretary of State. But he plans to be home by the weekend in order to continue his fight for the conference proposal.

**BARBIE TRIAL TO OPEN MONDAY;  
STUNNING REVELATIONS EXPECTED****By Edwin Eytan**

LYON, May 10 (JTA) -- The trial of Klaus Barbie, the "butcher of Lyon," will open here Monday in a blaze of global media attention unprecedented for this city of 457,000 in east central France which he ruled by terror 45 years ago as the regional Gestapo chief.

The apparent world-wide fascination with this trial, however, does not stem from the nature of Barbie's crimes. The litany of Nazi horrors has been unfolded many times, in many places over the past four decades; Barbie's contribution to the Holocaust was smaller in scope and scale than many others. He was, after all, only a local chieftain.

What has drawn 800 accredited reporters from all over the world to Lyon this week -- five American television networks, three from West Germany, two from Japan, three French, one from Turkey and at least a dozen more from other countries -- are stunning revelations expected about collaboration with the Nazis of high-ranking Frenchmen, including members of the resistance, and the American role in protecting Barbie after the war and spiriting him to safe haven in Bolivia where he lived as a prosperous businessman until expelled in 1983.

Barbie's lawyer, Jacques Verges, a fiercely controversial maverick, described as "brilliant" by some, a past master of media manipulation by others, has promised to reveal "new names, new

facts," linking highly respected persons, many still living, with Barbie's Gestapo activities.

There is, in addition, the suspenseful drama of confrontation, not only in the courtroom, but already building up in the streets between Holocaust survivors and neo-Nazi activists for whom the "butcher of Lyon" is a hero.

On the eve of the trial, members of the Jewish community and of various associations of deportees, joined by Holocaust survivors and prosecuting attorneys representing the families of victims, made a tragic pilgrimage to Izieu, a village southeast of Lyon, where 44 Jewish children were arrested at an orphanage and deported to the gas chambers of Auschwitz at Barbie's orders.

The pilgrimage also visited the Jewish community building in Lyon and then stood with bowed heads at the local prison and tobacco factory, buildings used by the Gestapo for torture. Jews and non-Jews alike took part in the silent demonstration.

In another part of Lyon, several hundred neo-Nazis gathered to chant "Barbie is innocent" and to sing Nazi wartime marches. Thousands of letters, some claiming the Holocaust was a hoax, others brazenly threatening prosecution lawyers with "just retribution," have been circulating in Lyon for days before the trial.

As Marek Halter, the French Jewish writer, author of the international best-seller, "The Book of Abraham," and Holocaust survivor, remarked, "The trial is a must, but it runs the risk of turning into a catastrophe."

#### Formal Charges Against Barbie

Barbie will be formally charged with "crimes against humanity" for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment. He is 73. The charges are based on the deportations from Izieu; the arrest and deportation of 86 Jews in a raid on the Jewish community offices in February 1943; and the organization of the last convoy of deportees from the city while Allied armies battered at its gates.

Barbie is also charged with arrests, maltreatment of prisoners, torture and deportation to certain death in hundreds of cases.

Barbie was taken into custody in January 1983 after his ouster from Bolivia at a time when the rightwing military junta was briefly displaced by a civilian regime. He has been incarcerated at the Lyon prison, the same one used by the Gestapo, for four years. During that period, trial dates were announced and then postponed. Some observers believed the French were reluctant to place Barbie in the prisoner's dock for what he might reveal about France under the collaborationist Vichy regime.

#### Vows A Scandalous Expose

Verges has vowed a scandalous expose. The Gestapo and pro-German French militia archives found after the war disclosed a revolting record. While many of the French Jews who survived owe their lives to the humanity and courage of their non-Jewish neighbors, the archives record over a million denunciations against Jews and resistance fighters.

Verges is expected to use these documents to shatter the myth of a uniformly brave and united France opposed to the German occupation. He may also try to raise the case of Jean Moulin, France's wartime resistance leader who was betrayed to the Gestapo by some of his associates

and died under torture. If the court prevents him from entering those documents, Verges said "I shall do so on the court steps in front of the television cameras."

His revelations could also embarrass the United States. Barbie worked for American military intelligence in Germany during the immediate postwar years. He and other Nazi war criminals were recruited for their alleged knowledge of Communists as the cold war between East and West began almost the moment the war against Hitler ended.

It is believed that Verges may try to put on the stand the American secret services to expose their amoral use of Barbie; and pro-Western Latin American dictators as well. Barbie served as advisor to at least two Presidents of Bolivia.

Verges himself has long been a favorite media subject. He gives it what it wants. (Recently he posed in a bubble bath for Paris Match). He has built a reputation for defending reprehensible "lost causes."

His clients included the notorious Hilarion Capucci, the Greek Catholic Archbishop of Jerusalem who served a prison term in Israel for smuggling arms to terrorists. Last winter he defended a Lebanese terrorist, Ibrahim Abdullah, who was charged with masterminding a wave of bombings in Paris last fall.

Barbie himself, arrogant, unrepentant, paces in his cell. The few outsiders who have seen him say he is as defiant as he was when arrested four years ago. He is also reported in poor health.

#### Precautionary Measures Taken

Meanwhile, as the climactic opening of the trial approaches, the city's monumental Palais de La Justice has been renovated for the occasion. A special hall has been built to accommodate the hundreds of journalists, victims' families and a small army of prosecution lawyers and court clerks.

Barbie will sit in a dock protected by bullet-proof glass. He will face nine jurors and the three magistrates who will preside at the trial. He will travel from prison to court and back each day in a specially built armored car.

The trial is expected to last 8-10 weeks. It will hear 93 witnesses for the prosecution, the most notable perhaps being Nobel Peace Laureate Elic Wiesel and Simone Veil, former President of the Parliament of Europe. Both are Auschwitz survivors.

#### **GRATEFUL FOR U.S. FINANCIAL AID, ROSENNE NOTES THAT U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS IS A TWO-WAY STREET By Judith Colp**

WASHINGTON, May 10 (JTA) -- Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne said Thursday that funds from the United States have enabled Israel to strengthen its economy.

But he said relations between the two countries are a "two-way street," and Israel has been an important U.S. ally.

Rosenne, who is scheduled to leave the Israeli Embassy at the end of the month, made his remarks at a farewell dinner hosted by the Prime Minister's Club and Ambassador's Society of Trustees of the Israel Bond Organization.

Rosenne said Israel has saved the U.S. billions of dollars by sharing sophisticated technology. He cited Israel's participation in SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative) and the building of

a transmitter for the Voice of America. But he noted that the "future and strength of Israel depends upon its capacity to build a society with a safe economy, and the U.S. has helped us a lot by bringing down inflation."

Rosenne said the future of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union will depend on Israel's ability to provide housing and jobs.

Robert Keats, president of the Prime Minister's Club, admitted that "while relations between the U.S. and Israel have basically been excellent, there have been periods characterized by differences," such as in 1983, when Rosenne arrived in Washington. Keats was referring the disagreement over the war in Lebanon.

"But our relations have reached a new high," Keats said. Rosenne, whose successor has not yet been named, noted that it's not the diplomats who are responsible for good (U.S.-Israel) relations.

"The great hero is the Jewish Israeli citizen who serves three years in the army and in the reserves until the age of 55, and who pays the highest income tax in the world, and who in spite of the terrorist attacks keeps on smiling and fighting for a better tomorrow," he said.

**PASSOVER FOOD SENT BY CJC TO CUBA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY MEETS WITH MISHAPS AND FAILS TO ARRIVE FOR THE HOLIDAY**

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, May 10 (JTA) -- The 900-member Jewish community in Cuba went without matzot and other Passover foods this year because the thousands of pounds of edibles donated by the Canadian Jewish Congress did not arrive in time to be distributed for the first seder, the CJC learned. One report from Havana said the shipment by sea never arrived and the CJC is considering other means of transportation.

Ian Kagedan, religious affairs director of the CJC, said the ship carrying 16,500 pounds of matzot, cooking oil and grape juice was unable to leave Montreal in mid-March as scheduled because of ice conditions in the St. Lawrence, and because the agents insisted the ship could not sail without a full cargo.

The vessel departed on April 4 and arrived at Havana April 12, the day before the first seder. Nevertheless, the CJC received a wireless message from Jose Blumenkranz, president of the Cuban Jewish community, conveying its thanks for the gift.

**Ship Never Docked In Havana**

However, Kagedan reported he was telephoned on April 16 by Raquel Markizer, whom he described as a community leader, to tell him the ship never docked in Havana.

Canada is the closest source of Passover foods for Cuban Jews because the U.S. embargo forbids trade with Cuba. But most of the products originate in the U.S. and are imported into Canada only during the 60 days before the holiday. This makes for a very tight schedule, especially when Passover falls earlier in the spring before the St. Lawrence is ice-free.

The CJC is considering future shipments by air which would escalate the costs from \$4,200 to \$25,000, excluding insurance. Because of the added expense, shipments by air may be limited to matzot.

**CANADA CALLS ON E. GERMANY TO PAY WAR REPARATIONS**

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 10 (JTA) -- Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has called on East Germany to pay compensation to former German Jews now living in Canada for the confiscation of their property by the Nazis during World War II.

Clark, who requested some \$4 million while visiting East Berlin last week, told East Germany's leader, Erich Honecker, that Canada supports a World Jewish Congress call for a moral payment for wrongs inflicted by the Nazis during the Holocaust.

Canada, Clark said, wants a lump-sum payment for the confiscation of property owned by Canadians of German descent, but East Germany said it prefers to look at the matter case-by-case. Officials in the Canadian Embassy in East Berlin told reporters that East German Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer did not respond directly to Clark's request.

Clark also raised the demand that East Germany join West Germany in acknowledging German responsibility for what was done to the Jews by Hitler's government. The East German position is that it is not responsible for the Nazis' action.

**PERES, HUSSEIN HAVE AGREED ON WEST BANK FORMULA, SAYS SCHOLAR**

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- A leading American expert on the Middle East, with close ties to Washington, Jerusalem and the major Arab capitals, said that Jordan's King Hussein and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres have agreed to a formula "on mutual territorial accommodation in the West Bank."

Prof. Howard Sachar, author of the just-published "A History of Israel, Volume II" (Oxford University Press, \$19.95), said in a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here that he learned of the agreement from "well placed officials" in Washington.

Sachar's report was similar to recent Israeli press accounts of a secret accord under which Israel and Jordan would exercise joint control in the West Bank and Gaza Strip pending a final peace settlement.

"I believe there is a good chance to reach a peace agreement between Israel and Jordan," said Sachar, the author of nine books about the Middle East and Israel and a history professor at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

"Significant contacts between Israeli Labor (Party) leaders and Jordan have been established in the last two years. There have been general meetings of the minds in the course of these contacts," Sachar said. Hussein, Sachar maintained, has consented to de facto bilateral negotiations with Israel "under the nominal framework of an international conference."

Hussein also agreed, Sachar said, not to include "identified members of the Palestine Liberation Organization" in his delegation to the international conference.

**NEW SIDDIRIM FOR HUNGARY**

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) will publish the first Hungarian siddur to be printed in that country since the war. JDC president Heinz Eppler announced that the agreement to publish 5,000 siddurim was worked out at a meeting in Hungary last month between JDC executive vice president Ralph Goldman and members of the Hungarian government.

"This new printing will provide a full supply of siddurim for the Hungarian Jewish community," said Eppler. "JDC has an extensive social service program there, and we are very pleased that we can also make this valuable contribution to the community's religious life."

JDC is working with the Jewish community of Budapest to publish the Pollak Siddur, a Hungarian translation by Rabbi Miksa Pollak, originally published in 1924. The translation was reprinted in the 1960's in Tel Aviv by Sinai Publishing, which granted permission for the present Budapest printing.

"This is a bilingual siddur," said Goldman. "The Hungarian version is well done from a literary point of view, and it reflects the spirit of the prayer. For example, where the prayer includes quotations from the Bible, Rabbi Pollak makes reference to where the quotation is located in the Bible." The Pollak Siddur also includes a summary of the important aspects of all Jewish holidays.

According to Rabbi Alfred Schoner, the Grand Rabbi of Hungary, the new siddurim will be used in synagogue services and Talmud Torah classes. He said the new edition will make the services and classes more pleasant for all participants.

Pollak was rabbi of a synagogue in Sopron, Hungary, from 1894 to 1944. He was highly regarded as a preacher, historian, and literary scholar, and wrote histories of the Jews of Hungary and studies of biblical imagery in Hungarian poetry. Pollak was arrested by the Nazis and taken to Auschwitz, where he died in 1944.

**BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN  
INSPIRED BY A TOUR OF ISRAEL**

JERUSALEM, May 10 (JTA) -- A move to improve relations with South Africa's Black community was undertaken recently by NA'AMAT and the Afro-Asian Institute of Histadrut. From all indications, the effort was successful.

Thirty-one representatives of the Organization of Black South African Women, an umbrella group encompassing five organizations, came to Israel as the guests of the two Israeli organizations for a two-week study tour.

The tour included a visit to the Knesset, and Debre Mobiletse, head of the delegation, said afterwards that she and the delegation members were honored to have been accorded hospitality in the Knesset, a privilege denied to them in their own country where they did not even have the right to vote.

Masha Lubelsky, secretary general of NA'AMAT (Movement of Working Women and Volunteers), initiated the tour following her own visit last year to South Africa where she was the only white woman to address the Black South African Women's Convention.

The 31 Black women met with the heads of departments of NA'AMAT and inspected the organization's facilities throughout Israel to learn

about the programs operated by NA'AMAT to advance the status of women in the country.

Funded in part by NA'AMAT USA, The Women's Labor Zionist Organization of America, these facilities include 800 day care classrooms, a multitude of vocational training centers for women and teen-aged girls, boarding high schools, summer day camps for disadvantaged women, counseling programs for battered women and their husbands, and pre-release workshops for the rehabilitation of women prisoners. The delegation's visit to the Knesset was at the invitation of Labor Party MK Nava Arad, a former secretary general of NA'AMAT.

Mobiletse told the NA'AMAT leaders that she and the Black Women's delegation had learned much during their tour of Israel and promised to incorporate the ideas and concepts they had learned into their own lives upon returning home. NA'AMAT's experience and success in building a strong, effective movement that works to improve life for women and their families would serve as a model on which to build their own activities, Mobiletse said.

**3 ALLEGED JDL MEMBERS NABBED BY FBI**

NEW YORK, May 10 (JTA) -- FBI agents arrested three alleged members of the Jewish Defense League here Friday on charges linking them to six bomb and grenade incidents in the metropolitan area between 1984-86, four of them against Soviet diplomatic premises or visiting Soviet performers.

Victor Vancier, alias Chaim Ben Yosef, 30, of Queens, Jay Cohen, 23, also of Queens, and Sharon Katz, 44, of Manhattan, were arraigned before federal Magistrate John Caden in Brooklyn on a complaint filed by the office of U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District, Andrew Maloney.

The three were allegedly involved in the 1984 firebombing of a car in the compound of the Soviet Mission in Riverdale; the 1985 and 1986 pipe bombings of cars in Howard Beach owned by a member of a rival JDL faction; the 1986 firebombing at Avery Fisher Hall before a performance of the Soviet State Symphony; and the detonation of a tear gas grenade at the Metropolitan Opera last September during a performance by the Moiseyev Dance Company. Twenty persons were injured in the latter attack.

Vancier, who often describes himself as JDL "leader," was arrested as he was mailing a letter to JDL member Murray Young, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregory O'Connell. Young, 59, was arrested last month on charges of illegal possession of a handgun and silencer.

O'Connell said Vancier's letter warned Young "to keep his mouth shut because the government doesn't have enough evidence and if everyone keeps their mouth shut, everything will be all right."

Vancier and Cohen were held in jail pending a hearing Monday. Katz was released on \$100,000 bail.

\*\*\*

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) -- Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem's popular mayor for 22 years, will receive the second annual award of the Raymond and Miriam Klein Foundation here on Tuesday. Kollek will receive \$100,000 and a citation for his many and varied services to Israel and world Jewry.

**PERES AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO U.S.  
MEET IN WASHINGTON ON INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE****By Yitzhak Rabi**

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and the Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Yuri Dubinin, held an unexpected meeting in Washington Sunday night that lasted more than 90 minutes. The two officials discussed the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace.

Peres, in a meeting with Israeli reporters in New York Monday morning, hours before his return to Israel, said that the meeting was held at the request of the Soviet Ambassador in the Washington apartment of Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress.

"The Soviet Ambassador told me that Moscow is interested in reaching peace in the Mideast and that they want to play a positive role in the peace process," Peres said about his conversation with Dubinin.

"The Ambassador," Peres continued, "said that the whole world and the Mideast need peace. He noted that a new era is underway in the Soviet Union, under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev, and that the change in the Soviet Union's policies also applies to the Mideast."

The Soviet Ambassador told the Foreign Minister that the Kremlin does not intend to arrive at an imposed solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. "I told him that if the Soviet Union wants to take part in an international conference they must come with satisfactory answers to Israel's requests," Peres said. He was alluding to Israel's demands that the Soviet Union restore its diplomatic relations with Israel, which were severed during the 1967 Six-Day War, and that Jews in large numbers be allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Peres said he asked that Soviet Jews be allowed to immigrate to Israel via direct flights from Moscow to Tel Aviv.

**'High Quality' And Very Interesting' Meeting**

The Foreign Minister, who described the entire meeting with Dubinin as "high quality and very interesting," said, however, that as far as he is concerned, "The Soviet Union is still not ready to participate in an international conference." He said that no further meetings were scheduled between him and the Soviet Ambassador.

Asked to sum up the American position on the issue of international conference, following his two meetings with Secretary of State George Shultz in the last four days, Peres said: "The Americans, like me, understand that the only way to reach direct negotiations (between Israel and the Arabs) is through the corridor of an international conference. But they do not want to interfere in internal Israeli matters."

Peres said that new elections are the only solution to the political stalemate in Israel over the issue of an international conference. He added, however, that he does not believe in a "narrow government" and does not think, therefore, that Labor has to quit the unity coalition government with Likud. "In the present situation,

the only way out is new elections," Peres said. "We will continue the struggle until we get a majority for a new election."

**SENTIMENT GROWING IN LABOR PARTY  
TO END ITS COALITION WITH LIKUD****By David Landau**

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- Sentiment is growing within the Labor Party to end its coalition with Likud and take the major issues which have divided the unity government to the voters. This will be put to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the party leader, when he returns from his weekend trip to the U.S. Monday evening.

The secessionist camp was strengthened after Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Labor-allied Shinui Party announced Sunday that he would recommend his party leave the government because it is hopelessly deadlocked on the issue of a peace conference. Rubinstein indicated that he hoped his move would spur Labor to follow suit.

Rancor between the coalition partners was escalated by Sunday's Cabinet decision -- adopted in face of Labor opposition -- to charge Israel Defense Force veterans lower university fees than non-veterans. The \$450 differential was seen as blatant discrimination against Arab students inasmuch as Arabs are banned by law from serving in Israel's armed forces.

Labor Party Secretary General Uzi Baram denounced the decision Monday. He said it put Israel "in line with South Africa." Secessionists maintain that even if Likud managed to put together a narrowly based governing coalition with the small religious parties, Labor must leave now rather than bow to compromises which sully its image.

**Short Life For Likud-Led Government**

But they are convinced that a Likud-led government would not last long. That view apparently is shared by Shas, the ultra-Orthodox Party. Likud has been trying to woo with promises of major religious concessions. Shas MK Rafael Pinhasi said on a television interview Sunday night that if Labor left the coalition a narrowly based government would be short-lived.

Nevertheless, Peres has been reluctant to lead Labor out of the government and precipitate its downfall. He would prefer to have the Knesset vote to dissolve itself and call early elections. As of last week he was still several votes short of passing such a resolution.

**Dispute Over Next Ambassador To The U.S.**

Meanwhile, the long-simmering dispute between Labor and Likud over who will be the next Ambassador to Washington seemed further than ever from resolution. Up to now all Labor nominees to succeed the incumbent envoy Meir Rosenne, have been rejected by Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Rosenne's term expires at the end of this month and he is preparing to leave Washington.

Sources close to Shamir disclosed Sunday that he has asked Rosenne to stay on for another two months. Peres' aides said Sunday that the Foreign Minister proposed two other candidates

for Israel's most important diplomatic posting abroad. They are Uri Lubrani, the government's advisor on policy in south Lebanon who was Israel's representative in Teheran before the Shah was deposed in 1979; and Itmar Rabinovitch, an expert on Arab affairs and a professor at Tel Aviv University.

#### U.S. TO CONTINUE TO 'EXPLORE' FEASIBILITY OF MIDEAST CONFERENCE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA)-- The Reagan Administration has made it clear that it will continue to "explore" the feasibility of an international conference on Middle East peace despite the deadlock in Israel's national unity government over the issue.

"The President and I are not committed to an international conference and we are not asking others to commit themselves," Secretary of State George Shultz told the some 1,200 persons attending the 28th annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) at the Washington Hilton Hotel Sunday night.

But, Shultz stressed that the United States believes that a "real opportunity" exists for making progress and "it is important to explore all possible approaches" including an international conference that would lead promptly to direct face-to-face negotiations.

Such a conference should be looked at "carefully, cautiously, skeptically," he said. "But look it over."

#### U.S. Won't Interfere In Israeli Politics

Shultz took pains to emphasize that the U.S. was "careful not to intervene in domestic Israeli politics," a reference to the current split in which Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Labor Party was pressing for such a conference to the vehement opposition of Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Likud.

"I have the highest regard for and the closest relationships with both Premier Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres and for that matter, with many other Israeli leaders," Shultz said. He added that "all of them are dedicated to peace" and that "all across the spectrum of Israeli politics there is a desire to have direct talks."

Shultz spoke to AIPAC after meetings with Peres in New York on Saturday and in Washington on Sunday.

Peres, in a speech to AIPAC earlier on Sunday, as well as in his other public remarks over the weekend, asserted that he had not come to the U.S. to seek support for his position but to explain it.

"I didn't ask for any statement by Mr. Shultz aimed at Israel," Peres said on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" Sunday. "I think the United States has clarified its position and I hope they won't rotate from it."

Shultz told AIPAC he believes King Hussein of Jordan "is sincere in his readiness to pursue a negotiated settlement" through direct negotiations with Israel. He said that Hussein also agrees that the international conference, which the king has demanded, "will not impose any solution or veto any agreement made by the negotiating parties."

The Secretary stressed that Palestinians must participate in the negotiations, but "only in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation." He ruled out any part for the Palestine Liberation Organization in peace talks.

Shultz said the U.S. believes that the way to achieve peace is by "sitting down with people who want to make peace and who are qualified and ready to negotiate."

He then asked whether the PLO was qualified and replied to his own question, "hell, no." He then said to the loudly applauding audience, "PLO," and they shouted back at him, "no."

#### Says Soviets Are Not Qualified

Repeating his question, he asked about the Soviet Union. He said they "could be" but are not now entitled to participate. "They encourage the PLO to turn even more radical and violent," he said. "They ally themselves with the worst terrorists and tyrants in the region."

In addition, Shultz pointed to the Soviet Union's treatment of Jews and its refusal to increase emigration, as well as its lack of diplomatic relations with Israel, as reasons for it not being qualified to participate in Mideast peace negotiations.

Shultz said that if there are negotiations the U.S. position will be based on President Reagan's Sept. 1, 1982 Mideast peace initiative which he stressed is an "initiative not a plan." He said all parties will be free to put their own proposals on the table without any preconditions, as well as walk away if the conditions for the talks are not met.

Asked why the U.S. embassy is not moved to Jerusalem, Shultz replied that while the U.S. believes Jerusalem should remain united, it also believes that all territories captured by Israel in 1967 should be open for negotiations.

The Secretary stressed several times that relations between Israel and the U.S. are closer than ever and that both the Administration and Congress are committed to strengthening it even further.

"I feel that one of the warmest and best things that have happened to me in this job is the expansion of my already wide list of Jewish friends," Shultz said after it was noted he is the first person to have been asked and accepted to address the AIPAC policy meeting for a second time. He first spoke to AIPAC in 1985.

#### U.S. PLANS TO SELL 60 F-15s TO SAUDIS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz confirmed Sunday night that the Reagan Administration plans to sell some 60 F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. The sale is "structured in a way that we believe protects the Israeli interests," he said in response to a question after his address to the 28th annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

He stressed that the planes would not increase the number of F-15s the Saudis now have, but would replace planes that are no longer usable. About five planes would be sent immediately and the others would be delivered to keep the Saudi "inventory" of 62, sold in the Carter Administration, constant.

The sale, which reportedly also include hundreds of Maverick air-to-ground missiles, would have to be approved by Congress. Shultz said the sale is in U.S. interest because of "the tension" in the Persian Gulf and the "stability" provided by such advanced arms for the Saudis.

**FIRST SOVIET-BORN JEW ORDAINED AS A CONSERVATIVE RABBI AT JTS**  
By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- Leonid Feldman used to teach Soviet children scientific atheism, a required course which ridiculed religion and belief in a God. Last Thursday, he became the first Soviet-born Jew ordained a Conservative rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS).

"Today is a victory celebration for a 4,000 year old tradition. The Soviet Union is the most successful atheistic machine. But this just proves that Judaism is more powerful than anything," Feldman said.

"I realize that I'm very lucky, very fortunate. But with this comes a responsibility," he said. The responsibility, according to Feldman, is to teach American Jews and especially Soviet Jews who settle in America, to be Jewish.

Feldman and 22 other men and women were ordained in the JTS commencement Thursday. Also, the first two women cantors ordained in the history of the Conservative movement, Marla Rosenfeld Barugel and Erica Lippitz, received their diploma of Hazzan at the ceremony.

Feldman, who has become a cause celebre in the American Jewish community, has accepted a job at CLAL (The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership). One of Feldman's dreams for the near future is the establishment of a Soviet synagogue in Brighton Beach which he hopes will bring Soviet Jews back to Judaism. About 40,000 Soviet Jews live in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn.

**A Journey Fraught With Obstacles**

Feldman, 34, told the JTA that his spiritual and physical journey to the rabbinate was fraught with obstacles. As a refusenik in the Soviet Union, Feldman said he was briefly imprisoned and staged a hunger strike just before he received permission to emigrate to Israel in 1976.

After spending three years in Israel, he came to America, hoping to study education at Columbia University in New York. But as an illegal resident with little money, the school would not accept him. He said he had been homeless, despondent, lonely and even suicidal after he came to America.

Feldman said the turning point in his odyssey came one night when he was standing on the George Washington Bridge in Manhattan and thinking about jumping off. "I said to myself, the Soviets did not break me. I'm not going to let the freest country in the world break me," Feldman recalled.

As a young physics teacher in the Soviet Union, Feldman described himself as a "passionate atheist" and a good communist. He believed in scientific atheism and said he was "anti-religion." But one day, a refusenik gave him the book that would change the course of his life -- Leon Uris' "Exodus."

After reading it in one night, Feldman said he realized for the first time that the Jews had a country of their own, a language of their own and an ancient history.

He became a Zionist activist with no special attachment to the Jewish religion. After the Soviets did not permit him to emigrate, Feldman said Natan Sharansky advised him to go on a

hunger strike as a last resort to publicize his case. For this, he said he spent a month in Soviet prison.

Following his release in 1976, Feldman spent three years in Israel, serving in the army and teaching physics. Feldman, a chess master, was also invited to judge in the World Chess Olympiad in Haifa.

**'Felt I Had Some Kind Of A Mission'**

Education was a consistent part of his life. He decided in 1980 to go to New York to study at Columbia University Teachers College. But with no papers, no money and no luck, this aspiration was frustrated.

His fortunes changed considerably when he went to Los Angeles to visit an old friend. There, he was offered teaching jobs and became interested in religious studies.

"I always felt I had some kind of a mission -- I was an idealist in the Soviet Union, a good communist. During the few years between becoming a Zionist and leaving the Soviet Union, I had no goal. I was desperate. Judaism gave me a goal. It filled a gap, an emptiness that communism left in my soul."

Feldman said two Jewish scholars and authors, Dennis Prager and Joseph Telushkin, had a tremendous impact on his intellectual interest in Judaism. After reading the book Prager and Telushkin co-authored, "The Nine Questions People Ask Most About Judaism," he slowly became more observant and began taking courses at the Jewish Theological Seminary affiliate in Los Angeles, the University of Judaism. Then, the dean of the university suggested he take his studies one step further and become a rabbi.

Months later, he transferred to the rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

**Need To Educate Soviet Jews To Judaism**

Feldman said he feels he has a unique calling to educate Soviet Jews about Judaism because he understands their education and lack of knowledge about Judaism.

"There are 40,000 Soviet Jews in Brighton Beach who are uneducated about Judaism. There are people there who never heard of Shul, who don't believe in God, they are atheists . . . I have a special understanding because I too was a passionate atheist," he said.

But not only the Soviet Jews suffer from the lack of Yiddishkeit, Feldman said. "Jewish life in America is disastrous. This is the freest country in the world and the most ignorant Jewish community in the world except for the Soviet Union."

He noted that every American Jew can take Hebrew lessons if he wants to. "Iosef Begun spent 20 years in prisons and psychiatric wards for teaching aleph, bet." But most American Jews cannot even say "how are you" in Hebrew, Feldman said.

**PANAMA'S PRESIDENT VISITING ISRAEL**

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- Panama's President, Eric Arturo de Delvalle, arrived in Israel Sunday on a state visit. De Delvalle, who is Jewish, spoke of close ties between Israel and Panama at a state dinner hosted by President Chaim Herzog.



**'GET' PROPOSAL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED  
BY THE NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS**

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- The New York Board of Rabbis unanimously approved a resolution calling on its members representing every trend in Judaism in the U.S. to encourage their congregants, in the event of civil divorce, to obtain a Jewish divorce, a "get."

The resolution was drafted by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, Board president, and its approval is believed to be the first such action ever taken by a major rabbinic group comprising Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis.

The resolution states: "On moral and humanitarian grounds, we find it abhorrent when one spouse refuses to participate in the 'get' process after a civil divorce and when the other spouse desires a 'get'." The measure urges all rabbis and congregations and the entire community "to deny all privileges of membership to a person who holds another Jew captive in such a manner."

The resolution recommends that the rabbis urge all couples to sign a prenuptial agreement pledging both partners to cooperate in arranging for a "get" before a rabbinic tribunal should their marriage terminate in divorce. Lookstein has done this for some time at his synagogue, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in Manhattan.

Lookstein said the resolution "represents a major step forward in solving one of the most troublesome and divisive problems in Jewish family -- the religious divorce." He noted that "there are literally thousands of men and women, mostly women, who have obtained a civil divorce but who are prevented from remarrying because of a vindictive former spouse who refuses to cooperate in the 'get' process."

Copies of the resolution are being sent to rabbinic organizations throughout the country.

**U.S. SHOWS AUSTRIA THE DOCUMENTS  
THAT CAUSED WALDHEIM'S BAN FROM U.S.**  
By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, May 18 (JTA) -- U.S. Justice Department officials Friday presented to Austrian Justice Minister Egmont Foregger the documents that led to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim's ban from the United States.

U.S. Ambassador Ronald Lauder said the "extraordinary and unprecedented" action of explaining a U.S. internal decision was taken at Austria's request.

The U.S. Justice Department placed Waldheim on a "Watch List," barring his entry as a private citizen into the U.S., on April 27. President Reagan has pledged not to invite him as a head of state.

Waldheim, a former United Nations Secretary General, has admitted that he concealed part of his service as a Nazi officer, but claimed he took no part in war crimes. Yet in barring Waldheim, the Justice Department cited evidence that while serving in Yugoslavia, Waldheim ordered the murder of Jews, Gypsies, Serbs and resistance fighters.

**Parliament Supports Waldheim**

On Thursday, the Austrian Parliament approved a resolution championing Waldheim against his U.S. ban.

The declaration supports the government's rejection of the U.S. decision and its subsequent recalling for consultations of the Austrian Amba-

sador to the U.S. The resolution also calls on the government to do everything necessary to help Waldheim in his defense and condemns all forms of discrimination, including anti-Semitism.

In the debate over the declaration, Foreign Minister Alois Mock noted that Waldheim had not received due process and ought to be considered innocent until proven otherwise.

Presenting a Jewish view of the Waldheim affair, Paul Gross, president of the Austrian Jewish Communities, said Friday he did not advocate Waldheim's resignation since it could lead to accusations that Jews caused his fall. But he did urge Waldheim to admit his mistakes.

Gross added that the Jewish community receives a considerable amount of anti-Semitic mail and threatening letters.

**SOVIET OFFICIALS SAY JEWISH EMIGRATION  
WILL RISE IF DIPLOMATIC TIES IMPROVE**  
By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, May 18 (JTA) -- Highly placed Soviet officials told three visiting members of the Canadian Parliament last week that the Soviet Union might allow more Jewish emigration and take other human rights action if its relations improve with Israel and the U.S.

The MPs -- Conservative William Attewell, chairman of the Canadian Parliamentary Committee for Soviet Jewry; New Democrat Howard McCurdy; and Liberal Lucy Pepin -- were accompanied by Janet Goldman of the Toronto Committee of Soviet Jewry.

They were told by Vadim Zagladin that about 22,000 applications for emigration, mostly by Jews, are pending. The Canadian delegation also met with Viktor Afanasyev, editor-in-chief of the newspaper Pravda; and Alexei Glukhov, first deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's Directorate for Humanitarian Affairs.

McCurdy said that Soviet officials pointed to the rise in Jewish emigration this year and suggested that the West should be more patient and remember that the Soviet bureaucracy is sluggish.

Barbara Stern, chairman of the National Committee for Soviet Jewry of the Canadian Jewish Congress, told JTA that "we hope this is the beginning," but noted that new Soviet emigration codes only "institutionalize the existing procedure, making it even more difficult for Jews to apply for exit visas to Israel ... Should the Soviets introduce a definite policy, I am sure that we'll see more than a million applications for emigration from Soviet Jews."

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Tel Aviv University has signed an agreement for scientific cooperation with the University of Konstanz in West Germany, providing for exchanges of faculty, graduate and undergraduate students. The program is funded by the Lion Foundation, established by Kurt Lion of Kreuzlingen, Switzerland.

CORRECTION: The number of people at the Salute To Israel Parade was inadvertently reported to have been 250,000 in the May 18 Bulletin. The correct number should have been 750,000.

\*\*\*

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated May 25, Memorial Day, a postal holiday.

**OUTRAGE EXPRESSED IN AUSTRIA OVER U.S. DECISION TO BAR WALDHEIM**

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, April 28 (JTA) -- The U.S. Justice Department's ban on the entry of President Kurt Waldheim into the United States in private capacity drew expressions of outrage from political circles and the media here Tuesday.

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, the Socialist Party leader, called the American move "a very serious and shocking matter for the government and for all of Austria." Nevertheless, he said Monday night, after U.S. Ambassador Ronald Lauder notified him of the decision, that "despite the shock and offense, the matter should be dealt with coolly."

Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Alois Mock, leader of the conservative Peoples Party which ran Waldheim as its Presidential candidate last summer, rejected the Justice Department's statement that "a prima facie case of excludability exists" against Waldheim because of his alleged participation in persecutions when he was a Wehrmacht officer in the Balkans during World War II.

The legal proceedings against Waldheim did not conform with European legal practices that an accused person must be heard and cannot be pronounced guilty unless proved to be, Mock said. Waldheim, who has admitted that he concealed the fact of his military service for 40 years, insists the charges made against him are false.

Mock recalled the Austrian Ambassador to Washington, Thomas Klestil, for consultations Monday. He told reporters he had no regrets over Waldheim's candidacy. He was elected by the democratic process and Austria will not give in to force, Mock said.

**SHAMIR: U.S. WAS RIGHT IN BARRING ENTRY TO WALDHEIM**

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- Israel had no official reaction Tuesday to the U.S. Justice Department's ban on the entry of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim to the United States.

But Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who is visiting Paris, commented publicly there. He said, "The American Administration did the right thing" and he was "not surprised."

The chairman of the Israel Bar Association, Yaacov Rubin, meanwhile urged the Justice Ministry to continue its investigation of Waldheim's alleged Nazi activities during World War II.

Rubin was reacting to a statement by a Justice Ministry spokesperson Monday that the evidence collected so far on Waldheim's Nazi past was insufficient to start legal proceedings or to officially prevent him from entering the country because Waldheim himself was not questioned by Israel.

Rubin said that if there was any evidence that Waldheim had been a member of a Nazi organization or had worked for the Nazis, the Justice Ministry had a duty to expose it and draw the necessary conclusions.

**NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE IS MARKED AT THE ROTUNDA OF THE U.S. CAPITOL**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 28 (JTA) -- Fred Friendly, former president of CBS News, expressed the hope Tuesday that the decision by the United States government to bar Austrian President Kurt Waldheim from the U.S. for his participation in the persecution of Jews and others during World War II will end the claim by many Austrians and Germans that they did not know of the Nazi atrocities at the time they were going on.

"I pray that the people of Austria and Germany will finally remember," he said at the seventh annual National Civic Commemoration of the Days of Remembrance at the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. "We in the United States knew and 42 years later we know even better and we ask them to remember what we can never erase."

Friendly said that as a 29-year-old master sergeant assigned as a reporter with the Third Army, he covered the liberation of Mauthausen death camp in Austria. After leaving the camp he asked Austrians near the camp about the horrors he had witnessed and they said "we didn't know." He said he received the same response from an Austrian woman when he visited Austria 25 years later.

Friendly spoke after he and the late Edward Murrow were awarded the 1987 Eisenhower Medal, named for former President Dwight Eisenhower, the leader of the World War II Allied forces, by Harvey Meyerhoff, chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, for their reporting of the liberation of Nazi death camps in April 1945. Murrow's widow, Janet, accepted the medal for the CBS correspondent.

Dan Rather, anchorman and managing editor of the CBS Evening News, introduced the honorees who after the war had been a team at CBS, noting that they had been reporters "trying to do the job" of presenting to the American public what had happened at the camps.

**Murrow's Historic Broadcast**

The audience, in the packed Rotunda, heard Murrow's historic broadcast on the liberation of Buchenwald. Rather read a letter that Friendly wrote his parents on the liberation of Mauthausen.

Friendly, a Jew, ended his letter noting that if "if there had been no America" his family might also have been in the death camps. His family reads the letter each Yom Kippur and last Passover it was read at their seder so that his six-year-old grandchild, Noah, could also hear it.

The theme of remembering echoed throughout the more than hour-long ceremony with William Lowenberg, vice chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Council and a Holocaust survivor, calling it a "sacred obligation" to remember. "Let us challenge the world to remember the past for the sake of the future," he declared.

Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D. W. Va.) stressed that "we and all who follow after us

have a duty to remember the Holocaust." He added that "an event that mankind forgets, mankind can repeat."

House Speaker James Wright Jr. (D.Texas) reminded the audience of the individual responsibility. "It was not numbers that perished after all, it was people who perished in the fiery flames" and it was people who carried out atrocities, he said.

Wright said the U.S. had no direct responsibility for the Holocaust, but "there was uncomfortable evidence on which we turned our backs ...We chose not to think about it, may God forgive us."

He urged that "may we never again give comfort or breathing space to the deadly virus of racial and religious bigotry."

Sen. John Danforth (R. Mo.), an Episcopalian minister, said the "Holocaust reminds us that some who committed those awful crimes were Christians, and many who stood by the wayside and let it happen were Christians." He said the lesson of the Holocaust is that "some of the worst acts of hatred and persecution in history have been done in the name of religion or with the condonation of religious people."

Meyerhoff said the Holocaust Council, which is planning a Holocaust Memorial Museum for Washington, is "pledged to tell the story of those who died, to translate the horror of their deaths, the valor of their struggle, into terms that the American people will understand."

#### A Moving Ceremony

The moving ceremony included the participation of the U.S. Army Band and a color guard carrying the flags of the U.S. Army divisions that liberated the death camps.

Also participating were the Rumanian Jewish Federation Choir. Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen was in the audience as well as retired Soviet Gen. Vassily Patrenko, who led the Red Army troops that liberated Auschwitz in January 1945.

Candles memorializing the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust were lit by members of Congress -- Sens. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.), Daniel Inouye (D. Hawaii), Lowell Weicker (R. Conn.), Dennis DeConcini (D. Ariz.), Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio) and Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) and Reps. Thomas Foley (D. Wash.), Henry Waxman (D. Cal.), Dan Glickman (D. Kans.), Martin Frost (D. Tex.), John Porter (R. Ill.) and Helen Bentley (R. Md.).

They were assisted by Sigmund Strochlitz and Benjamin Meed, Holocaust survivors and cochairmen of the Holocaust Council's Days of Remembrance Committee.

Meed recited the Kaddish while Cantor Isaac Goodfriend, also a Holocaust survivor, sang "El Mole Rachamim." The invocation was given by Rev. Richard Halverson, the Senate chaplain, and the benediction by Rabbi Arnold Resnikoff, a U.S. Navy chaplain.

#### **SHAMIR CONFIRMS THAT REAGAN HAS URGED HIM TO RESPOND TO EVERY POSSIBLE OPENING FOR MIDEAST PEACE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir confirmed Monday night that he had received a message from President Reagan urging him to respond to every possible opening for peace in the Middle East.

Shamir, interviewed by the Israeli media in Paris where he is on the three-day visit, would neither confirm nor deny press reports that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met secretly with King Hussein of Jordan 10 days ago and that they reached agreement on procedures for holding an international conference for Middle East peace.

Shamir said he never commented on "such leaks. . .regarding the most highly classified state secrets." He acknowledged he had received Reagan's message in Jerusalem, before he left for France, but denied that it specifically encouraged the international conference option which Peres supports and he strongly opposes.

According to media reports here Tuesday, Reagan's message to Shamir spoke of an historic opportunity which must not be missed.

#### Latest Developments Fuel Speculation

The latest developments fueled speculation that the Labor-Likud dispute over an international conference is fast coming to a head, with ominous portents for the survival of the unity coalition government. Peres, interviewed in Haifa Tuesday, stated flatly that he would go to the electorate if the government failed to seize the present opportunity for peace.

He stressed in that connection that this year is crucial because 1988 is a Presidential election year in the U.S. which usually means a hiatus in Washington's diplomatic activism overseas.

Likud Minister Moshe Arens, who just returned from a mission to Washington on behalf of Shamir, was unable to say Tuesday that he had convinced Secretary of State George Shultz to oppose the international conference scenario.

On the contrary, well-placed Likud sources indicated that Arens found Shultz leaning more than ever toward Peres' view that an "international opening" conference would be followed by direct talks between Israel and Jordan and was the most promising approach to peace.

#### Peres, Hussein Reportedly Agree On A Plan

Peres' optimism in recent days that Hussein is likely to come to the negotiating table sparked media speculation that the Foreign Minister may have achieved something of a breakthrough with the Jordanian ruler.

Yediot Achronot reported Tuesday that Peres and Hussein agreed on a 10-point plan for convening an international conference during a nine hour secret meeting in the Arava region of the Negev. Peres' office officially denied that account.

But Labor Party sources said the 10 points were hammered out by the U.S. State Department's veteran Middle East diplomat Wat Cluverius during a recent round of shuttling between Amman and Jerusalem. Related diplomacy, according to media reports here, included the recent visit to Washington of Labor Party chairman Rafi Edri, a close confidant of Peres. Edri flew from Washington to Morocco on a mission for Peres, Jerusalem Post correspondent Yehuda Litani reported Tuesday. Peres visited Morocco last year as the guest of King Hassan to discuss Middle East peace.

According to Litani, another Israeli envoy was dispatched to another Arab country on a similar mission. Neither the envoy nor the Arab country were identified.

Shamir's office, meanwhile, issued a statement Tuesday stressing that the Prime Minister is always ready to launch direct negotiations with Jordan, with appropriate Palestinian delegates and with other Arab states.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES  
U.S. JEWISH LEADERS ARE REDEFINING  
THE DIASPORA-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP**

By Margie Olster  
(Part Two Of A Two-Part Series)

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- The vastly different political and social environments in which Israelis and American Jews form their world outlooks and the disparate roles the Israeli government and American Jewish organizations sometimes play in global politics shape the American diaspora-Israeli relationship.

Over the decades since the establishment of the State of Israel, numerous tensions between the two communities have arisen over various issues. But the tensions have usually been resolved in dialogue, for the most part, behind the scenes, in order to present a united front between two partners. In the past few years, however, differences have gone beyond tension into confrontations both in private and in public.

A basic ingredient in the changing relationship is the increased role the American Jewish community is playing in the nation's political, social and economic life, in influencing programs and issues that transcend what have been considered traditional Jewish concerns or 'Jewish issues' over the decades. American Jewish organizations are becoming increasingly involved in multi-issue activities, thus giving them greater clout and input in humanitarian causes, political campaigns, the fight against racism, nuclear build-up, apartheid and school prayer.

This changing role on the part of American Jewish organizations and consequently their attitude toward Israeli policies was discussed and evaluated by American Jewish and Israeli leaders during the recent mission of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to Israel.

**Conflicting Attitudes And Agendas**

Many of the Americans pointed out that they and their constituencies found it difficult to support Israeli attitudes and stands on a number of issues. For example, Israelis were told that American Jews cannot condone Israel's military trade with South Africa when they are themselves demonstrating against the apartheid regime in Pretoria.

Nor can those who fight for democracy in Central America tolerate Israel supplying arms to oppressive regimes in that region. And those who support the American judicial system cannot justify the actions of Jonathan Pollard or accept Israeli involvement in the Irangate scandal.

At the same time, Israelis told the American Jewish leaders that the advice they offer on many issues cannot always be translated into policy. They noted that a government cannot act in the same manner as organizations in domestic and international politics.

Simcha Dinitz, a former Israeli Ambassador to the United States, told the Presidents Conference, "We cannot afford the luxury that our friends sometimes have in judging (policy) purely in idealistic terms. But we also have a square inch to defend. Sometimes you have to superimpose what you want to do over what you have to do."

Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, also a former Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., focused on Israel's trade with regimes that are viewed as oppressive by many. He noted that the problem

was basically economics. Israel needs a defense industry to survive, he said. But a defense industry needs an international market as well as an internal market.

For Israel, this is complicated by prohibitions on competing with American military industries in world markets, Arens said. Thus Israel is left with trading partners which other countries find politically inappropriate or not profitable to trade with, he said. Israel often trades with what some term "unsavory partners" when other Western countries cannot, for some reason, conduct trade themselves. This, he noted, is a form of quid pro quo, such as in the case of Israeli arms sales to Iran.

A dichotomy between Israeli and American Jewish leaders also developed over Premier Yitzhak Shamir's recent initiative to ask the U.S. government to deny refugee status for Soviet Jews who immigrate to America.

While members of the Israeli government defended Shamir's position in meetings with the Presidents Conference, the American delegates were equally unified in their opposition to it. Here, again, the different political and social environments, values and orientations between the Israelis and Americans came to the fore.

The Americans defended individual freedom of choice, the value so endemic to the American way of life. The Israelis presented Zionist arguments that Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union are not refugees because they have a homeland in Israel, that the struggle by Jews to leave countries of oppression is not merely an emigration movement, but a struggle for national liberation. They stressed that the Soviet Jews are desperately needed for the prosperity of Israel.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres claimed that mass immigration of Soviet Jews to the U.S. jeopardizes freedom for those remaining in the Soviet Union and undermines the argument that Soviet Jews are seeking to return to their homeland when they are in fact exchanging one diaspora for another.

Peres also said that the Soviets do not want to feel that they are being deceived by Jews who are asking for visas to be repatriated to their national homeland but then go to America.

**A Painful Reality**

Henry Siegman, American Jewish Congress executive director, sought to pinpoint the root cause for the growing divergence between Israelis and American Jews on issues of vital concern to both. The painful reality for both communities is that Israelis are held morally accountable for their policies while American Jews are free to judge it from afar.

This problem was exacerbated by the recent article of political theorist Shlomo Avineri who accused American Jews of suffering from a "galut mentality" in their reactions to the Pollard case.

Siegman said he believes this view, although exaggerated in Avineri's article, is widely held in Israel. "This view holds that Jewish life outside Israel is lacking in integrity, viability and credibility," Siegman said. "It is perceived as transient, ephemeral."

At the grass roots level, American Jews are more uncritically supportive of Israel than their leadership, Siegman said. But the cumulative effect of the Pollard, Iran and Contra scandals has led to disaffection for Israel in the American Jewish community. "The most critical question affecting our 'partnership' is the kind of society

being shaped here in Israel . . . I suggest to you that Israel is in danger of being transformed into a society that will be seen as alien by American Jews and the rest of the democratic world," Siegman told the Israelis in one Presidents Conference session.

But Shamir pointed out, "We have our special problems and our special considerations. Israel cannot always support what the U.S. can."

#### 'Margin For Error Is Very Small'

Arens told the Presidents Conference that it was up to American Jews to secure support for Israel in the U.S. "A mortal danger to Israel is a mortal danger to all Jews," he said. "The margin for error is very small. Now maybe it is too much to expect that all the people in the United States . . . will understand that. But you know it, you understand it, and it is part of your task to have America understand it."

The American Jewish point of view, in defining the affinities and differences between itself and Israel, was expressed by Albert Chernin, executive director of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

"What we have are a group of leaders representing a group of voluntary organizations addressing leaders of a government who were elected . . . and who are responsible for decisions that have profound consequences. Organizations have the luxury, we can act on the basis of ideals. Government has to act on policies and live with the consequences of those policies."

#### **49 GOVERNORS CONDEMN UNITED NATIONS ZIONISM EQUALS RACISM RESOLUTION** By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- Governors of 49 States have issued official proclamations condemning the 1975 United Nations General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has learned that Governor John Sununu of New Hampshire was the only governor who declined to issue a proclamation condemning the resolution. He reportedly refused on the grounds that he vowed during his election campaign not to issue proclamations of any kind as long as he is governor.

Bernice Tannenbaum, chairperson of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, announced the action of the 49 governors, at a gala celebration, sponsored by the WZO-American Section, marking Israel's 39th Independence Day at Town Hall here Monday night. "These unique and unprecedented proclamations by our governors from Maine to Alaska are a memorable accomplishment in Zionist and American Jewish history," Tannenbaum declared.

"This means," she added, "that the American people throughout the length and breadth of this nation, by exceptional declarations of their elected chief state executive add their voices to those of the U.S. Congress and the White House."

Governor Thomas Kean of New Jersey addressed the gathering on behalf of the 49 governors. He said that the resolution equating Zionism with racism "came about because of pure political intimidation coupled with a lack of courage on the part of some who should have resisted it. This was an unprincipled resolution purchased with petro-dollars at the height of the energy crisis." Declaring that "Zionism is a freedom movement" that established a democratic and progressive state in the Mideast, Kean said that

efforts must continue to remove the "shameful" resolution from the records. Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, said that by passing the Zionism-equals-racism resolution, the UN committed the sin of "victimizing the victims." Noting that in the aftermath of the Holocaust the term "racist" was the worst of all, the Ambassador said that the anti-Zionism resolution was chosen by the Jewish people's enemies in order to legalize their wishes to destroy Israel and the Jewish people.

"The sponsors of that resolution were students of the Nazis," Netanyahu said. The Israeli envoy added, however, that it is clear that many countries who voted for the anti-Zionism resolution on November 10, 1975, would have voted against it today.

He predicted that soon there will be a majority at the UN to repeal the resolution. "We will continue the fight to wipe out the slander. We will wipe it off the book," Netanyahu declared.

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel, who was presented during the evening with the 1987 Israel Achievement Award, said that 42 years ago, on the 28th day of the Hebrew month of Nissan, he was liberated from the concentration camp of Buchenwald. "Tonight, I am celebrating both Israel's 39th independence day and my liberation from Buchenwald," Wiesel said.

He pointed out that on the day that Israel's anniversary is celebrated, the U.S. Justice Department announced its decision to bar Austrian President Kurt Waldheim from entering the U.S. as a private citizen because of his Nazi past.

Wiesel called for Waldheim's resignation as Austria's President. "A man who lies about his past and who has not confessed to his sins should not serve as the moral arbiter of his nation," Wiesel said.

#### **500 PEOPLE ATTEND BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR IDA NUDEL AT WIZO HOUSE IN TEL AVIV**

TEL AVIV, April 28 (JTA) -- Some 500 people, including the British Ambassador, William Squire, attended a 56th birthday party for long-time Soviet Jewish refusenik Ida Nudel at WIZO House here Monday night and encouraged her that her 16-year ordeal may soon be over.

Nudel was present via a telephone call placed to her by another famous former refusenik, Natan Sharansky. She spoke to the assemblage from the Moravian town of Bendery where she has been allowed to live since her release from exile in Siberia. She spoke to her sister, Elana Fridman, who has lived in Israel since she was permitted to leave the USSR 16 years ago.

Squire assured Nudel that "We're still working on your case." He said British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who visited Moscow earlier this month, vowed to continue pressing the Soviet authorities to allow Nudel to emigrate to Israel.

He said Thatcher had tried, unsuccessfully, to meet with Nudel while in Moscow. "Mrs. Thatcher joins with all of us present here tonight in hoping that Ida Nudel will soon be allowed to emigrate," the British envoy said.

Absorption Minister Yaacov Tsur said there has been a change in the Soviet Union toward Jewish emigration. He said the first sign was that 600 Russian Jews left the USSR so far this month. He cautioned, however, that high expectations do not mean that fundamental changes have occurred in Soviet policies.

**ISTANBUL SYNAGOGUE, SITE OF MASSACRE  
LAST SEPTEMBER, WILL REOPEN NEXT WEEK**

ISTANBUL, May 14 (JTA) -- The Neve Shalom Synagogue, the scene of havoc where terrorists murdered 22 worshippers last September, will be reopened next week, the World Jewish Congress reported here.

The Chief Rabbinate of Turkey informed the WJC that the synagogue would resume services with special prayers and a ceremony on May 20 to be attended by the Turkish Minister of Interior and other local government officials. WJC representatives will also be in attendance.

Last September 6, two attackers, spraying machine gun fire and hurling hand grenades, murdered 22 worshippers at Sabbath services and turned the elegant synagogue into a charred and blood-stained slaughterhouse. Several investigative accounts placed responsibility for the massacre on the Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist group.

Work on restoring the interior, which ironically had undergone renovation just before the terrorist attack, has now been completed at this, Istanbul's largest synagogue, whose name means "Oasis of Peace."

Turkey's 22,000 Jews have been relatively well treated over the centuries in a country in which 99 percent of its people are Moslems. A memorial service held after the massacre last September in Istanbul was attended by Jewish communal figures from around the world.

"The reopening of the synagogue symbolizes the courage of the Turkish Jewish community and their determination, along with all free peoples, to overcome the terrorist menace to civilized society," the WJC stated.

**SUPPORT GROWING IN CONGRESS FOR  
CLOSING DOWN PLO OFFICES IN THE U.S.**

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA) -- Support grew rapidly in Congress this week to have the Administration shut down the two offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the United States on grounds that a terrorist organization has no business in this country and is a menace to security. The State Department said it has the matter under "review."

Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, the Senate Republican leader, drew strong bipartisan support for a measure he introduced Wednesday to close the PLO's Information Center in Washington and its Observer Mission at the United Nations in New York.

Backing him were Sens. Rudy Boschwitz (R. Minn.), Charles Grassley (R. Iowa), Frank Lautenberg (D. NJ), Alfonse D'Amato (R. NY) and Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio). Dole said his bill was designed "to strengthen the defenses of this country against the real physical threat that the PLO represents."

**Similar Measure In The House**

A similar measure was introduced in the House last week by Rep. Jack Kemp (R. NY). It would make it a felony to aid the PLO whose offices he said are in violation of the Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization Act (RICO). State

Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters Wednesday that legislators have sent letters demanding the closure of the PLO offices. "We are reviewing whether the U.S. government has the authority to close these offices," Redman said.

"Neither one belongs in this country," Grassley said. "It's time they were closed." Grassley, a strong supporter of the Administration, complained that earlier attempts at legal action to close them "have largely gone unheeded by the Administration."

Lautenberg said "The PLO has been implicated in the murder of U.S. diplomats overseas, and has proudly taken credit for the murders of dozens of American citizens abroad."

**An Action Long Overdue**

D'Amato declared, "The PLO has no business operating in the United States, let alone in the rest of the world. The closing of all PLO offices which are used to support the murderous operations of these terrorist thugs is an action which has long been overdue."

He noted that, "Certain Arab nations such as Egypt, Morocco and Jordan have recently ordered PLO offices closed. And just last month, the PLO rededicated itself to the use of violence to promote its goals at the Palestine National Council." He was referring to the meeting in Algiers of the PNC, the so-called Palestinian parliament in exile.

"There is simply no justification for the U.S. permitting any further use of its territory to support the operations of the PLO," D'Amato said.

The PLO Observer Mission at the UN was established as a consequence of General Assembly Resolution 3237 in 1974. The Washington office is registered with the Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

**RABIN: ISSUE OF MIDEAST CONFERENCE  
MUST BE TAKEN TO THE ELECTORATE  
IF THE CABINET REMAINS DEADLOCKED**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, maintaining that an international conference followed by bilateral talks is the only avenue to Middle East peace at this time, declared Wednesday night that the Labor Party will continue to press for it and that if the Cabinet remains deadlocked the issue must be taken to the electorate.

"We don't envision a chance for any other peace process in the near future, apart from the peace between Egypt and Israel, and therefore for us this appears to be a cardinal issue," Rabin said in an interview on Israel Radio's Arabic language service.

"In accordance with the government's basic guidelines, we consider the achievement of peace to be a central objective of government policy," Rabin said.

He said the Labor Party is convinced that the proposals for an international conference put forward by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will "lead to direct, bilateral negotiations with Jordan and Palestinians who are not PLO members... and perhaps with additional neighboring Arab countries

such as Syria and Lebanon. . . this following the framework of an opening international conference." Rabin stressed that Israel would not negotiate with the PLO. He conceded that Peres' failure to win the Inner Cabinet's approval of his proposals was "for the time being, certainly no achievement."

"It is necessary that the main Cabinet components (Labor and Likud) acknowledge that we've reached a point of basic controversy and let us ask the people's opinion in elections," Rabin said. "If the Likud gives a negative reply, let's wait and see."

He said Likud's argument that this is not an appropriate time for elections "does not constitute an adequate reply to our stand."

Rabin spoke to high school seniors in Herzliya Thursday -- at the invitation of Likud Mayor Eli Landau -- and answered their questions about his position on the administered territories. The legal status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip has never been defined by any Israel government, Rabin explained. The permanent status of the territories will be established in negotiations which will afford Israel freedom to bring forward any proposals it wants in direct peace talks, he said.

Rabin was highly critical of violent acts in the West Bank, whether by Arabs or Gush Emunim militants. "Such illegal actions disturb the peace, violate the law and do not help the fight against terrorism, maybe just the opposite," he said.

**PERES CUTS SHORT HIS VISIT**

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel has cut short his scheduled seven-day visit to the United States because of the political crisis at home over the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace. As a result, he will not meet with Administration officials in Washington as originally scheduled.

Instead, Peres will meet in New York on Saturday night with Secretary of State George Shultz to discuss with him his proposal for an international conference. Both Shultz and Peres are scheduled to attend Saturday night the David Ben Gurion Centennial Dinner at the Parker Meridien Hotel here. Peres will be the keynote speaker at the event while Shultz will receive the David Ben Gurion Peace Award. The two leaders will meet before the dinner for approximately one hour, an Israeli spokesman said.

Peres is scheduled to arrive in New York Friday morning, a day later than originally planned. He will be the guest of honor at the Salute to Israel parade on Fifth Avenue on Sunday. Before returning to Israel late Sunday night, Peres will fly to Washington to address the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

**McFARLANE SAYS ISRAEL AND THE U.S. HAD DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES FOR SELLING WEAPONS TO IRAN**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA) -- Former National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane portrayed the different objectives Israel and the U.S. had for selling weapons to Iran in his testimony Wednesday before the Senate-House Select Committee investigating the Iran/Contra affair. He

stressed that Israel never sought to "influence us unduly."

McFarlane agreed with Sen. James McClure (R. Id.), a member of the panel, who suggested that Israel was interested in assisting Iran in its seven-year war with Iraq. "Our interest was in stopping the war and restoring relations with Iran sometime in the future," he said.

"They're very different from Israel's. That's very clear and both sides were conscious of that. The President was very conscious of that," McFarlane said.

**Refers To Meeting With Kimche**

He referred at length to a meeting he had with David Kimche, then Director General of the Israel Foreign Ministry. "He (Kimche) said, 'but this (negotiations with Iran) doesn't make any difference to us. If you don't want to have anything to do with it, then we would understand. We bring it to your attention as an ally, if you wish to do it. And if you don't, good, it is there for you to consider'."

Characterizing Kimche as "a very careful man" who "came on clear instructions and said what he was told to say," McFarlane said the Israeli official did not mention the sale of arms when he first suggested that the U.S. might be interested in starting a dialogue with Iran. When the sale was brought up later by the Iranians and President Reagan refused to comply, the Israelis said they would sell the arms if the U.S. agreed to replace them, McFarlane testified.

**Critical Of An Israeli Plan**

He was critical of an Israeli plan to send the first shipment of I-Hawk missiles to Iran on an El Al jet "which might raise eyebrows if it landed in Teheran." He called that proposal "uncharacteristically dumb" because "no one is better at intelligence than the Israelis." He said he could not blame the intelligence services because Israeli private citizens were handling the operation.

"There's a greater margin of error with private citizens," McFarlane said, referring to Israeli arms dealers Al Schwimmer and Yaacov Nimrodi. In testimony before the Select Committee last week, retired Air Force Gen. Richard Secord called the Israeli arms dealers and their Iranian go-between, Manucher Ghorbanifar, "a group of civilians who didn't have any expertise in air defense."

McFarlane lost his temper at one point in Wednesday's hearings when Sen. Warren Rudman (R. NH) asked him why Congress was not notified of an Administration attempt to use drug enforcement agents to pay bribes to free American hostages in Lebanon.

"It is more than passing strange to me that we cannot aspire to a policy which is more effective to deal with terrorism," the former National Security Advisor said, noting the tough measures taken by Israel to combat terrorists. "You can be goddamn sure if any Israeli is caught he's going to have his government going after the people who did it."

**TWO FATAH ACTIVISTS EXPELLED TO JORDAN**

JERUSALEM, May 14 (JTA) -- Two El Fatah activists who served prison terms for terrorist activities and fomenting violence at Arab campuses in the West Bank were expelled to Jordan Thursday.

Khalil Ashour, 39, a resident of the Askar refugee camp in Nablus, and Marwan Barghouti, 28, from Kobar village near Ramallah, were transferred to Jordan at a Negev border crossing point under International Red Cross auspices.

Ashour, convicted in 1970 of grenade attacks and recruitment for El Fatah, spent 12 years in prison. On his release in 1982 he enrolled at A-Najah University in Nablus where he became a campus agitator, leading to two more arrests and brief prison terms in 1985 and 1986.

Barghouti served four years in prison following his conviction in 1978 on charges of membership in a hostile organization, training for sabotage and manufacturing bombs. After his release he stirred anti-Israel demonstrations at Bir Zeit University and was re-arrested for violating an order barring him from the campus. He was placed under administrative detention for six months in August 1985 but resumed subversive activities upon his release.

### **A HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL IN VIRGINIA**

**By Haviva Krasner**

RICHMOND, May 14 (JTA) -- The victims of the Holocaust will be remembered in this city of close to 220,000 people because there is now a monument on the grounds of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. A bronze and copper sculpture was dedicated here on Yom HaShoah last month at an interfaith worship service attended by some 400 people.

The sculpture is titled "Rachel Weeping for Her Children," based on a passage about Rachel in the Book of Jeremiah (31:15). The sculpture, eight feet tall and set on a three-foot base, depicts the slender figure of a woman, hands to her face, surrounded by six tongues of flames representing the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

A worship service, following the dedication, included readings from the Scriptures, narratives related to the Holocaust and the lighting of seven candles -- six for the Jewish victims of Nazism and one for the "Righteous Gentiles" who assisted Jews or perished in the attempts to save them, it was reported by the National Catholic News Service (NCNS).

At the dedication ceremony, Rabbi Leon Klenicki, director of interfaith affairs for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said: "The ideology of Nazi totalitarianism as well as other forms of totalitarianism, both in the past and today, is essentially an attempt to destroy God, Jews, Christians and other faith commitments," the NCNS reported.

He said the historical revisionists, those who deny the Holocaust existed, and others who seek to explain the Holocaust by invoking political, economic and social reasons, have turned to "easy explanation" in order "to diminish the horror." But the genocide, Klenicki added, was rooted in a pagan attempt to "destroy God and God's kingdom." Bishop Walter Sullivan of Richmond, who commissioned the sculpture, said he wanted to "remember in a visible way the terrible tragedy of the Holocaust" and hoped the community might sponsor a memorial. He said that two years ago he broached the idea to Klenicki, who encouraged the effort, according to the NCNS.

Sullivan said he was moved to establish the memorial after hearing a comment by Father Edward Flannery of Providence, R.I. Speaking at a local synagogue several years ago, Flannery, a

specialist in Christian-Jewish history and author of "The Anguish of the Jews," said he was often asked "When will Jews forget the Holocaust?" He replied that Jews would forget the Holocaust when Christians begin to remember.

### **JIHAN SADAT SAYS ISRAEL WANTS PEACE WITH THE ARABS**

**By Michael Solomon**

MONTREAL, May 14 (JTA) -- Jihan Sadat, widow of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, said here Tuesday that she hoped Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat "will continue in the footsteps of my late husband and that Israel will recognize the PLO." She said that "Israel is willing to have peace with the Arabs."

Sadat spoke at a press conference at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel where she was baited by an obviously hostile reporter for an Arab newspaper who asked why she agreed to raise funds for Ben Gurion University in Israel, and why she is not fasting on Ramadan, the period of fasting of the Moslem faith.

Sadat said, "I am ready to do the same (raise funds) for any university in the world which proposes peace and understanding between Arabs and Israelis. I just follow in the steps of my late husband." In reply to the second question, she said "I fasted yesterday. Tonight I shall eat."

Discussing peace, she said, "I hope the time will come when all people concerned will gather around the table and find a peaceful solution. Let anyone have the courage -- I don't say the same courage as my late husband -- and go to Israel and say that he wants peace. Israel is willing to have peace with the Arabs."

She said her husband's successor, President Hosni Mubarak, has his own style but continues the peace process initiated by Anwar Sadat.

Asked if she felt isolated in the Arab world, Sadat said "I feel isolated only from the narrow-minded Arab people, not from everyone."

Speaking of Islamic fundamentalism and its efforts to block the pursuit of women's rights in Egypt, Sadat said, "Unfortunately, fundamentalists are everywhere, including Israel." She said "My deepest wish is to see peace between Israel and the Arab people."

Sadat spoke Tuesday evening at a dinner honoring Paul Ivanier, president and chief executive officer of the IVACO Steel Co. who received an honorary Ph.D. degree from Ben Gurion University earlier in the day. Ivanier, who founded the Center for Robotic Research and Management at Ben Gurion University, said in his acceptance speech, "The university is the fulcrum and business is the lever. Together they can move the world."

### **DEMJANJUK TRIAL RECESSED UNTIL JUNE**

JERUSALEM, May 14 (JTA) -- The trial of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk was recessed Thursday until June 22 while prosecution and defense teams visit West Germany to interview three former SS men who claim to remember him from the Treblinka death camp.

The prosecution has been unable to locate one of the witnesses, Otto Horne of Berlin, who is known to be alive but may be too ill to testify. If he cannot be found, the court will reconvene on June 15, according to Judge Dov Levin, President of the three-judge panel hearing the case.



**JEWISH ENTERTAINMENT RADIO SHOW DEBUTS ON 21 STATIONS IN U.S.**

By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) -- To the wistful theme of that fabled rooftop fiddler, the "Tradition Time" weekly radio program of Jewish music, comedy and news debuted this month on 21 stations across the country.

The two-hour syndicated program is the first nationwide venture of the new American Jewish Radio Network based in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and is the first national Jewish entertainment radio show.

Producer and host Ben Zohar is hoping the millions of potential Jewish listeners like "Tradition Time" as well as the South Florida Jewish listenership does. He said the show began locally 18 months ago at station WVCG-AM in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., at an hour per week, and has increased to 13 hours, with about half of them taped in advance.

The national show of predominantly music is completely pre-recorded, Zohar explained, because he aspires to perfect production. He added that he takes care to construct a program "appealing to the mass market of Jews. It has to be inter-generational. Jewish music tends to be that way."

**No Particular Branch**

While promoting no particular branch of Judaism, the show is unabashedly pro-Israel and pro-Yiddishkeit. "We instill certain Jewish values in the show," Zohar told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "There are certain universalities: If someone came up to you and said, 'You dirty Jew,' you'd blow his face off with a bazooka."

Before buying the slot for "Tradition Time" at WVCG, Zohar had never even entered a radio station. He was in clock manufacturing at the time, he said, having graduated with a marketing degree from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. He declined to give his age, but looks and sounds to be in his 20s.

The self-described marketer said the idea for "Tradition Time" occurred while listening to a Spanish-language program. "That morning it slapped me in the face that there are two tremendous ethnic markets in Florida, the Jewish and Hispanic," he recalled.

**He Moved Quickly**

He got his live hour of Jewish programming on WVCG, and sold all his commercial time in three weeks, he said. He bought the second and third hours, he recalled, "and the same thing happened."

Soon his avocation became his vocation. He returned from a wedding trip in Israel to find a station executive eager to sell him 10 more hours per week. Zohar bought them, opened an office, staff and sold his clock business. His wife Tammy is the show's program director, and he said they work 100-hour weeks and employ a staff of eight.

The assortment of stations at which he has bought two hours on Sunday includes WKOX-AM in Framingham, Mass., near Boston, a news-talk station; WEVD-FM in New York, a Jewish-oriented station; and KJAA-AM in Phoenix, which plays Country and Western hits.

Zohar claimed on the show to be in "every major Jewish city from coast to coast," and while he's in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, south Florida and Washington, D.C., he does not have outlets in

Dallas, Denver, Houston, Milwaukee, Montreal, San Francisco or Toronto.

Zohar hopes in the next 18 months to expand the network to 100 stations, including Canada.

**NEW JEWISH AGENDA TO SEND WORK BRIGADE TO NICARAGUA**

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) -- The New Jewish Agenda (NJA) is sending a work brigade to Nicaragua next winter in memory of Benjamin Linder, the 27-year-old engineer from Portland, Oregon, killed three weeks ago in Nicaragua while working on a hydroelectric project. Plans for the brigade were announced Wednesday night at a memorial service for Linder at the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue.

The service was arranged by friends of Linder who live in New York, in conjunction with synagogue Rabbi Balfour Brickner, who went to Nicaragua in 1984 as part of a human rights delegation sent by NJA. Linder was Jewish. His parents are members of the Portland chapter of NJA.

The brigade will comprise about 20 people, said Annette Jaffe, NJA associate director and Central American Task Force staff person for the group. Jaffe was in Nicaragua in December 1984 with the first Jewish delegation of Witness for Peace, a nonviolent group that sends people to Nicaragua to meet the local people and observe firsthand the situation in that country.

At the memorial service for Linder, it was also announced that the Abraham Lincoln Brigade of the Spanish Civil War will be sending a new ambulance to Nicaragua in Linder's name.

**ISRAEL HAS UNTIL JULY TO ASK U.S. FOR PLO MEMBER'S EXTRADITION**

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA) -- Mahmoud Al Abd Ahmad, a naturalized U.S. citizen arrested last Wednesday for his role in a fatal attack on a bus in Israel last year, is being held without bail in the Metropolitan Correctional Center.

Israel has until the first week of July to deliver a formal extradition request for him, according to John Gleeson of the U.S. Attorney's office. Meanwhile, Ahmad is free to make a bail request.

Ahmad, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was arrested as he arrived at Kennedy International Airport from Venezuela, where he was expelled for entering the country illegally.

He is charged in Israel with murder and attempted murder in taking part in a two-man attack on an Egged civilian bus in Beit Arich near Latrun on April 12, 1986. The driver was killed and two passengers were wounded.

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA) -- An exchange program involving faculty and graduate students of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot and Yale University in New Haven, Conn., will be announced by both institutions this weekend.

The Yale scholars and researchers will spend up to three months at the Weizmann Institute on various scientific projects, participating in lectures and seminars. A similar group from Rehovot will spend a like period of time at the Yale campus.

**BRITAIN CLAIMS THERE IS NOT ENOUGH PROOF OF WALDHEIM'S WARTIME ACTIVITIES TO BAR HIM FROM VISITING THE UK**

By Maurice Samuelson (London)  
and Reinhard Engel (Vienna)

April 29 (JTA) -- Britain considers unproved the allegations that President Kurt Waldheim of Austria was involved in Nazi atrocities during World War II and sees no reason to bar him from visiting the United Kingdom, a Foreign Office spokesman said Wednesday.

The British position clashed with the decision by the U.S. Justice Department, announced in Washington Monday, to bar Waldheim from entering the U.S. in private capacity because "a prima facie case of excludability exists" based on evidence of Waldheim's activities as a Wehrmacht officer in the Balkans during the war.

Commenting on the Justice Department's move, the Foreign Office official said "British policy remains that the allegation against Dr. Waldheim have not been proved. As a democratically elected head of a friendly state he would be afforded formal courtesies."

The official said he was unaware of plans to invite Waldheim to Britain but he also knew of no plans to place Waldheim in a category which would prevent him from visiting there in private capacity.

Canada also has no plans to officially ban entry of Waldheim, according to a report from Ottawa Wednesday. But Prime Minister Brian Mulroney told reporters that Waldheim would not be welcome. It was not clear whether Mulroney was enunciating his government's policy or simply expressing an opinion in reply to a question.

**Waldheim Challenges U.S. Decision**

In Vienna, meanwhile, Waldheim personally challenged the Justice Department's findings in a television and radio address broadcast Tuesday night to the Austrian nation. "I have a clear conscience," he said. "Believe me, otherwise myself, my wife and my kids would not have been able to live through the weeks and months of accusations and allegations," he said.

Waldheim has admitted that for 40 years--10 of which he served as Secretary General of the United Nations--he had falsified the record of his military service, claiming to have been discharged from the German army in 1941 for a disability. In fact, he served as an intelligence officer in the Balkans.

During his campaign for the Austrian Presidency last summer, researchers for the World Jewish Congress discovered a file in the United Nations War Crimes Commission archive that charged Waldheim with "murder" and "putting hostages to death." He was on a "wanted list" of war criminals in Yugoslavia after the war.

In his broadcast, Waldheim said his predecessor, former President Rudolf Kirschlaeger, had reviewed all of the documents held against him and found no reason for charging him with war crimes. "Please let me stress that there is no proof of guilt," Waldheim said. He said he has

ordered a "White Book" on his past to be researched and published in the near future. Waldheim stressed that after the war he had worked for peace, first as an Austrian diplomat and later at the United Nations. As to the allegation that he was involved in the execution of hostages in Yugoslavia, Waldheim reminded his audience "in all modesty" that he had helped free hostages, including the American Embassy hostages held in Iran in 1979-80.

"I have always intervened for human rights. I demand the right not to be charged without proof," Waldheim said.

Regarding his military past, Waldheim said, "I do not want to minimize what all those (people) had to live through who were thrown into that horrible war scenario. It has been the fate of my generation and we will bear it for all our lives, namely the knowledge of the horror of war and the determination to work for peace for the future."

**PERES TO PRESENT HIS PLANS FOR MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE BEFORE HE GOES TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 29 (JTA) -- Aides to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Wednesday that he intends to present his plans for an international conference for Middle East peace to the full Cabinet before he goes to Washington in the middle of next month.

Sources at Peres' office said the plan has already won the approval of the U.S., Jordan and Egypt. Army Radio reported Wednesday that the understanding Peres reportedly reached with King Hussein of Jordan will be appended in the form of two secret documents to the basic peace conference draft.

Peres summoned Labor Ministers of the Inner Cabinet to a meeting Wednesday to outline his diplomatic plan. They were Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, Police Minister Haim Barlev and Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman. Also present were Uzi Baram, Secretary General of the Labor Party, and MK Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Political observers noted particularly Rabin's apparent support for Peres' initiative. Rabin, one of the more hawkish Laborites and a long-time rival of Peres for party leadership, has often expressed skepticism over an international conference. For the time being, he seems to be standing behind Peres, the observers said.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader who is unalterably opposed to an international conference, is due back from his visit to France Thursday. Likud and Labor may have their ultimate confrontation on the peace issue which most pundits expect will bring down the unity coalition government and precipitate early elections.

Peres spoke of new elections Wednesday as if they were a foregone conclusion. He said he hoped for a brief campaign -- three weeks instead of three months.

**SHAMIR TRIES TO PERSUADE FRENCH OFFICIALS THAT A MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE WOULD BE 'DISASTROUS'**

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 29 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir remained firmly opposed to the idea of an international conference for Middle East peace as he energetically sought to persuade French political and diplomatic officials Tuesday that such a forum would be "disastrous" for Israel and would endanger rather than advance prospects for peace in the region.

Shamir, on the second day of a three-day official visit, refused to comment on press reports that Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had reached a secret agreement with King Hussein of Jordan on procedures for an international conference, to be followed by direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan.

"I shall not react to this type of leakages abroad. The matter is far too serious," Shamir told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. But in his talks with dozens of French officials during the day he carefully refrained from personalizing his dispute with Peres over an international conference.

"My personal relations with Peres are rather good," he told the newspaper *Le Monde*. (Our divergences) are not a personal matter but a political issue. We both have to take our responsibilities before our voters," he said.

Shamir told Socialist Party leader Michel Rochen, National Assembly President, Jacques Chaban-Delmas, and Senate President Alain Poher, "You French are traditionally opposed to the internationalization of regional conflicts. Why do you want to internationalize the Middle Eastern regional issue?"

But he has apparently not succeeded in swaying the French leaders who generally favor a peace conference and the Jordanian option diplomacy of Peres.

During his visit here, Shamir met with Premier Jacques Chirac, President Francois Mitterrand, Foreign Minister Bernard Raymond and Economics Minister Edouard Balladour. He is to address a dinner given by the Jewish community Wednesday night and leave for Israel Thursday.

**ISRAELI CHILD IS IN SERIOUS BUT STABLE CONDITION AFTER RECEIVING LIVER TRANSPLANT IN BRITISH HOSPITAL**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, April 29 (JTA) -- Moran Kadosh, a four-year-old Israeli girl, is in serious but stable condition Tuesday in a Cambridge, England, hospital after receiving a liver transplant.

Kadosh's case has attracted nation-wide attention here since passengers on her El Al flight from Tel Aviv to London last Wednesday spontaneously collected 45,000 Pounds Sterling on hearing that she and her mother were among them.

The 450 tourists, who had just celebrated Passover and Easter in the Holy Land, included leading members of Britain's Jewish community active in fund-raising for Israel.

Kadosh's mother, Tova, 28, had brought her hurriedly to Ben Gurion Airport on hearing that the British hospital might be able to save her life by giving her a new liver. The flight was booked up, but four passengers immediately gave up their seats to Kadosh, her mother and Dr. Akiva Frad-

kin, her Israeli pediatrician. Her father, Zion, 29, followed on a later flight. In flight, the aircraft became the scene of a flying fund-raising function, with regular announcements on how much money had been donated to meet her hospital fees of about 170 Pounds a day and her family's other expenses.

Later, a hospital spokesman said: "The parents are incredibly grateful to all the people in Israel and on the plane who raised the money for the operation."

There were then several days delay in finding a compatible liver to transplant. She is scheduled to remain in the hospital for about a week. The transplant operation took place Monday, after a suitable liver was eventually located.

**HADASSAH HONORS THREE LEADING WOMEN FROM ISRAEL, EGYPT, THE U.S.**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 29 (JTA) -- Hadassah, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary, honored three leading women from Israel, the United States and Egypt Tuesday. The three women are Ophira Navon, the wife of former Israeli President Yitzhak Navon; Jihan Sadat, the widow of former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and Barbara Bush, the wife of Vice President George Bush.

Navon, told the some 200 Hadassah members gathered at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, that the organization was "well known all over Israel for your special skill in turning big deeds into effective action and practical deeds."

She called upon Hadassah to help stem the decreasing population of Jews in the diaspora which she said would shrink from 11 million to 5 million in 50 years because of low birthrate, intermarriage and lack of Jewish education.

"We must stress upon a strong Jewish identity by making young people aware of their unique Jewish heritage," Navon said, suggesting that Hadassah help all young Jews to come to Israel after graduation.

Navon, who was given the award for her work with disturbed, deaf youth and disadvantaged teenagers, confessed that Hadassah had "improved the quality of my life" when she was diagnosed as having breast cancer seven years ago. The Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem offers an alternative to removal of a breast in treatment of the disease.

Sadat, who was praised for her efforts to build a rehabilitation center in Cairo for the handicapped, told the audience of her happiness over the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

"I always feel one man can make a difference and nothing paralyzes a man's willpower more than fear," said Sadat who is visiting professor at University of South Carolina and American University. "Peace is more powerful than evil and love is much better than hate. Peace is more powerful than war and love is stronger than hate."

Bush, who was honored for her work on behalf of illiterates, related her visit to the pediatric ward in Hadassah Medical Center in Ein Kerem where she saw Jews and Arabs treated side by side. "I came away with even greater admiration for Hadassah. You are volunteers in the finest sense," Bush said.

The Hadassah program included remarks by several leaders in the organization: Barbara Topol, president of the Greater Washington Chapter; former national presidents Bernice Tannenbaum-

and Charlotte Jacobson, current president Ruth Popkin, and Lois Slott, chairperson of the 75th anniversary in Washington. Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne also attended the event and Israeli pianist David Bar Ilan played selections from Chopin, Gershwin and Liszt.

Peter McPherson, administrator of the Agency for International Development, also addressed the Hadassah event, saying the key to world development lies in "harnessing the self-interest of poor people."

**RUMANIA JEWISH CHOIR CALLED A SYMBOL OF THE VICTORY THE JEWISH PEOPLE WON AGAINST THE NAZIS**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 29 (JTA) -- A young Rumanian Jewish choir sidestepped political boundaries and brought the Rumanian and Israeli Ambassadors to the United States, members of the Rumanian Jewish community and several U.S. officials together Tuesday.

"This choir is both a symbol of the victory the Jewish people won against the Nazis, and against all those who tried to put an end to the existence and symbol of the redemption of the Jewish people," said Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne as he welcomed the choir to the Israel Embassy during the U.S. Holocaust Remembrance Week.

Rosenne was 13 when he left Rumania, having survived a pogrom that killed much of the country's Jewish community. "I did not dream that I'd have the privilege of representing Israel and greeting the Jewish choir of Rumania," he said.

Addressing the choir for a few minutes in Rumanian, which he said he had not spoken since the death of his mother 13 years ago, Rosenne said he too had sung in a choir as a boy.

Rosenne also joked that he should be speaking in Moldavian, instead of Rumanian, a reference to the part of Rumania that now belongs to the Soviet Union.

**'A Desire From The Rumanian People'**

Rumanian Ambassador Nicolae Gavrilescu, who said he brought a "desire from the Rumanian people for peace and understanding," said the "language of music is used by the choir in order to show the ties between people."

The choir, with 46 members ranging in ages from 16-24 who are children of Holocaust survivors, sang a selection of Yiddish and Rumanian folk songs, Hebrew songs and a version of "Oh Susannah" performed in English with a western twang.

The group, whose male members wore yarmulkes, have been on a packed tour of the U.S. from April 23-30, and have performed at Holocaust remembrance ceremonies in New York's Madison Square Garden on Sunday and in Washington. They are scheduled to meet later this week with Vice President George Bush.

"We didn't dream such a thing would happen. If this is not a miracle, what is a miracle?" asked Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, who is accompanying the choir along with presidents of the Jewish communities of Bucharest and Jassy.

There are approximately 23,000 Jews remaining in Rumania, most of whom are over age 60. There is an active Jewish life with 70 synagogues, religious instruction and kosher community kitchens.

Rep. Stephen Solarz (D. NY), who visited Rumania several years ago to see the birthplace of his grandmother, said he was surprised to find "in a community virtually cleansed of Jews, here was an old Jewish community that was young and vibrant, singing songs of their fathers and their faith."

Alfred Moses, a Washington lawyer who has represented the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in dealings with Rumania and who helped to arrange the choir's tour, claimed that "we've had problems on behalf of the Jewish community. Things are not as smooth as we would like them to be."

Moses was involved in the unsuccessful attempt to prevent the Rumanian government from destroying the only remaining Sephardic synagogue in Eastern Europe located in Bucharest.

But Rosen added that "the choir represents dozens of thousands of Rumanian Jewish children who had the possibility to learn Talmud and sing in the Jewish choir. Rumanians have an understanding, and humanitarian feelings from the government that the Jewish people have the same rights as other people to build their own destiny."

**CBS DOCUMENTARY ON BARBIE TO BE TELECAST ON MAY 5**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA) -- The lawyer for Klaus Barbie claims his client was not responsible for the deportation and murder of Jews in France. This is revealed in an interview with Jacques Verges, attorney for the man known as "The Butcher of Lyon," in a segment of the CBS-TV news program, "West 57th Street," to be aired Tuesday, May 5. Verges, as well as former resistance fighters and a Jewish survivor, were interviewed in Lyon by CBS correspondent Steve Kroft.

Moreover, according to the weekly documentary program, the French, themselves, are facing the upcoming trial of accused Nazi war criminal Barbie with little enthusiasm, if not outright fear of exposure of some of their most cherished national heroes. And it is expected that the role of the United States government in hiding Barbie and helping him escape to South America will be revealed in embarrassing detail.

The trial, scheduled to begin May 11 after a long delay, will "shatter the big myth of France having been mainly a country of people who were indifferent during the war, or members of the resistance," says Olivier Todd, a French writer and commentator, who was interviewed for the program.

Kroft says Verges' strategy is "to shift the blame to the French," to claim that Barbie was "nothing more than a middle manager." Verges told Kroft -- who describes the lawyer as "a defender of terrorists" and "champion of the Third World" -- that his client was not head of the Gestapo in Lyon, but rather "number three in command." Charges against Barbie comprise "a coalition of the reality and the propaganda," according to Verges. "The trial will be a mirror in which French society will see their face," Verges said. Michel Thomas, a former resistance fighter who later worked for U.S. Army intelligence and is one of the few living witnesses who can place Barbie at the scene of his alleged crimes, told Kroft that he was interrogated at gunpoint under Barbie's supervision at a French clearing house

for the registration of Jewish refugees. Thomas was released, a fate not shared by the 86 Jews present at the time.

"They were all deported and killed," says Thomas, who now is an American citizen. Thomas says that U.S. complicity in helping Barbie escape "is a betrayal of the death of over 200,000 young Americans who fought and died in order to save us from the evil that was represented and symbolized by Klaus Barbie."

But Verges rebuts Thomas's claims as an eyewitness, saying that Thomas was "the single witness to have seen Barbie in this place." Verges contends that "Thomas is lying, of course."

Another former member of the resistance who was imprisoned, Mario Bardon, told Kroft that under Barbie the tortures were multiple. He claims Barbie had a torture chamber in his own office, where "women were tortured equally." Bardon says that Barbie "was sadistic enough to have had a police dog -- a German shepherd--that was trained specifically to rape women. I saw that with my own eyes."

Simone La Grange, a French Jewish survivor, told Kroft she was only 13 when she first saw Barbie. He beat her repeatedly, she says, and was personally responsible for the death of her older sister and two nephews. Her father was shot, her mother burned to death at Auschwitz.

Verges says that Barbie "has nothing to do with this trial. This concerns the people who have these kind of nightmares."

#### ADL AWARD TO FAMOUS YET UNKNOWN DUTCH COUPLE

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 29 (JTA) -- The petite elderly woman stepped up to the podium in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza here, before the Holocaust Memorial Wall, and faced the audience shivering in the cold morning. Smiling at the people who sat there patiently waiting to see her, Miep Gies said simply, "We are so happy to be here with you, and we thank you so very much for your warm and friendly welcome."

With such simple words and great humility, the woman who hid Anne Frank received the Courage to Care Award from the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

While children from the Raoul Wallenberg School Children's Choir sang as part of the ceremonies, Gies approached them, to take in the faces and voices that seemed to remind her of other children, long ago.

Gies (pronounced Khiess) doesn't think of herself as a hero, she says repeatedly. "People call me hero, but it is my opinion that that is not the right word. What we have done derives from my European character and my love for mankind. We will always remember that there were other people who did the same as we. We would like to accept this award for all the lesser-known people who did the same. We will never forget what has happened."

Gies remained very much a private figure in Amsterdam, but now she has decided to come forward with her memories of Anne and the Frank family, who were her employers and friends, because she, and her husband Jan, who received the award with her, are the last eyewitnesses to the remarkable story.

The book she has written, "Anne Frank Remembered" (with Alison Leslie Gold, published by Simon and Schuster) tells the story from the

other side of the famed swinging bookcase that hid what Anne called "the Secret Annexe." In it, she has recalled with sorrow and love the girl who left the diary that became the world's treasure.

Jan (who appears as Henk Van Senten in Anne's diary, to protect his identity, and as Henk Gies in his wife's memoirs) worked in the underground. "I was a social worker in the city of Amsterdam," he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "We were close friends before they went into hiding. There was a group of eight to ten people in my office who were doing the same work," he said, illegal social work in a time of terror. "As a social worker," Jan explained, "you always feel the same," no matter what the times are. "You have to help people."

Jan, now 81, a tall, strong man who appears both tough and tender, said that to explain his memories of the Frank family "would take ten hours." He is very protective of his beloved Miep, who looks much younger than her 78 years. Miep, asked to remember the Franks, said simply, "They were a nice family, good people and close friends."

#### She Did The Unthinkable

After the Franks and the others who hid with them -- the Van Daan family and Mr. Dusel -- were taken away to Bergen-Belsen and Auschwitz, Miep did the unthinkable. She walked right into the Gestapo headquarters in Amsterdam, to see the Viennese Nazi who had taken them away. He had not arrested her only because she, like him, was from Vienna. With tremendous "chutzpah," she offered to buy back the people from the man who had asked her, "Aren't you ashamed to help Jewish garbage?"

Miep Gies went there not once but twice, asking, "How much money do you want to free the people you arrested the other day?" She refused to believe the answer 'no,' going to high-ranking Nazis, asking, "Who is in charge here?" Like Anne, Miep believed in the "goodness of mankind."

It was Miep who found the orange-checked diary after the denizens of the "Secret Annexe" were taken away. She put it aside, along with other possessions of the young girl, saying, "I'll keep everything safely for Anne until she comes back."

Only Otto Frank returned, and he lived with the Gieses for seven years. Yet even when Frank published Anne's diary, Miep could not bring herself to read the diary, her sadness was so great.

After many years, when Miep finally allowed herself to read Anne's diary, she felt, she said, "peaceful. Even though we had lost her, I had the feeling she was with me."

#### 'Why Weren't There Others?'

As the Gieses posed for photographs and last-minute interviews before the seven-bronze wall plaques titled "Zachor -- Remember," Abraham Foxman, ADL associate national director and a child survivor who was hidden by a Righteous Gentile in Poland, embraced the Gieses warmly and with obvious personal attachment to the rescuers. "Let me hug you," said Foxman, remembering the Christian woman who had hidden him at personal risk to herself. As Foxman presented the award to the Gieses, he asked, "We have the obligation to ask, 'Why weren't there others? Why weren't there more Gieses?'"

## **SUPREME COURT VOTES AGAINST GRANTING STAY OF DEPORTATION FOR WAR CRIMINAL**

WASHINGTON, April 20 (JTA) -- The U.S. Supreme Court Monday voted 6-3 against granting a stay of deportation for Karl Linnas, an alleged Nazi war criminal, removing the last obstacle blocking his ordered deportation to the Soviet Union. Justices William Brennan, Harry Blackmun and Sandra Day O'Connor voted in favor of granting the stay.

Last week, Linnas, 67, came within hours of receiving political asylum in Panama but Panama then retracted its invitation to Linnas in the face of vociferous Jewish opposition.

The vote canceled out the temporary stay of deportation granted two weeks ago to Linnas by Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.

The high court's vote met with benign reactions from the Justice Department which said only that the ruling would make Linnas eligible to be deported to the Soviet Union, the only country that would accept him.

Panama was the 17th country to refuse Linnas asylum. Jewish groups have accused Attorney General Edwin Meese of impeding justice for Linnas by seeking asylum for him in other countries and stalling on the final approval which only he can grant for Linnas' deportation to the Soviet Union.

Linnas has been condemned to death in absentia in the Soviet Union for wartime atrocities he committed as commandant of a death camp in Tartu, Estonia, where 12,000 people died during the Holocaust. Linnas would be the second alleged Nazi deported to the Soviet Union along with Feodor Fedorenko, the accused Treblinka guard deported in 1984. Fedorenko also was sentenced to death.

The Justice Department, which brought the suit against Linnas, charged that he lied about his wartime activities when he entered the United States from Germany in 1951 and again when he was granted citizenship in 1960.

Linnas directed firing squads at the edge of mass grave pits and personally shot prisoners, the Justice Department charged.

Lawrence Shilling, a New York lawyer who represents Linnas, said after the ruling, "We think we can find a country that will accept him, but we need more time. We will be talking to the appropriate officials about getting more time."

## **USSR CANCELS CONSULAR LEVEL DELEGATION VISIT TO ISRAEL**

PARIS, April 20 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has canceled a visit to Israel by a consular level delegation, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky reportedly told a press conference in Kuwait Sunday. He also ruled out re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel, broken by Moscow in 1967.

Petrovsky said the consular mission was to have discussed Soviet property in Israel and related matters but "We have decided to cancel the visit" because Israel made propaganda use of it.

He said there would be no resumption of diplomatic ties "until Israel announces its withdrawal from all occupied Arab countries and announces its agreement to an international peace conference."

(Reports from Jerusalem Monday said Israel had no knowledge that the consular visit was canceled.)

## **BAVARIA'S CSU LEADER DEFENDS WEST GERMAN ARMS SALES TO SAUDIS** By David Kantor

BONN, April 20 (JTA) -- Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of Bavaria's conservative Christian Social Union (CSU), took a swipe at Israel last week over the sale of advanced German weaponry to Saudi Arabia. He claimed that arms sales were necessary to "stabilize" Saudi Arabia and were in Israel's interests, arguments rejected by Israel's President Chaim Herzog during his recent state visit to West Germany.

Strauss, who is a director of one of the leading Bavarian arms manufacturers, said he expected Israel to make "certain concessions." He was reacting apparently to Herzog's remark that the United States had "stabilized" Iran with more than \$20 billion worth of arms before the overthrow of the Shah.

According to Strauss, Iran today is more of a threat to Israel than the Saudis or any other moderate Arab country and a well-armed Saudi Arabia therefore would be an advantage for Israel.

The Bavarian leader, whose party is closely linked with Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling Christian Democratic Union (CDU), was invited to meet with Herzog during the latter's stay in Bonn. But he didn't find time to make the one-hour flight from Munich.

## **BACKGROUND ANALYSIS** **CRITICAL FUTURE FOR UNITY GOVERNMENT** By David Landau and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, April 20 (JTA) -- The national unity coalition government, held together by the political needs of its main components, may collapse in the weeks or months ahead.

Pundits have been predicting its downfall almost from the day it was formed in 1984. But it has weathered numerous crises brought on by the fierce ideological differences between Labor and Likud. It passed a crucial test last October when Shimon Peres handed over the office of Premier to Yitzhak Shamir. The rotation of power agreement between the two was meticulously observed and implemented with hardly a ripple.

But now some of the most knowledgeable political observers believe the end is near because Shamir wants it so.

They say the 71-year-old Likud leader is convinced it is now opportune to break the uneasy partnership with Labor and go to the electorate for a new mandate. Shamir is said to believe such a move will enhance his personal political fortunes and those of his party. He thinks he has the issue to win an early election and the power to retain the leadership of Likud.

He is aware, these observers say, that his present advantage could disappear if he waits too long for a showdown. The next statutory elections are scheduled for late in 1988 and much could happen by then to weaken his position.

Shamir's personal and political stock were significantly strengthened at the Herut Party convention on April 1. He was elected without opposition to head the movement. His most serious challenger, Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy, was outmaneuvered and forced to drop any immediate efforts to replace Shamir.

That could change, and, from Shamir's standpoint, the time lapse between the convention and the next elections must be minimal.

Shamir and his Likud colleagues also believe that the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace is an ideal issue on which to fight an election. A conference poses the possibility of trading territory for peace treaties.

Likud prefers to go to the electorate with a territorial issue rather than submit to an examination of Likud's domestic economic record during the years when it headed the government.

#### Shamir And Peres Are At Odds

While Peres continues to press vigorously for an international conference -- with specific conditions for Soviet and Palestinian participation -- Likud sees a growing body of public opinion in favor of a hardline position on the administered territories and the Palestinians.

In an election campaign, Likud would pillory Peres for allegedly seeking to "sell out" to the Soviets and Palestinians by countenancing their participation in the peace process.

The Palestine Liberation Organization factions which met in Algiers last week played into Likud hands by pronouncing the 1985 accord between PLO chief Yasir Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan null and void; and by attempting to entice the extremist terrorist groups headed by George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh to re-align with the PLO with which they broke years ago.

In addition, Israel's economy is relatively stable at this time, which reduces the need for Likud to defend its past economic record. A Likud Minister, Moshe Nissim, heads the Finance Ministry and he has proven popular with the public. All of this could change drastically by 1988.

Accordingly, Shamir has taken steps to precipitate a new crisis with Labor which this time may well be carried to its logical conclusion -- the end of the unity government.

#### Shamir Excoriates Peres

In recent weeks, the Premier has launched a bitter and relentless personal attack on Peres who as Vice Premier and Foreign Minister has been actively seeking support abroad for an international peace conference.

When Peres visited Spain two weeks ago for that purpose, among others, Shamir publicly expressed the wish that he would "not succeed." While Peres was abroad, Shamir denounced the idea as "crazy," a position that would result in Israel's isolation and threaten its survival.

"Defeatism" and "lunacy" were the terms he used to describe Peres. While the two men have feuded publicly in the past, neither ever used such extreme language. Coming from the usually taciturn Shamir, they seemed to observers part of a contrived strategy rather than an uncharacteristic loss of temper.

"When Yitzhak Shamir, who is generally polite and reserved, calls Shimon Peres crazy, there are two possible explanations," Haaretz political correspondent Yoel Markus wrote last week. "Either it was a slip of the tongue or he is deliberately seeking to bring down the unity government and trigger early elections. I have good reason to believe it was the latter..."

The day that article appeared, Shamir and Peres met privately for the first time in more than a month, to discuss their public row over an international conference and the stalemate over the appointment of the next Israeli Ambassador to Washington.

No sooner had the meeting ended when aides of the two leaders proclaimed there was no breakthrough, no rapprochement. Each man remained entrenched in his position. Peres vowed to pursue the conference option and Shamir blasted it anew.

The Ambassadorial appointment remains in limbo while the incumbent envoy, Meir Rosenne, his tour of duty soon to expire, packs his bags.

Labor Ministers rallied around their leader, declaring they would "not permit" Peres' peace-seeking mission to be sabotaged by Shamir. Likud Cabinet ministers caucused and issued their own statement which echoed Shamir's ringing denunciation of an international forum.

Israel, at the moment therefore, is pursuing two foreign policies, mutually exclusive. The question remains how long this anomaly can continue before the government breaks down.

Shamir, responding to reporters' questions last week, would not deny that this was a clear possibility, though he called it the "worst possibility."

A telephone poll of Labor Ministers by Haaretz elicited the unanimous opinion that Shamir's remarks showed that the unity government has reached the end of the road because it is no longer possible for Peres and Shamir to work together.

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, a Laborite, said Shamir's attacks on Peres created a grave crisis. Nevertheless, associates of Peres insisted that the Foreign Minister does not want to precipitate a crisis. But, they added, he could no longer ignore Shamir's inflammatory language and would soon take "appropriate steps."

#### Political Futures Are On The Line

Unrelated to the personal battle between Peres and Shamir but likely to affect the political futures of both, is the scandal of the Jonathan Pollard spy case. The involvement of Israel's top political echelons with the American Jew caught spying on the U.S. for Israel and sentenced to life imprisonment is under investigation by two panels.

A government-appointed board of inquiry, consisting of jurist Yehoshua Rotenstreich and former Chief of Staff Zvi Tsur will report directly to the Cabinet when it reaches its conclusions. Simultaneous but completely separate is the probe being conducted by the special intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, under the joint chairmanship of Laborite Abba Eban and Likud's Eliahu Ben-Elissar. Both panels are operating in camera. When they present their reports, possibly some time in May, both Peres and Shamir could be badly discredited. Both served as Premier during various stages of Pollard's activities.

Both deny any prior knowledge of the affair. Meanwhile, a flood of speculation and rumor swept over the political community last week at the prospect that Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin may be replaced by younger men as a result of the Pollard affair.

There is no shortage of new blood and political ambition in Labor Party ranks. For the moment, future contenders for party leadership remain loyal and diffident. But at the same time they indicate that their time could be approaching.

One candidate, Histadrut Secretary General Yisrael Kessar, summed up the situation when he told reporters recently, "I do not expect a succession struggle at this time. There is no reason for a leadership contest now, so for the present I am doing nothing in that direction."

Other hopefuls include Minister of Economic Coordination Gad Yaacobi, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, former Health Minister Mordechai Gur who now heads Solel Boneh, the Histadrut construction company, and Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman who recently merged his Yahad Party with Labor.

Weizman told reporters that he considered himself suitable to lead the Labor Party, adding, however, only in the post-Peres era.

#### KOCH SAYS HIS VISIT TO WARSAW AND AUSCHWITZ WAS OUT OF 'A COMPULSION, AN OBSESSION'

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 20 (JTA) -- Mayor Edward Koch, in a voice filled with sadness and a delivery bereft of any of his flair for the dramatic, spoke Sunday night of his visit to Auschwitz and Warsaw in February, of the weight of the Holocaust on the Jewish people, and of his own feelings of being Jewish.

He was addressing a memorial gathering for the 44th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, mounted jointly by the Metropolitan Synagogue here and the Workmen's Circle, an organization which Koch has frequently supported.

In slow and measured words, Koch related how he went to Poland in February out of "a compulsion, an obsession" to see the Warsaw Ghetto memorial and Auschwitz. He did not go, he said, to see "quite frankly, the place where my parents had been born, because I don't know of any Jews who were born in Poland who ever tell me it's their home, because they were not made very comfortable there."

He went to see Warsaw and Auschwitz, he said, because he had "an almost pain to do that." In Warsaw, he said, after breakfasting with Warsaw Ghetto hero Marek Edelman, he went to see the monument to the ghetto, a memorial that affected him in an unexpected way.

"The monument that you see," Koch recounted, "the face of the monument, did not move me... It was the reverse side that moved me. The reverse side is a frieze showing a line of men, women and children who are marching to the crematoria. That image that I have, there is no question but that Jews, under the most extraordinary of circumstances, showed special courage... But for me, it was to see Jews marching--children, women, men -- to their death with faith in God, exhorting us from that monument never to forget what happened." He saw this in his mind, he said, later when he went to Auschwitz,

where he spent several hours, touring the barracks, "And I had great sorrow -- it was unbearable. And yet, I was glad that I could come in winter, when I could see it at its worst.

"I walked through the barracks, with no heat, and here I was all bundled up, and I was terribly cold. I could see the rooms where people were three in a wooden cot, nine in the cot, with three rings, with no blankets, and no heat. . .

"Then they took you into a number of different barracks, and one would describe the Jewish experience. The others would describe the French, the East German, others. And I said to myself, it's a sin that they describe it as the French, the East German, the other countries, because people who came from those other countries were Jews.

"There were four million people who were murdered at Auschwitz and Birkenau, and three and a half million of them were Jews. And so only until a few years ago, we would not have known that they didn't have the barracks described as 'the Jews.' It was only world pressure that, I think, brought them to the point where they had to acknowledge it. You would not have known that the overwhelming number of people killed at Auschwitz and Birkenau were Jews."

#### The Word Jew Not Mentioned In Soviet Film

What was worse, said Koch, was a film showed to those entering Auschwitz, a film made by the Russians 42 years ago when they liberated the camp. "Not one acknowledgment in that film--22 minutes it is, and it's in different languages--they never mention the word Jew once in the film. You would never know that Auschwitz was the place where they murdered Jews."

Koch said that he took the matter up with the Deputy Premier of Poland when he came to New York following his visit. He told him, he said, two things: "In America, we are all hyphenated. We have Irish-Americans, French-Americans, Italian-Americans, Jewish-Americans. And we all revere the country of the birth of our parents and our grandparents. But," he told the visiting diplomat, "never in the world would I ever say to anybody that I am a Polish-American. I could never say that, because the memories that I have that go back to when my parents escaped from Poland are such that I could not possibly think of Poland as the country of my ancestors. I could not."

Koch emphasized that he did not blame Poles for the concentration camps, to which Poles were sent as well. "But," said Koch, "there were Poles who deliberately delivered Jews into the hands of the Nazis. We know it, and we can't forget it."

The Polish diplomat asked Koch "to understand that it was only in Poland where if a Polish Christian helped a Polish Jew, that the entire Polish Christian's family was subject to death according to the Nazi law, whereas in other countries occupied by the Nazis it would only be that individual."

And that is true, said Koch. And the Polish Deputy Premier reminded him that the largest number of Righteous Gentiles honored at Yad Vashem are Polish Christians. Koch agreed to this, too. But, he said he told the Polish Diplomat, "there is something you can do about that film. You have got to have a prologue, you have got to recite the fact that Auschwitz and Birkenau were concentration camps built especially to murder the Jews." The Polish official told him, Koch said, that he would.



**BEHIND THE HEADLINES  
ANTI-SEMITISM IN HOLLAND**

By Jeff Rosen  
Canadian Jewish News Staff Writer

TORONTO, April 20 (JTA) -- While many people view Holland as a law-abiding country, its Jewish population is experiencing a growing wave of anti-Semitism, says a founder of that country's principal organization which fights anti-Semitism.

Nathan Wijnperle, secretary-treasurer of Stiba (Foundation for the Fight Against Anti-Semitism), said during a recent visit to Toronto that while anti-Semitism in Holland has always existed below the surface, it began to surface after the 1973 Yom Kippur War when people started to blame Jews for the Arab oil embargo. To fight this, Stiba came into existence.

"People should be aware of what is going on with discrimination and anti-Semitism," said Wijnperle, 61, past president of Hillel Lodge, B'nai B'rith, the largest lodge in Holland. Wijnperle is a survivor of Vught, one of three concentration camps set up by the Germans in Holland during World War II. For the past six years he has worked as a volunteer in the economic department of the Israel Embassy in The Hague.

Wijnperle explained that Stiba is a volunteer organization that "gathers and records anti-Semitic incidents, assists in bringing about and improving legislation against discrimination and deals with complaints about anti-Semitism through the political and judicial systems."

It operates with a board of six members, including Wijnperle, and is assisted by an advisory board of 15 members. Among its members are Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal, Yehuda Bauer, a professor at Hebrew University, three rabbis and Dutch professors.

Multi-Faceted Activities By Stiba

Beginning with a successful campaign to have the Dutch government enact anti-boycott legislation during the Arab oil crisis in 1973, Stiba has since gone on and taken people to court and had anti-Semitic books confiscated. Wijnperle added that many of these books were published in Canada.

As well as fighting anti-Semitism in the Dutch media, Wijnperle said Stiba keeps an eye on educational publications. When an anti-Semitic one was found recently in the school system Stiba protested and it was withdrawn.

Wijnperle said that probably the most serious problem at the moment is religious anti-Semitism. He said there are certain sects of Catholics and Protestants preaching anti-Semitism and publishing anti-Semitic brochures.

Thousands Of Anti-Semitic Tracts Published

When Lucas and Jenny Goeree, a Dutch couple belonging to a Protestant sect, were found to be publishing thousands of anti-Semitic brochures, Stiba took them to court and they were convicted. As a result, all their possessions were confiscated and they were forbidden from continuing to publish the offending material.

However, Wijnperle said, the couple managed to obtain funding from an unknown source and began publishing and distributing 300,000 brochures in February. Stiba has again brought the matter to the attention of the public prosecutor.

Wijnperle said the brochures state that "the Jews can principally blame themselves for what happened to them during the Holocaust. They

killed Christ and proclaimed that his blood comes onto us and our children. And that is exactly what has happened to the Jews all through the centuries."

To make such prosecutions easier to obtain, Wijnperle said Stiba is working with the Dutch justice department to change the law dealing with anti-Semitism. While Dutch law currently prohibits discrimination and anti-Semitism, there must be proof that an offender committed the crime deliberately. This is often difficult to prove and Stiba would like such offenders prosecuted without having to prove intent.

'Living On The Edge Of The Impossible'

This working relationship with the justice department exists throughout the Dutch government, Wijnperle said. While the government recognizes and supports Stiba, he said budgetary restraints prevent it from offering financial support.

The Jewish community is sympathetic to Stiba's cause, but only a "handful" of local Jews actually contribute. There are about 20,000 Jews presently in Holland, compared to the 125,000 who lived there prior to the Holocaust.

"We're living on the edge of the impossible," Wijnperle said regarding Stiba's financial condition.

As well as maintaining good contacts with the Dutch government, Wijnperle said Stiba has close connections with Israeli government officials and a "very good relationship" with the World Jewish Congress and the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

For more information on Stiba write to POB 2009, 3000 CA Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

\*\*\*

BONN (JTA) -- The Bonn municipality ruled last week that there is no legal way to strip Adolf Hitler of his title of honorary citizen of Bonn, accorded by the city fathers, when he came to power in 1933. The matter came up after journalists noted that President Chaim Herzog of Israel, who was the guest of the West German government on his visit here two weeks ago, was honored by the same town that honored Hitler. It is not known whether Herzog was aware of the fact. Bonn is a twin city of Tel Aviv and sends youth and other groups on exchange visits to Israel.

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The cost of living index rose by 1.3 percent during March, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced last week. Finance Ministry circles were pleased with the increase, lower than they had feared. They expressed hopes that the annual inflationary rate this year would be lower than last year's relatively low rate of just over 20 percent.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- This ancient city will take on a new glow of excitement this year with an international celebration of the 20th anniversary of the city's reunification. From April through June there will be solemn ceremony, song and dance, sports and festivals, to mark Jerusalem as a city of peace, with spectators, participants and performers drawn from all over the world.

**IDF REPULSES TERRORIST INFILTRATION**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force unit repulsed a terrorist gang attempting to infiltrate the south Lebanon security zone Thursday. The clash took place near Bint Jabil village. There were no IDF casualties but blood stains on the ground indicated one or more of the infiltrators was wounded.

Personal weapons, sabotage equipment and shoulder-fired missiles were found near the scene.

Earlier Thursday, Israeli helicopter gunships attacked terrorist targets south of Sidon in south Lebanon. An IDF spokesman said buildings that served as terrorist headquarters for planning and launching attacks on Israel were hit.

Following the attack, Israel Air Force jets dropped leaflets over south Lebanon warning the local population that cooperation with terrorists would bring "harsh measures" by the IDF. Katyusha rockets have been fired into Galilee from south Lebanon in recent days. A terrorist gang that infiltrated Israel last Sunday and killed two IDF soldiers from ambush is believed to have found shelter in local villages before they breached the border fence.

**Syria, Shiite Militia Warned**

Meanwhile, Israel has reportedly warned Syria and the Lebanese Shiite militia, Amal, that it would not tolerate terrorist attacks from Lebanese territory. Military sources have noted that since the Syrian army occupied Moslem west Beirut last month and deployed elements southward, Amal has directly attacked IDF units in the south Lebanon security zone.

Previously its targets were limited to the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), the main force in the security zone. Israel warned it would hold Amal responsible for attacks on the IDF but does not consider Amal an enemy and will try to improve relations with the local Shiite population.

The most serious clash in the security zone involved the Iran-backed extremist Shiite movement Hezbollah which mounted a large-scale attack in the zone last Saturday. It was repulsed by IDF infantry backed by tanks and helicopter gunships. Hezbollah casualties were severe. Initially, 18 bodies were discovered. Seven more were found in the area this week, bringing the total to 25. Four IDF soldiers were slightly wounded in the clash.

A parcel bomb discovered in a Tel Aviv-to-Ashkelon bus Thursday morning was safely detonated by police sappers after it was spotted by an alert passenger.

**GUATEMALA'S DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS HIS COUNTRY HAS 'BROAD MILITARY RELATIONS' WITH PRIVATE ISRAELI BUSINESSMEN**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- Israel is supplying weapons and military aircraft to Guatemala on a business basis without the Israel government's involvement, Haaretz reported Thursday. The newspaper quoted Guatemala's Defense Min-

ister, Gen. Hector Alejandro Gramajo Morales, as telling its correspondent at an interview in Guatemala City that his country has "broad military relations" with Israel conducted by private Israeli businessmen, not on government levels.

Gramajo said his country receives "several basic items for our army. We benefit from these relations which are primarily commercial," Haaretz reported. Asked if Israel was Guatemala's main source of arms, he replied, "It is a supply source for us, but I wouldn't say that it is the sole supply source and I wouldn't say that it's the most important."

Guatemala receives arms from other countries, including Taiwan and South Korea. Gramajo said, according to Haaretz, "In our stocks there are (Israel-made) Galil rifles, Arava planes and communications equipment. We have ongoing supply ties (with Israel) and we have good relations. We are working together on these matters."

**ACTIVITIES OF LaROUCHE GROUP IN CANADA SPARK CONCERN**

By Ben Kayfetz (Toronto) and Susan Birnbaum (New York)

April 23 (JTA) -- Despite its problems with the federal government in the United States, the organization of Lyndon LaRouche is currently currying concern in Canada. According to Prof. Frank Chalk of Montreal's Concordia University, who is chairman of B'nai B'rith Canada's (BBC) social action committee, the LaRouchites in Canada are following a different strategy than in the U.S. and constitute possibly more danger there.

Last month, BBC launched a nationwide "public awareness campaign" to counter the growth of the U.S.-based LaRouche organization in Canada. At that time, they released a report, "The Lyndon LaRouche Network: The Canadian Connection," which describes the activities of the rightwing, very eccentric group that advocates mandatory AIDS testing for all, the colonization of Mars, and has accused Queen Elizabeth of England and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger of international drug trafficking.

However, it is their racism, anti-Semitism and revisionist version of the Holocaust, couched in obscurantist allegations and frequently self-contradictory, that have garnered the attention to the group as a danger that must be watched.

In the U.S., the LaRouche candidates entered state primaries on the Democratic ticket, confusing voters, particularly in last year's gubernatorial primary in Illinois, when Democratic candidate Adlai Stevenson III was forced to quit his party's ticket and run independently after two LaRouchites won the primary as his running mates.

**Nature Of The Concern**

In Canada, however, the LaRouche candidates have run on their own registered political party, the Party for the Commonwealth, known in Quebec as Le Parti de la Republique du Canada. In the last national elections in Canada in 1984, the party fielded 65 candidates nationwide, 47 in Quebec alone. It polled only .06 percent of the total vote, but it ran candidates for provincial, municipal and school-board elections in four

provinces -- Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. What is of particular concern in Canada, Chalk told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, is the presence of LaRouchites at major airports, including Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Calgary, where they staff tables filled with innocent-looking literature that travelers are rather easily convinced to read. This includes the Executive Intelligence Review, a Washington-based weekly magazine with European headquarters in West Germany, which Chalk said looks like an ordinary business publication. "You might very well not perceive the ideology of the LaRouche organization by looking at it," Chalk said.

He said that the organization has been functioning through the Schiller Institute, which was founded in 1984 by LaRouche's German-born wife, Helga-Zepp LaRouche, "for unclear purposes." The Institute has been trying to recruit students at Montreal's four universities, said Chalk, setting up tables on campus labelled "For a High Culture."

They have tried to register at the schools as a student organization, but have been deterred till now from doing it. At Concordia, said Chalk, a student complained to the school authorities that the group was anti-Semitic, and the school did not accredit them.

Chalk said it is better to risk giving the LaRouche people a little free publicity than to allow Canadians to continue being largely unaware of what the organization stands for. "Some people who don't know what they are might vote for them," he said.

#### U.S. Federal Agents Shut Down Organization

In contrast, in the U.S., federal agents have effectively shut down the organization by occupying its offices in Leesburg, Va., and several other cities in their efforts to collect fines totaling over \$16 million. On Monday, a federal bankruptcy judge in Alexandria, Va., placed three LaRouche-related organizations in involuntary bankruptcy at the Justice Department's request. Involuntary bankruptcy, labeled "Chapter 7" of the federal bankruptcy law, calls for liquidation of a company's assets, differing from the voluntary "Chapter 11" filing which gives a bankrupt firm time to reorganize in order to pay off its creditors.

LaRouche organization representatives vigorously protested the government's actions, claiming that they have almost no funds.

A spokesman for the group, Warren Hammerman, said the bankruptcy action was a political vendetta against LaRouche because of his calls for AIDS testing and his contentions that a "secret government" exists. LaRouche has said that there is an international fascist-communist conspiracy led by the Rockefellers, the Ford Foundation, labor unions and international bankers.

#### An Extremely Rare Move

Lawyers for the LaRouche organization were reportedly unaware of the proceedings, a move described by legal experts as extremely rare. The government named a temporary trustee, Norman Oliver, over the companies with LaRouche ties.

Henry Hudson, U.S. attorney in Alexandria, told reporters that the move was "somewhat extraordinary," necessitated by the LaRouche's organization's refusal to pay a \$21 million judgment by the U.S. government against the organization for contempt of court, besides the millions owing to private individuals, mostly elderly, who have charged being defrauded by the LaRouchites.

Hudson's office is also conducting a major tax fraud investigation of LaRouche and his associates.

The trustees were set to inventory LaRouche offices in Washington, Leesburg, Houston, Palisades Park, NJ, Quincy, Mass., and possibly other locations. LaRouche representatives were denied entry to the raided offices.

Late last year, a federal grand jury in Boston indicted 13 LaRouche associates and five organizations on charges of credit card fraud and obstruction of justice.

#### **TWO LABOR PARTY MINISTERS DIFFER IN THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE PNC MEETING** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Two Laborite Ministers expressed divergent views Thursday on the meaning of the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers for the Middle East peace process.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said the hard line taken at the meeting by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat showed that once again, the PLO has missed an historic opportunity for peace. But Ezer Weizman insisted there are still elements within the PLO whom "one could talk to."

Arafat, attempting to affect a reconciliation with terrorist extremists such as George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh, formally renounced his 1985 accord with King Hussein of Jordan which aimed at joint negotiations with Israel. Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's "foreign minister," demanded that Egypt cancel the Camp David accords to return to the Arab world.

Shahal, speaking at the Druze village of Joulis, said "The PLO is more interested in making peace between rival factions in the organization than with achieving peace for the Palestinian people."

Weizman, a Minister-Without-Portfolio who works out of the Foreign Ministry, told the convention of Kibbutz Haartzai, part of the Mapam movement, that the PLO has emerged stronger from the Algiers meeting and sooner or later Israel would have to negotiate with Palestinians associated with it.

He said the ban on any contacts with the PLO was without substance since Israel has had indirect contacts with it for the past 2 1/2 years and Israeli leaders have met with PLO-supporters in the administered territories.

Meanwhile, the PNC, the so-called Palestinian parliament in exile, is considering resolutions which would force Arafat to break with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and enlarge the PLO executive committee to include more radical elements. The resolutions will be voted on at the closing session Saturday.

#### **TENSION ABATES IN TWO WEST BANK TOWNS** By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir visited the Arab town of Kalkilya and the Jewish settlement of Alfe-Menashe in the West Bank Thursday to see if tension has abated since an Alfe-Menashe resident was killed by a firebomb April 11.

The victim, Ofra Moses, 35, died in the blaze and her husband, three children and a young friend were severely burned when a Molotov cocktail struck their car. Infuriated Jewish

settlers rampaged through Kalkilya and nearby Arab villages destroying property and burning fields. But Mayor Abdul Rahman Abu-Sneineh of Kalkilya assured Shamir that the "good relations" between Arabs and Jews in the area were not permanently harmed.

In Alfe-Menashe, the Premier was confronted with a list of demands for improved security in the area. The settlers want to establish a "civil guard" along the lines of those in Israel, with the power to detain suspected terrorists. The army has long opposed such groups in the administered territories on grounds they would become the nucleus of civilian militias which would conflict with the operations of the security forces.

Shamir was non-committal on that proposal, though he promised to improve security in the area. He sympathized with the settlers and told them recent events would lead to more Jewish settlements in the territory.

**RABIN REJECTS WEST BANK JEWISH SETTLERS' DEMANDS FOR SECURITY STATUS SIMILAR TO ISRAELI BORDER TOWNS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin flatly rejected claims by Jewish settlers in the West Bank, particularly the settlers of Alfe-Menashe and Ariel, for the same security sensitive status as Israeli towns on the northern borders.

He stated furthermore that the territory on which those settlements are located would be negotiable when the time came for peace talks with Jordan. Rabin's remarks, at a meeting of the Labor Party Central Bureau Thursday, unleashed a storm of protest from Likud.

Alfe-Menashe and Ariel lie close to the old "green line," the demarcation line between Israel and the West Bank. A resident of Alfe-Menashe died April 11 in a firebomb attack on a car which severely burned her husband, three children and a friend. The incident triggered demands by settlers for improved security.

Rabin maintained that "The status of Alfe-Menashe is similar to that of Afule (in the Emek)." He said neither Alfe-Menashe nor Ariel contribute to Israel's security. "From the defense viewpoint there is no difference between Ariel and Afule," he said.

Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar called Rabin's assertions "most serious." He said that "If Alfe-Menashe, which lies only a few dozen meters from what was the green line -- the 1949 cease-fire line with Jordan -- is open to negotiation, then Rosh Haayin and Kfar Saba (both within Israel's 1967 boundaries) are also open to negotiation because they are close to the old border."

Labor MK Simcha Dinitz, who was private secretary to the late Premier Golda Meir, recalled later that when she was once asked if Jerusalem and Tel Aviv were open to negotiation in direct peace talks, Meir replied, "Yes, but we won't agree to give them up even though the Arabs may claim them."

Dinitz pointed out that the Labor Party's platform calls for direct negotiations with the Arabs without pre-conditions. "The Arabs can put anything they want on the agenda for discussion, which doesn't mean we have to accept their demands," Dinitz said.

**PERES; WOULD SEEK NEW ELECTIONS ON PEACE ISSUE IF NECESSARY**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA) -- Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on television Wednesday night that he would seek new elections on the peace issue if necessary.

Peres said he was "sure" that Jordan would enter into direct negotiations with Israel following an "international opening" of a peace conference with the participation of all parties concerned within and outside the region.

His advocacy of an international conference for Middle East peace has brought him into open conflict with Premier Yitzhak Shamir. He was assailed by Likud Thursday for allegedly implying that Shamir was anti-peace.

**Peres Attacked By Arens**

Peres came under sharp attack from Likud Minister Moshe Arens who accused him Thursday of partisan pursuit of a policy (an international conference) which has not been approved by the Cabinet.

The Vice Premier said he hoped dissolution of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government and early elections could be avoided. There may well be Likud Ministers who would support an "international opening" followed by direct negotiations, he said.

Peres recalled that a ranking Likud leader, Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy, broke with his party three years ago to vote with Labor for withdrawal of the Israel Defense Force from Lebanon and for the economic austerity program. Levy's stock in the party declined when Shamir was unanimously re-elected leader at the Herut convention earlier this month.

**Labor, Likud Showdown Pending**

Peres has said he intends to present his proposals to the Cabinet which could precipitate a showdown between Labor and Likud. He did not say when, but most observers believe he will make his move when he returns from a visit to Washington he is scheduled to make in two weeks.

Peres said in his television interview that the political leadership is not likely to be affected by reports on Israel's involvement in the Jonathan Pollard spy case, due to be submitted in the next few weeks.

The matter is under separate investigation by a two-man committee of inquiry appointed by the Cabinet and by the Knesset's special intelligence subcommittee. The latter began drafting its findings this week and expects to complete the task some time next month.

**FOREIGN CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS EASED**

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA) -- The Treasury and Bank of Israel announced Thursday an easing of foreign currency restrictions for Israelis travelling abroad and those who stay home. Starting immediately, Israelis travelling overseas may take \$2,000 per person in U.S. currency. The previous limit was \$800. Israelis may also hold foreign currency in the equivalent of \$2,000 in their bank accounts and may send gifts of up to \$1,000 abroad per year, up from \$300.

**SPECIAL INTERVIEW**

**'AMERICANIZING THE HOLOCAUST' WORRIES ISRAELIS DOING HOLOCAUST RESEARCH**

By Aviva Cantor

NEW YORK, April 23 (JTA) -- Israelis involved with Holocaust research are becoming concerned about the current tendency to go too far with "Americanizing the Holocaust" -- making it accessible to the American experience -- by "packaging" it within a list of familiar evils, thus robbing it of its uniqueness in human history.

Characteristic of "going too far" in "Americanizing the Holocaust" are statements such as "the Holocaust shows what prejudice, discrimination and intolerance can lead to" and "the Holocaust is part of the long history of man's inhumanity to man," which make it possible to avoid confronting its quintessential difference and the basic questions it raises.

This view was expressed by Yitzhak Mais, director of Yad Vashem's Museum, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here. American-born Mais, who has been involved with Holocaust studies since his aliya in 1973, recently visited the U.S. where he served as a consultant to the United Jewish Appeal on its Auschwitz exhibit, now being shown in Los Angeles and is touring the country.

To Mais, the uniqueness of the Holocaust lies in "the singling out of Jews to be killed because they were considered racially dangerous." The Nazi policy of wiping out all the people of one group without exception -- "just because they existed they had to be killed" -- is what makes it significant and fundamentally different from the many other inhumane events in world history, he said.

The Holocaust, Mais continued, needs to be presented both as a uniquely Jewish event and as one having universal significance. Making it accessible and relevant to the American reality is valid. If it is inaccessible, "one can't learn from it -- it remains in an archive. If it's placed on some inapproachable metaphysical pedestal" the questions it raises as an event that happened on this earth cannot be confronted.

**Authentic And Unauthentic Approaches**

However, Mais said, there are authentic and unauthentic ways of making the Holocaust accessible. An authentic way of "Americanizing the Holocaust" is to deal with the American participation in the event: showing the role of American liberators, bringing in the experience of survivors, discussing what the U.S. government did and did not do.

Unauthentic ways in which "Americanization of the Holocaust" is carried too far involve placing it on a list of the horrors of human experience. "If you don't acknowledge the Holocaust's uniqueness as the watershed event in history that it is, you are dealing with it and avoiding it at the same time," he said.

Avoiding the Holocaust eliminates the necessity to confront the philosophical assumptions it calls into question such as the inherent goodness of people, the belief in progress, the value of education in forming good character, and the superiority of Western civilization.

Early post-war ways of avoiding the Holocaust involved seeing it as an aberration, an idea that still exists in the popular mind, said Mais. Statements such as "the Nazis were insane" and "Germans were brainwashed" allowed people to

"pay lip service to the Holocaust but to avoid confronting the basic fact that good husbands and good fathers carried it out."

The Eichmann Trial of 1961, after which Hannah Arendt wrote of "the banality of evil," gave impetus to serious historical research. But it was the period of the late 1960's that saw a real change in the Holocaust consciousness of American Jews.

"This was a time of ethnic pride and one when questioning and protest were accepted," Mais said. Feeling permission to question the establishment on civil rights and Vietnam, American Jews came to feel they could also question the establishment about the Holocaust. The Six-Day War of 1967, replete as it was with Holocaust analogies, was also an important factor.

**Factors In Holocaust Consciousness**

But what finally got the Holocaust into American consciousness, he said, was the mini-series of that name which aired on U.S. television in 1978. Even with all its problems, 220 million Americans "came to terms with the word Holocaust."

Because it would not have been aired had receptivity not been anticipated, the series was an important "signpost," he said.

While Israelis had long hoped the Holocaust would penetrate American consciousness, they are concerned about its being trivialized and misused. "We can't be blind to the Holocaust or be blinded by it," Mais said. One instance of being blinded by it occurs when people say, "You have to be Jewish because of what the Nazis did to the Jews." Here everything is "seen through the prism of the Holocaust and it is overemphasized to the point of becoming a surrogate Jewish identity or religion."

Another instance of being "blinded" by the Holocaust occurs when people say, "Israel has the right to exist because of the Holocaust." This "obliterates Zionism and its tangible expression," ignoring the fact that Jews have a right to their own country and worked for it in the 1890's, in the 1920's and 1930's, he told JTA.

**Zionism Preceded The Holocaust**

Using the Holocaust to legitimize Israel makes Zionism appear to be a post-Holocaust response and phenomenon, "and if so, where did the infrastructure that allowed the survivors to be absorbed come from?" It is also ideologically dangerous, Mais continued, because Arab propagandists can and do argue that "Europe spit the Jews up and we have to pay the bill."

However, he said, there is a direct historical connection between the Holocaust ending in 1945 and Israel's creation in 1948 in that the need for a refuge for 300,000 DP's the world would not accept eventually led to the UN partition vote of 1947.

Furthermore, "one cannot understand Israel without understanding the Holocaust," Mais said. "It's part of our collective memory." Israelis share the consensus that Jews cannot afford to be in a situation of "hopelessness, helplessness and powerlessness" and that "there's only one country in the world that puts Jewish survival as its number one priority."

This is reinforced, said Mais, when you walk out of Yad Vashem. "You walk out of the building, out of the darkness, and you see the sun. You see Israeli soldiers and you walk into the sunlight of Jerusalem."

**JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DECIDES TO BAR WALDHEIM FROM ENTERING THE U.S.**

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA) -- The U.S. Justice Department announced Monday a long-awaited decision to bar Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, accused of involvement in Nazi atrocities, from entry to the United States as a private citizen.

Although Waldheim has not been barred from visiting the U.S. in his official capacity as the Austrian head of State, President Reagan pledged in a letter written last year, that he would never extend an invitation to Waldheim for an official visit.

A State Department spokesperson said "The Department of Justice has determined that a prima facie case of excludability exists with respect to Kurt Waldheim as an individual." (See related story.)

Austria recalled its Ambassador to the United States Monday in protest. Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock said in a statement, "This decision . . . causes Austria deep dismay and is categorically rejected."

The decision assures that Waldheim, the former United Nations Secretary General, will never legally enter this country again. Jewish organizations praised Attorney General Edwin Meese and the Justice Department for taking the appropriate action in the Waldheim case.

**A Clear Message Has Been Sent**

The World Jewish Congress, which discovered and exposed the first documentation of Waldheim's wartime activities which he concealed for four decades, issued a statement saying: "The Attorney General of the United States of America, Edwin Meese, has acted in a courageous manner and has sent a clear message: Nazis are not welcome here. After 40 years, justice has been done in the case of Kurt Waldheim."

Waldheim's past came to public attention in spring 1986 after a World Jewish Congress researcher discovered that a file in the United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC) archive charged Waldheim with "murder" and "putting hostages to death." The documents showed that Waldheim served as an intelligence officer in the German Army and committed atrocities in Yugoslavia and Greece by ordering the murder of Jews, Gypsies, Serbs and resistance fighters.

Waldheim has admitted that he concealed part of his wartime service by claiming repeatedly that he was discharged in 1941 and finished a law degree in Vienna for the remainder of the war. But he has denied that he perpetrated any Nazi persecutions.

"Today the U.S. government formally determined that Kurt Waldheim falls under the 'Holtzman Amendment' which holds that 'Nazi persecutors' are ineligible to enter the United States," the WJC statement said. Elizabeth Holtzman, Brooklyn District Attorney, authored legislation barring Nazi war criminals from entering the U.S. when she served in Congress.

Holtzman issued the following statement Monday: "Today Kurt Waldheim's past has finally

caught up with him. I am pleased that Attorney General Edwin Meese has agreed to bar Kurt Waldheim from the United States, enforcing the law that I wrote that bars Nazi persecutors from our shores. Waldheim participated in the German Army's reprisals against innocent civilians during World War II and has consistently tried to cover up his past. Under the Holtzman amendment, such a person cannot enter this country.

"The next step is to determine how a man with Waldheim's past was supported by our own government and many others while he was Secretary General of the UN. The opening of Waldheim's secret UN file exposed his past to the world. The United States government must reverse its position on releasing the 37,000 other files on accused Nazi war criminals."

The WJC statement praised the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) for acting "in a manner befitting its role as the moral conscience of this government." The OSI prepared a 200-page report supporting the case to bar Waldheim from the U.S.

"It is particularly fitting in this week set aside for commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust, that the final legal judgement has been rendered in the case of Kurt Waldheim," the WJC statement said.

In other reactions from the Jewish community, Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said "The Attorney General's action demonstrates the determination of this government to see to it that the Holocaust is remembered as it must be for all time. It also shows that the watch-list policy is administered without regard to rank or station."

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, said, "We believe that Mr. Waldheim should not be treated differently than any other accused war criminal. In addition to the serious allegations made against him in connection with atrocities in World War II, Waldheim, as Chief executive human rights officer for our planet for over a decade, deliberately violated the trust placed in him by consistently and deliberately lying about his past."

**JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT A 'PRIMA FACIE CASE' EXISTS TO BAR WALDHEIM FROM ENTERING THE U.S.**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA) -- The State Department expressed hope Monday that the Justice Department's decision to place Kurt Waldheim on a watch list barring him from entry into this country, would not harm the friendly relations between Austria and the U.S.

The State Department statement said the Justice Department has "determined a prima facie case of excludability exists" against Waldheim.

"This determination was based on United States law forbidding entry to any foreign national who assisted or otherwise participated in activities amounting to persecution during World War II," the statement said.

The Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations recommended in April 1986 that

Waldheim be placed on the watch list, but Attorney General Edwin Meese did not act until Monday. The decision came the day after Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, and the day before the U.S. official ceremony for the Days of Remembrance is to be held in the Capitol Rotunda.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman took pains to stress that the action was not aimed officially at an Austrian President. He said the decision was based on Waldheim's "past activities" as "an individual."

"We value our relationship with Austria highly and we will work to strengthen our friendship," he said. He noted that "our normal day-to-day contacts" in Austria are with Chancellor Franz Vranitzky and his Ministers. "We hope this decision will not affect those contacts or the cooperative friendly relations we enjoy with the people of Austria," Redman added.

Vranitzky, who is due to visit Washington soon, is head of government, while Waldheim is head of state, a largely ceremonial post. When Secretary of State George Shultz was in Vienna last November he did not call on Waldheim.

The Justice Department decision means that its Immigration and Naturalization Service would bar Waldheim if he were to try to enter the U.S. Redman said that U.S. Consulates have also been instructed not to give Waldheim a visa should he ask for one.

Waldheim presumably would not be barred from attending a session of the UN where he was Secretary General from 1972 to 1982.

Redman said that Waldheim could still be allowed to enter the U.S. if he received the approval of the President and Secretary of State. However, realistically, he is not expected to try to come here.

**MORE POLICE PROTECTION DEMANDED FOR CROWN HEIGHTS HASIDIC JEWS**  
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA) -- More than 20 members of the Jewish Defense Group (JDG) demonstrated Sunday in front of police headquarters in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, demanding greater police protection for the Hasidic Jews, in the racially mixed neighborhood.

According to Rabbi Yakov Lloyd, chairman of the JDG, members of his organization held the demonstration to express "outrage" over a march by some 300 Black residents of the area, held on Saturday, April 11. The Black protestors, who were chanting "No Justice, No Peace," charged that two Hasidic Jews were involved in a fire-bombing February 26 of a Black woman's house in the neighborhood. Tension between Blacks and Jews in the Crown Heights has increased as a result, with each group hurling accusations at the other.

According to Lloyd, who spoke at a press conference at the Chabad Lubavitch Center in Crown Heights prior to the demonstration at police headquarters, the accusation by the Blacks that two Hasidic Jews firebombed a Black woman's house is "a distortion of reality and a big lie."

He said that the Hasidic community in Crown Heights does not receive adequate police protection against "anti-Semitic incidents" committed by Blacks in the neighborhood. He called for the appointment of a special State Prosecutor to

investigate the murder of two Hasidic Jews, in two separate incidents, last fall in Crown Heights. The two victims were Israel Rosen and Shlomo Fishman, both allegedly murdered by Blacks.

The JDG demonstrators Sunday were pelted with eggs thrown by Black youths, Lloyd told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He added, however, that during the 45-minute rally, there was heavy police protection and no other incidents took place. Crown Heights is a racially, ethnically mixed neighborhood where it is estimated that only 10 percent of some 40,000 members of the community are Jewish. The Lubavitcher Hasidim have lived in the neighborhood since the early 1940's, when the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Menachem Schneerson, came there from Europe.

**LABOR AND LIKUD ARE TAKING THEIR DISPUTE OVER A MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE TO WASHINGTON**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA) -- Labor and Likud are taking their bitter dispute over an international conference for Middle East peace to Washington, a development which could embarrass the Reagan Administration and has already heightened the atmosphere of government crisis at home.

The latest move in the foreign policy war between the two coalition partners is the mission to Washington Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens conducted for Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

Arens, a Herut hardliner and former Israel Ambassador to the U.S., flew there last Thursday and met with Secretary of State George Shultz, other Administration officials and Congressional leaders.

He reportedly tried to persuade them not to support an international conference which is strongly advocated by Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader. Arens is due back Monday. Peres himself is going to Washington in two weeks, apparently to press his views. Labor Party chairman Rafi Edri, is also in Washington for meetings with Shultz and other key officials.

Arens' trip was approved by the Cabinet last week as a lecture tour on behalf of Israel Bonds. Labor has accused Likud of misrepresenting it. Peres met briefly with Shamir Sunday to lodge a protest over Arens' mission and how it was arranged.

Likud sources said their leaders would launch an energetic "counter-attack" in Israel and abroad to explain why Shamir opposes an international forum and to rebut Labor charges that Likud is anti-peace. Both Labor and Likud Ministers concede privately that this situation cannot continue.

Minister of Transport Haim Corfu of Likud said Sunday night that Arens' trip to Washington was now "accepted conduct in this government." He agreed that the government could not display its disunity abroad for very long and continue to survive. Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer of the National Religious Party, criticized both Labor and Likud for sending emissaries to the U.S. to advocate conflicting policies.

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, a Laborite, said Sunday that he expected Peres to submit his diplomatic proposals to the full Cabinet within "a short time" and it was entirely possible this could precipitate the government's collapse.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES****U.S. JEWISH LEADERS ARE REDEFINING THE DIASPORA-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP**

By Margie Olster

(Part One Of A Two-Part Series)

(Editor's note: Margie Olster was recently in Israel with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organization's mission where she discussed the issue of Israeli-diaspora relations with both Israeli and American Jewish leaders.)

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA) -- In the aftermath of shock that followed Jonathan Pollard's sentencing and other troubling events in Israel, American Jewish leaders sought to define and redefine the ambiguous parameters of the relationship between the world's two most influential Jewish communities, the American diaspora and Israel.

The era in which American Jewish leaders expressed criticism or disenchantment with Israeli policy and actions in private only, drew to a close with the Pollard affair. More frequently in the recent past, American Jews have expressed consternation about the Lebanon war, trade with oppressive regimes, the issue of refugee status for Soviet Jews in America, the Iran-Contra ordeal and the Pollard case.

For years, American Jewish leaders made a concerted effort to create a public image of unity of direction and purpose. Support for Israel and enumeration of the mutual benefits reaped from the American Jewish-Israeli relationship were standard in American Jewish organizations.

But events of the past few years have pushed tensions to a head and revealed some stormy seas beneath the placid surface of Jewish unity.

**'We Are Not One'**

"We are not one," Natan Sharansky told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations on their recent mission to Israel. Perhaps, he continued, we are not even two but three separate communities: Israel, American Jewry and Soviet Jewry.

The implication in Sharansky's statement that these three communities frequently diverge on political, social, religious and cultural agendas challenges the image of Jewish unity that has prevailed in the past.

Sharansky concluded by saying, "We must agree that Israel is the spiritual center of the Jewish people." But even on this, there is no unanimity, he said.

**'The Quintessential Dilemma Of Zionism'**

One member of the Presidents Conference called the continued existence of the diaspora following the establishment of the Jewish State "the quintessential dilemma of Zionism." This situation will always pose difficult and painful questions: How can Israel encourage aliya and deter yerida to countries that offer Jews a socially and financially secure existence? What are the roles of diaspora Jews vis-a-vis Israel in offering financial, political and moral support to Israel? And what if any obligations does this impose on Israeli leadership to be responsive to diaspora leaders' ideas, to engage them in frank and open dialogue and inform them of the whole story.

"Inherent in the relationship is an asymmetry," said Al Chernin, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC) executive

director, during a session in Israel. "There is a frustration, a problem that results from the asymmetrical relationship that 'we are heard but not heeded.' That's the nature of the relationship. That's the ball game."

Israel and the American Jewish community are not peers, Chernin said. Israel and the American government are peers.

Minister-without-portfolio Moshe Arens, a former Israeli Ambassador to the United States, insisted that an ongoing dialogue exists between American Jewish and Israeli leaders.

"We have a dialogue. We have sat together, we will sit together. When it comes to decision-making, there are statutory limitations. That doesn't hinder the dialogue. It doesn't prevent us from telling each other exactly what we think."

Arens spoke of a community of beliefs, of ideals and common values. "Asymmetry comes to the floor when, despite common ideals, we find we have differences of opinion. They cause tensions," he said.

**An Unwritten Rule**

To the Israelis' contentment, the American diaspora provides crucial political and financial support and in return is invited to participate in a dialogue with the Israeli leadership. As Arens indicated, the Israelis don't feel any obligation to involve the Americans in decision-making on internal policy issues.

One unwritten rule that has governed the relationship between American Jews and Israel is that in matters that affect Israel's security, Israel alone must decide.

"The attitude has been to give them enormous latitude in judging their decisions," said Morris Abram, chairman of the Presidents Conference. "I think that's entirely justified when the decision is one affecting their security. Because it is they who die, not we, if they are wrong."

But even this seemingly simple definition of the relationship is a Catch 22. As Henry Siegman, American Jewish Congress executive director, pointed out, "There are few subjects, barring the religious disputes, that do not involve security considerations."

A partnership also does not accurately describe the relationship of Israel to the American diaspora, Siegman said. A partnership implies a full and open exchange on all the issues except election, Siegman said.

"Israel expects U.S. Jewry to provide political and philanthropic support. Beyond that, it would like U.S. Jews . . . to serve as cheerleaders, supporting uncritically whatever policies the government does," Siegman said.

**Involving The Security Rationale**

Israeli leaders have averted all substantive discussions of serious policy questions with American Jews by invoking the security rationale, Siegman charged.

"The security argument has been used to mute criticism and serious public discussion of issues such as the Shin Bet scandal, the settlement policy in the West Bank, the disposition of the West Bank itself, Israeli military trade with repressive governments, differences in the standards of justice applied to Jewish and Arab citizens and arms to Iran," Siegman said.

The relationship that has resulted, Siegman said, is a "circumscribed notion of partnership . . . with no genuine dialogue aimed at influencing each others' values."



He continued, "We have a highly utilitarian relationship. Whatever helps Israel economically and politically is welcomed and indeed expected. That which serves no such purpose is deemed irrelevant."

Indeed, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir called on the Presidents Conference to act in concert with Israel with a unity of mind, a unity of action. "It must be our ambition to agree," he said.

#### Areas Of Disagreement

But a unity of mind and a unity of action between the American diaspora and Israel have been notably absent in regard to Israel's policy on South Africa, refugee status for Soviet Jews in America, Irangate, the Shin Bet scandal and surely in the Pollard affair.

Still, American Jewry seems to accept the lack of reciprocity in the relationship. They challenge Israel's openness, its morality and its motivations in these controversial policies. But they never threaten to withdraw or diminish their support for Israel.

In the final analysis, the analogy to a team and its fans finds a comfortable place in the American Jewish mind's struggle to define the relationship, as evidenced in the words of Presidents Conference chairman Abram.

"Israel has been like a winning basketball team and we are their fans," Abram said. "But they're bound to lose some and if they lose, we can not cease to be their fans if we truly love them. But I think we have a much more realistic perception of them than we had in the past."

(Tomorrow: Part Two)

#### **SPECIAL INTERVIEW ROSEN COUNSELS PATIENCE ON SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION ISSUE** By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania counsels patience regarding Soviet so-called promises to allow increased Jewish emigration and to route the emigrants through Rumania directly to Israel.

"Now is the time to wait, because we have hopes that there will be improvement," Rosen told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview at the commemorative ceremonies of the 44th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Rosen, who addressed some 4,000 people in Yiddish at the ceremony at the Felt Forum Sunday, was accompanied from Rumania by the Rumanian Jewish Federation Choir, all of them children of Holocaust survivors.

The 46-member choir, ranging in ages from 16 to 24, sang several melodies in Yiddish. They are scheduled to sing in the Rotunda of the Capitol Tuesday. En route to Washington, they will appear in the Independence Hall district of Philadelphia and in concert at the University of Maryland.

The choir, said Rosen, is an example of the proliferation of Jewish culture in a socialist state, a state which permits both the preservation of Judaism in all its aspects and also emigration of Jews to Israel.

The most important thing for the Jews, Rosen said, is the continuance of Jewish culture in all its facets, a necessity so that "Jews should not disappear as Jews. It is necessary to give a

Jewish identity to their children, of course." The second important thing, Rosen said, "is aliya, not neshira (dropping out).

"In my humble opinion, quiet discussion is the best tactic. The tactics of Rumania, a socialist state, provide an example" of what can happen for Jews in the Soviet Union. "Ninety-seven percent of Rumania's Jews have left," most of them for Israel, Rosen said. For the remaining three percent, he said, Rumania allows Jewish life in full bloom.

"That a socialist state can give the Jewish people the possibility to remain Jews and the choice to remain or to leave" provides hope for Soviet Jews, Rosen said. "Those who go to Israel remain both loyal to Rumania and remain Jewish," he said.

In addition to several Jewish choirs, said Rosen, "Rumanian Jews have classes in Hebrew, lectures on Jewish topics, and the government is cooperating with us in Jewish festivals."

Rumania "imparts wisdom for the socialist world. In Rumania, we see that the attitude toward Jews is working," he said. "Our success in Rumania is a combination of maintaining Judaism and allowing Jews to emigrate."

Today, he said, three percent of the Jews who lived in Rumania after the war -- 23,000--remain. "We have today 70 synagogues, 40 of them functioning daily, 11 kosher restaurants, where daily 4,000 people -- mostly elderly -- eat.

"Demographically, the remaining Jewish population is mostly elderly," Rosen said. "All those who could leave left." Rosen said, "I will be happy that the Jews go to Israel, not to stay in Rumania, but to live in Israel. The first plan is education, and then aliya."

#### **HOLOCAUST MONUMENT VANDALIZED**

LONDON, April 27 (JTA) -- A monument to Holocaust victims in Hyde Park was vandalized over the weekend. Members of the Jewish community gathering for the annual commemoration service discovered Sunday that white paint had been poured over the granite block set in a grove of trees.

The vandals left a placard with the word "Perdition." That was the title of a play alleging that Zionists collaborated with the Nazis during World War II. Its scheduled opening at the Royal Court Theater in London's West End last month was cancelled after historians branded it a travesty and the Jewish community protested.

Memorial services were conducted at the monument Sunday. They consisted of readings from the Psalms and from the works of Itzhak Katznelson, a poet of the Warsaw Ghetto who perished at Auschwitz.

\*\*\*

LONDON (JTA) -- The Soviet authorities have instituted criminal proceedings against unknown persons who overturned and damaged gravestones at a Jewish cemetery in Leningrad on April 17, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported Monday, quoting the newspaper *Leninradskaya Pravda*. The report said the people of Leningrad were indignant and demanded severe punishment for the culprits. The official charge is "an act of hooliganism" which refers to the vandalism of the cemetery during Easter week.

**SHIN BET APPEARS TO BE INVOLVED IN A NEW SCANDAL**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 16 (JTA) -- The Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, appears to be implicated in a new scandal involving the possible fabrication of evidence that sent an Israel Defense Force officer to prison for treason six years ago.

Tight censorship spawned rumor and speculation in the media until this week when MK Mordechai Virshubsky of the Shinui Party appealed to the Defense Minister and Minister of Justice to "clear the air." As a result, the cover of secrecy was lifted partially but the information which emerged in the media Thursday was vague and had the effect only of increasing speculation.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, in his first public comment on the affair, told Israel Radio Thursday that the political echelons were in no way involved or implicated. He said those persons alleged to be connected should be investigated by the courts. "There is no intention to cover anything up," he said.

**Involved Persons Identified**

The IDF officer convicted of treason, espionage and passing military information to the enemy was identified publicly for the first time. He is former Lt. Azzat Nafsu from the Circassian village of Karf Kamma who was sentenced in 1980 to 18 years in prison and reduced in rank to private.

Also mentioned in the case was Yossi Ginnosar, a former senior Shin Bet operative, one of three who received a Presidential pardon last year in connection with the murder of two captured Arab bus hijackers by Shin Bet agents in 1984. None of the three was ever formally charged or tried, and, according to legal experts, the pardon was an acknowledgement of guilt in the killings and subsequent attempted cover-up.

The connection between Ginnosar and Nafsu is not known. Nafsu, whose case was kept secret until now, maintains his innocence and contends he was convicted by a military court on the basis of manufactured evidence. Last year, a military court of appeals upheld his conviction. But six months ago, the Knesset amended the law to allow soldiers to carry their appeals beyond the military justice system. Nafsu has since appealed to the Supreme Court.

The Shin Bet has been implicated on the basis of published reports that Ginnosar told investigators in the bus hijackers' case that Shin Bet routinely fabricated evidence to protect itself. He was quoted as saying this was "standard procedure." Apparently it was Shin Bet evidence which helped convict Nafsu.

Shin Bet also is reported to have proposed that Nafsu be granted a Presidential pardon and released from prison in order to forestall his appeal to the Supreme Court. Justice Minister Avraham Sharir said Thursday that the appeal should be pressed with full confidence in the legal system and its ability to see that justice is done. The IDF also wants Nafsu's appeal to be heard, though in closed session. The Circassians

are a Moslem minority from the Caucasus who fled the Czarist regime in the late 19th century to settle in territories of the Ottoman empire, including Palestine. Only 1,200 of them live in Israel. They are full citizens, fiercely patriotic and, apart from the Druze who are indigenous to the region, are the only Moslems permitted to serve in the IDF.

**WJCONGRESS ACCUSES MEESE OF IMPEDING JUSTICE FOR NAZI WAR CRIMINALS**

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress accused Attorney General Edwin Meese of protecting Nazi war criminals and impeding justice for Karl Linnas, the Nazi war criminal who came within hours Wednesday of receiving political asylum in Panama and escaping deportation to the Soviet Union to face war crimes charges.

While virtually the entire Jewish community was celebrating Passover, Meese decided to deport Linnas to Panama after 16 other countries had rejected asylum bids for the man found guilty in absentia in the Soviet Union of executing men, women and children in a Tartu, Estonia, camp during the Holocaust.

Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director, said WJC officials learned Monday night, during the Seder, of Meese's intentions from government sources. The sources said Panama had agreed on April 10, five days earlier, to grant Linnas asylum but Meese did not act on the invitation until the Passover holiday began, Steinberg said. Panama withdrew the offer for asylum Wednesday afternoon.

**Not A Coincidence**

Had news of Meese's intended action not leaked out, Steinberg said Linnas would now be "vacationing" in a free, safe haven in Panama, where he would have disappeared and escaped justice permanently.

"This was not a coincidence. It was an attempt to catch the Jewish community at a time when it could not react," Steinberg said.

"Meese seems to show a greater sensitivity for Nazis than he does for their victims," he said.

The WJC officials immediately contacted representatives of Panama in the U.S. the Ambassador, the UN Ambassador and the Panamanian Consul General in New York. The WJC also informed the Jewish community of Panama of the decision. On Tuesday, Eli Rosenbaum, WJC general counsel, Menachem Rosensaft, chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, and Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman, who authored legislation for the deportation of Nazi war criminals, left New York for Washington to meet the Panamanian officials.

The Panamanian representatives said they were acting out of humanitarian reasons and were not aware of the significance of the case, Steinberg said.

Some 12,000 people died in the Tartu camp where Linnas was the camp commander. Witnesses have testified that Linnas would round up women

and children in mass pits and shoot them in the head. "Linnas has more blood on his hands than any other Nazi war criminal in the United States," Steinberg said. "The Panamanians were fooled and deceived by those attempting to help these war criminals. When they were alerted to the nature of this person, they reversed their decision within a matter of hours."

Early Wednesday the Panamanian Embassy in Washington announced the plans for deportation would be delayed until the case could be further studied. Later in the day, the Consul General in New York issued a second statement saying Linnas' request for asylum had been denied.

#### Dissension In The Justice Department

"The Government of the Republic of Panama echoes the preoccupation of important sectors of the Hebrew community and the rest of the world that, as well as our country and our Government, reject and condemn the crimes committed by fascism," the statement said.

With this, Panama became the 17th country to refuse Linnas asylum. And barring a decision by Meese to deport Linnas to the scene of his alleged crimes in the Soviet Union, that search will likely continue.

Meese's missing signature on the deportation paperwork is the only thing blocking the execution of a Supreme Court order to deport Linnas to the Soviet Union. All appeals, except one which is still pending, to reverse the deportation order have been denied.

Meese's decision to deport Linnas to Panama met with dissension from Justice Department officials who included Neal Sher, head of the Office of Special Investigations which seeks and prosecutes Nazi war criminals in this country, according to press reports Thursday.

Sher and others in the Justice Department have pursued Linnas' prosecution and deportation for some nine years. He faced nine tribunals before he was stripped of his U.S. citizenship for lying about his past to immigration officials when he entered the country in the 1950s. He was then ordered to be deported to the Soviet Union. Linnas is currently imprisoned in lower Manhattan in an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) prison.

Meese's handling of Linnas' case is not the only war crimes case which has met with scathing criticisms within the Jewish community. Meese has dragged his feet for almost a year now on the Justice Department's recommendation that Austrian President Kurt Waldheim be barred from the U.S. because of his Nazi affiliations during World War II.

Steinberg called Meese's actions a "shocking pattern" of impairing justice for Nazi war criminals. "Nazi war criminals have a great protector in the name of Attorney General Edwin Meese," Steinberg said.

#### **THE SITUATION IN THE WEST BANK**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 16 (JTA) -- Curfews, mass arrests and the closure of Arab campuses restored order in the West Bank over the Passover holiday. But tensions continued to run high after a weekend of violence in which Jewish settlers rampaged through Arab villages destroying property and burning fields in retaliation for the fire-bombing of a car last Saturday night which killed an Israeli woman and severely burned her

husband, three children and a young friend riding with them. The victim, Ofra Moses, 35, of Alfe-Menashe, was buried Sunday. Settlers from Alfe-Menashe erected a memorial at the site of the attack, between the Arab town of Kalkilya and Habla village, and established a vigil there. They were visibly hostile to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin who visited the site Wednesday to try to calm spirits and answer their charges that security forces were not protecting Jewish settlers on the roads.

Curfews were clamped on a refugee camp in the Arab town of Tulkarem Tuesday and on the nearby town of Anabta where Arab youths had stoned Israeli vehicles. Curfews on Kalkilya and Habla were lifted. But Bir Zeit University near Ramallah was ordered closed for four months following a confrontation in which security forces killed one Arab student and wounded two others.

Najah University in Nablus was also closed, as was a nurses school in Ramallah. More than 100 Arabs were arrested in a police dragnet of the territory. Nine were placed in administrative detention for six months which means they can be held without formal charges filed against them.

Among them is Feisal Hussein, 45, head of the Arab Studies Society in East Jerusalem whom the authorities claim is a leading supporter of the Palestine Liberation Organization and responsible for recent unrest in the territory.

#### Settlers Press Their Political Demands

The settlers are using the latest terrorist attack to press their political demands. Rabin was confronted by a large sign urging the immediate deportation of terrorists released from jail in a prisoner exchange two years ago, expansion of Jewish settlements in the territory and a commission of inquiry to investigate security arrangements there.

"Today, in the area of Judaea and Samaria and Gaza there are more Israeli soldiers than all along the border with Lebanon," he told the settlers. He insisted that security measures were quite adequate. He drew catcalls and angry shouts when he reminded the settlers that living in the territories involved certain risks.

The settlers declared they were living there with the full consent of the government and it was the duty of the State to protect them. Rabin said they were protected and said there were more victims of terrorist attacks in Israel proper than in the administered territories.

#### Rabin Greeted With Shouts Of Derision

More shouts of derision greeted Rabin's oblique reference to hooliganism by Jewish settlers against Arab civilians and when he insisted that law and order would be maintained by the military authorities. He warned the settlers that weapons they are allowed to carry were for personal protection only.

Settlers complained that talk in the government about an international conference for Middle East peace only encouraged terrorism. Rabin told them, "We are beginning to blame ourselves rather than the PLO."

The focus of tension shifted to East Jerusalem Wednesday when a small group of Jews who call themselves "The Temple Mount Faithful" visited the Temple Mount which is reserved exclusively for Moslem worship. They came under heavy police protection. Local Arabs were incensed and one was arrested after shoving a police officer. He was released later when it was

discovered that the man is mentally disturbed. Police, fearing a disturbance, ordered the Jewish group back behind the gates to the Temple Mount area but later permitted them to re-enter the site individually.

The Temple Mount contains the Dome of the Rock and Al Aksa Mosque, two of the holiest shrines in Islam, and has often been the scene of confrontation between religious Jews and Moslem worshippers. Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem protested angrily that allowing Jews to enter the area Wednesday was a needless provocation. He was furious with the police for not consulting him beforehand.

**LIFE-SIZED STATUE OF WALLEMBERG IS TO BE ERECTED IN BUDAPEST**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, April 16 (JTA) -- A life-sized statue of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat, is to be erected in Budapest, the city where he saved up to 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis and where he was seized by Stalin's agents as a suspected spy.

Following a decision of the Budapest Municipal Council, reported in the Hungarian Communist daily Nepszabadsag, it will be unveiled next month in the capital's fashionable Number Two District on the Buda side of the Danube River. The event will form part of the program of the European Executive meeting of the World Jewish Congress, from May 16 -19 in Budapest.

Imre Varga, one of Hungary's leading sculptors and a member of its Communist Party's Central Committee, has produced the youthful likeness of Wallenberg whose fate, more than four decades after his abduction, still arouses worldwide speculation and overcasts relations between the Soviet Union and his native Sweden.

The city already has a small street named after Wallenberg on the opposite bank of the Danube where many Jews were sheltered from the Nazis in Swedish protected buildings. But the new statue will have additional significance.

Four years after the war a monument in Wallenberg's honor was erected in Budapest's Saint Stephen Park by a grateful Jewish community. Standing 18 feet high, it consisted of a naked man wrestling with a snake. Its plinth bore a medallion of Wallenberg's head and a glowing tribute to his actions.

However, the night before its official dedication on April 17, 1949, it was removed, only to turn up later in another part of Hungary, stripped of the references to Wallenberg.

In recent years, the Hungarians have become acutely conscious of the similarities between this episode and Wallenberg's own disappearance.

This in turn will be powerfully symbolized by the new bronze statue of Wallenberg which will stand facing a block of pink Swedish granite on which the sculptor has depicted the original monument to him and the original testimonial to his actions.

Wallenberg, then aged 32, arrived in Budapest in July 1944 on a mission to save as many Jews as possible from being deported by the Nazis to Auschwitz. Together with other diplomatic representatives, such as the Swiss Consul Carl Lutz, he issued protective passports to Hungarian Jews and flew his country's flag on buildings in which the Jews were sheltered. On January 17, 1945, Wallenberg was taken under Soviet "protection" and has never been seen subsequently

outside the Soviet Union. According to a Soviet statement issued in 1957, he died of heart failure in the Lubyanka Prison on July 17, 1947. The Swedes have never believed this and continue to press for his release -- he would now be 74 -- or a more convincing explanation of his fate.

As recently as last July, the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm informed the Swedish government that Wallenberg is dead. It did so following inquiries by Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson during a visit to Moscow a few months earlier.

**LEV AND INNA ELBERT HUNGER STRIKE LEAVES REFUSENIK COUPLE WEAK AND ILL**  
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 16 (JTA) -- Soviet Jewry activists are concerned with the health of refuse-nik couple Lev and Inna Elbert, who are on the 43rd day of a hunger strike in Moscow to convince the Soviet authorities to allow them to immigrate to Israel. Because of the length of the fast, which is not their first, Inna is reportedly suffering from liver damage and Lev is extremely weak.

Last week he reportedly had heart stoppage and was advised by a doctor not to attend the Passover seder at Spaso House, the residence of the U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, at which Secretary of State George Shultz was present and to which the Elberts were invited, according to both the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry (UCSJ).

Lev spoke Thursday morning with Pamela Cohen, UCSJ president, in Chicago, and Cohen told JTA that he was so weak he could not continue on the phone. However, Elbert has said, "The last weapons we have to use are our own bodies."

Elbert was visited Thursday by a delegation of Congressmen, including Steny Hoyer (D. Md.), who is chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission). The Congressional delegation is in Moscow for talks with Soviet authorities.

Elbert told Cohen that the Congressmen met Wednesday with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who reportedly told them that "the term of refusal was from five-ten years." Asked how this term could apply to specific cases, Gorbachev is reported to have answered that a resolution of "broader issues" between the U.S. and USSR would lead to the resolution of the Elberts' case.

Prior to Passover, Elbert received a call from Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and, according to Cohen, he told Peres that he would not end his hunger strike until he had some "factual information" that the Soviets were positively considering their case.

The Elberts appear committed to continuing the hunger strike to the end. In a telegram sent to Israel April 9, Elbert wrote that the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs had informed them in a telephone conversation of the "negative resolution" of their case, "notwithstanding the fact that we have submitted documents indicating that we possess no secrets."

Elbert, 36, is a construction engineer from Kiev. As a private in the Soviet army between 1973-75 he helped construct a swimming pool in an officers' club, and was charged with knowing "state secrets" when they first applied to emigrate in 1976. They have since applied to leave over 12 times.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES**  
**A CONFERENCE IN SEARCH OF PARTICIPANTS**  
 By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 16 (JTA) -- The move for an international conference as a means of bringing about negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries, particularly Jordan, seems to have received a new spurt of life in recent weeks.

But there seems as little chance of it actually coming about as it did when King Hussein of Jordan first proposed it in Washington last year in order to provide him with an "umbrella" for negotiations with Israel.

This would be true even if there was no split in Israel's national unity government between Labor and Likud over the issue. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was in Europe last week promoting the idea, while Premier Yitzhak Shamir reiterated his firm opposition to such a conference.

This situation could change if the Soviet Union were to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, broken since the 1967 Six-Day War.

Hussein has demanded that the international conference include the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, two of whom, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, do not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

The Soviet Factor

Both the Reagan Administration and Israel have rejected Soviet participation until Moscow restores diplomatic ties with Israel. Although China is rarely mentioned in this context, it too would have to open relations with Israel before it could participate in an international conference.

The Soviet Union, which has joined the effort pressing for an international conference, apparently sees it as a way for Moscow to be dealt into the Middle East peace process. The Kremlin has been dropping hints about restoring relations and the increased Jewish emigration from the USSR may also have something to do with this.

Peres returned home encouraged from a meeting in Rome with two Soviet officials and more may be learned when Soviet officials visit Israel this month, ostensibly to inspect Soviet property there.

There was no public sign during Secretary of State George Shultz's meetings in Moscow this week. But when Shultz was asked at a press conference last week whether he would discuss an international conference with the Soviets, he appeared to reject it.

Shultz reiterated his position that the "object is greater stability and, in the end, peaceful relationships between countries in the Middle East."

He said the U.S. believes the way to achieve this objective "is through bilateral, direct negotiations. Now the Jordanians feel, and many others feel, that there may be a role for an international conference in getting us to that point. We have been exploring with the Jordanians and others whether or not such a useful role can be defined and just how that would work."

Shultz, after his meetings with Shamir earlier this year and with Jordanian Prime Minister Zeid Rifai last week, stressed that the U.S.

was willing to explore an international conference as a means of bringing about direct negotiations, but not as a substitute for it. Shultz said direct negotiations were needed to reach an agreement between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel and Syria.

Rifai, in his comments after meeting with Shultz, seemed to be moving away from Jordan's willingness to discuss just the West Bank and Gaza. "We're not talking about peace between Jordan and Israel," he said. "We're talking about a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli problem."

He explained this included negotiations about the Golan Heights, south Lebanon as well as the Palestinian problem, which he said was "at the core of the Middle East conflict."

Former President Carter, during his recent Mideast visit, also called for an international conference to reach a comprehensive settlement. The Carter Administration was moving to an international conference with the Soviet Union in 1977 when Egyptian President Anwar Sadat made his historic visit to Jerusalem which eventually led to direct negotiations between Israel and Egypt and the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty.

Carter also said that in his talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad, the Syrian leader expressed a willingness to attend such a conference, a change from his earlier opposition.

When Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne was asked about this, he pointed to former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's experience in 1974. As Kissinger relates it in his memoirs, he and Assad had a long talk in which they finally agreed about a proposed Geneva conference, but when Kissinger asked about a preference for dates, Assad replied it didn't matter since Syria would not attend.

There is some suspicion that Assad's change of heart may have more to do with the Soviet desire to be part of the Mideast peace process than any Syrian desire for negotiations.

Issue Of Palestinian Representation

Even if a mode for an international conference could be found, there is still the question of who represents the Palestinians. Israel, and this includes both Labor and Likud, rejects any negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The U.S. rejects any dealings with the PLO until it accepts UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognizes Israel's right to exist. Even Carter accepts this position though he said that since leaving the Presidency he has felt free to meet with members of the PLO.

Jordan and other Arab countries would no doubt press for PLO participation. The Jordanians have been saying for over a year that the PLO is ready to accept the Security Council resolutions, although every time the terrorist organization appears to be on the verge of doing so publicly it pulls back.

Israel insists that Palestinian members of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation must come from the West Bank and Gaza. Efforts have been made for over a year to come up with some names. Although several have received the approval of Peres such a delegation is still a major stumbling block in the effort to bring about negotiations.

**PERES SAYS PNC MEETING HAS NOT DAMPENED HIS HOPE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres insisted this week that his hopes for Middle East peace talks within the framework of an international conference have not been dampened by the obdurate stand taken at the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in a tightly-guarded hall some 12 miles outside Algiers.

Aides to the Foreign Minister said he will continue to pursue the idea of negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation despite Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat's renunciation of his 1985 accord with King Hussein and his apparent embrace of the most extreme terrorist groups in the name of Palestinian unity.

Peres briefed the Labor Party ministerial caucus on his intentions Tuesday night and made sure that his position was promptly conveyed to the media. According to a report in Davar Wednesday, Peres will bring his proposals before the Cabinet within 10 days. He is confident of American support, confident that an international conference will serve as a format for direct talks between Israel and all the parties concerned, Davar reported.

His aides said Peres is determined to go all-out over the conference issue, even if it means dissolution of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government. He believes the nation will back him in early elections.

**Meeting Sends Chill Through Diplomatic Circles**

Nevertheless, events in Algiers where the 426-member PNC, the so-called Palestinian parliament in exile, is meeting for the first time since 1984, sent a chill through diplomatic quarters.

Arafat's threat of stepped-up terrorist warfare against Israel, his stated goal of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and his reconciliation with extremists such as George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh and the Syrian-backed PLO dissidents who drove his forces from Lebanon in 1984, cast a pall over peace prospects in the region.

Equally chilling was the demand by the PLO's "foreign minister" Farouk Kaddoumi that the Camp David accords be cancelled and that Egypt return "to its proper place in the Arab world." Speaking at the PNC Wednesday, he also insisted on special relations with Jordan, calling for a confederation of two independent states--Jordan and Palestine. Kaddoumi also urged the strengthening of the 21-member Arab League, from which Egypt was suspended after its peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

**Likud's Position Seen As Vindicated**

A pessimistic assessment of the situation was given in Congressional testimony in Washington Tuesday by Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, who is regarded as the State Department's top expert on the Middle East. (See separate story from Washington.)

Murphy's views and the resurgent bellicosity in Algiers are seen as vindication of the Likud position that an international conference would imperil Israel and that it is useless to seek Palestinian negotiating partners.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir has been pounding these points home in a bitter public feud with Peres which some observers see as a calculated attempt to bring down the unity government. Shamir is said to be convinced that public opinion is overwhelmingly behind him and an election fought over the peace issue would result in a Likud victory.

Peres, meanwhile, was quoted as telling his Cabinet colleagues that "What happened in Algiers does not hurt peace prospects. We took into account (the need) to make progress toward peace without Arafat and without his Fatah because they are not interested in peace."

He told Labor Party members here that "We will continue to strive for peace with Jordan, with the inhabitants of the administered areas and with other regional states. The chance of progress is very great."

**Broad Consensus On Procedures**

According to Peres' aides, consultations with the Soviet Union, the United States and the Jordanians resulted in a broad consensus on procedures for an international conference. Moscow now agrees on the need for direct one-on-one negotiations in regional subcommittees and agrees that the conference plenary will not be allowed to impose its will on the bilateral negotiations, the aides say.

Sources close to the Foreign Minister stressed that for all practical purposes, the peace process initially would be limited to a dialogue between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The Israel-Egyptian peace treaty is holding satisfactorily and Syria is unlikely to attend peace talks, at least in their initial stage, the sources said.

**U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS SHOULD NOT BECOME HOSTAGE TO THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF THE PLO**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 22 (JTA) -- The Middle East peace process should not become "hostage to the internal politics of the PLO," a State Department official said Tuesday. But Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, admitted that the Palestine Liberation Organization's repudiation of its 1985 accord with Jordan on a joint approach to peace at its conference this week in Algiers may be a "diversion" from negotiations.

"It (the repudiation) does nothing to get the negotiations started," Murphy said in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "It may prove to be a diversion in getting the Palestinians to the table in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian conference."

He added, "We don't think the peace process should become hostage to internal politics of the PLO and we will continue our efforts to give a hand to people in the region who are suffering

from a lack of progress in the peace process. "Murphy said a Jordanian statement Tuesday indicated that the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algeria would not "change the principle that they're interested in getting to negotiations."

#### U.S. Expresses Concern To Algeria

Earlier Tuesday, State Department spokesman Charles Redman refused to comment on the PNC conference. But Redman said the U.S. expressed to Algeria its concern it has admitted to the country Abu Abbas, the terrorist accused of spearheading the October 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in which an American passenger, Leon Klinghoffer, was murdered. The U.S. has no extradition treaty with Algeria.

Murphy described the PNC conference as "the continued mining by the PLO of that rich vein of frustration and sense of despair that they can't make their voices heard and achieve their rights." The repudiation of the 1985 accord was an attempt to "bring back to the fold some radicals," he said. But he noted that the conference decided not to break ties with Egypt.

Murphy said the PLO raid Sunday into Israel, in which two Israeli soldiers were killed, was clearly timed to coincide with the conference. But he told the Congressmen it would be very difficult for the PLO to open a major front in Israel.

On the subject of peace talks, Murphy said U.S. attempts to start direct talks between Israel and Jordan have been stalemated over the issue of an international peace conference.

"We are trying to iron out the difficulties. Direct negotiations have problems for the Arabs who don't want negotiations without an international conference. They feel they must have international legitimization," Murphy said. "But we're worried that the conference could become a political theater for excessive rhetoric and make things messy," he added.

Murphy said he expected visits to Washington sometime this year by King Hussein of Jordan and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

#### **CONTROVERSY OVER PENDING APPEAL OF AN IMPRISONED IDF OFFICER** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA) -- The pending appeal to the Supreme Court by an Israel Defense Force officer serving an 18-year prison sentence for treason has embroiled the government, the IDF and the internal security service, Shin Bet, in a dispute over what their position should be in the case.

The high court set May 24 as the date it will begin hearings on the appeal of former Lt. Azzat Nafsu, from the Circassian village of Kfar Kamma, who was convicted by a military tribunal in 1980 and stripped of his rank. Nafsu contends he was railroaded on false evidence and forced to confess under coercion by his Shin Bet interrogators.

A meeting Tuesday night attended by senior Justice Ministry officials, Shin Bet leaders and senior military authorities reportedly broke down as a result of sharp differences between Shin Bet which prepared the case against Nafsu, the IDF which tried him, and civilian legal officials.

IDF officers reportedly expressed reservations for the first time over the strength of the

State's case in the appeal. Shin Bet officials are said to be anxious to avoid the hearing for fear it will expose their methods of evidence gathering and obtaining confessions. Shin Bet reportedly proposed a Presidential pardon and release of Nafsu in order to close the case before it reaches the Supreme Court.

Now Shin Bet is reported to be pressing for a judicial commission of inquiry into its investigatory techniques. Such a probe would forestall full exposure of its method at a Supreme Court hearing.

#### **DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION EXPERT SAYS ID CARD BEARING SIGNATURE AND PHOTO OF DEMJANJUK IS AUTHENTIC** By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA) -- The head of the Israeli police document identification laboratory testified Tuesday that an SS identification card bearing the signature and photograph of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk is authentic.

Amnon Bezaleli appeared for the prosecution in Jerusalem district court as the Demjanjuk trial resumed after the Passover recess. He said there was "no doubt whatever" of the signature of Karl Streibel, commandant of the Trawniki camp where Demjanjuk allegedly was trained for guard duty at Treblinka.

As for Demjanjuk's signature, there is only "an extremely slight possibility" that it was forged, Bezaleli said. He said he had compared it with Demjanjuk's signature on numerous documents he signed over the years and discerned an "inner authenticity" but could "not definitely" determine it was signed by the accused.

The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk, a former resident of Cleveland, Ohio, has been identified by a number of Treblinka survivors as the sadistic guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" who ran the gas chambers at the death camp and brutally assaulted inmates. Demjanjuk contends he was a German prisoner during most of World War II, that he was never anywhere near Treblinka and is a victim of mistaken identity.

The ID card, which Israel obtained from the Soviet Union, has been called a forgery by Demjanjuk's lawyers. Bezaleli told the court he could not be more definite about the signature because it is in Russian Cyrillic script. He explained, however, that he could discern changes in the way Demjanjuk shaped letters--even in Russian--as his handwriting was gradually influenced by the Latin letters of English during the 40 years that he lived in the United States.

Bezaleli also testified that he found indications that the "original photo" on the card may at one time have been removed but "it was not changed" for another.

#### **HERZOG REDUCES THE SENTENCE OF ANOTHER JEWISH UNDERGROUND MEMBER**

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog is continuing to reduce the sentences of members of a Jewish terrorist underground in the West Bank convicted of assaults on Arabs.

He announced Wednesday that the seven-year sentence imposed on Yitzhak Ganiram will be shortened by three months which makes him eligible for release in 18 months for good behavior.

Ganiram was convicted of involvement in 1980 car-bombings which maimed two Arab mayors in the West Bank and resulted in the death of a Druze police sapper, and in the 1982 machinegun attack on the Islamic College in Hebron where three students were killed.

According to a spokesperson for Herzog, the President acted on the recommendations of the prison authorities and took into consideration that Ganiram expressed "regret" for his offenses and that he is the father of seven children.

Herzog last month reduced the life sentences of three other members of the underground to 25 years, which makes them eligible for eventual parole. Of the 28 underground members convicted and sentenced, only eight are still in prison.

### **POLL SHOWS IF ELECTIONS WERE HELD NOW LABOR AND LIKUD WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PUT TOGETHER A GOVERNING MAJORITY** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 22 (JTA) -- If Knesset elections were held now, the outcome almost certainly would be a new version of the present stalemated national unity coalition, according to the latest opinion poll published in Maariv Tuesday. The poll, conducted last month among 1,236 adult Jewish voters by the Modiin Ezrachi organization, found that neither Labor nor Likud would be able to form a governing coalition with their respective leftwing or rightwing allies. Labor, however, would emerge stronger than Likud with 48 Knesset seats compared to the 40 it won in the last elections in 1984. Likud was down from 41 seats to 35 in new elections.

But neither party would be able to put together a governing majority in the 120-member Knesset because the rightwing opposition parties have gained ground since 1984, possibly at Likud's expense, and the leftist parties which might align with Labor have lost support.

The ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party would increase its Knesset strength from five to seven seats in new elections. Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach Party would go from one to four seats. The poll showed the leftist Shinui down from three to two seats and Mapam reduced from six to two.

Among the Orthodox factions, only the National Religious Party gained support. It would win six seats compared to its present four. The Aguda Israel and Shas Parties would retain their present strength of two and four seats, respectively. The leftist Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) and the Communist Party would hold steady at four and six seats, respectively.

New elections would wipe out the Orthodox Morasha Party which has two seats in the Knesset and the Tami and Ometz parties which have one each, the poll found.

### **POLICE PROBE ANTI-SEMITIC VANDALISM AT COUNTRY CLUB**

By Fredda Sacharow  
Jewish Exponent Staff Writer

PHILADELPHIA, April 22 (JTA) -- As workers at Woodcrest Country Club in Cherry Hill, NJ, sandblasted swastikas and offensive drawings off the walls of their clubhouse, police continued their investigation into what observers termed one of the worst displays of anti-Semitic vandalism

they could recall. "This is the largest, most extensive incident I'm aware of in years," said Alan Respler, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey. "Some of the writing was so obscene even the television cameras couldn't tape it."

Respler was called to the predominantly Jewish club over the weekend after maintenance workers discovered slurs and obscenities spray-painted in black and red on the building walls.

Woodcrest general manager Robert Sierra, who was one of the first to arrive on the scene after workers summoned him with an early-morning call, called the attack "anti-Semitic terrorism."

Hate-filled graffiti covered much of the exterior of the club's main building and was splashed over the sidewalk and a car left overnight at the club. In addition, black swastikas were painted on the grass at the 10th and 13th tees of the club's golf course.

### Believed To Be An Isolated Case

A police spokesman said Monday that because no other Jewish facility or synagogue was attacked and because his office has not heard of related incidents in any other local district, police believe the vandalism to be an isolated case.

No group or persons have called the media to take credit, and no other Jewish institution has been hit, so we're looking at a local level," said Cherry Hill Detective John Long.

"It may be juveniles, it may be young adults or it may be someone with problems with the club," said Long, adding that police investigators are interviewing management personnel and employees of the 400-member club.

"To my recollection, this is the worst case of anti-Semitism in some time," he said.

The country club has tripled its own security in the wake of the incident, said Dr. Philip Slipyan, president of the club's Board. Long estimated the damage to the greens alone could run between \$5,000 and \$10,000, but Woodcrest officials declined to estimate the final cost of the vandalism. "The dollar figure really pales when you compare it with the frustration and anger," Slipyan said.

### Club And JWV Offer Reward

The club has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the vandal or vandals. Lee Vegotsky, Southern New Jersey representative of the Jewish War Veterans, announced Sunday that his organization will add a \$500 reward.

Respler said under New Jersey's ethnic and racial terrorism law, persons convicted of ethnically or racially motivated vandalism can face up to five years in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

Woodcrest, a member-owned club founded in 1929, draws its largely Jewish membership from Cherry Hill and surrounding communities, as well as from Philadelphia. It has been the victim of anti-Semitic attacks in the past, Slipyan said, but none quite so extensive or virulent.

As they gathered at the club in the wake of the most recent incident, many of the members commented on its timing: the fourth day of Passover, the day before Easter Sunday -- traditionally a time when anti-Jewish sentiment tends to run high -- and the week before Yom Hashoah, the commemoration of the Holocaust.



**ELON VIEWS DUAL LOYALTY  
WITH PRIDE, NOT PROBLEMS**  
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 22 (JTA) -- There is nothing wrong with dual loyalty, according to Israeli writer Amos Elon. Fear of expressing this is a cultural vestige, he said, and leads to the kind of queasiness that surrounds the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

Elon spoke, with Rabbi Marshall Meyer of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun here, at the synagogue at a recent conclave of the New Israel Fund, each addressing himself to the issue "Does Israel represent us all?" The meeting was sponsored by the New Israel Fund and the Metropolitan Division of the American Jewish Congress in cooperation with Congregation B'nai Jeshurun.

The matter of the Pollard affair arose as a response to Elon's request that American Jews "meddle even more" than usual in Israeli affairs, with neither fear nor apology, affirming that both Israelis and American Jews share a "common agenda."

"What is meddling in Israeli affairs?" Elon asked. "For example, I wish the New Israel Fund would meddle even more." The New Israel Fund is a grant-making foundation dedicated to strengthening democracy in Israel.

Issue Of Dual Loyalty

The issue of dual loyalty was brought up as a question following upon Elon's strong suggestion that American Jews raise their voices in criticism of Israeli policies, and followed up a controversy begun last month when Israeli political theorist Shlomo Avineri wrote an "open letter to an American friend" in which he charged that American Jewish leaders exhibited a "galut" mentality in reaction to the Pollard case.

In his letter, published in The Jerusalem Post, Avineri accused prominent American Jewish leaders of "cringing" in fear of charges of dual loyalty.

"I would say that I for one am not so much scared of it. Why not have dual loyalty, or even triple loyalty?" Elon asked. "Of course," he answered himself, "fright of dual loyalty is based on fragile understanding, and that's why I'm so angry at the Israeli government's precarious balance in hiring the 'poor schnook, Pollard.'"

Need For Ongoing Criticism

Elon emphasized the ongoing need for criticism of the Israeli government and its policies.

"It would help if American Jews would not be as consistent as they have been in the past" in supporting Israel without differentiating between what they really believe and what they think they should believe. "I wish you would meddle more," Elon told the audience.

"The true miracle of Israeli life is that after 40 years of warfare, Israel has remained a fairly decent society without being afraid of airing its problems," Elon said. American Jews have usually felt they should refrain from criticizing Israel, he said, in contradistinction to Israelis' own compulsion to criticize themselves and their government. "How can American Jews' interference affect Israel if Israelis can't?" Elon asked.

"The man on the street would have handled the Pollard affair better than (Israeli Premier Yitzhak) Shamir," Elon offered. "What we have

seen this past few weeks is a difference between respectability and authority -- a totally irresponsible authority." Hiring an American Jew as a spy was "an insane idea," Elon said.

If the Pollard affair was a rogue operation, "how do you get out of it once it's done?" he asked. "You either deny everything -- and you sacrifice. Or else you admit everything. But the Israeli government neither apologized nor helped. Instead, they disclosed a little and they denied a little. And caused the tragedy. From a patriotic point of view," said Elon, "it's ridiculous."

'We Ended Caught In A Vise'

Meyer suggested that "We Jews are not secure enough to say of Pollard, 'What's the difference?' If he were a Christian, it would not have bothered us. But to take a Jew," and make him a spy, said Meyer, "we ended caught in a vise."

Both Elon and Meyer took the Holocaust as a point of reference for American Jews suffering from guilt feelings. "We feel guilty that we didn't do enough then, and we haven't done enough for Israel since then," Meyer said.

Elon suggested that "The Holocaust impressed this kind of mentality" on Jews, causing them to refrain from criticizing Israel. "But supporting blindly every Israeli policy is not conducive to the health of Israel," he said.

"I think it comes down to we really don't know who we are," Meyer said. "We must address ourselves to it. With more internal strength, we could say of the Pollard affair, 'No, that's immoral.'"

Meyer said that "I don't think we are united today. I think we are fractured and atomized, because of our sense of guilt. But we can certainly get closer to each other."

Meyer, an America-born human rights activist, reflected on his many years in Argentina, where he established a Conservative Jewish seminary in 1962, saying, "I wish that I had tried to build that seminary in Israel."

Remarking that very few actively observant, participant Conservative Jews had settled in Israel, he cautioned, "We must once and for all understand that unless there will be religious pluralism, there is a danger and the possibility of Israel becoming a theocracy, with the Orthodox's complicity, and the silence of the non-religious."

**VISIT BY RUSSIANS TO ISRAEL MAY  
STILL TAKE PLACE AS PLANNED**

PARIS, April 22 (JTA) -- A visit to Israel by a Soviet delegation of consular level will take place as planned, according to a report from Moscow Tuesday, though the date was not announced. The delegation "has not yet bought its plane tickets but the visit has not been canceled," Gennady Gerasimov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, told a press conference.

This contradicted a report from Kuwait last week which quoted the visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Patrovsky, as saying "We have decided to cancel the visit" because Israel made propaganda use of it.

Israel welcomes the visit but maintains that a similar Israeli delegation should go to Moscow. Gerasimov said earlier there would be no exchange visits between the two countries.

**ESCALATION OF TERRORIST ATTACKS  
LINKED TO HARD LINE TAKEN BY PNC**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 26 (JTA) -- Terrorist attacks along the Lebanese border and in the administered territories escalated during the past week. Most observers here link the resurgent violence directly to the hard line taken at the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres expressed hope last week that with the Palestine Liberation Organization's mainstream, headed by Yasir Arafat, edging closer to radicals and extremists in an effort to achieve Palestinian unity, moderate elements in the territories would be strengthened.

His view arose from the notion that Palestinians would realize the PLO offered a dead end, not a way to achieve peace or advance Palestinian interests. But this has proven to be wishful thinking. Once again, the Arab political community responded in accord with the internal politics of the PLO.

The East Jerusalem Arabic press hailed the show of unity at Algiers although it undercut whatever small progress was made in the past two years to bring Palestinians closer to the negotiating table.

Slogans smeared on walls rejoiced over Arafat's apparent reconciliation with hard line terrorists such as George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh and news that Syrian-backed PLO dissidents who drove Arafat from Lebanon in 1984 were now back in the fold.

**Violence In Administered Territories**

Terrorist elements in the territories expressed their approval by violence. Two gasoline bombs were thrown at Israeli vehicles in the middle of Gaza Saturday, injuring a three-year-old child. On Friday, five Molotov cocktails were thrown at soldiers near the Dahaishe and El-Aroub refugee camps on the Jerusalem-Hebron road.

The Gaza incident aroused fury among Jewish settlers. On Sunday they drove a motorcade through Gaza, openly displaying their weapons as a warning and show of force.

Those developments, which coincided with the end of the PNC meeting, made it clear that Israelis would have to re-evaluate the political situation. The severe blows inflicted on the PLO in the Lebanon war, and its fragmentation during the years that followed, did not bring Palestinian moderates to the fore. Now, with the PLO seemingly reunited, the moderates have run for cover.

Shortly before the PNC, the so-called Palestinian parliament-in-exile, convened for its 18th session in Algiers, Peres met twice with local Palestinian leaders, some of them known PLO sympathizers. So did Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Those meetings yielded no concrete results and Palestinians and Israelis now appear farther apart than ever.

This view was expressed by several Ministers after the weekly Cabinet meeting Sunday. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui Party told reporters the meeting in Algiers

"strengthened those of us who think the PLO and peace are mutually exclusive." Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, a Laborite, said Israel and Jordan would have to find other Palestinians willing to come to the negotiating table. Gad Yaacobi, Minister of Economic Coordination, also a Laborite, thought the PNC meeting had "created some setback in the political process" but that it wasn't "critical."

Only one Israeli Minister, Ezer Weizman, has insisted that come what may, Israel eventually must negotiate with the PLO. But Weizman's views are not popular now, even within the Labor Party, and pressure is mounting to take strong, even draconian measures in response to terrorist attacks in the territories.

**Says Moscow Is Key To Mideast Peace**

Where does this leave the peace process? Dr. Alexander Blei, of the Hebrew University's Truman Institute, suggested that the road to Middle East peace cannot be found in Algiers or in Jordan, but in Moscow.

According to Blei, who expounded his views on a television interview, the Soviet Union is interested in an international conference for Middle East peace on its own terms, with participation by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all regional parties, including the PLO.

To achieve that goal, Blei said, Moscow first pressed for the reunification of the PLO which appears to have been accomplished. Next, it wants to reconcile Syria and Egypt. That may have been on the agenda of Syrian President Hafez Assad's talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow last week.

He met Friday with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Diplomatic observers said they discussed Middle East peace, Palestinian reunification and the Iran-Iraq war, but differences emerged on certain issues.

A third facet of Soviet policy seems to be a more flexible position toward Israel. Fitted with an ability to guide both Syria and the PLO, it would give the Soviet Union a powerful voice in the Middle East.

There are obstacles, Blei pointed out. The PLO's break with Egypt so enraged President Hosni Mubarak that he ordered his observers home from Algiers before the PNC's deliberations ended. The official Cairo weekly Al-Akhbar stated in an editorial that it was time for Egypt to end its active support for the Palestinians. "We have suffered enough for them," the editor wrote.

(Arafat won re-election to the chairmanship of the PLO Saturday night, but only after agreeing to concessions against which he had balked earlier in the day. These included an enlarged PNC executive committee in which he will have to share power with terrorist extremists, such as Abu Abbas, accused of masterminding the Achille Lauro hijacking. But some Syrian-backed extremist groups were excluded.)

With Jordan and Egypt distancing themselves from the Palestinians, with Israel split over an international conference and Syria and the PLO more dependent than ever on Moscow, the fate of the peace process is most likely to be determined in the Soviet capital and in Washington.

## RABIN UNDER ATTACK FOR DISMISSING IMPORTANCE OF TWO WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS IN ISRAEL'S SECURITY

By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, April 26 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has come under fierce attack from Likud and other rightwing circles for dismissing the importance to Israel's security of two West Bank settlements located near the "green line," the old boundary between Israel and the administered territories.

Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction, accused Rabin, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, of trying to lead Israel back to its pre-1967 borders. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, another influential Likud MK demanded Rabin's immediate resignation and dissolution of the Labor-Likud unity coalition government.

Even members of Labor Party branches in the West Bank called Rabin's remarks "ill-conceived." Furious settlers accused the Defense Minister of anti-Zionism.

The storm broke after Rabin told a meeting of the Labor Party Executive Thursday that the settlements of Alfe-Menashe and Ariel had no more security value than Afule which is located in the Emek, in the heart of Israel. Whether or not his assessment was valid, it was ill-timed.

Alfe-Menashe is in mourning for one of its residents. Ofra Moses, killed in a fire-bomb attack on a car April 11 which severely burned her husband and three children.

The Labor Party Executive endorsed Rabin's remarks. The Defense Minister himself refused to back off. He told Israel Radio Friday that he had "tried to explain our policy in the territories as I view it."

## ISRAEL MARKS HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY; HERZOG BESTOWS 'MEMORIAL CITIZENSHIP' ON THE SIX MILLION JEWISH MARTYRS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 26 (JTA) -- Israel observed annual Holocaust memorial day Sunday. It opened officially at dusk Saturday night, with a somber ceremony at the Yad Vashem in Jerusalem where President Chaim Herzog formally bestowed "memorial citizenship" on the six million Jewish victims, in accordance with a recent amendment by the Knesset of the Law of Return.

At eight Sunday morning, sirens wailed for two minutes all over the country, bringing traffic and pedestrians to halt in silent memory of those who died.

There were memorial services throughout the day, addressed by national leaders. Premier Yitzhak Shamir stressed that Israel and the Jewish people can neither forgive nor forget Nazi crimes. Germany and other European nations cooperated with the perpetrators of the Holocaust and should therefore desist from aiding Israel's enemies by supplying them with arms, he said. Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres spoke at the central memorial service at the Yad Vashem Sunday morning where he dedicated a new wing in memory of the 5,000 Jewish communities in Europe destroyed in the Holocaust. Israel learned not to rely on other nations or peoples but to put its faith in its own people and its own might, Peres said.

"We can rely on no other land and the doors of our land will remain forever open," he said. He appealed to Jews throughout the world to

come to Israel. The day is officially called Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day. In addition to memorializing the Holocaust, it is intended to inform the younger generation, particularly those who ask why the victims apparently allowed themselves to be led to slaughter without resisting.

Two of the day's memorial services were held at Kibbutz Lochamei Hagetaot and Kibbutz Yad Mordechai, founded by former concentration camp inmates and Jewish ghetto fighters and partisans.

Though not an official fast day, all restaurants and places of entertainment were closed for 24 hours, beginning at sundown Saturday. This is required by law. Municipal inspectors touring Tel Aviv for compliance found only one violation -- a sea-front cafe was open. The owner was promptly taken to a municipal court where a fine was imposed.

The observances ended Sunday night with a mass memorial service and salute to the ghetto fighters in the amphitheater at Kibbutz Lochamei Hagetaot.

## WIESEL URGES UNIVERSITIES TO MAKE HUMANITIES COURSES MANDATORY

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 26 (JTA) -- Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel called upon universities to set a moral example by making humanities courses mandatory in professional schools.

"The enemy is indifference. Your own study is a weapon against indifference. The university must become a moral example," Wiesel told a largely student audience at George Washington University (GWU). "I would plead and implore all professional students to have a compulsory program in humanities. You must know why you are doing what you're doing. It is the ethical dimension that determines the humanity of humankind."

Wiesel's remarks about universities occurred during an address last Wednesday in which he listed the major elements of an immoral society. He used South Africa and the Soviet Union as modern examples.

About halfway through Wiesel's address, a group of Black Hebrews burst into the GWU auditorium carrying placards with slogans attacking the Israeli government, whom they accuse of abusing members of their sect. They marched to the podium where one of the demonstrators demanded that they be heard.

Wiesel, unfazed, let the demonstrators speak, saying, "Anyone who wants to speak about his suffering should be heard." The demonstrator spoke briefly, thanked Wiesel, and the group returned to picket outside.

The Black Hebrews have interrupted several Jewish and pro-Israel meetings here, and have demonstrated in front of synagogues, Jewish office facilities, and Soviet Jewry vigils. Wiesel warned that indifference is the main component of an immoral society. "Indifference is not the beginning of the process, it's the end. We know how to handle despair. There's a certain dynamic in despair. We can fight it and transform it into art and literature. Indifference is the end, the last stop. You can do nothing if you are indifferent," he said. "Whatever we do it must be against indifference." Wiesel called South Africa an immoral society because its system of apartheid puts rulers above the law. An immoral society is also characterized by a lack of equality among human

beings and the superiority of the system over the people, he said. The Soviet Union is immoral, Wiesel said, for not accurately recording its history. "In an immoral society memory is the first victim of truth," he said.

Wiesel said study enables a moral society to exist within an immoral society. He spoke about his meeting with young Jewish refuseniks in the Soviet Union who spoke Hebrew and knew Jewish history.

"How is it possible that these youngsters who have no way of learning about Judaism, about their past and their heritage, how was it possible that they wanted to remain Jewish? Somehow in their collective memory they could find enough reasons to hang on and remain Jewish." Wiesel said. Wiesel's speech was presented by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Jewish Students of GWU. Wiesel was introduced by Rep. Howard Wolpe (D. Mich.).

**SURVIVORS AND THEIR CHILDREN REMEMBER  
WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING AND HOLOCAUST**  
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 26 (JTA) -- The continuity of the Jewish people, guaranteed by passing the memory of the Holocaust to the next generation, was emphasized in Sunday's 44th commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

At ceremonies at the Felt Forum of Madison Square Garden here, attended by an estimated 4,000 people, 60 children wearing blue ribbons filled the stage and lit candles in a large Magen David in memory of the six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust. A young girl passed her candle to six survivors, who, escorted by their own children, added to the flames kindled onstage.

Benjamin Meed, chairman of WAGRO, the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization responsible for mounting the annual ceremony, told the gathering that the obligation of survivors to the past "is no longer our obligation alone. We have been joined by the second generation." The children, said Meed, "have become our full colleagues and coworkers in the efforts of remembrance. Soon they will become our partners, securing the continuity of remembrance over generations."

And the survivors and their children, said Meed, have been "joined by the Jewish community at large, which has upraised the cause of remembrance as the obligation of all Jews, and has insisted, as we have for generations, that it is not enough to remember. We must ensure that others do not forget."

Meed spoke of the importance of the current trial in Jerusalem of John Demjanjuk, and its awakening of young Israelis to a time in Jewish history that some Israelis counseled was better left as is.

He said: "Today we have seen that those who counseled forgetfulness were wrong. By the thousands the younger generation of Israelis come to see the trial. Children from Morocco and Iraq, from Turkey and Ethiopia attend every day. Let us listen to the word of one young boy who said at the trial, 'Our generation bears the responsibility to listen to the survivors. From here on, it is going to be only textbooks.'"

Donald Hodel, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, emphasized the need to include learning about the Holocaust in the repertory of every child in the country. "As the young people of our country

read in their history books about the heroes of America who, for the sake of freedom, fought gallantly to the death in places like Corregidor, they also must learn about the incredible events of the Uprising. They must become acquainted with the heroes to whom you and I pay tribute today."

The story of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising "must be learned, not merely told," he continued. "There is far more to it than human interest in acts of raw courage... those outnumbered souls who fought the most awesome army in Europe with a pitiful assortment of small arms and explosives -- they understood there can be no security without freedom. They serve as a constant reminder that those, here and abroad, who say 'better Red than dead' are just plain wrong."

Hodel also recalled that the uprising began on Passover, marking the passage of a people to freedom, and that for Soviet Jews "who are not free to go to Israel or come to America. . . freedom is not complete."

Hodel spoke of the failures of world leaders to act to save the Jews. "We need to unmask for all to see, and we must tell and retell for all to hear, the failures during the Holocaust of leaders and ordinary citizens alike to stand up to evil and to be counted. We must teach the crucial lesson that, when society and its leaders fail in that regard, innocent men, women and children inevitably will pay a terrible price. And when that happens, those who sit mutely in the face of evil pay the price of losing their right to proclaim they are children of God."

**'A Story That Must Be Retold'**

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY) told the gathering that "the story of the Warsaw Ghetto resistance is a story that must be retold by Jews and gentiles alike." He scored the United Nations for failing to release its files on Nazi war criminals, and criticized the U.S. for voting with the majority against making the files public. "It is all the more unbelievable," he said, that the U.S. failed to vote in favor of releasing the files. "These files should be open and available."

D'Amato praised Neal Sher, director of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), who was present, for his unflagging effort to expose Nazi war criminals living in the U.S., and hailed the deportation of Karl Linnas last Monday. "We must never allow those who perpetrated their crimes against humanity to enjoy a moment of peace. Let us be vigilant, constant in our trust, in our faith in going forward to do what is necessary."

Menachem Rosensaft, founding chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, spoke of the near failure of bringing Linnas to justice. Rosensaft scored the attempts of Attorney General Edwin Meese to send Linnas to Panama, and for his failure to place Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on the watch list and bar him from entering the country.

"We are outraged that anyone in our government should have tried to help Karl Linnas live out his days in freedom in a safe and comfortable retirement home on the beaches of Central America." Rosensaft said that all who share these views "must be made to understand once and for all that any compromise or accommodation with Nazism or the Third Reich is a perversion of justice and an obscene desecration of the memory of the victims of the Holocaust."

**MOST U.S. JEWS CONCERNED ABOUT ISRAEL, ACCEPT CRITICISM OF STATE**

NEW YORK, April 26 (JTA) -- The vast majority of American Jews are deeply concerned for the State of Israel. Most, nevertheless, consider criticism of the Israeli government acceptable and those most often troubled by Israeli policies are those most intensely attached to the state.

So concludes Prof. Steven M. Cohen in a study released by the American Jewish Committee Thursday. The study, "Ties and Tensions: The 1986 Survey of American Jewish Attitudes Toward Israel and Israelis," is based on data collected last October and November from 1,133 Americans of all branches of Judaism.

Cohen is professor of sociology at Queens College, City University of New York. The study was a follow-up to his 1983 study, both for AJC's Institute of American Jewish-Israel Relations. Comparisons of the findings of the studies showed some significant changes of attitude.

There was little change, however, in the percentage of American Jews who expressed various forms of strong attachment to Israel. Thirty-three percent of the respondents in the 1986 survey had been to Israel; 30 percent had a personal friend in Israel; 34 percent had family in Israel; 40 percent knew an American who settled in Israel; 26 percent corresponded with, telephoned or dealt directly with an Israeli in the last year; 34 percent would like their children to spend a year in Israel; and 27 percent identified themselves as Zionists.

According to Cohen, about three-fifths or more of the respondents can be seen as "at least moderately attached to the Jewish State." But degree and nature of attachment varied according to religious denomination.

**Attitude Of Orthodox Jews**

According to Cohen, Orthodox Jews outscored Conservative Jews by wide margins in such measurements of involvement with Israel as travelling there, knowing Israelis and expressing concern for Israel's survival. Conservative Jews outscored Reform Jews by somewhat narrower margins in those categories.

Moreover, Cohen noted, in comparison with the 1983 survey, Orthodox Jews, already strongly involved with Israel, appear to have become even more involved. Conservative involvement remained unchanged and Reform Jews, who had generally been among the less involved in 1983, became even more removed.

According to Cohen, the increased estrangement of Reform Jews may stem from their discontent with the growing influence of the Orthodox establishment in Israel.

Cohen found that Jews under age 40 scored somewhat lower on the attachment to Israel level than those 40 and over. This may be explained in part by the fact that younger adults did not travel to Israel as much as their elders, he noted. There was no comparable difference between younger and older adults in other dimensions of Jewish identity.

**Troubled By Policies Of Israeli Government**

The survey found that about 40 percent of the respondents were sometimes "troubled by the policies of the Israeli government." But, Cohen noted, those who were troubled were found more frequently among the minority who had been to

Israel, those who expressed the highest levels of attachment and the more traditionally Jewish.

By a 63-22 percent majority, respondents did not object to criticism of Israel by other Jews and 72 percent agreed that "Jews who are severely critical of Israel should nevertheless be allowed to speak in synagogues and Jewish community centers." A 38-27 percent plurality agreed that "most American Jewish organizations have been too willing to automatically support the policies of whatever Israeli party happens to be in power."

The 1986 survey uncovered considerable opposition to Rabbi Meir Kahane of the Kach Party, who was elected to the Knesset in 1984 on a platform that many leading Israelis consider racist.

Unfavorable views of Kahane outnumbered favorable impressions by a 7-1 margin -- compared to a 10-1 margin favorable toward Labor Party leader Shimon Peres.

Rejection of Kahane was most pronounced among those respondents who scored highest in attachment to Israel. Paradoxically, the only group with some noticeable measure of acceptance of Kahane was the Orthodox, who were fairly evenly divided.

Moving to worries, Cohen pointed out that "The anxieties over the U.S.-Israel relationship were less pronounced in the fall of 1986 than in 1983. The earlier study was conducted in the wake of the Lebanon war when Israel's actions were being severely criticized by the American media . . ." (Note: the 1986 survey was conducted before Israel's involvement in the Iran-Contra arms sale scandal was disclosed and before concern peaked over the Jonathan Pollard spy case when Pollard was sentenced to life imprisonment).

**Concern Over U.S. Support For Israel**

On the anxiety scale, nearly half of the respondents in 1986 were worried about U.S. support for Israel, but this was less than in 1983. In 1986, 40 percent said they feared "the U.S. may stop being a firm ally of Israel," down from 55 percent three years earlier. And 46 percent believed that "when it comes to the crunch few non-Jews will come to Israel's side in its struggle to survive," down from 54 percent in 1983.

According to Cohen, these concerns have to be viewed against a background of Jewish anxiety about anti-Semitism in the U.S. He found that, as in previous AJC studies, about two-thirds of American Jews expressed serious concerns about anti-Semitism.

Finally, despite high levels of commitment to Israel and the Jewish people, the survey found what Cohen termed a "tribal universalism." No fewer than 96 percent of the respondents agreed that "As Jews we should be concerned about all people, and not just Jews."

By a 89-9 percent majority, American Jews claimed that "I get just as upset by terrorist attacks on non-Jews as I do when terrorists attack Jews." A 75-15 percent majority agreed that "In most ways, Jews are not better than non-Jews."

\*\*\*

PARIS (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir of Israel is due here Monday for a three-day official visit and talks, mainly with Premier Jacques Chirac. They are expected to engage in detailed discussions of the latest developments in the Middle East.

**SHINUI PARTY MIGHT LEAVE THE  
LABOR-LIKUD COALITION GOVERNMENT****Move Would Weaken Labor's Position  
By David Landau**

JERUSALEM, May 17 (JTA) -- Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein announced Sunday that he would advise his Shinui Party to leave the Labor-Likud unity coalition government in which it has been a strong ally of Labor.

A decision is expected Wednesday when the Shinui Council meets. Although the party holds only three Knesset seats, its defection would seriously weaken Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in his bitter deadlock with Premier Yitzhak Shamir over an international conference for Middle East peace.

But Rubinstein, who supports Peres on that issue, indicated his move was intended to spur Labor to break its three-year coalition with Likud and press for early elections. He told a press conference that the stalemate has paralyzed the government and it is no longer viable.

**The 'Last Straw'**

But the "last straw," he said, was Likud's negotiations with the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party which has four Knesset mandates that could enable Likud to form a narrowly based coalition without Labor. Likud reportedly promised Shas it would push through the controversial "Who Is a Jew" amendment to the Law of Return which would outlaw conversions by non-Orthodox rabbis.

Shas politicians were conferring Sunday with the party's Council of Sages over whether former Interior Minister Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz should rejoin the Cabinet in return for Likud's promises. Peretz resigned several months ago rather than comply with a Supreme Court order to register as Jewish an immigrant, Shoshana Miller, converted by a Reform rabbi in the U.S.

Rubinstein said he expected his party to accept his recommendation to leave the government. One of his two Knesset colleagues, Mordechai Virshubsky, has long been urging this course. But the other Shinui MK, Druze leader Zaidan Atashi said he would not support secession. Media reports said Sunday he has cut a deal with Likud which promised him a safe seat on their ticket in the next Knesset elections.

**Cites Violation Of Coalition Agreement**

Rubinstein charged that Shamir and others who were blocking Peres' conference initiative violated Article 7 of the Coalition Agreement "which pledges us to act toward peace and in the interest of peace."

He said that regardless of whether Peres' plans would or could ultimately succeed, "I know one thing: If we reject it, there is no chance at all of advancing the peace process . . . and there will be very serious repercussions for Israel."

Rubinstein, a former law professor at Tel Aviv University, lashed out at what he saw as the increasing clericalization of Israel's legal system. He castigated former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef's role in the Shas deliberations. As a dayan (judge) in the Supreme Rabbinical Court,

Yosef was ordered by the Supreme Court six months ago to desist from political activism.

**A PLAQUE IN THE VILLAGE OF  
IZIEU IS DEFACED BY SWASTIKAS****By Edwin Eytan**

LYON, May 17 (JTA) -- A plaque in the village of Izieu, in memory of 44 Jewish children arrested there and deported to their deaths in Auschwitz in April 1944 on the orders of then Gestapo chief Klaus Barbie currently on trial here for crimes against humanity, was defaced by swastikas.

The desecration, last Thursday night or early Friday, is the most serious manifestation of anti-Semitism in the region since Barbie's trial opened a week ago. It followed a rambling statement by Barbie to the court last Wednesday in which he extolled National Socialism, insisted he was being tried illegally and demanded to be returned to his prison cell for the duration of the trial. The three-judge panel complied.

Rolland Rapport, a lawyer for one of the many civil plaintiffs in the trial, asked Friday that Barbie be brought back to court "by force if necessary to face the survivors of his crimes." Rappaport said "Barbie may be absent but his nostalgia for Nazism is very much present."

Magistrate Andre Cerdini, President of the court, said Barbie could stay away "for the time being," a formulation that had legal experts guessing that he might reconsider the issue at a later stage of the trial. Both Prosecutor Andre Truche and several lawyers for plaintiffs backed Cerdini's stand on grounds that to force Barbie to appear in court would be resorting to the methods used by the Nazis.

Most attorneys here agreed that his absence would not diminish the gravity of the charges against him but would "reduce the public impact of the trial." One of its avowed purposes is to inform France's younger generation of the realities of the Holocaust.

With Barbie back in St. Joseph Prison, the trial continued Friday but more than 90 percent of the journalists covering it were gone.

**The Topic Is A Mideast Peace Conference  
PERES, ON FOUR-DAY U.S. VISIT,  
MEETS SHULTZ AND JEWISH LEADERS  
By Yitzhak Rabi**

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Secretary of State George Shultz met for 90 minutes here Saturday night, apparently to discuss an international conference for Middle East peace.

But neither man commented on that issue when they emerged from their talk, nor did they refer to it later in their remarks at a dinner given in their honor by the Ben Gurion Centennial Committee, the culminating event in the year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion, held at the Parker Meridien Hotel.

Peres and Shultz were scheduled to meet again Sunday in Washington where both will attend a meeting of the American Israel Public

Affairs Committee (AIPAC) before Peres returns to Israel Monday.

Peres arrived here Friday for a four-day visit, leaving behind a government hopelessly deadlocked over his proposals for an international conference "opening" to be followed by direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan and other parties to the Mideast conflict.

Peres told a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations Friday that he had not come to the U.S. to mobilize support for his proposals, which are bitterly opposed by Premier Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader, splitting the Labor-Likud unity coalition government.

#### 'Historic Opportunity' Must Not Be Missed

Peres told the Jewish leaders, "Even if you do not support my proposal for an international conference, I would not change my mind." He said he would continue to work "with all my strength" not to miss this "historic opportunity."

Peres maintained that the Arab world has reached a point where it must choose between peace and religious fundamentalism and cope with enormous economic problems. "Only peace can help them solve these problems," Peres said.

He said an international conference was necessary to provide King Hussein of Jordan with "a legitimate entry into negotiations with Israel." He denied vehemently accusations by Likud that he offered Hussein territory in return for peace.

"All the rumors... are smear campaigns and nonsense. We agreed to negotiate without preconditions," Peres said.

He also reiterated that Israel would never agree to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization and said that four Arab countries oppose PLO participation in a peace conference -- Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Morocco.

#### The Test Of Great Leadership

At the Ben Gurion Centennial Dinner, Peres recalled that Ben Gurion had been his mentor and had often spoken to him on the issues of leadership and peace. The test of great leadership is when a leader is not afraid to take unpopular decisions and "swim against the stream," he quoted the late Premier as saying.

Peres said Ben Gurion told him that a leader has to choose between war and peace, and if he chooses war "he has to take the risk, and if he chooses peace he has to pay the price."

Shultz, in his remarks, described Ben Gurion as an example of a leader who worked for peace and justice. He said the strongest bond between the U.S. and Israel is "the search for peace."

Shultz was presented with a limited edition sterling silver sculpture by the Israeli artist Aharon Bezalel. It is called "Unity" and represents the Twelve Tribes of Israel. He was also given the Ben Gurion Peace Award.

#### **PERES: ISRAELI GOVERNMENT DIVIDED 50-50 ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONCLAVE** By Margie Oister

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the American Jewish Committee here Sunday that the current Israeli government is divided 50-50 on the issue of an international peace conference and should go to the people for new elections to decide the issue. Peres made the remarks during the AJCommittee's annual conference. He said Israel needs a re-

sponsible government and a responsible opposition. It is better to have two views in one democracy than one view in no democracy, Peres quipped.

Peres postponed his current visit to the U.S. by one day in the face of a government crisis resulting from his and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's differing policies on an international peace conference.

#### Agreement On Two Elements

All the parties -- Shamir, Peres and the U.S. government -- agree on two things: the Soviet Union must reestablish relations with Israel and change its policy on Jewish emigration before it can participate in an international conference, Peres said.

The international conference is necessary to legitimize the entry of Arab countries into negotiations, Peres said, but it cannot replace direct negotiations.

Palestinian representation is one of the major stumbling blocks in the hypothetical conference. Peres said the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) newly reaffirmed hard-line stand makes it impossible to negotiate with them. Rather, Peres told the AJCommittee that key Palestinian leaders in the West Bank are disenchanted with the PLO and are looking to a Jordanian option.

#### AJC Supports Conference, Territorial Compromise

The AJCommittee Sunday passed a resolution in support of an international peace conference and territorial compromise. The statement noted recent developments that have given new momentum to the peace process.

"Of particular significance is the breakthrough reportedly achieved in secret negotiations between King Hussein of Jordan and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel," the statement said.

"The procedural agreement, which was achieved with the help of American officials, meets Jordan's need for an international umbrella by having the United Nations Secretary-General invite the five permanent members of the Security Council to convene a conference based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. To meet Israel's requirement that negotiations be direct and bilateral, the procedural agreement states that the conference will invite 'geographical bilateral' committees to conduct the actual negotiations."

The statement called on the U.S. to provide guarantees that outside parties will not impose a solution on the parties to the conflict. The AJCommittee also opposed including the PLO in the talks and supported Peres' position on participation of the Soviet Union.

#### **TOP U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS THE U.S. WILL NOT TAKE SIDES IN SHAMIR-PERES DEBATE** By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- A top Administration official said Thursday night that the United States does not intend to "take sides" in the debate between Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir over the issue of an international peace conference for the Middle East.

"We want to see peace for Israel but we will not take sides in internal politics," Frank Carlucci, U.S. National Security Adviser, stated in a speech to the 81st annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee at the Grand Hyatt Hotel

here. "It is not for the United States to decide Israel's course and Israel's future," Carlucci told some 1,500 guests. "That is for Israelis to decide. For our part, we are prepared to continue our efforts with both Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres."

The U.S., however, will continue to promote peace, Carlucci said, adding: "The President stands ready to help and I can tell you that there are few achievements more important to President Reagan than that of contributing to genuine peace between Israel and her neighbors."

Carlucci's statement came on the eve of Peres' four-day visit to the U.S. to discuss the issue of an international conference with Secretary of State George Shultz.

#### Basis For Soviet Participation

On the issue of an international conference on Mideast peace, Carlucci said that if the U.S. were convinced that the Soviets were committed to peace in the region, "there would be no interest in excluding them ... They must show that they understand that Middle East peace will not come by strengthening the forces of radicalism or vague protestations about being committed to Middle East peace."

The National Security Adviser said that the U.S. does not look for rapid, spectacular achievements in the Mideast. "We are being guided by a sober, realistic sense of the possible -- recognizing the dangers but also the opportunities, and the consequences of inaction," he said.

Continuing, Carlucci stated: "Our approach is designed to promote the quiet but real progress that is being made to build Arab-Israeli cooperation in the West Bank and Gaza. It is also designed to explore actively and creatively the possibility of getting a broader negotiating process started."

The U.S. knows that peace cannot be imposed, Carlucci said, or be achieved at once in a single meeting. He said the U.S. explored the possibility of an international conference. But despite a significant progress in recent weeks, "much remains to be done, and at this point there is no certainty of the outcome."

The U.S., Carlucci said, will continue its efforts because "an opportunity to move closer to the reality of peace might be lost otherwise."

#### **A RECORD 250,000 PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL SALUTE TO ISRAEL PARADE** By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- A record 250,000 spectators waving American and Israeli flags watched 75,000 costumed marchers, brass bands and scores of floats move along Fifth Avenue Sunday in the annual Salute to Israel Parade marking the 39th anniversary of the independence of the Jewish State.

The skies were cloudless, the temperature warm and a festive spirit prevailed along the route of march from 57th to 86th streets, bracketed by high-rise buildings and a verdant Central Park. The reviewing stand on 68th Street was packed with American and Israeli dignitaries, including this year's special guest of honor, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel. In brief remarks he declared, "As we achieved our independence in Israel, so we will

achieve peace." The Salute to Israel Parade is an annual event organized and sponsored by the American Zionist Youth Foundation. This year it marked not only Israel's 39th anniversary but the 20th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem; the 100th anniversary of the birth of David Ben Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister; and the holiday of Lag B'Omer.

#### 'Pray For Peace In Our Time'

Peace and freedom was the theme. Peres, speaking from the reviewing stand, said, "Let us pray together that freedom will prevail in the world. Let us pray for peace in our time. Let us pray for freedom for Soviet Jews."

Mayor Edward Koch of New York, who headed the delegation of local civic leaders, noted that as mayor he attends the parades of every ethnic group in the city. But this one, he said, he attends not only as mayor but also "as a proud son of Israel."

Prominent Israelis on the stand included Minister of Religious Affairs Zevulun Hammer; Mayor Shlomo Lehat of Tel Aviv; Meir Rosenne, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S.; Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations; and Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives. The master of ceremonies who introduced speakers was Eli Zborowski, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the American Zionist Youth Foundation.

Security was tight, particularly at the reviewing stand. Uniformed police were everywhere but the salute to Israel was unmarred by any incident.

#### **U.S. ASSURES ISRAEL ON VOA TRANSMITTERS** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 17 (JTA) -- Morton Smith, deputy director of Voice of America Radio (VOA), assured Israelis Sunday that the giant relay transmitters to be built in the Negev will not interfere with local military or air traffic communications.

But the American official, who is here to finalize an agreement on the construction and operation of the VOA station in the Arava region north of Eilat, did not address two other concerns often expressed with respect to the location of VOA transmitters in Israel. One is ecological, the other political.

Many Israelis fear the relay of anti-Soviet broadcasts by the VOA, Radio Liberty and Voice of Free Europe, beamed to Eastern bloc countries, could have repercussions in Moscow at a time Israel is seeking a further easing of emigration restrictions on Soviet Jews and possibly direct flights to Israel for Jews leaving the USSR.

The other concern has to do with the biological navigating system of migrating birds which may be interfered with by powerful radio transmissions. Israel's geographical position makes it a converging point for flocks migrating between Europe, Africa and Asia.

But Smith spoke only of electronic interference problems which he insisted were no cause for concern. However, he said the U.S. has conducted one study and will conduct another to make sure no problems exist. He said the VOA will invest \$285 million in the Negev relay station, which will take five years to build.



**ISRAELIS AND U.S. JEWS URGED TO STOP 'NAME-CALLING' AND HELP UNITE JEWRY**

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- An expert on Jewish life called for Israeli and American Jews to stop "name-calling" and to help bring the Jewish people, despite their difference, closer together.

Dr. David Hartman, founder and director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, made his remarks at a program forum of the American Jewish Committee's Jewish Communal Affairs Department. The session, titled "Jewish Religious Unity and Polarization: America and Israel," was part of the agency's 81st annual meeting, which concluded Sunday at the Grand Hyatt Hotel here.

Hartman noted that issues such as conversion, how to handle children of mixed marriages, and divorce centered on the larger controversy over pluralism in Jewish religious life. He said that these disagreements should not pose a threat to Jewish unity:

"I do not believe that the unity of the Jewish people entails total agreement on subjects of values or on how Jewish history should proceed. A healthy people needs to have, and will have, healthy disagreements."

**Arguments Becoming More Destructive**

He stressed, however, that arguments among Jews are rapidly becoming more destructive than constructive. "There is extreme polarization in Israeli society today, and it is accentuating a climate of nasty dialogue and an atmosphere of nastiness," said Hartman. "It is this sentiment over all others that is becoming pervasive in the Jewish world."

He added: "We are also seeing arguments that are critical of institutions, not positions. Power blocks have surfaced, rather than ideological clarity. Delegitimization has taken on greater significance than intelligent conversation."

Hartman suggested that Jews, both within Israel and in the United States, stop listening to "hysterical predictions of assimilation" and "seek a framework of shared values in order to make current debates more intelligent and constructive."

He continued, "The urgent need now is to understand the arguments, not just to listen to each other's abuse. No clarity of the issues can ever come from this confusion, and we will find ourselves going around in circles."

Alfred Moses, former AJC vice president and member of its Board of Governors, and chair of the National Jewish Religious Dialogue, commented: "Over the past two years, a select group of lay leaders of the differing Jewish religious denominations have been meeting, under the auspices of the AJC, to share common ground, promote areas of agreement, air differences, and prevent legitimate differences from spilling over into religious bigotry."

Currently, he said, "they are working on the thorny problem of conversion. The procedure has been, and will continue to be, careful deliberation, open dialogue, and advocacy for a conversion procedure that will be acceptable to various sectors of American Jewry."

**TWO LONG-TERM REFUSENIKS ARE GRANTED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE**

By Haviva Krasner

NEW YORK, May 17 (JTA) -- Two long-term refuseniks and former Prisoners of Conscience

have been granted permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union, according to Soviet Jewry activist groups here. Mark Nepomniashchy, a 56-year-old electrical engineer from Odessa, and his son-in-law, Yakov Levin, a 28-year old Hebrew teacher from Moscow, will immigrate to Israel.

Both men were refused exit visas to Israel in 1979 -- Nepomniashchy on the grounds of "insufficient kinship" and Levin on the grounds of "lack of parental consent." The next five years of their lives were fraught with KGB interrogations and invasions of their homes.

In 1984, Levin was arrested on charges of "circulating false materials which defame the Soviet state and social system." Two months later, Nepomniashchy was arrested in connection with the ongoing investigation of Levin, then his daughter Yehudit's fiance. The two men were sentenced to three years in a labor camp on identical charges.

Levin and Yehudit Nepomniashchy were permitted to marry in 1985 at the Donetsk labor camp. Following the ceremony, which was attended by many Muscovite Jews, the newlyweds spent three days together at the camp.

In March 1987, Levin and his father-in-law were released early from imprisonment and they rejoined their wives in Odessa, where they waited, until now, to receive permission to be repatriated in Israel.

"We are delighted that Nepomniashchy and Levin have been allowed to finally live their lives as Jews in Israel," said Alan Pesky, chairman of the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews. "However, we must not be lulled into a false sense of security and made to believe that the Soviet Jewry issue has been resolved. . . . We must demand that there be a normalized and speedy emigration process for all Soviet Jews who wish to leave."

Jerry Strober of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry said that these cases could be anomalies and not necessarily a portent of any change for the better in Soviet emigration policy. He added that this policy has been so arbitrary in the past, that "we will just have to wait and see if this is an indication of anything greater."

**NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA HAS HALF THE VOLUMES**  
By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, May 17 (JTA) -- A new, more manageable edition of the Encyclopedia Hebraica has been released with the same number of references, but half the number of volumes.

The new edition is the work of Lakiva Starostinetzki, a self-professed farmer from Kibbutz Dahlia outside Haifa, who presented the Library of Congress with a complimentary set of the encyclopedia Friday. The encyclopedia is published by Sifriat Poalim, a publishing company of the Kibbutz Artzi movement.

Starostinetzki was able to shorten the set from 34 to 18 volumes by using a thinner, higher quality paper he found in a 19th-century British medical encyclopedia.

He also compiled the encyclopedia's 2,600 references into a separate book instead of adding them to the bottom of each page.

The Encyclopedia Hebraica contains 7,500 entries written by a wide range of Israeli authors, including former Premier David Ben Gurion and Professor Yeshayahu Leibowitz of Hebrew University.

The set can be purchased for about \$750 in the U.S. and \$900 in Israel.

**SHULTZ GIVES 'PERSONAL COMMITMENT'  
TO RAISE ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWRY  
WHEN HE VISITS MOSCOW NEXT MONTH**

WASHINGTON, March 25 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz gave his "personal commitment" Tuesday to leaders of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith that the question of human rights, including the right of Jews to emigrate and freely practice their religion, will be at the top of his agenda when he visits Moscow next month.

"We have told the Soviets, time and again, that significant sustained progress on emigration is critical to improving our relations in other areas. The Soviets may be beginning to understand that our commitment to this issue is not only a cornerstone of the approach of this President and this Administration, but that it also commands the broadest bipartisan support in the Congress," Shultz told an ADL delegation which presented him with a volume containing the names of 11,000 Soviet Jewish refuseniks.

The telephone book-sized compendium, titled "A Uniquely Jewish List," was compiled and is being distributed by the ADL to government, civic, religious and educational officials.

"We will continue to do our utmost to bring about a day when there will no longer be a need for such tragic lists of people in need of our help," Shultz told the delegation led by ADL national chairman Burton Levinson and associate national director Abraham Foxman.

The Secretary of State noted that in addition to making it clear to the Soviets that "family reunification is vitally important, there is also a right to freedom of movement which applies whether or not someone has relatives in another country."

**Under No Illusion**

He observed that recently there has been an upturn in Soviet emigration figures. "During the first half of this month, over 200 Soviet Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union," he said. "I would note, however, that this comes against a dismal backdrop of six years of very low levels of emigration. We are under no illusion that this modest rise represents a revolution in Soviet emigration policy."

Shultz added: "We are glad that some Jewish Prisoners of Conscience have been released before the end of their terms. But we will not be satisfied until all of them are out of prison and until all Soviet Jews and other religious believers can practice and teach their faith freely, without fear of imprisonment or other penalties."

The State Department also stressed Tuesday that while the number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union has been increasing, the Soviet government still needs to live up to its commitment on emigration under the Helsinki Accords.

**Conflicting Figures Presented**

The figures so far for 1987 "represent progress, but there is still a long way to go," Department spokesman Charles Redman said. He noted that 98 Jews left the USSR in January, 146 in February, and 214 during the first half of

March. Redman said the average monthly total in 1986 was 75 while the highest monthly total last year was 126.

(In New York, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry said the number of Jews who had actually left this month through March 21 was 370. Soviet officials and Western diplomats in Moscow said that the number of those who had received permission so far this month to leave was more than 400. Last week, a Soviet official said in Washington that 10,000 to 12,000 Jews were likely to get exit visas this year.)

**REACHING OUT FOR PEACE TALKS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 25 (JTA) -- If Middle East peace talks reach the stage of territorial concessions, the government will have to make decisions or go to the electorate for a new mandate, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres declared in the Knesset Wednesday.

He said the national unity government was offering negotiations to Jordan and others without pre-conditions. "We propose to offer something like Camp David and if we reach the stage of territorial negotiations, the government will either take a decision or break up and we shall then go to the country," Peres said in reply to questions.

He engaged in an exchange with Geula Cohen of the opposition Tehiya Party who objected to a government document that refers to "Israel-administered territories" and "Judaea-Samaria (West Bank)." According to the ultra-nationalist Cohen, the territories are "liberated," not "administered."

The document, "A Briefing Paper -- Israel's Peace Policy, Principles and Movement," was issued by Yossi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry's political director general.

Peres noted that West Bank was a term used throughout the English-speaking world and in the Camp David accords. "When we explain our position to non-Jews we speak in English, not Hebrew," Peres stated.

**CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER RISE OF  
ANTI-SEMITIC LITERATURE IN JAPAN**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 25 (JTA) -- Officials of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith have expressed concern to Japanese Ambassador Nobuo Matsunago about the rise of anti-Semitic literature in Japan.

They told Matsunago at a meeting here Monday that the ADL wanted "to work with the Japanese by making available materials to reduce prejudice and stereotyping," according to Jess Hordes, ADL's associate Washington director. Hordes was accompanied to the meeting at the Japanese Embassy by Burton Levinson, ADL national chairman, and Abraham Foxman, ADL associate national director. Matsunago was "Open and appreciative of the proposal and said he would convey it to the government," Hordes said.

The meeting was prompted by press reports in this country of a popular Japanese author, Masami Uno, who claims that his country's recent

economic woes are due to a conspiracy by "international Jewish capital" and that Jewish-dominated interests have begun a "targeted bashing of Japan."

According to a recent article in The New York Times, Uno has charged that "America is a Jewish nation" and that Jews form a "behind-the-scenes nation" controlling major U.S. corporations, including IBM, General Motors, Exxon, Standard Oil, Ford, Chrysler and AT&T.

Other books and articles that have recently appeared in bookstores include titles like "The Jewish Plan for Conquest of the World," "How to Read the Hidden Meaning of Jewish Protocol," and "Mysterious Judea."

Articles assert that Jews were behind the Lockheed Aircraft bribery case that led to the criminal conviction of a former Japanese Prime Minister, Kakuei Tanaka, and the Watergate scandal. A book, "The Secret of Jewish Power to Control the World," was written in 1984 and is still in circulation. Its author, Eisaburo Saito, is a member of Parliament's upper house.

#### Charges And Diatribes

Uno, in his book, "If You Understand Judea, You Can Understand the World," claims that Jews caused the Great Depression of the 1930's and are plotting a second one for the 1990's. In his second book, "If you Understand Judea, You Can Understand Japan," Uno asserts that the number of Jews killed in World War II was exaggerated. The two books have sold a total of 650,000 copies. Uno describes himself as a Christian fundamentalist and head of an Osaka-based organization called the Middle East Problems Research Center, according to the Times.

Matsunago told the ADL that Japan guarantees freedom of speech and that anti-Semitic views are not representative of the people or the government. The Japanese Embassy refused to comment about the meeting.

In a letter to The New York Times, Itari Umezu, director of the Japan Information Center, said that "anti-Semitism has no roots in Japanese history." During World War II, when Japan was an ally of Nazi Germany, some Japanese aided Jews in escaping from Europe. There also have been disclosures of a prewar Japanese project, the "Fugu Plan," to invite German Jews to settle in Manchuria.

But reports of current anti-Semitism in Japan prompted a letter by Rep. Charles Schumer (D. NY) and Sen. Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) in which they told Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone that "the raw anti-Semitism in your country cannot go unchallenged."

#### **WEIZMANN INSTITUTE DEVELOPS DRUG WHICH HELPS IN THE TREATMENT OF SOME AIDS VICTIMS** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 25 (JTA) -- A drug developed by the Weizmann Institute of Science which reportedly had dramatic results in the treatment of some AIDS victims, has been approved by the Health Ministry for limited use in Israel, it was announced Wednesday.

The drug, AL721, was synthesized from egg yolks six years ago by Weizmann Institute Profs. Meir Shinitzky and David Samuel for the treatment of drug addicts, the aged and children with cystic fibrosis. Though not approved for public use by the U.S. health authorities, it is being

manufactured in experimental quantities by Praxis Pharmaceuticals Ltd. in Beverly Hills, Calif., under license from the Weizmann Institute.

Its effect on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was discovered accidentally in 1985 by an American cancer specialist, Dr. Robert Gallo, while treating a patient suffering from AIDS. Since then, Dr. Yehuda Skornik, an Israel-born American physician, has treated a number of American AIDS victims with the drug at Rokah Hospital in Tel Aviv.

#### Remarkable But Still Inconclusive Results

On a television appearance Tuesday, Skornik described what he said were remarkable though still inconclusive results. He said one patient, a well-known musical conductor, arrived from the U.S. too weak to leave his wheelchair. He was suffering from fever, extreme weight loss and loss of appetite and given only a few weeks to live.

But after treatment with AL721 the patient gained weight, his temperature went down and he is able to walk for miles, Skornik said. He cautioned, however, that this does not prove the drug to be a cure for AIDS but it shows an ability to reverse physical decline and bring about major improvement.

Meanwhile, the Health Ministry approved an application by Dr. Zvi Bentwich of the Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot to treat 10 AIDS patients with the drug. But the Ministry urged physicians and researchers to "go slow" and not encourage false hopes among patients in Israel and abroad.

The Weizmann Institute stressed that its scientists developed and tested AL721 long before the worldwide outbreak of AIDS and its purpose was to treat other diseases and conditions.

#### **RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND ISRAEL SAID TO BE IMPROVING IN ALL AREAS**

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA) -- Relations between Poland and Israel are improving in all areas, according to Kalman Sultanik who was re-elected president of the American Federation of Polish Jews this week.

Addressing the Federation's annual conference here Sunday, marking 1,000 years of Jewish life in Poland, Sultanik spoke of encouraging signs that Israel and Poland are drawing closer after 20 years without diplomatic ties. He stressed that the content of their relations, for example, cultural exchanges, are more important than their formality.

Nevertheless, reporting in his recent meeting with Joseph Cyrek, chairman of the Polish Parliamentary Commission on Foreign Affairs, Sultanik said steps are being taken to restore diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Cyrek told him that Poland is also very much interested in improving its relations with the Jewish community in the United States, Sultanik said. He said another encouraging development was the assurance given him from Warsaw that the Polish government and the Catholic Church have agreed to remove a Carmelite convent from the site of the Auschwitz death camp.

#### **CORRECTION**

The name of the president of the Workmen's Circle was inadvertently misspelled in the March 25 Daily News Bulletin. The correct spelling is Barnett Zumoff.

**RANCOR BETWEEN DEFENSE COUNSEL AND JUDGES MARKS THE DEMJANJUK TRIAL**

By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 25 (JTA) -- The trial of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk was marked by rancor between the defense counsel and the three-judge bench Wednesday as a West German jurist took the witness stand to give testimony about a key document in the case.

Demjanjuk's American attorney, Mark O'Connor, and his Israeli aide, Yoram Sheftel, objected strenuously that they were not given time to study the written testimony on which the witness, Helga Gravitz, will be cross-examined. Gravitz, a Hamburg district attorney since 1966, is active in researching and prosecuting former Nazis and their collaborators.

Defense objections were overruled but the court agreed, over protests by the prosecution, to cancel the afternoon session to allow O'Connor and Sheftel to scrutinize the material. Gravitz will be questioned about the identification card reportedly bearing Demjanjuk's photograph and physical details, issued at the Trawniki SS camp where guards were trained for their duties at the Treblinka and Sobibor death camps.

The card was obtained from the Soviet Union and the defense contends it is a forgery. Gravitz, who has gathered documents in a number of countries, including the USSR, will testify as an expert.

**High Court To Hear Defense Appeal**

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court has agreed to hear a defense appeal Sunday against the three-judge panel's refusal to disqualify itself. O'Connor had demanded on Monday that the judges step down because of alleged bias against the defendant and his lawyers. The motion was denied and the court refused to suspend the hearing while the appeal was pending.

Judge Dov Levin, president of the court, insisted the bench has acted "with more than usual forbearance" in hearing the case. But there is evident antipathy between the judges and defense counsel.

**Reprimanded For Cross-Examination Manner**

O'Connor was sharply reprimanded Tuesday for the manner in which he cross-examined Martin Koller, a Holocaust survivor who was employed by the U.S. occupation forces in Europe after World War II investigating Nazi war crimes.

Koller, 67, was questioned about his testimony in the 1978 denaturalization trial in Florida of alleged war criminal Feodor Fedorenko, who, like Demjanjuk, was identified as a guard at the Treblinka death camp. He described as "cold and almost hostile" the Florida court's attitude toward Treblinka survivors who testified about Fedorenko's activities.

Asked by O'Connor if he felt the same way about his cross-examination here, Koller replied, "Heaven forbid." Judge Levin interjected, "That should put Mr. O'Connor in a better mood."

Demjanjuk, who was held at the maximum security prison in Ramle until his trial began five weeks ago, is now confined to a cell in the Binyanei Haooama concert hall which is serving as a courtroom to accommodate the large numbers of spectators and the media.

**PROSELYTISM EFFORTS CONDEMNED**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 25 (JTA) -- The Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington has issued a statement condemning efforts at religious conversion which are deceptive or deny the legitimacy of another religion. Specifically condemned were deceptive practices aimed at Jews.

The statement by the Conference, which is made up of 29 Islamic, Jewish, Mormon, Protestant and Roman Catholic "faith communities" in Washington and the surrounding Maryland and Virginia suburbs, stresses support of "the right of all religions to share their message" with people of other religions.

"But it is inappropriate for one faith group to openly demean or disparage the philosophies or practices of another faith group as part of its proselytizing," the statement said. "Proselytism which does not respect human freedom is carefully to be avoided. Proselytism must be done with a sense of humility and a respect for others."

While interfaith groups throughout the country have issued statements condemning a specific occurrence, this is believed to have been the first general statement issued by such a group, according to Dr. Sidney Schwarz, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, and the Rev. Clark Lobenstine, executive director of the Interfaith Conference.

**Felt Compelled To Speak Out**

The Conference statement noted that it felt "compelled to speak out when a religious group promotes or sanctions activities that are harmful to the spirit of interreligious respect and tolerance. We condemn proselytizing efforts which delegitimize the faith traditions of the person whose conversion is being sought. Such tactics go beyond the bounds of appropriate and ethically based religious outreach."

The statement added that deceptive methods "are practiced on the most vulnerable of populations -- residents of hospitals and old age homes, confused youth, college students away from home. These proselytizing techniques are tantamount to coerced conversions and should be condemned."

As examples, the statement listed practices used by such groups as Hebrew Christians, Messianic Jews and Jews for Jesus.

"These groups specifically target Jews for conversions to their version of Christianity, making the claim that in accepting Jesus as the savior/messiah, a Jew 'fulfills' his/her faith," the statement said. "Furthermore, by celebrating Jewish festivals, worshipping on the Jewish sabbath, appropriating Jewish symbols, rituals and prayers in their churches and, sometimes even calling their leaders, 'rabbi,' they seek to win over, often by deception, many Jews who are sincerely looking for a path back to their ancestral heritage."

The Conference statement will be distributed to some 2,000 churches and synagogues and clergymen in the Washington area, Lobenstine said, and will be sent to some 300 interfaith groups around the country.

## A MOMENT IN HISTORY PASSES

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 25 (JTA) -- A Moment is about to pass into history, and another is to take its place. On Monday, plans were finalized to transfer publication of the magazine Moment from the direction of its founder and editor, Leonard Fein, to that of Hershel Shanks, a lawyer, writer and editor who helms two scholarly journals. Moreover, the place of publication is moving, from Boston to Washington, and a completely new staff will be placing its mark on the esteemed Jewish monthly.

The acquisition can be chalked up to the reality of finances. Despite a long struggle, Fein has not been able to keep Moment's financial resources on solid footing, losing \$200,000 per year. Moment is published by Jewish Educational Ventures, a non-profit organization that also puts out Response magazine. The organization's board--Fein, Steven M. Cohen and Carol Kur -- will resign and be replaced.

Moment's current small staff will work through April 30. Fein and an assistant will continue through May 30, when they will put their final issue of July-August to bed. Then, "On May 31, the phone will be disconnected," Fein said with a sigh of obvious sadness.

The September issue of Moment will bear the name of Shanks on its masthead as the new publisher-editor. Suzanne Singer, now managing editor of Shanks' two lucrative journals, Biblical Archaeology Review (BAR) and Bible Review, will be executive editor of the magazine and the journals. Moment's new managing editor will be Charlotte Anker, a Washington writer and editor, and Susan Laden will be executive director of operations, a position she now holds at the Biblical Archaeology Society.

When Shanks first approached Fein with his offer, Fein was not interested, but after several lengthy discussions he had changed his mind. Fein told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "after 12 years of fighting the good fight, I just couldn't do it. I've been sustained by wonderful, gracious and generous people, but it has been hard."

### 'I'm Giving It Up For Adoption'

The 52-year-old Fein, an oft-published writer and author who has taught political science and social policy at MIT and Brandeis and is on the board of several major Jewish organizations, said that "It's been plain to everyone for a time that after 12 years of this kind of effort, I was not prepared to devote my time to fundraising. I did what I could with the help of really fine people, but it didn't get easier."

He said he thinks Shanks' "track record suggests that between his experience and his resources he may be better off to do what I couldn't do, which is to establish Moment as a solvent operation."

The outspoken man with the sharp wit, known to all as Leibel, is ambivalent about stepping down from the magazine he founded as "a vehicle for raising the quality of Jewish discussion. This is not to say that I don't have mixed feelings. One doesn't end 12 years of obsession without second thoughts. This was my baby and I'm giving it up for adoption."

However, he said, "I have examined the credentials of the adoptive parent and found him worthy. I think that he can be a nurturing parent."

Shanks is a prolific writer himself. In addition to maintaining a full schedule as a Washington attorney, he has authored seven books on Jewish and legal issues: "The Art and Craft of Judging," "City of David," on the archaeology of Jerusalem, and "Judaism in Stone," a book on ancient synagogues, among his works. He, too, forayed into publishing 12 years ago.

A native of Sharon, Pennsylvania, with a bachelor's degree in English literature, a master's in sociology from Columbia and a doctorate of jurisprudence from Harvard, the 57-year-old Shanks also worked for the Department of Justice.

Shanks told JTA he "felt there was an unfilled niche for a unified Jewish magazine and I think Moment is the closest to it." He said he seeks an audience of "intelligent, aware Jews who are committed to seeking to learn to keep up with modern issues." But, he said, he will be "broadening its appeal. It will be neither left nor right, neither Orthodox, Conservative or Reform. I am open to expression of opinions, ideas and responsible elements. There will be a commitment to open discussion.

"As an attorney, I'm a great believer in the First Amendment," said Shanks. "I want everyone to be able to say what they want, to express responsible views." However, he noted that at "the extreme ends there is obviously a judgment." He specifically noted that he would not print articles by such people as Rabbi Meir Kahane or groups such as Jews for Jesus.

"Our arms are not only open, but we are going to seek out the best thinkers and best thoughts in the Jewish community that there are. We're going to reach out and encompass the entire range of Jewish interests in a wide-ranging and engaging way. And we won't flinch from engaging in controversial issues. I have a big enough group of supporters at this time to go forward and commit myself."

Shanks' 11 supporters -- eight men and three women -- encompass a range of scholars, lawyers and real estate developers, most from Washington, some from Palm Beach. Many of them are on the boards of major Jewish organizations. And he is, he said, "hoping to increase my hevra and to make the magazine self-sustaining." But he emphasized that his financial backers would have "absolutely no control of the magazine at all."

Plans for financial operations have not been completed yet, he said, but he stressed that those who have received subscription notices in the mail should "please, by all means, renew."

## BEN GURION CELEBRATION IN GREECE

ATHENS, March 25 (JTA) -- A former President of Greece, Konstantine Tsatsos, heads the Ben Gurion Centennial Committee formed here to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion.

Tsatsos is also well known as an author and the committee he heads includes distinguished figures in Greek politics, culture and academia. Angelos Vlachos, a former Ambassador and professor of political science, will be keynote speaker at the major centennial event to be held at the City Hall on April 8.

The best known member of the committee perhaps is the Greek Minister of Culture, Melina Mercouri, an internationally famous actress.

**BARBIE EXPRESSIONLESS AS DETAILED  
CHARGES AGAINST HIM ARE READ**

By Edwin Eytan

LYON, May 12 (JTA) -- More than three hours were required to read in detail the "crimes against humanity" with which Klaus Barbie is charged. But as the court clerk intoned the seemingly endless list of murders, tortures, deportations and personal brutality on the second day of his trial here, Barbie, the former Gestapo chief known as the "butcher of Lyon," sat expressionless in the prisoners dock, as if none of this concerned him.

Only occasionally a fleeting smile crossed his face, suggesting perhaps that the recital of the horrors triggered an amusing memory.

The charge sheet cites three major crimes: the mass arrests carried out at the Lyon Jewish community center on Feb. 9, 1943; the arrest and deportation of 44 Jewish children sheltered at a home in the village of Izieu, southeast of Lyon, in April 1944; and the organization of the last convoy of deportees to Auschwitz on Aug. 11, 1944, almost on the eve of the liberation of Lyon by Allied armies.

The Jewish community center was taken over by the Gestapo at 10:30 that cold February morning. Thirty people in the building were placed under arrest. German soldiers remained inside until late evening, arresting people as they entered. Altogether, 86 men, women and children were seized, including the president of the Jewish community, Simon Badinter.

All but two were taken to the Drancy camp on the outskirts of Paris, a transit camp to Auschwitz. On the following morning they were herded into box cars bound for Auschwitz, where all but one perished.

Barbie, as head of Section IV of the Lyon Einsatz Kommando that made the arrests, is responsible for the crime, the charge sheet said.

**Hushed Silence In Courtroom**

Perhaps the most heinous crime was the arrest and deportation of young children in Izieu. A hushed silence fell on the packed courtroom as the clerk read the details. The children separated from their parents or orphaned, were sheltered in what had been a summer camp. Those in charge usually posted a guard along a nearby road to warn if German soldiers approached.

But in April 1944, with the Wehrmacht retreating under allied attack, the war appeared to be close to ending in France and the usual precaution was not taken.

When two army trucks filled with soldiers suddenly appeared in front of the small farmhouse that was the main building of the camp, the inhabitants were taken by surprise, according to the charge sheet. One child, Leon Reifmann, jumped from a second-floor window and managed to hide in the underbrush. All of the others, 44 children and seven adults, were taken to Montluc prison in Lyon and then to Drancy. Only one of the deportees, Lea Fuldblum, survived. She now lives in Israel and will testify at the trial on May 27.

The final deportation convoy was organized by Barbie because the prisons in Lyon "were overfilled" with Jews and resistance fighters, the charge sheet said.

In all, 600 people were taken to the railway station in sealed trucks at 5 a.m. on Aug. 11, 1944. They were chained together two-by-two and shoved by SS guards aboard a train which brought them to Auschwitz-Birkenau. During the 12-days trip they were given no food and very little water. Many died in the box cars. Most of the others were put to death in Auschwitz.

**Eye-Witness Account**

According to surviving eye-witnesses, Barbie personally oversaw the last convoy. He was at Montluc prison and later at the railway station, shouting at the guards to work faster. One eye-witness, Ferdinand Hahn, said Barbie made a short farewell speech to the deportees:

"I am sending you somewhere from where no one ever returns. You shall never see the end of the war. You shall be dead first."

The charge sheet also relates individual cases, such as that of a French woman, Lise Lesevre, who was personally tortured by Barbie because he suspected that her husband and son belonged to the resistance.

Lesevre, now 82, said in written testimony, "He (Barbie) seemed to take a particular sadistic pleasure in torturing women." She said that whenever he passed a torture victim lying helpless on the ground "he invariably booted him in the face if it happened to be a Jew."

Barbie is charged with crimes against humanity because the charge of war crimes, for which he was twice sentenced to death in absentia by French courts some 30 years ago, are covered by the statute of limitations.

The former Gestapo chief served in Holland from the end of May 1940 until the end of June 1941, before he was sent to France.

**ISRAEL BELIEVED TO BE THE  
FIRST COUNTRY U.S. OFFICIALS  
ASKED TO HELP FUND THE CONTRAS**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, May 12 (JTA) -- Israel is believed to be the first country United States officials approached to help fund the Contras in Nicaragua.

Former National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane, testifying for the first day in the Senate-House Select Committee's hearing on the Iran/Contra affair, said Monday that he approached a representative of "country one" in February or March 1984 to discuss funding and training of the Contras. Congress stopped military aid to the Contras in October 1984.

This country was interested in participating in development programs in the Caribbean that could be arranged for such assistance, McFarlane said. Senate General Counsel Arthur Liman read a memo in which McFarlane instructed an aide not to "press them ("country one") on the question of assistance, but to try to win their support. It was not said which Israeli official would have received

the request. McFarlane added a postscript to the note: "Destroy this memo."

"Country one" however turned down the request. Funds were provided by Saudi Arabia which contributed more than \$25 million to the Contras.

McFarlane revealed that President Reagan held meetings with Saudi officials prior to the payments. After one meeting in May 1984, the Saudis decided to sharply increase their donations. Shortly after, the Reagan Administration sold the Saudis 400 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

McFarlane also testified that President Reagan gave Israel authorization to sell U.S. Tow antitank missiles arms to Iran that would be replaced.

McFarlane said Reagan told him that Israel could sell the weapons "as long as they did not affect the balance of the (Iran/Iraq) War and that they not be sold to terrorists." The weapons were sent to Iran in September 1985.

#### GUSH EMUNIM SPLIT SEEMS IMMINENT By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 12 (JTA) -- A split may be imminent in the Gush Emunim, the predominantly Orthodox militants who have been the driving force for the establishment and expansion of Jewish settlements in the administered territories.

The rift is between hardliners who demand draconian measures against the Arab populace and resort to violent demonstrations in reprisal for terrorist acts, and the more moderate elements who fear the movement has been diverted from its original aim to enlarge the Jewish population in the territories and to prove they can co-exist peacefully with the Arabs.

These differences, simmering for more than a year, came into the open last week when key figures in the Jewish settlements publicly criticized the leadership of Gush Emunim secretary general Daniella Weiss and demanded her resignation.

Weiss was taken to task for leading several dozen settlers in a pre-dawn rampage through the Arab town of Kalkilya last Wednesday in retaliation for a gasoline bomb attack the previous day on an Israeli vehicle there. The bomb caused no injuries or damage.

The expanded forum of the Gush secretariat is expected to meet soon to discuss plans to replace Weiss. There were consultations Monday among the various factions to reach some sort of understanding before the meeting.

The opposition, headed by former Tehiya Party MK Hanan Porat and Rabbi Yoel Bin-Nun called for a meeting this Thursday. It was eventually set for next Monday.

#### Blue-Print For Political Action Planned

Gush extremists, led by Weiss and Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Hebron, plan to present a detailed blue-print for political action in the territories. Their opponents want to discuss structural and personnel changes in the leadership and democratization of its working procedures.

If no agreement is reached on the agenda, each faction might call a different meeting which in effect would mean a split in the movement.

The case of the moderates was strengthened Sunday when Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin lashed out against settler "pogroms" in the West Bank. He told a Labor Party forum in Tel Aviv

that Gush Emunim violence leads only to the escalation of Arab terrorism.

"Those who stage pogroms like the one in Kalkilya are playing into the terrorists' hands. We have to distinguish between those Arabs who commit terrorist attacks and those who do not," Rabin said.

#### Attempt To Disrupt Peace Now Rally

Meanwhile, some 200 Gush Emunim supporters attempted Sunday to disrupt a demonstration by the Peace Now movement in support of an international conference for Middle East peace. They carried placards accusing Peace Now of supporting the PLO. Soldiers and police prevented a confrontation.

The North American Friends of Peace Now published advertisements in the local press Monday backing an international conference. The ad was signed by 100 prominent Jews from the U.S. and Canada. "As American and Canadian Jews, we affirm our commitment to a strong and democratic Israel, and to the highest of Jewish values, peace," it said.

Among the Americans who signed were Leonard Fein, Philip Klutznik, Seymour Martin Lipset, and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg.

#### INNER CABINET TO CONTINUE DEBATE WEDNESDAY ON MIDEAST PEACE CONCLAVE By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 12 (JTA) -- The Inner Cabinet will reconvene Wednesday to continue debate over Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' proposals for an international conference for Middle East peace which Premier Yitzhak Shamir has vowed to defeat.

The government's top policymaking body, comprising five Labor and five Likud Ministers, met for 4 1/2 hours Monday but reached no conclusions. One participant said they held a "polite but unproductive argument." Another said the closed-door session might as well have been public because "there was nothing new."

Peres is scheduled to fly to Washington Wednesday night for a brief visit, including a meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz. A letter from Schultz urging Israel to accept an international conference scenario was read by Peres at Monday's meeting. He and Shamir had received it the night before.

According to some sources, Shultz wrote that while he had initially been skeptical about the conference, he now believes it is the right plan to follow. The Inner Cabinet heard Peres restate his belief that a conference "opening" would be followed immediately by direct negotiations with Jordan and other parties to the Middle East conflict.

Likud Ministers were strongly critical of that approach. Aides to Peres said a vote could be expected at Wednesday's meeting. Most observers predict another stalemate. If the Inner Cabinet splits along party lines, Peres' proposals will have been defeated. Peres has pledged in that event to challenge Shamir to dissolve the Knesset and call early elections.

Shamir urged his Likud colleagues Tuesday to reject "utterly and without reservation" Peres' plan. He called it a "criminal and stupid attempt" that must be "removed from our agenda, every last trace and vestige of it."

Peres' office said later it was "dumbfounded" by Shamir's "brutal language." Political observers

said Shamir's truculence was a sign he believes he can defeat Peres' plan and forestall early elections.

The Premier spoke Tuesday of "a pleasant conversation" he had the night before with former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the spiritual mentor of the religious Shas Party. Shas sources said Yosef is opposed to an international conference. Without the votes of its four-man Knesset faction, Labor probably will not be able to pass a motion to dissolve Parliament.

#### **UN CHIEF SAYS MIDEAST PEACE CONCLAVE NOT REALISTIC AT THIS TIME** By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, May 12 (JTA) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Monday that at present there is no sufficient agreement between the parties to the Middle East conflict to permit the convening of an international conference for peace.

The Secretary General said that he drew this conclusion following consultations during March and April in New York with representatives of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and also the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

In a report to the UN General Assembly and the Security Council, issued here Monday, Perez de Cuellar said, however, that all the parties involved in the consultations "showed interest in a settlement of the conflict in the Middle East, and some viewed it as a matter of great urgency." He added nonetheless that views differed both on the form of the conference and the way it should be prepared.

The Secretary General said that he was encouraged "by the indications of greater flexibility on this issue (international conference) amongst the parties." But he also added that "it is evident that very deep differences remain between the parties, and I do not underestimate the difficulties involved in resolving those differences and in creating agreement on procedures that will permit effective negotiations to the satisfactions of all concerned."

Perez de Cuellar said that he intends in months to come to continue his contacts with the parties "in order to try to find ways of bridging the gaps between them."

The Secretary General also reported on his consultations with members of the Security Council on the issue of international conference. He said that in contrast to recent years, this time "none of the Council members opposed in principle the idea of an international conference under United Nations auspices."

The Secretary General's report followed a request of a General Assembly resolution on December 2, 1986, that he should prepare a review of efforts toward convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

#### **ISRAELI URGES CONTINUED PRESSURE FOR SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION** By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 12 (JTA) -- Israeli Absorption Minister Yaakov Tzur said Monday that despite the apparent change in Moscow's policy on the emigration of Jews, the pressure on the Soviet authorities should not stop.

"It is imperative to continue public and diplomatic pressure on the Soviet authorities until all Jews who want to emigrate are able to do

so," Tzur told Israeli reporters here upon his arrival for a two-week U.S. visit.

The Israeli Minister said that it is expected that more than 1,000 Jews will leave the Soviet Union this month, compared to 717 who left in April and 450 who left in March.

The issue of Soviet Jewish emigration will be the topic of discussion between Tzur and top Reagan Administration officials next week, when Tzur will be in Washington for two days of talks.

He is scheduled to meet here with leaders of Jewish organizations and groups who deal with the issue of Soviet Jewry. He said that the major problem to be discussed is that of "neshira," Soviet Jews who leave the Soviet Union with an Israeli visa but who choose to settle elsewhere, especially the United States, when they arrive in Vienna.

"We have a sharp disagreement with the American Jewish leadership on the issue of neshira," Tzur said. He explained that the Israeli government wants the United States to deny the status of refugee to Soviet Jewish emigrants, a move that is opposed by most American Jewish leaders, who contend that Soviet Jews should have freedom to choose to settle wherever they want.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir made an explicit request to the Reagan Administration during his visit to Washington last February to deny the refugee status to exiting Soviet Jews.

"The State of Israel refuses to be the travel agent of the Jewish people," Tzur said, stressing that any Jew who leaves the Soviet Union on an Israeli visa is not a refugee and is expected to come to Israel first.

According to Tzur, since the early 1970's some 270,000 Jews left the Soviet Union. About 165,000 are presently Israeli citizens, he noted.

#### **POLL FINDS ISRAELIS NEARLY SPLIT ON TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS FOR PEACE**

TEL AVIV, May 12 (JTA) -- Israelis, by a margin of 51.8 to 46.4 percent, would be prepared to make territorial concessions in exchange for peace with Jordan, according to a poll by the Modi'in Ezrachi Research Institute published in Maariv Tuesday.

The responses were to the question, "Are you in favor of a peace agreement with Jordan under which Israel undertakes to give up territories in Judaea and Samaria?" (West Bank). Only 4.4 percent replied affirmatively with respect to the entire West Bank and East Jerusalem.

By a margin of 59.1 to 37.9 percent they would agree to curbs on Jewish settlements in the West Bank as part of a peace treaty with Jordan, the poll found.

But 15.4 percent were ready to give up the West Bank apart from East Jerusalem and 32 percent would relinquish only "certain parts" of the West Bank. Less than half of the respondents, 46.4 percent, would give up no territory. In a poll taken six months ago, the margin in favor of territorial concessions was 49.3 to 47.7 percent.

According to the latest poll, 9.2 percent of the respondents were willing to abandon all Jewish settlements in the West Bank; 26 percent would give up some settlements; and 23.9 percent would agree only to freeze settlements at their present level in return for peace.

A bloc of 37.9 percent of the respondents would make no concessions with respect to settlements, up from 36.6 percent six months ago.



**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**

**TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE REUNIFICATION OF JERUSALEM, INVISIBLE BARRIERS REMAIN**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 12 (JTA) -- The 20th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem will be celebrated on May 27. On the equivalent Hebrew date in 1967, Israelis, euphoric over their stunning victories in the Six-Day War, saw their capital city whole for the first time.

So it has remained during the past two decades, united physically and politically. The barriers and barbed wire which once separated west Jerusalem from the Arab (Jordanian)-controlled east Jerusalem have long been removed. Urban planners have been busy integrating the two parts of the city, and architecturally they have achieved much success.

Yet invisible barriers remain, all the more troublesome to contemplate because they seem to be hardening, becoming more intractable. They separate Arab from Jew. And even more ominous, there is an increasing polarization among Jews with grave portents for the future of the city.

Jews and Arabs meet daily here but are as far apart as they were 20 years ago. A road runs from the Jerusalem City Hall in the west to Damascus Gate and the Rockefeller Museum in the east -- a few minutes' walk -- but between different worlds.

**Incidents Of Terrorism And Fanaticism**

The majority of the population -- Jews and Arabs -- may wish to coexist peacefully. But political, cultural and social differences work against them. Add to that the frequent incidents of terrorism and fanaticism:

\* A bomb explodes in a busy street or on a crowded bus.

\* An Arab stabs a Jew on the way home from prayers at the Western Wall.

\* Ultra-Orthodox Jews stone Sabbath motorists or threaten a Jewish restaurant open on Saturday.

The delicate structure of coexistence collapses.

Arabs and Jews live together within the perimeters of the city, but they don't communicate. Each morning, hundreds of young Arabs pour into western Jerusalem to work at construction sites, in the kitchens of restaurants, to mop floors and make beds at the hotels. But there is no social intercourse between them and the Jews they encounter on the job.

Political theorists have said the Israeli and West Bank economies are so intertwined as to obviate any future political changes. But it is not a true economic partnership because the Israeli economy relies heavily on low-wage Arab labor from the administered territories.

There is no economic integration here. Very few businesses are run jointly by Jews and Arabs. Economic ties here too are based on Arabs offering cheap labor and the Israeli economy "exporting" goods to the Arab sector.

At nightfall, the busy alleys of the Old City become deserted. The shops on Saladin Street, the main shopping center in East Jerusalem, are shut behind iron gates. Few Arabs dare venture into western Jerusalem for fear they may be stopped and questioned by tough border police, possibly arrested on some vague suspicion.

Secular and religious Jews in the city are not much closer. The fight over Sabbath observances is far from over. The steadily increasing

religious population insists that as long as traffic is permitted on the Sabbath, as long as one Jewish restaurant is allowed to operate, as long as swimming pools are not segregated by sex and more money is not allocated by the municipality for religious institutions, what they consider the unique nature of Jerusalem has changed.

The secular population feels squeezed. It watches its neighborhoods become surrounded by Arab communities or ultra-Orthodox enclaves. Secular Jews fear that soon their freedom of movement will be even more restricted by closure of some parts of the city on the Sabbath and religious holidays and the banning of public transportation.

Moreover, the lack of employment opportunities prompts young educated families to leave the city to try their luck elsewhere. In the best of cases they move to another part of Israel. But many join the growing community of "yordim"-- Israelis who settle permanently overseas.

**Failed To Seize The Moment**

On the day of unification 20 years ago, the defeated Arab population slowly, nervously crossed the lines that had once divided the city. They wanted to get acquainted with the Jews, to see the homes they fled during the War for Independence in 1948.

There was a spirit of optimism in the country then. Some believe it was a moment of opportunity which both Jews and Arabs failed to seize.

The total defeat of Arab armies, almost every Israeli believed, left the Arabs with no option but peace. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan declared that he was waiting for the "telephone call" from King Hussein of Jordan. Premier Levi Eshkol appointed a committee to prepare Israel's positions in peace talks with Jordan.

Twenty years have elapsed and the telephone has not rung. The issue of an Israeli-Jordanian dialogue has divided the government. Jerusalem has grown three-fold but the problem of true unification remains.

Perhaps it is because Jerusalem is central to so many different groups of people and faiths. Each is reluctant to recognize the attachment to Jerusalem of the others. Very few people seem to understand that Jerusalem is a pluralistic city and its problems will be resolved only if each group gives up something for the benefit of the entire community.

Yet it takes only a visit to the Temple Mount -- to watch Jews praying at the Western Wall, to hear the muezzin call the Moslem faithful to prayer at the mosques, and the sound of church bells -- for one to fall in love with Jerusalem all over again.

\*\*\*

TEL AVIV, May 12 (JTA) -- Nearly half of the Israelis believe that Soviet Jews who receive exit visas to Israel should not be obliged to immigrate to Israel, according to a poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrachi Research Institute and published in Maariv Monday. The poll, taken among 1,236 Israelis, indicated that 48.3 percent feel Soviet Jews should be free to settle wherever they please; and 35.1 believe they should be made to come to Israel. Another 14.5 percent think the position of American Jews on the issue should be considered. American Jews overwhelmingly support freedom of choice for Jews leaving the Soviet Union.

**JEWISH CHILD FROM THE ELON MOREH SETTLEMENT FOUND MURDERED NEAR NABLUS**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 21 (JTA) -- An atmosphere of barely restrained fury prevailed among Jewish settlers in the West Bank Thursday following the murder of a Jewish child from Elon Moreh settlement near Nablus.

The battered body of eight year-old Rami Hana was found in a cave at about 5 a.m. local time, 12 hours after he was last seen riding his bicycle Wednesday afternoon. His parents and neighbors had been searching all night. The boy's head was smashed by a rock in the cave just outside the settlement perimeter. There were signs he had struggled with his assailant.

Maj. Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central sector who visited the scene, said there was no doubt the child was murdered but the motive remains unclear. Police sources said all possibilities were being investigated but at this point a terrorist act seemed most likely.

Enraged settlers have no doubt the murder was the work of terrorists. "The work of animals," said Otniel Schneller, secretary general of the Council of Jewish Settlements, following an emergency meeting of heads of all West Bank settlements Thursday. He urged the authorities to adopt a tougher policy toward terrorists.

As soon as the body was discovered curfews were clamped on three neighboring Arab villages where security forces conducted house-to-house searches. A number of arrests were reported. Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron personally joined Gen. Mitzna to supervise the dragnet.

**Settlers Stunned By The Tragedy**

Settlers in Elon Moreh, stunned by the tragedy, had difficulty containing their emotions. Otniel said the murder was the latest in a "chain of murders of Jews just because they are Jews." Premier Yitzhak Shamir sent a message saying the most heinous of crimes will not remove the people of Israel from its land. He quoted a famous line from the poet Bialik: "Even the devil has not yet created the vengeance of a little child."

But the settlers were not taking measures of their own, at least not before Rami Hana was buried late Thursday, in a small cemetery in the settlement of Karnei Shomron, near Nablus.

Thousands attended the funeral which passed through Nablus, stopping briefly at Josephs Tomb. Yosef Shapira of the National Religious Party, a Minister-Without-Portfolio, and a leader of the Gush Emunim settlement movement, delivered the eulogy on behalf of the government.

Shomron met with settlement leaders. Military sources said later there was a "basic understanding" between the settlers and the army to avoid provocations. There has been tension between the military and the settlers in the area recently since the army strictly limited the number of settlers who can visit Joseph's Tomb in Nablus at any one time.

Meanwhile, Hosni Hassan A-Saleh, Chief of the Arab village of Azmouth which is under curfew, condemned the "barbaric murder" and

urged "the severest punishment" for the killers when caught.

**SOVIETS REPORTED TO HAVE ACCEPTED U.S. ORTHODOX RABBIS' PROPOSAL TO ALLOW SIX YOUNG RUSSIAN JEWS TO STUDY AT RABBINICAL SEMINARIES IN THE U.S.**

SPRING GLEN, NY, May 21 (JTA) -- Five leading American Orthodox rabbis, just returned from the Soviet Union, reported here Wednesday that the Soviet authorities accepted their proposal to allow six young Russian Jews to study at rabbinical seminaries in the U.S. for the purpose of ordination.

The announcement of the apparently unprecedented reversal of Soviet policy was made to the Rabbinical Council of America's 51st annual convention at the Homowack Lodge here by Rabbi David Hollander, of the Hebrew Alliance of Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, who headed the RCA delegation that visited the USSR beginning May 6. They returned to New York Sunday night.

Hollander, an RCA past president, said the agreement was reached at a meeting in Moscow with Konstantin Kharchev, Chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs, which was attended by two representatives of the Foreign Ministry.

The other members of the RCA delegation were Rabbi Oscar Fasman, president emeritus of the Hebrew Theological College and present rabbi of Congregation Yehuda Moshe, Chicago; Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in New York, president of the New York Board of Rabbis and chairman of the RCA's Soviet Jewry Committee; Rabbi Bernard Poupko, of Shaare Torah Congregation in Pittsburgh, a past vice president of the RCA; and Rabbi Solomon Roodman of Congregation Anshei Sfard of Louisville, Ky.

Hollander and Poupko reported to the convention on their visit. They also met in Moscow with the U.S. Ambassador, Jack Matlock. Hollander and Rabbi Milton Polin, president of the RCA, also announced that they had accepted an invitation to meet with Soviet Embassy officials in Washington.

**Other Ideas Discussed**

Hollander said that at their meeting with Kharchev, the possibility was discussed of the Soviets opening rabbinical seminaries in Leninograd, Moscow and Tbilisi for students over 18 and allowing visiting American rabbis to teach there. The Russians did not reject the idea, Hollander said.

Poupko said the Jews they met in the USSR seemed "more relaxed" and that on the Sabbath the rabbis "ate lunch in a Russian apartment and all openly sang Hebrew songs." Lookstein reported on his meetings with Jewish activists in the refusenik community.

The five rabbis said they "made it clear to the Soviet officials that they were in favor of the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate, but that for those Jews who remain in the USSR, it is important that they be allowed to practice their religion freely."

They said they asked the Religions Ministry to permit the establishment of kosher facilities in the USSR. The Russians responded that there is a kosher facility in Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, and that they will look into the possibility of Intourist, the state tourist office, to provide kosher facilities for visitors and on the Soviet airline Aeroflot.

But the Soviets rejected a request for separate Jewish cemeteries, Hollander said. He said Kharchev asked the rabbis to "call on American Jewish organizations to cease anti-Soviet agitation."

**GORBACHEV'S ECONOMIC POLICIES SEEN AS MIXED BLESSING FOR SOVIET JEWS**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, May 21 (JTA) -- Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of modernization and economic restructuring could be a mixed blessing for the 2 million Jews in the Soviet Union, an expert on Soviet affairs warned in a report released here Tuesday.

According to Dr. Lukasz Hirszowic, director of the Soviet and East European Department of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, the economic changes the Soviet leader hopes to implement could create new opportunities for Jews, particularly the high proportion of Jewish scientists, technicians and skilled professionals in the USSR.

But at the same time, Jews could fall victim to a new source of anti-Semitism generated by the powerful, entrenched Soviet bureaucracy which is opposed to reforms and is ready to make Jews their scapegoats, Hirszowic warned. "Chauvinism and anti-Semitism, paraded as Soviet or Russian patriotism may still remain 'the last refuge of the scoundrel,'" he observed.

Similarly, he said, while democratization could bring a more liberal approach to Jewish self-expression and other concessions in the field of Jewish culture, these are likely to be restricted and slanted.

As for Jewish emigration, Hirszowic believes Soviet decisions "will no doubt depend on what they feel they can gain in their relations with the West if they let more substantial numbers of Jews go."

But even here, the bureaucracy presents an obstacle. Hirszowic recalled that in the early 1970s "bureaucrats and apparatchiks (especially in the provinces) created considerable difficulties when a more positive attitude emerged toward Jewish emigration. Endangered bureaucrats can, and do easily exploit ethnic dissatisfaction and the use of anti-Semitism should not be excluded," Hirszowic said.

**U.S. DELAYS SALE OF F-15s TO SAUDIS**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 21 (JTA) --The Reagan Administration announced Thursday that it is postponing the sale of some 60 F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia.

The notification of the sale to Congress, which was expected this week, will probably not come until sometime this summer. White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the notification will go to Congress at the "most propitious time" to assure its approval. The sale will go through unless both Houses of Congress reject it.

Apparently the Administration did not consider the time propitious now in the wake of the refusal of two Saudi F-15 pilots to force down

the Iraqi jet that attacked the U.S. missile frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf Sunday.

The Administration explained that the pilots did not have time to get permission from their ground control before the Iraqi plane returned to its base.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Wednesday that the Administration plans to go through with the sale, noting that there is no "prearranged plan" for the Saudis to aid American ships in the Gulf.

Secretary of State George Shultz, in response to a question at the annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Sunday night, maintained the sale is in the U.S. interest because of the tension in the Gulf and the "stability" provided there by the Saudis having such advanced weapons.

The sale will not enlarge the number of F-15s held by the Saudis, but will replace, as needed, the 62 F-15s sold to the Saudis in 1978, according to the Administration.

**AIPAC LEADER SAYS HIS ORGANIZATION MADE SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN PAST YEAR**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, May 21 (JTA) -- Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, said Sunday that although events the past year have "put Israel in a negative light," AIPAC made significant gains.

"We may have just had the worst twelve months on record in terms of publicity, but we had one of the best years on record in terms of concrete legislation, in the strategic relationships between our country and Israel, and in the gains scored by our cause in the results of the 1986 election," said Dine, addressing AIPAC's 28th annual policy conference.

Israeli sale of goods and services in the Department of Defense rose from \$9 million in 1983 to \$205 million in 1986, Dine said.

A breakthrough was recently scored in plans for the U.S. to co-finance Israel's development of an anti-tactical ballistic missile (ATBM) which offers hope of protection from surface-to-surface missiles carrying chemicals aimed at Israel.

**Role Of State Department Employees Cited**

Dine singled out President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz for their commitment to Israel, but said there are permanent employees in the State and Defense Departments who "think that U.S.-Israel relations are too close, and "that it is in the U.S. interest to move away from Israel to curry favor with the Arabs."

"If the people at the top could personally control and oversee all aspects of our policy toward Israel and its regions, the result would be more pro-Israel than we already have," said Dine. "The problem is certainly not at the top, but further down among those who have ensconced themselves as a permanent government to pursue a policy of their own according to their theory of the American national interest."

Dine praised members of Congress for urging Japan and India to end their compliance with Arab boycott of Israel. He said members of the Black Caucus and Jewish Delegation met to deal with Israeli sale of arms to South Africa and "not one amendment was offered to punish Israel by cutting aid." Refuting reports that the American public is critical of Israel, Dine cited recent polls

taken by Harris and Roper organizations indicating that Israel's rating as an ally is up slightly and its "unfriendliness rating" is down 25 percent from the previous year. Support for Israel over the Arabs is six to one in the Roper poll and seven to one in the Harris poll.

"Overall, there is hardly a shred of evidence in the polls for the theory that support for Israel among the American people has eroded," Dine said.

AIPAC's upcoming agenda will include efforts for passage of the foreign aid bill of \$3 billion to Israel and providing no-cost leasing of defense materials. He also said AIPAC would oppose the Administration's plan to sell F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia.

On the subject of an international peace conference, Dine said he favors direct negotiations with Jordan. "Some people are offended by the raucous nature of the Israeli debate. I am not. Dictatorships make nice, neat little decisions in secret, outside the public eye. Democracies make their decisions in public, accepting that this included the risks of allowing all to see that there is not just one opinion in the country," said Dine. "Israel will, in the end, do the right thing," Dine said.

**KISSINGER HAS 'DOUBTS' AND 'CONCERN' ABOUT HOLDING AN INTERNATIONAL MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE AT THIS TIME**  
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 21 (JTA) -- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger expressed "doubt" and "concern" about convening an international peace conference on the Middle East at this time.

"I have grave doubts about a large conference of countries whose stated position is not sympathetic to that of even the most dovish people in Israel," Kissinger told American Jewish leaders Wednesday night.

Kissinger spoke at a memorial service for Yehuda Hellman, former executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations who died last year. The event took place at the Regency Hotel here.

Kissinger said he is concerned that Israel will find itself pressured and isolated in an international conference and that the Reagan Administration, which has only 18 more months in office, will not have the time to devote to such an undertaking.

**Reasons For Concern**

"I am quiet worried about the international conference," Kissinger said, because "the State Department cannot guarantee what its successor would do." Noting that Washington has other urgent issues on its agenda, the former Secretary of State warned: "This Administration won't make a decision on the content of the conference, and no Secretary of State will have the time to devote to this issue."

"I have difficulty understanding the urgency of an international conference, when the Administration has only 18 months left in office. I have no doubt about Secretary of State George Shultz, but where is he going to find the time" to devote to the conference?

Kissinger said the situation today is unlike 1973, when he, as Secretary of State, convened the Geneva peace conference. Then, he pointed out, Israeli troops were 15 miles away from Damascus and on the west side of the Suez Canal

in Egypt. "These conditions are not duplicable today," he said. Kissinger said that he agrees with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir "on the procedure" and with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres "on the substance" of the issue. But he said that he has "great concern" over the division in Israel on the issue of an international conference.

He said "the division of views in Israel and the enlisting of other countries in the dispute is extremely dangerous." One of the dangers is that Israel, "whose margin of survival is so narrow," will not be able to get across this point to U.S. policy makers because of the division among its leaders.

Continuing, the former Secretary of State said that it is "dangerous" to enter negotiations without having "a desirable outcome." He said that once Israel enters into an international conference, it will find "it is hard to walk away from it."

Kissinger also said that neither Jordan nor Syria will have a settlement with Israel without getting back territories they lost in the Six-Day War of 1967. "The question is, why do the Arabs want a conference?" Kissinger asked, adding, "Who is going to be fooled by a conference of a day or two?"

**ISRAEL'S FOREIGN CURRENCY IS AT A RECORD HIGH OF \$4.4 BILLION**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 21 (JTA) -- Israel's Foreign currency reserves stood at a record high of \$4.4 billion at the end of last month and may soar to an unprecedented level of \$6 billion by the end of the year. But according to Treasury and Bank of Israel sources, this is not necessarily a welcome development, The Jerusalem Post reported Wednesday.

The problem according to the sources, is that Israel is paying interest on loans higher than what it is earning on its currency reserves and the possibility that Israel can retire its foreign debts ahead of schedule is limited. Israel's major creditor is the United States, where the law prohibits early payment of debts in many cases.

The foreign currency bonanza is attributable to the heavy influx of foreign currencies, mainly Dollars into the country by the private sector since the sharp devaluation of the Shekel last January. The stream of Dollars buying up cheap Shekels continues, the report said.

In addition, Israel received American economic aid for the 1987-88 fiscal year of \$1.2 billion in one lump sum last October.

\*\*\*

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A report by a team of Foreign Ministry experts has recommended that Israel's policy toward South Africa be guided by the policies of Western European countries that have imposed trade sanctions against the apartheid regime in Pretoria, it was learned here Wednesday. The team was headed by Yossi Beilin, political director general of the Foreign Ministry. Beilin refused to make public details of the report but said Israel's measure should fall "within European parameters."

\*\*\*

**REMINDER:** There will be no Bulletin dated May 25, Memorial Day, a postal holiday.

**WEXNER FOUNDATION TO CHANNEL \$3-4 MILLION IN GRANTS TO HELP ENHANCE AND IMPROVE PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY**

COLUMBUS, Ohio May 21 (JTA) -- The Wexner Foundation, a \$100 million family philanthropy headquartered here, has targeted what its chairman, Leslie Wexner, believes "is the most crucial issue in the Jewish community today"-- the ability of important Jewish institutions to find, support and retain the highest quality professional leadership.

Wexner, 49, founder of the world's largest retail apparel chain, announced this week that the Foundation will channel \$3-\$4 million in grants to the first year of a program dedicated to the enhancement and improvement of professional leadership in the North American Jewish community.

Wexner said an Advisory Group drawn from among leading Jewish academicians and communal professionals recommended that attention be focused on three critical groups: rabbis, communal professionals and educators. The Foundation's program is designed to attract gifted men and women in the Jewish community to commit themselves to careers of professional service.

Rabbi Maurice Corson, president of the Wexner Foundation, observed that "Although American Jewry is, overall, healthy in socio-economic terms, our most important institutions -- our synagogues, our community centers, federations and educational institutions -- desperately require adequate qualified professional leadership. The unparalleled economic opportunities now open to American Jews has resulted in a situation in which our most gifted sons and daughters are being attracted to professions elsewhere."

**'I Wonder About The Future'**

Discussing this situation, Wexner observed that "in sheer numbers, the future leaders -- the rabbis, the educators, the communal leaders with training and knowledge -- are simply not there. I wonder about the future and about our leadership, in terms of having the best, the brightest and the most insightful."

He said that "When I think about the future, I think we will be dealing with consolidations of institutions more and more because of the economies, the efficiencies, and the lack of leadership that we will find. I believe that we are going to have greater needs and thinner resources."

Wexner said that thought should be given to acquiring "seed money for founding an educational facility that satisfied the needs of the whole community, not just Reform Jews, Orthodox Jews, young people, old people, adult education, training. We need to provide for the lay leadership to lead better, and create a very broad, high caliber, high quality institution, so that not only do we perpetuate ourselves in terms of religious and Jewish content, but just simply in terms of leadership skills."

**Proposed Programs**

The programs proposed by the Wexner Foundation will consist of grants to individuals and grants to institutions. The former will be in the form of fellowships for graduate study awarded to outstanding candidates for careers in Jewish communal service, the rabbinate and Jewish education. Grants to institutions will go to those

which encourage innovation and excellence in the training and support of professional leadership, Wexner said.

Corson announced that Dr. Henry Rosovsky has accepted chairmanship of the Wexner Fellowship Committee. Rosovsky is the Lewis P. and Linda L. Geysler University Professor at Harvard University Prof. Robert Chazan, professor of history at Queens College and director of Judaic Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center, will be vice chairman.

Leslie Wexner is chairman of The Limited Inc. which owns 2,300 retail stores including Lerner Stores, Lane Bryant and Henri Bendel. He is also national vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, director and executive committee member of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and serves as a trustee or director of a wide range of cultural and civic institutions.

Corson, who was ordained as a rabbi in 1960 at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, has served in many areas of Jewish communal life, including as director of international and interreligious programming of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia, national director of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, and as associate international director of development of B'nai B'rith. He is currently on the Board of the Columbus Public Schools Fund.

**THE SOUNDS OF A DIFFERENT MUSIC****By Yitzhak Rabi**

NEW YORK, May 21 (JTA) -- The Cantors Assembly -- the worldwide organization of cantors -- has decided to change the site of its 40th anniversary convention from the Catskill mountains in New York to Jerusalem, in response to President Chaim Herzog's call to help strengthen Israel's economy through tourism.

"Despite the added expenses we decided to hold our convention in Jerusalem, July 7 to 21," Cantors Saul Hammerman, the Assembly president, and Shalom Mendelson, the Assembly vice president, said in a press conference at the Hilton Hotel Wednesday. They said the two-week convention, to be attended by almost 1,000 cantors from 16 countries, will also mark the 20th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

Tel Aviv's Mayor Shlomo Lahat took part in the press conference here. He explained that although the convention will be held in Jerusalem he came to express his support because "I am an addict to hazzanut (cantorial music). I am a great supporter and lover of this kind of music, or rather prayers," he confessed.

During the convention, there will be a special hazzanut concert at the Habimah Theater in Tel Aviv, with Lahat as the guest of honor. He will be given the "Kavod Award" from the Assembly. The Mayor said that he is presently in New York to raise money for the Tel Aviv Foundation, which is devoted to the development of poverty neighborhoods in Tel Aviv.

According to Hammerman and Mendelson, the largest group of cantors, about 400, will arrive at the convention from the United States. The Jewish community of Turkey will be represented by a single cantor from Istanbul, they noted.

The highlight of the convention will be the Israeli premiere of "A Time for Freedom," an oratorio based on the trial of Natan Sharansky, the Soviet Jewish dissident who is now living in Israel.

**DOUBLE SETBACK FOR PERES:  
HIS MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE PLAN,  
EARLY ELECTION HOPES BOTH STALLED**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 13 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres suffered a severe setback Wednesday. The Inner Cabinet failed to approve his proposals for an international conference for Middle East peace while prospects dimmed that the Knesset would vote to dissolve itself and open the way for early elections.

Peres, who was scheduled to fly to the U.S. Wednesday night for a brief visit, postponed his departure until Friday, but refused to concede defeat. The Inner Cabinet, the government's top policy-making body, comprised of five Labor and five Likud Ministers, did not vote on Peres' plan Wednesday because the Foreign Minister, anticipating a 5-5 deadlock, did not submit it.

But after meeting for less than three hours -- following an inconclusive 4 1/2 hour debate Monday -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir stated that since the Peres proposal had not come up for a formal vote, it must be seen as having been rejected and henceforth no Minister may pursue it in diplomatic contacts abroad.

**Blasts Shamir's Interpretation**

Peres called that interpretation "illegal," maintaining that since there was no formal vote, the situation was unchanged. "Let us ask the nation to decide" by disbanding the Labor-Likud coalition and electing a new Knesset, he declared.

Peres was supported by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who argued that the unity government was no longer committed to its basic policy guideline -- the pursuit of peace -- and therefore must be dissolved.

The two Labor Party leaders took the same line speaking to reporters after the Cabinet session. "What the Prime Minister says, with all due respect to him, is tantamount to the cessation of the peace process. He speaks of direct negotiations with Jordan, but everyone knows this is not a practical prospect ... it is doomed to failure," Peres said.

King Hussein of Jordan has consistently refused direct negotiations with Israel outside the framework of an international conference. Peres insists he has an understanding with Hussein that an international conference "opening" will be followed immediately by bilateral negotiations with Jordan.

On Tuesday, Shamir denounced the entire idea as "criminal and stupid" and said it must be expunged from the agenda. Laborites said their coalition partnership with Likud is no longer viable and Peres has challenged Shamir to take their dispute to the electorate.

**Election Roadblocks**

But a survey of the pivotal small parties Wednesday indicated that Labor would be unable to muster enough votes to dissolve the Knesset as long as Likud is determined to preserve the government.

At the same time Labor Party leaders made clear that they would not secede from the unity

government and "abandon the Defense portfolio to Arik (Ariel) Sharon," the most extreme hawk among Likud Ministers.

Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction said in a radio interview following the Inner Cabinet meeting that Peres is obliged now either to support the Prime Minister's policies or lead his party out of the government.

Likud appears to have succeeded in lining up enough Knesset votes to defeat a dissolution motion. The ultra-rightwing opposition Tehiya Party, which introduced its own motion to dissolve parliament this week, is now siding with Likud because Shamir was standing "firm as a rock."

The Shas religious party is reluctant to dissolve parliament and spoil its chances of returning to the government after a five-month absence.

Its leader, former Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz, resigned in January over a halachic conversion dispute.

Aharon Abu-Hatzeira of Tami, is rumored to have been promised a seat by Likud if he opposed early elections. Similarly, MK Yigael Hurwitz of the one-man Ometz faction, who has sided with Labor, reportedly is considering rejoining Likud.

Mordechai Wirshubsky of the Shinui Party, a longtime advocate of early elections, conceded Wednesday that they are unlikely in the near future, given the present balance of forces in the Knesset.

**Shultz Backs Peres' Plan**

When the Inner Cabinet began its fruitless debate Monday, Peres read a letter he and Shamir had received Sunday from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He reportedly wrote that while he had been initially skeptical about an international conference, he now thought it was the best course to follow.

But United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in New York Monday that there is not sufficient agreement between the parties to the Middle East conflict to permit convening an international peace conference.

He said he drew that conclusion following consultations during March and April in New York with representatives of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Secretary General was making the report requested by a resolution of the UN General Assembly on Dec. 2, 1986 to prepare a review of efforts toward convening an international conference.

**BARBIE CLAIMS HE WAS KIDNAPPED  
AND ILLEGALLY BROUGHT TO FRANCE**

By Edwin Eytan

LYON, May 13 (JTA) -- Klaus Barbie, declaring himself "illegally kidnapped and illegally brought to France," asked the Lyon criminal court Wednesday to be returned to St. Joseph Prison and to be excused from attending the remainder of his trial for crimes against humanity.

The request by the former Gestapo chief, known as "the butcher of Lyon," was granted by

the President of the court, Andre Cerdini, despite fierce protests by attorneys for individual plaintiffs as pandemonium broke out in the packed courtroom on the second day of the trial.

Chief Prosecutor Andre Truche raised no objections. He reminded the jury, however, that "Barbie's victims at the time he used to question them, never had the option to say, as he does today, 'take me back to my cell, I don't want to answer questions'."

But "such is our law and this is a victory of democracy over Nazism," said Truche.

Yet many observers could not help but see it as a personal triumph for Barbie, at 73 an arrogant, unrepentant Nazi who spoke with pride of his service to the Third Reich, his many decorations, his war wounds and the personal letter of commendation he received from SS Reichfuhrer Heinrich Himmler.

#### Says He Was Just Carrying Out Orders

As countless other Nazi war criminals before him, Barbie denied he was involved in atrocities and insisted he was just a soldier carrying out the orders of his superiors. He also denied any taint of racism.

Asked by the court President how he felt about Nazi racial theories, he stated: "All this happened over 40 years ago. I worked in the SS under the orders of my superior officers and till war broke out I had nothing to do with the minorities issue and no opportunity to express my opinion."

As to his attitudes now, Barbie replied, "I harbor no hate toward these minorities. I never did. I don't know the meaning of hatred." He mentioned that his first employers when he arrived in Bolivia were "two German Jews."

#### Barbie Surprises Many

Barbie's performance at the trial surprised many inasmuch as he, rather than his maverick lawyer, Jacques Verges, held the spotlight and provided the only drama of the occasion. He showed a talent for sensing the optimum moment to make his statements.

At the opening session of the trial Tuesday, Barbie sat expressionless and seemingly unconcerned for the three hours it took for the court clerk to read the charges against him.

The principal charges are the mass arrests carried out at the Lyon Jewish community center in February 1943, the arrest and deportation of 44 Jewish children from a home in Izieu village near Lyon in April 1944 and the organization of the last convoy of deportees to Auschwitz in August 1944.

When, after the charges were read, the court asked the defendant if he wished to comment, Barbie rose and cried out in an accusatory tone, "After listening to the accusation I feel as if they tried to depict me as some sort of madman, as if I had run amok in Lyon machinegunning everyone to death, chasing after every Jew."

#### Extols National Socialism

On Wednesday, questioned with inordinate politeness by Cerdini, Barbie took the opportunity to lecture the court and extol National Socialism, though he spoke harshly of some of the "Nazi bosses" who "wanted power, position and personal wealth."

"I felt, like many of my SS comrades that the Nazi ideal was betrayed by the Nazi bosses," said Barbie.

When he was excused from the trial, he ostentatiously held out his hands for the manacles. Surprisingly, he was allowed a brief interview by French television as he was escorted from the courtroom. He reportedly decided to boycott the trial because after consultation with his attorney he was convinced he would be found guilty and sentenced to the maximum penalty, life imprisonment. There was no confirmation of this.

#### **ISRAELI MILITARY OFFICIALS PREDICT RENEWED ATTACKS FROM LEBANON**

TEL AVIV, May 13 (JTA) -- Israeli newspapers quoted senior military sources Wednesday who predicted an escalation of attacks and attempted hostage-taking by terrorist groups operating in Lebanon.

According to the sources, a group known as the Salvation Front will try to seize hostages for bargaining purposes. It does not want to lag behind the Palestine Liberation Organization which carried out the two most recent attempts, the sources said. They also predicted new attempts to infiltrate Israel by sea and more Katyusha rocket attacks on Israel territory.

A report in Haaretz offered a breakdown of the principal terrorist and guerrilla groups active in Lebanon. The Palestinian organizations have 10,000 fighters at their disposal scattered throughout the country. The largest is Yasir Arafat's El Fatah, with 4,000 armed men.

#### Thousands Of Terrorists In Lebanon

Haaretz said some 3,000 terrorists operate in the Sidon area, including 2,500 Arafat loyalists. Another 2,500 terrorists are in the Beirut area, including 1,500 members of El Fatah.

There are 500 terrorists in Tyre, including 150 Fatah; 700 in the Tripoli area; and 1,500 in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon, all members of the Salvation Front, Haaretz reported.

According to the report, a Palestinian with military experience who enlists in El Fatah is paid 6,000 Lebanese Pounds a month (about \$300). Members of the various Palestinian militias received \$100 a month.

The mainstream Shiite Moslem military organization is Amal, which has between 5,000-6,000 fighters in south Lebanon, Haaretz reported. Several hundred more Amal fighters operate in the Beirut area, mainly in the Moslem western part of the city. They have between 25-30 Soviet-made T-54 tanks supplied by the Syrian army.

Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian or Iranian-backed extremist Shiite force, has between 2,000-3,000 fighters with military training. Hezbollah has no central command. Its attacks are initiated by local headquarters, but all are approved by the Iranian-inspired religious-political leadership which includes Abas Musani, Ibrahim Abdallah and Sheikh Fadallah, Haaretz reported.

\*\*\*

VIENNA (JTA) -- Vandals overturned 34 gravestones and destroyed five of them in a Jewish cemetery in Eisenstadt in eastern Austria, Paul Gross, president of the Vienna Jewish community, reported Tuesday. He said the damage was discovered Sunday and that local police were informed by telephone from Vienna and are conducting an investigation. Gross could not say when the vandalism occurred but it appears to have been fairly recently.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE ROLE OF SOVIET-SUPPLIED EVIDENCE IN CASES OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA) -- The validity of Soviet-supplied evidence of Nazi war crimes in the Karl Linnas and Ivan Demjanjuk cases has been contested by defense lawyers, East European emigre groups and conservative political figures like Patrick Buchanan and William Buckley despite experts' testimony that the Soviets have never provided a forged document in such proceedings.

At various stages, these interested parties vocally protested the deportations of Linnas to Estonia several weeks ago and Demjanjuk to Israel to face war crimes charges, claiming the Soviet evidence was unreliable, forged or unacceptable.

In fact, Soviet evidence has been widely used in war crimes trials for the past 40 years, including the Nuremberg trials. There has never been a case of fabrication or perjury, said Eli Rosenbaum, World Jewish Congress (WJC) general counsel and a former prosecutor for the Office of Special Investigations (OSI).

### Fabrication Is Impossible

Moreover, U.S. documents intelligence experts have said it is impossible to fabricate the kinds of documents the Soviets have provided. The Red Army captured millions of documents the Nazis left behind or didn't have time to burn.

Rosenbaum added that about 95 percent of the documents the U.S. requests from the Soviets do not aid prosecutions and often exculpate known Nazi collaborators.

Early this week, a Tel Aviv University Sovietologist, Matityahu Meisel, testified in the Demjanjuk trial that he has never come across a forged Russian document and that the military documents from the war period are "correct, real and authentic."

Beyond their role in opposing specific evidence in these two cases, the emigre groups have organized opposition campaigns to all attempts by the Justice Department to find and prosecute suspected war criminals now residing in this country, according to Rosenbaum, who monitors the groups.

They also have access to officials in the White House and State Department and have claimed to be in possession of a classified Justice Department list of suspected Nazi war criminals under investigation in the U.S.

### War Criminals' Own Admissions

But the challenges to Soviet evidence have faded against the backdrop of Linnas' and Demjanjuk's own admissions which provided compelling evidence in their denaturalization trials of their links with atrocities of the Nazi regime.

When a federal prosecutor in Demjanjuk's original 1981 denaturalization trial in Cleveland asked the defendant if the Germans had given him a blood-type tattoo under his left arm, Demjanjuk answered "yes." Only SS men received the blood-type tattoos under the left arm near the armpit.

The prosecutor then asked Demjanjuk if he still had the tattoo. He replied "no." And what happened to it? the prosecutor probed. "I took it out," he replied. Demjanjuk then told the court that he had carved the tattoo out of his arm and only a scar remained. "So you maimed yourself, is

that right?" the prosecutor asked. "So it appears," the defendant answered.

In that court's decision to strip Demjanjuk of his U.S. citizenship, it cited the defendant's own admission that he had a blood-type tattoo, only issued to persons affiliated with the German SS.

Similarly, Karl Linnas admitted to his neighbors and reporters that he served as a guard at a camp in Tartu, Estonia, and that he served in the collaborationist Estonian Home Guard.

Both defendants were stripped of their U.S. citizenship and deported to face war crimes charges in other countries. In both cases, U.S. courts found the evidence presented in trials and appeals sufficient proof that Linnas and Demjanjuk committed war crimes and lied to gain entry into and ultimately become citizens of the U.S.

### Corroboration Of Western Sources

In both the Linnas and Demjanjuk cases, the Soviet-supplied evidence corroborated the great majority of evidence which came from Western sources, Rosenbaum said.

The main Soviet-supplied evidence in the Linnas case consisted of testimony of Estonian cohorts who also served in the Tartu camp and prisoner transfer documents signed by the camp chief -- Karl Linnas. The U.S. courts found these documents to be undeniably authentic.

The Soviet evidence in the Demjanjuk trial, an SS identity card which places him at the Sobibor concentration camp, showed the court little more than Demjanjuk himself admitted. On his application for a visa to enter the U.S. in 1951, Demjanjuk listed his residence between 1934 and 1943 as Sobibor where 300,000 people, mostly Jews, were killed in the death camp. Sobibor was razed in a prisoner uprising in 1943.

The only evidence that Demjanjuk served as a guard at Treblinka is eye witness testimony.

### Skepticism Of Soviet Evidence

Buchanan, the recently resigned White House Director of Communications, Buckley, a conservative columnist and editor, and Attorney General Edwin Meese are among the public figures skeptical of Soviet evidence in the two cases.

Buchanan, in a March 31 editorial in the New York Times wrote, "Why do a handful of us insist upon Mr. Demjanjuk's innocence? Because the only documentary evidence ever produced is Soviet-supplied -- a Nazi identification card from Trawniki, the like of which has never been seen again - - and because 'eyewitnesses' against him have contradicted themselves and each other under oath."

Buchanan also publicly questioned the need for OSI at all. In a television interview with Allan Ryan, former OSI head, Buchanan said, "You've got a great atrocity that occurred 35, 45 years ago, okay? Why continue to invest . . . put millions of dollars into investigating that? I mean, why keep a special office to investigate Nazi war crimes? . . . Why not abolish your office?"

Buchanan then added that he saw no "singularity" about the Holocaust that would merit the maintenance of OSI.

Buckley rallied to Linnas' defense in a New York Daily News column on Dec. 12, 1986. "The entire episode is judicially revolting," he wrote. "How is it possible to try someone on the basis of Soviet testimony which was written before the trial was actually conducted? Even if someone had films showing Linnas as a guard at a concentra-



tion camp in the early 40's, what is the appropriate penalty in 1986?" Both Buchanan and Buckley have reflected the same concerns expressed by East European emigre groups that have fought the extraditions of Linnas and Demjanjuk and funded their defense.

"I consider the Soviet evidence issue to be a smokescreen employed by the Baltic and Ukrainian groups and the radical right to conceal the real goal which is to bring Nazi prosecutions to an end," Rosenbaum said. Additionally, Buckley, Buchanan and many from the extreme right oppose extraditions to the Soviet Union and use of Soviet evidence out of a blind hatred for the Soviet Union, Rosenbaum said.

#### Views Of Emigre Groups

The Justice Department first became aware of the emigre groups in 1983, Rosenbaum said. The rise of the groups came in direct response to the establishment and activities of OSI and the entire network had no apparent purpose other than to oppose prosecution of Nazi war criminals. The groups are based in cities with large emigre populations; Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia and New York.

The two major organizations, the Coalition for Constitutional Justice and Security (CCJS) based in Mission Viejo near Los Angeles, and Americans for Due Process (ADP) in Long Island, N.Y., met recently with officials in the White House, State Department and National Security Council, according to Rosenbaum.

Representatives of the emigre groups also met recently with Meese to discuss the Linnas case. Meese came under fire from Jewish organizations for his unsuccessful attempts to secure refuge for Linnas in Panama and other countries before he deported him to Estonia several weeks ago. Rosenbaum said he monitors the emigre groups' publications with the help of Jewish Holocaust survivors who are fluent in Latvian, Lithuanian and Ukrainian.

The groups advocate the statute of limitations and amnesty for Nazi war criminals and have thousands of financial supporters for defense funds and special lawyers. They urge repeal of the 1978 law allowing deportation of war criminals.

Additionally, the CCSJ claimed in one publication that they have obtained the OSI's list of subjects of war crimes investigations which contains hundreds of names, Rosenbaum said. The publication said the document, which is classified information, was leaked to the organization by officials in the Justice Department.

"I shudder to think what this organization has done with this subject list," Rosenbaum said, adding the list could indicate who should flee the country to avoid prosecution.

"The Baltic and Ukrainian groups who wanted to stop these prosecutions don't like the fact that these prosecutions are educating the American people that the Holocaust was not perpetrated by the Germans alone but depended heavily on the assistance of willing collaborators throughout Eastern and Western Europe," Rosenbaum said.

#### **16-MONTH-OLD SEATTLE BOY ON LIST FOR SECOND LIVER TRANSPLANT**

By Craig Degginger, The Jewish Transcript

SEATTLE, Wash., May 13 (JTA) -- Alexander Tufel, a 16-month-old Jewish boy from Seattle, has been placed on the active list for a liver

transplant, which would be his second. He is listed in serious but stable condition after undergoing successful liver transplant surgery last Tuesday at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, according to a medical center spokesman.

"He came through the surgery well, with no complications," the boy's father, Alben Tufel, said last week. He said doctors were waiting to see if Alexander's body would accept the new organ. "All transplant patients show some signs of rejection," he said. "The question is, how strong will the rejection be?"

The spokesman said there were "serious signs of rejection."

Alexander was born Jan. 2, 1986 without a bile duct, a condition called biliary atresia. The bile duct drains the liver. He had surgery to fashion a bile duct, but a serious infection damaged his liver, necessitating the transplant.

Alexander and his mother, Dianne, moved to Los Angeles in January to be near UCLA when a donor liver became available. Her husband stayed in Seattle to care for the couple's two teenage children and continue his work as a teacher.

More than \$3,000 has been raised in the Jewish community here through the efforts of the Tufels' synagogue, Temple Beth Am, and The Jewish Transcript newspaper to help with the family's non-medical expenses. The toddler's medical expenses, estimated to be more than \$200,000, are being paid in full by the family's insurance carrier.

#### **TWO JDL MEMBERS RELEASED ON \$1 M BONDS** By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA) -- Two of three members of the Jewish Defense League (JDL)--charged in a Brooklyn Federal District Court with operating a criminal enterprise which masterminded six bomb and grenade attacks in this area--were released on \$1 million bonds Monday. A third JDL member was released on her own recognizance following the arrests Friday.

FBI agents arrested Victor Vancier, alias Chaim Ben Yosef, 30, of Queens; Jay Cohen, 23, of Queens; and Sharon Katz, 44, of Manhattan. They are charged with organizing and carrying out six incidents of fire-bombings and "terrorist" acts against Soviet diplomatic premises, visiting Soviet performers and against other Jewish Defense factions in the metropolitan areas.

Family members co-signed the million-dollar bonds for Vancier and Cohen and could forfeit their homes if the defendants do not appear for court dates. The court also ordered Cohen's travel limited to trips to and from work and Vancier must inform court officials each time he wants to leave his house.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles Rose said he expects a grand jury to indict the three in the near future. The accused will not enter pleas until the indictments are handed up.

Among the "terrorist" activities the three allegedly carried out were: The 1984 fire-bombing of a car in the Soviet Mission compound in Riverdale, NY, the 1985 and 1986 pipe bombings of cars in Howard Beach owned by members of rival Jewish defense groups; a 1986 firebombing at Avery Fisher Hall on the night of a performance on the Soviet State Symphony; and the tear-gas bombing at the Metropolitan Opera House in Manhattan September 1986 during a Moiseyev Dance Company performance. Twenty people were injured in the latter attack.

**HERUT UNANIMOUSLY REELECTS SHAMIR, BUT OTHER PARTY LEADERS TO BE CHALLENGED**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir was unanimously re-elected leader of Herut at the party's convention here Sunday. There was no opposition. The proceedings were conducted in good order, in sharp contrast to the scene a year ago when the convention broke up in chaos before any ballots were cast and Shamir, then Foreign Minister, had to be escorted from the hall under a police guard for his own protection.

But rivalries continue to simmer and may become apparent when ballots for other key party posts are counted by early Monday morning. Shamir appealed to the 2,000 delegates to vote for the three incumbents, all Cabinet Ministers, and to spurn the Knesset members challenging them. The party has been fermenting since Menachem Begin resigned from political life in 1983.

Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy is seeking re-election as deputy chairman of Herut. He was opposed by Herut MK Meir Cohen-Avidov. Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon was opposed for the office of Central Committee chairman by MK Eli Ovadia who also is Mayor of Afula. MK Yoram Aridor challenged Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens for the post of chairman of the party Secretariat.

**No Negotiations With PLO**

Shamir, in a brief, impassioned speech, vowed that the administered territories would belong to Israel forever. He denounced any form of international conference for Middle East peace and reiterated that Israel would never, under any circumstances, negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Although Shamir seems firmly ensconced as party leader, the consensus among observers is that he will be challenged again whenever new Knesset elections are announced.

**HERZOG RAPPED FOR REDUCING SENTENCES OF 3 MEMBERS OF JEWISH UNDERGROUND**

JERUSALEM, March 29 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog came under fire from both the Israeli left and right Sunday after commuting the life sentences of three members of a Jewish underground to a maximum of 24 years in prison.

Haim Kaufman, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction, said that while he welcomed the President's move on Friday, the three should be pardoned immediately. The Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), at the opposite side of the political spectrum, said it would fight against pardons for members of the underground by every legal, parliamentary and public means.

The three prisoners, Menahem Livni, Shaul Nir and Uzi Sharabaf, were sentenced to life terms for the machinegun attack on the Islamic College in Hebron seven years ago in which three students were killed.

Former President Ephraim Katzir was critical of his successor. In an interview published in Haaretz Sunday, Katzir expressed concern that

some people might misinterpret the President's decision as forgiveness of Israelis who commit crimes against Arabs. The President should not have dealt with the prisoners' thoughts or motives but rather with the terrible results of their deeds, Katzir said.

**ISRAELI SUPREME COURT WON'T DELAY SCHOLAR'S TESTIMONY IN 'IVAN' TRIAL**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- The defense of alleged war criminal John Demjanjuk suffered a setback Sunday when the Supreme Court rejected an appeal to delay presentation of evidence by historian Wolfgang Scheffler.

The motion by defense counsel Mark O'Connor had been denied earlier by the three-judge panel hearing the case in Jerusalem district court. O'Connor argued that the defense needed more time to study the testimony Scheffler will present.

But the high court ruled that it could not intervene. The Supreme Court has yet to decide on another appeal by O'Connor calling on the district court judges to disqualify themselves because of alleged bias against the defendant and his attorneys.

Israel Radio reported Sunday that O'Connor expects to receive evidence from the U.S. that will disprove the authenticity of the so-called Trawniki document, the SS identification card issued at the Trawniki camp where Ukrainians were trained for duties at the Treblinka death camp.

The card, bearing the photograph and physical details of Demjanjuk, was obtained from the Soviet Union. According to the defense, it is a forgery. Demjanjuk is alleged to be the sadistic Treblinka guard known to inmates as "Ivan the Terrible." He claims he was a German POW during the war and never set foot near Treblinka.

**CARTER REBUKES ISRAEL FOR OCCUPATION OF TERRITORIES, PUSHES INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE INCLUDING SYRIA**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 29 (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter spent his weekend meeting Palestinians, touring the West Bank and rebuking Israelis for their continued occupation of the territories. He spoke out strongly for an international conference on Middle East peace and insisted that Syria would be willing to participate.

He said he would recommend to the Reagan Administration that it support an international conference and that it talk to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Carter arrived here Thursday across the Allenby Bridge from Jordan, on the final leg of his Middle East tour. Earlier he had conferred with Egyptian officials in Cairo, Syrian President Hafez Assad in Damascus and King Hussein in Amman. The former President stressed repeatedly that he was travelling in private capacity and spoke for no one but himself.

Carter expressed his views at a closed meeting with Israeli academicians and newspaper editors at Tel Aviv University Sunday. Several of

those who attended said later he was outspokenly critical of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and more sanguine than most Israelis of Arab willingness to come to the peace table. Some of his questioners said he seemed much too optimistic about Assad's readiness to negotiate with Israel.

#### Full Schedule

Carter visited the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron Saturday and told reporters afterwards that the fact Jews and Arabs lived together in that West Bank town was no indication of possible co-existence in the entire territory. He noted the presence of armed Israeli soldiers at the Tomb, a shrine sacred to Jews and Moslems. "It is obvious that they (the Palestinians) are living in very unpleasant circumstances," he said.

Carter gave a reception Friday night in honor of 19 Palestinian leaders at the American Consulate in Jerusalem. He was later the dinner guest at the home of Dr. Yasser Obeid in Ramallah, the Jordanian official in charge of health services in the West Bank.

Carter lunched Saturday with Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem and on Sunday he visited the Agricultural Research Institution at Beit-Dagga and paid a call at the home of Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman in Caesaria.

On Sunday night he was the guest of Abdul Wahab Darawshe, an Arab Labor MK, at his home in Iskal village near Nazareth. Carter will receive an honorary degree from Haifa University Monday.

Last Friday, the former President was joined by his wife Rosalynn, who had spent an extra day in Jordan. Together they placed a wreath on the grave of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister.

#### **CARTER REITERATES STAND THAT MIDEAST PEACE NEEDS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE** By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 29 (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter stressed Sunday that an international conference is the only way to move the peace process forward in the Middle East.

Carter, interviewed from Tel Aviv on NBC TV's "Meet the Press" at the conclusion of his Middle East visit, said there has been a "very significant move forward" in the area since his last visit there four years ago. He said Syrian President Hafez Assad told him he would negotiate with Israel in the context of an international conference, something he has previously rejected.

In addition, the Palestinians on the West Bank, Gaza and "perhaps" Yasir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization also have indicated a willingness to participate in such a conference, Carter said.

"I certainly understand the animosity that exists, the mistrust that exists between the Palestinian people and the Israelis," he said. "This is a matter that can only be overcome, in my judgment, by a comprehensive approach which is now possible, in my judgment, through an international peace conference."

Carter did not say whether such a conference should include the Soviet Union and the four other permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, as King Hussein of Jordan has demanded. Both the Reagan Administration and Israel have rejected Soviet participation as long as the USSR does not have diplomatic relations

with Israel. Carter indicated a belief that Arafat is moving toward approval of Palestinians who are not leaders of the PLO to represent the Palestinians at an international conference.

"I've never met with Arafat and I don't know him," the former President said. "My understanding is that in the format of a peace process that is definitive in nature, that he is willing to do these things in order to be accepted as a spokesman for the Palestinians, or even so he can designate someone to represent him as a spokesman."

Carter was referring to the U.S. conditions that the PLO recognize Israel's right to exist and accept UN Security Council resolution 242 before the U.S. would recognize or negotiate with the PLO.

As President, Carter said he was "constrained" by these conditions which were first made as a commitment to Israel by President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Carter noted that the PLO has not yet met the conditions, but "when they do so in order to participate fully in an international peace conference" the U.S. should have "a meeting with the PLO leadership."

The former President defended his criticism of the Reagan Administration during his Mideast visit, noting he has been "much more reticent overseas than I have at home."

He explained that he did not disagree with the Administration's Mideast policy as expressed by President Reagan in his September 1, 1982 speech. But he criticized the Administration for its failure "to put Middle East peace as one of its high priorities."

#### Shows Understanding Of Israel

Carter rejected a suggestion that Israel has "abused its relationship" with the U.S. by the Iran arms deal and the Pollard spy case. He said he has talked with the people carrying out the government and Knesset investigations of the Pollard case in Israel and has been assured the probes will be thorough.

"I have urged the Israeli leaders to make the information public once the investigations are complete" to assure acceptance of the results in the U.S., Carter said.

The former President seemed to indicate understanding of Israel's effort on behalf of the U.S. in the Iran affair. "I certainly don't blame Israel for nurturing this alliance" with the U.S., he said.

#### **REPRESENTATIVES OF ISRAEL, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC MEET AT UN, BUT NO BREAKTHROUGH SEEN IN RELATIONS**

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- A spokesperson for Israel's Mission to the United Nations confirmed Sunday that a meeting took place at the UN between an Israeli senior official and a diplomat of the People's Republic of China.

The spokesman, Eyal Arad, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the meeting Friday between Avraham Tamir, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Li Luye, China's permanent representative to the UN, was held within "a UN context and not as a bilateral meeting between the two countries."

The meeting was reported in Beijing Saturday in a dispatch from the official New China News Agency. But Arad played down any special significance. "Beyond the fact that it's really

important that we meet, there is nothing extraordinary to this meeting," he said.

He stressed that Tamir and Li, who was President of the Security Council in February, held their talk within the framework of ongoing discussions in the Security Council on the Middle East peace process. No details were revealed.

Arad said he saw no direct connection between the UN talks and developments last week at the Asian-Jewish colloquium in Hong Kong, where it was revealed that hints had been dropped by the People's Republic that it would like its academicians to study Hebrew and Zionism at Western universities.

"We don't need to look at such meetings as unusual; they're becoming the norm," Arad said, explaining that they were "part of the normalization of Israel's position in international affairs. This normalization is something we have sought since the creation of the State."

Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel acknowledged on a radio interview in Jerusalem Friday that Israel was making efforts to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic. He said it was not on the verge of a breakthrough, but rather that there was "a breakthrough of paving the way."

Sources in Israel said the meeting between Tamir and Li was the first openly acknowledged contact between the two countries, although previous unpublicized meetings have taken place.

#### **SELLA, MAJOR FIGURE IN POLLARD AFFAIR, RESIGNS COMMAND OF ISRAELI AIR BASE**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 29 (JTA) -- Col. Aviem Sella, one of two senior Israeli officials linked to the Jonathan Pollard spy case, announced Sunday his resignation as commander of the Tel Nof air base, a post to which he was appointed only a few weeks ago. It is Israel's second largest air base.

Sella stated in a letter to Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Amos Lapidot that he was relinquishing his command with regret in order to help preserve good relations between the governments of Israel and the United States and not to harm relations with the American Jewish community.

Anger in Washington and a storm of criticism by many in Israel greeted Sella's appointment to head the air base. It was announced only a day before Pollard was sentenced to life imprisonment for spying for Israel. Pollard confessed he was recruited by Sella, who gave him his espionage assignments.

Sella's letter of resignation was ratified by Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy and sent to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for final acceptance. Sella, a much decorated war hero, remains in the Air Force but his future assignment is unknown.

In addition to Sella's advancement, the U.S. was deeply disturbed by the appointment of former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan to the chairmanship of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. Eitan, former director of the Defense Ministry's scientific relations department, headed Pollard's spy unit, known as LEKEM, which has since been disbanded.

#### **TWO JEWISH LEADERS OPTIMISTIC AFTER 3-DAY VISIT TO MOSCOW**

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- Two American Jewish leaders returned Sunday from a three-day visit to Moscow during which they met with high government and Communist Party officials for what they described as a "candid discussion on the subject of Soviet Jews in all of its aspects." They said they were optimistic.

Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, and Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, also met with leaders and members of the local Jewish community before concluding their stay in Moscow Friday.

They stated that while they were satisfied with the mood in the streets, and tone of their discussions, "it would not be productive at this time to go into details." They agreed that "events of the next few months will tell whether the optimistic mood in which we returned is justified."

#### **NETHERLANDS SUPPORTS OPENING OF UN WAR CRIMES ARCHIVES, SPOKESMAN SAYS**

AMSTERDAM, March 29 (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said Friday that The Netherlands supports the opening of the United Nations archives on war criminals to all member states of the UN and to private individuals and institutions engaged in serious research.

The archives were compiled between 1943-47 by the now defunct United Nations War Crimes Commission, Israel's request for access was denied last week by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on grounds that all but one of the Commission's 17 member states wanted them closed. The only dissenting country was Australia.

#### **TERRORIST LINKED TO ROME AIRPORT BOMBING SENTENCED IN GREECE**

ATHENS, March 29 (JTA) -- A Palestinian terrorist linked to the October 1982 bombing of the main synagogue in Rome was sentenced here to two years' imprisonment Friday, shortly after completing 19 months of a 20-month sentence for smuggling explosives into Greece.

Zomar Osana was convicted on charges of carrying an illegal weapon in jail while awaiting trial, attempting to escape and resisting a prison guard. But his sentence was seen by many here as another move by the government to avoid extraditing Osana to Italy where he would face possible life imprisonment if convicted of the synagogue attack which killed a two-year-old child.

His extradition was ordered by two appeals courts in 1984 and upheld by the Supreme Court in a unanimous decision. In March 1985, the Minister of Justice signed the extradition order. But three days later it was rescinded on grounds that Osana was under investigation for an attempted terrorist attack at Athens airport, notwithstanding that he was in jail at the time. A grand jury refused to indict him.

\*\*\*

AMSTERDAM (JTA) -- Donations from various sources allowed restoration work to begin on the dilapidated house in Rijnsburg, near Leyden, where Jewish philosopher Baruch Spinoza lived.

**NEW YORK UJA-FEDERATION WILL URGE JEWISH AGENCY REFORMS, AS AGENCY RAISES ALLOCATIONS TO NON-ORTHODOX**  
By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, March 29 (JTA) -- A committee of the UJA-Federation of New York has approved in principle a report that will commit the agency to work for the depoliticization and modernization of the primary beneficiary of its funds, the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Thus the largest fund-raising body of any single Jewish community will ask the Israeli quasi-governmental social service instrument to open its allocation procedures to allow for greater input from diaspora Jewry and increased funding for programs of the Conservative and Reform movements in Israel.

The report, drafted by a Jewishly heterogeneous ad hoc committee led by Rabbi Saul Tepplitz of Congregation Sons of Israel in Woodmere, N.Y., also directs the UJA-Federation to strengthen its own Jewish Agency Committee and consider the committee's work to be "of highest priority."

That committee unanimously approved the thrust of the report Wednesday, and a subcommittee will be appointed to examine suggested modifications, none substantive, according to UJA-Federation executive vice-president Ernest Michel. He expects the report to be ready for the consideration, and approval, of the full UJA-Federation board in May.

About \$70 Million

The UJA-Federation sends about 70 percent of the money it raises annually, after expenses, through the United Jewish Appeal and then the United Israel Appeal to the Jewish Agency, which disperses it to a variety of social service and educational programs in Israel. Last year that was about \$70 million, according to Michel. That sum is nearly 20 percent of the Jewish Agency's budget.

But the report contended that the variety of recipients was too narrow. "(T)he Jewish Agency allocates more to institutions and programs affiliated with various Orthodox groups than to those affiliated with Conservative and Reform groups," the report said. The latter two movements have been heatedly arguing that very point for several years.

The report found no "evidence of an overt policy of discrimination against any of the three religious movements by the Jewish Agency. However, the perception of inequity is not unfounded..."

This disparity reflects Israeli society, according to the report, specifically that: one percent of the Israeli population is Conservative or Reform; the Orthodox-dominated "state-established religious system ... does not recognize the legitimacy of Conservative or Reform Judaism"; and that those movements don't have the power of the Orthodox political parties to influence Jewish Agency decisions.

The report committee, comprising six principal members of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform organizations, interviewed 46 leading Israelis from throughout the religious and political spectra from February 1-5.

The committee concluded that the Jewish Agency "functions in the world of a generation ago" and is most concerned with protecting the status quo. That old reality, the report asserted, was created "at a time when there was little

active participation in Israeli society by apolitical religious movements..."

New requests for funds are lost in the Jewish Agency's bureaucratic shuffle or delayed "indefinitely for insufficient reasons," the report charged.

The 66-year-old Jewish Agency has undergone several reforms since 1971, when it formally separated its functions from those of the World Zionist Organization, the representative body of Zionist groups and a liaison between Israel and the diaspora.

WZO representatives continue to sit on Jewish Agency policy-making bodies, but the diaspora Jewry fund-raisers and program-planners are demanding and receiving improved fiscal accountability and a greater say. This was made official with the 1981 Caesaria Process.

More Funds To Non-Orthodox

These reforms may explain a breakthrough of sorts for the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel. The Jewish Agency plans to allocate about \$2.5 million to their programs this year, Jewish Agency treasurer Akiva Lewinsky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Jerusalem Thursday.

That's more than five times what they received last year. Still, the programs of the Israeli Orthodox are to receive a reported \$30 million. Meanwhile, programs of American Orthodox institutions will receive a reported \$600,000.

Of the diaspora protesters, the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation (JCF) could be considered the loudest. Claiming the Jewish Agency isn't addressing JCF members' concerns, the JCF has taken the unique step of planning to donate \$100,000 directly to programs in Israel that stress intergroup and intragroup relations, bypassing the Jewish Agency. But JCF will continue to send more than \$8 million annually to the Jewish Agency.

Michel of the UJA-Federation stressed to the JTA that the San Francisco action had no bearing on his agency's report, that his agency has taken no official position on the action and that he and probably a majority of the UJA-Federation leadership disapprove of it.

Once ratified, the UJA-Federation report will be relayed to the Jewish Agency, where Michel anticipates a good reception. "They welcome a greater involvement," he said.

The report noted that the Jewish Agency "has the ability to change and to prepare for the years ahead" as demonstrated by the "initial positive response to requests from the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform movements."

**FORMER REFUSENIK MAGARIK CAMPAIGNING FOR RELEASE OF SON FROM SOVIET PRISON**

AMSTERDAM, March 29 (JTA) -- Vladimir Magarik, who left the Soviet Union for Israel in 1982, is visiting here this week to arouse public opinion to the plight of his son, Aleksei Magarik, now serving a three-year sentence in a Soviet labor camp for alleged possession of illegal drugs.

The younger Magarik, who had been teaching Hebrew clandestinely since 1978, was arrested last year at the airport at Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, and charged with carrying more than three grams of hashish. His imminent release was recently proclaimed by Samuil Zivs, a Soviet spokesman on Jewish affairs. But according to the older Magarik, his son continues to be imprisoned on false charges and is confined to an isolation cell.

**CABINET-SPONSORED PROBE INTO POLLARD SPY CASE CONTINUES TO MARK TIME**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 23 (JTA) -- A Cabinet-sponsored probe into the Jonathan Pollard spy case, stalled before it got started because the first witnesses refused to testify, continued to mark time Sunday while their lawyer dickered with Attorney General Yosef Harish for immunity from prosecution.

David Libai, legal counsel for three former Israeli diplomatic attaches in the U.S., is seeking a written commitment from Harish that no information emerging from the investigation will be transferred to the American authorities. Libai advised his clients last week not to testify lest they incriminate themselves and face espionage charges in the U.S.

The three are Yosef Yagur, former scientific attache at the Israel Consulate General in New York; Ilan Ravid, former aide to the scientific attache at the Israel Embassy in Washington; and Irit Erb, former secretary at the scientific attache's office in Washington. All allegedly had dealings with Pollard, who has been sentenced to life imprisonment for spying for Israel. They left the U.S. immediately after his arrest in 1985.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres disclosed at Sunday's Cabinet meeting that the State is paying legal expenses for the three former government employes. Other Ministers despaired that the two-man inquiry committee could proceed unless the three agreed to testify. If not, there would be no alternative but to establish a full-scale judicial commission to carry on the investigation with power to subpoena witnesses under oath.

It was precisely to avoid a broader inquiry that the Inner Cabinet appointed the two-man body consisting of Tel Aviv lawyer Yehoshua Rotenstreich and former Chief of Staff Gen. Zvi Tsur.

Tsur may soon leave on a 10-day business trip which would further delay the committee's work. Premier Yitzhak Shamir was optimistic that the problem of testimony could be solved through "dialogue." He stressed that the government did not intend to pass any testimony on to "exterior bodies."

**SOLON PROTESTS U.S. PLANS TO SELL ADVANCED ANTI-TANK SHELL TO ARABS**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 23 (JTA) -- Sen. Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) has protested to the Reagan Administration about its plans to sell the United States' most sophisticated anti-tank shell to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan and Bahrain. Specter lodged his protest in a meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz and in a letter to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger last week.

The shell, made out of depleted uranium, has never been provided to the U.S.'s NATO allies or Israel, according to Michael Gale, an aide to Specter.

The U.S. plans to sell 15,000 of the 105-millimeter shells to Saudi Arabia, 10,000 to Egypt, 2,000 to Jordan and 1,800 to Bahrain at a cost of

\$635 per shell, Gale said. He added that in May 1986, the Department of Defense began negotiations with Egypt for co-production of the shell.

In his letter to Weinberger, Specter said that such a "transfer of technology" could upset the "precarious military balance" in the Middle East. He also warned of the danger of the shells falling into the hands of "radical" elements.

The shells can penetrate tanks and set them ablaze, Gale said. Although the depleted uranium can be converted into plutonium for use as nuclear weapons, this is a long and costly operation, he noted. However, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has prohibited the sale of the shells to Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, according to Gale.

**CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 23 (JTA) -- The Al-Sam Association which combats drug abuse has launched a national campaign to educate the public to the problem. This follows a survey by the group which showed that between 10,000-20,000 adults in Israel use drugs regularly and about 10 percent of youths, between ages 14-18, use drugs at least once.

According to Amos Prushman, chairman of Al-Sam, even one-time use is cause for concern because a small percentage of the young population will be induced to more frequent consumption of drugs.

The Tel Aviv municipality's youth division recently conducted its own survey among 800 young residents of impoverished neighborhoods. It found 21 percent used drugs or come from families of drug addicts.

Public alarm was aroused last week when customs inspectors at Ben Gurion Airport caught a person smuggling crack, a cheap derivative of cocaine, into the country for the first time.

Al-Sam, which concentrates on preventing addiction in the 14-18 age group, can no longer work on a voluntary basis but needs government support, according to its national director, Levana Zamir. Zamir suggested the creation of a ministerial committee headed by the Prime Minister to cope with the problem.

An inter-ministerial committee recently recommended establishment of a national authority to combat drug usage. But that triggered a debate over who would run the authority and with what budget. So far the recommendation has not been implemented.

**CANCER VICTIM GETS EXIT VISA**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 23 (JTA) -- A refusenik cancer victim who suffered a heart attack at the Leningrad OVIR emigration office has been granted an exit visa, according to reports from Soviet Jewry activists in Israel and the United States. Yuri Shpeizman, sick with lymphosarcoma, got the news from his wife, Nelly, at the Leningrad hospital where he has been since March 11.

Shpeizman collapsed minutes after leaving OVIR, where he had been told his frequently refused application was incomplete and needed a

new photograph, according to his daughter in Jerusalem, Rita Levin.

Nelly Shpeizman has been very active in publicizing her husband's condition by joining the hunger-striking women refuseniks who fasted concurrent with the International Women's Day observances. Their fast ended a day before Shpeizman had his heart attack. Nelly Shpeizman was also among eight signators to a telegram sent to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last week saying they were tired of waiting to emigrate and would demonstrate this week.

Levin has been campaigning for her father's release, along with the help of Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel. On Monday, she began a vigil in front of the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv despite her father's impending release, to help publicize the plight of another Soviet cancer victim, Benjamin Charny. Charny, 49, who suffers from cancer and serious heart problems, is the fifth of an original group of five cancer patients organized as the International Cancer Patients Solidarity Committee by a Montreal oncologist, Dr. Gerald Batist. The other four, including Inna Meiman, were released in recent months. Meiman died in Washington on February 9.

#### Series Of Vigils Under Way, Planned

Benjamin Charny's brother, Leon Charny, a Soviet emigre studying at MIT, began a vigil Monday in front of the Soviet Embassy in Washington to make his brother's plight known, as well as to publicize the eight other known cancer patients, of whom the youngest is eight years old.

Charny is carrying a placard publicizing the recent deaths of cancer victims Inna Meiman and Michael Shirman, both of whom died because of delayed treatments resulting from the Soviets' refusal to accommodate their urgent medical needs.

The Charny brothers applied to emigrate in 1979, in two separate OVIR offices in Moscow. Leon was given a visa; Benjamin was not, with reasons of "state secrets" given for his refusal.

Two weeks after Leon Charny left for America, Benjamin was diagnosed as having malignant melanoma -- skin cancer. Since then, he has suffered from a host of other ailments.

The two brothers are extremely close; Benjamin, 15 years older than Leon, raised his teenage brother like a son after the death of their father 20 years ago, and their mother 14 years ago.

Benjamin's wife, Yadwiga, will begin a hunger strike Wednesday in Moscow along with her son-in-law, Yuri Blank. Blank's wife, Anna, wanted to demonstrate but cannot because she is six months pregnant. The Blanks were refused exit visas in 1983 because Charny is a refusenik.

On Tuesday, Leon Charny will meet with Sens. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) and John Carey (D. Mass.) in a meeting organized by the Massachusetts Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

In addition, Alexander Slepak, son of long-time refuseniks Vladimir and Masha Slepak, will begin a 19-day hunger strike Friday in the Capitol.

#### **JDC GETS \$150,000 GRANT FOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECT IN ETHIOPIA**

NEW YORK, March 23 (JTA) -- United Support of Artists for Africa has granted the

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) \$150,000 for an agricultural recovery project in the Gondar region of Ethiopia, according to JDC president Heinz Eppler. USA for Africa was founded in 1985 in response to the reports of widespread famine in Ethiopia. It gained immediate prominence with the song and music video, "We Are the World."

The JDC will use the funds to buy oxen, seeds, and tools that will help farmers regain self-sufficiency. "After so many years of famine," Eppler said, "thousand of rural families have completely lost their ability to continue farming. They have to start over from scratch, but they have nothing to start with."

Sylvia Hassenfeld, chairman of the JDC Committee on the Third World, said "Restoring traditional life styles and rebuilding the farmers' productivity is far more cost-effective than perpetuating the relief syndrome. We are very grateful for USA for Africa's support, and we look forward to working together to help Ethiopians recover from the horrible effects of drought and famine."

The project will help about 12,000 families, or 60,000 people, according to JDC executive vice president Ralph Goldman. "All are farmers who were directly affected by the emergency," he explained. "Either they were displaced from their homes, or they sold their tools and oxen during the worst of the drought to buy food."

Goldman said the oxen, seeds, fertilizer, and other supplies will be bought in Ethiopia and then distributed in the designated area.

JDC has been providing non-sectarian assistance in the Gondar region since 1983. In addition to the agricultural recovery project, JDC has built a health center in the village of Tedda and is planning a polyclinic in the town of Gondar.

#### **IDF PLANES HIT TERRORIST TARGETS**

TEL AVIV, March 23 (JTA) -- Israel Air Force planes attacked terrorist targets south of Sidon Monday morning and returned safely to their bases, a military spokesman announced. The attack was the second since Friday and the ninth in Lebanon since the beginning of the year.

It followed the firing of Katyusha rockets into Upper Galilee Sunday and several hostile acts against IDF units in the South Lebanon security zone over the weekend.

The targets were described as buildings which served as terrorist headquarters for planning attacks on Israel and as an arms storage depot.

#### **EBAN DECLINES JOB AS ENVOY TO U.S.**

TEL AVIV, March 23 (JTA) -- Abba Eban has politely declined a proposal that he become Israel's next Ambassador to the United States, a post he held with distinction from 1950-1959.

The suggestion was made by Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar last week that one of the three former envoys to Washington now in the Knesset be named to succeed the current Ambassador Meir Rosenne, inasmuch as Labor and Likud have been unable to agree on a successor. In addition to Eban they are Simcha Dinitz and Moshe Arens.

Asked by an Israel Radio reporter if he would take the job, Eban replied, "no, thanks." The same response is expected from Dinitz and Arens.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES  
A SOARING EXPERIENCE  
By Margie Olster**

JERUSALEM, March 23 (JTA) -- The mission of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish organizations veered sharply away from the Jonathan Pollard spy case and politics to soar into the wild blue yonder.

The leaders of 40 American Jewish organizations, headed by Conference chairman Morris Abram, were introduced to two state-of-the-art combat aircraft -- the Israel-built Lavi now undergoing rigorous test flights and the American-made F-16, six of which were delivered last Thursday to an Israel Air Force base after an 8,000-mile flight from Fort Worth, Texas. This brought to nine the number delivered to date.

It was an interesting juxtaposition. The F-16s, which are already part of the Israel Air Force, may be the nemesis of the Lavi, which aspires to be Israel's second-generation jet fighter-bomber. The two aircraft may be said to be in mortal combat, not in their natural element but in computer cost projections.

The Pentagon, and many in Israel, are convinced that the Lavi, with all of its high-tech wonders, is too costly to produce. The Americans are pushing the latest model F-16s, tried and tested in combat and bruited to be one-third to one-half cheaper.

But Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), manufacturer of the Lavi, is fiercely proud of its product and makes a strong case. The American Jewish leaders were invited to IAI's complex at Ben Gurion Airport to witness test flight No. 20 of Lavi prototype No. 1, and to hear an earnest sales pitch from IAI executives -- as if they were in the market for a good jet fighter.

**Small Is Beautiful**

The plane itself is almost toylike in appearance -- a small white fuselage and tail bearing a blue Star of David. But small is beautiful in the world of aeronautical engineering. A jet is no more, essentially, than a metal pipe where kerosene and compressed air are combined to generate enormous power. Here, as in many other unprepossessing vehicles, it's the options which count.

As the Lavi prototype zoomed off the runway at a sharp angle and swiftly became a dot in the cloudless blue sky, IAI president Moshe Kerret ushered his guests into an auditorium for an hour-long briefing on the issues of cost and quality of the Lavi program and an analysis of why the U.S. government is so set against it.

First of all, Kerret stressed, the purpose of the Lavi is to defend Israel, not to create jobs and high-tech spin-offs for Israel's industry. It will do those things, of course. The project is a stimulus to other technology-based industries and employs about 4,000 people, more than half of them engineers.

The U.S. government acknowledges Israel's need for the Lavi, according to a Defense Department report, Kerret said. The main risks, the Pentagon maintains, are related to schedule delays and cost increases. The Defense Department contends that Israel seriously underestimated the cost of the Lavi program.

(So did the Israel State Comptroller in a scathing report issued several months ago. See March 23 JTA Daily News Bulletin.)

But Nissan Abel, head of IAI's advanced projects, who joined Kerret on the platform, declared that the project is on schedule and cost overruns are slight. The Lavi's performance is also better than expected, he said.

Abel dwelt on what he said were the Lavi's advantages over alternatives, including the F-16s. The Lavi has advanced human engineering. It has a superior digital computerized system for the pilot. Because it is designed and built by Israelis, it is better suited to Israel's special needs than any other aircraft. And because it is built at home, modifications can be made more easily than on foreign-built planes, Abel said.

Abel explained that the digital computerized systems in planes like the F-16 are almost impossible to modify because the manufacturer keeps the software and gives the purchaser only a "black box" which controls the system.

He said that was one of the reasons Israel twice requested licenses to build the F-16 in Israel. It was rejected both times. But now that Israel has produced the Lavi prototype, the U.S. has offered five licenses to build the F-16 here, Abel said.

As for costs, the Lavi program, which includes the development and production of 300 jet fighters, has a \$9.1 billion price tag. The U.S. estimates the same number of F-16s at about half the price. But that figure does not include the cost of electronic warfare equipment, Abel pointed out. If equipment is figured in, the F-16s will cost as much as the Lavi and possibly more, he said.

But the real issue cannot be measured in cost. Its value lies in Israel's capability to produce its own major weapons system, the IAI executive said.

From the briefing room, the American Jewish leaders filed aboard an ancient Hercules transport plane for a 15-minute flight to an air base in northern Israel.

**F-16s Make An Appearance**

There was a large welcoming committee on hand and as they all looked skyward, a V-formation of F-16s appeared out of the blue, escorted by several Israeli jets. They circled the landing field once, peeled off and dropped smoothly to the tarmac a few hundred feet from the assembled onlookers. These were F-16Cs, the "C" designating the most advanced model. Israel has ordered 75 of them.

The American pilots, glad their grueling non-stop delivery flight from Texas was over, emerged from their plastic bubbles and waved to the applauding crowd.

The Israel Air Force formally took over. And as the American Jewish leaders boarded their purple, state-of-the-art tour buses for the ride back to Jerusalem, they were doubtlessly pondering the advantages of Lavi vs. F-16.

\*\*\*

PARIS (JTA) -- Five Tunisians were arrested here Sunday on suspicion of membership in a terrorist organization. Police who raided their flat and seized quantities of arms and explosives would not say whether the suspects belong to Abu Nidal's extremist terrorist gang or to the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organization which is headquartered in Tunis.



**SPECIAL TO THE JTA  
EFFORT BY CHINESE ACADEMICS TO  
STUDY ZIONISM AND HEBREW TO BE  
AIDED BY GROUP OF AUSTRALIAN JEWS**  
By David Landau

HONG KONG, March 23 (JTA) -- The People's Republic of China has hinted that it would like its academics to study Hebrew and Zionism in Western universities, and a group of leading Australian Jews proposes to launch a foundation to facilitate this.

The hints were dropped during recent informal contacts between the Jewish activists and key Chinese academics who are also involved in the Beijing government policymaking.

The Australian Jews, led by tourism tycoon Isi Leibler of Melbourne, want to involve the World Jewish Congress in their effort. Leibler, who has travelled to Beijing at the head of an Australian Jewish delegation, believes that a serious cultural dialogue between the two peoples would contribute, in the longer term, to political normalization between the People's Republic and the Jewish people.

Top Chinese academics have indicated to Leibler and his associates that they are aware of, and concerned over, their country's profound unfamiliarity with Hebrew scholarship and Jewish affairs at the academic level. They expressed their active interest in sending young scholars abroad to attempt to fill this lacuna.

**A Step Toward Cultural Dialogue**

One small but symbolic step in the direction of cultural dialogue is the participation here this week of Chinese Jewish writer Sidney Shapiro in the Asian-Jewish colloquium, a biennial event organized by Leibler and his Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs.

Shapiro, an American who moved to China in 1947 and recently produced a book on the ancient Jewish community of Kai Feng, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that while he did not represent Beijing at the colloquium, his presence at the gathering was indeed intended as a goodwill gesture by China.

Meanwhile, Israel's top China-watcher Sunday appealed to Asian Jewish communities to help Israel by providing a framework for a preliminary dialogue with China and other regional states with which Israel has no formal relations.

**Areas Of Israel-China Cooperation**

Reuven Merhav, Consul-General in Hong Kong, told the Asia Pacific Jewish Association (APJA) that the Chinese recognize Jewish solidarity -- with world Jewry and with Israel. While a move towards diplomatic recognition was not imminent, Merhav said, there were niches where Israel and China would usefully trade and cooperate. He urged Jewish businessmen in this region to help Israel identify such niches.

Merhav charged that Israeli governments had neglected the vast and growing potential of Asia. Jerusalem should send out its best diplomats, he said, and they should buckle down to learn the realities of the region.

The APJA embraces a dozen small -- some tiny -- Jewish communities under the leadership of Australia.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA  
A VICTORY FOR ORTHODOX JUDAISM**  
By David Landau

HONG KONG, March 23 (JTA) -- Orthodox Judaism achieved a minor victory in this unlikely venue here Sunday when rabbis from around the Pacific region resolved to subordinate themselves halachically to the (Orthodox) Melbourne and Sydney Batei Din, (religious courts).

The rabbis, from such far-off communities as Singapore and Tokyo, decided to submit all their conversions and divorces to these ecclesiastical courts for halachic endorsement.

The rabbis, meeting under the auspices of the Asia Pacific Jewish Association (APJA), founded their own rabbinic fraternity and said it would be open to all members agreeing to accept the Australian Batei Din's authority.

Rabbi Michael Schudrich of Tokyo, a graduate of the (Conservative) Jewish Theological Seminary of America, said: "I care about my converts. I want them to be recognized internationally." He expressed confidence that his own teaching program for would-be converts would meet the Australian Batei Din's requirements.

Rabbis Isaac Ben Zakin of Singapore, Meir Bensoussan of Hong Kong, Schudrich and other regional rabbis present conceded that by no means were all of their congregants Orthodox but they believed that if they as rabbis were dynamic and caring their congregants would not interfere in halachic affiliation.

A number of APJA communities -- among them Bangkok, Taiwan, New Caledonia and Singapore -- issued a call to Jewishly knowledgeable students or graduates in larger communities to come to the region for six months or a year of service with the communities, especially with their youth.

**JDC TO AID ECUADORIAN QUAKE VICTIMS**

NEW YORK, March 23 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) is responding to the earthquake in Ecuador by opening its mailbox to donations for emergency relief and by implementing an assistance on behalf of the American Jewish Community.

President Heinz Eppler said the program will give people here the opportunity to offer financial assistance to Ecuadorians left homeless by the earthquake. JDC has opened its mailbox in past cases of natural disasters around the world, including crises in Mexico, Colombia and most recently, El Salvador.

JDC's Third World Development Projects committee, chaired by Sylvia Hassenfeld, will study the needs of the Ecuadorian survivors and how the JDC can be of assistance.

JDC executive vice president, Ralph Goldman, noted that the 'Open Mailbox' parallels the actions of Catholic, Protestant, and nonsectarian agencies providing humanitarian service to the disaster victims. "In the past, the 'Open Mailbox' has made possible a generous outpouring of support from the American Jewish Community."

People wishing to help may send contributions to: Ecuador Relief, Joint Distribution Committee, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

**SHAMIR SAYS U.S. WOULD NOT SEE  
TESTIMONY OF THREE WHO REFUSE  
TO APPEAR BEFORE POLLARD PANEL**  
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- The three Israeli diplomats who refuse to appear before an independent Israeli commission investigating the Pollard affair can testify without fear of their remarks being turned over to the United States, Premier Yitzhak Shamir wrote to the trio's attorney Friday.

The three -- Irit Erb, Ilan Ravid and Yosef Yagur, all who formerly served in the U.S.-- have been advised by attorney David Libai not to testify before the Rotenstreich Commission for fear of self-incrimination which could lead to the U.S. criminal charges.

That decision has put in jeopardy the commission's investigation of Israel's role in Jonathan Pollard's espionage in the United States.

Shamir's message was written with the consent of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Attorney General Yosef Harish. It followed a Friday meeting between Shamir and Peres, their first since their separate visits to the U.S. and Egypt, respectively, last month, which at the time threatened to end the unity government.

But in the shadow of the Pollard affair the pair seems to be cooperating more and to have agreed to advocate together the continuation of the commission's probe.

That position does not have universal support. Former Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir recommended in a radio interview Friday that a judicial commission of inquiry -- with more power than the current commission -- be appointed to investigate the affair.

Moreover, Minister Without Portfolio Ezer Weizman said he did not believe that Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, whom he knows well, acted on his own initiative in supervising Pollard, as Shamir, Peres and Rabin have insisted.

**U.S. LEADERS HAIL ISRAEL'S DECISION  
TO REDUCE TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA**  
By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA) -- The State Department and Congressional leaders have hailed Israel's decision not to sign military contracts with South Africa.

"We welcome this step as a positive development," said State Department spokesman Charles Redman, who said the United States had discussed this issue with Israel "on several occasions."

"It is a good move, not only in terms of what it means for Israel's relations with the rest of the world, but what it will mean for Black-Jewish relations in the United States," said Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs.

Rep. Mickey Leland (D-Tex.), former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, praised the Israeli decision as a "real breakthrough" and said he hopes Israel will follow through in its move to reduce overall relations with South Africa, according to his spokesperson, Ellen Boyle.

Leland, who has met with Israeli leaders to discuss South Africa and who was telephoned Thursday by Israeli Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, said he hopes to travel to Israel soon for further talks.

Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-NY) said he hoped Israel's moves to reduce ties with South Africa will "defuse pressure in Congress that could jeopardize U.S. aid to Israel."

Irma Gertler, president of B'nai B'rith Women, said she hopes this positive move on the part of Israel will spark other nations such as Britain, France and Germany to also reject any future arms contracts with South Africa.

**USSR SEEN SOFTENING ITS POSITION  
TOWARDS ISRAEL'S CONDITIONS FOR  
SOVIET ROLE IN MIDEAST PEACE TALKS**

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union may be softening its position toward Israel's conditions for Soviet participation in an international conference for Middle East peace. Jerusalem was informed of the latest Soviet views following a recent meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Prime Minister Bettino Craxi of Italy, Haaretz reported Sunday.

According to the report, Gorbachev said Soviet policy on the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel would change once an international conference becomes a concrete possibility. He also reportedly said that Israel's conditions for such a conference would not constitute an impediment.

Haaretz said the issues of diplomatic relations and Jewish emigration from the USSR would be discussed at a meeting in New York this week between the Soviet Ambassador to the United Nations and Avraham Tamir, Director General of the Foreign Ministry.

**LAVI SUPPORTERS UNDER FIRE**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA) -- A secret report by the State Comptroller several months ago warned that the Lavi fighter plane project could seriously impede the Israel Air Force because of its rapidly escalating costs, and sharply criticized the judgement and decision-making process of all involved with the Lavi, Haaretz reported Sunday.

According to the State Comptroller, the cost of developing the Lavi increased by 148 percent between 1980 and 1985 and the estimated production cost per unit soared by 108 percent in the same period.

The Comptroller's report charged the Israel Defense Force General Staff and the IDF Chief of Staff with failure to grasp "the whole picture" or to realize "the damage to the IDF's overall resources" financing the Lavi would cause.

Israel Air Force Commander Gen. Amos Lapidot was taken to task by the Comptroller for not giving serious consideration to the negative effects of the Lavi project on other Air Force projects and needs.

"From the military standpoint the decision to manufacture the Lavi binds the defense establish-

ment and restricts the flexibility of its decisions," the Comptroller stated according to Haaretz. The report seems to bear out American objections to the Lavi on a cost basis.

It recommends, as the Pentagon has done, that instead of going ahead with the Lavi, now being test-flown, Israel buy F-16C aircraft from the U.S. which are 33 percent cheaper.

The comptroller also recommended establishment of a body to monitor similar projects in the future.

### ISRAELI LEADERS CAUTIOUS OVER REPORT OF U.S. SPY IN THE IDF

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 22 (JTA) -- Israeli officials reacted cautiously to reports from Washington Friday that the CIA had tried to operate a spy within the Israel Defense Force in 1982.

The report was headlined in Friday's Jerusalem Post.

It quotes Senator David Durenberger (R. Minn.) telling a group of some 100 Jewish activists in a meeting sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee in Palm Beach last Sunday that former CIA Director William Casey had authorized a covert operation against Israel long before the Pollard affair began.

Durenberger is the immediate past chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio Friday there was no truth to the report, adding he understood IDF sources had earlier Friday said they had no information about the alleged spy, a "high-level Israeli officer in the IDF who had originally made aliya from the U.S." During the Lebanon war he reportedly was "bumped" by the IDF.

#### Knowledge Of The Affair Denied

Yossi Ben-Aharon, Director General of the Prime Minister's office, said he knew nothing of the affair, but added that he would not be surprised if something like that had happened.

"As we all know, spying is the business of all governments against all other governments--not against, but in favor of their own security. I'm not very surprised," Ben-Aharon said.

A similar denial was made Friday by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview with a West German newspaper. He was answering a question arising from a statement allegedly made by convicted spy Jonathan Pollard that U.S. agents had been employed in Israel.

Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said here that he had no information on the report, but added: "If Sen. Durenberger's information -- which I know nothing about--were true, I am sure the Israeli government and officials will be just as understanding and forgiving as the government of the U.S., in the form of the President and all of his officials, have been in respect to this rogue operation by Mr. Pollard."

The Post report quoted Durenberger as having said that it was the CIA activity which had apparently led to Israel's decision to "run" Pollard in Washington.

(In Washington, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger denied Durenberger's allegation. Inter-

viewed on NBC's "Meet the Press" program Sunday, Weinberger said the Senator's statement was a damaging and very wrong statement" because it can be used to "justify further espionage." He denied that there was any American spy in the IDF.)

### WJCONGRESS TO MAKE AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON NAZI WAR CRIMINALS AFTER UN REJECTS ISRAELI REQUEST

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress has offered to make available from a "master list" in its possession, the names, vital statistics and criminal charges applying to any of the 40,000 individuals in the files of the United Nations War Crimes Commission which operated in London from 1943 to 1948.

WJC Secretary General Israel Singer made the offer here Friday, the day after UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar rejected a request by Israel for free access to the files of Nazi war criminals. The Secretary General explained his refusal on grounds that the nations which were members of the long defunct War Crimes Commission had objected to opening the files.

Sources here told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Thursday that 16 of the 17 member nations objected to Israel's request, including the U.S. and Britain. It was supported only by Australia.

Singer stated, "The names of every individual in the UN files is on a master list we have obtained and we will respond to all inquiries seeking information on these individuals." He said the WJC would confirm whether an individual is in the UN files and would specify the nature, place and date of crimes charged to the individual and the identity of material witnesses.

According to the WJC, it obtained its copy of the master list from the National Archives in Washington. Each member of the War Crimes Commission received a copy. The individual criminal files at the UN contain additional data and otherwise unobtainable information on the evidence against persons accused of war crimes, the WJC said.

It denounced the UN's rejection of Israel's request and said WJC affiliates in 70 countries would be asked to campaign to have their governments demand that the UN open the files.

Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Binyamin Netanyahu, met with de Cuellar last week to request access to the files. He also asked the Secretary General for permission to inspect an additional 2,000 files, which was granted. Netanyahu will discuss the matter publicly at a press conference on Tuesday.

\*\*\*

BONN (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog of Israel will begin his visit to West Germany on April 6 at the site of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, which he helped liberate as an officer in the British army during the final stages of World War II. The Irish-born Herzog will be accompanied by President Richard von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic throughout his four-day state visit. On the evening of April 6, Herzog will host a dinner for leaders of all political and social groups in West Germany.

**U.S. JEWISH LEADERS GIVE  
'FRIENDLY ADVICE' TO ISRAELIS  
IN ATMOSPHERE OF RESPECT**

By Margie Olster

JERUSALEM, March 22 (JTA) -- Jonathan Pollard, "Irangate," South Africa and Soviet Jews are mentioned in one breath with few exceptions by every Israeli official who addresses members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations here on a week-long mission.

The "affairs" or "unfortunate incidents," as they are often called, have emerged as hot potatoes which few Israeli leaders want to touch for more than a moment or two.

The highly controversial issues were at the top of the Presidents' agenda upon their arrival here Tuesday to a barrage of media attention. By now, the American Jewish leaders have been thoroughly saturated with the party line on all these affairs. They heave small sighs of exasperation when a fresh Minister or government official begins his speech with, "Before I start, let me say a word or two on the Pollard affair."

As Foreign Minister Shimon Peres put it in his remarks Thursday to the Presidents, they are the burning issues of the day, but far from the most important issues in the larger picture of Israeli political life.

**Angry Exchange Of Criticisms**

Upon the arrival of the Presidents, tensions were already at near zenith levels with an angry exchange of criticisms between Prof. Shlomo Avineri and Morris Abram, chairman of the Presidents Conference.

Abram was criticized for saying something interpreted as Pollard got what he deserved in his life sentence for espionage. Avineri accused American Jews of "galut mentality." Not surprisingly, some conference members replied that they live in galut (Diaspora).

Upon arrival, Abram said, "What Mr. Pollard did was inexcusable. It offends all Americans." But what really upset the Presidents, and likewise the American government, was the promotion of the two Israelis castigated for leading the so-called "rogue operation" that recruited Pollard to spy.

Aviem Sella and Rafael Eitan are coming into their own as a separate affair in recent weeks. In no uncertain terms, Abram and the other Presidents let the Israelis know that they could not get away with this. Analogies to Oliver North's fall from grace and Admiral John Poin-dexter's voluntary resignation abound in the Presidents' friendly advice to Israeli officials.

Abram said in a press conference which opened the mission Tuesday that he is confident the Rotenstreich Commission, Israel's "Tower Commission" on the Pollard affair, and a separate Knesset committee will uncover mistakes and take corrective action.

**Honest Talk About Difficult Issues**

Premier Yitzhak Shamir has effectively avoided questions on the Pollard affair. Nevertheless, several of the Presidents said they felt Shamir had talked to them honestly about the various scandals. He didn't miss the opportunity Wednesday to reiterate his stand on Soviet Jews' refugee status in talking to the Presidents, although his remarks were met with consternation and concern.

Peres also acknowledged that mistakes were made. Shamir attempted to explain the Sella/Eitan affair with a quiet analogy.

"In America, there are thousands of talented people in the ranks of the bureaucracy. But in Israel, people with the experience and knowledge of men like Sella and Eitan are rare," he said.

"Irangate" has lain in the shadows of the Pollard affair this week. The Israeli leadership is anxious to give the impression that the U.S. Tower Commission report all but exonerated Israel from any blame in causing the whole affair. Ironically, Pollard has done a good deal to help the Israelis put "Irangate" in the past.

But underlying all this controversy is the mutual respect, admiration and support of the Israeli and American leaders expressed at each session.

**U.S. URGED NOT TO FEAR BACKLASH  
AS A RESULT OF THE POLLARD CASE**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 22 (JTA) -- Sen. Daniel Inouye (D. Hawaii) urged American Jews not to fear a backlash against the Jewish community because an American Jew, Jonathan Pollard, was convicted for spying for Israel.

"I don't think there is any reason for you to be afraid or embarrassed," Inouye told the 175 persons attending the Mission to Washington of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations in America (OU), last Wednesday.

"If you show fear it gives courage and strength to your enemies," he stressed. "This is the time to show strength and not fear."

Inouye said that while he condemns Pollard's espionage, "with equal fervor I condemn those Americans who are using this to imply the concept of collective guilt."

The OU members, joined by members of two other Orthodox groups, the Rabbinical Council of America and AMIT Women, spent the day here being briefed by members of the Reagan Administration and the Israel Embassy, as well as individually meeting with various members of Congress.

At a luncheon on Capitol Hill, they heard from Inouye and about a dozen other Senators, who urged the need for them to demonstrate their support for Israel and the cause of Soviet Jewry.

The Jewish community is the chief supporter of Israel and "that is how it should be," Sen. John Danforth (R. Mo.) stressed. "If you don't support the State of Israel, if you don't do it in a very strong way, who's supposed to do that?"

Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D. NJ) and others said the Pollard case would not have a long-lasting effect. He said that the United States "depends" on Israel and the Jewish State "gives good value" to the U.S. for the aid it receives.

Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D. Md.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on the Near East and South Asia, said that the \$3 billion in U.S. aid for Israel is "protected." But he warned that there will be pressures to cut it because of domestic needs.

On the Soviet Jewry issue, Sen. Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) said he believed that if the U.S. and the Soviet Union reached an arms control agreement, more Soviet Jews will be allowed to be released. Lautenberg told the Orthodox leaders that he will seek again to get Senate approval, denied last year, for a bill allowing Orthodox Jews in the military to wear yarmulkes.

## FAMILIES DIVIDED AS SOME SOVIET JEWS EMIGRATE, OTHERS CANNOT

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA) -- A Soviet Jewish emigre with cancer who underwent a major operation here last week to save her life pleaded Friday for Soviet authorities to permit her brother and his family to leave the Soviet Union and reunite with her and her family here.

Seated in a wheelchair, fragile, pale, her tears streaming, Irene Grottel told a press conference at the New York University School of Medicine that she has not been able to see her brother, Zinovy Ostrovsky of Leningrad, and his family since she immigrated to the U.S. 10 years ago.

"My brother has been refused exit visas nine times," Grottel said. She said that her father and sister immigrated to Israel a few years ago and that her father died there last year. "My brother wonders why his father does not call or write him, and we don't dare tell him that our father is no longer alive," she said.

Neither does her brother know about her serious illness, she said. "I am pleading with the Soviet government to let my brother reunite with me before it is too late. Let him reunite with the living, not with the dead," she said, her voice shaking with sadness and agony.

She said her brother can't get an exit visa because he allegedly holds "state secrets." He was an engineer, but for the last 11 years has worked as a porter, loading and unloading trucks in a Leningrad restaurant.

### Appeal For Reunification

About two dozens Soviet Jewish emigres whose family members are still refused permission to reunite with them also participated in the press conference. There was no indication how many Soviet Jewish families are affected. The emigres signed an appeal to New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, who is going to Moscow at the end of the month to intercede on their behalf with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Vladimir Rabinovich, who brought to the press conference his seven-month-old daughter, appealed to the Soviet authorities to allow his father to reunite with him and his sister, who lives in Israel. He said that his father, Nahum Rabinovich of Zaporozhe in the Ukraine, is a former World War II combat pilot who also served later as a test pilot.

"My father is 64 years old. He never saw his grandchildren in Israel and the United States. He applied first for an exit visa in 1982, but his application has been rejected. Last month he applied again and his request was denied," Rabinovich said. He added that Soviet authorities told his father that he will not receive a security clearance until 1995.

Lev Blitshtein, who arrived here from Moscow three weeks ago after a 12-year battle to rejoin his wife and his family, said that the refusal of the Soviet authorities to allow the reunification of Jewish families has caused many personal tragedies. "Many got ill and many others died," he said.

The press conference was co-sponsored by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, Project ARI (Action for Russian Immigrants), Oceanfront Council for Soviet Jewry, Bensonhurst Jewish Community House, and CASE (Committee for Absorption of Soviet Emigres).

## KARL LINNAS: A DEPORTATION DILEMMA

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 22 (JTA) -- Despite having been stripped of his citizenship and having been ordered deported from the United States, Karl Linnas still sits on U.S. soil. Because of several appeals to stay the sentence of deportation, and a certain amount of influence in Washington by those who resist his deportation to the Soviet Union, Linnas has not yet been flung from U.S. shores.

Linnas, 66, was convicted and sentenced to death in absentia by a Soviet court in 1961. He was charged in 1982 by the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) with lying about his wartime activities when he entered the U.S. in 1951, immigrating from Germany under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948. According to the charges filed by the OSI, Linnas joined a Nazi execution squad in 1941 in a Tartu, Estonia, concentration camp when Germany occupied Estonia, in order to execute "undesirables," mostly Jews. He is accused of commanding firing squads that killed men, women and children who were forced to kneel before mass graves, as well as personally shooting several camp inmates.

On December 1, 1986, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear Linnas's appeal against deportation to the USSR, a decision hailed by at least nine Jewish organizations. Today, these organizations, and very many others, are decidedly upset over the failure of the U.S. Justice system to provide for Linnas's speedy deportation.

The Jewish Community Relations Council of New York has sent a "Dear Colleague" letter to its 59 constituent organizations asking that they protest the continued presence in the U.S. of Linnas. The letter, urging Attorney General Edwin Meese to sign off on Linnas's deportation order, will be submitted to two Senators and two Congressmen.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said of the failure to, until now, deport Linnas that "the whole thing is an abomination. We're waiting for the Attorney General to enforce the law, as we are in the case of (Austrian President Kurt) Waldheim, placing him on the watch list (of war criminals not welcome in the U.S.) We don't need to protect Nazis in this country. The Attorney General should send a clear message, 'Nazis are not welcome here.' The entire Jewish community is being challenged by these cases. Will they stand up in this moral struggle or will they allow those individuals who protect these heinous persons to prevail? We're not asking for a favor -- we're asking that the law be carried out."

Linnas's counsel, former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, has been successful in delaying the deportation of the wartime Nazi partly because of an amazing technicality: Linnas requested to be sent to "free Estonia," a country that no longer exists. He even asked the Estonian Consulate in New York to grant him refuge, a complete impossibility because, as a Consulate spokesperson said, "We are not here as a country; we are just an office."

The Estonian Consulate, whose presence dates back to before World War II, exists by the grace of the United States government, which does not recognize Soviet occupation of the Baltic countries. Nevertheless, Estonia, like Latvia and Lithuania, was incorporated into the USSR after World War II.

**OPTIMISM DAMPENED OVER SOVIET JEWRY SITUATION AS RUSSIANS DENY REPORTS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 2 (JTA) -- Reports from Moscow Thursday dampened the optimism which arose here earlier in the week that large numbers of Soviet Jews will soon be allowed to leave for Israel and that the Soviet Union is moving toward a thaw in its relations with the Jewish State.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted as saying there were no arrangements for a larger number of exit permits to be granted and that no invitation has been sent to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to visit Moscow.

According to reports from Moscow Thursday, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov said, "We cannot guarantee an exact number of applications that can be presented and receive favorable outcomes," a reference to reports that 11,000-12,000 Soviet Jews would be permitted to leave in the next 9-12 months. "There will be no quotas," he said.

Peres told Israel Radio Thursday that he hadn't heard of any invitation. "There may be such intentions but so far I've received no invitation," he said. Soviet officials were also reported to have denied arrangements were being made for a mutual exchange of consular delegations with Israel.

Media reports Wednesday said a Soviet consular delegation would visit Israel shortly but that the Soviets have not agreed to a return visit by an Israeli delegation. Diplomatic quarters in Jerusalem stressed that the Soviets were made aware of Israel's insistence on mutuality and reciprocity when Israeli and Soviet representatives meet briefly at Helsinki last August.

But Soviet officials told Israel Radio this week that reciprocity did not apply to consular delegations because "the Soviet Union has far more nationals and property in Israel than there are Israelis or Israeli property in the Soviet Union."

**Warns Against Exaggerations**

Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Thursday that there were some encouraging signs of a thaw with Moscow. "But we shouldn't exaggerate. I really hope that we shall finally achieve a breakthrough and see many Jews leaving Russia, and especially coming to Israel," he said. He added, "If they don't come here, there is no importance to their departure."

Despite lack of verification of reports that a large-scale departure of Soviet Jews is imminent, the Absorption Ministry and Jewish Agency have begun to prepare for their arrival. The Transport Ministry is marshalling Israel's entire fleet of passenger aircraft to bring large numbers of Soviet Jews from Rumania.

Reports earlier in the week said the Soviets agreed that all Russian Jews holding Israeli visas would be allowed to fly directly to Israel via Rumania.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES  
A SIMMERING DISPUTE**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, April 2 (JTA) -- The disclosure this week that the Soviet Union agreed to ease the emigration of Soviet Jews and to allow a more liberal policy toward Jews within the Soviet Union -- a claim which the Soviets denied Thursday -- brought to the surface a long-simmering behind-the-scenes dispute between various Soviet Jewry groups in the United States, revealed in interviews by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency with leading American Soviet Jewry activists.

The essence of the dispute is over who has the mandate to speak for the Jewish community on the issue of Soviet Jews in meetings with Kremlin officials. Should agreements or "deals," as some view it, be made by American Soviet Jewry activists in talks in Moscow? How much of the purported agreements and promises by the Russians can be taken seriously?

These questions came to the fore after Morris Abram, chairman of both the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, returned from their trip to Moscow last week and reported this week that they had gained concessions from Soviet officials, whom Abram and Bronfman refused to name.

A day before their disclosure, on Monday, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, reported in The New York Times that the Soviets had agreed to establish a new transit procedure for future Jewish emigres that would eliminate the phenomenon of "neshira" ("dropping out") of Jews who come to the U.S. instead of Israel.

Schneier emphasized that he had negotiated the new procedure in Moscow and Bucharest in February, and that flights would proceed directly to Israel via an undisclosed city in Rumania. Schneier gave no number of Jews who would be permitted to leave.

**Disclosures Not Really News**

Essentially, there was nothing new about these disclosures. Feelers toward this end could be discerned in an interview that Abram gave JTA last December upon his return from Rumania, where he said he had "urged" Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in a private meeting in Bucharest to convey to the Soviets the "lesson of the Rumanian experience" regarding its relationship with its Jewish community and Jewish emigration, and the effect that has had on its relations with the U.S., enabling the granting of Most-Favored-Nation trade status, which the USSR does not enjoy because of the imposition of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

Indeed, one of the important claims that Abram and Bronfman made this week was the recommendation of annual waivers of Jackson-

Vanik in exchange for stepped-up Jewish emigration, an issue hotly contested by other Soviet Jewry groups.

Schneier made an even more important revelation on March 2 (see March 3 JTA Bulletin) when he told JTA that, based on meetings he held in Moscow in February with high Soviet officials, there would be a significant improvement in Jewish emigration and religious freedom.

At that time, Schneier, chief rabbi of the Park East Synagogue in Manhattan and a frequent visitor to the Soviet Union, met with Anatoly Dobrynin, Secretary of International Relations of the Communist Central Committee; Alexander Yakovlev, Communist Party secretary; Georgi Arbatov, a Central Committee official and head of the USA Institute; dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov; Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs, who visited the U.S. in October at Schneier's invitation -- an unprecedented such visit; and even briefly with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

#### Statements By The Participants

On Wednesday, Schneier responded to JTA's inquiry by reiterating that he had indeed been responsible for the negotiations, and that he had briefed Abram on them on his return from Moscow. Schneier gave, however, no number of Jews who would be permitted to leave, but said that "the first part is the clearing up of all refuseniks."

Last Sunday, Abram told JTA that he and Bronfman had returned from Moscow in an "optimistic" mood regarding Soviet Jewry, but "it would not be productive at this time to go into details."

However, on Tuesday, a day after Schneier disclosed in the Times what he accomplished in the Soviet Union, Abram provided the media with details of his and Bronfman's talks in Moscow.

What was new this time were some apparent discrepancies in reported statements by Abram to various news mediums. The Washington Post on Tuesday quoted him as saying that he and Bronfman went to Moscow in official capacity "on behalf of major Jewish organizations in the United States and other Western countries." He said the same in a printed statement given to the JTA Tuesday. However, an Israel Radio report quoted him as saying that he was not in Moscow in any official capacity.

In addition, Abram said in his statement to the JTA that the Soviets had made specific agreements. But in his Radio Israel interview he said merely that Bronfman and he "have reason to believe that there will be direct flights... increase in immigration... and an expansion of Jewish rights within the Soviet Union."

Abram also expressed regret in his statement for "the premature publication of statements by other persons who were not involved in their discussions and who hold no representative office in the Jewish community." The "other persons" were not identified but it presumably referred to Schneier, who was interviewed in The New York Times on Monday.

Abram, in the statement to JTA, said his and Bronfman's aim, "was to get the 'Jewish problem' off the table so as to remove it as an issue of contention."

Reactions followed immediately.

The sticking point for various Soviet Jewry organizations were media reports that the Soviet Union would allow 11,000-12,000 Jews to leave in

the next 9-12 months, without any indication of how many would be allowed to leave annually after that. There are some 380,000 Jews who are seeking to leave the USSR, according to Soviet Jewry activists in the U.S. and Israel. Neither Abram, Bronfman nor Schneier gave any number of Jews who would be permitted to leave.

Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, pointed out that even if the Soviets actually allowed 11,000-12,000 Jews to leave annually, "At this rate it would take 34-1/2 years for all of them to leave."

The SSSJ maintains that flexibility in Jackson-Vanik must be accompanied by specific conditions, including a "free process of emigration" that is "routine and institutionalized, free from harassment," with an annual figure of 60,000, "to which the Kremlin agreed during the 1974 Congressional debate on the Amendment." In addition, the SSSJ asks for release of Prisoners Of Conscience from labor camps to Israel, with a pledge of no more prisoners, and cessation of harassment of unofficial teachers of Hebrew and Judaism.

Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils of Soviet Jews (UCSJ), was angry that Abram had claimed to represent them. "We did not know that Abram was in the Soviet Union," she said, "until we heard it from our sources there. We have had no input in this, nor have the people we're talking about."

She was equally incensed by talk of waiving the Jackson-Vanik Amendment: "Why are we discussing Jackson-Vanik when there is no movement on the part of the Soviets?" she asked. "One of the reasons that the UCSJ came out in 1979 against Jackson-Vanik was that we knew that the apparatus was closing. I was in Odessa in 1979 and I saw them closing down the OVIR offices from five to two days a week."

Regarding the number of refuseniks, Cohen said that "the minimum number that we can talk about is 50,000 for whom you can use the word refuseniks. The 11,000 may be long-term refuseniks." Schneier, in talking about the numbers, said it refers to the list of refuseniks given by Secretary of State George Shultz to Gorbachev at his summit conference with President Reagan in Reykjavik last year.

Cohen also said the Union was also tremendously upset by the proposal to eliminate the option to choose one's country of destination, which has been enabled at the Vienna and Rome transit camps. "One should be absolutely free to choose where he will go," Cohen said. Besides, "If we are dealing with direct flights to Israel, at some point politically in the Mideast negotiations and Mideast powerplay, Soviet client states will put pressure on the Soviet government to clamp down on them, and if this arises, if that time coincides with a period of repression and anti-Semitism, like the first two years under the Gorbachev regime, we have closed the escape outlet to the U.S."

"We have to start fighting for the hearts and minds of American Jewry," Cohen stressed. "They must understand that this issue is very complicated."

Richter also pointed out that other conditions must be considered, which Abram and Bronfman apparently did not: "The Kremlin did not promise to keep the Gulag free of Jewish prisoners, nor to raise Hebrew teaching to the official status of so many other ethnic languages in the USSR. The private teaching of language is a modification announced by the Soviets several

months ago. Permission to import Jewish books would be an extension of the display of thousands of different Jewish titles at Moscow book fairs going back to 1977."

Richter also said that another consideration is that "Anti-Jewish attacks in the Soviet media and books must end. There was no promise that the stench of official anti-Semitism in the electronic and printed mediums would cease."

**Issue Of Who Speaks For Soviet Jews**

Asked who speaks for Soviet Jews, Lynn Singer, a past president of the UCSJ and executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, a member organization of the UCSJ, said emphatically that "Soviet Jews should speak for themselves. But in light of the fact that they are not able to talk in one voice to the West directly, the Union of Councils is probably more tuned in to the needs of Soviet Jews than anyone else. But we have not been appointed or anointed, nor has anyone else. That job belongs to the Mashiah, and since the world has done an excellent job of dividing Jews, then the spokesman for Jews has not yet arrived."

"I think that the presumptuousness of the self-appointed would-be Jewish leaders is frightening," said Singer, adding that "the 40-member councils of the UCSJ were not consulted by the NCSJ" although the UCSJ had asked to talk to them many times.

Schneier, asked who speaks for Soviet Jews, responded: "I think that the issue of Soviet Jews is of such great concern for every Jewish leader and the Jewish community all over the world that you certainly have many people committed to the cause. We have leaders who have a great sense of commitment to raise the plight of Soviet Jewry."

Schneier also said that he believes that in the case of Soviet Jews whose families are in the U.S. and who wish to be united with them here, that arrangements could be made by the families in the U.S. applying with the U.S. government for refugee status for them. Most particularly, in the case of cancer patients whose families are in the U.S., he spoke of "preferential visas" for sick people issued by the U.S. "Sick people would be able to apply for entry to the U.S. based on compassion," Schneier believes.

The routing through Rumania to Israel, said Schneier, "was just a general principle that was approved. All the questions raised are legitimate questions that have to be addressed. But first, there has to be a resolution of all the Jewish community." Schneier cautioned on the need for all Jews and Soviet Jewry activists to close ranks and move together in a united front. He told JTA that he refused to cast any aspersion on any Jewish leader or to engage in divisiveness. "I would urge that Jews join ranks and let's move forward," he said. "It is a historic time, and there are many opportunities. Let's face it," he said, "changes are taking place in the Soviet Union. This is no time to have friction within. We have to sit down together and talk this over."

Prof. Martin Gilbert of Oxford University, the biographer of Winston Churchill and an author of many books on Soviet Jews, as well as advisory board member of the UCSJ and strong activist for Soviet Jews in England, told the JTA in an exclusive telephone interview from London that "At this time of change and controversy, one must never lose sight of the true dimensions of the Soviet Jewry problem, not only the 12,000 known refuseniks, but the 382,000 Jews who have already

indicated their desire to leave, and whose number grows every day.

"No deal or arrangement with the Soviet authorities is worthy of the Jewish people in the free world, which does not establish without conditions the right of any Jew to leave Russia who might wish to do so, now or in the future. Even those refused on so-called 'secrecy grounds' must be allowed without exception to leave within a five- or at most ten-year period after the ending of their official work. The cry 'Let my people go' must mean 'all my people,' or it means nothing."

**WIESEL ENCOURAGED BY REPORTS FROM USSR ABOUT EMIGRATION BUT CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET INSENSITIVITY TO INDIVIDUAL CASES OF REFUSENIKS**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 2 (JTA) -- Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel said Thursday that he is "encouraged" by recent reports that the Soviet government appears to be easing their restrictions against Jews, but remains "profoundly concerned" about their "insensitivity" to individual cases of refuseniks.

"The issue is not whether (the Soviet Union) is more sensitive to Jewish issues or fears; the primary concern is that Jews should be allowed to leave," Wiesel told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

He noted that although reports have stated that as many as 11,000 Jews will be allowed to emigrate, this is still much less than the some 51,000 who were allowed to leave in 1979.

Wiesel made his comments during a visit to Alexander Slepak, the son of Soviet refusenik Vladimir and Maria Slepak who has been fasting since last Friday at the U.S. Capitol to dramatize the plight of his parents. Wiesel was on his way to receive the Profiles in Courage Award from the local John F. Kennedy Lodge of B'nai B'rith at the Adas Israel Congregation here.

"Slepak is a test case. If we want to believe (Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev's sincerity, and we want to believe it, he must show his good will to Slepak, one of the leaders of the movement," Wiesel said.

Wiesel refused to comment on reports that Soviet Jews will go to Israel from Rumania, instead of going to Vienna where they would have the option of going to the United States. "I want to study the issue," he said.

Slepak, a resident of Israel who is a medical school student in Philadelphia, said he believes Soviet Jews should be allowed to choose between the U.S. and Israel. Appearing alert as he remained on his vigil, Slepak said he speaks regularly to his father who is also fasting. He said the "Soviet government didn't make any steps towards hinting at his possible release."

Vladimir Slepak, one of the founders of the Helsinki Watch Group, first applied for emigration with his wife in 1971, but was refused on the grounds that he had access to state secrets. An electronics engineer, he is former chief of the Moscow Television Research Institute.

The Slepaks were exiled to Siberia for five years in 1978 after they hung a sign on their balcony demanding that they be allowed to emigrate. Alexander Slepak was permitted to go to Israel ten years ago. Slepak said most of the recent Soviet concessions towards Jews have been in "cultural" areas such as releasing Hebrew teachers from prison and not in emigration.



## U.S. REPORT ON SOUTH AFRICA SAYS ISRAEL HAS BEEN SELLING WEAPONS AND PROVIDING TECHNICAL AID TO SOUTH AFRICA 'ON A REGULAR BASIS'

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 2 (JTA) --The Reagan Administration officially informed Congress Thursday that Israel has been selling weapons and providing technical assistance to South Africa "on a regular basis" despite the United Nations Security Council embargo on arms to that country imposed in 1977.

The Administration, in its long expected report on countries violating the embargo, also said that it "believes" companies in Israel, France and Italy, have continued to maintain and upgrade arms systems supplied to South Africa before the 1977 embargo.

The report identifying countries breaking the embargo was required as part of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act adopted by Congress in 1986. It was scheduled to be delivered to Congress April 1, but for unexplained reasons the State Department was not able to get it in to the hands of Senators and House members, until a day later.

The State Department released Thursday a three-page summary of the longer more detailed report which is classified.

### Findings Are Not Surprising

The findings, at least in the summary, is not surprising. Israel, in anticipation of the report, announced March 18 that it has banned all new sales to South Africa, although it would honor existing contracts.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman noted Thursday that the Administration has discussed the arms embargo with the countries listed over the years.

He noted the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act requires the Administration to identify countries breaking the embargo and allows the President to "consider as a possible sanction whether the U.S. should terminate military assistance to such countries." The President's action would have to be approved by a joint resolution of Congress, he added.

Israel is the only country mentioned that receives military aid from the U.S., \$1.8 billion in grants. There is no likelihood that aid to Israel would be eliminated or even cut. But the issue could further fuel the tension between the U.S. and Israel ignited by the Pollard spy case and the Iran affair.

The report stresses that most of the major weapons systems that South Africa has were installed prior to 1977. Most of the weapons it now imports are small, which the report notes makes it "difficult to detect."

### No Details Given In Public Report

The public report does not go into details about the weapons and covers the violations by countries in three paragraphs, the largest of which deals with Israel.

"Prior to the Israeli government's decision on March 18 not to sign new military contracts and to let existing contracts expire, Israel appears to have sold military systems and subsystems and provided technical assistance on a regular basis," the report said. "Although Israel does not require end-use certificates and some cut-outs may have

been used, we believe that the government was fully aware of most or all of the trade."

The report adds that "there is no evidence" that Israel supplied South Africa with U.S. manufactured or licensed weapons. But it adds that "in the absence of inspection of Israeli-made or licensed weapons in South African hands" the U.S. does not know whether South Africa has Israeli weapons that were made using U.S. technology.

The report notes that the Security Council embargo made it mandatory not to supply weapons to South Africa, but only "called upon" countries to terminate contracts for maintaining weapons under existing contracts. This "limited exception" "does not authorize deliveries of arms under preexisting contracts," the report said.

In addition to France, Italy and Israel, the report also points out that "companies in (West) Germany, England, the Netherlands "have on occasion exported articles covered by the embargo without government permission or have engaged in sales to South Africa in the gray area between civilian and military applications."

## JEWISH WAR VETERANS MONUMENT VANDALIZED, FORMER JWV POST LEADER BEATEN BY ANTI-SEMITIC ASSAILANTS

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. April 2 (JTA) -- A monument to Jewish war veterans, vandalized here in January, was rededicated last Sunday, three days after Murray Hymowitz, past commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 266, was badly beaten by anti-Semitic assailants.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office said it had no leads yet on the assault or the vandalism, according to Kipp Friedman, a reporter for the Broward Jewish World. Hymowitz, 74, who stands 5-foot-5 inches and weighs 160 pounds, described his assailants as three white men in their mid-20's, two of whom held him while the third pummeled him after he left a meeting of his veterans post at a shopping plaza in nearby Kings Point.

They shouted anti-Semitic epithets while beating him and fled when an unidentified passerby approached. According to Louis Shure, Palm Beach County regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, there has been a 68 percent increase in anti-Semitic attacks on Jews and Jewish property in Florida in the last year. "Murray's beating is by far the worst," Shure said.

In the absence of clues, local police could find no connection between the attack on Hymowitz and the vandals who toppled the six-foot-high grey granite monument, crowned by a Star of David, in the Veterans Park here three months ago. Repairs cost \$1,600.

But the monument was a source of local controversy from the start because it honored only Jewish war veterans and because it was sponsored by a JWV post outside the Delray Beach city limits.

When it was dedicated anew, at ceremonies attended by 400 veterans, including Hymowitz, local politicians and clergy, the monument bore an additional inscription honoring all veterans of all wars. But Joe Reilly, commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars O'Neal Priest Post 4141 in Delray Beach, which dedicated its own, much larger monument at the same site 40 years ago, was still resentful.