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HERZOG VISITS BERGEN-BELSEN AND DEDICATES SYMBOL TO MEMORY OF THOSE WHO PERISHED IN THE HOLOCAUST**By David Kantor**

BERGEN-BELSEN, April 6 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog of Israel, reciting the words of the psalmist, "My pain is with me forever," unveiled a rock quarried in Jerusalem at the site of this former concentration camp Monday and dedicated it to the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust.

"I do not bring forgiveness with me, nor forgetfulness," declared Herzog, the first President of Israel to visit Germany. "The only ones who can forgive are the dead. The living have no right to forget. Thus I will surely remember, with a heavy heart."

The brief, moving ceremony at Bergen-Belsen followed by a few hours Herzog's arrival at Bonn where he was greeted with a 21-gun salute and personally welcomed by President Richard von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic.

Several hundred people assembled here, including Holocaust survivors and West German dignitaries, headed by von Weizsaecker and the Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, Ernst Albrecht. Many fought back tears as the El Mole Rachamin, the prayer for the dead, was chanted by a cantor.

Then Herzog faced the audience. "In this place, the vale of slaughter, and at the outset of my journey on this soil, I leave as a memorial, my brethren and sisters, victims of the Shoah (Holocaust), a stone hewn from the rocks of Jerusalem. On it are carved the words of the psalmist, as testimony to the decimation of my people: 'My pain is with me forever.'"

'The Jewish People Lives On'

He recalled, "I was here for the first time 42 years ago. Then I was a Jewish soldier from the land of Israel, participating in the destruction of the Nazi regime, plucking the brands snatched from the fire. The memory of those shocking sights will never, ever leave me."

"Now, accompanied by some survivors, I return as President of the State of Israel, the independent Jewish State, by decision of its sovereign government, to bear witness before you that the ultimate destiny of the Jewish people will never be betrayed and that the Jewish people lives on."

At the ceremony, a Holocaust survivor, Hadassah Rosensaft, recognized Herzog as one of the officers of the British army which liberated the concentration camp. She burst into tears and embraced the President.

The memorial service at Bergen-Belsen was a far cry both in mood and setting from the ceremonial pomp that greeted Herzog and his wife Aura when they stepped from their Israel Air Force jet at Bonn airport at 10 a.m. Monday.

After reviewing a guard of honor, Herzog was flown by helicopter to Villa Hammerschmidt, the official residence of President von Weizsaecker. There, German army units passed in review and the national anthems of Israel and West Germany were played. The two Presidents had a brief talk and were then flown to Hannover,

capital of Lower Saxony, and from there by helicopter to Bergen-Belsen. Before unveiling the memorial stone, Herzog visited the museum at the concentration camp site and inspected the sole remaining barrack.

Statement By Germany's President

Herzog's five-day tour of West Germany, following a five-day visit to Switzerland, was controversial in Israel where some thought no President of Israel should set foot on German soil. Von Weizsaecker went out of his way to thank Herzog for accepting Bonn's invitation. "Of course I understand those who voiced criticism," he told reporters three days before Herzog's arrival. He said the visit by the Israeli chief of state was "an extraordinary event of an extremely important meaning."

Von Weizsaecker denied that the visit was intended to "close" the chapter of the German past. "In history there can be no such closure," he said.

Herzog's Statement At Bergen-Belsen

Herzog's words at Bergen-Belsen bore that out, for he addressed himself to those long dead. "You bequeathed to our people the precept of life, the imperative of existence," he said.

"To ensure that never again would the Jew be a helpless victim, and that never again would Holocaust and destruction be the fate of Israel, you bequeathed a testament to build the future of the Jewish people in its homeland, proud and free. A people strong in its moral right and in its moral force no less than in its ability to defend itself..."

"The grief of your death will eternally be with us. Not as a perpetual hatred. Not as barren, paralyzing hostility. But as a call to strength and steadfastness, a call to understand the depths to which the human soul can sink, and a call to rise above them. To fulfill with all our very being the antithesis of evil, of wickedness: Turn away from evil, and do good. Seek peace and pursue it."

Herzog concluded: "In the name of the Jewish people and in the name of the State of Israel, I repeat our oath never to forget and to be forever faithful to your bequest--the imperative of life."

Herzog and his wife spent five days in Switzerland last week as guests of President Pierre Auber of the Swiss Confederation, who is also Foreign Minister. Herzog was the first Israeli President to pay an official visit to Switzerland.

In addition to talks with Auber on bilateral and world issues including the Middle East, the Herzogs were feted by the Swiss Jewish community. They also had an opportunity to visit with their grandchildren.

PERES SAYS SPANISH KING HAS PROMISED TO DO WHAT HE CAN TO HELP PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**By Edwin Eytan**

MADRID, April 6 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met for over an hour with King Juan Carlos at the Zarzuela Palace Monday and said afterwards that "His Majesty has prom-

ised to do what he can to help peace in the Middle East." But Spanish officials are puzzled by what they see as a strange dichotomy within the Israeli government over how peace in the region should be pursued.

Peres, here on a two-day official visit, the first by an Israeli Foreign Minister since Spain and Israel established diplomatic relations more than a year ago, made clear he was seeking Spanish support for an international conference for Middle East peace.

But the Israel government's position on this issue is "far from clear," a senior Spanish diplomat, Ambassador Jorge Dezcallar, told Israeli correspondents at a briefing Monday. Dezcallar, who heads the Foreign Ministry's Middle East department, said "We are puzzled by the Israeli government. On the one hand, Foreign Minister Peres advocates a peace process, on the other, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has informed our Ambassador of his opposition to the plan."

Nevertheless, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who had a three-hour meeting with Peres Monday, pledged that his government would use its contacts in the Arab world to see if an international conference can be advanced, Israeli sources here said. Even so, Spain and Israel have different conceptions of an international conference.

Spain believes the Soviet Union and the Palestinians should participate. Israelis, at least those who share Peres' views, would exclude the Soviet Union unless it re-established diplomatic ties with Israel. They would accept Palestinian representatives, but only those with no connections to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Relations With Moscow

In statements to the press, to Spanish officials and to representatives of Spain's 13,000-member Jewish community, Peres spoke of relations with Moscow. He stressed Israel's current diplomatic priority is to improve them. The test of Soviet sincerity will be its opening of the gates for all Russian Jews who want to leave, Peres said. He called reports that exit visas would be granted to 11,000-12,000 Jews this year "a promising start" but far from satisfactory in view of the estimated 380,000 seeking them.

Peres also met Monday with Foreign Minister Fernando Ordonez who invited Israel to participate in the Spanish National Exhibition in Seville in 1992, commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage of discovery. He said a special pavilion would be devoted to the Jewish contribution to Spanish history and culture.

Peres, at his meeting with the King, invited Juan Carlos to visit Israel "to repair a 500-year-old injustice" -- the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. Juan Carlos reportedly replied that he would be happy to visit Israel. But no definite plans can be made. Such a visit must be approved by the government and would entail lengthy and detailed preparations.

NETANYAHU SAYS ISRAEL WILL ASK UN CHIEF TO ALLOW IT TO INSPECT ADDITIONAL FILES ON WAR CRIMINALS By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, April 6 (JTA) -- Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, revealed Sunday night that Israel will soon ask UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to be given permission to inspect hundreds more files at the UN archive on war criminals. In

an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency shortly before he departed for consultations in Israel, Netanyahu said Israel will request an access to 500 more files in addition to the 2,500 files it already examined. The UN archive on accused war criminals contains some 40,000 files. Last month the Secretary General rejected Israel's demand that the archive be open to the public, contending that the nations which were members of the long-defunct War Crimes Commission had objected to it.

Netanyahu addressed the annual dinner of the American Friends of Migdal Ohr at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel Sunday night. Migdal Ohr is a special school for disadvantaged children in the town of Migdal Haemek in lower Galilee. Netanyahu told the more than 500 guests at the dinner that Israel will continue its campaign to open the files to public scrutiny. He said that two nations, Australia and Holland, of the 17 nations who were members of the War Crimes Commission, agreed so far to the opening of the files.

"Public access to the files is needed for two reasons: justice and history," the Israeli envoy declared. He said that new information in the files could help bring to justice the Nazi war criminals who are still alive. In addition, he contended, free access to the files by scholars and researchers will help establish a more accurate record of that historical period.

UAHC URGES SHULTZ TO DEMAND THE RELEASE OF UN FILES ON WAR CRIMINALS By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, April 6 (JTA) -- The Commission on Social Action of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) sent a telegram to Secretary of State George Shultz Monday urging him to demand the release of information on Nazi war criminals from the United Nations.

The Reform Judaism group authorized the telegram at a "Consultation on Conscience" which opened here Sunday night to mark the 25th anniversary of the UAHC's Religious Action Center here.

The telegram, signed by Harris Gilbert, chairman of the commission, asked Shultz to urge UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to allow public access to the UN files on Nazi war criminals. De Cuellar rejected last month a similar request from Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Ambassador to the UN.

"The War Crimes Commission, in giving these files to the UN, never intended that the records be hidden from the UN," the telegram to Shultz said. "The UN action in keeping them under lock and key has no standing in law and no moral justification. We respectfully urge you to demand that the files be and made available to all scholars, researchers, students and others with legitimate reasons to have access to this information."

Gilbert also stressed that "burying the record of the past dooms us to repeat it. Locking away the files from public view protects only those who have something to hide. Let the facts be made public, let the truth be told."

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Traffic accidents took a heavy toll Sunday. Twenty-one people were injured when a truck slammed into a bus at a highway intersection near Ashkelon. All were hospitalized. Only one passenger was seriously hurt.

**ISRAEL LOOKS AHEAD
THE END OF THE BEGINNING
By Murray Zuckoff
(Part One Of A Five-Part Series)**

(Editor's note: Murray Zuckoff participated in a recent United Jewish Appeal Department of Communications/Public Relations special mission to Israel to study the changes the country has undergone since 1948 and the outlook for the period ahead. In the course of the mission, he met dozens of local political leaders, representatives from industries, agriculture, research and development, kibbutzim, moshavim, Project Renewal and ordinary citizens.)

* * *

JERUSALEM, April 6 (JTA) -- In 1938, 10 years before the State of Israel was born, David Ben Gurion wrote a letter to his children in which he said: "At this crucial moment we must bear the simple truth: in the diaspora our history was made by others. In Palestine -- by ourselves. And whatever others scheme and foreigners do, if we are able to create history even in the worst possible conditions, they shall not be able to overcome us."

Israel did create history, and in the worst possible conditions, and it has not been overcome. This might very well be the theme of Israel's 40th anniversary next year, with one modification: creating history under far better conditions. What lies ahead can be described as an unprecedented period of great possibilities in technological, scientific and medical innovations, profound social changes, progressive improvement in relations with the international community, and an acceleration of Zionist consciousness.

The possibilities at home are quantum leaps in the fields of high-tech industries and agriculture, intense and planned efforts to settle the Galilee and the Negev, the continued restructuring and renewal of decaying neighborhoods and blighted lives, and far-reaching applications of computer science to medicine and research and development.

Some Changes In The Period Ahead

The next period will also be marked by greater national self-assurance and self-sufficiency in the economic and military fields. Israel has the technological know-how to produce its own sophisticated and innovative military weapons, thereby reducing its dependence on American military aid diverting some of the attendant pressures from American administrations.

Israelis in all walks of life are saying both privately and publicly that the country's umbilical ties to the United States must be severed in order to change the perceptions of Israel as nothing more than a vassal state of the U.S. in the Middle East.

Israel may also be expected to adopt a more critical and less symbiotic relationship with diaspora Jewry. At some point, Israelis note, Israel will have to forego advice from afar and paternalistic treatment that characterizes "check-book Zionism." It will no longer accept the status of a poor relative from either the U.S. Administration or diaspora Jewry.

In short, ever more Israelis are saying that Israel's relations with the world at large, Jewish and non-Jewish, will remain correct but it will be less reactive, less skittish, and more independent. It will be more assertive in determining its own

domestic and foreign needs based on what it perceives as necessary for survival and growth, not as others see it.

The consensus of many Israelis is "We do our own dying and we'll do our own living, unless there is someone out there who wants to do the dying for us."

This is not a hard-nosed attitude, nor one of arrogance and impudence. It is a declaration of independence from what Israelis feel are undue pressures -- some refer to it as "meddling"-- from all sides to shape up according to an image projected by others.

The Art Of Survival

For 40 years Israel has been beset by war and unremitting and relentless terrorist attacks in which thousands of Israelis have been killed, wounded and maimed. For 40 years fathers have been saying kaddish for their sons.

It has had to weather contradictions, conflicts and tensions between Ashkenazim and Sephardim, secular and religious, tradition and modernity, overcrowded cities and barren spaces in the Galilee and Negev, shanty towns and squalor in the shadows of posh high rise apartments and commercial buildings, Jews and Arabs, dreams and realities, hopes and fulfillments.

Through all this, Israel has absorbed almost 2 million Jews from 120 countries speaking 70 languages. But now, while it continues to call for more aliya, yerida (emigration) is mounting.

No other country in modern history has had to contend with so many diverse problems and pressures. No other country could have withstood them and still continue to survive and progress. To compensate for the uncertainty of life and the fate of the nation, Israelis chose to act as if they didn't care what the rest of the world thought about them.

They acted out an existence that might have taken its cue from a line in the Broadway hit, "My Fair Lady," to paraphrase, "Israelis don't actually care what anyone says about them as long as it's pronounced correctly." But this is beginning to change. Israelis are becoming more reflective and introspective, more sensitive to interpersonal and international relations.

There Is 'Another Israel'

Winds of change are blowing throughout the country. Ironically, the more changes that are taking place the less they are noticed or alluded to by the world at large. And Israelis are angry about this. The world media, for example -- with the exception of the Jewish media -- continue to view Israel through the prism of hard-headedness and obduracy.

Israelis resent having their country depicted as a homogeneous entity best represented by diehards and rightwingers like Menachem Begin, Ariel Sharon, Yitzhak Shamir, Gula Cohen, the Gush Emunim, West Bank Jewish settlers, and a rapacious and bellicose foreign policy typified by the invasion of Lebanon.

Headline hunters abroad -- and unfortunately some even in Israel -- continue to depict Israel as uncaring, self-centered, rambunctious and hard-bitten. They focus almost exclusively on ethnic tensions and conflicts, political imbroglios, gyrations of politicians, extremists, strikes and anti-Palestinian activities.

But, Israelis point out, there is "another Israel": people who seek peace with the Arabs and Palestinians, oppose West Bank settlements,

develop and implement cultural enrichment programs for Jews and Arabs, seek to settle the Negev and the Galilee, renew and revitalize cities and the lives of the poor, and share industrial, scientific and medical advances with developing nations.

For example, Israelis note, there are about 50 societies in Israel devoted to fostering Jewish-Arab understanding. Some of the more outstanding ones are:

The veteran Beit Hagefen, the Arab-Jewish center in Haifa, which was created more than 23 years ago by the late Mayor Abba Khoushy and now has some 20,000 registered and paid-up members, 60 percent of whom are Arabs and 40 percent Jewish. Neve Shalom/Wahat Al Salam (Oasis for Peace), a settlement 34 kilometers northwest of Jerusalem where Jews and Arabs live and work together and which includes a School for Peace from which more than 10,000 students have graduated since 1980; Givat Haviva, a Mapam-oriented study center for Jews and Arabs; Hilai, the Israel Center for Creative Arts which was founded in 1984, active in Maalot-Tershiha in the Galilee, the only jointly administered Jewish-Arab town in Israel, and in Mitzpeh Ramon in the Negev.

Searching For Representative Palestinian

In politics, more and more Israelis are saying that Israel will have to, and indeed should, talk to the Palestine Liberation Organization. This view was until recently shunned and attacked by almost all Israelis except for extreme leftwing ideologues. This is no longer so.

Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman, whose Yahad Party joined the Labor Party earlier this year, and Labor MK Haim Ramon, an outspoken dove, are calling for talks with the PLO because, they say, whether Israel likes it or not, Palestinians by and large accept the PLO as the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Weizman was very blunt about this. Talking to a group of students recently, he said: "I invite (PLO chairman Yasir) Arafat to dial 242338 (a reference to United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338) and to stop the shooting. Then I'll be ready to sit down and talk peace with him. People who say the PLO poses a danger to Israel's security make me laugh. To put it politely, that's nonsense. We must sit down with the Palestinians to find a solution to the problem. What can we do if Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians view the PLO as their representative?"

Akiva Eldar of Haaretz wrote recently: "We won't be able to evade the question of Palestinian representation forever. Unlike the international (Mideast peace) conference, which is merely a skeletal framework, this is an issue which touches the very nature of the peace settlement ultimately to be reached." Meanwhile, Eldar noted, Israel is "muzzling Palestinian representatives who are considered 'authentic'."

Ze'ev Schiff, Haaretz's respected military correspondent, denounced "the sort of gratuitous suppression that arises from Israel's military rule over more than one million Palestinians." Referring to an incident last January when Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin prevented three prominent Palestinians who favor a peaceful solution to the Mideast conflict from attending an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict in San Diego, California, Schiff wrote: "What's particularly troublesome in this brouhaha is the hypoc-

ris of some of our leaders, who claim to be searching for moderate Palestinians with whom to conduct talks on resolving the conflict. It may well be that local Palestinian leaders cannot, in fact, stand up to the extreme wings of the PLO, or even the more radical elements with Fatah; but we are doing everything in our power to stop whatever ability they have to do so."

Labor Party members of Knesset, including Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Abba Eban and Ora Namir are trying to put together a peace front with representative Palestinians from the West Bank. The projected front calls for peace within the framework of an international conference which would include "legitimate representatives of Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian people."

These statements were not met by public derision and relentless hostility as they would have been in the past. There was no public outcry and no one demanded any heads.

Nucleus Of A 'Young Guard' In Labor

There are other winds of change in the Labor Party. There is the nucleus of a "young guard" that is calling for greater sensitivity to Israel's poor, Sephardim, Arabs, development towns, and the reordering of priorities away from West Bank settlements to the settlement of the Galilee and Negev. This nucleus includes Peres' advisors Nimrod Novik and Yossi Beilin, and Maalot Mayor Shlomo Buchout, Sderot Mayor Amir Peretz, and Yeroham Mayor Baruch Elmakias.

In addition, the Labor Party received an infusion of new and progressive blood when Mayor Eli Dayan of Ashkelon announced that he was joining the party. The 37-year-old mayor, a lawyer who was born in Morocco and was a member of the now defunct Democratic Movement for Change and Tami, twice won the municipal election in the Likud-leaning town. He said he plans to run for the Knesset in the next elections. In announcing that he was joining Labor, Dayan said that in the past the party had closed itself off from young leaders in development towns, but that this was now changing.

For many Israelis these developments, which are routinely unreported in the foreign media, and many others in the life of Israel, represent the country's coming of age. It is the end of the beginning.

(Tomorrow: Part Two)

TERRORIST GANG NABBED IN FRANCE

PARIS, April 6 (JTA) -- French counter-intelligence has arrested eight men believed to be terrorists planning to blow up El Al and TWA airliners. The police have refused to pinpoint the date of the arrests and said that one of the group was a Lebanese, another a Frenchman known for his pro-Palestinian leanings, and the rest "came from the Middle East."

Police say that documents found at the time of the arrests show that the group was also planning to carry out individual attacks against various Israeli personalities in France as well as against Arab representatives considered by them as "hostile to the Palestinian cause."

Police have found three hand grenades and an unspecified amount of explosives and are searching for additional weapons which, they say, the group has hidden in the vicinity of Paris.

**SHAMIR HOPES PERES FAILS DURING HIS VISIT TO SPAIN TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA) -- Labor-Likud relations took a sour turn Sunday as Foreign Minister Shimon Peres left on an official visit to Spain to seek support for an international peace conference with the publicly proclaimed ill wishes of Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

Shamir stated flatly before and during the Israel Bond Organization Leadership Conference in Jerusalem Saturday night that he hoped Peres "would not succeed." Peres' aides called his remark that of a political hack. It was "party, not state politics and we will not react," a spokesman for the Foreign Minister said.

The sharply divergent views of Shamir and Peres over an international conference for Middle East peace have long been in the open. Peres has vigorously pursued that goal while Shamir has vowed repeatedly that such a forum is unacceptable.

Cannot Recall A Precedent

But observers here could recall no precedent when a Prime Minister, speaking into radio microphones and to the press, stated his hope that a Foreign Minister's endeavors during a trip of great diplomatic sensitivity would fail. Peres is the first senior Israeli Minister to visit Spain since the two countries established diplomatic relations little more than a year ago.

Before leaving for Madrid, he told reporters he would ask the Spanish Premier, Felipe Gonzalez, to use his influence in the Arab world to promote an international conference. "Politically, we will certainly discuss the process of peace, how to continue it, how to develop it, how to enlarge it, and what role Spain can play in it," Peres said.

Only a few hours earlier, Shamir was telling the Israel Bond leaders that "Anyone aiming for true peace and for real progress toward this goal should make it abundantly clear that such a (international) peace conference will take us further away from peace and hurt the chances of achieving it."

Repercussions At The Cabinet Meeting

The incident had repercussions at Sunday's Cabinet meeting where Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman, standing in for Peres while he is abroad, demanded a debate there and then on the subject. Shamir refused.

Weizman observed that this was the first time in Israel's history that a Prime Minister hoped for the failure of a Foreign Minister on a mission abroad. He accused Shamir of undermining the government's image at home and overseas.

Shamir responded that he did not oppose Peres' visit to Europe but only his endeavors for an international conference. He said he wished Peres well on everything else.

Peres said before his departure that in addition to the Middle East peace process, Israel and Spain "still have to settle some differences concerning the Common Market" of which Spain

as a member competes with Israel's exports to the European Economic Community (EEC), mainly citrus and citrus products.

"Culturally, I think the cultural ties (between Israel and Spain) have developed quite impressively," Peres said. He said he planned to visit Toledo "which used to be a center of Jewish life, so there will be an historic flavor to this visit."

After visiting Spain, Peres will go to Rome for a meeting of the Socialist International where the Middle East peace process will also be discussed. As head of Israel's Labor Party, Peres is a member of the Socialist International.

Mubarak Enters The Fray

Peres' latest feud with Shamir drew the attention of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He told a Kuwaiti newspaper interviewer in Cairo Saturday that what Peres had to say carries more weight than Shamir's remarks.

"Listen to what he (Peres) says and don't attach any importance to Shamir's declarations," Mubarak said. He also observed that Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization would have to negotiate directly to settle their differences.

The newspaper Al-Rai Al-Am quoted Mubarak as saying, "Direct negotiations, whether one likes it or not, are inevitable at some stage. Carrier pigeons -- intermediaries -- will not suffice."

PERES RECEIVES WARM WELCOME IN SPAIN
By Edwin Eytan

MADRID, April 5 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres received a warm welcome when he arrived here Sunday for a two-day official visit, the first by a senior Israeli Minister to Spain since the two countries established diplomatic relations more than a year ago.

Peres was greeted at the airport by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez who said relations with Israel are progressing smoothly and the Spanish government hopes to strengthen them further in the months ahead. Peres observed that his visit is of diplomatic and political importance "but also of great historic and cultural value in view of the two nations past links."

During his stay here he will meet with King Juan Carlos and with Foreign Minister Francesco Fernandez Ordenez. Prior to his arrival, the Spanish press, including the national newspapers Diaro 16, ABC and La Vanguardia, published interviews with Peres and devoted considerable space to his comments on Spanish-Israeli relations. Two months ago, Spain was visited by Israel's Minister of Education and Culture, Yitzhak Navon.

In reply to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Prime Minister Gonzalez said Spain favors an international conference for Middle East peace, as advocated by Peres. But the modalities are still to be worked out.

The Spanish government believes the Soviet Union should be one of the participants, Gonzalez said, in order to ensure its chances for success. He declined to go into details. "This is something with which the European Community has to work out and reach a common policy," he said.

Peres' assertion, before he left Israel earlier Sunday, that an international conference would be on the agenda of his talks in Spain, aroused the wrath of Premier Yitzhak Shamir who said he hoped Peres "would not succeed."

ABRAM AND BRONFMAN ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT ON THEIR SOVIET VISIT

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA) -- Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, issued a joint statement Friday in response to criticism of their visit to the Soviet Union last month.

The statement said:

"All of the Jewish organizations in the United States dealing with the issue of Soviet Jewry are members of either the National Conference on Soviet Jewry or the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. It was the elected leader of the NCSJ and the Presidents Conference who, with the President of the World Jewish Congress, representing 70 Jewish communities around the world, undertook a visit to the USSR, ensuring a delegation representing the most wide-ranging cross-section of U.S. and world Jewry.

"On April 1, a debriefing was attended by nearly 150 Jewish leaders representing more than 60 member agencies of the NCSJ and the Presidents Conference, together with leadership of the World Jewish Congress. We are therefore surprised that some of the critics of this procedure did not voice all of their objections in the presence of their peers at the debriefing, but chose to discuss issues of internal concern with the media.

"The internecine squabbles waged in the media are at a minimum, unseemly. More importantly, they can be harmful to the security of those Soviet Jews whose lives are at stake. Such battles are confusing to political decision-makers in Washington and Moscow, who may erroneously believe that the Jewish community is so racked by dissension that it will not be able to deliver on commitments made in good faith. They offer those in the USSR who oppose a positive resolution of the fate of the 11,000-12,000 refuseniks, and the hundreds of thousands of others who seek to emigrate, a weapon with which to inhibit a true and comprehensive solution to the plight of Soviet Jewry."

ISRAEL BOND LEADERS SAY POLLARD CASE HAS NOT AFFECTED SALES

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA) -- Israel Bond Organization national officers, meeting here at the concluding session of their week-long 1987 leadership conference in Israel, reported that the Jonathan Pollard spy case has not affected bond sales in either the Jewish or non-Jewish communities in the United States. There had been some media reports that the Bond Organization has taken a low profile in the U.S. since the exposure of the Pollard case.

On the contrary, said Yehuda Halevy, president of the Bond Organization, "Our bond sales are going full speed ahead at an even better rate than last year's record of \$603 million. We have targeted \$700 million for this year and we hope to achieve it."

David Hermelin, international chairman, said the Bond Organization has two ways of checking grass-roots reaction. There is either an immediate response from individuals who won't honor pledges or there is a drop in cash flow. Neither has happened, he said.

As proof of the cash flow maintenance, Julian Venezky, chairman of the Board, pointed out that \$148.8 million had been invested in the first quarter of this year, a 40 percent increase over the same period last year.

ISRAEL URGED TO CEASE ALL ARMS EXCHANGES WITH SOUTH AFRICA

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA) -- Two American Jewish groups are calling on Israel to take its newly adopted sanctions against South Africa one step further by ceasing all military exchanges with the racist government.

American Jewish Congress president Theodore Mann and New York Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) president Lester Pollack have issued separate statements which praise the new Israeli sanctions while noting that they are only a first step towards total disengagement from military trade with South Africa.

The Israeli government decided on March 18 to prohibit any new military contracts with South Africa and to allow existing military contracts to expire. The new sanctions allow Israeli companies to uphold existing military contracts.

"We now urge Israel to go the extra distance -- by halting all arms sales under pre-existing agreements as quickly and expeditiously as possible," the AJCongress statement said.

The statement also expressed disappointment with the findings released by the State Department last Thursday that Israel, France, Italy, Great Britain, West Germany, The Netherlands, and Switzerland all violated the 1977 United Nations arms embargo on South Africa.

The JCRC, like the AJCongress, said it finds "no moral justification for the sale of arms, the transfer of technology or the provision of fuel by any country, so long as Pretoria's racist policies remain in effect."

The pressure of sanctions is aimed at convincing the South African government to change its apartheid policies, the JCRC said.

"We share with Israel a concern for the Jewish community of South Africa and welcome Israel's recent constructive first step in a process that will hopefully lead to full disengagement from any military cooperation with South Africa," the JCRC statement said.

VERDICTS ON TWO WAR CRIMINAL CASES

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA) -- A federal district court ruled here last week that Karl Linnas may be deported to his native Estonia for war crimes committed there during World War II. But a Cincinnati immigration court judge delivered an opposite verdict in the case of alleged war criminal Leonid Petkiewytsch whom the Justice Department wants to deport to Poland.

Linnas, a 67-year-old Long Island resident, was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981 and ordered deported in 1983 after lengthy hearings determined that he had been commandant of the Tartu concentration camp in Estonia and was responsible for the deaths of at least 12,000 inmates, including thousands of Jews.

Pietkiewytsch, 63, a resident of Finneytown, Ohio, was charged by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) with the persecution of inmates of the Kiel-Hasse labor camp in Germany during the war in collaboration with the Nazi authorities and with concealing the fact that he was arrested by the British for war crimes, when he entered the U.S. in 1955.

Immigration Judge O. John Brahos ruled, however, that the government showed insufficient evidence that Petkiewytsch acted voluntarily rather than under duress and that his detention by the British was not material to the issuance of a U.S. visa. The OSI is expected to appeal.

But Linnas' fight against deportation is apparently over. The U.S. Supreme Court twice declined to hear his appeals. The ruling by the federal district court Wednesday was the second time since last March that a federal court found that deportation of Linnas was justified.

He was sentenced in absentia in the Soviet Union in 1962 for war crimes committed in Estonia which is now Soviet territory. His appeals argued that evidence obtained from the Soviet Union was false and that deportation would mean certain death.

But U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani argued that the evidence supplied by the Soviet authorities only corroborated other evidence presented at the hearings. Although Attorney General Edwin Meese delayed signing the deportation order while the case was under "review," the Justice Department is now expected to act quickly to send Linnas back to Estonia.

The case has stirred emotions among Jews, including Holocaust survivors who urged deportation and East European anti-Communist groups which supported Linnas' appeals.

In Ohio, meanwhile, survivors of the Kiel-Hesse labor camp expressed bitter disappointment over Judge Brahos' decision and hoped that appeals against it will be successful.

SURPRISE EXPRESSED OVER NEW DEVELOPMENT IN POLLARD SPY CASE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA) -- Israeli circles expressed surprise over the weekend that the U.S. suddenly has made an issue of questioning Harold Katz, a 65-year-old American-born lawyer who immigrated to Israel in 1972, on alleged connections with convicted spy Jonathan Pollard.

Katz, who holds dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship, denied that he ever knew Pollard or the Israeli officials most closely linked to his spying activities. Israeli officials said Katz was questioned by U.S. officials over six months ago. The media quoted Israel Embassy sources in Washington as saying "They've sat on the Katz business for six months. Why now all of a sudden?"

The answer, according to those sources, is "yet more coordinated pressure on Israel." The Israel government has refused to allow Katz to go to Washington for questioning by a federal grand jury about the alleged use of an apartment he keeps there for pay-offs to Pollard and to receive intelligence data from him.

But the government, and Katz, say he is prepared to answer questions by an American investigator, possibly at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. Katz, who worked in the Defense Ministry's legal department here from 1972-82, admitted that he gave a key to his Washington apartment to Irit Erb, at the time a secretary at the office of the

Scientific Attache at the Israel Embassy in Washington, who has been implicated in the Pollard case.

Erb was one of three employees at the Embassy and the Israel Consulate General in New York who left the U.S. when Pollard was arrested in 1985 for spying for Israel. Katz said he knew Erb as a friend who offered to help furnish the apartment so that he could sub-lease it to Israelis looking for living quarters in Washington.

Katz said last Friday night that he had told the U.S. prosecutor who questioned him here a year ago, "under the pains and penalties of perjury," that the first time he heard of Erb's alleged use of his apartment for contacts with Pollard was when the prosecutor questioned him about it.

He insisted he never knew Pollard or Israel Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, Pollard's alleged "handler," nor had he ever passed any money or documents in the case.

Israeli and American officials reportedly have been discussing ground rules for questioning Katz for the past six months. The Israelis say they can think of no reason why publicity about Katz should have emerged now unless it was part of an attempt by some American circles to implicate Israel yet further in the Pollard affair.

RABBI SAYS U.S. JEWS CAN'T LIVE AS JEWS 'THROUGH ISRAEL AS OUR PROXY'

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, April 5 (JTA) -- American Jews must find their religious identity in the United States instead of vicariously through Israel. Rabbi Joshua Haberman, president of the Foundation for Jewish Studies, said last Thursday.

"We can't live as Jews through Israel as our proxy," Haberman told an audience of some 130 persons at the Washington Hilton after accepting the fourth annual Leadership Award from the Washington Jewish Week.

"We must never cease in our support and identification with Israel, but we must live as Jews here even as they must live as Israelis and Jews there," he said.

Haberman, who is rabbi emeritus of the Reform Washington Hebrew Congregation, said he believes the nation is faced with a "spiritual malaise."

"We Jews have an incredible advantage. In the Western world we have learned important lessons and gained deep insights in world-saving truths from our historical experience of nearly 4,000 years. But a time such as this, when we could be a light unto the nation, most of our people, so brilliantly educated in all the secular branches of learning, are Jewishly illiterate," he said. "We are messengers who have forgotten the message."

The Foundation for Jewish Studies, a private organization founded in 1983 with a \$1 million donation by an anonymous donor, awards and creates different projects on Jewish issues. The Foundation also arranges for classes taught by visiting professors that are open to all Jewish denominations. Prof. Abraham Kaplan of the University of California, Los Angeles, is the Foundation's current scholar in residence.

Haberman said he believes there is a renewed "quest for Jewish knowledge," that will bridge gaps between different Jewish religious denominations. "We may not be able to pray together, but we can study together," he said.

ARIZONA LAWMAKERS JOIN PROTEST OF ABA ACCORD WITH SOVIET LAWYERS

PHOENIX, Ariz., April 5 (JTA) -- Two Arizona lawmakers have joined the ongoing battle against a 1985 agreement between the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Association of Soviet Lawyers (ASL).

Pauline Yearwood of the Greater Phoenix Jewish News reported that Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D.) and Rep. Jon Kyl (R.) said they opposed the agreement because it symbolized acceptance of Soviet human rights violations.

"I am deeply concerned about the many facts reflecting a lack of respect of human rights, and strong proof of an anti-Semitic philosophy among the ASL leadership," DeConcini said.

ASL has been involved most notably in the publication of anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist writings together with the Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public.

Kyl said that as a 20-year member of the ABA he was "ashamed that the ABA would be involved in a thing like this." He said he was developing a strategy aimed at convincing the ABA to abrogate the agreement during its annual summer meeting.

He also is planning to bring up the matter before the House of Representatives and said he is trying to convince members of Congress to sign a letter asking for an end to the agreement.

A Barrage Of Criticism

These statements followed a barrage of criticism aimed at statements made by ABA president Eugene Thomas of Boise, Idaho, during the ABA's mid-year meeting in New Orleans in February. He was reported to have said that members of the Task Force on ABA-Soviet Relations who were protesting the lawyers' agreement "are scarred by the Holocaust" and focused on "family concerns" while ABA is involved in "larger issues."

Patience Huntwork, who led the demonstrators along with fellow Phoenix attorney Orest Jejna, denounced Thomas' reported statement as "neither factually accurate nor pertinent to the issue of the ABA's ties to the Soviets."

"Furthermore, it was inappropriate and insensitive ... It is a sad state of affairs when the president of the American Bar Association does not appear to understand the full implications of the Holocaust."

Says Remarks Were Taken Out Of Context

Thomas indicated to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his remarks were taken out of context. A transcript his office provided showed the remarks were contained in his reply to a question at a press conference, "Why is there this apparent difference in the agenda of the picketers and the agenda of the ABA?"

Thomas reportedly said: "Well, it's different in the sense that these are people who were deeply scarred by the Holocaust, as I think all of us are in varying degrees. The Holocaust was not limited to Jewish people and the horror is not limited to any particular religion or race."

"But, yes, I think their focus is on their families, their hurt, their fears. We're also focused on the need to deal with terrorism, world trade, environmental laws ... So our agenda is broader than theirs ... We differ on means and strategy, not goals; now the ABA must follow its best judgment and that includes talking to people with whom we disagree."

He reiterated those statements to JTA and added that the ABA alliance had strong support from the Jewish community. "In my view the majority of Jewish people and Jewish organizations strongly support and greatly appreciate the lawyers involved in this important effort," he said.

However, the Jewish News noted, because of alleged ASL ties to Soviet anti-Semitism, a number of Jewish groups -- including the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the community relations committees of Jewish federations in Greater Baton Rouge, Greater Miami, Greater Phoenix, Greater Seattle and Northern New Jersey -- have called on the ABA to abrogate the agreement.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center also was critical of Thomas' remarks, but did not call for an end to the agreement.

And among the demonstrators at the ABA convention, according to the Jewish News, were William Wolf, a member of Arizona Action for Soviet Jewry; Yigal Bander, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Baton Rouge, La., and other Louisiana Jews.

HABIMAH HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY INVITED TO PERFORM IN BUDAPEST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA) -- Habimah, the Israel National Theater, has been officially invited to perform in Budapest, and the Hungarian National Theater will come to Israel later for performances at the Habimah Theater building.

The invitation to Habimah was extended by the director of the Hungarian Ministry of Education's Cultural Affairs Department to Habimah artistic director Omri Nitzan and actor Avraham Ronai during their visit to Hungary as the guests of the Hungarian National Theater last week.

The Israeli group will probably visit Hungary in September or October, during a Habimah tour of Europe during which they will perform at theatrical festivals in Copenhagen, West Berlin and Belgrade.

Omri said that while in Budapest, they had met with Mikhael Gloz, artistic director of the Soviet Jewish Theater in Moscow, who had expressed the hope that his actors' group would visit Israel shortly.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CONTINUE STRIKE

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA) -- About 1,500 university students staged a rowdy demonstration outside the Prime Minister's Office while the Cabinet was in session Sunday to protest the government's failure to discuss their grievances over plans to raise tuition fees for higher education. The students, demanding the resignation of Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, sat in the roadway to prevent Ministers' cars from leaving the main entrance. Twelve members of the Students Council were dragged bodily into police vans and taken to the police station.

More than 80,000 university students went on strike last Thursday to protest the tuition hikes. The strike will continue this week, but on a rotation basis. Each of the country's universities will be struck on a different day. The Education Ministry warned that if the strike has not ended by the time school recesses for the Passover holidays, the rest of the spring semester might be cancelled.

**SPAIN TO STRESS JEWISH CONTRIBUTION
TO AMERICA'S DISCOVERY, SAYS MINISTER**
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA) -- A high-ranking Spanish government official said here Wednesday that his government plans to stress the contribution of Spanish Jews to the discovery of America in the course of the quincentennial celebrations of the event in 1992.

Luis Yanez, Spain's Secretary of State for International Cooperation, said at a special briefing with Israeli reporters and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he visited New York this week specifically to meet with Jewish organizational leaders.

He said that he discussed with leaders of the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress and other organizations his government's plans to reinvoke the role of the Jews in the discovery of America by holding seminars, discussions and congresses and by publishing information on the issue.

"The response of the Jewish organizations was very positive," Yanez said in reply to a question. He said that he discussed with the American Jewish Committee the possibility of jointly sponsoring a major seminar, at a major university -- probably Columbia in New York City -- to commemorate the quincentennial celebrations.

More On Jews In General

The Spanish Minister, who is the president of the Spanish National Commission for the Quincentennial Celebrations of the Discovery of America by Christopher Columbus in 1492, said his government is interested in publicizing the role of Jews in general in the formation of modern Spain and its culture.

"For many years we experienced disinformation regarding the role of Jews in modern Spain," he asserted. He said, in reply to a question, that during the decades of Gen. Francisco Franco's rule in Spain, "Jews were considered enemies of Spain," and their contribution to the country was ignored.

Two years ago Spain established diplomatic relations with Israel. Israeli Education Minister Yitzhak Navon visited Madrid last February and met with, among other Spanish officials, Yanez. Navon, Yanez said, agreed to serve as the president of the Israeli Commission for the quincentennial celebrations.

"Navon invited me to visit Israel and I accepted. I will go to Israel later this year," Yanez said. He said that "this historic occasion" of the quincentennial celebrations is an opportunity to restore Israel's image in Spain and Latin America, an image that was distorted because of lack of diplomatic relations, and to put into proper perspective the meaningful contribution of Jews to Spain.

The Spanish official denied, in reply to a question, that his government seeks closer ties with American Jews to advance its interests in Washington. "No, this is not our purpose," he said.

**CARTER SAYS SYRIA, JORDAN BOTH
READY TO TALK PEACE WITH ISRAEL
WITHIN INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter arrived in Israel Thursday saying he was convinced that the leaders of Syria and Jordan would join direct peace talks with Israel held within the framework of an international peace conference.

Meeting with Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres shortly after reaching Jerusalem by the Allenby Bridge from Jordan, Carter said that President Hafez Assad of Syria understood that an international conference was the next stage toward direct negotiations.

He said that King Hussein of Jordan wanted to advance the peace process and held "flexible views," but was unable to move forward in the absence of an international forum. According to Carter, Assad regards Jordan as "a leading force in the peace process." Carter said that in his own view, Syria, too, has an important role in the process.

Carter's visit to Israel, his first since 1983, is the final leg of a tour that took him to Algeria, Egypt, Syria and Jordan. The former President stressed repeatedly here and in the Arab capitals that his visit was private and the views he expressed were his own. He made clear he is not representing the U.S.

He made several statements in the course of his journey on the need to include the Palestine Liberation Organization in an international conference.

Eighth Anniversary Of Treaty

Carter's arrival in Israel coincided with the eighth anniversary of the signing of the Israel-Egyptian peace treaty on March 26, 1979 at a White House ceremony. The signatories were then Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. Carter engineered the treaty.

Carter asked for a meeting with Begin, who has been living in seclusion at his suburban Jerusalem home since he resigned from office in August 1983. According to Begin's spokesman, Yechiel Kadishai, the 73-year-old former Premier said "that he can't see him, that's all. He didn't give any reason." Begin and Carter last met during Carter's 1983 visit.

Carter told reporters Thursday that one of the lessons of Camp David, at which Egypt, Israel and the U.S. talked was that one should not stick to any single specific formula in pursuing peace and that it is time to advance to a new stage. He said that would seem to be an international conference.

He said his visit to Israel was to raise questions and float ideas for Israeli leaders, as a private citizen. He added that he had never succeeded in convincing Israelis "or anyone else" to do what they did not want to do.

Asked why the peace process had not advanced after Camp David, Carter said "Perhaps

there is more I could have done, but I don't think that in the last six years (the tenure of the Reagan Administration) it has been as high a priority as it has been with me, when it was almost an obsession."

Carter expressed hope nevertheless that the last two years of the Reagan Administration would see the Middle East peace process become a greater priority.

The Reagan Administration sharply criticized Carter for a remark before the American Chamber of Commerce in Cairo last week that there was "missing leadership" in Washington. "President Reagan has not been inclined to use negotiation and diplomacy as a means to achieve our nation's goals as have his Democratic and Republican predecessors. He's more inclined to exert America's military strength, either the actual use of it or the threat of it," Carter said.

Those remarks brought an angry response from White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater last Friday. He said the Administration was "deeply disappointed" that Carter would make such a statement on the "very delicate" Mideast peace process while in a foreign country. "It is not right to say we have not been pursuing the peace process in the Middle East," Fitzwater said.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman declared that "This Administration has remained actively involved in the peace process and is deeply committed to it."

Meets With Assad, Hussein

Carter met with Assad in Damascus for three-and-a-half hours Sunday, according to Syria's official news agency, Sana, discussing "issues relating to the international situation, the Middle East and Lebanon."

Carter arrived in Jordan Tuesday asserting that "As long as the parties stay flexible and listen to contrary views, the hope for a (international) conference is kept alive." He met with King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan. Also, while in Amman, Carter called for the release of prisoners in Israel and hostages in Lebanon. "All those being held on both sides, unless being guilty of some crime, should be released," he said.

In Jerusalem Thursday, Carter said he had no word on any possible progress on the hostage issue in Lebanon. He expressed hope that with the deployment of Syrian armed forces in west Beirut, progress would be made toward the release of hostages.

SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION FIGURES GLADDEN TWO JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA) -- Two national Jewish organizations said Wednesday they were heartened by reports from Moscow that 400 Jews will have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union by the end of March, but stressed their reservations over whether this "welcome step" signified a meaningful change of policy or a gesture aimed at improving the Soviet image.

Alan Pesky, chairman of the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, noted that since prominent refusenik Natan Sharansky was freed from prison and allowed to leave for Israel in February 1986, there have been a number of "heartening developments," such as the release from prison of Iosif Begun and the exit permission granted long-time refusenik David Goldfarb.

Nevertheless, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "has been able to reap a public relations

windfall while actually giving very little in return," Pesky said. Ruth Popkin, national president of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, also hailed the granting of exit visas to 400 Soviet Jews this month.

"We sincerely hope that this action reflects a significant change in the Soviet Union's long-standing policy of repression of its Jewish citizens and is more than an illusory and politically motivated ploy to improve its relations with the United States in the pursuit of its own ends," Popkin said. "Time, and the release of additional Soviet Jews, will tell," she added.

'Trumped-Up Charges'

Pesky noted that while only three Jews remain political prisoners in the USSR, "They are there on trumped-up charges, as were all Jewish prisoners held captive solely because of their desire to emigrate to Israel."

He said "the Soviet emigration policy has the effect of denying the right to emigrate to some 400,000 Jews" who have asked to leave for reasons other than family reunification, "including repatriation to Israel." Therefore, "mere numbers are not enough. There must be normalization of the Soviets' emigration procedures."

Popkin congratulated the new emigrants who will be reunited with family and friends in time for the Passover holidays next month. "We look forward to the time when all Soviet Jews will celebrate Passover in freedom," she said.

EITAN, ARENS TESTIFY BEFORE PANEL PROBING POLLARD AFFAIR; CABINET REMOVES OBSTACLE TO INVESTIGATION By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- A Knesset panel investigating the government's handling of the Jonathan Pollard spy case heard key witnesses Wednesday as the Cabinet acted to remove the main obstacle holding up its own probe of the affair.

The intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, which has conducted more than 100 hours of closed hearings since it started its investigation two weeks ago, heard testimony from one of the two most controversial figures in the case, Rafael Eitan, a former Mossad operative and former head of the Defense Ministry's scientific relations department. Another witness Wednesday was former Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

The subcommittee has scheduled its entire Thursday session to question Air Force Col. Aviem Sella. According to Pollard's confession, he was recruited and given espionage assignments by Sella and his spy unit, LEKEM, was headed by Eitan.

Controversial Promotions

The advancement of Sella's and Eitan's careers despite their alleged deep involvement with Pollard angered the U.S. and raised a storm of controversy in Israel and between Israel and American Jewish leaders. Sella was given command of Israel's second largest airbase and Eitan was appointed chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation.

While the Knesset subcommittee's secret hearings were raising media speculation that the top political echelons of the government will be badly tarnished by its findings, which was denied by committee leaders Abba Eban and Ehud Olmert,

the Cabinet agreed that testimony given to its own two-man committee of inquiry will not be conveyed to the U.S. Attorney General Yosef Harish was authorized to make that commitment in writing to David Libai, a lawyer representing three other key figures in the Pollard case. Libai had advised his clients not to testify on grounds of self-incrimination that could lead to prosecution in the U.S.

As a result, the Cabinet-sponsored investigation, conducted by Tel Aviv lawyer Yehoshua Rotenstreich and former Chief of Staff Gen. Zvi Tsur, was unable to start as scheduled last week.

The witnesses are Yosef Yagur, former Scientific Attache at the Israel Consulate General in New York; Ilan Ravid, former assistant to the Scientific Attache at the Israel Embassy in Washington; and Irit Erb, a former secretary at the Scientific Attache's office in Washington. The three left the U.S. when Pollard was arrested in 1985.

The Cabinet also decided to allow the witnesses to appeal to the Supreme Court if they believe the government is about to renege on its agreement.

PERES GUEST OF RADIO CALL-IN SHOW FOR CITIZENS OF ARAB STATES, WEST BANK

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA) -- Utilizing an international wireless telephone hook-up via West Germany, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres answered questions from callers in the Arab world for a half hour Thursday. Most of the questions related to Middle East peace.

The telephone exchange was arranged by the Arabic service of the state-owned Israel Radio in cooperation with a radio station in Bonn. Except for callers from Egypt, who used the newly installed direct-dialing, questions and answers were relayed through Bonn. Peres heard simultaneous translations and replied in English, which was translated into Arabic.

Calls from Syria, during a practice run Wednesday, were cut off abruptly and there were no Syrian calls Thursday. But there were calls from Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and the West Bank. Peres was asked about an international conference for Middle East peace, the peace process with Egypt and the situation between Israel and Syria since Syrian armed forces occupied West Beirut earlier this month.

The Foreign Minister stressed that Israel wants peace, but apart from Egypt has found no Arab partners. He said Israel was ready to participate in preparations for an international conference or in talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but not with the Palestine Liberation Organization, which he said "preferred shooting to talking."

Earlier Thursday, Peres met with three Palestinian leaders, Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al Fajr, Fayez Abu Rahman, a West Bank attorney, and Dr. Sa'ari Nusseibeh. He said his purpose was to hear their opinions on Israel-Palestinian relations and acquaint them with Israel's policies.

REPORT THAT U.S. ZIONIST YOUTH SPIED ON ISRAEL DENIED BY AUTHORITIES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- An American magazine report that the U.S. intelligence

community occasionally planted agents among American Jewish youth doing non-military volunteer work for the Israel Defense Force over the last 10 years was flatly denied here Thursday by "authoritative security elements."

The report, in The New Republic, noted that thousands of Jewish youth have done clean-up and maintenance work for one-month periods at IDF camps in a program called "Volunteer Israel" which began after the Yom Kippur War.

The magazine cited two well-placed sources in the American intelligence community who said the volunteers could have picked up pieces of information about Israel's military while performing menial chores.

The report followed by less than a week the assertion by Sen. David Durenberger (R. Minn.), former chairman of Senate Intelligence Committee, that in 1982 the CIA planted spies in the IDF. Israeli leaders and U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger have denied the allegation.

As for American volunteers acting as agents, the intelligence sources here noted that all of them were members of Zionist youth movements and their backgrounds were checked by the project officers overseas. Several volunteers were rejected because they lacked appropriate documents or were not well known, the sources said.

So far, about 3,500 youths have served in the volunteer project, most of them from the U.S.

SHAMIR: SEPARATE SOVIET JEWRY ISSUE FROM ISRAEL'S RELATIONS WITH USSR

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Thursday that the plight of Soviet Jews should be considered apart from Israel's policies toward the Soviet Union and must not be "held hostage" to Israeli negotiations with Moscow. Addressing representatives of the American Council for Soviet Jewry in Jerusalem, Shamir also complained that American Jews are not doing enough to persuade the U.S. to abolish refugee status for Jews leaving the USSR which makes it easy for them to go to the U.S. instead of Israel. Many U.S. Jewish organizations in fact disagree with Shamir on this issue.

PERES BLASTS WEST BANK 'BEDROOM' SETTLEMENTS; IMPLIES UNITY GOVERNMENT HAS NO JUSTIFICATION TO CONTINUE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres expressed sharp criticism of the Labor-Likud national unity government Wednesday and came down strongly on one side of an issue that could result in its dissolution.

Addressing the leadership of the National Religious Party, Peres spoke forcefully against Jewish settlements in the administered territories. There was no need for towns like Emmanuel and Ariel in the West Bank, he said, which serve as no more than bedroom communities.

He also charged that the unity government had no real political or social program, implying that he saw no justification for it to continue.

While he spoke, Likud's Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy was dedicating the new West Bank settlement of Betar, just south of Jerusalem.

He did so in face of a protest demonstration by the Peace Now movement and a delegation from the development town of Sderot in the Negev.

SHARANSKY PROPOSES THAT THE WEST OFFER THE USSR QUID PRO QUO FOR EASING EMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- Natan Sharansky proposed that the West offer the Soviet Union quid pro quo for easing emigration restrictions for Soviet Jews. For Jewish emigration of 10,000 a year, Moscow would be rewarded with a broadening of scientific and cultural ties.

If 50,000 Jews are allowed to leave a year, the U.S. should cancel the Jackson-Vanik amendment which links Jewish emigration to Most Favored Nation trade status for the USSR, Sharansky told some 1,500 North American immigrants at a meeting Sunday organized by the Association of American and Canadian Immigrants to Israel and the Soviet Jewry Education and Information Center.

The event, billed as "an evening with Natan Sharansky," coincided with the 10th anniversary of his arrest in Moscow, allegedly for spying for the United States. Sharansky, who came to Israel in February 1986 after nine years in the Soviet Gulag, said he thought it would be "dangerous precedent" for Israel to ask the United States to abolish special refugee status for Jews leaving the Soviet Union.

"I have no doubt that the best place for a Jew to live is in Israel, but I don't want anyone brought here against his will," Sharansky said. In this he is at odds with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other Israeli leaders who have been urging the U.S. to abolish refugee status in order to make it more difficult for Soviet Jewish emigres to go to the U.S. instead of to Israel.

Sharansky also believes that direct flights from Moscow to Tel Aviv "are not an issue" or an answer to this problem. He said the Soviets have built it up as a bargaining device to extract concessions. It is an example of how Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "fixes his own price," Sharansky said.

The Most Serious Problem

He also thought the new Soviet emigration regulations that took effect January 1 pose the most serious problem for Soviet Jews since they were forced in 1972 to pay for the free education they received in the USSR before leaving. The new regulations restrict family reunification to only the closest kin -- parents or siblings.

The new law automatically reduced the number of potential emigrants to a mere 30,000, Sharansky said. He criticized the Israel government for "taking several months" before it lodged a protest.

Sharansky said there was not necessarily a "direct linkage" between the possible resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union and relief for Soviet Jews. Renewed relations should be based on the understanding that "the problem of Soviet Jewry is Israel's problem," he said.

AVINERI RAPS SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA) -- A leading Israeli scholar and former diplomat delivered an unprecedented blast at South African Jewry here Tuesday. "They are part of the white power structure and benefit from it. There's nothing Israel owes people who are part of a racist regime," Prof. Shlomo Avineri declared at a

Hebrew University symposium on South Africa. Apparently referring to Israel's reluctance to follow the West in applying sanctions against the Pretoria regime because of possible repercussions for South African Jews, Avineri asserted that "South African Jews can take care of themselves very well and don't need Israel's support." Israel announced last week that it would phase out its military and other relationships with South Africa.

Avineri, who was Director General of the Israel Foreign Ministry in 1976-77 and is a world renowned authority on Marx and Hegel, raised a storm earlier this month when he accused American Jewish leaders of demonstrating a "galut" mentality in their response to the Jonathan Pollard spy case, "cringing" for fear of charges of dual loyalty.

Avineri, long a critic of Israel's relations with South Africa, urged Tuesday that the estimated 15,000 Israelis living in South Africa be stripped of their citizenship.

As for South African Jewry, he said "The major mistake of the Israeli government has been to not tell South Africa's 115,000 Jews: 'Get out-- you have nothing to do there'."

HESCHEL RECALLED AS A 'PROPHET' BY WIDOW OF SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 26 (JTA) -- Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, the late Jewish philosopher and civil rights activist, was recalled as a "prophet" by Coretta Scott King here Monday.

King, president of the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission, spoke at a meeting of the commission of the "common ground of faith" between her late husband and Heschel, who was a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

She said it was good from time-to-time to be reminded that "people like Martin and Rabbi Heschel don't come around very often." She said the two men were friends and co-workers in the civil rights struggle.

Martin Luther King spoke to the Rabbinical Assembly of America, the Conservative rabbinic group, in March 1968, ten days before he was slain by an assassin in Memphis, Tennessee, and his widow recalled Heschel's introduction of her husband. "Martin Luther King Jr. is a voice, a vision and a way," Heschel said. "I call upon every Jew to hearken to his voice, to share his wisdom, to follow his way. The whole future of America will depend on the impact and influence of Dr. King."

The commission heard reports on the observance of the King holiday last January, including the activities of the American Jewish community, Israel and at the Israel Embassy here where Coretta Scott King was the guest of honor.

BEERSHEBA (JTA) -- A team of 30 athletes from the University of Warsaw will participate in the 19th International Student Sport Games, April 26 - May 3, hosted by Ben Gurion University. This marks the first appearance of a Polish team in the tournament which will include approximately 1,000 athletes from Brazil, Switzerland, Germany, England and Israel. Held annually, the games are organized by the Academic Sport Association in Tel Aviv.

SOME 2,500 WORKERS TO BE FIRED FROM PLANTS OPERATED BY DEFENSE MINISTRY
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- At least 2,500 defense establishment employees will be dismissed during the 1987 working year at plants operated by the Defense Ministry, according to senior authoritative defense sources, quoted by Haaretz Monday.

Military industries will lay off about 1,500 workers, the Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) about 800, and "Raphael" -- the armament development authority -- about 250.

In addition, employees of private industries which handle defense establishment production will also be dismissed. Haaretz says that in an effort to prevent extensive unemployment in development towns, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has ordered that plants located in these areas be given preference in defense establishment orders.

Selling Israeli Weapons Abroad

The paper also reports that, by the end of February, the Defense Ministry had granted 560 individuals permission to conduct negotiations for the sale of Israeli weapons abroad, while 14 such requests were denied.

According to defense sources, the number of individuals given such permission will reach 800. But this does not enable those same individuals to sign agreements. Before signing any deal, the individual conducting negotiations must receive additional approval from the Defense Ministry.

Another report in Haaretz says that the Israel Defense Force will be forced to purchase 100 Israeli-made trucks even though it does not need them. This follows instructions by Rabin to the IDF, issued to assist the Nazareth vehicle factory and to stabilize its economic situation.

The instructions are said to have caused distress in the IDF, especially against the background of slashes in the defense establishment's budget. Deputy Chief of Staff Amir Drori is reported to have sent a letter to Rabin opposing the purchase.

LABOR MKS INCLUDING PERES, EBAN TALK PEACE WITH PALESTINIANS
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) -- Labor members of the Knesset, including Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, are attempting to put together a peace front with representative Palestinians from the West Bank.

Peres met last Thursday with Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem Arabic daily Al-Fajr, and Fayez Abu-Rahme. Both have been mentioned as possible members of a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in peace talks with Israel.

Seniora, who makes no secret of his sympathy for the Palestine Liberation Organization, was one of four Palestinians who attended a meeting with Labor MKs Abba Eban and Ora Namir last Wednesday at the King David Hotel. The others were Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem and two Nablus businessmen, Said Kanan and

Bassel Kanan. The six signed a joint statement calling for peace talks within the framework of an international conference which would include "legitimate representatives of Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian people." The statement said, "a peace settlement must contain elements meeting the legitimate security rights of Israel and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Some Stayed Away From The Meeting

The meeting was smaller than anticipated. Several key figures from the administered territories did not attend because they refused to sign a statement which made no mention of the PLO. Seniora indicated he was taking a personal risk by signing.

"I know there are dangers involved, but I am willing to go ahead because I value peace much more than war," he told reporters.

Labor MK Haim Ramon, an outspoken dove, said he stayed away because a meeting without PLO representation was flawed to begin with. According to Ramon, the basic weakness of all recent meetings between Israeli policymakers and leaders of the Palestinian community lies in their divergent attitudes toward the PLO.

"Whereas the Palestinians by and large stick to the PLO as the 'sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people,' Israeli leaders want no contacts whatever with the PLO lobby in the territories," Ramon said.

But Eban was optimistic. "We have decided to step up the pace of dialogue," he said. He warned, however, that it was an illusion to believe the continuing impasse does no harm.

SELLA SAYS HE RESIGNED FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- Col. Aviem Sella, who relinquished command of the Tel Nof airbase -- the "dream post" of any Israel Air Force commander -- said in his letter of resignation Sunday that he had been "flooded" by appeals from colleagues, superiors and the public not to resign, but for the good of the country could not "comply with these requests."

The political echelons in Israel reacted with equanimity to his decision. Premier Yitzhak Shamir said that "in light of the circumstances that have arisen, Sella has done what he had to do." He said the resignation was not unexpected.

Haaretz reported Monday that Sella, under indictment by a federal grand jury in the U.S. for his role in the Jonathan Pollard spy case, had in fact been approached by Air Force colleagues and senior officers of other branches of the Israel Defense Force to quit.

MK Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset subcommittee currently probing the government's involvement in the Pollard affair, said that Sella had taken "the honorable course," by resigning.

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon expressed hope that the resignation would ease tensions between Israel and the U.S. "It was a mistake in the first place to nominate him" to head Tel Nof, "but now he has made a noble gesture, I'm sure from patriotic motives," Navon, a former President

of Israel, said. Sella's appointment to command Israel's second largest air base, announced only a few days before Pollard was sentenced to life imprisonment for spying for Israel, infuriated the U.S. The Defense Department announced it would have nothing to do with Sella and would boycott the airbase as long as he was its commander. According to Pollard's confession, he was recruited by Sella and received his espionage assignments from him.

Won't Say If More Resignations Are Expected

Shamir would not say Monday whether he expected more resignations arising from the Pollard case. In addition to Sella, Pollard implicated former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan who was subsequently named chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation.

Sella's resignation was reported immediately to U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering in Tel Aviv and to Israel's Ambassador in Washington, Meir Rosenne. It was submitted to Air Force Commander Gen. Amos Lapidot, and endorsed by IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy before being sent to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin who accepted it with regret.

Sella stated in his letter that his decision stemmed from "the deterioration in Israel-U.S. relations and my concern for the future of ties between the two countries and for relations with American Jewry . . ."

But according to Haaretz, Sella stood fast until Sunday against all urgings that he quit. He insisted that he acted in the U.S. at the request of senior political echelons to carry out a mission entrusted to him and therefore saw no reason to pay the price for exposure of the Pollard affair. In various private conversations, Sella intimated that senior political echelons were well aware of his activities, Haaretz said.

SHAMIR, SHARON AND ARENS WIN THE DAY AT HERUT PARTY CONVENTION By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- The Herut convention wound up here early Monday morning after handing an undisputable victory to Premier Yitzhak Shamir and sharply boosting the political fortunes of two of his most outspoken rightwing ministers, Ariel Sharon and Moshe Arens.

Shamir was unopposed in his re-election as party leader Sunday. Sharon and Arens easily beat back challenges from Herut Knesset members for the offices of Central Committee chairman and the chairman of the party Secretariat respectively.

Each won with a 64 percent majority of the 2,100 ballots cast. For Sharon, who is Minister of Commerce and Industry, it was his first election to high office in Herut. He defeated MK Eli Ovadia, the Mayor of Afula. Arens, a Minister-Without-Portfolio, scored over former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy was re-elected deputy chairman of Herut but by a margin of 56 percent over MK Meir Cohen-Avidov, in contrast to the better showing by his two Cabinet colleagues. He was promptly labeled a "loser" by political analysts who saw his chances of replacing Shamir at the head of the Likud ticket in the next elections to be fading away.

On the other hand, Sharon and Arens were seen firmly in the running for the office of Prime Minister should Likud defeat the Labor Party in the next elections, whenever they are held.

The Herut convention was actually the wind-up of the convention that opened here in March 1986 but broke up in chaos after two days, before any ballots were cast, because of a determined effort by Levy to unseat Shamir.

At that time, Levy had the backing of Sharon. At the end of the convention Monday he bitterly accused the Shamir, Sharon and Arens camps of "ganging up" on him and his supporters. He insisted that his 56 percent was a vote of confidence, a claim derided by his future opponents for party leadership.

Shamir appealed for party unity and an end to petty squabbles. In fact, he mentioned "unity" 26 times in his brief closing speech to the delegates, and the words "unity" and "democracy" were echoed endlessly by other speakers. Herut, indeed, was in a self-congratulatory mood, having completed its once-aborted convention with decorum and parliamentary good order.

ISRAEL BONDS TAKES LOW PROFILE IN U.S. IN AFTERMATH OF POLLARD CASE

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- The Israel Bonds Organization has taken a low profile in the U.S. since exposure of the Jonathan Pollard spy case, its world president Yehuda Helevy disclosed Monday.

Helevy told Israel Radio that the Pollard affair would cause a temporary suspension of Bonds activity among non-Jewish organizations, including commercial firms, banks and pension funds. Those bodies are said to account for 30-35 percent of annual Bonds sales in the U.S.

Helevy said at the opening of the Bonds conference in Haifa Sunday that a record \$603 million worth of Israel Bonds were sold last year.

WEST GERMAN PROSECUTOR VOUCHES FOR AUTHENTICITY OF A KEY DOCUMENT IN THE DEMJANJUK TRIAL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) -- A West German prosecutor vouched Monday for the authenticity of a key document in the trial of alleged war criminal John Demjanjuk, obtained from Soviet sources.

Helge Grabitz, head of the Nazi war crimes section of the Hamburg District Attorney's Office, said that "not even once" had she received a forged document from the USSR or any other Communist bloc country.

Grabitz testified about 15 documents pertaining to the Trawniki SS training camp where prisoners of war were trained for guard duty at Treblinka and other death camps. The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk claims that an identity card issued at Trawniki, bearing his name, photograph and physical description is a Soviet forgery.

The card bears the signature of the Trawniki commandant, Karl Streibl. Grabitz, who was chief prosecutor at Streibl's trial in West Germany, said she could easily identify the signature, having seen hundreds of documents bearing it in the course of doing research for that trial. She said Streibl himself authenticated his signature.

The Jerusalem district court hearing the Demjanjuk case granted a defense motion for recess to study translations of the documents identified by Grabitz. The afternoon session was cancelled for that purpose. The defense is expected to cross-examine Grabitz Tuesday.

USSR AGREES TO NEW TRANSIT PROCEDURE FOR JEWISH EMIGRANTS THAT WOULD ELIMINATE THE DROPOUT PHENOMENON
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 30 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has agreed to establish a new transit procedure for future Jewish emigres that would eliminate the phenomenon of noshrim (dropouts)-- Jews who leave the Soviet Union with an Israeli visa, but when they arrive in Vienna choose to settle in Europe or the United States.

According to Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York, who said he negotiated the new procedure last month in Moscow and Bucharest, Jews leaving the Soviet Union in the future will go to Israel through Rumania where they will not be able to obtain visas to the United States or other countries.

Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an interreligious group working for human rights and religious freedom, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Monday that he negotiated the procedure in meetings with Communist Party Secretaries Aleksander Yakovlev and Anatoly Dobrynin in February, while attending the International Forum for a Nuclear-Free World for the Survival of Humanity in Moscow. He also discussed the issue, he said, with Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu who assured him of his support of the new arrangements.

"If anything, the new transit procedure will clearly establish the genuine quality of invitations extended by Soviet Jews already in Israel to their relatives in the Soviet Union," Schneier said. "I feel therefore, that it could increase the number of exit visas given to Soviet Jews because it represents a genuine process of family reunification."

Schneier noted, however, that regardless of the new transit procedure, he believes that more Jews will be allowed to leave the Soviet Union in the future.

From Rumania To Israel

Noting that the details of the new emigration procedure are not yet finalized, Schneier said that Jews who are given exit visas will be flown to Rumania and from there directly to Israel, without an opportunity to apply for a visa to the United States. He said he could not disclose the name of the Rumanian city that would be used for the direct flights to Tel Aviv, "out of security reasons."

Rumania, the rabbi noted, is the only East European country that has diplomatic ties with Israel and that "there are regular flights between the two countries." Although officials in Jerusalem and Washington said Monday they were not aware of a change in Soviet emigration procedure, Israel in fact has been actively seeking such a change in order to stem the growing number of dropouts.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, during his visit to the United States last month, asked the Reagan Administration to deny refugee status to Soviet Jews who leave the Soviet Union with an Israeli visa. It is estimated that more than 80 percent of Soviet Jews who received exit visas in recent years claimed refugee status upon their arrival in Vienna and settled in the United States instead of continuing to Israel.

Schneier told the JTA that the new transit procedure will be enacted "shortly" after "technical arrangements" are completed. He could not provide an exact date.

THREE TERRORIST KILLED BY IDF

TEL AVIV, March 30 (JTA) -- At least three terrorists were killed in two clashes with Israel Defense Force patrols in the south Lebanon security zone Sunday night and several terrorists were believed wounded, a military spokesman announced Monday. There were no IDF casualties.

The first clash occurred at about 8:30 p.m. local time near Majdal Selim where an IDF patrol encountered suspicious-acting persons and opened fire. The body of one was found and signs indicated that the body of another, either dead or wounded, was dragged along the ground. Land mines, Katyusha rockets, Kalachnikov rifles and parcels of high explosives were found in the vicinity.

An IDF patrol ran across another group of terrorists at about 10:30 p.m. near the ruins of the Beaufort Castle. An exchange of fire ensued. A search of the area disclosed two bodies and quantities of arms and explosives.

LAND DAY OBSERVED PEACEFULLY BY ISRAELI ARABS; SPORADIC VIOLENCE MARKS DAY IN WEST BANK AND GAZA
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 30 (JTA) -- Land Day was observed peacefully by Israel's 700,000 Arabs Monday. But sporadic violence, school and shop closures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip demonstrated the contrasting moods and propensities of Palestinian Arabs who are citizens of Israel and those in the administered territories.

A curfew was imposed on the Balata refugee camp near Nablus Monday morning after youths hurled rocks at an Israel Defense Force patrol. Eight youngsters were arrested in Ramallah, near Jerusalem, for alleged incitement. Rubber bullets were fired at youths in nearby El Bireh who were throwing rocks. One Israeli soldier was slightly injured when a rock hit a private car he was driving.

A commercial strike was fully effective in Ramallah and schools remained closed for the day. But merchants in Nablus opened their doors, claiming they did so under pressure from the authorities. A commercial strike called in Gaza petered out shortly after it began.

Arab centers in Israel were calm. Life was normal, though thousands of Arabs assembled at three regional ceremonies to recall the events of 11 years ago.

Land Day originated in 1976 as a mass protest against the confiscation of Arab lands in Galilee to build Jewish settlements. What began as a general strike degenerated into violent demonstrations. Arab youths confronted soldiers and border police who gunned down six of them. The day has been one of mourning and protest by Palestinian Arabs ever since.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Former President Jimmy Carter said Monday that President Hafez Assad of Syria does not appear to have any information about Israelis held prisoner in Lebanon. He said there were no Israeli POWs in Syria. Carter, who spoke to reporters during a visit to Acre, was referring to his meeting with Assad in Damascus last week before coming to Israel.

CONSERVATIVE BRANCH OF JUDAISM TO FILE BRIEFS IN ISRAEL SUPREME COURT TO OBTAIN FULL RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

ATLANTA, March 30 (JTA) -- The Conservative branch of Judaism will file two briefs in Israel's Supreme Court to obtain full rights for its rabbis to perform marriages and for their converts to be accepted under Israel's Law of Return.

Rabbi Kassel Abelson, president of the Conservative Rabbinical Assembly, told delegates at the Assembly's 87th annual meeting that he has just returned from Israel where he learned from leaders of the Masorati Movement (Conservative Judaism in Israel) that two court cases are being prepared -- one which involves a test case for the recognition of a Conservative convert from Chile and another seeking the right of Conservative rabbis to register any marriages performed in Israel.

Abelson asserted that Israel must be pressed to "fully enforce the present Law of Return, which accepts the conversion of any rabbi recognized by his community or affiliated with a major rabbinical organization." He stressed that "we must fight vigorously for the rights of all rabbis -- Conservative and Reform -- and their synagogues to be fully accepted without discrimination."

Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the Assembly, said, "We should continue to press for the separation of politics and religion in Israel because history has taught us it corrupts both. At the present time the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel holds a monopoly on matters of marriage, divorce and child custody. What we need in Israel is a separation of church and state."

Tough Position Toward Members Of Knesset

A resolution before the convention takes a tough position towards any member of Israel's Knesset voting to change the current Law of Return. Two years ago, at their annual meeting in Miami Beach, the Rabbinical Assembly voted to boycott 51 members of the Israel Parliament who at that time voted in favor of changing the legal status of Jewish converts.

The Rabbinical Assembly's resolution now before the delegates calls for a freeze on this boycott and say:

"Any members of the Knesset who in the future will vote in such a way as to call into question the legitimacy of Conservative Judaism (Masorati), its rabbis, synagogues or converts will be regarded as having knowingly attacked the Conservative movement and will thereby render themselves unacceptable as honored guests in a Conservative synagogue or as fitting representatives of Israel at communal functions in the American Jewish community in which the participation of Conservative rabbis or laymen is expected."

Supports Full Pollard Spy Probe

Turning to the Jonathan Pollard spy case, Abelson supported a full investigation in Israel and agreed with others that the incident will not "seriously" affect Israel-American relations. "It will take time to heal the breach of trust but the breach will be healed," he observed. At the same time, Abelson called for a study of the effect the Pollard case has had on American Jews.

"The real concern is the impact that the incident has on the image and self-image of American Jews," he said, asking "Will American

Jews begin to see Israel's leaders indifferent to the position of American Jews? Will this begin to affect the quality of the relationship between Israel and American Jewry?"

The delegates are holding a symbolic sunset-to-sundown fast Monday as a plea to Soviet authorities to give Maria and Vladimir Slepak permission for immediate emigration.

The day of fasting by members of the Rabbinical Assembly was called in support of the Slepaks' son, Alexander, who is holding a 17-day hunger strike, which began Friday, until the day before Passover, April 12, in Washington, D.C.

MEASURE TO INVESTIGATE HOW WAR CRIMINALS WERE ALLOWED INTO THE U.S. INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS **By Judith Colp**

WASHINGTON, March 30 (JTA) -- Legislation to investigate how Nazi criminals were allowed into the United States has been introduced in Congress.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Barney Frank (D. Mass.), would establish a seven-member Commission selected by Congress and the President which would enjoy special subpoena powers giving it access to evidence and testimony from the various intelligence agencies. The commission would issue a report on its findings of smuggling of Nazis by U.S. intelligence agents and recommendations.

"For far too long we have been trying to get answers to well documented allegations that the U.S. government in some cases assisted Nazis and their collaborators to enter the United States," Frank said.

Frank, who first introduced the bill in November 1985, told the JTA that some Congressmen opposed the bill because of concern about embarrassing findings. He hopes this year the bill enjoys the strong support of Rep. Peter Rodino (D. NJ), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. The bill is also co-sponsored by Rep. Stephen Solarz (D. NY).

Rodino said a "committee with full subpoena powers is essential if we are to get to the bottom of the government's policy of quietly admitting and protecting Nazis and their collaborators. We still do not have a full picture of the extent of that involvement. Americans need to know the full truth of this episode in our particular history."

Frank proposed legislation after the completion of a second General Accounting Office (GAO) report on the subject which concluded that there was "no evidence of a broad program to recruit former Nazis for intelligence." Frank, Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman and Jewish leaders attacked the report, the second produced within seven years, for being misleading and inconclusive.

GENEVA (JTA) -- Israel is participating in the first United Nations conference on peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Israeli delegation to the conference which ends April 10 is headed by Hannan Baron, former deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Mohammed Ibrahim Shaker, the Egyptian representative to the United Nations here, was elected president of the conference.

**IDF OFFICER KILLED, ANOTHER WOUNDED
IN CLASH WITH TERRORIST SQUAD**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 12 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force officer was killed and another soldier was slightly wounded in a clash between an IDF force and a terrorist squad on the border of the security zone, in the central sector of southern Lebanon, early Thursday morning. The dead man was later identified as Capt. Rami Ben-Zvi Hakman, of Kibbutz Ein Harod Meuchad.

A statement issued by the IDF spokesman said that in the pre-dawn hours, close to 2:30 this morning, an IDF force encountered a terrorist squad which tried to penetrate the central sector of the security zone north of Bint-Jbail.

In the exchange of fire, an IDF officer was mortally wounded and died on the way to a hospital, and another soldier was lightly wounded. The terrorists escaped, apparently unharmed, leaving only a back-pack and cartridge cases behind.

In the area where the incident occurred, a South Lebanese Army (SLA) force two days ago routed a terrorist squad which tried to penetrate the security zone in order to lay mines and attack SLA outposts.

The last time Israeli soldiers were hurt in a clash with gunmen in the security zone was at the beginning of February when an IDF unit encountered an armed gang near the village of Tibnit. Three IDF soldiers were wounded in that clash, and five terrorists were killed.

**KNESSET UNIT BEGINS CLOSED HEARINGS
ON POLLARD CASE, BUT CABINET'S EFFORT
RUNS INTO SNAG AS JUSTICE LANDAU
DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROBE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA) -- A Knesset subcommittee began closed hearings Thursday on the government's role in the Jonathan Pollard spy case. But the Cabinet's effort to launch its own probe hit a snag when one of the two men asked to form a "clarification committee" declined the task.

Justice Moshe Landau, former President of the Supreme Court, expressed his regrets in a letter to Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Landau issued a statement later that he had no objections in principle to the committee but could not accept the offer to sit on it.

The offer was accepted by Gen. (Res.) Zvi Tzur, a former Chief of Staff. The search for another public figure of equal stature was begun immediately by Cabinet Secretary Elyakum Rubinstein.

Although Justice Landau did not specify his reason for declining, it was evident from his letter that he did not want to be part of a committee that would lack the statutory powers of a state or judicial commission of inquiry such as the right to subpoena witnesses to testify under oath.

The idea of a "clarification committee" emerged from an eight-hour meeting of the Inner Cabinet Wednesday as pressure mounted at home

and abroad for a full-scale inquiry into the government's handling of the Pollard affair. The Inner Cabinet (five Labor and five Likud Ministers) fell far short of satisfying those demands. But it did give its assent, retroactively, to the independent probe undertaken by the intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Committee chairman Abba Eban announced the hearings on Monday when Premier Shamir was saying that the Pollard matter was "closed". The hearing opened under tight secrecy Thursday morning at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin was the first to testify. Subcommittee members refused any comment after the 3 1/2 hour session.

Meanwhile, the Knesset on Tuesday easily defeated three nonconfidence motions over the government's handling of the Pollard affair. The motions were introduced by the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), Mapam and the Progressive List for Peace. Only one coalition member, Mordechai Virshubsky of the Shinui Party, crossed over to vote with the opposition.

Demonstratively absent from the session were Premier Shamir, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Rabin. Likud Minister of Transport Haim Corfu, replied for the government.

Reading a prepared statement, he reiterated that the espionage for which Pollard, a former civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy, received a life sentence last week was a "rogue operation" conducted without the government's knowledge.

**SHULTZ DISTRESSED BY POLLARD CASE
BUT WARNS IT MUST NOT DETRACT
FROM STRONG SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz said Wednesday that he was distressed by the Jonathan Pollard spy case and "made it clear to Israel" but warned that this must not detract from strong support for Israel.

"I do think it is important to keep in mind the fundamentals and that to manage the problem (the Pollard case) doesn't mean we wind up shooting ourselves in the foot," Shultz said while testifying on the Reagan Administration's foreign aid proposals for 1988 before the House Appropriations Committee.

"There is a possibility of peace in the Middle East and we need to keep working at it and not allow our deep distress to prevent us from seeing the fundamentals," he said.

Shultz made his remarks in response to Rep. Matthew McHugh (D. NY) who said that the two Israelis implicated with Pollard "seem to have been rewarded." He was referring to Israel Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, who was given command of Israel's second largest air base last week, and Rafael Eitan, who was earlier appointed chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation.

Shultz said the State Department would have no dealings with either individual. "I made it clear to Israel my distress and the Prime Minister said

he was ashamed (of the Pollard affair). Of course, it's up to Israel to decide what to do internally," Shultz said.

PANEL REPORT ON WAR CRIMINALS IN CANADA URGES AMENDING CRIMINAL CODE TO PERMIT CANADA TO TRY WAR CRIMINALS FOR CRIMES THEY COMMITTED ELSEWHERE
By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, March 12 (JTA) -- The Deschenes Commission's report on Nazi war criminals in Canada, presented to the House of Commons by the government Thursday, recommended amending the Canadian Criminal Code to permit Canada to try suspected war criminals for crimes committed elsewhere.

It also urged that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Justice Department be given additional resources to track down suspects. But the report rejected the idea of setting up a special commission for that purpose, along the lines of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office Of Special Investigation (OSI).

In an immediate response to the report, Justice Minister Ray Hnatshyn said he would ask Parliament to amend the Criminal Code in accordance with the recommendations.

The report was praised by the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith Canada "for its stated intention to bring Nazi war criminals in Canada to Justice."

Findings Of The Commission

The report represents the findings of the Deschenes Commission, set up by the government at the end of 1985 under Quebec Superior Court Justice Jules Deschenes, to investigate Nazi war criminals living in Canada. It was submitted to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last December 31 and was twice amended thereafter at the government's request.

Only portions of the report were released by the government Thursday. It states that the Commission "found strong evidence against 20 people as Nazi war criminals living in Canada" and recommends the extradition of one of them to Hungary and further investigation of the others. The names of the suspects were not disclosed.

A total of 392 cases were investigated and no evidence of wrongdoing was found in less than half of them, according to reports. Of the remaining cases, 80 suspects have died and further inquiry is needed into nearly 100 others.

The government insisted that the Commission submit a confidential report containing the names of war crimes suspects which do not appear in the public report.

The Commission also recommended that Canada's extradition laws be expanded, specifically its extradition treaty with Israel to cover crimes committed outside Israel and prior to ratification of the treaty in 1967.

Possible Changes In Deportation Procedure

It is not certain whether the Deschenes recommendations to deport persons found guilty of war crimes will be accepted by the government. But studies are under way of possible changes in the deportation procedure that would make it easier to strip war criminals of their Canadian citizenship and deport them.

The Deschenes Commission was opposed from the outset by Eastern European communities in Canada. Many war criminals tracked down in

recent years in both the U.S. and Canada were of Eastern European origin.

The Ukrainian Canadian Committee warned the government not to embark "on a witch hunt." It claimed that the KGB fabricated documents to be used against East European emigres. There are some 600,000 Ukrainians in Canada.

Statement By B'nai B'rith Canada

The problem of evidence from Soviet bloc sources was addressed in the statement released Thursday by B'nai B'rith Canada. "War criminals can only be brought to justice when sufficient, appropriate evidence is presented," the statement said.

"In light of concerns raised by the Eastern European community regarding evidence situated in the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries, the Commission is to be commended for establishing regulations for the collection of such evidence. The government is correct to consider such evidence on a case-by-case basis when it is gathered in accordance with Canadian standards and when there are specific, credible and serious war crimes."

The statement added: "The League for Human Rights appreciates the government's thrust to strengthen 'made in Canada' solutions" by "amending the Criminal Code to give Canada jurisdiction to try in Canada war crimes or crimes against humanity committed abroad."

Nevertheless, it urged the government "not to rule out the option of extradition when it would be an effective and responsible approach."

RABBI RELEASED FROM JAIL

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA) -- Rabbi Avi Weiss, released Thursday from jail for demonstrating in front of the Soviet Embassy here, said his imprisonment was "humiliating" and "dehumanizing."

Weiss, speaking at a press conference here attended by Natan Sharansky's mother, Ida Milgrom, and his brother, Leonid, said his jail term was "insignificant" compared to what Soviet Jews had suffered.

Weiss, who recently had bypass heart surgery, was permitted to stay in a cell in the jail's infirmary where he was segregated from other prisoners. He was visited by Rep. Ted Weiss (D. NY).

"I think jail is a way to try to strip you of your worship of God. It's a way for other people to control you and dehumanize you. You take off your clothes and six people come around to look at you. It's much more than just a strip search," Weiss said.

Weiss said he hoped to organize massive arrests in protest of Soviet Jews.

POC ZUNSHAIN, WIFE TO GO TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 12 (JTA) -- Prisoner of Conscience Zakhar Zunshain has completed his three-year term in a Siberian labor camp and will leave for Israel with his wife on March 19, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) reported Thursday.

Zunshain was arrested in 1984 for demonstrating in Moscow and was sentenced to three years for "anti-Soviet slander." SSSJ spokesman Glenn Richter said Zunshain endured extreme physical abuse in prison.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES U.S. JEWISH LEADERS VIEW THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE POLLARD CASE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA) -- The life sentence given to Jonathan Pollard, an American Jew, last week for spying for Israel is not expected to basically alter the close relations between the United States and Israel, according to American Jewish leaders.

Nor do they expect it to create a feeling in this country that Jews have dual loyalty, except, of course, among anti-Zionists and anti-Semites, who have always made this claim.

At the same time, concern was expressed that the "poor judgement" shown by Israel in promoting two Israelis, who controlled Pollard's espionage activities, could damage Israel-U.S. relations.

The whole subject is expected to be taken up when the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations meets in Israel next week.

Deeply Concerned By Public Perception

"The espionage activity for which Jonathan Pollard was justly sentenced was a serious crime and should never have taken place," Morris Abram, chairman of the Presidents Conference, said in a statement.

"I am also deeply concerned by the public perception of the official treatment accorded Col. (Aviem) Sella and Rafael Eitan, and will raise these concerns with the proper authorities next week during a visit to Israel."

Jewish leaders with whom the Jewish Telegraphic Agency spoke expressed little sympathy for Pollard, 32-year-old former civilian analyst for the Navy, or for his wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, 26, who received two concurrent five-year terms for being an accessory to her husband's espionage.

The day before the Pollards were sentenced, a federal grand jury indicted Sella, who was Pollard's first contact in providing Israel with classified documents, for conspiring with Pollard. The indictment came shortly after it was learned that Sella has been made commander of Israel's second largest Air Force base.

Earlier, Eitan, the counter-terrorism expert who ran Pollard's now disbanded spy unit, was named chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation.

Reagan Administration Angered

These promotions angered the Reagan Administration. The State Department, while still maintaining that Israel has cooperated with the Pollard investigation, said Israel was expected to "call to account" those involved in the Pollard case.

Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, said "you could almost sense the change" in the Administration after the Sella and Eitan promotions were revealed.

He said earlier he and others had been assured in talks with "key" officials that the Pollard case would not have any long-term effects. But after the promotions were revealed there was "a lot of anger" within the Administration among "people who are good, good friends of Israel."

He warned that there will be no immediate effects, but there could be an "erosion" in relations if the situation was not corrected.

David Brody, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, seemed to agree. He noted that the Pollard case has been around for over a year, but during that time Israel was granted the new status of a "major non-NATO ally" which allows it to bid on Defense Department research and development contracts.

But he, too, noted that Administration officials were upset by what they considered the "cavalier" attitude of Israel in promoting the two men.

Theodore Mann, president of the American Jewish Congress, and Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International, also called the promotions unwise. Reich called it "poor judgement" by the Israelis.

Problem May Have Been Alleviated

But David Brody said this problem may have been alleviated by the decision of the Israel Inner Cabinet Wednesday to name a two-man committee to investigate the Pollard case and to work with the Knesset intelligence subcommittee probing the affair.

Abram also pointed out that the appointment of an investigatory commission by the Inner Cabinet "is the kind of response one would hope for and expect from a vital and functioning democracy. All governments make mistakes, but democratic nations have a responsibility and a capacity to examine what went wrong and to take corrective action. I am encouraged that Israel has now acted in this spirit."

Whether the Pollard espionage was a "rogue" operation, as the Israeli government maintains, or not, Sella and Eitan should not have been promoted, Mann said.

Strong Reaction From JWV

But the strongest reaction came from the Jewish War Veterans which sent a telegram to Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne Wednesday calling for the promotions to be rescinded.

The JWV telegram, signed by the organization's national commander, Edwin Goldwasser, stressed that JWV members "detest all acts of treason" whether on behalf "of our adversaries, the Soviet Union, or by a Pollard on behalf of our ally Israel."

The JWV said the promotions of Sella and Eitan "presents America with a showing of an insensitivity by one friend to another friend on an issue of vital concern to the integrity of the United States."

"JWV calls upon Israel to recognize the American concern over the betrayal of its nation by immediately suspending both Sella and Eitan from their positions of trust pending a full and impartial investigation of the affair. The moral imperative in the relationship between our nations requires no less than that."

'Potentially Explosive' Issue

While there is little concern that Jews will be charged with dual loyalty, Bookbinder warned that the issue is "potentially explosive" and must be closely watched by the Jewish defense agencies.

It is certainly an issue on the minds of many Jews. Bookbinder said that when two or

three Jews meet the first topic in the last few weeks has been the Pollard case.

Brody said that except for anti-Semites, the only ones raising the issue of dual loyalty are Jews. He said Pollard was an individual who was solely responsible for his "misguided" acts and the responsibility cannot be transferred to other Jews.

Mann, however, said he was "angry" that an American Jew had been used to spy on Israel, breaking what he called "an unwritten rule between our two Jewish communities. I think it is an outrage."

Noting that Israeli officials have publicly apologized to the U.S., he said Israel also owes "an apology to the Jewish community." While he did not say how this could be done, he said there are ways to accomplish it.

Pollard Case Called An 'Aberration'

Reich called the Pollard case an "aberration" which he said is now "behind us." He stressed that the Jewish community does not "owe" Pollard any help for his illegal act.

However, he said he felt the life sentence was "harsh" considering Pollard pleaded guilty and had cooperated with the government.

"I know the relations between the United States and Israel, two democracies whose vital interests are intimately linked, are strong enough to weather this deplorable incident," Abram said.

"Israel needs America. America needs Israel. This interdependence will and must be the overriding consideration binding the two countries in their common devotion to freedom, to justice and to human dignity."

CONFERENCE RECALLS ROLE OF U.S. JEWISH LABOR DURING THE HOLOCAUST By Henry Srebrnik Opinion Page Editor, Washington Jewish Week

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA) -- Though it was "small," "marginal," "late in arriving," and uneven in its flow, the monetary assistance sent to Jews in Poland during the Holocaust by the American Jewish labor movement was "a gesture of fraternity amidst despair," according to Prof. Kenneth Waltzer of Michigan State University.

Speaking to a conference held March 8-10 under the auspices of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council and the International Bonhoeffer Society, Waltzer told his listeners that, when news of the mass murders emerged, the Jewish labor leaders "responded actively."

They pressured the Roosevelt Administration to speak out, tried to mobilize American labor on behalf of rescue, and sent funds illegally, through the London-based Polish government-in-exile, to the Jewish underground in Poland.

The Jewish labor leaders -- heads of the needle trades' unions, fraternal organizations such as the Workmen's Circle, and Socialist and Yiddish groups -- were themselves immigrants with extended family ties in Europe, explained Waltzer. They also had political links to the Jewish Labor Bund in Poland.

As early as 1934, the union leaders had created an umbrella organization, the Jewish Labor Committee, to combat the effects of Nazism. During the war, when accounts of the genocide reached America, they stepped up their activities, noted Waltzer. A mass rally was held in New York's Madison Square Garden in July 1942,

and on December 2, 1942, 500,000 workers in New York stopped work during a Day of Mourning. David Dubinsky, head of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, referred to Poland as "a slaughter house."

However, though a delegation of leaders met with President Roosevelt a few days later, and a Joint Emergency Committee on European Jewish Affairs was created in 1943, "they produced few results," observed Waltzer.

At the Bermuda Conference, held in April 1943, "it became apparent the Roosevelt Administration opposed doing much to rescue -- or even relieve the condition -- of Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe. Many of the Jewish leaders felt they had failed completely. Growing despair set in, and the Joint Emergency Committee collapsed."

Despite these domestic setbacks, the labor organizations continued to funnel money to the Jewish underground in Poland, via ZEGOTA, the Council for Aid to Jews, set up by the Polish resistance.

Between December 1942 and December 1944, a total of \$350,000 was sent, "to sustain the battered remnants of the underground, and to provide food, medicine, clothing, shelter, forged 'Aryan' documents, and arms," said Waltzer. The money was carried into Poland by parachutists wearing special money belts.

Though the amounts raised were "terribly small" by modern standards and arrived mostly after the destruction for the Warsaw and other Jewish ghettos, stressed Waltzer, "the money gave the Jewish underground added respectability with the Polish underground, with whom relations (during the war) were not always cordial."

STUDENTS DEMAND FIRING OF TEACHER WHO DENIES THE HOLOCAUST By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 12 (JTA) -- An exhibition of Nazi atrocities at De La Cite high school in Lausanne triggered a city-wide protest by students this week against the continued presence on the faculty of Mariette Paschoud, a rightwing activist who has publicly denied that the Holocaust occurred.

Students at La Cite boycotted classes taught by Paschoud. The student associations at other high schools and at the university joined them in a statement demanding that Paschoud be fired. She told a press conference in Paris last August 6 that she doubted there were gas chambers at Nazi concentration camps.

Paschoud taught history and French. Two weeks ago, the Swiss authorities relieved her of her history classes but allowed her to continue teaching French. That was the outcome of a seven-month inquiry which concluded only that Paschoud has been "naive" and "imprudent" in her remarks in Paris.

The students called the authorities "hypocritical." Their statement said it was scandalous to allow a teacher who falsifies history to teach at their school and sent letters to government leaders demanding an explanation and investigation.

The protest has received extensive press and television coverage in Switzerland. Paschoud meanwhile has been isolated. No more than two or three students show up at her classes and other faculty members refuse to talk to her.

**POLLARDS REPORTEDLY GETTING AID
FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES IN ISRAEL;
GOVERNMENT DENIES ANY INVOLVEMENT**
By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) -- A private fund established a week ago to raise money for Jonathan Pollard and his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard wound up its activities Monday following Israeli media reports that official sources in Israel were indirectly assisting the American couple convicted of spying for Israel.

The Voice of Israel reported Monday that official sources had paid out \$80,000 towards the Pollards' legal expenses which are estimated at about \$120,000 and have promised to cover the full amount if possible. There were no reports of where the money originated or how it was transferred to the Pollards. A government spokesman on Monday denied that the government was involved in any way with providing the Pollards with funds.

Jonathan Pollard, a former civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy, was sentenced to life imprisonment two weeks ago for his espionage activities on behalf of Israel. His wife received a five-year sentence as an accessory.

The severity of the sentences rallied public sympathy in Israel for the Pollards. An opinion poll published in Yediot Achronot last Friday showed that 68 percent of the respondents favored government assistance to the Pollards, 22 percent preferred public assistance, and only eight percent thought no assistance should be given.

The government's position from the outset has been that Pollard's spying was a "rogue" operation without the authorization or knowledge of the government. It has not deviated from that position. After Pollard was sentenced, Premier Yitzhak Shamir stated that his fate was of no concern to Israel since Israel neither hired him nor gave him espionage assignments.

Two Official Probes Are Under Way

Meanwhile, two official probes are under way into the government's involvement with Pollard and its handling of the affair. A two-man committee of inquiry established by the Inner Cabinet will begin reviewing documents Tuesday and will call its first witnesses Wednesday.

The committee is headed by Yehoshua Rotenstreich, a prominent Tel Aviv lawyer. Its other member is Gen. (Res.) Zvi Tsur, a former Chief of Staff. Rotenstreich took the assignment after it was rejected by retired Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau because the committee has been given no statutory powers such as the right to subpoena witnesses and have them testify under oath.

It will report directly to the Cabinet. According to Rotenstreich, its work will be completed "no later than the end of April."

The second investigation is being conducted by the intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee which began hearings last Thursday. Its first witness was Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The Knesset body meets in closed session and while it has subpoena powers it lacks the broad scope and prestige of an official commission of inquiry, such as, for example, the Kahan Commission which investigated the conduct of the Lebanon war in 1983.

The opinion poll published Friday, conducted by the Dahaf Institute, showed that 51 percent of Israelis favored an investigation of the Pollard affair by an independent body with limited authority. Thirty-five percent was opposed. An investigation by a judicial commission with broad powers was opposed by a margin of 46-41 percent.

Rabin: Suspensions Are Erroneous

Rabin, addressing the diamond jubilee celebrations of Hadassah here Monday, charged that some official circles in the American Administration are deliberately keeping the Pollard affair alive in a mistaken effort to find other Israeli agents involved.

Their suspicions are erroneous, Rabin said. "Israel does not carry out any espionage activities in the U.S. There are no Americans or non-Americans who serve as spies for Israel against the United States. This should be clear to the American people and to everyone," the Defense Minister declared.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES
THE IMPACT OF THE DEMJANJUK TRIAL**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) -- Two 14-year-old school girls braved the Jerusalem winter and the wrath of their teacher last week to wait in line from six a.m. for seats at the Demjanjuk trial. As it turned out, their teacher was far from angry and used their experiences as a basis for the class discussion next day. She had already reserved seats for the class to attend the war crimes hearings in six weeks time.

The queues outside the Jerusalem concert-hall-turned-courtroom are so long each day that the authorities have opened an additional hall with simultaneous television transmission of the trial.

Some of the regular spectators are themselves Holocaust survivors -- one bearded man, who does not fail to come to each session, lost his wife and two children at Auschwitz.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir attended an afternoon session and Gen. Yossi Peled, commander of the northern front, sat barely hiding his emotions, as he remembered the sound of the gestapo jackboots over the cellar in Poland where he was hidden as a child of four.

Daily Heart-Rending Proceedings

The heart-rending proceedings of the trial of John Demjanjuk, accused of slaughtering tens of thousands of Jews at the Treblinka gas chambers, follow Israelis wherever they go.

Bus passengers sit silent as they listen to the radio transmission of the hearings over the bus loudspeaker. Every corner grocery store seems to have the radio tuned in to the trial, and drivers stare grimly ahead as they hear the gory

details of the daily business of death at Treblinka. It is the minutiae of the running of the death camp that are being described -- at exactly which window did the witness sit as he sorted the gold teeth he had to tear from the mouths of the corpses? What was the exact construction of the incinerator where the bodies were burned when the Nazis realized the burial pits were too full? Who was the SS man who identified Jews showing marks from beatings the previous day and then had them shot?

One question of detail made the President of the court, Justice Dov Levin, show a rare flash of anger. "How can you ask where exactly the washing was hung in a place where 850,000 Jews were killed?" Levin pleaded. But when Demjanjuk's attorney, Mark O'Connor, insisted he needed that detail, the judge allowed the question to be asked.

Testing Witnesses' Memories

American Attorney O'Connor appears to be testing the memory of the witnesses. Sometimes he discovers inconsistencies between their evidence now and their testimony at the Eichmann trial in 1961, or in sworn statements to Yad Vashem Holocaust Center researchers.

O'Connor does not question the terrible experiences of these survivors of Treblinka, but he does challenge their ability to remember the face of their tormentor, known at Treblinka as "Ivan The Terrible."

The witnesses have all identified photos allegedly of Ivan, the then 25-year-old mechanic who operated the equipment for the gas chamber, and who delighted in beating his victims before they went to their deaths.

Yehiel Meir Raichman, a survivor now living in Uruguay, recalled an occasion when Ivan, hearing the wails of a new transport of Jews arriving at the gas chamber, eagerly left the supply cart he was driving and ran to fetch his iron bar to join the guards beating the Jews.

The Main Document Presented

The main document presented so far by the prosecution is an SS identity card, received recently from Moscow, bearing Demjanjuk's name and picture. The defendant, who as a Ukrainian had served in the Red Army, claims to have been captured by the Germans and placed in a Prisoner of War camp during the period he is accused of being at Treblinka.

O'Connor says this document, which the prosecution obtained through the Israeli Foreign Ministry with the help of American-Jewish oil tycoon Armand Hammer, is a KGB forgery. He claims that the Russians want revenge against Ukrainians who left the USSR and settled in the United States. The defense attorney says he has an expert who can prove the forgery chemically but that the prosecution fears he will destroy the evidence.

The defense also plans to bring seven witnesses, whom O'Connor refuses to identify, to testify on Demjanjuk's behalf.

Meanwhile, conversations the accused had in his Israeli prison with a Russian-speaking police officer disguised as a prison warder were reported to the court.

Chief Superintendant Arye Kaplan, who immigrated from the Soviet Union in 1973, related how Demjanjuk continually protested his innocence.

However, on several occasions the defendant challenged Kaplan with the statement: "When your commanding officer orders you to do something, you obey." (The prosecution claims Demjanjuk agreed to take the position at Treblinka in order to escape the rigors of the German POW camp.) And, when referring to Jews, Demjanjuk used the derogatory Russian term "Zhidi."

SHAMIR TO SHULTZ: ISRAEL WILL HONOR EXISTING CONTRACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA BUT WILL NOT ENTER INTO NEW ONES

TEL AVIV, March 16 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir informed U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that Israel will honor existing contracts with South Africa but will not enter into any new ones, Israel Radio reported Monday.

The question of sanctions and Israel's trade with the Pretoria regime was raised at Sunday's Cabinet session by Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein. It will be discussed at the Cabinet meeting next Sunday.

According to Israel Radio, it is possible that a ministerial committee will be appointed, headed by Shamir, to determine the nature of sanctions against South Africa. Israel is expected to be on the list of countries doing business with South Africa to be made public on April 1 by the General Accounting Office (GAO), a Congressional body.

OIL DISCOVERED IN THE NEGEV

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) -- Israel struck oil Sunday, but not enough to strike it rich. The Energy Ministry announced Monday that a small but commercial quantity was discovered in the Negev.

The gusher, known as Well 29 in the Kochav field about 15 kilometers southeast of Ashkelon, is expected to produce about 100 barrels a day from a depth of about 1,600 feet. Oil geologists believe the well holds oil pockets at three different levels.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said on a Voice of Israel Radio interview that he still pins his hopes on another oil field, the Agur near Nitzana, which is operated by the Armand Hammer group. Israel has been prospecting for oil almost since the State was founded.

So far, its finds have been marginal compared to the country's needs. Israel presently buys most of its oil from Egypt.

ISRAEL REJECTS ARAB PROPOSALS FOR A NEW SEAPORT IN GAZA

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA) -- Israel has rejected proposals from Arab businessmen in the West Bank and Jordan to build a new seaport in Gaza. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told a group of them at a meeting Sunday that the project was neither economical nor practical and Israel does not have the budget for it.

Marwan Doudin, Jordan's Minister for the administered territories, raised the proposal at a press conference last week. He said a new port in Gaza would further Jordan's efforts to improve the economy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which are administered by Israel.

He argued that the port would promote Arab exports, especially agricultural products, which are unable to compete with Israeli exports, partly

because of lack of access to the sea. Rabin said he would be willing to consider specific plans for a Gaza port if they were submitted.

CANADIAN CRIMINAL CODE TO BE AMENDED TO EXPEDITE TRYING WAR CRIMINALS IN CANADA FOR CRIMES COMMITTED ELSEWHERE By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, March 16 (JTA) -- The Canadian government will amend the Criminal Code to allow suspected Nazi war criminals to be tried in Canada for crimes committed elsewhere, as recommended by the Deschenes Commission. But it rejected another recommendation by the Commission to facilitate the extradition or deportation of war criminals to other countries, mainly West Germany and Israel.

"Rather than dumping war criminals on other countries, we should have the maturity and strength to face the issue in Canada," Justice Minister Ray Hnatshyn said after the Deschenes Commission's report was presented to the House of Commons last Thursday.

The report, the result of more than a year's investigation of Nazi war criminals living in Canada by the one-man Commission of former Quebec Superior Court Justice Jules Deschenes, was submitted to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last December 31. It was amended twice at the government's request before being given to Parliament last week. Only selected portions were made public.

Satisfaction With The Report

Leaders of both the Jewish and Ukrainian communities in Canada expressed satisfaction with the report and its proposals. The Jewish community considers the prosecution of war criminals in Canadian courts an important step forward in the advancement of justice.

The 700,000-member Ukrainian community and others of Eastern European and Baltic origin are satisfied and relieved that extradition or deportation have been virtually ruled out.

Jewish reaction was expressed by Irwin Cotler, a McGill University law professor and legal advisor to the Canadian Jewish Congress. He said on radio and television interviews over the weekend that the federal government's decision to prosecute war criminals was an important accomplishment.

It took 40 years before the government recognized that "there is no room in a democratic society for war criminals and Canada must never become a safe haven for those monstrous crimes," Cotler said.

Emil Grigoroviech, president of the Canadian Ukrainian Committee, also had kind words for the Commission's report. The Ukrainians are pleased because Deschenes specifically rejected a charge by the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center that many members of the Galicia SS Division, which included large numbers of Ukrainian nationalists, were guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

"We have asked the Wiesenthal Center to submit evidence beyond doubt, but they could not show us such evidence," Judge Deschenes said in his report.

But despite public statements to the contrary, some Ukrainian leaders are displeased with the report and have expressed their feelings by direct attacks on Jews. Conservative Party MP William Lessick of Edmonton, Alberta, was quoted

in a newspaper interview as saying "The Ukrainians suffered more than the Jews and the Jews don't have a Simon-pure war record."

He added, "The Ukrainian Holocaust was a greater one, if you want to call it a Holocaust, than the Jewish Holocaust. And who did Stalin put in charge of the Ukrainian Holocaust? It was a Jewish chap," Lessick said, referring apparently to Stalin's Minister of Industry, Lazar Moiseevitch Kaganovitch.

Sol Litmann, Canadian representative of the Wiesenthal Center, called Lessick's remarks "an essentially anti-Semitic position that pits Ukrainians against Jews." Cotler expressed the same view. "It is this kind of statement that raises tension between the communities . . . this is not an ethnic issue and cannot be seen in that perspective," he said.

There is considerable evidence nonetheless that the government acted under pressure from the Ukrainian and Baltic communities in Canada, which number over a million, when it rejected extradition.

The Deschenes Commission stated that it "found strong evidence against 20 people as Nazi war criminals living in Canada" and further investigation was warranted in the cases of 238 others. None of the suspects was identified by name in the public report.

Official Jewish circles are urging the government to act swiftly to initiate legal action against the suspects. They noted that some 21 suspected war criminals left Canada for unknown destinations since the Deschenes Commission began its work at the end of 1985.

Liberal Party MP Robert Kaplan, a former Solicitor General, warned in the House of Commons that any delay could allow some of the 20 prime suspects to flee the country before prosecution is begun. "It is absolutely essential that we do not let them slip through the fingers of justice in this country because time is slipping by," Kaplan said.

MP Svend Robinson of the New Democratic Party urged the Justice Minister to get the required legislation through Parliament "within a matter of weeks." He also called for further study of extradition or deportation as an alternative to domestic prosecution.

Dorothy Reitman, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, commended the Deschenes Commission. "We are gratified by the stated intention of the government to bring war criminals to justice and make them answer for their crimes," she said.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA

VIENNA, March 16 (JTA) -- A survey conducted by Austria's four major opinion poll institutes showed that seven out of every 100 Austrians are self-declared anti-Semites. The survey of a cross-section of the population, totalling 9,000 people, sponsored by the Austrian National Bank, showed that the lowest rate of anti-Semitism -- four percent -- was in the 14-29-year age group and the highest among those over 60.

Only three percent among those with higher education had anti-Semitic feelings, while eight percent among those with lower education harbored the same feelings. But the survey also showed that some 33 percent of all Austrians are prejudiced against foreigners generally. A similar survey in the late 1960's showed that 12 percent of Austrians were anti-Semitic.

SHUNI FORTRESS TO RISE AGAIN

By Susan Birnbaum

SHUNI FORTRESS, Jabotinsky Park, Israel, March 16 (JTA) -- Nearly every leader in the history of Israel has passed through the road between Zichron Ya'acov and the coastal plain, known as the Shfela. Here, on a hilltop overlooking Israel's Carmel wine-growing district, about halfway between Haifa and Netanya, at the place known as Shuni Fortress, the slightest touch of a trowel turns up artifacts dating from 40 years ago, 100, 1,000. . .

There used to be a Roman amphitheater about 1,000 years ago on the site now known as Shuni Fortress. It was built on the ruins of a Talmudic Jewish village called Shuni, and there are indications that Rabbi Akiba was killed here, following his revolt against the Romans begun in Caesaria.

The Crusaders were here, too. It was they who built a fortress on foundations laid in Herodian times, and, later, the Arabs converted this place into a granary. The Arabs called this place Bar Akab, a name strongly recalling the Hebrew Akiba.

Before the British left Palestine, Menachem Begin came to this place with the Irgun, and, under the nose of the British, set up an underground haven -- aboveground. Who would have even thought that the Jews would set base right under the British Army's nose? asked Shlomo Ariei, who in the early 1940's shared his lot with Begin and other members of Etzel -- acronym for Irgun Zva'i Le'umi.

Dig They Must

Ariei, whose hobby is archaeology, showed the members of the Jewish National Fund assembly around the 30-acre site where American amateur archaeologists dug their way down through the promising layers of soil. Smiling and sweating under the noon sun, despite the wind, about 10 American volunteers -- middle-aged women and one man, organized through B'nai B'rith, Hadassah and JNF -- were exulting in their toil, digging down to untold treasures.

Charlotte and Saul Weinstein of Philadelphia have come to do something they have thought about for a long time, and more will come, over 100, for two or three months, to fulfill a lifelong dream, to dig up the past of Israel.

Once restored, Shuni Fortress is expected to become the center of a major JNF recreational park to commemorate Ze'ev Jabotinsky, Zionist Revisionist, and Israeli legend.

Main Base Of Irgun Operations

"This was the main base of operations of the Irgun," said Ariei, gesturing here and there, showing people through a villa under renovation which, when complete, will reproduce the Irgun headquarters that was not at all hidden. He pointed up the hill, within easy sight of the dig, where, he said, the British were encamped.

For two full years, Ariei and fellow Irgun members lived in the building being revamped. The villa with the windows onto the coastal plain was the Irgun central commanders' school, and it was from here that the Irgun embarked on their missions, including the attack on the Acre Fortress, which they emptied of prisoners in order to free their comrades sentenced to die.

Two years ago, JNF began sending in paid workers and volunteers to rebuild Shuni Fortress.

An international youth camp was started here for educational and archaeological studies.

Helga Reder, a young Israeli woman volunteering on the dig, is looked upon as an expert by the Americans, who ask her for help at each step. "This is a young dig," said Reder. "We know that a Roman theater existed here, but we don't know in what condition we will find it."

There five weeks, Reder said she had turned up some bronze coins. "There are stories that there were rooms with statues here," she said. She continued digging.

JNF Plans For The Area

The land around Shuni Fortress was purchased in 1914 by Baron James de Rothschild's Pika Land Purchasing Company for development by Jewish farmers, who were taught the tools of the agricultural trade at Shuni. After learning necessary skills, these farmers established the pioneer communities of Zichron Ya'acov (Ya'acov being Sir James Hebrew name), Givat Ada, Bin-yamina (another Rothschild) and Nahiat Jabotinsky.

Since 1948, Shuni has been uninhabited.

The JNF's plans, estimated to cost \$1 million, include a thoroughly developed area of about 15 acres, called Jabotinsky Park, neighboring Nahlat Jabotinsky. They intend to set up an amphitheater for special events, picnic areas, hiking facilities and parking areas. But its piece de resistance will be an archaeological garden surrounding Shuni Fortress. And, of course, there will be tens of thousands of trees, named for Jabotinsky.

B'NAI B'RITH GIVES IRAN'S UN ENVOY THE 'HAMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD'

UNITED NATIONS, March 16 (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith's "Haman of the Year Award" came home to Persia Monday night when it went to Said Rajaie-Khorassani, Iran's Ambassador to the UN.

The award was presented by Dr. Harris Schoenberg, director of the United Nations Affairs for the International Council of B'nai B'rith. The occasion was the International Council's Fourth Annual United Nations Purim Party.

Rajaie-Khorassani was cited for his extraordinary solution to the United Nations financial crisis. In a speech to the General Assembly on October 30, 1986, the Iranian diplomat suggested that the destruction of the Jewish State would help to solve the crisis by removing many money-consuming items from the world body's agenda.

In a similar way, Schoenberg said, Haman of old had proposed that he would solve King Ahash-veraus's money problems once the king authorized the destruction of Persian Jewry.

Ambassador Rajaie-Khorassani bemoaned Israel's existence and UN membership because, he said, the "political cancer" of Israel "contaminates all of us."

Attending the B'nai B'rith UN Purim Party were more than 100 members of the UN diplomatic and press corps, Secretariat officials, and representatives of UN Non-Governmental Organizations.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The cost of living index rose one percent in February, the lowest monthly increase in the past half year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported Sunday.

**PERES: GOVERNMENT WILL ABIDE BY
RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET PANEL
EXAMINING THE POLLARD SPY CASE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the government would abide by the recommendations of the Cabinet-appointed committee examining the Jonathan Pollard spy case, even though it is not legally bound to do so.

Peres made the pledge in an address to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Hadassah here. He was referring to the two-man committee of inquiry into the government's involvement in the Pollard affair which began its work Tuesday. The panel consists of Yehoshua Rotenstreich, a prominent lawyer, and Gen. (Res.) Zvi Tsur, a former Chief of Staff.

Peres said he was confident that after they questioned the political echelon they would reach the conclusion that "we were in complete ignorance" of Pollard's activities.

He acknowledged that "unbearable mistakes" were made. It was a mistake, he said, to appoint former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation, and to give Air Force Col. Aviem Sella command of one of Israel's largest air bases. Peres was referring to the two senior Israeli officials most closely linked to Pollard's operations.

"We don't want American Jews to spy for Israel, so why create an impression that we are for it?" Peres asked. He stressed however that "there is nothing criminal to support Israel or to sympathize with Israel, whether you are Jewish or non-Jewish." But spying on a friendly country is a mistake, he added.

**U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS U.S-ISRAEL
MILITARY COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP
ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THE POLLARD CASE**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- U.S. Secretary of the Army John Marsh affirmed here Tuesday that the bonds of friendship and military cooperation between the U.S. and Israel are unaffected by the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

That affair should be seen "in the right perspective." It was "a small element compared to the overall strength of our alliance," Marsh told reporters after a meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He said that contrary to some reports, his visit to Israel at this time had nothing to do with the Pollard affair. "It is part of the continuing interest and effort of my country toward our commitment to this country," he said.

The main purpose of his visit, Marsh explained, is to study several matters of military interest, notably Israel's quick mobilization process which he called "very impressive" with lessons for the National Guard and the military reserves in the U.S.

Meanwhile, a visiting American Jewish leader said here Tuesday he was convinced the problems arising from the Pollard affair would "go away."

Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, told reporters after meetings with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that he was encouraged by the appointment of two panels, one by the Cabinet and the other by the Knesset, to examine the matter.

Abram was critical of the advancement of two Israelis closely linked to Pollard's espionage activities -- Air Force Col. Aviem Sella and former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan. "I think that placing Col. Sella in command of that (Tel Nof) air base was a serious, and I might add, irresponsible, act. I also say that the Eitan act was damaging. . . It remains for the commissions to decide what ultimately should be done," Abram said.

He was referring to the appointment of Eitan to the chairmanship of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. However, Abram said he was sure the government would honor its pledge to hold those responsible "accountable." He said he was assured by Shamir that no government Minister knew of the Pollard spy operation.

Abram stressed that he was not here to tell the government what to do, nor were his remarks to be taken as a reflection of fear by the American Jewish community of fall-out from the Pollard affair. American Jewish leaders simply want to ensure that the close ties between Israel and the U.S. continue, he said.

The Pollard affair, "although a serious problem, is a blip that does not reflect the mainstream of American-Israeli relations," Abram said.

**COSTA RICAN COURT ORDER WAR
CRIMINAL EXTRADITED TO THE USSR**

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, March 17 (JTA) -- A superior court has cleared the way for the extradition to the Soviet Union of Bohdan Koziy, a native of the Ukraine who fled the United States for Costa Rica after being accused of war crimes, the World Jewish Congress reported.

Koziy was stripped of his American citizenship in 1982 following a trial in Florida in which eyewitness testimony described his murdering a Jewish family -- including the point-blank shooting of a four-year-old Jewish girl -- while a member of the Ukrainian police which operated under the Nazi occupation forces.

In June 1984, the U.S. Justice Department obtained a court order of deportation against Koziy, but he escaped to Costa Rica where the Soviets asked for his extradition to stand trial. A lower court had previously rejected the Soviet request, but the Superior Penal Tribunal of Alajuela reversed that decision and has ordered Koziy's extradition.

The WJCongress released Justice Department documents -- obtained under the Freedom of Information Act -- showing that West Germany refused an American request that it ask for Koziy's extradition to stand trial.

The German diplomatic note conceded Koziy's participation in the killing but it refused to initiate extradition proceedings because it characterized the crimes as "manslaughter" rather

than murder because the killings could not be shown to have involved "cruelty, inequity, lust for murder, and base motives."

In San Jose, Public Prosecutor Roberto Steiner said the superior court's ruling could not be appealed. He added, however, that Koziy may not be handed over to the Soviets unless Moscow pledged that he would not be executed if convicted.

SEMI-OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN GROUP OFFERS TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND HUNGARY

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- A semi-official organization, the World Federation of Hungarians, has offered to act as intermediary between Hungary and Israel in the absence of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries, it was reported here Monday.

According to the report, Janos Rande, secretary general of the Federation who is visiting Israel as guest of the Foreign Ministry, made the offer to Yossi Beilin, Political Director General of the Foreign Ministry.

Commercial Ties With Hungary

Hungary, along with the Soviet Union and all other Eastern bloc nations except Rumania, broke diplomatic ties with Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War. But Israel maintains commercial relations with Hungary, more so than with any other Eastern bloc country, and these have expanded in recent years.

The World Federation of Hungarians, with the backing of the Budapest government, seeks to maintain ties with Hungarian emigrants all over the world. There are about 100,000 Jews of Hungarian origin in Israel. The Jewish population of Hungary numbers an estimated 62,000, the largest in Eastern Europe outside the Soviet Union.

Rande, a former Ambassador, will meet with Knesset members during his visit.

MAJOR CHANGE SEEN IN THE ATTITUDE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TOWARD JEWS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 17 (JTA) -- The introduction of modern Jewish history to the curriculum of candidates for the priesthood at the Vatican's Pontificia Universita Gregoriana reflects a major change in Church attitudes toward the Jews, according to the Israeli scholar who helped plan the courses.

Daniel Carpi, a professor of Jewish history at Tel Aviv University, was invited to inaugurate the new center of modern Judaic studies at the Gregoriana, the Vatican's major institution of higher learning. He spent time there as a visiting professor, preparing two course outlines, one in Jewish history of the 16th and 17th centuries and another on 19th and 20th century Jewish history.

The latter will include the *haskala* (Enlightenment), the Zionist movement, anti-Semitism and the evolution of Church attitudes toward the Jews during the past two decades.

Carpi noted that this was made possible in 1985 when the Vatican's committee on non-Christian faiths, headed by Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, decided to erase the notion that modern Jewish history was a non-subject.

Until then, Jewish studies at Gregoriana were limited to the Biblical period. Jews of later periods were perceived as being punished for not accepting the divinity of Jesus and therefore the history of those periods was not considered legitimate subject.

POLICE PROBING PETITION ON CONVERSION By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 17 (JTA) -- The police are investigating a petition prepared by several dayanim (religious court judges) which challenges the right of the Supreme Court to rule on the registration of converts as Jews.

The petition, initiated by Rabbi Yosef Axelrod, refers to the case of Shoshana Miller, an American immigrant to Israel who was converted to Judaism by a Reform rabbi. It holds that the high court had no right to order the Interior Ministry to register Miller as a Jew because the case is of a purely religious nature.

Attorney General Yosef Harish ordered the police investigation to determine whether Axelrod could be charged with contempt of court.

Ruling Pending In Another Case

In another case involving the religious establishment, the Supreme Court has been asked to rule on the complaint of Leah Shakdiel, whose appointment to the Religious Council in the town of Yeroham was rejected by the Chief Rabbinate Council earlier this month on grounds that a woman cannot serve on such bodies. Her appointment has been held up for more than a year. Shakdiel appealed to the Supreme Court to order the Religious Affairs Minister to make the appointment.

ISRAEL DEFEATS CZECHS IN DAVIS CUP; WILL PLAY INDIA IN QUARTERFINAL

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- Israel's tennis fantasy continued to come true this weekend with its national team's 3-2 victory over the favored and highly rated Czech team in Hradec, Czechoslovakia, in Davis Cup international competition.

Israel has thus qualified for the quarterfinals for the 1987 cup, and will play India in July. Before this year's match with the Czechs, Israel had never before made the final round of 16 teams.

Israel's rising young tennis star Amos Mansdorf won both his singles matches. Last Friday, he surprised Miroslav Mecir, one of the world's five best players, 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. In the final and deciding match on Sunday he overcame Karel Novacek, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.

Israeli tennis veteran Shlomo Glickstein defeated Milan Srejber 7-5, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 3-2 (retired) on Friday. Israel's previous team victory, over Switzerland, also included a default, rare in Davis Cup competition. Glickstein lost to Mecir on Sunday 3-6, 1-6, 2-6.

Glickstein and Mansdorf lost in doubles on Friday to Mecir and Tomas Smid, 2-6, 6-4, 6-8, 6-8.

India has been designated the home team for its match with Israel, with the site of the match to be determined in about a month. India recently refused to allow an Israeli team to participate in an international table-tennis competition.

MEMORIES IN A HOLOCAUST HOURGLASS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- The issue of whether Holocaust survivors, traumatized by the tragedy, can remember what really happened has become a focal point in the trial of John Demjanjuk in Jerusalem. His defense attorney, Mark O'Connor, is trying to pry the minutiae of their lives to show confusion, amnesia and marred recollections. He is pinning his hopes of exonerating Demjanjuk on memory lapses and inability to remember.

But it is this very inability to remember that is the product of the Holocaust's trauma, according to Eva Fogelman, a psychotherapist who works with Holocaust survivors and is research associate and board member of the Sands Point, New York, Jerome Riker International Study of the Organized Persecution of Children, which studies child survivors, plumbing the depths of hidden memories.

Fogelman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "the very act of giving testimony for some survivors is a traumatic experience in itself, and needs a supportive atmosphere with which to alleviate some of the pain and the horror. The court situation is by no means a supportive environment in which people can remember and recount traumatic experiences where they were dehumanized." To ensure accurate recall, she suggested that witnesses be seen privately by trained interviewers over several weeks before giving public testimony.

O'Connor has been chipping away at inconsistencies in the sworn testimony given by witnesses in the movie-theater-turned-courtroom in which more people than there is seating capacity turn out daily to wait to watch the trial, in person and on closed-screen television in an adjacent room. Radios in Israel are tuned in to the court proceedings wherever one goes, and witnesses are surely aware that their testimony is being heard by hundreds of thousands of people, and read about by millions throughout the world.

Repression And Recollection

Fogelman, who has interviewed hundreds of survivors, said that "most survivors can begin to recount their experiences, and while they may not always remember specific chronology of events, the emotions and the memories, after several sessions, begin to make a coherent sequence of events. While it is true that in a one-time session there may be discrepancies between a survivor's recall of one event or another, over several sessions a survivor begins to feel and remember what had actually happened.

"One of the ways in which the survivors have coped over the years is by suppressing some of the painful experiences that they had. When they are asked to bear witness on a witness stand, for many of them, this is the first time that they are piecing it together. It is difficult under such a stressful environment, given the trauma that they have been trying to repress all these years, and it is understandable that in trying to recall it, there will initially be discrepancies in what they recall, because it has served them in a way of coping and adapting with their life after the Holocaust."

Thus, it is this very memory loss, subject of O'Connor's barbs, that has protected the survivors and enabled them to get on with their lives despite their degrading experiences.

Fogelman, who made a documentary film several years ago about children of Holocaust survivors, "Breaking the Silence," explained that "Blurring out the names of those killed makes them real again. It would be blasphemous to say that this is the reality of the survivor's memory if that memory has failed or if it doesn't come out right the first time, or if places are forgotten," she said. "It is not their actual memory."

"Memory has to do with emotions. It is not separated from that. Survivors should not be brought to the trial if this is the first time that they bear witness. Every recall evokes in the survivor intense feelings, whether they be anger or helplessness, or guilt that they were unable to do enough."

Ways To Help The Witnesses

Milton and Dr. Judith Kestenberg, cofounders of the Riker Study, had much to say about the way in which witnesses could be helped immeasurably to positively identify Demjanjuk.

Milton Kestenberg, a researcher and also a lawyer, said, "As an attorney, I would bring in nine other Ukrainians in a lineup and I would ask the witness to observe them in the following way: I would ask them to say something, let's say in German or in Ukrainian, which would be tantamount to the curses or crude orders which this defendant allegedly made while in the concentration camp.

"Your memory is based on sounds, on movements of people, their facial expressions, and the total of it gives us the identity of a person, the way a person talks, the way a person gets mad, etc. Because without a lineup, the impressions might be misleading. But I would definitely require them to behave in such way as the witnesses remember the way the defendant allegedly behaved in the camp.

"There are two kinds of movement in a person," Kestenberg continued. "One is a gesture movement, which is typical for people from a certain background. A Ukrainian may move around differently than a Turk, for example. In addition, gesture movements are controllable. In other words, the defendant can deliberately move differently to mislead the witness.

"However, if there are posture movements-- a movement where the whole body is involved in the service of a certain pattern, for example -- if you show strength, if you use the strength easily in a gesture, in a posture it is very difficult to control it. It comes more naturally. The subject cannot be in full control of his postural movement, even if he would want to. And that's one way how you can recognize it."

Recognizing The Subject

Dr. Judith Kestenberg, a psychoanalyst, said, "You can get up from a chair in a certain way; or you walk in a certain manner." Regarding the tone of voice, she observed, "There are two aspects of the way you talk: When you talk in your native language, there is a certain melody of speech that of course is native to its own language.

"But beyond this, you have an individuality, like a voice print, and that is very difficult to lose, even when you get older."

The Kestenburgs noted that a person can be recognized by his choice of words. But in Demjanjuk's case, Milton Kestenberg said, "It's probably not likely, because Demjanjuk is careful in his choice of words." They both emphasized the

fact that Demjanjuk has spoken in Hebrew, not his native Ukrainian, to greet the witnesses, and most particularly when he was angry.

Milton Kestenberg said it helps "if one can get him angry enough to respond in his own language. When Eliahu Rosenberg identified him as Ivan the Terrible, why did Demjanjuk call him a liar in Hebrew? Maybe he didn't want to say that in his own language," because that would have lent credence to the witness.

Dr. Kestenberg said she was "struck that when a person gets angry he should express it in an entirely foreign language, so it seems that he (Demjanjuk) may have done it for effect. Or maybe he was premeditatively doing something," mused Dr. Kestenberg.

When he spoke to another witness, said Milton Kestenberg, "He said 'Shalom' in Hebrew. Why?" Dr. Kestenberg said, "It looks like he's trying to show that he's friendly to Jews. He learns their language."

A First In Connecticut's History: RABBI APPOINTED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

HARTFORD, March 17 (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of the State of Connecticut, a rabbi has been appointed to serve as a member of the prestigious seven-member State Ethics Commission which administers the code of ethics for all public officials, state employees and their families, candidates for public office, and lobbyists at the state level.

Rabbi Michael Menitoff, spiritual leader of 930-family-member Congregation B'nai Jacob in Woodbridge and Fellow of Ezra Stiles College of Yale University, was sworn in last week at the State House in Hartford following hearings of the Joint Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Highly regarded for his general and Jewish scholarship, the Conservative rabbi is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College, holds an M.A. from Columbia University, Bachelor of Jewish Education cum laude and Master of Hebrew Letters from Boston Hebrew College, Master of Hebrew Literature and rabbinic ordination from The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and a Ph.D. from UCLA.

Menitoff's career of public service includes work in a Harlem settlement house, volunteer Hebrew teaching of immigrants to Israel, the development and implementation of an educational enrichment program for the children of the Chippewa Indian Tribe in Northern Wisconsin, and the 1985 Columbus House Emergency Night Shelter Volunteer Service Award "for enabling homeless men and women to receive shelter, food, and companionship necessary to protect their lives and preserve their dignity."

He is perhaps best known in his former habitat of Southern California where he spent the first 15 years of his rabbinate as host of KABC-TV's popular weekly series "Rap with Rabbi Mike."

INTERFAITH MEETING ON THE MEANING OF THE HOLOCAUST TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON NEXT DECEMBER 14-16

ROME, March 17 (JTA) -- A mixed commission of Catholic and Jewish experts will hold a public seminar on the religious and existential

meaning of the Holocaust for Christians and Jews, to take place in Washington, D.C. next December 14-16, it was announced here Sunday. The mixed commission meets periodically under the auspices of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with Jews. The seminar will be the first of its kind since the mixed commission was founded in 1970. Its purpose is to counter claims by anti-Semites and neo-Nazis in Europe and America that the Holocaust never occurred.

The decision to hold the seminar was taken at a recent meeting of the Steering Committee comprising experts from the Vatican and the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC). The latter includes representatives of the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith, Israel Interfaith Association, the Synagogue Council of America and the World Jewish Congress.

BORIS BEGUN NABBED AGAIN By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 17 (JTA) -- Boris Begun, son of freed Prisoner of Conscience Iosif Begun, was nabbed by Soviet police Monday after demonstrating in downtown Moscow for the freedom of other refuseniks, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ). Begun was detained along with Ella and Theodore Finkel, brother and sister refuseniks.

Boris Begun was threatened with a 15-day jail sentence last month for demonstrating on behalf of his father, who was then in prison. At the last minute, the Soviet authorities changed their tactics and refrained from incarcerating the younger Begun, and freed Iosif Begun from Chistopol Prison.

Their demonstration Monday was the first in a series this week of protests in the Soviet capital against the denial of exit visas. Others who have publicly declared that they will demonstrate this week are Michael Fuchs-Rabinovitch and Leonid Yusefovitch of Moscow, and Michael Baizer of Leningrad, who will go to Moscow to protest.

Meanwhile, a hunger strike continues in Moscow by former POC Lev Elbert of Kiev, who began his action March 5.

Women will demonstrate in Moscow at the national OVIR office on March 27 and 29, including many of the women who last week were on a hunger strike. The women's demonstrations are planned to coincide with the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

UNUSUAL DISPLAY OF USSR-ISRAEL AMITY

GENEVA, March 17 (JTA) -- An unusual display of amity between the Soviet Union and Israel occurred here Monday when Tass correspondent Vladislav Chichlo proposed Sari Rauber, correspondent for the Israeli newspaper Maariv, for membership in the committee of journalists accredited to the United Nations here.

Rauber returned the compliment by proposing Chichlo for membership. Both were elected unanimously to spontaneous cheers of delegates to the annual meeting of the United Nations Press Association.

Rauber is also Swiss correspondent for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, under the by-line Tamar Levy.

**ISRAEL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH
SOUTH AFRICA TO BE PHASED OUT**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- The Inner Cabinet decided after protracted debate Wednesday to phase out Israel's relationships with South Africa, particularly its trade in military equipment and technology.

Although there will be no abrogation of current military contracts, Israel will not enter into new ones with the Pretoria regime. Overall relationships with South Africa will also be reduced over a period of time. Details of the new policy will be worked out by a special Cabinet-appointed team which will have two months to complete the task.

Those decisions represent Israel's response to possible reprisals by the U.S. Congress against countries selling weapons and military equipment to South Africa. Congress enacted sanctions against South Africa over President Reagan's veto and appears likely to cut off or reduce American aid to countries that continue to do business with the apartheid government.

According to press reports, the value of existing military contracts with South Africa is estimated at between \$200 million and \$500 million annually, most involving transfer of technology rather than weapons.

Opposing Views On Sanctions

Despite that threat, the Inner Cabinet (five Labor and five Likud Ministers) took five hours of sometimes heated debate to reach its decisions. Likud Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon spoke for the ministerial faction opposed to sanctions. He maintained that Israel could stand up to American pressure on the issue.

But Foreign Minister Shimon Peres warned that Israel's international standing could suffer if it refused to join the West in sanctions. He was especially wary of Israel's relations with the U.S., already strained by the Jonathan Pollard spy case and the Iran-Contra arms sale scandal.

Surprisingly, Peres won the support of both Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The new policy will deprive Israel of South African coal on which it relies heavily for its electric power plants. Peres said, however, that Israel could fill its coal needs from the People's Republic of China or Australia.

**PERES INDICATES THAT ISRAEL'S
DECISION ON SOUTH AFRICA WAS
PROMPTED BY CONCERN FOR U.S. VIEWS**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, defending the Cabinet's decision to phase out Israel's military relationship with South Africa in the Knesset Thursday, appeared to indicate that the government was acting out of concern for American views.

The new policy (see separate story) came under attack from left- and rightwing Knesset members. Likud's Benny Shalita said the govern-

ment's decision was hasty and amounted to capitulation to liberals in Israel and the West.

Yair Tzaban of Mapam and Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) charged, on the other hand, that the government's action was too little and too late. They warned that U.S. aid to Israel would be jeopardized when the full extent of Israel's arms deals with South Africa becomes known and that Israel would "pay dearly" for its past policies when the apartheid regime is ultimately overthrown.

Geula Cohen of the Tehiya party said that while she supported the government's decision, it looked too much like surrender to American pressure, which she opposed in principle. According to Cohen, this could lead to pressure on other issues, such as the Palestinian problem.

Peres Responds To Critics

Peres dismissed as "a bare-faced lie" the claim by Communist MK Meir Wilner of nuclear cooperation between Israel and South Africa.

To Tzaban and Sarid, he said "your fine words will not protect us against embargoes, nor maintain our security." He added that it was hypocritical to portray Israel as South Africa's main arms supplier. "Is it Israel that supplies South Africa with Mirage fighters, Centurion tanks or artillery?" he asked, referring to a French combat plane and a British tank.

Responding to Cohen, Peres said "All your talk about keeping a straight back and standing up to the Americans is nonsense. As long as the USSR continues to pour arms into the Arab countries, Israel will need another power to supply her with arms."

Israel, he said, must take American views into account because no other nation shows more consideration for Israel.

**CABINET UNIT SUFFERS SETBACK
IN PROBE OF THE POLLARD AFFAIR**
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA) -- Three Israeli diplomatic officials believed to have been associated with Jonathan Pollard's espionage activities in the U.S. have refused to appear before the Cabinet-appointed committee investigating the government's role in the Pollard affair on grounds that they might incriminate themselves.

The officials are Yosef Yagur, former Scientific Attache at the Israel Consulate General in New York; Ilan Ravid, former aide to the Scientific Attache at the Embassy in Washington; and Irit Erb, a former secretary at the Scientific Attache's office. The three left the U.S. immediately after Pollard was arrested by federal agents in 1985.

Their lawyer, David Libai, stated in a letter to Premier Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday that his clients would not appear because "their rights will not be safeguarded."

It was the first setback suffered by the two-man body consisting of Tel Aviv lawyer Yehoshua Rotenstreich and Gen. (Res.) Zvi Tsur, a former Chief of Staff, and it may prove fatal. Rotenstreich made it clear that the investigation

could not proceed without the full cooperation of all parties concerned.

The committee, established by the Inner Cabinet last week, has no powers of subpoena and cannot require witnesses to testify under oath. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has said the government would abide by its recommendations, though not required to by law.

The panel has been criticized as toothless. Opposition MK Yossi Sarid remarked Wednesday that "either there will be an investigation or else it is going to be a farce."

PROSECUTION IN DEMJANJUK TRIAL TO SEEK WITNESSES IN BELGIUM, W. GERMANY By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA) -- The prosecution in the case of accused war criminal John Demjanjuk won approval Thursday to seek permission from the authorities in Belgium and West Germany to question residents who may have evidence pertinent to the trial.

The three-judge panel agreed to the prosecution's request as the trial of the Ukrainian-born former American citizen ended its fourth week in Jerusalem district court. The State Prosecutor's office is expected to send officials to Belgium and West Germany in the near future, but procedures for such a move remain to be established.

Legal circles said the questioning of witnesses abroad might be carried out by a team of prosecution and defense lawyers. The court rejected a defense motion to read into the record evidence submitted to an American court in the 1978 denaturalization trial of Ukrainian-born Feodor Fedorenko who, like Demjanjuk, allegedly was a guard at the Treblinka death camp.

Presiding Justice Dov Levin said it was clear from the outset that a judgement by an American court was inadmissible but the defense could bring witnesses from the American court here to testify.

TRIAL OF VANUNU POSTPONED By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA) -- The trial of Mordechai Vanunu, scheduled to open in Jerusalem district court this week, was postponed Thursday because of a dispute between the defendant and his lawyer. No new date was announced and legal observers doubt the proceedings will begin until late next month.

Vanunu, a former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility, is accused of selling secret material about Israel's alleged nuclear weapons capabilities to a British newspaper. He and his family fired defense attorney Amnon Zichroni over differences in defense strategy.

Zichroni prepared a purely legal defense. Vanunu demands that his trial be made into a public forum against Israel's nuclear research and development programs. The court has not officially accepted Zichroni's dismissal. If a new lawyer is named he will need time to familiarize himself with the case.

The court also must decide on Vanunu's request that certain evidence considered classified by the prosecution be made public. The trial will be conducted in camera because of the sensitive nature of the evidence.

SOVIET DOCUMENTS ON NAZI WAR CRIMINALS SAID TO BE VALID By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) -- Repeatedly in the cases of alleged Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk, in Israel, and admitted Nazi Karl Linnas, in the United States, voices have been raised against the use of wartime documents provided by the Soviets for use in the proceedings, which has been challenged and denounced by those who say the Soviets cannot be trusted to provide truthful evidence.

Apprehension about such usage was negated Tuesday by Martin Mendelsohn, a Washington attorney who serves as counsel to Simon Wiesenthal in Vienna as well as to the Los Angeles-based Wiesenthal Center.

Mendelsohn, addressing the Jewish Community Relations Council Holocaust Commission, said that although Linnas -- who as of this writing still remains in the U.S. despite court orders to deport him -- "tried to raise a smokescreen that somehow his conviction in the U.S. courts was a result of Soviet evidence. While some Soviet evidence and Soviet material was used in preparing U.S. evidence, in fact, there's very little of that."

Evidence In The Linnas Case

In the Linnas case, Mendelsohn said, "evidence was used which came in part from the Soviet Union and in part from other places in the world. But all of that evidence was presented to the court under existing U.S. federal rules of evidence, and was examined by the U.S. district court judge according to those rules and found to be valid under those rules," and admitted as such.

Linnas and his lawyers, said Mendelsohn, did not rebut the evidence despite being "given every opportunity under our system to prove that it was false, to show if there was a mistake, to show that there might be some misinterpretation." The U.S. judge, he emphasized, "found the evidence overwhelming and essentially un rebutted."

Above all, said Mendelsohn, the two men have been tried not so much on the basis of this evidence but on the testimony of eyewitnesses from Treblinka death camp in Demjanjuk's case, and Linnas's "unrebutted confession" made to a newspaper reporter in 1961 and "to one of his neighbors more recently."

Issue Of A Soviet Identity Card

Mendelsohn spoke specifically about the identity card provided Israel by the Soviets which places Demjanjuk at the Trawniki training camp, which the SS used to train Soviet POWs to be "good concentration camp guards." This card, said Mendelsohn, "whether it's genuine or not, really doesn't matter." Sole use of that card as evidence could probably not prove Demjanjuk's guilt or identity as "Ivan the Terrible," Mendelsohn feels. "It is the six eyewitnesses. . . who testified to the atrocities that he committed" that will prove the case, he said. "What Demjanjuk's lawyers have been able to do, however," he said, is "engage in media manipulation," making the card central to the case. "But it is not." Demjanjuk was repeatedly given the opportunity in Cleveland, six years ago, to prove the card false, "a piece of KGB disinformation."

And he did nothing. He produced no witnesses, he produced no contrary evidence. He did play the press," Mendelsohn said, but "the judge was not deceived.

"The judge knew that the government had produced experts to testify that the card was genuine and accepted it as genuine. The reason he accepted it as genuine was because he believed the U.S. witnesses and because Demjanjuk's lawyers, despite what they said outside the courtroom, did nothing to refute the genuineness of that card. That's a very important point that has been lost."

Mendelsohn said he is "not apologizing at all" for using Soviet evidence. "I think it's good stuff."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

THE NEED FOR MORAL COURAGE

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) -- MK Rafael Eitan, a leader of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party and a former Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Force, charged that the Israeli government "does nothing to encourage aliya." He said that Israel lacks "the moral justification" to ask the Jews of the world to come and live in Israel, while so many Israelis leave Israel to live abroad.

"They (the leaders of Israel) do nothing to attract new olim and to stem yerida (emigration of Israelis)," Eitan said during an interview Thursday with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here. He said that the Jews of the world do not come on aliya because of the government's red tape, Israel's "deteriorating" education system, and because "no new settlements are built in Eretz Yisrael."

Eitan, who served as head of the IDF during the controversial Lebanon war, argued that two factors determine aliya: severe, violent anti-Semitism, such as the Holocaust; or idealism of would-be olim, who want to come and be "pioneers" in Israel.

"Today, thank God, we don't have a Holocaust. But those idealistic Jews who want to come and build new settlements, cannot do it because the government does not build new settlements. Israel, therefore, is not attractive to them. . . ."

Eitan scoffed at the suggestion made Wednesday in Jerusalem by Absorption Minister Yaakov Tsur that direct flights from the USSR and Eastern Europe to Israel be established as a way of curtailing the "neshira" (dropout) of Soviet Jews who do not settle in Israel after leaving the Soviet Union.

"Well, I ask the Minister, what would he do then with Soviet Jews who refuse to stay in Israel? You can't build an aliya movement on a direct flight from one country to another The issue is deeper than that. Today's Israel does not attract the Jews."

Laments Lack Of Values

Eitan lamented the lack of values in Israeli society today. He said that the situation is a direct result of a failed education system. He warned that unless major improvements are undertaken in the field of education, the situation may have a devastating effect on the future of the Jewish State.

"Education must be Israel's top priority, even before security," he said. "When it comes to Israel's defense, things and mistakes can be corrected in a relatively short time. But if you

fail in education, you have to improve on things gradually and step by step during many years.

"The government should allocate for education all the money needed. The teaching profession must be given top priority in Israel and only the best should be recruited as teachers. If we will start now -- there are 20 years of work ahead of us. Israeli society has lost many values. The leadership did not know how to keep and preserve values, Zionist, nationalistic values, values of work, national honor, values of modest consumption."

But, Eitan stressed, the education system in Israel has also failed in teaching tens of thousands of children, who have grown to be illiterate adults lacking basic reading and writing skills. He said he does not believe that the present government is going to do anything to improve the situation. "If anything, they make it worse," he charged.

West Bank Settlements Do Not Impede Peace

Eitan, who advocates the annexation of the West Bank to Israel and believes that Israel has the sole right to the whole Land of Israel, said that it is "nonsense" to believe that if Israel leaves Judaea and Samaria, then there will be peace in the Mideast.

"Did any Arab come to make peace before the Six-Day War when we did not control Judaea and Samaria? Why should they make peace if we withdraw? If they wanted peace so much they could have made it before June 1967. The simple truth is that the Arabs do not want peace at all. Only when they realize that they can never defeat us, only then they will start to move toward peace," Eitan said.

He said that he does not believe in formal peace agreements, and that he prefers de-facto peace between Israel and its neighbors.

"Look," he said, "we have a peace treaty with Egypt, but we have better relationships with Jordan than with Egypt. We have developed trade, tourism and dialogue with Jordan. Who needs more? Besides, King Hussein knows that once he signs a formal peace treaty with us he is doomed. He will be killed like Sadat and it will be the end of his kingdom."

Eitan, who left for Israel Thursday night after a five-day lecture tour here, declined to discuss any aspect of the Jonathan Pollard affair. He said, however, that he has a great deal of criticism of the Israeli government's part in the affair, but, he stressed, "I intend to make all the criticism only when I am back home."

CORRECTION: Due to the garbled transmission from Israel, David Landau was incorrectly identified as the author of articles on a Cabinet meeting and the criticism by Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith leaders of the way Israel has handled the Jonathan Pollard affair. Hugh Orgel wrote both stories which appeared in the March 12 Daily News Bulletin.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- A Medical Action Committee to provide support for refuseniks with medical problems, and for refuseniks who are physicians or health care professionals, has been formed by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

REFUSENIKS ASK FOR RIGHT TO EMIGRATE

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) -- Eight long-term refuseniks in Leningrad, tired of waiting for their exit visas to emigrate to Israel, sent a telegram to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Monday. They wrote:

"We, a group of Leningrad Jews, have a problem for many years for the right to leave for Israel, for the right to be reunited with our relatives and with our friends, our people. However the Soviet officials again and again say no to our legal appeal, violating the international deals of the Civil Rights and Helsinki Agreements, both of them signed by the Soviet Union.

"They keep telling us that the interests of such a great superpower as the USSR will suffer if we find at last our families, our homes, and possibility to plan our future by ourselves, and bringing up our children as we prefer. We are living examples of the divergence between the proclaimed course of democratization and reality in the case of emigration policy.

"Years in refusal don't pass without damage to us. Our chances to begin a new, successful life are decreasing. Our health is getting worse. We have little hope to solve our problems.

"On the 23rd of March we shall go on demonstration, with the demand to give us exit visas. We can't and don't want to wait any more. If not now, then when?"

The eight who signed the telegram are: Leah Shapiro, Michael Baizer -- just fired from his job, and this week in Moscow demonstrating for refuseniks -- Elena Keiss-Kuna, Abba and Ida Taratuta, Boris Lokshin, Nelly Shpeizman -- whose husband, Yuri, suffers from cancer -- and Inna Rozanskaya (signed a "Wife of Boris Lobonikov").

N.Y. POLICE INVESTIGATING VANDALISM AT JEWISH CEMETERY

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA) -- A police detective was pessimistic Wednesday about finding any solid leads in his investigation of the upsetting of about 100 tombstones Monday night in the Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Queens.

The Jewish cemetery, containing 78,000 graves, had suffered no significant vandalism in several years, according to a spokesman who declined to identify himself when the Jewish Telegraphic Agency called.

As no graffiti was found, he did not suspect anti-Semitism as a motive, and noted that nearby non-Jewish cemeteries also are victims. Vandalism, he said, "is almost impossible to stop."

Detective Daniel Daly of the 104th Precinct said "it seems to be an isolated incident. There doesn't seem to be any anti-Semitism." He was not aware of any other incidents of vandalism at Mount Lebanon or any neighboring cemeteries.

Daly said police dusted the area for fingerprints and took aerial photos, but because of the nature of the crime, "It will be very difficult to find" the vandal or vandals. He suspected teenagers.

The Jewish Defense Organization sent about 25 people armed with licensed firearms and baseball bats to guard the cemetery Tuesday night and plans to continue the vigil, JDO leader Mordecai Levy told the JTA.

The cemetery spokesman said "There is no reason" for their presence. Daly cautioned against the use of vigilante tactics.

U.S. DEPENDENCE ON MIDEAST OIL CREATES POTENTIAL FOR A NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT, WARNS REPORT

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA) -- Increasing United States dependence on Middle Eastern oil is creating the potential for a "national security threat in the next decade," a Reagan Administration official warned Tuesday.

"Although lower oil prices have benefited the economy in the short-term, there is justification for national concern over both the declining competitiveness of American oil and gas and over rising imports," said Secretary of Energy John Herrington in releasing a report on energy security.

The report, which was submitted to President Reagan, states that the Persian Gulf is expected to supply between 30 and 45 percent of the world's oil by 1995.

"Over the longer term, U.S. oil imports could exceed the range they reached in the mid-1970's," the report states. "U.S. net oil imports (could reach) in the range of 8 to 10 million barrels per day -- about one half or more of total projected U.S. oil consumption." The bulk of this oil comes from the Persian Gulf nations.

Oil imports are currently 33 percent of U.S. consumption.

The report warns that "recent Middle East history shows that oil supplies there can be interrupted" as they have been 15 times since 1950 such as during the Iranian revolution and the Iran-Iraq War.

A "politically inspired oil embargo" such as occurred in 1973-4 during the Yom Kippur War is not a "significant threat," although it could become one if oil imports increase, the report warns.

"Although there is only a small risk of a significant disruption that could cause another sharp increase in oil prices in the near term," the report says, "many of the political, social and military factors that led to sharp disruptions are likely to persist in the future."

The Department of Energy stops short of supporting an oil import tax, noting that for a \$10 barrel fee the GNP would lose as much as \$273 billion from 1988 to 1995, said Herrington. An oil import fee would also cause U.S. businesses to pay higher energy costs than international competitors and would hurt U.S. export sales, said Herrington.

Herrington said he supports tax initiatives to increase U.S. production such as the elimination of the windfall profits tax, deregulation of natural gas and electricity, development of coal, and regulatory measures on nuclear power to restore its economic vitality.

The Department of Energy report notes that while other fuels such as coal, natural gas, nuclear power and renewable resources will increase their share of world energy consumption, oil will remain the most important fuel in the 1990's.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The Knesset marked International Women's Day Tuesday by enacting a law equalizing the retirement age of women and men. Until now, men retired at 65 and women at 60. Under the new measure, women may work until age 65 unless they choose to take their pensions at 60.

**INNER CABINET DECIDES TO ESTABLISH
'CLARIFICATION COMMITTEE' TO EXAMINE
ISRAEL'S HANDLING OF POLLARD AFFAIR**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 11 (JTA) -- The Inner Cabinet decided Wednesday to establish a non-Ministerial "clarification committee" to examine Israel's handling of the Jonathan Pollard spy case and report back to the Cabinet as quickly as possible.

It also gave its retroactive assent to an investigation of the government's role in the Pollard affair by a special intelligence subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee which begins closed hearings Thursday.

These developments came as pressure mounted for a full-scale probe of Israel's involvement with Pollard, the former U.S. Navy civilian intelligence analyst sentenced to life imprisonment in Washington last week for spying for Israel. At the same time, American Jewish leaders visiting here expressed serious concern over the impact of the Pollard affair on U.S.-Israel relations. (See separate story.)

Eight Hours Of Deliberation

The Inner Cabinet (five Labor and five Likud Ministers) deliberated for more than eight hours Wednesday, one of the longest sessions ever held by the government's top policymaking body. According to Israel Radio, two prominent public figures were proposed to constitute the "clarification committee" -- former Supreme Court President Justice Moshe Landau and former Chief of Staff Gen. Zvi Tsur.

One has already accepted the assignment and the other promised a reply shortly, Israel Radio said without identifying either of them.

According to observers, the two-man committee is less than the full-scale government or judicial commission of inquiry demanded by several Ministers, Knesset members and a growing body of public opinion. But it appears to be more than Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin had been willing to accept a few days ago.

It was not immediately clear what legal or other powers would be vested in the two-man panel or what their terms of reference will be. Some commentators believe it will have no legal powers and will not be authorized to subpoena witnesses to give evidence under oath.

Eban Appears Satisfied With Decision

Nevertheless, Labor MK Abba Eban, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, appeared satisfied with the Inner Cabinet's decision. He said the Pollard affair will now be investigated by both the Cabinet and the Knesset. Eban announced his intelligence subcommittee's investigation Monday in face of a flat statement by Premier Shamir that the matter was "closed."

Observers said that until the two investigations are completed, no action could be taken with respect to Air Force Col. Aviem Sella and former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan, the Israeli officials most closely linked to Pollard's espionage activities.

Pollard testified at his trial that Sella had recruited him and gave him his espionage assignments. Eitan headed Pollard's spy unit, "Lekem," now disbanded. Israel incurred American anger last week when Sella was given command of the Tel Nof Air Force Base, one of the largest in Israel, despite his indictment by a federal grand jury in Washington for espionage. Friends of Sella said Wednesday he has not been asked to resign.

Eitan was earlier appointed chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. He said Wednesday that only the company board of directors was empowered to remove them.

**ADL DELEGATION IN ISRAEL READS RIOT
ACT TO GOVERNMENT LEADERS OVER THE
WAY THEY ARE HANDLING POLLARD AFFAIR**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 11 (JTA) -- Abraham Foxman, associate national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, suggested here Wednesday that the Israeli government is treating the Jonathan Pollard affair "somewhat cavalierly" and warned that there is a serious concern in the U.S. over the long-term impact of the spy case on Israel-U.S. relations.

Foxman, who heads an ADL delegation which came here to discuss the matter with Israeli leaders, told Israel Radio it is not their intention to tell the government what to do. "But I think we have a responsibility to give them a sober analysis of what is the reality in the U.S."

Referring to the current Congressional probes of the Reagan Administration's sale of arms to Iran and diversion of the proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels known as contras, Foxman stressed that "The U.S. cannot ask of its friend and ally to do less than the American people, the American media, the American institutions are asking of themselves."

U.S.-Israel relations, Foxman said, are "based on credibility, on mutual trust and on good faith that today is under a cloud. Some of these values are being tarnished by an attitude and approach which is coming from this (Israeli) government which is treating the matter somewhat cavalierly, hoping it will go away and hoping to continue business as usual."

Foxman said "the experience of the 'Iran-gate' (affair) should be a clear and realistic lesson to the State of Israel that here is a President -- Ronald Reagan, possibly one of the most popular Presidents since Franklin Roosevelt -- and yet the American people demand of him to set up committees of inquiry, to admit mistakes and to take the consequences of it."

He added, "It's not a question of double standard. It's the same standard the American people are expecting of its friend and ally. I think that's the reality of our relationship, which means -- I don't know what the institutions here would be the equivalent -- but the truth has to be out, whether it's a Tower type of inquiry or something similar."

Foxman was referring to the three-man panel headed by former Sen. John Tower of Texas which Reagan established to investigate the

activities of his National Security Council. Foxman also referred to Israel Air Force Col. Aviem Sella and former Mossad operative Rafael Eitan, the top Israeli officials involved in Pollard's spying activities for Israel, both of whom had their careers advanced even while Pollard was on trial and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Draws An Analogy

He drew an analogy between them and Vice Admiral John Poindexter, Reagan's National Security Advisor and Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, a Poindexter aide, who were dismissed for their roles in the Iran-Contra scandal.

"Poindexter and North are as much American national heroes in terms of fulfilling the role of the American national interest, whether you like them or not, as Rafi Eitan and Avi Sella, and yet if the consequences of a mistake are such, there is a price to be paid," Foxman said.

"That's what the American people have asked for, demanded and received from their own institutions and their own elected and appointed officials. They are not going to be satisfied with less from the State of Israel."

Reference to the Pollard case and its consequences for U.S.-Israel relations was also made Wednesday by veteran Hadassah leader Charlotte Jacobson who is chairing the Women's Zionist Organization's diamond jubilee celebrations in Jerusalem.

"It is a little sad to see a dent in the friendship between the U.S. and Israel because we are very proud of that friendship, and any event, even if we are confident it will pass, is of course, an unhappy situation," Jacobson said.

Responsibility Towards Israel

President Chaim Herzog referred indirectly to Israel and the Pollard case in his address at the opening of the Hadassah celebrations Tuesday night. He said that while Israel has a responsibility to the Jewish communities of the world for its actions and policies, those communities abroad also have a responsibility towards Israel.

"The importance of an increasing awareness of this mutual responsibility has been emphasized in a most telling manner by events which have been at the center of our public consciousness over the last few days," the Israeli Chief of State said.

"There is no doubt that grave mistakes have been made and Israel has accepted responsibility for them. Criticism is in order, and indeed self-understood . . . But in an imperfect world in which no one is immune to error, I would urge all of us, both abroad and in Israel, to maintain a sense of proportion and allow the necessary process in this democratic society of ours to take its due course," Herzog said.

ISRAELI CITIZENS SEEK TO RAISE \$200,000 FOR POLLARDS AS MORAL SUPPORT

JERUSALEM, March 11 (JTA) -- A group of private individuals has established a fund here to raise \$200,000 for Jonathan Pollard and his wife Anne Henderson-Pollard, who were sentenced to prison in Washington last week for spying for Israel. The Israelis insist their action is not political.

Pollard, a former civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy, received a life sentence and his wife drew a five-year term as an accessory. According to Joshua Gilboah, one of

seven Israelis who initiated the fund, "we heard from the media that they are in need of money" and "decided that this would be a nice thing to do which will also show them our moral support."

Gilboah said the response to newspaper advertisements his group ran Tuesday was "unbelievable. The telephones have not stopped ringing since the ads appeared."

He explained, "We established the fund because we felt that this is the only way we can help the Pollard couple without committing ourselves to any of the political sides of the affair. That we don't want to touch at all."

Gilboah said that although the Pollards "did something possibly quite stupid, I am sure they had other emotions which pushed them to do it-- including the Jewish point -- and we felt, as Jews and as Israelis, that even if the government of Israel cannot react, or is unable to, we as citizens should give them some sort of moral support."

Premier Yitzhak Shamir stated Tuesday that the Pollards' predicament "is not a problem with which the State of Israel has to concern itself." He said the State "has no connection with Pollard or his family." It "did not hire him and did not assign him espionage missions," Shamir said.

RABBI SENTENCED FOR PARTICIPATING IN RALLY IN FRONT OF SOVIET EMBASSY By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 11 (JTA) -- A two-day sentence was imposed Wednesday morning in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on Rabbi Avraham Weiss of Riverdale, The Bronx, for his participation in a demonstration of prayer and song in front of the Soviet Embassy in Washington last March on behalf of Soviet Jews. The demonstrators violated a Washington, D.C. statute that prohibits demonstrations within 500 feet of an Embassy.

The sentencing was pronounced by Judge Robert Shuker, who refused Weiss's request to surrender himself, and ordered that he be escorted from court to the D.C. jail by a corrections officer.

On Monday, following the setting of the sentence, Shuker refused a request by Weiss's attorney, Barry Boss, that Weiss be permitted to serve his time in another facility.

Weiss was part of a group of 21 rabbis arrested for taking part in the protest, which was part of a series of demonstrations at the Embassy since May 1985. Of the entire group Weiss was the only one to have pleaded not guilty. The others entered a guilty plea, subject to the court of appeals reviewing certain questions which were denied before, including the constitutionality of the statute under which they were prosecuted, under the First Amendment. A case is expected to be decided by the Supreme Court later this year based on the right to free speech and to assemble, questioning the constitutionality of the 500-foot stipulation.

Several rabbis have already served time in jail for their participation in such demonstrations. In December 1985, five rabbis served 12 days of a 15-day sentence for demonstrating in front of the Soviet Embassy. Over 100 rabbis, ministers, cantors, Hebrew teachers and students have taken part in the Soviet Jewry protests there.

Weiss, who is senior rabbi at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale and national chairman of the Center for Russian Jewry/Student Struggle for

Soviet Jewry (SSSJ), suffered a heart attack last September after being beaten by angry concertgoers emerging from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York following a tear-gas bombing at a performance of the Moiseyev Dance Company, a Russian folkloric group.

Although responsibility for the bomb was claimed by the Jewish Defense League, Weiss was a conspicuous target for the ire of exiting audience members as he stood in front of the opera house wearing a yarmulke and passing out leaflets, trying to dissuade people from attending the concert. Two other members of the SSSJ were with him at the time. Weiss, 42, was hospitalized for two months at that time. Then, in December, six days after the rabbis' trial was held, and at which time Weiss pleaded not guilty, he was readmitted to the hospital with a serious coronary condition that required an immediate quadruple bypass operation of a particularly serious nature.

Although the prosecution agreed with Weiss's defense that a continuance of sentence should be accorded Weiss because of his health, hearing Commissioner Thomas Gaye disagreed, said Boss. Weiss would also not accept unsupervised probation, because he felt that he had done nothing wrong.

Weiss's cardiologist, Dr. Mark Greenberg, wrote a letter to the judge explaining that because of Weiss's recent bypass operation, a jail term was problematic and could subject him to extra stress. Greenberg also asked that Weiss's medications not be interfered with and be administered as prescribed.

Boss said that Avi went to jail because the court was unwilling to consider any additional leniency. He said the other rabbis received a two-day suspended sentence, but Weiss rejected a suspended sentence and \$100 fine. Weiss is expected to be released Thursday morning, because any time spent on the second day is credited as a full day served.

Boss said that an appeal will be filed challenging the statute's constitutionality and selective prosecution, based on the fact that demonstrators in front of the South African Embassy were not charged with violation of the statute.

UKRAINIANS IN CANADA ARE RAISING MONEY FOR THE DEFENSE OF DEMJANJUK

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, March 11 (JTA) -- Canada's large Ukrainian community is raising money for the defense of John Demjanjuk, currently on trial in Israel for crimes against humanity and the Jewish people. There are about 600,000 Ukrainians in Canada.

According to Peter Jacyr of Mississauga, 1,340 Ukrainians across Canada have so far donated \$120,000. The Ukrainian community in Toronto has started a Demjanjuk defense fund. His son-in-law, Ed Nishnic, came here to help.

The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk, a retired automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio, was extradited to Israel last year. So far in his trial, four Holocaust survivors have positively identified him as the sadistic Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" who operated the gas chambers.

Nishnic told the Toronto Star "We could lose this case through financial default. Our finances are about to be tapped out." He said money was needed for legal expenses and the cost of sending

experts to Israel to testify for Demjanjuk. The accused war criminal is defended by an American lawyer, Mark O'Connor, who contends that Demjanjuk is a victim of mistaken identity.

ARGENTINE PUBLIC SHOCKED BY CATHOLIC CLERIC'S ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS

BUENOS AIRES, March 11 (JTA) -- Blatantly anti-Semitic statements made by a ranking member of the Catholic hierarchy in the course of an attack on the democratic regime of President Raul Alfonsin have shocked the Jewish community and the general public.

Msgr. Antonio Plaza, former Archbishop of La Plata, charged that "The government is full of Jews." He went on to say, "Those people of the government made us squander three years discussing those issues (human rights) and mistreating the people. There are many Jews in the government of Alfonsin and I do not know whether there is anyone left who is not Jewish."

Plaza was obviously referring to the efforts to prosecute members of the former military junta responsible for the disappearance of some 30,000 Argentines, many of them Jews, including teenagers, and the torture of countless others perceived to be political dissidents.

Plaza, who left his post in La Plata, capital of Buenos Aires Province, a year ago because of his age, apparently justifies the crimes of the military regime. David Goldberg, president of the DAIA, the umbrella body of Argentine Jewish organizations, said his remarks would be protested to the Church.

Cesar Jaroslavsky, majority leader in the Argentine Parliament, suggested that the archbishop should be brought to court. Alluding to his Jewish origin, he said "If I had been in his hands I would be soap by now."

NEW YORK NAMES BEN-GURION STREET AT SITE OF FORMER BILTMORE HOTEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 11 (JTA) -- Mayor Edward Koch of New York, who is known to do almost everything his own way, Wednesday unveiled the street sign designating "David Ben-Gurion Place" here while standing in a truck-crane.

Koch had torn the covering of the sign at East 43rd Street between Vanderbilt and Madison Avenues, necessitating the crane. His elevation was met by applause from the hundreds of spectators there to honor the centennial of the birth of Israel's founding Prime Minister.

The square is at the site of the old Biltmore Hotel, where 45 years ago Ben-Gurion and other Zionist leaders formally established the goal of the Jewish State of Israel during the Biltmore Conference.

City officials, Israeli diplomats, including Israel's Consul General in New York, Moshe Yegar and Jewish leaders, as well as leaders of different faiths and ethnic communities, participated in the ceremony, under clear and chilly skies.

The street-naming was one of several civic, governmental and academic events and tributes to David Ben-Gurion, organized by the David Ben-Gurion Centennial Committee of the U.S. The Committee was formed last year by the Knesset to promote recognition of Ben-Gurion's achievements and accomplishments.

REFUSENIK PLANS MOSCOW PROTEST DEMONSTRATION ON MARCH 17

By Elsa Solender

NEW YORK, March 11 (JTA) -- A brave man, his wife and his son will demonstrate in front of the Lenin Library in Moscow on March 17 to protest the Soviet government's refusal since 1979 to let the family emigrate to Israel.

At a time when many Soviet Jews are waiting to see whether Soviet leader Gorbachev's "liberalization" program will extend to Jewish emigration, Mikhail (Mischa) Fuchs-Rabinovich, a 50-year-old meteorologist -- dismissed from his job, stripped of his Ph.D and working as a boiler-watcher -- has informed the Moscow municipality in writing of his intention to demonstrate, with due regard to the free flow of traffic.

For his meticulously legal enterprise, he expects the authorities to impose a 15-day prison sentence and hopes a harsher penalty does not await him: KGB operatives often beat Jewish demonstrators and jail them on trumped-up charges of anti-Soviet hooliganism.

The Soviets denied Fuchs-Rabinovich's application to emigrate under the pretext that he was privy to "secrets" during his work as director of the Laboratory for Numerical Methods of Weather Forecasting. In fact, he never held a post requiring security clearance, the USSR has shared all his research with the 35 nations which signed the Helsinki Accords, and it is party to an international agreement declassifying all weather forecasting jobs.

Staged A 30-Day Hunger Strike

Mischa and Marina Fuchs-Rabinovich went on a 30-day hunger strike in January after receiving an invitation from Temple Elohim in Wellesley, Mass. for young Mishka to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with that Reform congregation. The first correspondence that the family had been permitted to receive from the West in four years was a copy of that invitation, relayed via the government. Rabbi Ronald Weiss of Temple Elohim has adopted the case for the Fuchs-Rabinovich family's freedom as a personal crusade.

When Soviet authorities told Fuchs-Rabinovich to submit a new emigration application, he refused, convinced that their objective was to divert him from his hunger strike with the arduous, time-consuming application process. He had previously filed all necessary documents in prescribed form and nothing had changed in his application. The response of Soviet authorities was silence.

The Fuchs-Rabinovich case has not attracted the same international attention as more "famous" refuseniks such as Ida Nudel, Iosef Begun or Natan Sharansky. Weiss recently organized a committee to mobilize cables and letters to Gorbachev and to Soviet ambassador Yuri Dubinin in Washington in hopes that international attention may inhibit KGB reprisals against the family for its protest demonstration.

Mikhail Fuchs-Rabinovich previously urged Western visitors to concentrate on the principle of Soviet Jews' right to emigrate to Israel rather than press for the release of specific refuseniks. Now, facing personal danger, the family requires as much support -- and protection -- as world opinion can muster.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING AGAINST HIGHER UNIVERSITY FEES ARE DISPERSED BY POLICE USING TEAR GAS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 11 (JTA) -- Police used tear gas to disperse an unruly demonstration by Hebrew University students protesting increased tuition fees Wednesday. The Jerusalem demonstration followed a larger but slightly less unruly protest at Tel Aviv University Tuesday. Other protests are being organized in universities nationwide.

In Wednesday's protest, the students were to have gathered on the campus and then marched in an orderly fashion to the Prime Minister's office. But they suddenly swerved from their announced and licenced path and surged towards the Finance Ministry building and tried to enter.

Mounted and foot policemen used tear gas to force them back towards the Jerusalem Rose Garden north of the government complex. One student was injured in the clash and Uriel Ben-Hur, chairman of the Hebrew University Students Union, and seven other students were detained.

The students thereupon sat down on the ground and said they would not leave until their companions were released. Demonstrators were also arrested.

In Tuesday's demonstration in Tel Aviv, a large police force clashed with thousands of students outside Tel Aviv University, when demonstrators protesting against increased university tuition fees tried to move their campus protest into the streets outside in a march towards the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway. Eight students were arrested, but there were no injuries.

Some 2,000 students, from Tel Aviv University with fraternal delegations from other universities throughout the country, opened their protest by singing songs on campus. Speakers protested plans to raise tuition fees again. They want the fees reduced from the present \$1,300 a year level to the previous \$800.

But the Finance Ministry demands an increase to \$1,400, while the universities themselves say they cannot operate the establishments unless the fees are raised to match government subsidies.

The demonstrating students dispersed after the eight detained during a shoving match between police and students were released.

LEAFLETS DEPICT JEWS AS CHILD KILLERS

TORONTO, March 11 (JTA) -- Leaflets depicting Jews as child killers, received by at least 13 day-care centers in Winnipeg, may be linked to the "Aryan Nation," a white supremacist, anti-Semitic group active in the U.S. and Canada, according to police investigating the mailings.

They were sent from a fictitious company in Penhold, Alberta, near where an "Aryan Nations" group is located. Sgt. Ted Waller said a special crime unit assigned to the case will extend its investigation into Alberta. The Manitoba Child Care Association has instructed its agencies to turn over such material to the police.

The leaflets accuse Jews of killing Christian babies and try to link the unsolved deaths of hundreds of North American children to a "Jewish conspiracy," Israel Ludwig, vice president of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, said.

**TUTU PRAISES CONTRIBUTION OF SOME SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS TO ANTI-APARTHEID STRUGGLE BUT CONDEMNS ISRAELI LINKS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT****By Maurice Samuelson**

LONDON, March 10 (JTA) -- Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of Cape Town, in a speech to a packed assembly of British Jews, Monday night praised the contribution of some South African Jews to the struggle against apartheid but roundly condemned Israeli links with the South African government.

"Israel's integrity and existence must be guaranteed. But I cannot understand how a people with your history would have a state that would collaborate in military matters with South Africa and carry out policies that are a mirror image of some of the things from which your people suffered," he said.

"I am very firmly opposed to apartheid and will oppose anything that helps it, from whatever sources," he said. The Nobel Peace Prize winner was speaking at the Yakar Jewish Educational Foundation in Northwest London at the beginning of a three-day visit to Britain. The audience included former South African political prisoner Denis Goldberg.

In a 90-minute address, punctuated with frequent quotations from the Bible and warm references to the Jewish people, Tutu drew repeated comparisons between the suffering of his fellow Blacks at the hands of the apartheid regime and of Jews under the Nazis.

"Your people know what one's talking about, having suffered because you belonged to a particular racial group. You were forced to wear arm bands. We don't carry arm bands... they just have to look at us," Tutu said.

Similarity Between Jewish, Black Suffering

Claiming that apartheid was as evil as Nazism or Communism ever were, he said some of the most terrible things Jews had experienced were happening to his own people. "You don't need gas chambers: when you put children where there's no food, gas chambers would make a neater death," he stated.

"The South African government had destroyed stable communities, three-and-a-half million people had been dumped like rubbish into arid Bantustans. God's children were made to starve by deliberate government policy. Through forcing Black workmen to live 11 months a year away from their families, family life was being deliberately destroyed by a government which had dedicated a special day to the sanctity of family life."

Longs To See 'Shalom' In The Mideast

After briefly questioning Israel's Middle East policies, he spoke approvingly of the massive popular demonstrations in Tel Aviv against the Phalangist massacres in the Palestine refugee camps of Sabra and Shatilla in Beirut.

He also said Israel's integrity and security as a State must be guaranteed and, when questioned about anti-Jewish terrorism, said he had no difficulty in condemning evil from wherever it

comes. "I'd long desperately to see Shalom in that part of the world . . . but I'd hope you would not be responsible and help to make other people refugees," Tutu said.

Earlier, the Archbishop lambasted suggestions that he was anti-Semitic because of his criticism of Israeli policies. "These charges are without foundation and part of an orchestrated campaign of vilification against me by the proponents of apartheid," he declared.

THE COURT ORDERS JUSTICE MINISTER TO RECONSIDER HIS REJECTION OF A REQUEST BY FRANCE TO EXTRADITE NAKASH FOR THE MURDER OF AN ARAB**By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, March 10 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court ordered Justice Minister Avraham Sharir Tuesday to reconsider his decision of last December 4 to reject a request by France for the extradition of William Nakash, convicted in absentia by a French court for the murder of an Algerian Arab in 1983 in Besancon in eastern France.

The ruling, by a five-justice panel with one dissent, was interpreted by legal experts as a clear instruction to the Justice Minister to produce overwhelming reasons to deny extradition. They said the "due time" suggested by the court for Sharir to comply could be from 60-100 days.

The court's decision fell far short of ordering the extradition of Nakash, 26, a Jew of North African origin who escaped from France before his trial and found haven in Israel. It was hailed therefore as a victory by the nationalist and religious elements who support Nakash.

But the Laborite, liberal and leftist groups which demand that Israel, as a nation of law, must extradite the fugitive, saw the high court's order as a rebuke to Sharir for having acted hastily, on insufficient grounds and in disregard of due process. It was a clear victory for law and justice, they said.

The Case Against Extradition

The case against extradition made by Nakash's supporters claims his life would be in jeopardy if he was confined to a French prison. The Orthodox rabbis who back Nakash say his imprisonment in France would make an "aguna" (abandoned woman) of his wife, Rina, whom he married after reaching Israel. Under religious law she could not divorce him if she wished to.

Nationalists, who oppose the extradition of any Jew on principle, claim moreover that Nakash did not commit a criminal act but rather a "defensive act against anti-Semitism" when he killed the Arab, Abdelali Hakkar. But the French court that convicted him found no evidence of anti-Semitism as a motivation for the crime. It was characterized as the outcome of a quarrel between two individuals on the fringes of the underworld in Besancon.

That description was given credence by the fact that one of Nakash's accomplices was an Arab, Hassen Hamoudi, a boyhood friend of Nakash.

Attorney General Yosef Harish who once referred to Nakash as "worthless trash," refused to appear before the Supreme Court to argue on behalf of the Justice Minister.

The court acted on appeals against Sharir's decision by the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), Mapam and six Hebrew University law professors. A counter-appeal was lodged by Likud and the Tehiya Party.

The sole dissent from Tuesday's ruling was made on grounds that the appellants had no direct interest and no legal standing in the case.

Sharir said he and his legal advisors in Israel and abroad would make a careful study of the issues involved before rendering a decision. Nakash meanwhile is confined to jail awaiting the outcome.

KNESSET DEFEATS THREE NON-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF THE POLLARD AFFAIR

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 10 (JTA) -- The Knesset Tuesday easily defeated three non-confidence motions over the government's handling of the Jonathan Pollard affair. Only one coalition member, Mordechai Virshubsky of the Shinui Party, crossed lines to vote with the opposition.

The three most senior members of the Cabinet, Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin demonstratively absented themselves from the Knesset session. They seemed to be underscoring their determination to prevent renewed furor over Pollard to mushroom into a full-fledged judicial inquiry.

In their absence, Likud Transportation Minister Haim Corfu spoke for the government. In a prepared statement he reiterated the government's position that Pollard's espionage mission was a rogue operation of which the government had been unaware, that lessons were learned from it and drastic measures taken to prevent its recurrence.

Pollard, a former civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy, was sentenced to life imprisonment in Washington last week for spying for Israel. His wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard received a five-year sentence as an accessory. The severity of Pollard's sentence seemed to underscore American displeasure with Israel, although the U.S. officially accepted the "rogue operation" explanation.

This triggered demands by several Ministers, Knesset members and the media for a full-scale inquiry. The non-confidence motions were introduced by the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), Mapam and the Progressive List for Peace. CRM MK Yossi Sarid introduced a motion to establish a judicial commission of inquiry.

But informed political observers saw little chance that this would come about despite support from many political figures, including coalition members.

Knesset Unit Probe To Begin Thursday

Instead, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee's special subcommittee on intelligence will begin a probe of its own on Thursday, Committee chairman Abba Eban announced Monday. Eban said the first to testify will be Defense Minister Rabin. The hearings will be held in camera. Shamir announced Sunday that

the Inner Cabinet (five Labor and five Likud Ministers) would convene in closed session Wednesday to consider the issue in depth. But there was no suggestion of any investigation although at least one member of the Inner Cabinet, Ezer Weizman, forcefully favors one.

Shamir, meanwhile, sought to distance Israel from Pollard. Speaking to reporters during a visit to Migdal Ha'emek Tuesday, he said that the Pollard family's predicament "may be a humanitarian problem or a moral problem but it is not a problem with which the State of Israel has to concern itself."

He added that "The State of Israel has no connection with Pollard or his family. The State of Israel did not hire him and did not assign him espionage missions."

INDIA'S JEWS SEEK VISAS FOR THEIR ISRAELI RELATIVES

NEW YORK, March 10 (JTA) -- India's Jews have asked Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to intercede on behalf of their Israeli relatives facing difficulties in seeking to visit India, the World Jewish Congress reported here.

In a letter to Gandhi, Prof. Nissim Ezekiel, president of the Council of Indian Jewry, outlined the problems that Jews of Indian origin living in Israel have in obtaining a visa to come to India.

In his letter he pointed out that until 1983 "our relations desirous of visiting India and Bombay were having no problem whatsoever," noting that upon arrival at any Indian airport visas for a 30-day stay were routinely issued by the Indian authorities.

But a change in the procedure since then required that visas be obtained in advance from an Indian embassy abroad. Because there is no Indian embassy in Israel, Ezekiel noted, "our relations and ourselves find it extremely difficult to meet in India."

An alternative procedure, by which a visa application can be made to the Consulate Officer in Bombay, has not remedied the problem, he added. Ezekiel pointed out that these applications, going back as far as July 1986, have not been responded to.

Administrative Solutions Proposed

"Under these circumstances, may we request you to be so kind so as to solve our difficulties in receiving a visa for our relations in Israel who desire to visit India," Ezekiel's letter asks. He stressed the hardships caused to those Jews attempting to come to India "to meet their relations in times of their joy and/or sorrow, i.e., in times of marriage and/or in times of serious ailments of their relations, and/or death."

Ezekiel proposed a number of administrative solutions, including special endorsement of passports with the words "of Indian origin" and reinstitution of the previous practice of visas being issued upon arrival at Indian airports.

The Council of Indian Jewry represents the country's 7,000 Jews and is a national member of the World Jewish Congress. The Council had forwarded its letter dated January 20 to WJC president Edgar Bronfman in New York and asked for his intervention in this matter.

In a letter sent Tuesday, WJC secretary general Israel Singer asked India's Ambassador to Washington, H. E. Pratap Kishan Kaul, to assist in having his government rectify the situation.

DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN SOLIDARITY WITH JEWISH WOMEN IN THE SOVIET UNION ON A HUNGER STRIKE TO PROTEST THE CONTINUED DENIAL OF EXIT VISAS

By Susan Birnbaum and Margie Olster
(New York) and Judith Colp (Washington)

March 10 (JTA) -- At demonstrations in major cities all over the U.S. and by telephone calls to the USSR, Americans expressed solidarity this week with some 60 Jewish women in the Soviet Union on a hunger strike to protest the continued denial of exit visas to Jews, some of whom applied for them as long as 15 years ago.

The fasting began Saturday night, to coincide with International Women's Day in the Soviet Union, a Socialist holiday. On Sunday night, the ongoing struggle of refuseniks was described in detail to members of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry by Natan Sharansky, who spent nine years in the Soviet Gulag before he was freed and allowed to go to Israel in February 1986.

On Monday morning, a large crowd, mainly Jewish women, demonstrated outside the Soviet Mission to the United Nations. They all wore yellow ribbons, each inscribed with the name of a woman hunger striker in Moscow, Leningrad or other Soviet cities. The yellow ribbon has become a symbol for the release of hostages.

NA'AMAT USA, The Women's Labor Zionist Organization of America, placed a telephone call from its New York office Monday to Nellie Shpeizman, a hunger striker, in her apartment in Leningrad. Lydia Cutler, a NA'AMAT member who speaks Russian, told Shpeizman: "I want you to know that we are with you all the way. We love you and understand how strong-willed and brave you are, how difficult your life is."

In Washington, Rep. Constance Morella (R. Md.) spoke by telephone from her Capitol Hill office to Lev Shapiro in Leningrad, whose wife Leah was among those fasting. She said she was concerned about his family. "All of us here care very much about individual freedom and the ability to leave a country for another one," Morella told Shapiro who has been seeking to leave the Soviet Union since 1977.

Sharansky Presents Freedom Award

Sharansky, who changed his name shortly after he was reunited with his wife Avital in Israel last year, attended the Annual Freedom Dinner of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry at the Sands in Atlantic Beach, L.I., Sunday night to personally present its annual Anatoly Shcharansky Freedom Award for 1987 to New York State Sen. Norman Levy, who was cited for his fight for human rights in the Soviet Union. Fourteen previous award winners, all civic, political and community leaders, were also honored.

Sharansky was accompanied by his mother Ida Milgrom and his brother Leonid, who were allowed to leave the Soviet Union several months after his departure. Milgrom spoke in Russian, translated by Leonid.

Also present was Lev Blitshtein, released only three weeks ago after a 12-year struggle for an exit visa.

At a press conference preceding the dinner, Sharansky cautioned against placing too much trust in Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's publicly proclaimed policy of "glasnost" (openness). He said an example of the hollowness of the new "liberalization" was the death in Israel last week of

Soviet emigre Michael Shirman from leukemia. Had his sister, Inessa Fleurova been allowed to leave Moscow for Israel a year earlier, when she first applied, he might have been saved by the bone marrow transplant for which she was the only suitable donor.

Two Tragic Cases Cited

Sharansky also referred to the death from cancer in Washington last month of another long-term refusenik, Inna Meiman, who might have been kept alive had she been allowed to go to the West earlier for treatment.

The Shirman and Meiman cases were examples of Soviet foot-dragging and meanness, Sharansky charged. They are "trying to raise the price they can get from public opinion," he said.

Nevertheless, he held out hope for other refuseniks whose struggle seems doomed if recent Soviet statements are to be believed. Eight were told last month that they were "never to leave." But, Sharansky said, "As you know from the past, when the KGB says 'never,' sometimes it becomes a little bit shorter.

"They do it to frighten people -- to draw attention to facts and increase the price. We see how contradictory are their own statements." He spoke of 15-year refusenik Vladimir Raiz who was told "don't come back till the year 2000" to apply for an exit visa.

It is a game of mental torture, Sharansky said, noting that Raiz was part of a "big wave of 300 new refusals" since the Soviets' new "liberalized" emigration regulations took effect on January 1.

Soviet policy and statements are two-faced, one for the outside world, another internal, he said "Gorbachev's real concern is not human rights, it's his economy," Sharansky said.

The Fate Of The Hunger-Striking Women

Ida Milgrom appeared at the rally outside the Soviet Mission Monday to read the names of the hunger-striking Jewish women in the USSR which were written on the yellow ribbons worn by the protestors. Many of them were friends, acquaintances and other people she had promised not to forget when she left Moscow.

"I know these women well, I was close to them. Their fate is connected with our activity here," Milgrom said. Other speakers were Brooklyn District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman and New York City Council member Ruth Messinger.

The demonstration was sponsored by the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, Women's American ORT, B'nai B'rith Women and NA'AMAT USA. It was mounted at the request of 60 Soviet women to publicize their plight and their hunger strike.

The women sent a message to their supporters here noting that "For 10 years or more . . . we have been ousted from the social and communal life of Soviet society . . . almost all of us women and our husbands, as well, are deprived of the right to work in our professional fields . . . After many years of work in under-qualified jobs, our professional qualifications have deteriorated."

The women noted that in addition to loss of their jobs they were subject to anti-Zionist, anti-Israel propaganda and kept under surveillance by security authorities. Their appeal for help was signed by women from Moscow, Leningrad, Bendery, Kiev and Riga.

The telephone calls to the Soviet Union reached individual refuseniks but were heartening to the entire emigration movement. Shpeizman

told Cutler of NA'AMAT that there were many people in her apartment listening to their conversation. Her case is especially desperate.

"I want you to know that we are fighting not only for our right to leave Russia, but also for the actual life of my husband, who has bone cancer. He doesn't have much time to waste. Please let people know about it," she urged.

Rep. Morella's telephone call to Lev Shapiro was prompted by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Morella, a member of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, promised she would try to do something about letters not being delivered to Shapiro and said she would write to him shortly.

Shapiro and his wife have two children. He lost his job as a computer engineer after applying for an exit permit and is now doing menial work.

"But he said that wasn't important," Morella told reporters. "He was ebullient and very upbeat. He kept repeating his gratitude and the need for us to be together and that you can't give up hope."

ZORINSKY AND ISRAEL

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- Sen. Edward Zorinsky (D. Neb.), who died after suffering a heart attack last Friday night, was a supporter of Israel, but was not considered among the leading advocates of the Jewish State in the Senate.

One of eight Jews in the current Senate, Zorinsky frequently did not vote with Israel's supporters, particularly when it came to arms for Saudi Arabia.

The most dramatic occasion was in the 1981 vote on the Reagan Administration's sale of AWACs and other equipment to the Saudis.

Zorinsky had voted against the Carter Administration's sale of F-15s to Saudi Arabia and had originally opposed the Reagan Administration sale of AWACs in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of which he was a member.

But after an 11th-hour meeting at the White House with President Reagan as the resolution to disapprove the sale was going to the Senate floor, he switched his vote to support the sale.

Since then, he approved all sales to the Saudis and voted last year against overriding Reagan's veto of the Congressional resolution to reject the sale of missiles to the Saudis.

Pro-Israel Actions

However, Zorinsky did co-sponsor resolutions in 1983 and 1985 against selling arms to Jordan until King Hussein agrees to negotiations with Israel.

He also joined in as a co-sponsor of a 1984 bill calling for the United States to move its Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. But he did not sign a 1983 letter urging Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to return the Egyptian Ambassador to Israel.

Zorinsky, a conservative, frequently voted against the foreign aid bills, despite the appropriations for Israel. This went against a trend in Congress, where support for Israel is seen as the main factor for winning approval of the overall foreign aid program.

Zorinsky was born in Omaha on November 11, 1928, the son of a Russian Jewish immigrant. After doing postgraduate work at Harvard, he

returned to Omaha to run his family's wholesale tobacco and candy business.

He was elected Mayor of Omaha in 1973. A lifelong Republican, Zorinsky switched parties when he was not selected as the Republican candidate for the Senate in 1976. He won the Democratic Party primary and went on to become the first Jew to win a statewide election in Nebraska. He was re-elected in 1982 for a term that would have expired in 1988.

Zorinsky died after collapsing after performing in a song-and-dance routine at the Omaha Press Club. Funeral services were held Sunday in Omaha.

U.S. JEWS URGED TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN SOCIAL ISSUES

WASHINGTON, March 10 (JTA) -- A prominent political and social commentator warned the Jewish community that it must not allow the "delegitimization of criticism" that has evolved under President Reagan to deter it from helping to correct domestic social ills.

Leon Wieseltier, literary editor of The New Republic and a frequent writer on political issues, told leaders of the American Jewish Congress meeting here that six years of Reagan's tenure has made criticism of any aspect of American society suspect.

Reagan's main achievement since taking office has been to paper over a wide range of contradictory policies with a "belief in the primacy of enthusiasm," Wieseltier told the AJCongress 1987 National Domestic Policy Conference at the Shoreham Hotel. He said the President's emphasis on enthusiasm as a solution to all social ills has led to the "delegitimization of criticism" and the equation of criticism with disloyalty to American society.

Three Areas Of Importance

Wieseltier, whose topic was "1988 and Beyond: Shaping America After Reagan," said the task of the American Jewish community should be to help deal with concrete problems. He outlined three areas he said will be of particular importance.

Civil rights, he said, are subject of "moral and historical delicacy." Incidents such as that in Howard Beach have illustrated the fact that while great progress has been made in civil rights, and the nation has evolved into a non-racist society, there continue to be "vast pockets of racism," making it imperative that efforts to advance civil rights not be allowed to falter.

The constitutional principle of church-state separation must also be "drastically and passionately reaffirmed," Wieseltier said. "That is not to say that religion should be banned from the private realm, but it is of absolute importance that religion be kept out of the public realm. Even though this is a country largely populated by Christians, it is not a Christian country."

Wieseltier also urged the Jewish community to help in the "rehabilitation of the welfare state." While acknowledging the danger of abuses and corruption in government programs, he contended that such a risk does not outweigh the importance of assisting those who need it. "The real danger" he said, "is that the moral duty of government to help people who cannot help themselves will be delegitimized."

**ISRAEL JETS HIT TERRORIST TARGETS**

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Israel Air Force jets attacked terrorist targets near Sidon in south Lebanon at dawn Thursday and returned safely to their bases, a military spokesman announced. Light anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The raid was the fifth this year on terrorist strongholds in Lebanon.

According to military sources, the targets were a group of buildings on the outskirts of Mich-Mieh, south of Sidon, used as terrorist headquarters and for planning attacks on Israel. Direct hits were scored.

Beirut radio reported Thursday that two persons were killed and five were wounded, three of them Palestinians, in the 10-minute attack. Rescue workers were reported to be checking the rubble for other casualties.

POLICE BREAK UP RALLY IN MOSCOW FOR THE RELEASE OF IOSIF BEGUN

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- About 50 Soviet secret police forcefully broke up a demonstration in Moscow Thursday for the release of Dr. Iosif Begun and detained seven of the demonstrators, including Begun's wife Inna, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported here.

Members of the foreign press were shoved and kicked according to eyewitness reports, SSSJ said.

Thursday's demonstration was the fourth this week for Begun, who is reported to be the only remaining political prisoner in Chistopol prison. Although Soviet officials have said 140 political prisoners were released in the past week, only releases of some 40 have been confirmed, SSSJ said.

Soviet officials have apparently made Begun's release contingent on his signing an agreement not to continue teaching Hebrew, which Begun has refused to do.

Begun has sought to emigrate to Israel since 1971. He was sentenced in 1983 to seven years in labor camps and five years in internal exile for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" for teaching Hebrew.

RELATIVES OF ISRAELIS KILLED BY TERRORISTS DEMAND THAT GOVERNMENT NOT RELEASE JAILED TERRORISTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Relatives of Israelis killed by terrorists created serious disturbances in the Supreme Court Wednesday and Thursday in connection with their demand for an order restraining the government from freeing jailed terrorists in exchange for Israeli and other hostages held by extremist groups in Lebanon.

The government insists it has no intention of negotiating such a deal. A three-judge panel of the high court postponed a hearing that was due Thursday until police ascertained whether the persons who lodged the appeal were among the demonstrators.

The bereaved relatives were infuriated because the panel refused to issue a restraining

order without a prior hearing. The court held that the demonstrations were a form of public pressure which could not be countenanced. The panel consists of Justices Avraham Halima, Avraham Barak and Eliezer Goldberg. They called in police to disperse the demonstrators.

The Attorney General's office, responding to the appeal, said there was no truth to reports of an impending prisoner-hostage swap. It stated that any consideration of efforts to secure the release of Israeli prisoners held by a "cruel enemy" would take into account the feelings of the families of victims of terrorism. But the government also has a duty to ensure the safety and freedom of its soldiers and the pros and cons will be carefully weighed before any decisions are taken, the statement said.

NEW VIOLENCE IN WEST BANK, GAZA STRIP
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Violence erupted anew in the West Bank and Gaza Strip Wednesday and Thursday as Israeli security forces dispersed rock-throwing gangs with tear gas and arrested 30 Palestinian youths in a sweep of the Balata refugee camp near Nablus.

A Palestinian boy was wounded by gunfire after Israeli vehicles were stoned in the vicinity of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. He was taken to a Gaza hospital. An investigation was ordered to find out who fired the shot. Israeli forces used tear gas after the windshield of one vehicle was shattered.

Jewish settlers from Katiff in the Gaza Strip tried to block the main highway to Arab traffic. Israeli troops and border police forced them to leave.

Rioting in the West Bank was centered in Nablus, Ramallah and Hebron Thursday to protest the arrests at Balata. Israeli sources said nine of the 30 youths taken into custody have been placed in administrative detention for three to six months. They are aged 19-25 and are suspected of incitement, stone-throwing, raising Palestinian flags and harassing residents of the refugee camp who allegedly cooperate with the Israeli authorities.

Administrative detention means incarceration without formal charges or trial. More than 50 Palestinians are presently in administrative detention.

Incidents In Three Cities

In Nablus, youthful rioters stoned Joseph's Tomb where Gush Emunim followers have established a yeshiva. Later they stoned Israeli soldiers who came to restore order. Al-Rwdah College in Nablus was ordered closed for the day.

At Hebron University, tear gas was used to drive students back to the campus after they raised a Palestinian flag and stoned passing vehicles.

Stones were thrown at Israeli vehicles in Ramallah. The drivers fired shots into the air but the roads were not cleared until security forces arrived with tear gas.

According to Israeli sources, the disturbances Thursday were motivated in part by anger over

reports that Palestinians are starving in refugee camps near Beirut maintained by the Shiite Amal militia.

Gang Of Arms Smugglers Uncovered

Security forces announced, meanwhile, that they uncovered a gang in the Hebron area smuggling arms and explosives from Jordan by truck. They were reportedly recruited by El Fatah and for the past six months have been concealing the weapons in trucks carrying goods across the Jordan River bridges into the West Bank.

The authorities have ordered a two-day halt in truck traffic over the bridges, starting Friday, in order to improve checking and security arrangements.

AT THE JNF ASSEMBLY:

U.S. ENVOY LAUDS U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS

By Susan Birnbaum

(Editor's note: Susan Birnbaum is presently in Israel to cover the Jewish National Fund of America's Third National Assembly. Her article on P. 3 datelined New York was written just before she left for Israel.)

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Thomas Pickering, United States Ambassador to Israel, told the opening convocation of the Jewish National Fund of America that U.S. - Israel relations "couldn't be better, and our capabilities to withstand what always arises in the relationship between two countries as close as ours" surmount the obstacles of "the Pollard case and what has come up in the past year."

Pickering arrived at the opening ceremonies of the JNF Third National Assembly in Israel, in the community center of Neve Eliezer in Tel Aviv's Hatikva quarter, directly from the Ramat Aviv airport, where he witnessed the arrival of the first three F-16C fighter jets, which he called "an indication of the renewed cooperation between our countries" and the "further strengthening of the very significant strategic relationship between Israel and the United States." He spoke of U.S. "commitment to provide Israel with a qualitative edge."

Pickering referred favorably to the recent visit to Israel and the Middle East by a senior U.S. government official -- presumably Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy -- as an indication of strong cooperation for the Middle East peace process, which Pickering called "second to nothing" among American priorities.

Although "we have a way to go," he said, it is possible to find some acceptable Palestinian participation "to come forward with King Hussein." Pickering added that he felt "cautiously optimistic."

In the spheres of military and defense cooperation between the two countries and U.S. aid to Israel, Pickering said that following U.S. aid to Israel's military security and her economic stability, Israel has now taken "a number of very difficult decisions to bring its economy first into a period of stability and restructuring."

Israel, he said, is "now facing a series of hard economic decisions, taken after close consultations with the U.S., to try to mold the economy from what I call a plateau of stability into an era of economic growth."

This would not be easy, he said, but he looked forward to the opening of the capital

market in Israel to the private sector, the privatization of public companies, and the process of tax reform.

B'NAI B'RITH LEADER APPEALS DIRECTLY TO THE POPE TO INTERVENE TO HAVE A CONVENT AT AUSCHWITZ RELOCATED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith, appealed directly to Pope John Paul II Wednesday "to intervene" to have a Carmelite convent being established on the site of the Auschwitz death camp relocated to another site not marked by Jewish suffering.

Reich, in a letter to the Vatican Ambassador to the U.S., Archbishop Pio Laghi, referred to the group of Carmelite nuns who have occupied a building on the site of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp since 1984 and with permission of the Polish government intend to establish a convent there.

Reich noted that "World Jewry -- along with much of the rest of the world -- recognizes Auschwitz, in fact and in symbol, as the ghastly emblem of Hitler's genocide against European Jewry." He added that the presence of another religious group there "distorts" the unique experience of the Holocaust.

"Recently, one of our European representatives -- Samuel Hoffenberg of Paris, a French citizen of Polish birth -- met with Church leaders in Poland in hope of resolving this problem. He was not encouraged by what he heard," Reich wrote.

"I am therefore appealing directly to the Vatican -- and to His Holiness John Paul II -- to intervene directly so that the Carmelite convent can be relocated outside the Auschwitz grounds."

A 1972 UNESCO Convention -- signed by Poland and 13 other countries -- requires "the Auschwitz site to remain unchanged as an historic reminder of what took place there during World War II," Reich noted. He added: "To permit the convent to remain in its present location is to do a monumental injustice to the memory of six million Jewish martyrs. We sincerely hope the Holy See will recognize how deeply world Jewry feels about this and take steps to correct the situation."

KIMCHE READY TO COOPERATE WITH SENATE PANEL PROBING U.S.-IRAN ARMS SALES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- David Kimche, former Director General of the Foreign Ministry who was one of the top Israeli officials most closely linked to the U.S.-Iran arms sale, said that he is ready to cooperate with the U.S. authorities investigating the affair.

Asked by an Israel Radio interviewer if he was ready to give evidence to U.S. investigators, Kimche said, "I am doing whatever the government of Israel asks me to do. I shall certainly be very happy to cooperate. It is a positive thing to cooperate."

He added, "But I shall be doing what I can, within the framework of what the government of Israel decides, together with the government of the U.S." Israel has already stated that it would not permit its officials to testify before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence conducting the probe but would reply to its questions in writing.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE CAUSE THAT BINDS By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (JTA) -- A rabbi from Johannesburg and a Black minister from Soweto are working together in a common cause to end injustice and oppression of the Black population of South Africa. Both are outspoken opponents of the system of apartheid and both share the view that only swift action can defuse a ticking time bomb.

For Rabbi Ben Isaacson and Rev. Zacharia Mokgoebo action does not mean pious phrases and shibboleths. Merely speaking out against apartheid is not enough, they asserted during an interview here with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"Speeches are speeches. Sermons are sermons. Statements are statements. It's very nice to hear someone say he's in favor of justice," said Isaacson. "Who's against justice and righteousness? It is only action, it is only commitment, and the credibility of the Jewish community in the Black community depends on the action they take, not on statements they make."

Mokgoebo (pronounced Mo-khwebo) agreed with his colleague and pointed out the imperative need to take action, and soon. "There's no doubt that we have only a grim, bleak future in South Africa. There is no sign that the government is willing to negotiate or to stop the system that generates violence. The government itself is violent. So the future is very bleak, actually."

An Imperative Mission

The two men, softspoken and thoughtful, are in the United States for a six-week speaking tour to win support for non-racial Centers for Justice and Peace in South Africa. The two religious leaders said that the underpinning of their mission is a common belief in God and the principle that all men are created equal. Isaacson and Mokgoebo have been working together for a year on the South African chapter of the World Conference on Religion and Peace.

Their campaign for justice and peace centers, just beginning, got off to a good start in Europe where they visited before coming to the U.S. They said that in Amsterdam, support was pledged by Liberal Rabbi Avraham Soetendorp who formed an ad hoc committee to solicit support for their centers, which will need considerable funding. They also garnered church support in The Netherlands. Support was also forthcoming in Springfield, Mass., their first stop in the U.S., where the Springfield Council of Churches is studying their project.

Calls For Immediate Changes

Isaacson, a rabbi for 27 years, has spoken out against apartheid during his entire career, befriending and working with the best-known activists in his country, including Nelson and Winnie Mandela, Rev. Allan Boesak, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The 50-year-old Liberal rabbi, who was ordained as an Orthodox rabbi and studied in Brooklyn at Yeshiva Chaim Berlin, is clear in his message: he brooks no tolerance of "liberalism" in the struggle to bring justice for all humans in his home, calling instead for immediate changes to bring the vote, and total equality, to all.

For his constant participation in anti-apartheid activities, the rabbi has paid dearly in his congregation. Three years ago, he said, there

were 300 people in attendance at Shabbat services. The number dwindled to about 35 by last fall, when he was on a solo speaking tour of the U.S. However, since then, the number of congregants at the Houghton Independent Congregation of Har-El has increased a bit, offering a ray of optimism in a situation that both he and his colleague described as "bleak and grim."

Mokgoebo, a 35-year-old minister of the Dutch Reformed Church (Black Church), went through the entire segregated school system of South Africa. He received a Masters in Theology in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and studied for a doctorate in theology at the Free University in Amsterdam, an undertaking cut short by the death of his parents in South Africa.

Since 1975, Mokgoebo has been national organizer of the Belydendekring, a group of non-white dissident ministers of the Dutch Reformed Church founded by Boesak. He has also been a leader in the compilation of the Kairos Document, which espouses liberation theology. He is a member of the Civic Association of Soweto, continuously in a state of confrontation with the Pretoria regime. Mokgoebo's participation in the Dutch Reformed Church links him with Black ministers in America, specifically in the Black caucus of the Reformed Church of America.

Asked what he tells his congregants about God, and how he explains their suffering under apartheid in the context of their belief in God, Mokgoebo said that he tells them that "every human being is created in the image of God, and that God is not a God who justifies and sanctions slavery of whatever kind -- oppression of whatever kind. Instead, the tradition of the Bible is that God liberates people from slavery -- is liberating us, and calling us to be liberated today in a situation from apartheid, slavery and oppression."

Role Of Jews In South Africa

One of the founders of an organization in South Africa, Jews for Justice, Isaacson spoke strongly about the role of Jews in South Africa, who, both men noted, are perceived as members of the white community, and, therefore, identified as oppressors. "Now I run into the difficulties," said Isaacson, "because I have been accused of being an anti-Semite and all sort of things."

The Jews in South Africa, said Isaacson, "have a unique Jewish historical situation. It's unique because our parents and grandparents came to escape persecution and made us part of a persecutor system by coming to live in South Africa because Jews were accepted as whites. So for the first time in Jewish history, virtually, we could find such a situation. We have to research it. Jews are part of the oppressive society."

"From being the oppressed, we became part of the oppressors. And this obviously is at the crux of what an opponent of apartheid has to say within the Jewish framework in South Africa. My whole ministry has been devoted to this, 27 years of it. This has been my struggle."

Isaacson said that Jews have lived as part of the white community, regarded totally as such. He spoke of 1985 as a "watershed year," when at a conference of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies a statement was made attacking apartheid. He said that "For 25 years I called upon them to denounce apartheid." For those 25 years, Isaacson said, "The answer was, and it was worded as follows: 'There is no Jewish viewpoint on political issues. Jews vote according to their

conscience as citizens of the country." But, he added, Jews in South Africa have always been involved in the struggle against apartheid on an individual level.

He noted that the Board's statement might be a case of too little and too late. Isaacson said that by jumping on the "bandwagon" that even white leaders of the Pretoria government were allegedly espousing, statements "didn't change their actions. A statement attacking apartheid is not worth the paper it's written on unless you follow it up by saying what it means."

'A National Alliance'

But what does it mean to be against apartheid, he asked. "To the Black majority," said Isaacson, being against apartheid means "you must release Nelson Mandela; you must un-ban political organizations that are banned; you must lift the state of emergency; you must remove soldiers who are occupying the Black townships, and the schools in the Black townships, from those areas; and above all, you must say that you will work toward a one-person, one-vote state, which means majority Black. This inevitably will happen -- as I'm sitting here, I'm telling you it will happen--but unfortunately, they (the government) won't do it now. They'll do it only after bloodshed."

Blacks and Jews, said Isaacson, "are a natural alliance. But I must point out that in South Africa our alliance goes further. It's an alliance with Islam, as well, because basically the people are Moslems in our country. And it's an alliance with Hinduism. It's persecuted people who are Hindus in our country. And that's why our inter-faith group called the World Conference for Religions and Peace, South African Chapter, is involved in this project. All oppressed people . . . it's a natural."

Israel-South African Relations

When asked about the issue of Israel-South African relations, and arms sales, Isaacson insisted that he refuses to scapegoat Israel.

Isaacson recalled that "there was a time when Israel took a different stand. After the Sharpeville massacre (1961), Israel was one of the first countries to vote for sanctions against South Africa in the Security Council of the United Nations, when Golda Meir was Foreign Minister. And the South African government got very angry and took its anger out on the Jews, those Jews who say how well they've been treated in South Africa."

"They (the Pretoria regime) immediately stopped all money going to Israel, for at least eight years, till after the Six-Day War. Israel's relations with Africa got screwed up." But Israel changed and Africa changed "and Israel became involved in military arrangements with South Africa."

Isaacson has spoken out against this, and, he said, "Every time we brought this to the attention of Israel -- people like myself and Desmond Tutu -- he's been called an anti-Semite for attacking Israel." That's not true, Isaacson insisted.

Tutu and Isaacson will travel together to Israel next year at the invitation of Peace Now in Israel. "The fact is that when in Israel, we will tell them exactly what we think because Desmond doesn't ask for people's permission to say what he thinks. But at the same time, having said all this, we have no right to make Israel the scape

goat and to join the international lynch party against Israel, because Israel's involvement in South Africa is part of western involvement in South Africa. It cannot be seen in a vacuum."

The Danger Facing South Africa's Jews

Isaacson insisted that the danger to Jews in South Africa comes not from the critics of Israel's involvement with his country, but from the rightwing in South Africa, the party of Eugene Terre Blanche, who, says Isaacson, "is not a neo-Nazi, he's a Nazi. He's had rallies of 10,000-15,000 people, where they use an insignia that is similar to the swastika. They sing German folk-songs. They have said openly that Jews should be excluded from public life. They speak about the Jewish-Communist conspiracy. They're Nazis. So if he comes into power, we'll have some gas chambers in South Africa."

"But the Jewish community, the establishment, looks for anti-Semitism in Desmond Tutu. And there under its nose, is Nazism, which is not banned by the Pretoria regime. Only Black liberation struggle is banned."

Together, Isaacson and Mokgoebo plan to set up many centers for justice in which people of all races, Black, colored, Indian, white, will learn together. They have plans to establish training programs for Black youth to learn business skills. There will be encounter groups. "It will not be a meditation center," Isaacson observed wryly. They mean business.

KRIEGER RESIGNS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb.12 (JTA) -- Richard Krieger has resigned as executive director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, a post he has held since May 1986.

Krieger told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Wednesday that he had accepted his post to work with Elie Wiesel, then the Council's chairman, and when Wiesel resigned as chairman in December he said, "I decided to leave."

He said he held up his resignation until February 6 when President Reagan appointed a new chairman, Harvey Meyerhoff, a Baltimore developer and philanthropist.

A former executive director of the Jewish Federation of North Jersey, Krieger came to Washington in 1980 as the Jewish liaison with the Republican National Committee. He then served in the State Department as associate U.S. coordinator for refugee affairs.

In his letter of resignation to Reagan, Krieger noted that "Your dedication to remembering the lessons of the Holocaust is a cornerstone of this Administration."

"You have demonstrated an overwhelming compassion and a willingness to take political risks on behalf of the United States to bring human beings to safety and freedom when you wholeheartedly supported and permitted my initiatives to rescue Ethiopian Jewry." He added for "that alone" Reagan will be "recorded in the annals of history."

Krieger, who now plans to do international consulting, also expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Council which is planning and raising funds for a Holocaust Museum to be built here. Reagan is expected to name a successor to Krieger soon.

**U.S. GRAND JURY INDICTS ISRAELI
COL. SELLA FOR CONSPIRING TO
SPY ON U.S. WITH POLLARD**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- Israeli Air Force Col. Aviem Sella was indicted Tuesday by a federal grand jury on three charges of espionage.

Sella was charged with conspiring to deliver classified U.S. military information to Israel with Jonathan Pollard, a U.S. Navy analyst who has confessed to spying for the Israelis, and several Israelis.

The charge carries a maximum of life imprisonment and a fine of \$500,000. However, Sella is not expected to stand trial, as the U.S. extradition treaty with Israel does not include espionage.

Sella recently was promoted to commander of Israel's second largest air base, a move which angered the U.S. State Department, which said it expected Israel to "call to account" anyone involved in the Pollard case.

Sella was Pollard's first contact in providing Israel with classified national defense documents, according to the indictment. Sella was a graduate student in New York at the time. The other Israelis mentioned in the conspiracy, but not indicted, were Rafi Eitan, an Israeli counterterrorism specialist; Yosef Yagur, who at the time was science attache at the Israeli Consulate in New York; and Irit Erb, who was a secretary in the Israeli Embassy here.

Pollard and his wife, Anne Henderson Pollard, who is charged with helping her husband, are scheduled to be sentenced Wednesday.

**IDF GENERAL STAFF REPORTED TO
HAVE URGED DROPPING LAVI JET**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 3 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force General Staff has recommended abandonment of the Lavi fighter plane project in favor of acquiring additional American-made F-16C jet fighters, according to media reports Tuesday which quoted "well placed sources."

The General Staff proposed that Israel apply the rest of the money slated for the Lavi to other development and procurement programs, the reports said.

The Lavi, Israel's second-generation ground-support fighter aircraft, is being tested by its manufacturer, Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), which plans to put it into production in two years.

But the fate of the project is clouded by American objections to the Lavi on grounds it is too expensive. The F-16C, an advanced aircraft that Israel has equipped with its own computer systems, is less expensive.

According to reports Tuesday, aides to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin are examining several alternatives to the Lavi proposed by U.S. Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Dov Zakheim when he visited Israel in January.

They include building F-16s in Israel or purchasing either F-15, F-18 or Harrier jets.

**SITE OF CREATION OF 'FINAL SOLUTION'
MAY SOON BE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- A 20-year-old idea to turn the site of the formulation of the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question" into a Holocaust documentation center and museum is closer to fruition than ever.

In November, West Berlin is scheduled as the site for a conference with scholars from Germany, Israel, Poland and the United States to plan the memorial in Wannsee Villa, the country house at which over lunch and cocktails on January 20, 1942, Third Reich leaders formulated the idea that resulted in the deaths of millions of Jews.

The plan to establish West Berlin's first Holocaust museum has been controversial since proposed by the German Jewish writer Joseph Wulf. He wrote 18 books on the Third Reich in order to teach the German people their history, but felt compelled to do more.

In August 1974, Wulf wrote to his son David: "I have published 18 books on the Third Reich, and they all had no impact. In Germany you can keep on gathering documents until you die . . ." The elder Wulf committed suicide two months later.

Series Of Mayors

His predictions seemed at first to be correct. Although the proposal to immortalize the Wannsee Villa was initially approved by West Berlin's former Mayor, Willy Brandt, as well as his successor, Heinrich Albertz, and the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Free Democratic Party (FDP) members of the House of Deputies, the idea fell through because of second thoughts by Albertz's successor, Klaus Schuetz, who did not want "a macabre cult site."

A former resistance fighter who was at the time Speaker of the Bundestag (Parliament)--Eugen Gerstenmaier -- also resisted the proposal. Gerstenmaier advocated demolishing the 30-room villa "so as to leave no trace of this place of horror."

Five years ago, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, the chairman of the West Berlin Jewish community, Heinz Galinski, again proposed turning the villa into a Holocaust memorial. Last September, West Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen approved the suggestion.

In December, Dr. Michael Nutkiewicz, director of the Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, was in West Germany at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry for a first-of-its-kind study tour of the teaching and study of Jewish history in West Germany.

Plans Being Finalized, Mayor Said

In West Berlin, Mayor Diepgen and his aide, Dr. Ekkehard Klaus, told Nutkiewicz's group that plans were being finalized for the Wannsee Villa to be turned into a memorial. Nutkiewicz invited Klaus to Los Angeles for the February opening of the feature film "The Wannsee Conference."



Klausa obliged, and at the premiere in Los Angeles read a letter announcing the opening of the Wannsee Villa Memorial. "Berlin is taking up the responsibility of the Third Reich," he said.

There are expectations that by November more documentation will be available on the history of the villa, which for 30 years has been a youth hostel. It was built as a country house by a businessman, then sold to a German firm, Norddeutsche Grundstueck.

In November 1940, the Wannsee Villa was bought by a front organization for the Reich's Security Headquarters of the SS, known as the NORHAV Foundation. It was a resting place for SS officers until February 1943, at which time it was sold to the Reich's police administration and used as a headquarters of Interpol.

In 1945, the villa was seized by Soviet, then American, troops, and became an officers' club. By 1947, it had been sold once more to the SPD's (Social Democratic Party) August Bebel Foundation, and used for political instruction for two years. Since that time it has turned from a place of political teachings to a way station for German youth.

In order to maintain a youth hostel, the West Berlin Senate has offered an alternate site, thus freeing the villa for a transformation into West Germany's first Holocaust museum. It also has been reported that the former Gestapo compound in West Berlin will be designated a memorial.

BRITISH HOME SECRETARY SAYS HE CAN'T INVESTIGATE 17 ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 3 (JTA) -- Home Secretary Douglas Hurd refused to authorize a police inquiry into alleged Nazi war criminals living in Britain on grounds that the evidence presented is "too sketchy" and the alleged crimes were committed outside British jurisdiction.

Hurd made his position clear at a press conference Monday after receiving a delegation from the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center.

The Center had earlier sent his department a list of 17 Latvians, Ukrainians and White Russians alleged to have collaborated with the Nazis in mass murders and other atrocities during World War II and to have settled in Britain after the war.

Hurd denied that Britain ever gave safe haven to war criminals. "I believe we are acting reasonably and sensibly in the situation," he said.

He told the press conference, which was attended by leaders of British Jewry, that he had asked the Wiesenthal Center delegation to "deepen" the evidence in the documents sent to him. But they were not able to do so, Hurd said.

Extradition To USSR Dismissed

He insisted there were no grounds for prosecution. And extradition, especially to the Soviet Union from whose territories most of the accused originate, is out of the question, the Home Secretary declared.

Earlier, Ephraim Zuroff, 34, of New York, who helped compile the dossiers submitted to Hurd, warned that Britain would "stand alone" if it refused to follow the examples of the U.S., Canada and Australia, which have set up government bodies to examine evidence against alleged Nazi war criminals.

So far, only two of the 17 names on the Wiesenthal Center's list have been published here. But Greville Janner, a Labor Member of Parliament, and a former Nuremberg war crimes investigator, said he would invoke his Parliamentary immunity and disclose more of the names in the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, a Scottish television station has compiled a list of 34 additional names of alleged war criminals which it has turned over to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

NEO-NAZI PARTY SETS ELECTION PLANS

BONN, March 3 (JTA) -- A political party that polls just 0.06 percent of the popular vote in a national election would seem to be headed for oblivion. But the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD) took encouragement from that showing in January's Bundestag elections and will participate in upcoming local elections, its leaders have announced.

NPD was heartened because under federal law any party which exceeds 0.05 percent in an election is eligible for generous public funding. The 250,000 votes cast for the NPD translates into several million Marks. This will allow it to broaden its organizational structure and advance its political activities.

NPD is expected to enter candidates in the state elections in Hesse, Bremen and possibly Hamburg.

Although the leaders concede they have little chance of winning seats in those legislatures, participation in the elections will give the NPD a chance to show it has solid, though marginal, support among the electorate.

Of the several neo-Nazi political groups in the Federal Republic, the NPD is the most "respectable" and the oldest. It had some success in State parliamentary elections in the 1970s, but soon faded and presently holds no seats in any legislative body.

DENVER TO SEEK BIDS TO MOVE GOLDA'S HOME FROM CITY PARK

Intermountain Jewish News

DENVER, Colo., March 3 (JTA) -- Golda Meir's former residence here has again received a temporary reprieve from the wrecking ball.

A hearing scheduled to explore the fate of the house was postponed, and the City and County of Denver agreed to advertise aggressively for the next 60 days for bids to move the house from the city's Sanderson Gulch Park, where it sits on steel beams, in disrepair.

City officials and members of the local Golda Meir Memorial Association have argued whether the house can be moved safely. This action by the city to entertain bids for moving the structure is seen as a small victory by the Association, according to its president, Mel Cohen.

Golda Meir resided in the duplex in 1913-14. Cohen stated that Mrs. Meir noted on more than one occasion that it was during her years in Denver that her interest in Zionism was sparked.

PARLIAMENT REMEMBERS LEBANESE JEWS

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has welcomed a European Parliament resolution urging the Western democracies to help save the approximately 100 surviving Jews of Lebanon.

The resolution was introduced by Otto Von Habsburg on behalf of the European People's Party, an umbrella group of conservative parties in Europe, and adopted last week by a vote of 124 to one, with two abstentions.

It also asks the member governments of the Community to urge the United States to do "all in its power" on behalf of this small Jewish community and to "inform the Lebanese government of the interest" of the member states in their plight.

Within the past two years, 11 Lebanese Jews, many of them leaders of the one-time large community, have been arrested, according to ADL. Nine of them have been executed and five of the bodies have not been returned for burial. The fate of two remains unknown.

ENTERTAINER KAYE DEAD AT 74

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA)--Actor, singer, dancer and comedian Danny Kaye of Beverly Hills, Calif., died Tuesday morning in Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles from hepatitis and intestinal bleeding. He was 74 years old.

Born David Daniel Kaminsky in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Ukrainian Jewish immigrant parents, the redhead started his entertainment career as a comedian in the "Borscht Belt" hotels in the Catskills.

He starred in dozens of films, among them the classics "Hans Christian Andersen," "White Christmas," "The Inspector General" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

His TV series "The Danny Kaye Show" earned him an Emmy Award and a Peabody Award. He also won an Emmy for a children's special in 1975. His final TV appearance was in 1981 in CBS-TV's "Skokie" as a Holocaust survivor protesting the scheduled Nazi march in Skokie, Ill.

In addition, the versatile artist appeared on Broadway and conducted some of the world's best known symphony orchestras, including the Israel Philharmonic.

Kaye also was the long-time official ambassador-at-large for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. He adored performing for children around the world.

He visited Israel numerous times and often entertained Israeli soldiers.

He was released last week after a three-week hospitalization, and was readmitted Sunday.

BAKER WAS FRIENDLY TO ISRAEL IN SENATE, BUT VOTED FOR ARAB ARMS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- Former Sen. Howard Baker, who began his duties Monday as White House Chief of Staff, was considered friendly toward Israel during his 18 years in the Senate.

However, the 61-year-old Tennessee Republican, was not considered among the leading supporters of Israel in Congress.

In particular, Baker rejected efforts to deny arms to Arab countries that were considered enemies of Israel. As Senate Majority Leader in 1981, he was instrumental in preventing Senate rejection of the Reagan Administration's sale of AWACS and other sophisticated equipment to Saudi Arabia.

In 1978, Baker also voted against the effort to block the Carter Administration's sale of F-15s to the Saudis and F-5Es to Egypt.

Thus, in his new post, Baker is expected to reinforce the Administration's policy of support for Israel while providing arms to such Arab countries as Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

CARTER CAN VISIT SYRIA IF HE WISHES, SAYS STATE DEPARTMENT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- The State Department maintained Tuesday that it has not tried to dissuade former President Carter from visiting Syria when he goes to the Middle East next week.

At the same time, Department deputy spokesperson Phyllis Oakley stressed that Carter was no doubt "aware" of the Reagan Administration's policy of having limited contact with Syria.

"President Carter is a private citizen," Oakley said. "He makes his own decisions. We're confident that he's aware of our policy toward Syria."

She was responding to a published report that the Administration tried to persuade Carter not to go to Syria on his forthcoming trip, which will include visits to Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Algeria.

"It's not for us to object or not to object" if Carter decides to go to Damascus, Oakley said.

She said that the Reagan Administration announced last November 14 a policy of "limiting our political and economic" contacts with Syria because of Syria's support of terrorism. This included "prohibition on high-level visits between Syrian and U.S. officials."

This does not apply to Carter since the ex-President is not a government official, Oakley noted. She added that there was no prohibition on U.S. citizens travelling to Syria.

Carter, who helped bring about the 1978 Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt, has kept up his interest in the Mideast since leaving office.

His current trip to the Mideast will be under the auspices of the Carter Center at Emory University, Atlanta.

Oakley said that the State Department briefed Carter on the countries he will visit. She did not know whether he would report back to the State Department on his findings, but noted that the Department "encourages" visits to the Mideast by private citizens. "We feel it serves a useful purpose," she added.

THIRD WITNESS SAYS DEMJANJUK WAS TREBLINKA GUARD 'IVAN'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 3 (JTA) -- A third witness identified accused war criminal John Demjanjuk Tuesday as the Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

Yosef Tcherny, 61, who was sent to Treblinka from the Warsaw Ghetto when he was 16, told the Jerusalem district court that he had seen Demjanjuk many times operating the gas chambers in which nearly 900,000 Jews perished.

Tcherny said he was put to work sorting out the possessions of those who died and later became the "camp Jew," a servant to the Germans and Ukrainians who ran the camp, the butt of their jokes and target of their kicks and blows.

He wept when he told how a dog the Germans named "Mensch" (Human) was set upon the prisoners with the command, "Mensch, get the

dogs." Two other prosecution witnesses, Eliahu Rosenberg and Pinhas Epstein, identified Demjanjuk as "Ivan the Terrible" earlier in the trial.

MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT MEAT LEAVES SOVIET UNION AFTER 12 YEARS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- A man the Soviets claimed knew too much about meat arrived in New York last Thursday after waiting more than 12 years for an exit visa.

Lev Blitshtein stepped off TWA Flight 703 from Vienna at Kennedy Airport here and, to the joyous strains of a klezmer band, fell into a bear hug with his family, who have been living in the New York area since 1976.

Blitshtein was accompanied by his 80-year-old mother, Polina (Pesya) Froimovna, who had refused to leave her son despite her receipt of a visa in 1980.

Because of his alleged possession of "state secrets," the former chief administrator in the Soviet Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry was denied permission to emigrate 25 times, beginning in 1974. To his surprise, he was told he could leave on January 23.

Were Divorced

But in order to allow his wife Buma to emigrate with their children Boris and Galina, the Blitshteins followed the advice of Soviet emigration authorities and were divorced in 1975.

Since early 1976, Buma, Boris and Galina have lived in Queens, NY. Boris married Helena, his childhood sweetheart, in 1978 after her arrival in the U.S. Galina was married the following week to Vadim Barshai. Boris and Helena recently moved to Manalapan, N.J.

The arrival party, including the band, was mounted by the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry. Lynn Singer, LICSI executive director, has worked for 12 years toward Blitshtein's release. "There's no way to describe this, really," she told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "It has been a Herculean task, like climbing Mt. Everest and being pushed back down repeatedly."

As Blitshtein entered the arrivals area, he was encircled by about 50 people, including family, friends and reporters. Clutching a small American flag, Blitshtein tearfully scooped up the three beautiful grandchildren he had never seen--Galina and Vadim's son, David, 8, and Boris and Helena's children, Marsha, 6, and Allan, 2. A large welcoming banner was held aloft.

The two mothers-in-law, both 80, fell tightly into each other's arms, crying, and speaking to each other in Yiddish. Buma's mother, Mindl Schreiman, has been living here since 1979.

Long, Unexpected Visit

As she awaited her husband's arrival, Buma Blitshtein told the JTA that she and her husband never thought it would take 12 years for him to be allowed to emigrate. When they were separated, Soviet emigration authorities promised, she said, that Lev would follow her within a year.

"In my heart, we were never divorced," she declared.

Later, Lev Blitshtein said he was anticipating a "chuppah" (Jewish wedding) to re-establish the marriage bonds that, he, too, had never felt to be sundered.

Asked why she had chosen to live in the United States rather than Israel, Buma said that

in America she had a better opportunity to publicize her husband's plight worldwide. Also, she said, they had fewer relatives living in Israel.

Soviet Jewry activists in the crowd said that Boris was a "hero. He traveled all over the world to talk about his father."

Blitshtein told reporters at the arrivals terminal that he was "very excited to come here. I didn't dream that this year I would be reunited with my family." But, he added, "My heart was broken a week ago when I left Moscow Airport. I left 100 of my best friends who are refuseniks for over 10 years."

Afghan War Has Impact

Blitshtein said that those who are being allowed to leave now are "people who were stopped in 1979 because of the Afghan War." He feared for those who were refused prior to that time, those who "possess secrets."

He wished to emphasize the plight of those whose children are of military draft age, whose army careers would then hinder all members of their family from emigrating.

Blitshtein spoke specifically about two Moscow refuseniks whose courage and outspokenness have cost them dearly. Natasha Khassina is known as a "guardian angel" in refusenik and Prisoner of Conscience circles. An observant Jew, she has been beaten and, said Blitshtein, she is followed everywhere by the KGB.

In December, she was given what the Soviets called a "final refusal" and told she would not be permitted to reapply to emigrate. Blitshtein said Khassina was told that her daughter would receive permission to leave but was then refused because her mother had access to "state secrets" 18 years ago.

Natalia Bekhman was severely beaten preceding a recent demonstration on behalf of then-prisoner Iosif Begun. She was not a participant, Blitshtein stressed, but had come only to observe.

Said First To Leave With Secrets

Blitshtein stressed that "the pressure from the West is important" to the refuseniks. "I am only the first known man who comes here who has so-called secrets," Blitshtein said. "But nobody else with these 'secrets' has received permission and will come this year or the next."

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "glasnost," said Blitshtein, "is a big show," because Gorbachev hasn't closed the book on the statute of limitations on having "secrets."

The Soviets hold refuseniks, said Blitshtein, "not because they have secrets but because there's something we can exchange. Your pressure is valuable." Blitshtein said he encourages Westerners to write and visit refuseniks.

Blitshtein said he had met many American Congressmen and other Western visitors, many of whom were present at his arrival. Everyone who had heard about his profession and his purported "meat secrets" laughed, he said.

But the redhead added in the fine English he said he gleaned from all his American visitors in Moscow, "When I met people from the U.S., I did the same thing: I began to laugh. If someone in the underground is laughing, it's a refusenik."

CORRECTION -- The March 3 Daily News Bulletin story "Israeli tourism ministry predicts end to slump in foreign visitors" misstated Israel's 1986 income from tourism. The correct figure is \$950 million.

**JONATHAN POLLARD GETS LIFE TERM
FOR SPYING ON U.S. FOR ISRAEL;
WIFE ANNE TO SERVE FIVE YEARS**
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 4 (JTA) -- Jonathan Pollard, the former civilian Navy analyst who pleaded guilty to spying on the United States for Israel, was sentenced Wednesday to life imprisonment.

Chief Judge Aubrey Robinson of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia also sentenced Pollard's wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, 26, to two concurrent five-year terms on charges of being an accessory to her husband's espionage activities and receiving stolen government material.

The 32-year-old Pollard stood with his right arm behind his wife as the sentences were being pronounced. When Robinson announced the life sentence, Mrs. Pollard yelled "No, no" and fell to the floor.

When her sentence was pronounced she collapsed again, screaming. She could be heard screaming after being taken from the courtroom.

U.S. Attorney Joseph diGenova indicated that neither Pollard had a chance for parole and both would have to serve their full sentences.

Pleaded For Mercy For Each Other

Robinson sentenced the two Pollards after three hours of testimony in which husband and wife pleaded for mercy for each other and expressed their mutual love.

"I pray to God every day that I'll be reunited with my husband," Mrs. Pollard said. "That's all I live for."

She wept through much of the hearing and appeared to be in pain from a gastrointestinal disorder from which she suffers. The hearing was recessed twice to allow her to receive medical attention.

Richard Hibey, Mr. Pollard's lawyer, argued that while there was "no excuse" for what Pollard did there was "no intent" to harm the U.S. and there was no damage done to the U.S.

He said the information was not given to an enemy of the U.S., but to a country that "except for England and Canada, is our closest ally."

But Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles Leeper argued that the information did damage the U.S., as Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger noted in classified information presented to the court.

He said Pollard was a "very dangerous man" and if not given a long sentence could still provide classified information from his memory.

'May Benefit This Country'

Pollard told Robinson that while he now knew he was wrong to break the law, "I was not intending to hurt the United States, but to help an ally. What I did may benefit this country in the long run."

In newspaper interviews, Pollard said he acted because he found that the U.S. was not providing Israel with information about arms going to its Arab neighbors and endangering the existence of the Jewish State.

But he said Wednesday he now realizes he should have taken his concerns through the channels of the Navy and as far as the President rather than commit an illegal act.

Pollard said that he not only broke his trust as a government employee, but an even more important trust, to his wife. "Unfortunately, I sacrificed her, inadvertently ... on the altar of political ideology," he said.

Said She Didn't Spy

Both Pollards stressed that although Mrs. Pollard knew what her husband was doing, she had not participated in his espionage activities. She said she became involved when after he knew his espionage had been uncovered, he called her, using a previously arranged codeword, and she sought to get rid of the government papers in their apartment.

Both Pollards stressed that they were sorry that their activities has caused harm to U.S.-Israeli relations. Mr. Pollard "undertook his actions because he believed he was doing good for both the United States and Israel," his wife said.

She said that after her husband called her on Nov. 18, 1985, she turned to her husband's handler, Israeli Air Force Col. Aviem Sella for help.

Allowed Israelis To Flee

This allowed the Israelis involved to leave the country. A U.S. court on Tuesday indicted Sella, recently named commander of a major Israeli air base, on three charges of espionage. He is not expected to stand trial, unless he returns to the U.S.

The attorneys for the two Pollards argued that both of their clients had been threatened in prison, partly as a result of anti-Semitism, and had to be kept in isolation.

Robinson indicated that Mrs. Pollard had harmed her case by her appearance on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes" last Sunday. He also indicated that Pollard had violated the judge's order to clear all statements he made with the Navy in his interview with The Jerusalem Post.

**AMID INSULTS, KNESSET BEGINS DEBATE
ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE FORUM**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- The Knesset opened debate Wednesday on an international conference for Middle East peace. The session, marked by an angry exchange between Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Likud MK Ronnie Milo, a close aide to Premier Yitzhak Shamir, underlined the growing rancor between Labor and Likud over the issue.

The possibility of a coalition crisis was heightened when Shamir warned Wednesday evening that if "other parties" persisted in advocating an international conference, it could lead to the downfall of the Labor-Likud unity government. Sources at the Prime Minister's Office quoted Shamir as saying such a forum was "the stupidest idea" ever promoted in Israeli foreign policy.

Peres, who returned from meetings with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt in Cairo last

week with an agreement by both countries to advance an international conference, appeared in the Knesset to address two opposition motions on the subject. One, by the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM), supported a conference while the other, by the Tehiya Party, was opposed.

Peres warned that to reject the international conference option would be to kill chances of progress toward peace. He recalled he has said this at many public forums when he was Premier and that his position was accepted by the government and Knesset.

He accused Shamir of being disingenuous by pretending now that this is a departure from government policy.

Peres Said He Was Firm

Peres told the Knesset "I have no intention of withdrawing from the idea of an international peace conference." MK Yossi Sarid of the CRM urged Peres to "take a few more steps" in the direction of peace. Tehiya MK Geula Cohen said Peres should "face reality," which does not allow for peace.

The session was adjourned for an hour to allow tempers to cool after Peres and Milo exchanged insults. "What have you ever done for the country?" Peres asked the Likud MK, who is a Deputy Prime Minister.

CANADA REJECTS NAMING OF ISRAELI GENERAL CHIEFED BY KAHAN COMMISSION

By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, March 4 (JTA) -- The Canadian government rejected Wednesday the appointment of Gen. Amos Yaron to be Military Attache at the Israel Embassy here. It was the first time Canada has refused to accept an Israeli diplomatic appointee.

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark said "The Canadian government considers the presence of Gen. Yaron as inappropriate." He did not elaborate.

Yaron was one of the senior Israel Defense Force officers cited by the commission headed by Israel Supreme Court Justice Yitzhak Kahan in its investigation in 1983 of Israel's conduct in the Lebanon war.

The commission found that Yaron stood by indifferently while Christian Phalangists allied with Israel massacred Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps near Beirut.

The commission recommended that Yaron be suspended and not appointed to any senior position for three years. The ban expired in 1986.

ISRAEL TO SIGN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTINA SOON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 4 (JTA) -- Israel and Argentina will sign a memorandum of understanding for scientific and technological cooperation during the visit here this week of the Argentine Minister of Labor and Energy, Dr. Pedro Agustin Trucco.

He is the guest of Moshe Shahal, Israel's Minister of Energy and Infrastructure.

The agreement will include close cooperation in the development of alternative energy sources. Trucco said in his discussions with Shahal that Argentina is particularly interested in Israel's know-how in the fields of solar energy, water desalination and irrigation.

The agreement provides for the reciprocal transfer of technology and knowledge between the two countries and the establishment of energy-business partnerships.

The agreement is the first of its kind between Israel and Argentina. Israel has similar agreements with Mexico and Venezuela. Last year Israel signed an agreement for industrial cooperation with Canada.

YAACOBI WITHDRAWS FROM RUNNING TO BE ISRAELI ENVOY TO U.S.

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- Laborite Gad Yaacobi, Minister of Economic Coordination, has withdrawn his candidacy as Israel's next Ambassador to the United States. Yaacobi informed Premier Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday that he was fed up with the "foot-dragging" over his appointment.

The appointment should have been made six weeks ago, but was postponed because of differences between Labor and Likud on a number of issues.

AMERICAN RED CROSS HEAD SUGGESTS WAYS TO RESOLVE ISRAEL'S CONFLICT WITH RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) -- Saying Israel's chances of recognition by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement are worse than ever, the President of the American Red Cross (ARC) Monday suggested several methods of resolving the ongoing exclusion.

Last October, the Movement changed its title from The International Red Cross Movement. While both the red cross and the red crescent are now internationally recognized symbols, the red Shield of David of Israel's Magen David Adom (MDA) medical and humanitarian movement is not.

ARC President Richard Schubert told members of the New York Jewish Community Relations Council that the Movement should establish a committee to explore alternatives to the symbols, displayed by the Movement's medical and relief workers as they operate under often hostile conditions.

Schubert recommended either a single new symbol, a collage symbol or two standard symbols for opposing sides in a conflict.

In the meantime, MDA should attempt to establish bilateral and defacto relations with sister organizations in friendly countries, Schubert said. He also encouraged the American Jewish community to work with ARC to keep the emblem issue on the top of the international agenda.

Schubert stressed that the original symbol, the red Greek cross, was never intended to be interpreted as religious. But he acknowledged that the selection of the cross was the first mistake in a series of many causes of the MDA's problem today.

Despite this, he said, the red cross is the most universally recognized symbol in the world and changing it for another symbol thus would be a great loss.

He also suggested the movement should never have accepted symbols besides the red cross. But he explained that the international organization is not controlled by the Red Cross societies, but "by the same governments who refuse to give recognition to the State of Israel."

Schubert said the MDA's chances of being admitted under its symbol of the red Shield of David are worse today than ever, because the number of member countries in the Movement has increased significantly.

"The communist and Arab world basically had its way," Schubert said. He noted that the first time the MDA applied for admission of its symbol, in 1949, it lost by only one vote.

Asked if ARC would withdraw from the international movement in protest of the exclusion of MDA, Schubert said, "I must respectfully decline ... We establish nothing by destroying it."

11,000 GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL WORKERS, PROMISED RAISE, RETURN TO WORK

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 4 (JTA) -- Striking administrative and maintenance employees returned to work at 29 government hospitals Wednesday. They ended their 10-day strike on the basis of a proposal by Histadrut that they be paid an advance of 200 Shekels against future wage increases while a special committee calculates how much the increases should be.

Equity of pay between government hospital employees and their peers at the hospitals of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut sick-fund, was the main issue of the strike that idled 11,000 workers for nearly two weeks. A body known as the Padeh Committee, established several years ago to investigate wage inequities, will be called upon again.

The strikers said they relied on Histadrut to ensure that the back-to-work proposals would be fulfilled. But Israel Radio reported Wednesday that Finance Minister Moshe Nissim will not agree to the advance payment of 200 Shekels or to reactivate the Padeh Committee until all of the strikers are back on the job and guarantee no further walk-outs.

REFUSENIKS' MOTHERS PROTEST IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 4 (JTA) -- The mothers of all 11 refuseniks began a hunger strike outside the Knesset building Wednesday to protest the failure of Soviet authorities to grant exit visas to their families to join them in Israel.

The protesters say that despite the new emigration regulations that took effect on January 1 and hinted at a liberalization of Soviet policies, some 50 long-term refuseniks were recently informed that their visa applications have been rejected. Some have been refused for more than 15 years.

Meanwhile, Yitzhak Nenher, an Israeli lawyer who is a member of a group monitoring Soviet compliance with the Helsinki human rights accords, reported that only 130 Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union last month although 500 had been promised they could leave. The National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported that 146 Jews received exit visas last month.

Nenher, who just returned from a meeting of the monitoring group in the U.S. said that despite signs of change in the Soviet Union, only two Jewish Prisoners of Conscience have been released.

SOVIET FILM ON REFUSENIK HONORED

BONN, March 4 (JTA) -- A Soviet film, "The Theme," banned for seven years because it dealt

with a Jew's desire to immigrate to Israel, won the West Berlin International Film Festival's Golden Bear Award Tuesday.

The film, by Gleb Panfilov, was produced in 1979. Because of its taboo subject it was not released in the USSR until last January, following a shake-up of the Soviet movie bureaucracy.

The story is about a Jewish writer in the Soviet Union who, though successful, decides to go to Israel to escape artistic constraints. At one point the character declares, "I would rather die there (in Israel) of homesickness than here of hatred."

SWISS, PLO FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET

GENEVA, March 4 (JTA) -- Farouk Kaddoumi, a ranking official of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was received in Bern Friday by President Pierre Aubert of Switzerland, the acting Foreign Minister. They have met twice before, in Tunis in 1985 and in Bern in 1981.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday's meeting was an exchange of views of the situation in the Middle East. Kaddoumi, who heads the PLO's foreign relations bureau, held a press conference afterwards at the United Nations office in Geneva. He expressed "doubts that Israel wants a real international conference for peace in the Middle East."

MAZON ANNOUNCES GRANTS FOR HUNGRY

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) -- Mazon has announced its second semi-annual grant of \$85,000 to help alleviate hunger in the U.S. Funds will be awarded to feeding centers and food banks in Los Angeles, Indianapolis, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., New Orleans, Cambridge, Main, Santa Fe, N.M., and Pomona, Calif., according to Mazon national chairman Theodore Mann.

In addition, two grants totalling \$10,000 were made for short-and-long term food aid to the remaining Jews in Ethiopia, Mann said. The organization was founded in June 1986 with an initial grant of \$20,000.

MANN OF PHILADELPHIA DEAD AT 83

PHILADELPHIA, March 4 (JTA) -- Fredric Mann, a diplomat, international patron of music, businessman and civic and communal leader, died here February 26 at age 83.

Mann served as U.S. ambassador to Barbados and U.S. special representative to Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, Anguilla and St. Lucia from 1967 to 1969. In 1966, he was a delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

A native of Gomel, Russia, his efforts led to the Mann Music Center here and the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv. His business interests were in the paper industry. His paper box manufacturing company expanded to include ownership in forests, pulp mills, paper plants and box factories.

In the Jewish community, Mann was a past general campaign chairman of the Federation Allied Jewish Appeal and an honorary member of the board of trustees of the Federation of Jewish Agencies. He had also served as a treasurer of FJA.

In addition, he was a former general chairman of the Philadelphia Committee of State of Israel Bonds, an honorary president of HIAS and Council Migration Service and honorary vice

president of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, Inc.

He served on the boards of the American Committee for Weizmann Institute, Tel Aviv University, the Albert Einstein Medical Center, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and United HIAS Service.

HELLO, EGYPT? THIS IS ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 4 (JTA) -- Direct-dialing telephone connections between Israel and Egypt went into effect Monday, an outcome of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' visit to Cairo last week.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES; A SUICIDE AND TELEVISION CONFRONT ISRAELIS WITH AIDS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- Israelis this week came face-to-face with the problem of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). It confronted them on their television screens and triggered widespread public alarm, if not panic.

For the first time, Israel Television broadcast a documentary on the disease which threatens to become the "Black Plague" of the 20th century. Broadcaster Michael Karpin went on the air and, in a voice pregnant with menace, warned that it can happen "to any of us."

Immediately after the half-hour program, the television studio was swamped with telephone calls from frightened viewers. Many asked where they could be checked for the illness. Others wanted more detailed information from the telephone operators.

35 Cases Diagnosed

Israelis had heard of AIDS, of course. But only 35 cases have been officially diagnosed in the country to date -- 23 of them Israelis, the others, foreigners. All were either male homosexuals, drug addicts contaminated by unsterilized needles or persons infected by blood transfusions.

The television program Tuesday night showed an Israeli drug addict who was apparently exposed to AIDS in Amsterdam. An Israeli doctor was shown visiting him and administering medication which was not identified. The victim was not identified, nor was the location of his home.

Israeli society is far from tolerant toward homosexuals. A week before the program, the media carried the story of the suicide of a 32-year-old Israeli physician, Dr. Uriel Yossipovich, a homosexual who was convinced he had AIDS, though he was not among the 35 diagnosed cases.

Dr. Dan Michaeli, director of Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv where Yossipovich was employed, said he might have been exposed to AIDS anti-bodies and panicked. According to medical opinion, the presence of AIDS anti-bodies in the bloodstream does not necessarily mean the carrier has the disease or will become ill.

Yossipovich may have feared the social consequences of the report of his homosexuality. The newspaper Yediot Achronot criticized the television program Wednesday for bias against homosexuals, particularly for referring to them as "homos" and asking a doctor in an interview what controls he thought should be imposed on homosexual behavior.

If Israelis do fear homosexuality, it can be attributed in part to ignorance on the subject, and consequently ignorance about AIDS and a

disinclination to confront it. Several years ago, a well known Israeli director produced a film, "The Infected," which told the story of a homosexual.

But unlike the situation in the U.S. and other Western countries, few Israeli homosexuals dare to appear in public or on radio or television panels. Their sexual orientation is kept secret because homosexuality is not accepted here as a valid lifestyle.

But AIDS has brought the problems of homosexuals, if not their identities, to light. Last year the Health Ministry established the first of seven centers at local hospitals to check for the AIDS virus. Prof. Avraham Morag, head of the clinical virology department at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Center, appeared on the television program to urge the public to make use of those centers.

The head of the Education Ministry's family and sex education unit agreed that much more needs to be done in the area of sex education before the health authorities can be assured that every effort is being made to prevent the spread of AIDS.

FOURTH, AND OLDEST, WITNESS IDENTIFIES DEMJANJUK AS 'IVAN'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) -- Gustav Borax, an 87-year-old Holocaust survivor who lost his entire family at Treblinka, testified in Jerusalem district court Wednesday that accused war criminal John Demjanjuk was the brutal death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

Borax, the oldest witness to appear so far, was the fourth to identify Demjanjuk since the trial opened two-and-a-half weeks ago. Speaking in Yiddish, he said he was in his 30's when he was deported to Treblinka and given the job of shaving the heads of women about to go to the gas chambers.

Borax testified that he saw Ivan thrust terrified women at bayonet point into the room where Borax worked. Ivan often stabbed them, ripping off "whole pieces of flesh," the witness said.

On Tuesday, Treblinka survivor Yosef Tcherny identified Demjanjuk as Ivan. He was identified last week by Eliahu Rosenberg and Pinhas Epstein.

NINE ONTARIO CONSERVATIVE CANTORS PROTEST INVESTITURE OF WOMEN

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, March 4 (JTA) -- A group of Conservative cantors here has angrily protested the recent decision by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York to ordain women as cantors in the Conservative movement.

The protest was organized by the Rev. Eliezer Kirshblum of Adath Israel Congregation here, who is chairman of the Cantors Assembly for the Ontario region. Joined by eight other cantors from Toronto and Hamilton, he sent a letter to Chancellor Ismar Schorsch of the Seminary, charging that he reneged on a promise to maintain the status quo and to consult on such matters as women cantors.

The letter said, "Your unilateral decision in such a critical religious matter plays havoc once again in an even more dramatic way with those of us who are trying to live along traditional lines within the framework of the Conservative movement."

ISRAELIS SEE PAINFUL LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM POLLARD CASE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 5 (JTA) -- Israeli leaders and Knesset members across the political spectrum agreed Thursday that U.S.-Israel relations were seriously damaged by the case of Jonathan Pollard, who was sentenced to life imprisonment by a federal court in Washington Wednesday for spying for Israel.

Pollard's wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, was sentenced to five years as an accessory. While there was some sympathy here for the tragic couple, the overriding consensus is that Israel has painful lessons to learn from the episode and that it must punish those involved with Pollard in what the government claimed from the outset was a "rogue operation."

No Collective Guilt

"The (Pollard) trial was not the trial of a nation, but of an individual," Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Thursday, reacting to the news of the stiff sentences. He noted that Israel had "made it clear before the trial" that Pollard's case was a big mistake. "The error was big, but it remains an individual case and I would not draw any collective responsibility from it."

He added that he hoped "it would never happen again," and that indeed is the lesson learned from the affair.

Pollard, a former U.S. Navy civilian analyst, pleaded guilty to the spying charges after his arrest in 1985. In Jerusalem Thursday, Labor MK Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, and its former chairman, Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar, agreed that the case had damaged Israel's special relationship with the U.S. "This might be the toughest time in the history of Israel's foreign relations," said Eban, a former Foreign Minister.

He stressed the "terrible responsibility" of those who had mounted the Pollard spy operation. He demanded that the government explain why it appointed one of them, Rafi Eitan, to the prestigious civilian post of chairman of Israel Chemicals and why another, Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, recently was promoted.

Investigation Urged

Ben-Elissar, once a Mossad operative, called for a thorough investigation of the role of Israel in Pollard's spy operation. Premier Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader, went on record this week as opposed to any further inquiry.

"I do not underestimate the gravity of the damage" to U.S.-Israel relations, Ben-Elissar said. He said it would be long-lasting and that the "aspect of dual loyalties" would be harmful for American Jews.

MK Mordechai Virshubski of the Shinui Party demanded the resignations of Ariel Sharon and Moshe Arens, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister-Without-Portfolio respectively in the unity coalition. Both are former Defense Ministers and Virshubski said they should leave the Cabinet because of their previous min-

isterial responsibility for setting up the "Lekem" intelligence unit which drafted Pollard.

Lekem, headed by Eitan, has since been disbanded. Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) urged that Eitan be fired from Israel Chemicals.

The National Religious Party declared that all those responsible must be held to account, as Israel originally promised the U.S. The NRP seemed to be referring specifically to Col. Sella who has been described as Pollard's "handler."

The media expressed sorrow for Pollard and his wife. Some newspapers blamed U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger for Pollard's life sentence because of his testimony to the court that Pollard's espionage severely compromised U.S. intelligence.

Ben-Elissar had no criticism of the American judicial process. "However much it hurts to say this, the Pollards were traitors to their country, and I say this even though it was my country that benefitted from their treachery," he said.

WEINBERGER DENIES SAYING STRONG ISRAEL DESTABILIZES MIDDLE EAST

JERUSALEM, March 5 (JTA) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger told Israel he was misquoted and misinterpreted by defense counsel in the Jonathan Pollard spy case, with respect to his deposition to the court.

Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Meir Rosenne, reported Thursday that he had a lengthy telephone conversation with Weinberger who specifically denied stating in his deposition that a strong Israel was a destabilizing factor in the Middle East.

Earlier, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had called Weinberger's reported statement an unpleasant surprise to Israel.

SOVIET ENVOY SAYS ISRAEL HOLDS KEY FOR BETTER BILATERAL TIES

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 5 (JTA) -- A Soviet official said here Thursday that the future of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel is up to Israel. He also indicated that Soviet and Israeli diplomats are in "regular" contact at the United Nations in New York.

Ambassador Vladimir Lomeiko, head of the Soviet delegation to the conference of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, spoke at a press conference in response to questions by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "The key for the resumption of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel is in the Israeli hands," he said.

Lomeiko maintained that the Soviet Union is "implementing widely our policy of letting people who wish to emigrate do so." He also claimed that many emigrants are returning. "They are thousands," he said.

Asked if the new policy would allow Jews who immigrated to Israel to return to the USSR to visit their families, and Jews in the Soviet Union to visit their families in Israel, the Soviet diplomat replied: "Unfortunately, we have no diplomatic relations with Israel or any other

contact which would enable an easier way of action. All the keys for such relations are in the hands of Israel. There are regular contacts in New York between our diplomats and Israelis."

Sees Little Evidence Of Change

Ambassador Pinchas Eliav, the Israeli envoy to the UN here, said Thursday that Israel appreciates the statements by the Soviet leadership about new approaches to social and cultural issues and emigration, but so far has seen little concrete evidence of change.

He said while Israel welcomes the release of a number of Jewish Prisoners of Conscience, the overall situation of Soviet Jewry remains worrisome. He spoke of the denial to Jews of all forms of national and cultural expression, the fact that there are no Jewish or Hebrew schools, and even a small private Jewish kindergarten in Moscow was closed by the police.

"We will always remember that it was the valor of the Red Army which was principally responsible for the physical survival of this remnant, but what is at stake now is its spiritual and national existence," Eliav said.

With respect to emigration, the Israeli envoy said, the new Soviet regulations "are a mere codification of a highly restrictive practice and in fact even represent a deterioration of the legal situation by limiting emigration essentially to those seeking to reunite with very close relatives abroad.

"They fail to insure that the demand of hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews to be permitted to live in the Jewish State are granted. In fact, in the month of February 1987, only 142 could leave the country, and thus even the assertion that 500 exit permits were granted in January has yet not been substantiated," Eliav said.

WALDHEIM FINALLY GETS FIRST STATE INVITATION-FROM JORDAN

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, March 5 (JTA) -- Jordan is the first nation to invite President Kurt Waldheim for an official visit since he was elected last July after a campaign during which his Nazi past was exposed.

Waldheim's virtual isolation by the international community was broken by Jordan's King Hussein, who is in Austria on a skiing holiday. They had a 75-minute meeting at the Hofburg Palace Thursday after which the President's Office announced that the King extended an invitation for a State visit to Jordan later this year. The date will be set through diplomatic channels.

Until now, world leaders have kept their distance from Waldheim. Massive evidence unearthed last year showed that he was at least fully aware of Nazi atrocities committed against Jews and others in the Balkans while serving there as a Wehrmacht intelligence officer during World War II, and may have been indirectly involved with them. He was wanted in Yugoslavia for war crimes after the war and was listed as a war criminal in the files of the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

Hasn't Made Official Trip

Although as President of Austria, largely a ceremonial office, his functions would normally include official trips abroad, Waldheim has not left the country since his election. His only

important contact with foreign diplomats occurred during the first week of the Vienna Follow-Up Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe last year. The Foreign Ministers of six European countries paid courtesy calls on the President.

But others, including U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, boycotted Waldheim and made it clear that they went to Vienna only on condition that they would not meet him, either officially or accidentally.

According to the President's Office, Waldheim and Hussein discussed bilateral matters and the Middle East situation. Waldheim gave a dinner for the King Wednesday evening.

DEMJANJUK'S ALLEGED SS IDENTITY CARD PRESENTED IN 'IVAN' TRIAL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 5 (JTA) -- An SS identification card alleged to have been issued to the Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" was presented as evidence in Jerusalem district court Thursday in the trial of accused war criminal John Demjanjuk.

The card, supplied by the Soviet Union, has been branded a forgery by defense lawyer Mark O'Connor. He contends that the Ukrainian-born defendant Demjanjuk is the victim of mistaken identity and a Soviet plot to punish him for having left the USSR after World War II to settle in the United States.

But Alex Ish-Shalom, head of the Israeli police team that interrogated Demjanjuk in prison, testified that far from volunteering the evidence, the Soviet authorities provided the card only after pressure was exerted by Israel and Armand Hammer, the American industrialist who heads the Occidental Petroleum Co. and has often served as an intermediary between the West and the Soviet Union.

Demjanjuk, the first suspected Nazi war criminal ever extradited to Israel, maintains that he spent most of the war years as a German POW and was never in Treblinka. But four Treblinka survivors have identified him in court as "Ivan the Terrible" who operated the gas chambers.

Ish-Shalom told the court that Demjanjuk, under interrogation, could not recall the names of any of his Ukrainian fellow-inmates at the POW camp where he claims to have been incarcerated. The trial ended its third week Thursday and will resume on Monday.

SUPREME COURT URGED TO REVOKE CITIZENSHIP OF WAR CRIMINAL

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court was urged Wednesday to affirm a lower court's decision to revoke the U.S. citizenship of Juozas Kungys, who is accused of participating in the massacre of 2,000 Jewish men, women and children in the forests outside of Kedainiai, Lithuania, in the summer of 1941.

Separate amicus briefs were filed by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the World Jewish Congress, arguing that Kungys' alleged past activities were "material" to his application for an entry visa to the U.S. after World War II and his subsequent application for naturalization. He became a citizen in 1954.

In June 1986, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Philadelphia reversed a lower court decision which held that lies told by Kungys to obtain a visa and citizenship were not "material."

VANUNU'S BROTHERS SEEK OPEN TRIAL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 5 (JTA) -- The brothers of Mordechai Vanunu are demanding an open trial for the former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility accused of selling State secrets to a British newspaper.

The proceedings are scheduled to begin next week in a closed court under conditions of strict secrecy. Meir and Asher Vanunu charged at a press conference in Jerusalem Wednesday that their brother has "already been tried, convicted and sentenced" by the public. They said "many people think he is worse than a Nazi war criminal." The brothers expressed concern for his mental health.

Vanunu has been held in solitary confinement since he was brought to Israel last September 30, reportedly against his will. Three months ago he was deprived of all privileges by the prison authorities for flashing a message to the media, while being driven to court, that he had been kidnapped in Rome by Israeli agents.

Vanunu is accused of supplying the Sunday Times of London with information about Israel's alleged nuclear weapons capability. He had been living in Australia, where he converted to the Christian faith. Leftwing activists here have joined his brothers in demanding an open trial. "Otherwise we will have a star chamber proceeding," one of Vanunu's supporters said.

DULZIN MALIGNED IN BANK LEUMI SCANDAL, CLAIMS HIS WIFE

By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and Jewish Agency Executives, was unfairly treated in the recent Bank Leumi severance pay scandal, according to his wife.

Dulzin was nominal head, not chief executive officer, of the bank when it was rocked in January by the disclosure that its chairman, Ernst Japhet, had resigned with \$5 million severance pay and a \$30,000 monthly pension, according to Annette Dulzin.

She told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "there was a misrepresentation as far as my husband's position. He never was the governor of Bank Leumi." WZO appoints the board of the Jewish Colonial Trust, which owns a substantial number of bank shares, all of which JTA reported. She added that as WZO chairman her husband is a non-voting board member of the bank.

Dulzin announced last month that he would not stand for re-election as chairman of the Executives after Diaspora leaders stated that he had acted with "full integrity" regarding the bank.

Mrs. Dulzin, a newspaper columnist who was visiting Detroit as a scholar-in-residence of the Detroit Zionist Federation, said her husband could have dismissed the bank's board. "Perhaps that's what he should have done," she said. "Although he would perhaps have been called a hero, he also could have precipitated a run on the bank."

She acknowledged that he could have reacted more quickly to the news of the scandal, but she said that the fact that he didn't come immediately forward with an alibi demonstrated his innocence.

Is he embittered by the turn of events? She began answering in the affirmative, then changed her mind. "He has a kind of character that

doesn't look back," she said. "Perhaps I'm ascribing to him my feelings."

She commented that her husband, 73, hasn't made plans for retirement yet. "I'm sure he hasn't yet had time to think of the future," she said.

ISRAEL CALLED BEST FOR PRESS IN MIDEAST, BUT PROBLEMS CITED

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- A recently released survey of press freedom around the world found Israel's press to be the freest in the Middle East and praised Israel's treatment of foreign reporters.

It noted that Israel's treatment of its foreign press corps offered a model for war reporting.

But the International Press Institute's (IPI) annual report, summarized in the Feb. 14 issue of Editor and Publisher magazine, indicated problems in Israel's treatment of the Palestinian press.

After hearing rumors of a cooperative Jordanian-Israeli secret effort to repress Palestinian newspapers in the territories in June, IPI sources investigated and found Jordan suggested the crackdown to Israel. Jordan reportedly hoped to thereby regain a foothold in the territories, according to the report.

Israel closed two Palestinian newspapers, Al-Mithaq and Al-Ahd, in August for allegedly printing the views of Palestinian radicals.

In November, Israel ordered the deportation of A-Sha'ab editor Akram Haniya. The Israelis charged that the newspaper was PLO-sponsored and that Haniya himself was active in the El Fatah terrorist organization.

Jordan Alternated

In other Mideast countries, the IPI found considerably less press freedom. Jordan alternated between severe press restrictions and periods of declared relaxation of the controls. Jordan black-listed some foreign journalists for various articles and arrested several foreign journalists for reporting on demonstrations and vote-tampering.

The IPI report also noted that some local journalists, primarily Palestinians, were prohibited from writing for any newspapers, and that the security police confiscated the passport of one after she wrote articles considered objectionable.

Although media attention focussed on Lebanon during 1986, news agencies shied away from sending reporters into the battle zone in the face of intensified kidnappings and terror. As a result, many agencies relied on reports from Cyprus.

An unspecified number of foreign correspondents were kidnapped, threatened and murdered last year. The IPI report also noted that the warring factions in Lebanon, including Israel, all had interests in shielding their maneuvers from the foreign press.

State Control By Saudis

Newspapers in Saudi Arabia are subject to total state and religious authority which, in one of its most extreme controls, banned throwing newspapers in the garbage because they frequently reprinted verses from the Koran, the IPI reported. No criticism of the ruling family is permitted and Islamic law must be observed.

The report recounted that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak extended the country's emergency laws for two years.

CROWN HEIGHTS LEADER CHARGES THAT POOR, VICTIMIZED HASIDIC COMMUNITY IS IGNORED BY JEWISH GROUPS, CITY

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- Many of the 10,000 Hasidic Jews of the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, N.Y., live in poverty. They are subject to frequent violent crimes such as muggings, robbery and vandalism and murder from criminal elements of the neighboring Black community of 30,000.

They suffer anti-Semitic insults and curses not only from the neighboring Blacks, but also from some police officers and other New York City employees.

But despite this grim scene described by Rabbi Yisroel Rosenfeld, director of the Jewish Community Council of Crown Heights, the plight of these Jews is being ignored by the city, Jewish organizations and "everybody else," he contended.

Says They've Forgotten

His voice expressing anger and pain, Rosenfeld charged that American Jewish organizations "have forgotten" Crown Heights. The heavy-set rabbi addressed on Tuesday some 80 city officials, Black and Jewish leaders and officers of the local 71st Precinct who attended a conference on interethnic concerns at the Oholei Torah Jewish Center in Crown Heights.

"Our people live in slums. They are being raped, murdered and mugged and American Jewish leaders do nothing to help us," Rosenfeld cried out. He complained that while Jewish organizations and Jewish leaders sent many letters of condolences to the family of Michael Griffith, the black youth who was murdered recently by white youths in the Howard Beach section of Queens, N.Y., not even one Jewish leader or organization sent a letter to the Jewish community of Crown Heights in the wake of the murder of two Hasidic Jews in separate incidents in the area several months ago.

The two victims were Yisroel Rosen, a native of Australia who came to visit his son in Crown Heights and who was beaten to death reportedly by six Black teenagers at a subway station; and Shlomo Fishman, a homeless elderly man who was stabbed about 17 times by unknown assailants. The murderers in both cases are still at large.

Charges Denied

However, Michael Miller, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, denied Wednesday the charge that the Hasids of Crown Heights are ignored by the entire organized Jewish community here.

"We worked closely with Rabbi Rosenfeld in the past and we look forward to cooperating on joint ventures in the future. With the scarce resources at our disposal we will continue to make every effort to provide services to needy communities throughout the metropolitan area, Miller stated to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Noting that the Jewish community is a "friend of the police," Rosenfeld said, however, that "very often when a Jewish man is arrested and the arresting officer is Black, the Jew faces terrible racial slurs." According to Rosenfeld, Jewish prisoners are also attacked and beaten by Black prisoners, and the police officers in some cases do not intervene.

Obscene anti-Semitic slurs also come from

officers of the Department of Traffic and the Department of Sanitation, Rosenfeld charged.

The rabbi also was critical of New York City and its Mayor, Edward Koch. "The Mayor was here last week and I told him that all we get from the city is lip service. Nobody in government really encourages integration and equality. We 'live integration' with our black brothers and sisters in Crown Heights. The government has done nothing at all to encourage integration," by providing affordable housing and funds for social services, Rosenfeld said.

Koch's office did not return JTA's phone call Wednesday.

Black Leaders Agree

Enoch Williams, a New York City councilman who is Black, warned that the racial tension in Crown Heights has reached a dangerous level. "We are in for a long, hot summer," he warned, calling for an open, continued dialogue between the Black and Jewish communities to avert a major racial crisis.

"If we do not reach out and talk to people we are going to have chaos," he said, adding that the conference Tuesday is a welcome start for such a dialogue.

Councilwoman Merry Pink, who also is Black, said that "Black people are not anti-Semites." She urged continued rapport between Jews and Blacks in order to achieve an integrated community in Crown Heights.

Roy Innis, chairman of the Congress for Racial Equality, said he wished more Blacks were at the conference "to hear the rabbi's pain. . . We've got to become more sensitive to the pain of the other guys."

He charged that both the Black elite and the Jewish elite in America ignore the plight of Crown Heights. "We are both (Blacks and Jews) deceived and seduced by the media," he said, adding that he found in Rosenfeld "a real partner" to tell the truth about Crown Heights.

4 ISRAELIS INDICTED FOR ARMS SALES ALLOWED TO AWAIT TRIAL IN ISRAEL

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, March 5 (JTA) -- The U.S. District Court in Manhattan has allowed the three Israeli citizens indicted here for conspiracy to sell American weapons to Iran to return to Israel until their trial, scheduled to begin May 18.

The permission of the court hinged on an assurance from the Israeli government that it would not prevent the defendants from returning to America for the trial. The court received a letter recently containing the necessary assurances.

Guri and Israel Eisenberg, and Brig. Gen. Avraham Bar-Am were indicted in April along with 13 other defendants on charges of conspiracy to resell about \$2 billion of American weapons stored in arsenals of other countries to Iran.

The defendants have close ties to several key players in the U.S. government-sanctioned arms sales, including the Iranian intermediaries Adnan Khashoggi and Manucher Ghorbanifar. Sam Evans, the alleged middleman in the conspiracy, was Khashoggi's lawyer for many years. The relationship of the defendants to those involved in the U.S.-approved deals will likely be a central issue in the trial.

**ISRAEL PONDERES BUT SAYS LITTLE
ON SYRIAN MOVE INTO BEIRUT**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- Israel reacted cautiously Sunday to reports that Syria has deployed infantry and tanks in West Beirut at the invitation of a coalition of Moslem and Druze leaders, but over the objections of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin briefed the Cabinet on the situation in closed session, convening as a Ministerial Security Committee, the deliberations of which are classified.

Rabin told reporters afterward that Israel would watch the situation closely and review its position only if circumstances required. He said that naturally Israel would prefer not to see Syrian troops in West Beirut.

Gemayel and other Lebanese Christian leaders spoke out Sunday against the Syrian presence. But there was no resistance as armor-led Syrian columns moved into the Lebanese capital from their bases in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon and from Khalde in the south.

According to reports here, Syria intends to deploy about 10,000 troops in West Beirut in an attempt to end the fierce battles in recent weeks between Moslems and Christians and between rival Moslem factions.

Observers here noted that the Syrian move completes a full circle begun in June 1982, when the Israel Defense Force invaded Lebanon and pushed to the outskirts of Beirut to oust Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization forces.

Expect Continued 'Red Lines'

However, commentators presume that the unofficial but mutually agreed to "red lines" system that prevailed before 1982 would be re-established. Under their tacit agreement with Israel, Syrian forces did not penetrate to south Lebanon, close to the Israel border, and did not interfere with Israeli air reconnaissance over Lebanon.

The "red lines" evolved during Rabin's tenure as Prime Minister, before 1977, when the Syrians were invited into Lebanon by the Lebanese government to try to end the civil war. Israeli sources said Sunday that if the Syrians were to follow up their armor and infantry with new deployments of anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon, a significant change of the strategic situation between Israel and Syria would occur.

**'STATE OF WAR' IN TERRITORIES MARS
HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL: STATE DEPT.**

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- Human rights in Israel continues to be marked by a "state of war" within the occupied territories, according to a senior State Department official.

Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, made his comments Thursday at a briefing on the State Department's 1986 "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices," presented annually to the Congress. The report assesses human rights

conditions in all countries that are members of the United Nations.

Shifter described Israel as a democratic state which, like other democratic states, has its "deficiencies and strengths."

Israel's "complex human rights situation in the occupied territories reflects the fact that, in the absence of a peace settlement, the territories remain under military administration and there is friction between occupation authorities and the Palestinian population," the report stated.

"Among the signs of friction are active resistance to the occupation, including episodes of violence, sometimes encouraged by outside extremist groups."

'Arises From Security Measures'

The Human Rights report noted that this friction "arises from security measures taken by Israel, advocacy of annexation or permanent control of the territories by some Israeli political figures, as well as the refusal of the main Palestinian organization to recognize Israel or to promote a negotiated peace."

However both Arab and Jewish residents suffered somewhat fewer violent acts in 1986 compared to 1985. The report said the Palestine Liberation Organization "factions and various PLO dissident groups claimed responsibility for nearly all violent acts against the IDF (Israel Defense Force), Israeli civilians, or Palestinians who disagreed with such groups. Most of the violence appears, however, to have been spontaneous and local."

Human rights abuses against Jews in other Middle East countries were less frequent than against other religious groups, although discrimination remains, according to the report.

In Syria, Freedom And Restrictions Noted

In Syria, the 3,000-4,000 Jews are allowed to practice their religion and "enjoy a relatively high standard of living, access to higher education and entrance into the professions," the report noted. But Syrian Jews are also bound by restrictions of foreign travel and religious training is prohibited.

In Iraq, where the Jewish community totals only 400, there is "no evidence of persecution," the report says.

In Morocco, Jews, with a population of 10,000, are prominent in the business and government, and operate schools and social institutions, according to the report. King Hassan II's meeting with then Premier Shimon Peres showed his support for a Jewish community abroad.

Tunisian Jews are permitted to practice their religion freely, according to the report, although during periods of tension synagogues and Jewish-owned shops have been attacked. But in 1985, after the raid on PLO headquarters, the government took "extraordinary measures to protect the Jewish community."

In the Yemen Arab Republic, there are no synagogues, but Jews are permitted to worship freely, according to the report. They are not permitted to communicate with Jews in Israel.

Ethiopian Jews suffer economic discrimination, the report stated, although "the stories of genocidal actions by Ethiopian authorities or of

highly brutal behavior toward Ethiopian Jews has not been substantiated by American visitors to the area."

In Egypt, the small Jewish community "appears to practice their faith without restriction or harassment."

In Argentina, which boasts the largest Jewish community in South America, occasional anti-Semitic incidents occur, the report said. Legislation providing penalties for racial, religious and other forms of discrimination has been passed by the executive branch and the House and is awaiting approval by the Senate.

In Hungary, with a Jewish population of 100,000, the first new synagogue since 1945 opened in June, the report states. But when a number of young people held informal meetings to discuss Jewish culture, "the sponsors were told to desist by the police," added the report.

Better In Czechoslovakia

Jews fare somewhat better in Czechoslovakia, where there are two Jewish community councils financially supported and controlled by the government, according to the report, as well as synagogues and a Jewish museum in Prague. However there are no Jewish schools.

In Rumania, whose government has permitted an active Jewish community, there were several anti-Semitic incidents last year, including demolition of a major synagogue by the government and "anti-Semitic overtones in two recent publications," noted the report. However, when fire damaged a synagogue, the government convicted and imprisoned four suspects.

Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union totaled 914, significantly lower than the 1,140 Jews permitted to leave in 1985. "The authorities have continued to attack Jewish consciousness through harassment and intimidation, the suppression of cultural activities, and the persecution of persons for teaching Hebrew. Soviet Jews have been subject to arrests, beatings, and vilification, as well as dismissal from work and illegal searches," the report stated.

In Iran, Jews are permitted to practice their religion, but they are discriminated against in employment and public accommodation, according to the report. "Jews are subject to travel restrictions which are not applied to members of other recognized religious groups," the report noted.

BOMB INJURES AT LEAST 17 IN OLD CITY; PLO CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- A bomb injured at least 17 people, including 12 border policemen, outside the Damascus Gate of the Old City Sunday. According to early reports, most of the wounds were not serious. Security forces detained 70 Arabs for questioning.

According to police, a bomb or a hand grenade was thrown into the street during a change in shifts between border police patrols. An investigation is being conducted. The Palestine Liberation Organization reportedly claimed responsibility. Security sources said the incident may have been linked to the anniversaries of two events that occurred 18 years ago.

One was the arson against the Al Aksa Mosque on the Temple Mount, an act for which a demented Australian national was convicted. The other was the founding of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a terrorist group

headed by Nayef Hawatmeh with connections to Syria.

According to Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem, however, the attack on the patrols was a "spillover" from the tension and unrest in the West Bank during the past two weeks. It was the most serious incident in the Old City since last October, when one Israeli was killed and 69 were wounded by grenades thrown at Israel Defense Force recruits and their families returning from swearing-in ceremonies at the Western Wall.

ECHOING SHAMIR, ISRAELI CABINET URGES U.S. TO DROP SPECIAL REFUGEE STATUS FOR SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRES By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- The Israeli Cabinet Sunday called on the United States to abolish political refugee status for Jews leaving the Soviet Union on grounds that there can be no such status for any Jew since the founding of Israel.

The call, presented by Acting Premier Shimon Peres and adopted unanimously as a resolution of the government, was timed, according to observers, to coincide with meetings here this week of the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) and the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. Both are key diaspora bodies whose funding efforts and political influence are critical in the struggle for Soviet Jews.

It also coincided with signs of possible dramatic new openness inside the Soviet Union, giving rise to hope here that the trickle of Jewish emigration in recent years may soon swell to substantial numbers. The release from prison Friday of long-time refusenik and dissident Iosif Begun has fueled those hopes.

The statement said, "The government of Israel believes that the status of refugee accorded today to Soviet Jewish emigrants whose declared destination is Israel should be abolished . . . From the day the State of Israel was established and its gates opened to all Jews, there is no more validity to the term Jewish refugee . . ."

Bolstered Shamir

The statement bolstered the efforts of Premier Yitzhak Shamir, currently visiting the United States, to persuade the U.S. Administration to no longer grant the special refugee status to Jewish emigres from the Soviet Union which enables them to go to the U.S. instead of to Israel. Shamir apparently made little headway in that regard in his talks with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz last week. The Administration stressed that the U.S. supports "freedom of choice."

The Cabinet addressed that argument, noting that its statement "does not imply any attempt to prevent any person from choosing where to live." But that decision ought to be made only after the immigrants have reached Israel, which is the destination on their exit documents from the Soviet Union, the Ministers said. Once in Israel, they could proceed elsewhere.

Nevertheless, the statement is expected to renew the long, often angry debate between Israelis and some sections of the American Jewish leadership who advocate not only freedom of choice, but the right of emigrants to choose their country of settlement without being required to go to Israel first.

AS NJCRAC RECOMMENDS, BARNSTORMING KAHANE DENOUNCED IN MOST U.S. JEWISH COMMUNITIES

By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- In almost every U.S. city that Member of Knesset Meir Kahane visits, the opposition from the organized Jewish community is so consistent that he may as well include it in his itinerary.

With few exceptions, the founder of the Jewish Defense League in the United States and Kach Party in Israel provokes denunciation by the local Jewish Community Relations Council (CRC), usually joined by the Jewish Federation, chapters of national Jewish organizations and sometimes the rabbinate.

They declare him to be some combination of extremist, violent, racist, demagogic, hate-mongering and anathema to Torah teachings.

In addition, the CRC and Federation generally refuse to meet with him, sometimes even locking their doors. He is generally not allowed a Jewish platform, speaking instead at hotels.

This united response is an avowed policy, according to Kenneth Bandler, director of public information and former Middle East specialist for the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC), an association of 11 national Jewish agencies and 113 CRCs.

"Our interest is to repudiate him as an outcast in American and Israeli societies," he explained to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "We are following the precedent set by Israeli leaders."

Policy Developed

In August of 1985, 12 national Jewish agencies and organizations drafted with the help of NJCRAC a statement of "abhorrence of (Kahane's) policies, goals and practices" -- namely, his opposition to democracy in Israel in favor of Torah law as he interprets it, his desire to expel the Israeli Arab population or at least rescind their right to vote and his attacks on all Jews who oppose him as not truly Jewish.

The agencies also expressed support for Israeli President Chaim Herzog's refusal to meet with Kahane following his election to Knesset in 1984, efforts in Israel to foster Arab-Jewish understanding and an anti-racism law aimed at muzzling Kahane.

This statement and the NJCRAC aims of isolating and dismissing Kahane have formed the basis for the CRC statements and activities.

Kahane does have his supporters, some who belong to his Kach International or Jewish Idea movements. They and Kahane generally attract from 60 to 300 people to his speeches by word of mouth and advance publicity.

Media Attracted To Him

The MK readily admits that media coverage is vital to his cause. Bandler observed that during Kahane's first visit to a community or first one after several years, he attracts both the general and Jewish media, often taking the reporters on a tour of the Jewish offices closed to him. The coverage tends to decrease during subsequent visits.

Jewish newspapers generally covered Kahane's recent speaking and fund-raising tour of the United States with a report of his speech and/or an interview, placed prominently. Some of the newspapers accepted advertisements of Ka-

hane's address and announced it in a small article.

Nevertheless, Kenneth Sidman, national director of Kach International, asserted that some of the Jewish press was playing hard to get. "I found that it's easier to approach the general media than it is to get the Jewish media," he said.

Bandler said he had no argument with the Jewish press covering Kahane as news, but he opposed acceptance of the ads as unnecessarily running counter to NJCRAC's goals.

Robert Cohn, president of the American Jewish Press Association and editor-in-chief of the St. Louis Jewish Light, estimated that about half of the Jewish newspapers refused ads for Kahane, primarily because of control exerted by federations or CRCs.

But Cohn contended that running a Kahane ad was okay if it fit usual standards of taste and if those seeking to place it were known.

He also provided a journalistic rationale for covering Kahane. "My informal advice to colleagues has been, 'Treat him as you would any newsworthy figure ... He's a significant person,'" he said.

Ambivalence Seen In Jewish Press

Bandler had another criticism of the Jewish press. He said he found "ambivalence on the parts of some of the newspapers regarding Kahane ... Editorials advocate that Kahane should be debated by Jewish leadership, or that Kahane should be given a Jewish facility to speak from." To do so, in Bandler's eyes, would be "giving (Kahane) legitimacy."

But to some communities, Kahane is legitimate. In Monsey, N.Y., for example, Bandler noted that Kahane recently spoke to 400 people in a synagogue. Sidman said the crowd exceeded 500.

Yet overall, Bandler sees a successfully united approach, and press reports support his view. "We effectively ostracized Kahane," he said.

"What I mean by that is he finds it almost impossible to speak from a Jewish podium when he visits the United States. The point is it's our view and the view of all of our member agencies that by allowing him to speak from a Jewish facility, it would in fact give him legitimacy."

Kahane Always Responds

At each stop, Kahane responds to the strategy. The Atlanta Jewish Times reported that Kahane said on January 29 that Jewish leaders refuse to debate him because "they know what I say is painfully right and they attempt to stifle debate."

Added Sidman, "He asks questions and points out contradictions that they have no answers for."

And Kahane claimed in a recent interview with The Jewish News of Detroit that wealthy Jews are supporting him.

Sidman likened the ostracism to censorship, but noted that hundreds of people attend the speeches. He claimed that Kach International has 7,000 dues-paying members in the United States. "We went in the span of two years from a half dozen chapters to 30 chapters around the country," he said.

Kahane has managed one meeting in the past 14 months with a member of the Jewish establishment. Arriving unannounced at the offices of the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Greater Philadelphia in January 1986, Kahane, with reporters in

tow, was met in the lobby by Federation executive vice president Robert Forman.

They spoke in private for less than 15 minutes in a first-floor annex. "There really wasn't much of a meeting," Forman told the JTA.

The executive said he was aware of the NJCRAC policy, but met with him anyway. "Since he was a Member of Knesset, he was owed that respect," he explained, and he didn't want to cause a scene by refusing.

Forman faced no public repercussions for the meeting, but didn't know if he would do it again. "I think we'd have to look at the needs of the situation," he said.

Who attends Kahane's speeches? Sidman pointed out that the nine rabbis of the Syrian Jewish community in New York attended a recent address.

The American Jewish News of the Twin Cities reported that no prominent local Jews attended on January 27. In some communities he attracts leaders of the community of Holocaust survivors.

In general, said Bandler, "We're talking about a very, very small part of the American Jewish community. I wouldn't say that everybody who's a supporter is on the fringe of the community, but they're not usually part of the organized community." Indeed, Kahane attempts in his speeches to unite the audience to follow him against the establishment.

The effort hasn't panned out, according to Bandler, who believes that opposition to Kahanism is one of the few issues "that have unanimity" among affiliated Jews.

The NJCRAC spokesman acknowledged that Kahane elicits a singular response from American Jewish leadership. "He's really an exception. He's beyond the Pale," said Bandler. "And again it's the same reaction that's in Israel. You have to look at both of them together."

SOVIETS RELEASE NEW ANTI-SEMITIC TOME; ACTIVISTS APPEAL TO GORBACHEV

NEW YORK, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- A group of Moscow and Leningrad Jewish activists has written to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev expressing "feelings of alarm and concern" over a recently released book that appears to revive some of the most insidious canards of the infamous "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," it was reported here by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ).

The 254-page book, "On the Class Essence of Zionism," was written by A.Z. Romanenko. Its 50,000 copies are twice the usual number for major tomes, the SSSJ said.

The activists pointed out that the book claims that "there was no Inquisition against Jews, no mass killings, but 'national liberation movements.' According to the author, anti-Semitism is a reaction to Jewish expansionism" and Jews are engaged in "constant efforts to gain control of the world."

Romanenko asserts that "Zionism is a dangerous enemy of the working masses" and claims that Zionists espouse "criminal theories" and "are steeped in a spirit of rabid hatred towards all mankind." He concludes that "Zionist ideologists combine propaganda for a fascist-type of unbridled territorial expansion with a policy of racist genocide and anti-Communist attacks and incantations."

The activists also pointed out that the book asserts that "the Jews themselves instigated

pogroms in Russia in the beginning of the century to start immigration to America, and, finally, as the culmination of their cunning, 'the Zionists did everything they could to set the fascists against the USSR'."

The activists also noted that the book, which is subtitled "A Historiographic Review of Literature," is a review of this sort of writing published in the USSR. "Judging by the bibliography, it consists of over 100 books released in several million copies. It means that millions have read and absorbed these falsehoods."

They called upon Gorbachev "to put an end to the anti-Semitic campaign in the press and hold responsible those who organized it. We also call upon you to consider the problem of refuseniks and to grant, under existing laws, all Jews who wish, the right to leave for their historic homeland Israel."

USSR AS BAD AS S. AFRICA: SHARANSKY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- Natan Sharansky said Friday that human rights abuses in the Soviet Union are as important a "moral issue" as in South Africa.

He made his comments to the annual convention of the Conservative Political Action Conference at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Sharansky, who was allowed to leave the Soviet Union a year ago, said his release as well as the recent release of other Soviet Jews "doesn't mean a change in the principles of the (Soviet) system. Did it make it easier for people to leave the Soviet Union? Did it make any liberalization? You really have to say no."

The former refusenik, who received a standing ovation from the 300 persons attending, criticized those who advocate economic sanctions against South Africa because of the apartheid system, but seek a closer relationship with the Soviet Union.

"It (human rights in the Soviet Union) is also an important moral issue. Why should we be satisfied with the release of one person when 400,000 Jews and many non-Jews are suffering and their elementary human rights are denied?" he said.

Sharansky was introduced by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, who described him as "an international figure for peace and liberty" who "stared the Soviet Union in the face and they blinked."

BRITISH LEADERS CANCEL SOVIET TRIP By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Feb. 22 (JTA) -- Three members of Parliament dropped their plans to fly to Moscow Friday to attend a reception at the British Embassy for Iosif Begun and other leading Jewish refuseniks. The Soviet authorities refused to grant them visas.

The three MPs are Lord James Douglas-Hamilton and Dame Peggy Fenner, Conservatives, and Laborite Greville Janner. All are members of the Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry. They were informed by the Foreign Office that there would be problems over their admission. The reception, to be given by British Ambassador Sir Brian Cartledge Monday, will honor Begun, just released from Chistopol prison; Ida Nudel; Vladimir Slepak; Alexander Lerner; and Viktor Brailovsky.

**PERES, SHAMIR ARGUE IN CABINET
OVER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE,
BUT UNITY COALITION SEEN TO HOLD**
By David Landau, Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, March 1 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had a sharp verbal exchange at Sunday's Cabinet meeting, but the long anticipated coalition crisis over the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace failed to materialize.

It was the first meeting between the two men around the Cabinet table in several weeks. Peres returned at noon Friday from a two-day visit to Cairo, where he and his hosts issued a joint statement committing their countries to strive to reach agreement this year on convening an international conference as a framework for direct negotiations between all of the parties concerned.

Shamir, who returned to Israel Wednesday from a 10-day visit to the U.S. only hours after Peres left for Cairo, made clear that his opposition to an international conference was as strong as ever. He stressed repeatedly that Peres had no mandate to agree to any undertaking on the part of Israel and that whatever resulted from his talks with Egypt's leaders would have to be brought before the Cabinet.

Peres Disputes Cabinet Argument

Peres, who had two meetings with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and lengthy discussions with his official host, Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid, told reporters on his return that there was no need for him to bring the joint statement to the Cabinet for ratification. He explained, however, that he opposed the idea of an international conference as a negotiating forum. The peace talks themselves must be direct, without outside intervention, he said. He said Shamir "has no mandate to reject such a conference."

Peres and the Egyptian leaders agreed in their joint statement that the Middle East conflict should be resolved in all its aspects, including the question of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Peres said they also agreed that the Palestinian representatives participating in the negotiations must be persons acceptable to all of the parties. The Palestine Liberation Organization was not mentioned. According to members of Peres' entourage, this signified Egypt's understanding that Israel opposes any role for the PLO in peace talks.

Discussions Reportedly Set

According to Haaretz correspondent Akiva Eldar, who accompanied Peres to Cairo, there is an understanding that Egypt and Israel will begin discussions on preparatory talks, with the participation of others to create a list of acceptable Palestinian members of a Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating delegation.

Peres ducked questions of an impending Labor-Likud split that could bring down the unity government. He insisted the joint communique in

Cairo was within the framework of government policy and said he would report on his talks to "the Premier and the Cabinet."

Earlier, Shamir said he had not spoken to Peres for nearly two weeks and had received no reports from him while he was in Egypt. "I will not chase him," Shamir was quoted as saying.

'Cool But Correct,' Then Argument

While the Premier refused to react to the Cairo communique Friday, observers were primed for an explosive confrontation in the Cabinet Sunday. But the session turned out to be "cool but correct." Shamir and Peres reported on their respective visits to the U.S. and Egypt.

What triggered their exchange was a remark by Likud Deputy Premier David Levy. After hearing both reports, he said the unity coalition could not continue "speaking in two voices."

At that point, the Shamir-Peres rift emerged. They exchanged barbs directly rather than through proxies, as has been the case. According to knowledgeable sources, their verbal duel was as follows:

Shamir: "He who says that anyone who opposes an international conference kills the peace process should take back his words."

Peres: "He who accuses me for wanting a conference of a Soviet pattern, and that I want to return to the 1967 borders, he is the one who should take back his words."

Shamir: "Indeed, he who presses today for a conference wants to return to the 1967 lines." (He was referring to Israel's pre-1967 borders.)

Peres: "He who does the opposite kills the peace process."

Shamir: "If you say that you don't want the 1967 borders, then this meeting was worth its while."

Peres: "You don't understand the differences between negotiations within an international conference and negotiations which open with an international conference."

Shamir: "I believe that the conference is a Soviet-Arab idea."

Shamir, Peres Lament

Shamir expressed "sadness" over the latest developments. He accused the Labor Alignment, headed by Peres, of trying to impose its views on the rest of the government, contrary to the coalition guidelines.

Peres said he was appalled by the "ugly campaign" against him. "There was a rotation in the Premiership, but not a rotation in policy," he said, adding that he would continue to work toward an international conference, and whoever wanted to stop him should bring the matter before the Cabinet for a vote.

The consensus after the Cabinet session was that the present crisis has subsided and the national unity government will remain intact for the time being.

In fact, it seemed apparent on Friday that Likud in particular wants to avoid a break. MK Ronnie Milo, a close aide to Shamir, played down the importance of Peres' talks in Egypt. "The mountain has produced a mouse," he said.

ISRAELIS DON'T WANT EARLY ELECTIONS, BUT WOULD GIVE LABOR A WIN: POLL

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- A public opinion poll published Sunday shows that a substantial majority of Israelis oppose early national elections, but if they were to be held, the Labor Party would clearly defeat Likud.

The poll, conducted by the Dahaf Institute, found a 63-35 percent majority favors continuation of the unity coalition government. Two percent had no opinion.

In the event of early elections, however, Labor would win 47 Knesset mandates compared to the 40 it presently holds. Likud would win 36 seats, compared to its current 41 seats. The rightwing Tehiya Party would win six Knesset seats, one more than it has in the present Knesset, and the leftist Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) would increase from four to five seats. The religious bloc would remain unchanged. The five Orthodox parties have a combined total of 13 seats in the 120-member Knesset.

ISRAEL DENIES TOWER ALLEGATION THAT RABIN OFFERED INSTRUCTORS FOR CONTRAS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA) -- The Defense Ministry dismissed as "totally groundless" an allegation in the Tower Commission's report that Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin had offered to send Israeli instructors to help the Contras, the Nicaraguan rebels attempting to overthrow the Sandinista government.

On the contrary, Rabin received a request for such aid and rejected it "out of hand," according to a Ministry statement released Friday.

The Tower Commission was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to investigate the sale of U.S. arms to Iran.

The statement said: "The report of the Tower Commission issued yesterday (Thursday) in the U.S. contains, among other things, a memorandum conveyed by Col. North to National Security Advisor John Poindexter. According to this memorandum, the Defense Minister had allegedly offered aid to the Contras in the form of instructors. This allegation is totally groundless."

The statement was referring to Lt. Col. Oliver North, a former National Security Council employee, and Vice Admiral John Poindexter, the former director. Both were dismissed after the Iran-Contra scandal broke last November.

Said North Requested Instructors

The statement disclosed that during Rabin's visit to the U.S. in May 1986, North telephoned him and asked for an urgent meeting. "In the meeting, which took place at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel (in New York), North dwelt at length on the problems of the Contras and said he had suggested to the President to organize a private group of some 20 to 50 Israeli or British instructors.

"Col. North said he preferred a group of Israeli instructors, since they have greater experience and also speak Spanish. In his opinion, the matter had to be conducted privately and not via governments. Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin rejected the proposal out of hand during his meeting with Col. North."

FRANCE THROWS BOOK AT TERRORIST KILLER OF TWO; REVENGE THREATENED, AS THOUGHT

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 1 (JTA) -- A French court sentenced Lebanese terrorist Georges Ibrahim Abdullah, 35, to life imprisonment Saturday for complicity in the 1982 murders of Israeli diplomat Yaakov Barsimantov and American Military Attache Col. Charles Ray.

The stiff sentence surprised many inasmuch as the state prosecutor had asked the panel of seven magistrates for a sentence of "no more than 10 years" to avoid making a martyr of Abdullah and exposing France to terrorist attacks.

The sentence is seen here as a test of French and West European reactions to terrorist threats. Legal authorities and government and opposition politicians stressed that public opinion and the jury demonstrated their determination not to yield to threats and blackmail.

The court also awarded 150,000 Francs (\$25,000) in damages to Ray's widow, Mrs. Sharon Ray, and 100,000 Francs (\$16,000) each to his son and daughter.

Mrs. Barsimantov was not represented in court. She was awarded a symbolic one Franc (17 cents).

Abdullah's lawyer, Jacques Verges, who will defend Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie next May in Lyon, warned that the verdict "will be considered a declaration of war by Abdullah's militant Arab friends." Verges told reporters that "Abdullah wanted either an outright acquittal which would have recognized his combattant status or a heavy sentence, but not a lenient or political verdict."

French radio reported that terrorist threats were received immediately after the sentence was read in a packed courtroom by presiding Judge Michel Colomb. Heavy police reinforcements were deployed throughout Paris minutes afterward. Police units checked passing cars and passersby and searched customers in the main department stores, some of which have been targets of terrorist attacks in recent months.

Barsimantov and Ray were shot to death outside their homes. A woman, Jacqueline Esbert, a Lebanese Christian Marxist, will be tried in absentia next spring as the actual killer. She is believed to be hiding in northern Lebanon.

ISRAEL MAY BE CUTTING ITS OWN 'MARGIN OF SAFETY,' AIPAC DIRECTOR TESTIFIES

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA) -- Israel's economic austerity program, coupled by the increasing arms buildup of its Arab enemies, may be cutting Israel's "margin of safety," Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), warned Thursday.

"What we have is a pattern of accelerated Arab buildup while Israel substantially cuts its forces," Dine told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "The effort to maintain the qualitative edge adds to the burden on the Israeli economy, further worsening the quantitative gap in the Arab states' favor."

The director of the pro-Israel lobbying organization was testifying in support of the

Reagan Administration's proposal to provide Israel \$3 billion in aid for the 1988 fiscal year. The \$1.2 billion in economic grants and \$1.8 billion in military is the same amount appropriated for the current year.

Among the seven largest arms importers are Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Jordan, Dine noted. He added that the United States has been a major supplier of the weapons to "these avowed enemies of Israel."

"American sales of new weapons to hostile Arab nations have had a particularly profound impact on the military balance between Israel and those states because American technology is often superior to that of competing weapons," Dine stressed.

He praised U.S. economic assistance to Israel, noting that it "has made a concrete difference in Israel's struggle to regain economic stability" at a time when Israel has undertaken "some of the toughest austerity measures ever imposed by a democracy in a compressed period of time."

Dine urged increased U.S. economic assistance to the West Bank, over the Administration's \$7 million request for 1988. He also urged substantial contributions from the West European countries and Japan.

King Hussein of Jordan "has sought to implement an ambitious \$1.4 billion development plan to upgrade the skills, abilities and incomes of Palestinians in the territories in an effort to promote a moderate influence and leadership there more likely to engage in the peace process," Dine pointed out.

In addition to the lack of funds, Dine noted that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait "have actively moved to undercut King Hussein and bolster" the Palestine Liberation Organization "by donating \$9.5 million and \$5 million, respectively, to revive a committee dedicated to promoting PLO influence in the territories."

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS' LEGAL DIRECTORS WELCOME RULING IN FLORIDA SABBATH CASE

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA) -- Legal affairs directors of major U.S. Jewish organizations expressed pleasure and relief Thursday at the decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that prohibits states from denying unemployment benefits to employees dismissed for declining to work on the Sabbath.

The Court ruled 8-1 Wednesday in favor of Paula Hobbie, who had been fired from her job at a jewelry store in Winter Park, Fla., for refusing to work on Friday evenings and Saturdays because of her Seventh Day Adventist religious beliefs.

Because she changed religions after she was hired, the State of Florida considered her subsequent refusal to work to be misconduct, which then disqualified her from unemployment benefits. A federal court had ruled in favor of Florida.

The American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress and Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith all had filed amicus briefs in support of Hobbie.

"The Supreme Court's 8-1 decision is a major victory for religious liberty for all," said Samuel Rabinove, AJCommittee legal director. "Florida's refusal to award unemployment benefits to Miss Hobbie was a violation of the 'Free Exercise Clause' of the First Amendment."

That clause prohibits Congress from making a law "prohibiting the free exercise" of religion.

Marc Stern, AJCongress legal affairs director, echoed Rabinove's views and pointed out that the decision reaffirms two recent Court decisions. The Court ruled in *Estate of Thornton v. Caldor* (1985) and *Bowen v. Roy* (1986) that accommodations such as shifting public school graduations to avoid conflicting with Sabbath are not government establishment of religion, which the First Amendment prohibits.

In addition, he said the decision places the "Free Exercise Clause on very firm ground."

Jill Kahn, ADL's assistant legal affairs director, also was "extremely pleased." She said the decision was significant in that it reaffirmed two cases that prohibited denial of unemployment benefits because of religious beliefs, *Sherber v. Verner* (1963) and *Thomas v. Review Board of the Indiana Employment Security Division* (1981).

INTERNATIONAL PHYSICIANS GROUP SEEKS TO TREAT SOVIET WORK CAMP INMATES

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA) -- About a year ago, Martin Motew, a Chicago physician, sat in the Moscow apartment of a Soviet refusenik and listened to tales of the Soviet work camps that made him cringe. Prisoners were given poor nutrition and those with active tuberculosis drank from the same cups as the rest of the camp.

"I began to conceptualize the idea that someone has to look after these people," Motew said Thursday at a press conference at the National Press Club.

He decided to found the International Physician's Commission for the Protection of Prisoners. The group is committed to bringing attention to the poor medical care of Soviet Jews and the group is a member of the Union of Council for Soviet Jews.

The Physician's Commission hope to establish a neutral group of physicians, probably affiliated with the Red Cross, that would go into the labor camps to treat patients. About 50 doctors from the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Sweden and Israel are currently members.

Vladimir Brodsky, a cardiologist who is co-chairman of the commission, spent a year in Siberia as a political prisoner before being allowed to emigrate to Israel. He described the labor camps as rampant with disease including tuberculosis, which infects about 50 prisoners a year, pneumonia, and scabs.

The sick were rarely given medicine and were forced to work long hours in sub-zero temperatures. Prisoners are permitted to bathe about once every three weeks, are fed on small amounts of bread and herring, sleep in overcrowded rooms on hardwood floors and are often beaten by the guards.

Even the care they could receive in Moscow is "primitive," said Kenneth Prager, a member of the Physician's Commission who visited Moscow last year.

"The staples of twentieth century medical care are lacking. There is a virtual absence of such disposable items as syringes, needles, catheters and intravenous tubing in hospitals and clinics," said Prager, a New York internist.

Prager added that Soviet Jews receive the most inferior care. When a Jewish woman brought her young son to a doctor because he was wetting his bed, she was told that the problem was caused by his circumcision.

AROUND THE WORLD, JEWS & OFFICIALS RECITE NAMES OF 11,000 REFUSENIKS

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA) -- In one of the largest events in the history of the pro-Soviet Jewry movement, activists, families of refuseniks and local government officials here gathered Thursday in more than 50 college campuses, 104 cities and 43 countries to read aloud the names of some 11,000 refuseniks.

At noon local time in their respective cities, Natan Sharansky began the chronicle in Jerusalem, Elie Wiesel in Paris and Mayor Ed Koch here. Thirty-six members of Congress read the names on Capitol Hill. Communities in Australia, South Africa, Brazil and England also participated in the demonstration, organized by B'nai B'rith International.

The list included all those Soviet Jews who had been refused permission to emigrate more than once. Organizers said about 360,000 others had requested permission to emigrate once. It was the same list presented by presidents of major American Jewish organizations to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the recent U.S.-Soviet summit in Iceland.

Each City Read Part

Each city read a part of the list. In New York, the demonstrators read names of about half of the people refused in Moscow. San Francisco participants read names of refuseniks from Minsk. And in Los Angeles, refuseniks from Leningrad were noted. On some of the college campuses, students reportedly read all 11,000 names.

Vladimir Slepak, a 17-year refusenik who is still in Moscow, often tells Western visitors, "If you turn your eyes away from us for just a moment, we will cease to exist." His son Alexander repeated those words here Thursday before reading the names of his parents, who have spent five years in Siberia.

"Slavery is an ugly thing and we are witnessing the slavery of our days in Russia," Alexander Slepak said. "Vladimir Slepak has always been fighting for others to leave -- that is why (the Soviet government) keeps him there."

Koch recalled the last time he read names in protest -- in 1971, while a member of Congress. But those were names of American soldiers killed in Vietnam. He noted that the pressure from demonstrations like that one eventually brought an end to the American involvement in Vietnam.

"In the Soviet Union, they don't respond to the electorate," Koch said. "But they do occasionally respond to the pressure of world opinion."

He then offered this plea to Mikhail Gorbachev. "Let my people go ... let our people go. That is what we are asking the Soviet Union." Then he began to recite names -- Boris Lifschitz, the Lieberman family, the Lerner family...

BEHIND THE HEADLINES: EILAT LEADERS FEAR LOSS OF TABA COULD MEAN ECONOMIC DISASTER

By Susan Birnbaum

EILAT, Israel, March 1 (JTA) -- If an international arbitration panel decides to give ownership of the half-square-mile stretch of Sinai beach called Taba to Egypt instead of Israel, the economic consequences could be serious for Eilat.

Dov Sharf, senior assistant to mayor Rafi Hochman of Eilat, the Red Sea resort city less than nine miles north of Taba, explained his concern last month to a group of Jewish National Fund of America visitors to Eilat.

Sharf, a major in the Israel Defense Force reserves and former IDF liaison to the American contingent of the Multinational Force (MNF) of peace observers in Sinai, conceded that Taba holds no strategic military value.

But that is not the issue. He said Taba "is important to Israel, despite its small size, making up 20 percent of the beachfront of a town that depends on tourism for its survival." He noted that Taba is already highly developed for tourists, while Egypt has done nothing with its 160 miles of Sinai beach front.

Hochman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Taba is crucial to Eilat's future prosperity. "The Egyptians got Sharm el-Sheikh, Dahab and Nueiba and didn't develop them," he said. He added that "We have all the proof that Taba is part of Israel."

According to Sharf, the dispute over Taba could have been avoided if Israel had taken a stronger stand when it agreed to total withdrawal from Sinai. He noted that the demarcation line between Taba and Sinai is not an international border but a cease-fire line. He pointed out that the Camp David accords stipulated that Israel and Egypt would establish an international boundary, but did not say where.

Several years of on-and-off-again negotiations failed to break the impasse and Israel only reluctantly agreed to binding arbitration. It had favored the conciliation method, also allowed by the peace treaty with Egypt, which could have yielded a compromise. Egypt insisted, however, on international arbitration as one of the conditions for returning its Ambassador to Tel Aviv last year.

"Israel has presented its case well and it has a 50 percent chance to win based solely on justice," Sharf said. He added that although political considerations could play a role in the Taba decision, he had confidence in the arbitration panel composed of distinguished jurists from three countries.

He said that although Israel wants total vindication of its claim to Taba, a compromise decision would be a victory. But for the Egyptians, Sharf said, "Even a compromise would be a loss," because President Mubarak couldn't justify it to his people.

'HATE CRIMES' BILL REINTRODUCED

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA) -- Rep. Dan Glickman (D. Kan.) reintroduced Thursday his "Hate Crimes" bill that would impose federal criminal penalties for damage to religious property and injury to persons in the free exercise of their religious beliefs.

The bill would establish penalties of up to life imprisonment in cases where death results, and fines up to \$500,000. Last year, Glickman's nearly identical bill was passed by the House of Representatives, but was not considered by the Senate.

Glickman said he also is introducing a combination of the "Hate Crimes" bill with another mandating that the Justice Department gather hate crimes statistics for an annual report.

ISRAELI AIR FORCE COLONEL ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED WITH POLLARD ESPIONAGE CAUSE OF US-ISRAELI DISPUTE

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 2 (JTA) -- The State Department said it expected Israel to "call to account" any individual involved in the case of Jonathan Pollard, an American Navy analyst who has confessed to selling U.S. military information to Israel. He and his wife Anne are scheduled to be sentenced here Wednesday.

The State Department issued its statement during a Monday press briefing when asked about the recent promotion of Col. Aviem Sella, an Israeli Air Force officer alleged to have supervised Pollard's activity. Sella has been named commander of Israel's second-largest air base.

"At the time Pollard's espionage was discovered, the government of Israel said it would take steps to prevent the recurrence of such unauthorized activity and any Israeli involved would be called to account," said State Department Deputy Spokesperson, Phyllis Oakley. "We expect the government of Israel to stand by these undertakings."

The Pentagon and U.S. Air Force have indicated that they will not cooperate with Sella, according to reports.

Small Rift Over Issue

Oakley did not indicate that the State Department had directly told Israel of its displeasure over Sella's promotion, but said that "the government of Israel is aware of our position on all the people involved in this case."

Some Israeli leaders have complained of U.S. intervention in Israel's affairs, and called it "unprecedented" for the American to declare a boycott against a senior Israeli officer.

EUROPEAN-ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE URGES MEASURES AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT

By Yossi Lempkowitz

BRUSSELS, March 2 (JTA) -- The European Economic Community-Israel Chamber of Commerce has called on the EEC to coordinate legislation against the Arab boycott of Israel.

The resolution reaffirmed the European Community's fundamental principle of condemnation of the unlawful Arab boycott of firms trading with Israel. The President of the Chamber, former French Minister Lionel Stoleru, said that while the practical effects of the Arab boycott are waning, it remains important to condemn this practice as discriminatory and a violation of free trade.

Although the EEC-Israel Chamber of Commerce has been placed on the Arab boycott black list, the Chamber will continue to promote economic cooperation between Europe and Israel, Stoleru said.

The meeting here was attended by senior EEC officials and representatives of bi-national chambers of commerce of 10 countries.

Also on hand was Israel's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Ariel Sharon, who met with his Belgian counterpart, Herman De Croo, and the European Commissioner of the EEC in charge of Mediterranean policy, Claude Cheysson.

The meeting reviewed commercial and economic relations between Israel and the EEC countries and called for promotion of technological and industrial cooperation between the Community and Israel.

This would include joint ventures in high technology, pre-investment assistance and risk capital. The participants emphasized Israel's close trade relations with both the EEC and the United States.

The resolutions approved Israel's recent linkage of the Shekel with a basket of European currencies, along with the U.S. Dollar.

The chamber will meet again in October.

'IVAN' TRIAL DEFENDANT CALLS WITNESS FOR PROSECUTION A LIAR

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 2 (JTA) -- A Treblinka survivor who identified John Demjanjuk as the brutal death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" was called a liar by the accused as the trial of the 66-year-old Ukrainian born former automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio entered its third week in Jerusalem district court Monday.

Eliahu Rosenberg, pointing at the accused last Wednesday, told the court, "That is Ivan, I have not a shadow of a doubt." He has relentlessly cross-examined by Demjanjuk's American attorney, Mark O'Connor. It was Rosenberg's third day on the witness stand, and Judge Dov Levin, president of the three-judge panel hearing the case, said it would be the last.

Rosenberg, who testified that he was a member of the prisoner squad forced to clean the gas chambers after each mass killing, was asked by O'Connor why he did nothing to warn his fellow Jews as they were driven to their deaths.

'How Could I Have Helped?'

"How could I have helped them?" was Rosenberg's anguished reply. "I had no contact with living people there . . . If I would have shouted to them I would have been thrown alive into a pit filled with blood."

At that point, Demjanjuk called from the prisoner's dock, "You are a liar." He hurled the epithet in Hebrew, which he was learned since he was extradited to Israel from the U.S. more than a year ago.

O'Connor's cross-examination is aimed at discrediting Rosenberg by demonstrating that his memory is faulty. He succeeded in finding discrepancies between Rosenberg's testimony in court and statements he signed at other times.

One related to the date he was brought to Treblinka. Was it during June 1942 or on the eve of Rosh Hashana that year; and how old was he when he gave testimony in the trial of Adolf Eichmann 25 years ago, 35 or 40?

GOVERNMENT DIVIDED ON HOSPITAL STRIKE

TEL AVIV, March 2 (JTA) -- Striking hospital workers demonstrated raucously outside the Knesset Monday while the Labor and Welfare Committee discussed the worsening situation at 29 government hospitals hit by a walkout of 11,000 administrative and maintenance personnel.

The strike, now in its second week, has raised political passions. Health Minister Shoshana Arbelli-Almoslino, a Laborite, sharply attacked Likud Finance Minister Moshe Nissim for what she called mishandling the hospital crisis. She had harsh words too for Premier Yitzhak Shamir for not holding a Cabinet debate on the country's rapidly deteriorating health services.

Arbelli-Almoslino attacked Nissim for hinting Sunday that he would consider hiring private contractors to do maintenance work at the hospitals. Some hospitals have already engaged contractors or are using volunteers to collect soiled linen and provide fresh laundry.

The strikers retaliated by placing pickets outside kitchens and linen store rooms. At one point, their demonstration at the Knesset became disorderly, as strikers surged beyond police barriers. Welfare Committee chairperson Ora Namir sent word that she would adjourn the meeting unless the strikers withdrew immediately to the area where a police permit allowed them to demonstrate.

ISRAELI TOURISM MINISTRY PREDICTS END TO SLUMP IN FOREIGN VISITORS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 2 (JTA) -- The slump in tourism to Israel may be over, according to officials of the Ministry of Tourism here. They reported significantly improved figures for the last two months of 1986 and the beginning of 1987. In fact, the Ministry predicts a 20 percent rise in American tourist traffic this year, although tourism from the U.S. and Canada has always lagged behind Europe.

The officials admit that 1986 was a very bad year for tourist traffic in Israel, as in Europe. They attributed it to the rash of terrorist acts, particularly the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in 1985, in which American passenger Leon Klinghoffer was murdered.

Overall tourist arrivals to Israel in 1986 amounted to 1.2 million, down 17 percent from 1985, the all-time record year. The figures included passengers from cruise ships who generally spend no more than a day in Israel and sailors from the U.S. Sixth Fleet on shore leave.

Income from tourism is estimated at \$950,000 in 1986, a 15 percent drop from the previous year.

Good December

The optimism is based on tourism figures for December 1986, which exceeded 100,000. Arrivals from Europe were up 15 percent over December 1985 and arrivals from the U.S. also were higher. The most substantial increase was registered by the resort town of Eilat on the Red Sea, which recorded 63,000 arrivals on direct flights from Europe, 37 percent more than in 1985.

Much of the traffic to Eilat comes on charter flights from northern Europe and the Scandinavian countries, attracted by the warm, sunny climate. Europe is the main source of Israel's tourism, accounting for more than 60 percent of

the visitors annually. The U.S. supplies 22 percent. About 224,000 American tourists came to Israel in 1986, down 48 percent from 1985. Americans arriving in cruise ships numbered 1,800 last year, compared to more than 27,000 in 1985.

WEIZMAN AGAIN URGES TALKS WITH PLO; CLAIMS UNITY GOVERNMENT IMPEDES PEACE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 2 (JTA) -- Ezer Weizman, the only member of the government to publicly call on Israel to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization, declared Sunday night that only talks with the PLO or an expressed readiness for such talks can expedite peace negotiations with Jordan.

Weizman, a Minister-Without-Portfolio who recently merged his Yahad Party into the Labor Party, addressed some 400 dovish members of the Labor Party's Central Committee in Tel Aviv. He expressed frustration with King Hussein of Jordan for insisting on keeping his relationship with Israel a deep secret.

Weizman's speech was viewed by political observers as part of his ongoing efforts to assume leadership of the moderates in the Labor camp. Another speaker at the meeting, MK Abba Eban, who heads the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, stopped short of calling for talks with the PLO. But Eban observed that any serious negotiators among the Palestinians were likely to have "distasteful biographies."

Weizman accused Likud Ministers of treating Foreign Minister Shimon Peres "shamefully" at Sunday's Cabinet meeting, when Peres reported on his meeting with Egyptian leaders in Cairo last week. According to Weizman, the Labor-Likud unity government has ended its usefulness and now impedes progress on the peace front.

POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE PLEDGES FRIENDSHIP WITH ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, March 2 (JTA) -- Sen. Dale Bumpers (D. Ark.), who is expected to soon announce his bid for the 1988 Democratic Presidential nomination, vowed Sunday night to continue his support of Israel.

"I am and I will continue to be a strong friend of Israel," Bumpers told more than 650 Jewish leaders and guests attending the 79th annual dinner of Bnai Zion, the American Zionist fraternal organization, at the New York Hilton Hotel.

Meir Rosenne, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, spoke of a close relationship between the peoples of America and Israel.

The diplomat also noted that "no state is more ready than Israel to sit down and negotiate peace," with its neighbors. He said that although the Jewish State has fought many wars, "We never saw victory on the battlefield as an end by itself."

Rosenne was given Bnai Zion's America-Israel Friendship Award. Bernice Tannenbaum, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, received the Harris J. Levine Memorial Award. Shortly after the affair began, the guests were evacuated to the lobby after a suspicious suitcase, thought perhaps to contain a bomb, was spotted by security officers in the VIP lounge. After police arrived, a man claimed the suitcase, which was harmless.

**EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:
U.S. RABBI WHO MET WITH TOP KREMLIN
OFFICIALS SAYS NEW INTERNAL OPENNESS
COULD GREATLY BENEFIT SOVIET JEWS**

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, March 2 (JTA) -- An American rabbi who met last month with top Soviet officials said Sunday that he believes significant internal changes underway there will improve Jewish emigration and religious freedom.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York, the president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, was the only Jewish leader invited to address the religious portion of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's February 14-16 international forum "for a nuclear-free world."

Schneier told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he formulated his views at the conference and from private meetings with leading government and religious officials.

They included Konstantin Kharchev, the chairman of the Council on Religious Affairs; Anatoly Dobrynin, Secretary of International Relations of the Central Committee; Georgi Arbatov of the USA Institute; and dissident scientist Andrei Sakharov, who also attended the forum. Schneier added that he spoke briefly with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at a reception.

"What is clear is there is presently a review of all refuseniks. This was told to me on the highest levels," Schneier said. The rabbi said officials also told him that the justification for refusal referred to as "state secrets" would now have to be substantiated by the local authorities. In the past, emigration officials did not have to prove possession of state secrets.

Schneier said he saw tangible evidence of the new "glasnost" (openness) during the visit. He received permission from the government to send in 5,000 bibles and 5,000 prayer books printed in Russian and Hebrew. The Soviet government also agreed to allow two young Jewish men to attend the Rabbinical seminary in Budapest, Hungary, the only such institute in Eastern Europe.

Schneier was asked to deliver his address to the religious section on Saturday morning. But because he observes the Sabbath, Schneier sent a colleague to read his speech. Instead, the rabbi gave a sermon at the Moscow Choral Synagogue.

He said his forum address touched on the Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident, the threat of nuclear Holocaust and his own experience as a Holocaust survivor. But it also called on the Soviet leadership to live up to its international obligations on human rights and encouraged the glasnost.

No Such Speech Several Years Ago

"A few years ago, I could never have delivered this kind of address," Schneier said. "I did not sanitize my speech. A few years ago, I wouldn't have been invited to give that talk."

A possible sign that the speech was well-received came in the final communique on the whole conference. It included the concluding passage of Schneier's address, quoted from Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who is for me? If I care only for myself, what am I? If not now, when?"

The forum ended in the Kremlin with Gorbachev addressing the entire plenum. "You can't help but sense more openness," Schneier said. "There is an open admission of mistakes."

Schneier said the open discussion of human rights is in itself a major advance. "There were

days of total denial of the Jewish problem. Today, you can talk about refuseniks, you can talk about emigration," he said.

Sees Deep Changes

While skeptics claim the new openness is simply cosmetic, treating only the most high-profile cases of dissidents, Schneier said he believes the changes will penetrate deeper in time.

"There is a realization of stagnation, both ideological and economical. Unless there is a new approach, the Soviet Union is just going to fall far behind as we enter the 21st century. His approach is much more pragmatic than ideological," Schneier said.

The rabbi's accomplishments perhaps may be attributed as much to his relationship with top Soviet officials as to glasnost. He is one of the few private American citizens, like industrialist Armand Hammer, who have developed over many years a rapport with the Soviet leadership. He has visited the Soviet Union 19 times in 21 years.

The Appeal of Conscience Foundation is an interfaith organization of business and religious leaders to promote religious freedom throughout the world, understanding and cooperation between religions.

**POLAND OKAYS REMOVAL OF AUSCHWITZ
CONVENT, BUT CARDINAL GLEMP PROTESTS**

PARIS, March 2 (JTA) -- The Polish government has announced its formal approval of a plan to remove a Carmelite convent from the site of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in Poland, the World Jewish Congress was informed.

The Warsaw government's decision was conveyed to WJC representative Gerhart Riegner Thursday by the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva. The plan was agreed to last week at a meeting in Geneva between European Jewish leaders and representatives of the Catholic Church, including the Archbishop of Cracow, Franciszek Cardinal Macharski.

But apparently, differences have arisen within the Church in Poland. Polish Primate Josef Cardinal Glemp indicated at a press conference in Brussels last Wednesday that he considers the matter unsettled.

"The dialogue between Jews and Catholics must be continued. This matter is not terminated. It is rather astonishing that the Jews are remembering this fact 40 years after the war," Glemp said in reply to questions.

Rebuke Of Jews?

Moreover, Glemp seemed to be rebuking Jews. "Jews must understand us as we are trying to understand them," he said. "For us it is essential to establish a place for prayer. But we fully support the project to create at Auschwitz, a place of so many atrocities, a multi-faith institute, not only with Jews and Catholics but also with Moslems, Orthodox and other religions."

The Cardinal was probably referring to the decision at the Geneva meeting to establish an interreligious center away from the camp site where Catholics and Jews could meet, pray, meditate, hold seminars and greet visitors.

But the agreement made it clear that the convent would be removed from Auschwitz within two years and the Carmelite nuns would move to a different site.

146 JEWS LEFT USSR IN FEBRUARY

NEW YORK, March 2 (JTA) -- Exit visas were granted to 146 Soviet Jews in February, compared to 98 in January, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. Of these, 29 went to Israel, according to the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry.

NCSJ chairman Morris Abram expressed hope "that this slight increase could be the beginning of a series of steps that would lead to the release of the 11,000 long-term refuseniks, some of whom have been waiting for more than 15 years, as well as the processing of approximately 370,000 others who, we know, also seek to be repatriated to Israel.

"We also hope that the remaining Jewish Prisoners of Conscience will be freed and that they, and all former Prisoners of Conscience will be allowed to leave for Israel. Then, and only then, will we be certain that the oft-used word 'glasnost' (openness) has a literal meaning where human rights are concerned."

SOVIET JEWRY ACTIVISTS SPLIT ON SHAMIR'S POSITION ON SOVIET JEWISH 'DROP-OUTS'

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 2 (JTA) -- Two major Soviet Jewry activist groups have told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that they do not support Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's request that the United States stop granting refugee status to Soviet Jews, which allows them to come directly to the United States instead of Israel.

Shamir stated throughout his recent visit to the United States that with the existence of Israel, no Jew is a refugee.

Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, said Wednesday he agrees that Jews no longer may be considered refugees. But he presented a different explanation for "neshira" -- Soviet Jews "dropping out" from Israel and coming to the U.S. with their Israeli visas.

"I think that the statements (of Shamir) don't meet the problem," he said, "which arises out of frustration from the Soviets' deliberately releasing those who they know will go to America. The ratio of 'noshrim' (dropouts) has remained relatively constant for the last five years."

"If the Soviet government would permit direct flights from the USSR to Israel," added Richter, "then Soviet Jews could see Israel for themselves rather than being subjected only to the Kremlin's propagandistic view of Israel."

New Problem Foreseen

But there is another problem, Richter observed: "Soviet Jews who arrive in Israel cannot legally go to the U.S. if they ask to leave Israel, because they've lost their refugee status. However, a Soviet Jew arriving in the U.S. is always welcome in Israel."

"One must still retain an element of choice," Richter said. The issue, as it now stands, he said, creates a "no-win situation."

Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and a past president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, spoke for both organizations, the Long Island Committee being a member organization of the Union of Councils. The Union's position, Singer told JTA, is that "We do not agree that

neshira destroyed the opportunity for Soviet Jews to receive exit visas. We fully empathize with the State of Israel in its position that all Jews should make aliya. But realistically, the name of the game is free emigration, and this is how the Union of Councils understands it. Family reunification, repatriation, whatever nomenclature one chooses to give it, the energy is for emigration."

NCSJ Studying Issue

However, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) is currently taking a more cautious position on the matter. Shamir spoke last week at a session convened by the NCSJ at which leaders of national Jewish organizations were present to discuss the issue of Soviet Jewry.

The NCSJ released a statement following the meeting saying that: "The matters the Prime Minister discussed have now been squarely placed on the agenda of the American Jewish community for careful consideration as an urgent item affecting the welfare of the Jewish people as a whole. The Prime Minister and the community are as one both on the need for substantial and sustained emigration from the Soviet Union to the State of Israel, and that the claim for repatriation to Israel is a valid and compelling argument. There was mutual agreement that issues delineated by the Prime Minister must be subjects for serious and ongoing deliberation."

Jerry Strober, a spokesperson for the NCSJ, told JTA that the matter of neshira would now be given priority for consideration, but no position one way or another would be taken at this time.

At the other end of the spectrum is Americans for a Safe Israel (AFSI), which supports Shamir's contention that "America's granting of refugee status to Soviet Jews is unjustified," and that the use by Soviet Jews of Israeli visas to then continue to the U.S. could be used by the Soviets to clip Jewish emigration.

Joseph Puder, AFSI executive director, stated that "Since reunification of families in Israel is the basis for Soviet emigration policy, any violation of this basic policy can be used as a pretext by the Soviets to cut off emigration."

SOVIET JEWS FREE TO BE JEWISH, CLAIMS CHIEF RABBI OF MOSCOW

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 2 (JTA) -- Adolf Shayeveich, the Chief Rabbi of Moscow, claimed here that Soviet Jews have complete freedom to practice their religion.

Shayeveich replied to questions at a session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission devoted to human rights and the status of international human rights covenants. He was brought here from Moscow by the Soviet delegation to the Commission.

According to Shayeveich, who heads Moscow's Choral Synagogue, the majority of the two million Jews in the USSR are non-believers by choice, not by force. He said that any Jew who wished to live by the laws of Moses and the Torah was free to do so.

The question of freedom of religion in his country is interlinked with questions of ethics and standards, Shayeveich said. He urged everyone to cooperate in the matter of human rights, but with greater objectivity than has been shown until now.

**SHAMIR URGES EGYPT TO CONVINCE ARAB COUNTRIES TO NEGOTIATE WITH ISRAEL****By David Friedman**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir urged Egypt Wednesday to convince its fellow Arab countries to enter into direct negotiations with Israel.

"Egypt, a partner to the Camp David Accords, could play a significant role by encouraging our other neighbors to follow her example and enter into face-to-face talks with us without preconditions," Shamir said after a meeting and working lunch with President Reagan at the White House.

While both Reagan and Shamir, in their statements in front of the White House's diplomatic entrance, stressed that peace can be achieved only through direct negotiations, the two leaders publicly stated their differences over an international conference.

"Our goal now is setting in motion a process acceptable by Israel and its neighbors which can lead to a comprehensive settlement," Reagan said. He said this requires "bilateral negotiations," adding that any "reasonable" method of bringing about such negotiations should be explored, "including an international conference."

Shamir, however, said the "only viable cornerstone to peace" is the method used by Israel and Egypt in achieving the Camp David Accords. "We renew the call to our neighbors to join us in direct negotiations for the obtaining of peace between us," he said.

Differences On An International Forum

The Israeli Premier was more direct Tuesday after his meeting at the State Department with Secretary of State George Shultz, when he called the idea of an international forum "a Soviet-inspired notion supported by radical Arab nations."

He said such a conference, demanded by King Hussein of Jordan, "will not bring peace to our area."

Shultz, admitting that the United States and Israel do not see "eye-to-eye" on this issue, said the U.S. believes that "all options" that could bring about direct negotiations should be explored, including an international conference.

"Our objective is not an international conference, our objective is direct negotiations," Shultz stressed.

Shamir differs on this issue with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who believes an international conference may be the only way to bring Jordan into talks with Israel.

A senior Administration official, briefing reporters Wednesday on Shamir's talks with Shultz and Reagan, said that the U.S. is not trying to "play one side" in the Israeli government against the other. He said the U.S. deals with the national unity government, headed by Shamir, as it did when Peres was Premier.

'Representative Palestinians' Must Be Included

Both Reagan and Shultz stressed that any negotiations must include "representative Palestinians." Shamir also agreed Tuesday that negotiations should include "representatives of Palestin-

ians living in the area." This apparently meant Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, rather than from outside.

Reagan and Shamir also said they discussed the situation of Soviet Jewry. "We took note of recent releases, but are waiting to see the gates truly opened for Jewish emigration," Reagan said.

Shamir said Israel was "grateful" for Reagan's efforts on behalf of "our brothers and sisters" in the USSR. He said the Soviet Union must continue to be pressed "to let all our people return to our ancient homeland, the land of Israel."

Iran Issue Discussed

Iran was discussed by Shamir with both Reagan and Shultz. Reagan said it was agreed that Iran should be encouraged to end terrorism and the use of force. He added that it was also agreed that it was important to "look to the future instead of dwelling on the past."

Shamir said Tuesday that while Iran was a leading supporter of terrorism, it was an important country in the Mideast and indicated that ways should be found to exert "influence" on it.

As for the U.S. sale of arms to Iran, Shultz said this was an American decision. The Administration official briefing reporters Wednesday said that Israel has agreed to cooperate with the various American investigations of the Iranian arms sales.

Other Issues Discussed

Both Reagan and Shamir pointed to the U.S. decision to give Israel the status of a "major non-NATO ally," which allows it to bid on Defense Department research and development contracts. Shamir called this a "new dimension to our relations."

Also discussed Tuesday and Wednesday was the Israeli economy and Israel's agreement to allow the U.S. to build a relay station for the Voice of America in Israel.

Not discussed, according to officials, was the case of Jonathan Pollard who was awaiting sentencing after pleading guilty to spying for Israel. When Shamir was asked about the Pollard case Tuesday, he called it "a very painful experience" for Israel and said spying on the U.S. was "not a policy of the Israeli government."

Shamir concluded his remarks to Reagan Wednesday by noting that this year was the 200th anniversary of the U.S. constitution and the 90th anniversary of the Zionist movement.

"Both events have enriched the quality of our lives," he said. "They are the roots of our present relationship, joint efforts, our dreams and our confidence in the future."

PERES AND MUBARAK TO HOLD TALKS**By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- Avraham Tamir, Administrative Director General of the Foreign Ministry, said Wednesday that planning for an international conference on Middle East peace will continue and will be a subject of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' talk with Egyptian President Hosni

Mubarak when they meet in Cairo shortly. The date is not yet fixed.

His remarks, to reporters in Jerusalem, clashed with Premier Yitzhak Shamir's assertions in Washington this week that he is firmly opposed to an international conference and that the majority of Israelis supported his position.

Tamir, a close associate of Peres, said the Cairo meeting would continue the process begun when Peres, as Premier, met with Mubarak in Alexandria last September and agreed to preparatory moves for an international conference. According to Tamir, Peres' position was approved by the coalition government he headed at the time, a claim disputed by Likud.

Tamir explained that what will take place at this stage is a discussion of the basic framework of an international conference. "We are talking about talking, not about giving anything away," and no government approval is required, he said.

He said Peres was not looking for a showdown with Shamir, but observers here believe that Labor Party leaders are not going out of their way to avoid one. Shamir, for his part, has hinted that he is prepared to put the issue to a test in a general election.

The Egyptian Ambassador to Israel, Mohammad Basyouni, said here Tuesday that there is no doubt that the peace process and the international conference will top the agenda when Peres and Mubarak meet. Basyouni spoke at a press conference on the eve of the second anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Israel.

ARAB CABBIE KILLED AFTER TRYING TO RUN DOWN TWO ISRAELI SOLDIERS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- An Arab taxi driver was killed Wednesday after he ran down two Israeli soldiers and was fired on by other soldiers near the Askar refugee camp outside Nablus. The injured soldiers were taken by helicopter to a hospital in Haifa.

According to eyewitnesses, the taxi deliberately swerved off the road to hit the soldiers who were on foot patrol. Other soldiers on patrol opened fire on the fleeing vehicle which crashed into the wall of a nearby school. The witnesses said the driver leaped from the taxi and hurled rocks at the approaching soldiers when he suddenly collapsed.

He was pronounced dead at a hospital but it was not certain whether he was hit by bullets or died of injuries sustained when the taxi struck the wall. An initial examination showed no bullet wounds in the driver's body. A post-mortem is expected to determine the cause of death. The taxi was riddled with bullets.

The incident was the latest in a week of violence in the West Bank. Palestinian youths continued to stone Israeli vehicles and burn tires in roadways throughout the territory Wednesday.

3 OLIM CONVERTED TO JUDAISM BY REFORM RABBIS ASKED TO POSTPONE APPEAL TO BE REGISTERED AS JEWS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- Three immigrants converted to Judaism by Reform rabbis

were asked by Attorney General Yosef Harish to postpone for six months their appeal to the Supreme Court to be registered as Jews, the media reported Wednesday.

The three are Julia Ann Biglaizer and Murilo Pinto Varela of Kibbutz Mishmar Hanegev, and Gail Mosacowitch of Kibbutz Gonen. Their attorney, Yosef Ben-Menashe, was approached by Harish who reportedly was acting at the behest of Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

The Supreme Court issued a show cause order on February 1 requiring the Interior Ministry to explain why the converts should not be registered. Harish, in seeking to postpone action, was criticized by senior legal figures who said he should have rejected Shamir's request outright instead of conveying it to the appellants.

Shamir temporarily holds the portfolio of Interior Minister which is being administered for him by Deputy Minister Ronnie Milo, a Likud MK. Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz of the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party resigned last month rather than comply with a Supreme Court order to issue a Jewish identification card to Shoshana Miller, an American immigrant converted to Judaism by a Reform rabbi.

According to the media reports, the six-month delay sought by Shamir would give him time to persuade Peretz to revoke his resignation and return Shas to the unity coalition government. His request reportedly cited the deliberations of the recently appointed Interministerial Committee on Conversions which has been given six months to find an acceptable formula for registering immigrants converted by non-Orthodox rabbis.

KNESSET PANEL SAYS MEDIA WRONGLY REPORTED THAT A RABBI ISSUED A BAN ON WOMEN ATTENDING FUNERALS WITH MEN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- The Knesset Interior Committee found Thursday that Rabbi David Grossman, the Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Migdal Haemek, was misrepresented by the media when it reported that he had issued a ban on women attending funerals together with men.

Grossman, who appeared before the committee, was cleared unanimously and committee members expressed regret for the damage done his reputation. "If there is anyone capable of building bridges between the religious and secular communities it is Rabbi Grossman who acts to foster unity and mutual respect," the committee said in a statement.

Grossman, often referred to as the "disco rabbi," is known for his work with prisoners and disadvantaged youths. He explained to the committee that, "The matter of women and men attending funerals separately or in one group is entirely up to the family and is not covered by halacha." He added, "I gave no ruling and I made no comment on the issue."

The media reported that Grossman and Sephardic Chief Rabbi Avraham Menahem issued the ban because they associated the presence of women at funerals with the recent abnormally high death rate in the town. Grossman denied it at the outset. There has been no comment from Menahem.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

JEWISH LEADERS GRAPPLING WITH ISSUE OF ISRAEL'S TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Feb. 18 (JTA) -- American Jewish leaders have begun to grapple with the uncomfortable issue of Israel's military trade with South Africa, a subject obscured by strict secrecy, distortion by Israel's enemies and by the minuscule amount of factual information actually available.

Few governments like to discuss their military exchanges with the racist regime of South Africa despite evidence that military exchanges with Western countries continue on some levels while tapering off in past months.

Israel is no different. With the government facing intense pressure from the U.S. Congress and from American Jews to cease military trade with South Africa, there is little said publicly on the exchanges.

At least part of the American Jewish leadership has taken an active role in the anti-apartheid movement in this country, on the picket lines and in divestment campaigns. Some even risked arrest for civil disobedience at South African installations throughout the country. But many Jewish leaders have chosen to remain silent -- or at least discreet -- about Israel's military trade with South Africa.

"The inconsistency is troubling American Jews," Allan Kagedan, an American Jewish Committee policy analyst said. "On the one hand, they are anti-apartheid morally. On the other hand, they support Israel who sells arms to South Africa. But no one is willing to publicly defend Israel arms sales to South Africa."

Expressions Of Concern

A sampling by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of American Jewish leadership revealed a real reluctance to discuss openly -- and sometimes on the record -- what they know of Israel's military trade with South Africa. But the same leaders indicated that they have told the Israeli officials privately that they should not ignore the growing anti-apartheid sentiment in the American public and Congress and should not lag too far behind the pro-sanction mood of Western governments.

American Jewish leaders emphasized the primacy of Israel's security, survival and sovereignty to decide with whom and what it trades. On the other hand, the same leaders said they feel it is incumbent upon them to let Israel know that its South African policy is affecting them negatively in their efforts to deal with other domestic and foreign issues.

A pervasive argument by some Jewish leaders against the trade is that Israel's military relations with South Africa are increasingly straining Jewish-Black relations in this country and providing an excellent excuse for Black African countries not to resume relations with Israel.

Elan Steinberg, World Jewish Congress executive director, said although the military trade has been distorted, it has affected attitudes in the anti-apartheid community. "There is a perception that Jews and Israel are not in the forefront of anti-apartheid," he said.

The distortion of and disproportionate attention focussed on Israel's trade with South Africa was one of the great propaganda coups of Israel's enemies in the past decade. American Jewish officials are sensitive to the singling out of Israel

for criticism when other Western, Arab and Soviet-bloc countries provide far more valuable and critical support for the South African regime.

Unfair To Single Out Israel

On April 1, the State Department is scheduled to submit a report to the President containing an account of countries receiving U.S. foreign aid which are supplying military materiel to South Africa. Countries which continue the military exchanges could risk forfeiting their U.S. foreign aid, in Israel's case \$1.8 billion. One Israeli expert on South Africa, who asked not to be identified, said the Congressional legislation has turned Israel's military relations with South Africa from a moral issue to a realpolitik issue.

Malcolm Hoenlien, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, was among other officials who said they are concerned that this legislation has singled out Israel and one or two other countries and would effectively overlook the major trading partners of South Africa who are also U.S. allies.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, AJCommittee director of international affairs, said "I hope the report to the President will give an overview which will talk about the UK, Soviet Union, Japan and others to keep it in perspective. Israel is not the primary culprit in sustaining South Africa." Kagedan said the legislation is unfair because it would not potentially hurt 20 other countries which sell much more to South Africa.

Kagedan, Tanenbaum and others said they believe a large volume of weapons is flowing from the West to South Africa despite the mostly "symbolic" Western arms embargo. "The same standard should apply to Israel as everyone else, no more, no less," Tanenbaum said.

Kagedan said, "There is a sense on the part of Israelis that Western nations are immensely hypocritical on sanctions."

Review Of Policy Within Israel

Within Israel, the policy on military trade with South Africa has been under review for about six months. Although a small group of intellectuals headed by Yossi Beilin (Labor), political director general of the Foreign Ministry, argue the trade is counterproductive foreign policy, the Israeli expert said the majority still advocates continuing the military trade.

The advocates of trade argue that it brings in much needed foreign capital and provides valuable research and development opportunities for Israel. Many also argue that severing relations with Pretoria could threaten the security of South Africa's 119,000 Jews.

There are also reports that South Africa has threatened to reveal the details of the cooperation if Israel severs relations. "There is tremendous resentment in Israel over what is seen as attempts to blackmail and manipulate Israel . . . South Africa revels in pointing out the similarities between itself and Israel," the Israeli expert said.

Kagedan said, "The South African government has an interest in projecting itself associated with Israel. It helps (Prime Minister Pieter Willem) Botha to appear to the U.S. as another Israel."

One expert said the official military transfers from Israel to South Africa are now virtually non-existent. But according to some sources, private arms dealers have taken up the slack of arms sales and some forms of military trade

continue. Israel's stated position is that it is adhering to the 1977 United Nations arms embargo. Although press reports and information from trade monitoring agencies on the military exchanges have never been confirmed by Israel and are difficult to corroborate, experts interviewed by the JTA said there are four major areas of military exchanges between the two countries:

**** Exchanges of military hardware, technologies, electronic surveillance systems and radar.** In March 1985, the Washington Post reported that South Africa bought up to 35 percent of Israel's \$1 billion per year arms exports.

**** Israelis training South Africans were observed and reported.** One expert said there is "a fair amount of evidence to bear this out, especially in the early 1980's."

**** R & D, joint development of military technologies such as a sophisticated mid-air refueling system.** Some observers note that the South African Cheetah fighter bomber bears a striking resemblance to the Israeli Kfir.

**** Nuclear technology and cooperative research.** These exchanges have been reported on frequently but never confirmed.

The Israeli expert said there is clearly a dramatic reduction of the Israel-South Africa conventional arms trade in the past decade as a result of significant development of South Africa's domestic arms industry and the availability of new markets to the Israelis.

Basis For Israel's Trade

The most outspoken opponents of the military trade in the American Jewish community come from the New Jewish Agenda (NJA). In a draft of a position paper, Agenda attributed the trade relationship to Israel's dependence on military exports and the military industrial complex for sources of foreign income. By 1981, Agenda noted, Israel's arms exports rose to \$1.3 billion or 40 percent of Israel's exports. This reliance, according to Agenda, partners Israel with repressive regimes around the world.

But the Agenda paper also stated repeatedly that Israel should not be singled out for criticism among South Africa's other major trading partner.

Rabbi Balfour Brickner, vice president of the American Israel Civil Liberties Coalition and spiritual leader of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue in New York, said the trade with South Africa is "a source of embarrassment for American Jews which is causing them to silently walk away from their heretofore unqualified support for Israel."

An Uncomfortable Position

Israel should have halted the military exchanges long ago, Brickner said. But pressure from American Jews was not enough. Only pressure from Congress will instigate a change in Israel's South Africa policy, he said.

"I don't think the trade is in Israel's best interest," Brickner said. "Interest has to be measured in terms other than dollars. Israel's South Africa policy could erode American Jewish support for Israel."

Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, described the uncomfortable position of American Jews on the military trade. AJCongress took a leading role in the Jewish community in pushing to impose sanctions on South Africa, Siegman said. Its leaders were arrested in an act of civil disobedience in front of the South African Embassy to protest apartheid.

"We obviously cannot begin to sanction the sale of arms from Israel. We have to assume this kind of trade is going on and from our point of view, it cannot continue," Siegman said.

"The pressure should not come only from Congress," he said. "There ought to be moral pressures within Israel itself. The Israeli government has to understand that there are things it cannot do." Arms supplies allow a government to stay in power, Siegman said.

"The Jewish State was not created to supply oppressive regimes with the tools of oppression," Siegman said. "If there is not that internal pressure within Israel, American Jews have to make it clear that (military trade with South Africa) is unacceptable."

SOLON SAYS U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS NOT HARMED BY THE IRAN ARMS SALES SCANDAL

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Feb. 18 (JTA)-- A member of the Senate Select Committee investigating the Iran arms sale scandal told an audience of Jewish leaders here that Israel's role in the affair "has not had a significant amount of impact" on U.S.-Israel relations.

Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D. Md.) attributed the absence of negative reaction toward Israel to the underlying strength of the U.S.-Israel relationship which, he said, is based firmly on shared values. The U.S.-Israel relationship is "a cardinal element of a principled American foreign policy," Sarbanes said in a speech to 500 delegates attending the four-day 43rd annual Plenary Session of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC) here.

Speaking of the Middle East peace process, the Maryland Democrat asserted that "We need to restrain and limit, or totally deny, arms transfers" to Arab countries "unless they are genuinely participating in or contributing to movement toward peace."

He said that while the U.S. is prepared to develop constructive relations with other Middle Eastern nations, it will not do so at the expense of Israel. He said the U.S. should "actively press the peace process forward," noting that "Camp David provides the framework within which we can hope to work out a solution to the conflict in the Middle East."

Another speaker at the Plenary Session, Nimrod Novik, special advisor to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, said an international peace conference as the framework for negotiations between Israel and Jordan would be an "historic breakthrough." He stressed that while there are some obstacles to advancing and planning a peace conference, Israel is "tirelessly committed" to seek peace with its neighbors.

He said Israel agreed to the concept of an international conference in order to help facilitate the convening of direct, bilateral negotiations with Jordan. He noted that such negotiations within the broader context of an international forum would provide the umbrella covering sought by Jordan's King Hussein.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The cost of living index rose by 2.1 percent in January, a smaller increase than expected after the 10 percent devaluation of the Shekel.

**RABIN: WOULD NOT OBJECT IN PRINCIPLE
TO EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS FOR ISRAELI
SOLDIERS HELD CAPTIVE IN LEBANON**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin indicated Monday that he would not "object in principle" to a prisoner exchange deal for Israeli soldiers held captive in Lebanon.

"IDF soldiers who are sent to attack the enemy should know that the State of Israel is behind them, not only in words, but also in deals -- if there is no other military option," Rabin told reporters during a visit to Ashdod.

"I cannot say that I will object in principle to (such) deal. No government in Israel has ever objected," he said, noting that when there is no military option to release prisoners and kidnap victims, there is the option of "deals."

Israel has made clear, however, that it will not release 400 convicted prisoners as demanded by the Islamic Jihad, an extremist group in Lebanon, for the lives of three Americans and one Indian national kidnapped in Beirut last month. There were hints that Israel might negotiate for the freedom of an Israel Air Force navigator taken prisoner by the Shiite Amal militia after his plane was shot down over Lebanon last October.

In 1985, Israel freed 1,500 prisoners, including convicted terrorists, in exchange for three Israeli soldiers held captive in Lebanon.

**KNESSET PANEL VOTES TO REVOKE
KAHANE'S MAILING PRIVILEGES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The Knesset House Committee voted unanimously Tuesday to revoke the franking privileges of Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach Party and its sole Knesset member.

The Committee acted on the request of Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein who cited many complaints that Kahane was using his free mailing privilege to disseminate racist propaganda and intimidate Israeli Arabs.

The decision has to be confirmed by the Knesset plenum. It is expected to be endorsed by an overwhelming majority. But Kahane told the Committee Monday that he would continue his mailings at Kach Party expense if his franking privilege was withdrawn.

A sample of Kahane's mail shown to the Committee was a warning to Arabs that "If you wish to remain in this country you must give up your Israeli citizenship and any hope of equality with Jews."

**REAGAN ADMINISTRATION WILL TRY
TO PERSUADE SHAMIR TO CONSIDER AN
INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration will try to persuade Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who arrived in Washington Tuesday, to consider an international conference if it would lead to direct negotiations.

"The United States believes it is important to explore all possible approaches to direct negotiations, to see whether any of these, including an international conference, would lead immediately to direct negotiations," a senior Administration official said Tuesday.

Shamir said last Thursday in Israel that he will try to dissuade the U.S. from considering an international conference, a position in which he differs with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres with whom he traded jobs last October as part of the national unity government agreement.

This is Shamir's first visit to Washington since becoming Premier, although he was here several times as Foreign Minister. His last visit as Premier under the old Likud government was in November 1983.

The Administration official, briefing reporters on the Shamir visit, called him an "old friend" who was here to renew his "already close personal relationship" with President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz.

Topics Of Discussion

Shamir met with Shultz shortly after his arrival and then held a second meeting with Shultz in the afternoon. He is scheduled to have a breakfast meeting with Shultz Wednesday before going to the White House for a meeting and working lunch with Reagan.

The U.S. official said topics of discussions during Shamir's three-day visit here include U.S.-Israel relations, the peace process, the Israeli economy, Soviet Jewry and international terrorism.

The Iran arms deal and the case of Jonathan Pollard, the former civilian Navy employee who has confessed to spying for Israel, are expected to come up, but neither will be "an important focus of the discussions," the official stressed.

He said the U.S. "understands" the positions of both Shamir and King Hussein of Jordan on an international conference. Hussein has said that he needs an international conference as an "umbrella" for talks with Israel.

Shamir charged last week that an international conference is an "Arab-Soviet idea" where Israel would be isolated and subject to demands that it return to its 1967 border.

Views On An International Conference

State Department deputy spokesman Phyllis Oakley said Friday that any international conference "would have to be agreed to by the parties themselves. Whatever the format it should lead immediately to direct negotiations and should not interfere with those negotiations."

This position was reaffirmed by the Administration official Tuesday. "We are convinced that face-to-face discussions on the hard issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict and proposals for their peaceful resolution is the only way to achieve a peace that will be lasting and fair to all the parties," he said.

Peres has argued that an international conference is the only way to bring Jordan into the negotiations. However, as for Hussein's demand that the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council participate, Peres has stressed that the Soviet Union could not

participate in Mideast peace talks until it restores diplomatic relations with Israel and allows Soviet Jews to freely emigrate.

This is the same position taken by the U.S. and reconfirmed by the Administration official Tuesday.

However, he stressed that a Jordanian delegation to negotiations with Israel would have to include Palestinians. He noted that the makeup of the Palestinian representatives is one of the issues being discussed. Israel has made it clear it will not talk to members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The official noted that Shamir, as have previous Israeli leaders, is expected to urge the Administration to make it mandatory that Soviet Jewish emigrants go directly to Israel and not be free to immigrate to the U.S. But the official said the U.S. still supports the position of "freedom of choice."

The official confirmed that Israel, like Japan and Australia, has been given the status of "official major non-NATO ally." This will allow Israel to bid on Defense Department research and development contracts. Given Israel's "high technological capabilities" it should be in a "good position to compete" for these contracts, the official said.

DEMJANJUK TRIAL CONTINUES

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- An historian of the Holocaust, Dr. Yitzhak Arad, presented a detailed description of the "death factory" at Treblinka Tuesday, the second day of the trial of John Demjanjuk, the alleged Treblinka guard accused of war crimes.

Arad, the director of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, told the Jerusalem District Court how nearly 900,000 Jews were put to death in the gas chambers. At the height of the operation, some 15,000 victims were killed at Treblinka every day.

At one point, Arad said, the three gas chambers at the extermination camp were unable to cope with the load and many victims died of exposure and other causes while they were kept waiting in packed railroad freight cars.

The three-judge court overruled an objection by Demjanjuk's American attorney, Mark O'Connor, that the history of the Holocaust should not be presented at the trial. But the case hinges on the positive identification of Demjanjuk, a Ukrainian-born former automobile worker in Cleveland, Ohio, as the Treblinka guard known to inmates as "Ivan the Terrible" because of his brutality.

O'Connor contends that the accused is not the Treblinka Ivan and in fact never was in Treblinka. According to the defense, Demjanjuk became a German prisoner of war in 1942 and "at no time during the war was he at any concentration or extermination camp."

Not Much Interest In The Proceedings

The trial opened Monday in a converted movie house, but the 300-seat hall was not full, Haim Guri, Israel's national poet, reported in Davar Tuesday. He noted that this was in stark contrast to the trial here in 1961 of Adolf Eichmann, the principal organizer of the "Final Solution," the mass murder of European Jews.

Guri suggested in his commentary that Israel may be too involved with itself and its current problems to bear the pain of re-living the Holocaust. Labor MK Shevah Weiss, a Holocaust survivor and, like the defendant, born in the Ukraine, attended the opening of the trial. "I was in shock. I imagined him (Demjanjuk) killing butchering, strangling," he told reporters afterwards, recalling his childhood ordeal hidden away with his immediate family by "Righteous Gentiles" while other relatives were murdered.

But Weiss admitted to doubts as to whether the man in the prisoner's dock was indeed "Ivan the Terrible." Whereas "there was no uncertainty" about Eichmann's guilt, "now the uncertainty eats away at me," he said.

BEVERLY MINKOFF DEAD AT 60

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held Monday for Beverly Minkoff, the immediate past president of Women's American ORT and a vice president of the World ORT Union. She died Sunday after a long illness. She was 60 years old.

Minkoff joined American Women's ORT in the early 1950's and became president of the Long Island region in 1965. In 1967 she was named to the national executive committee of the organization and from 1979 through 1983 she served as its national president.

A native of New York, Minkoff was a graduate of Ohio University where she earned a B.S. in education. Her undergraduate work and interest in world history led to her initial interest in the ORT programs.

During her long career in the Jewish community, Minkoff was vice chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, a member of the Board of Trustees of Bramson ORT Technical Institute, an executive committee member of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, immediate past president of the Leadership Conference of Major Jewish Women's Organizations, and the Women's American ORT delegate to Non-Governmental Operations of the United Nations.

TWO HISTORIC MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Two major international Jewish organizations will hold their executive committee meetings in Budapest within a month of each other, spokespersons for the World Jewish Congress and the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture reported here. They noted that this was unprecedented, marking the first such gatherings in a Communist country in Eastern Europe. The WJC meeting is May 6 to May 9. The Memorial Foundation meeting is June 30 to July 2.

Israel Singer, WJC secretary-general, who with executive director Elan Steinberg just returned from Budapest, said the Hungarian government had agreed to the meeting and to participation of all members of the WJC executive, including those from Israel.

"Senior members of the World Zionist Organization, as members of the WJC executive, will participate in the meetings, as will representatives of Jewish communities from around the world," Singer said. "This agreement represents a significant breakthrough which we expect can have an impact not only on Jewish relations with the

Eastern bloc, but on the general state of East-West relations as well."

Jerry Hochbaum, executive director of the Memorial Foundation, said the Hungarian government agreed to the meeting of his organization following correspondence by Philip Klutznick, Foundation president, with Imre Miklos, Rumanian Minister of Cults.

Hochbaum noted that the Foundation has been active in Budapest since 1965. It has supported the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest -- the only one of its kind in Eastern Europe -- and has helped train more than 30 rabbis and five cantors. These rabbis and cantors now serve Jewish communities throughout Hungary, as well as Riga, Moscow, East Berlin, Leningrad and Prague. The Foundation also supports the Gymnasium, a Jewish high school in Budapest, and the Yeshiva Ketana there.

Klutznick pointed out that the Foundation "has a deep, historic connection with Jewish communities in Eastern Europe in the countries where we are permitted to work." The Foundation has supported educational, cultural and religious programs in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia, he said. The largest and most varied of these programs is currently in Hungary.

At its meeting, the Foundation will join with the Hungarian Jewish community in an examination of the impact of the Foundation's help and will discuss new initiatives in the area of Jewish education in the country, Hochbaum said.

The WJCongress, at its meeting, will consider Jewish concerns ranging from the issues of anti-Semitism to interfaith relations, according to Edgar Bronfman, WJC president. The organization's leadership is scheduled to hold discussions with government officials on matters of mutual concern, he added.

The Central Board of Hungarian Jews, which will receive the WJC leaders for the three-day meeting, has been a member of the WJC since 1980 when it was granted permission by the government to affiliate.

INNA MEIMAN REMEMBERED FOR HER STRENGTH AND VITALITY

By Judith Colp

CHEVY CHASE, Md., Feb. 17 (JTA) --Soviet refusenik Inna Meiman was remembered for her strength and vitality as friends and admirers gathered for her funeral Tuesday in Chevy Chase, just outside Washington. Meiman, who had been allowed to go abroad for treatment of a tumor on her neck, died February 19.

Meiman's son, Lev Kitrosski, was permitted to leave the Soviet Union on a temporary basis to attend his mother's funeral. He missed the services but arrived in time to lead the procession to the gravesite. Meiman's step-daughter, Olga Plum, of Boulder, Colorado, also attended the services.

Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, told the audience that Meiman was a "very special person whose kindness and cheer even under adversity were infectious."

Ann Garrels, an NBC State Department correspondent who was formerly in Moscow, remembered Meiman, an English teacher, as a woman who "wrestled with giants . . . and refused to become a nonperson."

"She loved to teach her ever growing circle of friends, and although her prognosis was grim, she wouldn't give up," Garrels said. "And she never expected anyone to do it for her."

Meiman refused to leave the Soviet Union earlier because her husband, Naum, a refusenik since 1975, had not been allowed to accompany her.

"We gather together to remember the destruction of that one woman and her family will never be what it might have become," said Jerry Goodman, Executive Director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Also attending Meiman's funeral were Sens. Paul Simon (D. Ill.) and Timothy Wirth, (D. Colo). Former Sen. Gary Hart (D. Col.), who had intervened on Meiman's behalf during a visit to the Soviet Union in December, did not attend the funeral but sent remarks that although Meiman had lost a personal battle to cancer she had won many more battles than she lost."

BRONFMAN LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO EASE POLARIZATION IN ISRAEL AND DIASPORA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Canadian Jewish industrialist Charles Bronfman believes that imaginative cultural approaches can ease the polarizations which plague Jewish life in Israel and the diaspora and has put up a substantial sum of money to prove it.

At a press conference here Tuesday, Bronfman launched the CRB Foundation to finance theatrical groups, festivals and mass communications events aimed at bridging the religious-secular, Sephardic-Ashkenazic and Israel-diaspora gaps. Close to five million Shekels will be available for the first year's projects and "if we do the job, that amount will grow," he said.

The foundation's Hebrew name is "Karev," an acronym of the donor's initials which spells the Hebrew word "to draw close" and thus expresses its theme. Bronfman said the fund should serve as a catalyst to spur individuals to come up with novel ideas. He stressed the need to reach out to the younger generation.

The initial projects to be advanced by CRB include theater in development towns, sponsored by Tel Aviv's Tzedek Theater; street theater competitions run in coordination with the Israeli Festival; an institute for the study of Israeli economic policy in coordination with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University; and a Jewish culture festival to mark Israel's 40th anniversary in 1988.

VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN THE GAZA STRIP

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- An Israeli policeman wounded a 16-year-old Palestinian girl in the leg when he opened fire on a crowd after his vehicle was stoned in the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis Tuesday. The policeman said he fired into the air to disperse the stone-throwers and then fired at their feet.

The incident was the latest in the wave of unrest that has swept the Gaza Strip and West Bank since last Thursday.

A passenger in an Egged bus was injured by rocks thrown at the vehicle south of Hebron Tuesday. Stones were thrown and tires were burned in roadways throughout the administered territories.

NJCRCRAC LEADER SAYS VIEW OF U.S. JEWISH COMMUNITY AS A SINGLE-ISSUE COMMUNITY IS A 'MISPERCEPTION'

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Feb. 17 (JTA)-- Calling characterizations of the American Jewish community as a single-issue community a "misperception," Michael Pelavin, chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRCRAC), charged that members of Congress "doubt whether Jewish community relations agencies are prepared to press vigorously on the other gut issues of concern to the Jewish community."

Addressing a session of the NJCRCRAC plenum at the Bonaventure Hotel, attended by more than 500 delegates, Pelavin faulted political action committees and other single-issue organizations for contributing to the misconception, but also asserted that the Jewish community relations field leadership has not forcefully advocated their full agenda.

"The American Jewish community relations field does not limit itself to a single issue," he said. "The issue is not whether we advocate a single-issue agenda; the issue is the forcefulness of our advocacy of that total agenda."

Pelavin asserted that "No one would deny, or even wish to deny, the primacy of Israel for the Jewish community relations field and the American Jewish community." Yet, so far as Congress, the White House, and the media are concerned, "American Jewry has only one button -- and that is Israel," he declared.

When the "litmus test" for Jewish support is perceived by political candidates as restricted to Israel, Pelavin said, "it significantly undermines our effectiveness in acting on the other gut issues of the Jewish community."

Role Of The PACs

He stated that PACs "enhance the influence and leverage of the Jewish community if used properly." Recognizing that "PACs must, by their very nature, concentrate on those core issues that bring together the largest number of contributors in a common cause," Pelavin criticized PACs for limiting themselves solely to the issue of Israel, while ignoring the other gut issues of the Jewish community.

"I do not believe that the overwhelming majority of the Jewish community would condone PACs giving support to any member of Congress who showed the slightest taint of anti-Semitism, no matter how vigorously that Senator or Congressman supported Israel," he said.

"But I also suggest that the great majority of the Jewish community would question whether it is in the best interests of the Jewish community for PACs to support those Senators or Congressmen who would undermine the separation of church and state or, more broadly, the bill of rights, notwithstanding their position on Israel."

He contended that, at a minimum, PACs also should respond to threats to Soviet Jewry, threats of anti-Semitism, threats to the separation of church and state, and threats to the Bill of Rights.

Pelavin called upon Jewish community relations leaders "to play a much more active role in educating the leaders of the 70 or more Jewish PACs" to evaluate a candidate's stance regarding

these issues, in addition to Israel, "in determining whom they should support."

Pelavin also urged Plenum delegates to encourage "the active involvement of Jews as individuals in the mainstream of American life." By doing so, he said, "the Jewish community also will be responsive to the total agenda of American society."

MARYASIN'S CONDITION IS BETTER THAN FIRST BELIEVED

By Mark Dodick

Staff Writer, Canadian Jewish News

TORONTO, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- The condition of recently released long-time refusenik Leah Maryasin is much better than doctors here first believed. Physicians at Toronto General Hospital originally feared that Maryasin, 61, was suffering from multiple myeloma upon being admitted last week. However, Dr. Michael Baker, head of the hospital's cancer treatment and research program, said that original diagnosis has been changed.

Baker told The Canadian Jews News that Maryasin is suffering from skin plasmacytomas, a much more common variant of the disease. She can be treated with oral medication, and is expected to enjoy several years of good health, he said. Baker added that Maryasin, who could not walk when she came to the hospital because of a blood clot in her leg, is responding to treatment and is now beginning to take a few steps.

Maryasin's brother-in-law, Eugene Katz, said the family expected her to be released from the hospital this week. Her husband, Alexander, 62, and daughter, Faina, are beginning to adjust to their new life here, though the process would take time, Katz said. After 15 years of refusal, the Maryasins were finally allowed to leave the Soviet Union and arrived in Montreal two weeks ago. Last week, the family was reunited with relatives in Toronto, Eugene Katz and his wife Mara who fought for their release.

U.S. NAVAL OFFICER GETS JNF AWARD

By Susan Birnbaum

HAIFA, Feb. 17 (JTA) -- Rear Admiral Grant Sharp, commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet whose flagship, the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy, was anchored at Haifa last week, received a plaque from the Jewish National Fund of America and a promise by the JNF to plant 100 trees in honor of the Sixth Fleet in the American Independence Forest outside Jerusalem.

Grant reciprocated by presenting a plaque to the JNF expressing thanks for its support of the U.S. Navy. It was accepted by Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, JNF national president, on behalf of the delegates attending the JNF's Third National Assembly in Israel. The Admiral also invited the delegates to tour the giant carrier.

The JNF group was plainly delighted. "How proud we are to see our flag flying in Haifa Bay," Sternstein said. "How proud we are of our country, and to be able to see the U.S. Navy in our homeland."

Sharp said in response, "It's been inspiring to see you all here and that you appreciate what we're doing. We are on a mission of peace. It is essential that our fellow Americans appreciate and understand our service."

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES;
MURDER OF LEBANESE PREMIER MOST
LIKELY TO AFFECT SYRIA: ISRAELIS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 1 (JTA) -- The murder of Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami Monday will not affect Israel directly. But it could have repercussions with respect to Syria, which for all practical purposes controls most of Lebanon and has managed, if not to achieve peace, to reduce the level of violence there, Israeli pundits observed.

Karami, a Sunni Moslem who had been Lebanon's Premier 10 times in the last 32 years, was killed when a bomb exploded in his helicopter while he was travelling from his home in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, to Beirut Monday morning.

He was known as the "Syrian man in Lebanon" and as such doubtlessly made many enemies, according to Uri Lubrani, Coordinator of Israel Government Affairs in south Lebanon. Therefore, it is difficult to pinpoint his killers, Lubrani said. The Syrians have lost a key element in their Lebanese policy and Israeli experts will watch with interest whatever moves Damascus makes in the weeks ahead, he said.

The consensus here is that Karami's death will not loosen Syria's grip on Lebanon. It is unclear whether an alternative to the Syrian presence in Lebanon would not work against Israel's interests.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir, commenting on the assassination, said it would affect events in Lebanon. But Israelis seemed not to be surprised by the assassination, as murder has become part of everyday Lebanese life. French Foreign Minister Jean Raymond, who is visiting Israel, said at a press conference here Monday that Karami's tragic death underscored how hard it is to reach a national accord in Lebanon. However, Raymond added, that remains the essential goal.

There was little reaction in south Lebanon, where the majority Moslem population is Shiite.

**SOVIET-APPOINTED CHIEF RABBI SAYS
RESTRICTIONS AGAINST JEWS EASED**

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- An unprecedented easing of restrictions on Jewish religious and cultural life in the Soviet Union is well under way, according to the Soviet-appointed Chief Rabbi of Moscow, Adolph Shayeveich. He is the only Jew visiting the U.S. as part of a delegation of religious figures from the USSR, invited by the United Church of Christ.

Shayeveich, who spoke at a breakfast Sunday for Jewish leaders given by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, said a new self-employment law that went into effect May 1 will permit private teachers, including Hebrew teachers, to hold classes for groups of students, and earn income.

Hebrew teaching in fact has been outlawed in the Soviet Union, but has occurred clandestinely, and many Hebrew teachers have been arrested in recent years.

According to Shayeveich, who is rabbi of Moscow's Chorale Synagogue, there was "warm response" in the Jewish community to plans for a kosher restaurant to be opened in the Soviet capital by the end of the year, next door to his synagogue. He said the synagogue would operate the restaurant.

"Another sign of 'glasnost'," the new Soviet policy of openness, Shayeveich said, was the repairs and restoration now being made to the mikveh (ritual bath) attached to the Marina Roscha synagogue in Moscow.

He said the Moscow Jewish community was concerned last year when the mikveh was closed. Jewish spokesmen here raised the matter with Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, when he visited New York last October.

Shayeveich said the repairs were well under way when he left Moscow last month and he expected the mikveh to be functioning within the next few weeks.

Another positive development, according to Shayeveich, was the permission granted by Soviet authorities to permit the delivery of 5,000 copies of a Hebrew-Russian Pentateuch by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation to Moscow in time for Shavuot, June 3-4. Shayeveich said the books were cleared through customs with Kharchev's help. Schneier made arrangements for the shipment with Kharchev.

Shayeveich said the synagogue is selling the books for 10 rubles (about \$9) to members and will make them available to other synagogues in the USSR for 3-5 rubles each.

Shayeveich said he was "hopeful for the future" but cautioned that "glasnost is a process that will take time to have its full effects."

Schneier disclosed that two more Soviet students have been admitted to the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest, the only one in Eastern Europe, where one will study to be a shochet (ritual slaughterer) and the other a chazan (cantor). Both will serve the Moscow synagogue, Schneier said.

**871 JEWS LEAVE USSR IN MAY,
BRINGING YEARLY TOTAL TO 2,302**

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- A total of 871 Jews left the Soviet Union in May, it was announced Monday by the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ). This brings the 1987 total through May 31 to 2,302, compared to last year's figure of 914.

The Intergovernmental Committee for Migration in Geneva told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that 230 Soviet Jews went to Israel in May. In April, 717 Jews left the Soviet Union, with 168 immigrating to Israel. Israel has been the destination of 587 Soviet Jews this year.

Commenting on the highest yearly Soviet Jewish emigration figure since 1982, when 2,688 Jews left, NCSJ noted the "slow but continuing upward trend in Jewish emigration in the last several months."

NORWAY MULLS PROBE OF HOW ITS HEAVY WATER WAS USED BY ISRAEL

By Eli Kohen

COPENHAGEN, June 1 (JTA) -- Norwegian authorities are studying the feasibility of conducting their own investigation of whether heavy water Norway sold to Israel several years ago was used to make nuclear weapons, according to a report by Norinform, the official Norwegian news agency Monday.

Heavy water is enriched in deuterium, the hydrogen isotope twice the mass of ordinary hydrogen as it occurs in water and can be used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

At issue is whether Norway possesses the necessary technology for such a study. The Foreign Ministry in Oslo will also investigate whether France may have sold Norwegian heavy water to Israel in the 1950s and 1960s, a Ministry spokesman, Jan Willy Bronebakk, said.

Norway had proposed that Israel allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to conduct an investigation of how 20 tons of heavy water it sold to Israel was used. Israel rejected this in a letter to Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg on grounds that the probe is technically difficult. Israel indicated also that it lacks confidence in the independence of the IAEA, but that response was not seen as a clear-cut refusal by Oslo.

The allegation that France sold Norwegian heavy water to Israel is continued in the book "Deux Bombes" by the French writer Pierre Pean, which deals with nuclear cooperation between France and Israel in past years. Norway sold 100 tons of heavy water to France in the period under review.

RABIN PLEDGES TOUGHEST OF MEASURES IN TERRITORIES SHORT OF EXECUTION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 1 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Monday that Israel would continue to apply the toughest measures allowed by law to crack down on terrorists in the administered territories. But he rejected demands by rightwing elements to impose the death penalty.

In a statement to the Knesset, Rabin noted that deportations and administrative detention for offenders and suspects are all "in the framework of the law." But he cautioned that there is no "miracle solution" to terrorism and doubted that the death penalty would be effective.

About 30,000 Gush Emunim members and other West Bank settlers held a rally in Tel Aviv Sunday to denounce what they claim is the government's softness in dealing with terrorist acts. The demonstration was called as a memorial gathering for eight-year-old Rami Hana, kidnapped and murdered near his home in Elon Moreh on May 21, and Danny Katz, a teenager killed by terrorists several years ago.

The crowd stood in silence as the fathers of the two victims lit memorial candles. They cheered when someone cried out, "Rabin and Peres are murderers, spilling Jewish blood."

Rabin spoke a day after security forces struck hard at some of the main trouble spots in the territories. A raid on the Balata refugee camp near Nablus resulted in the detention of dozens of suspects and a deportation order against Jihad Mseimeh, the local leader of the El Fatah youth organization, Shabiba. It is being held up pending

appeal. But another Shabiba leader, Ahmed Nasser, a resident of the Khan Yunis refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, was expelled to Jordan Sunday.

The raid on Balata yielded a number of makeshift pistols and knives and a quantity of Palestinian nationalist literature.

Rabin praised the General Security Services (GSS), also known as Shin Bet, as the "most effective tool" to uncover terrorists. "One should exercise great respect for the GSS people and their achievements," Rabin said. The GSS will be the subject of a judicial inquiry for its alleged fabrication of evidence and use of illegal methods to obtain the conviction of former Israel Defense Force officer Izat Nafsu in 1981. The Supreme Court overturned the conviction a week ago and affirmed Nafsu's charges against the GSS.

JAPANESE STORE WITHDRAWS FROM CONFAB FEATURING ANTI-SEMITIC AUTHOR

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- A leading Japanese department store has cancelled its sponsorship of a Tokyo forum June 2-3 following a protest by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith because the scheduled lecturer was Masumi Uno, the author of two anti-Semitic books.

Mitsuo Yamazaki, president of Seibu Department Stores, Ltd., said that Seibu has withdrawn from the forum at the Hotel Okura and that the event has been cancelled. In a letter to the company, Abraham Foxman, ADL associate national director, had asked that it not provide its "highly respectable platform" to further Uno's efforts.

According to an announcement made by Saison, a part of the Seibu organization, the subject of the forum was "Signs of a Great Depression and Japan's Future." The circular contained the following question: "Are Jews the key to solving world problems?"

Uno, head of an Osaka-based group called the Middle East Problems Research Center, charged in his current Japanese best-seller, "If You Can Understand Judea, You Can Understand the World," that American Jewish businessmen "orchestrated" a plot to increase the value of the yen in order to harm Japanese industry.

In the same book published last November, Uno claimed that the scope of the Nazi Holocaust against the Jews has been greatly exaggerated.

Foxman and Burton Levinson, ADL's national chairman, met with Japanese Ambassador Nabuo Matsunaga in Washington in late March to lodge a protest against the Uno books and other anti-Semitic literature being circulated in Japan.

At that time the ADL officials offered the League's assistance in setting up an educational and informational program in Japan to counter anti-Semitism.

PAMPHLET IN CANADA SUGGESTS ISRAEL ENRICHED FROM KASHRUT

TORONTO, June 1 (JTA) -- An anti-Semitic flyer urging the purchase of kosher products "to help Israel" has been circulated in much of Canada in the past few months. It carries the logo of a Star of David superimposed on a dollar sign and is signed by "Jews for a Richer Israel."

Spokesmen for the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith said the flyer has been traced to an anti-Jewish group in British Columbia. They described it as "slick" and "sophisticated."

The message is that buying kosher products brings revenue to Israel and enriches rabbis with hundreds of millions of dollars. "Manufacturers pay a lot of money every year to make their products kosher . . . the costs are passed on to the consumer, so every time you buy a kosher product you're doing your part to help Israel," the flyer says.

According to Manuel Prutschi, national community relations director for the CJC, and Alan Shefman of B'nai B'rith, it has been mailed to companies in the food business and placed under windshield wipers of parked cars. The flyers have turned up in Toronto and in most of the provinces. They have also been mailed to Jewish organizations with a cover letter threatening to expose companies that allegedly pass the extra expense of kosher products to their customers.

ANNUAL SURVEY:

11 NEW WOMEN RABBIS THIS SUMMER

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- Eleven women are being ordained this summer as Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis, bringing to 141 the number of women ordained since the process began in the Reform movement in 1972.

In its annual survey of these ordinations, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told that the Conservative movement did not ordain any women at graduation ceremonies at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) on May 14. Amy Eilberg, of Bloomington, Ind., was ordained as the first Conservative woman rabbi in JTS history in June 1985.

The second woman so ordained is Nina Beiber Feinstein, in June 1986. She returned to her hometown of Dallas, and Conservative officials report they have lost contact with her.

Reform ordinations were held on May 24 at Temple Emanu-El in New York and May 30 at the Isaac M. Wise Temple in Cincinnati.

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical School will ordain two women rabbis on June 7 at Congregation Or Ami in Lafayette Hill, Pa. They are Barbara Rosman Penzner of Leawood, Kan., and Amy Zveiback Levenson of Vineland, NJ.

Nine women completed studies for the Reform rabbinate for ordination this summer. They are: Esther Jo Adler, of Tarzana, Calif., Beth Dina Davidson of Sag Harbor, NY, Susan Laemmel Fletcher of Hermosa Beach, Calif., Lynn Heather Goldstein of Philadelphia, Sara Jo Messinger of Scarsdale, NY, Miriam Ella Shapiro of Van Nuys, Calif., Marjorie Slome of Cincinnati, Sue Ann Wasserman of Pound Ridge, NY, and Donna Ilene Greenfield Adler of Brookline, Mass.

The majority of the women rabbis generally have been placed in subordinate pulpit positions, like their newly ordained male colleagues. The others have taken positions in administration and teaching.

With 17 women finishing their fourth year of rabbinic studies in Reform rabbinical schools, at least five at the Reconstructionist rabbinical school, and at least six studying in the Conservative rabbinical school, it is evident that entry of women into the ranks of the American rabbinate can be expected to grow.

One notable event in the graduation ceremonies was the ordination of the first Soviet-born

candidate, Leonid Feldman, as a Conservative rabbi. In another unusual development, Marla Rosenfeld Barugel and Erica Lippitz became, at the Conservative ceremonies, the first women in Conservative Judaism to receive the diploma of cantor.

PHONES TO 4 MOSCOW SITES OF SEMINARS OUT OF ORDER MONDAY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- Soviet Jewry activists in the U.S. were unable to complete prearranged telephone calls to four Moscow apartments Monday in connection with seminars held by Jewish refuseniks to commemorate International Children's Day.

Moscow operators told the callers that the lines were "out of order." They later told American operators, "don't even bother to place those calls," according to the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry (LICSI).

Inability to place these calls was reported throughout the United States and Toronto by the LICSI, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ) and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ).

Soviet emigre Leonard Terlitsky, representing UCSJ, called from an apartment here to that of Silvia and Yuri Piskin (incorrectly spelled "Fiskin" in the May 29 Daily News Bulletin), where his 70-year-old mother, Fanya, was planning to attend a seminar for parents of Soviet emigres. Unable to get through from 7-11 a.m., he called his brother, Mark, in Moscow.

Mark repeatedly tried to phone two of the apartments, but got only a continuous ring, as though no one were home. Yet, he knew that his wife Svetlana and daughter Olga had gone to two of the seminars.

Also unable to get through, LICSI executive director Lynn Singer called the Leningrad apartment of refusenik Leah Shapira, where 10 refusenik women were meeting in support of the Moscow seminars, and asked them to call the Moscow apartments. There was no word at press time if they succeeded.

See Return To Anti-Semitism

Terlitsky said Soviet Jews perceive a general "turning against" the policy of "glasnost" (openness). Singer told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, present at the Terlitsky calls, that "the portents of this are extremely serious. It shows that the Black Hundreds are cracking down."

That long dormant name refers to the Pamyaks, who inflicted pogroms on the Jews of Russia in the early 20th century. It now is applied by Soviet Jewish activists to a new organization, the Memory Society, whose impact Singer feels is contributing to an upsurge of Soviet anti-Semitism.

Terlitsky explained that the nationalistic, openly anti-Semitic society, which has surfaced in the last 10 years, has been allowed to "come out of the dark corners" recently. Two weeks ago, the society held a rally near the Kremlin, and it has been allowed to meet openly in Moscow with Boris Yeltsin, chief of the Communist Party there.

The society also publishes literature blaming Jews for all "the ills of the Soviet Union," Singer said.

WAY TO PEACE IS CAMP DAVID ACCORDS, SHAMIR TELLS LEADERS; DEPARTING ENVOY ROSENNE LAUDED By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 1 (JTA) -- "All Israelis, no matter what political view they represent, are united in the search for, and determination to achieve, peace," Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir declared Sunday night in a videotaped message to more than 1,000 Jewish leaders from the U.S., Canada, Western Europe and Latin America.

"The differences among us," Shamir told the leaders, attending the International Israel Bond dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here, "are in regard to the methods to achieve peace, and such differences are perfectly legitimate in a democratic society." Shamir was alluding to his dispute with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who supports the convening of an international peace conference on the Mideast.

The dinner also paid tribute to Meir Rosenne, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, who completed his four years of service in the U.S. Monday.

In his address, Shamir said that "the government of Israel will, in accordance with its agreed guidelines, pursue peace in the spirit of the Camp David accords that were concluded between President (Anwar) Sadat and Prime Minister (Menachem) Begin, with the participation of the United States." The Premier asserted that the Camp David process "is still the only instance of successful peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab world. It was achieved by means of direct negotiations, and the government of Israel is committed to that procedure."

Jerusalem 'Never To Be Separated'

Noting that world Jewry is marking the 20th anniversary of the unification of Jerusalem, Shamir declared: "We have returned to Jerusalem never to be separated again. We have united Jerusalem and it will never be divided again. It is a city in which there is freedom of worship for all faiths and protection for all shrines. It is a city of peace."

Rosenne, assessing the present relations between Israel and the U.S., said that the ties between the two countries are strong and are based on a "strategic understanding and political alliance." He claimed that the relations between Jerusalem and Washington are not a "one-way street," and that Israel contributes to the U.S. as much as she receives.

Rosenne presented this year's Ben Gurion Centennial Medals to 17 national and international Jewish leaders who were honored "for their achievements in philanthropy, business, and efforts for Israel and the community at large."

More than \$76 million in Israel Bond subscriptions were announced at the dinner by David Hermelin of Detroit, international chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, who served as chairman of the dinner. Israel Bonds sales reached the record amount of \$603 million in 1986. The goal for 1987 is \$700 million.

ROSENNE CREDITS U.S. JEWS FOR IMPROVED U.S.-ISRAELI ALLIANCE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 1 (JTA) -- Meir Rosenne, Israel's outgoing Ambassador to the United States, summed up his four-year tour of duty in Washing-

ton Sunday as "the best years in the (U.S.-Israel) relationship, except for the Pollard affair." He credited American Jewry in large measure for this.

"We have reached a strategic military and political relationship based on signed agreements," Rosenne told Israel Radio in an interview from his Embassy. "We have a free trade area agreement which was signed between the two countries, which is unique in the relations of the United States with any country in the world."

The case of Jonathan Pollard, the civilian intelligence analyst employed by the U.S. Navy who was convicted of spying for Israel and now is serving a life sentence, was the only serious blot on the record. But Rosenne was also angered by the subpoena issued two weeks ago to David Kimche, former Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, to testify before a select committee of Congress on the Iran-Contra affair.

According to the envoy, the U.S. Justice Department violated all norms of diplomacy when it issued the subpoena. Kimche was later excused by court order from appearing before the committee.

Cites VOA, SDI

In reviewing developments that have strengthened U.S.-Israeli relations, Rosenne also mentioned the completed negotiations for building Voice of America (VOA) radio transmitters in the Negev and Israel's joining in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) research. He pointed out that Israel is "one of four countries which have until now signed an agreement with the U.S. in this respect."

Rosenne observed that "As far as American Jewry is concerned, the relationship (with Israel) is extremely close. This does not mean that we agree on everything. But I think that this is one of the pillars of strength of Israel and of the relationship with the U.S. and this is undoubtedly one of the elements of our strength that has to be developed and kept alive," Rosenne said.

His term in Washington expired officially at midnight Sunday and Rosenne was planning to return to Israel. The ongoing dispute between Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over his replacement has not been resolved. Until Rosenne's successor is named, the Washington embassy will be headed by a Charge d'Affaires.

BANK OF ISRAEL FINDS LINK BETWEEN EMIGRATION, ECONOMIC STAGNATION By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 1 (JTA) -- The Bank of Israel has cited yerida -- the emigration of Israelis to live permanently abroad -- as a factor for economic stagnation and the decline of population growth.

In a report published Sunday, the country's central bank noted that the annual population growth in the past two years was 1.5 percent compared to an average 1.9 percent in the years 1981-84 and 2.3 percent in the years 1975-80.

In 1985, about 11,000 immigrants arrived in Israel. In 1986, the figure was 10,500, the lowest since 1953.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated June 4 because the JTA office will be closed June 3 for Shavuoth.

PROBE OF SHIN BET AGENTS ORDERED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 28 (JTA) -- Attorney General Yosef Harish is expected to instruct the police Friday to open an investigation into whether agents of the Shin Bet presented false evidence to a military court which convicted former Israel Defense Force officer Izat Nafsu of treason and espionage in 1981.

The conviction was overturned by the Supreme Court last Sunday and Nafsu was released from prison where he had served early seven years of an 18-year sentence. The court, in its ruling, affirmed Nafsu's charges that he was convicted on evidence fabricated by the Shin Bet and that his confession was extracted by illegal means.

Harish's decision to order a police investigation runs counter to the wishes of Premier Yitzhak Shamir who prefers a government inquiry. Last Friday Shamir named former State Comptroller Yitzhak Tunik and former Mossad chief Zvi Zamir to comprise a commission of inquiry into the operational methods of Shin Bet and make recommendations.

MK Mordechai Virshubsky of the Shinui Party said Thursday that a governmental inquiry would deal only in generalities and not blame individuals for misconduct. He said on a television interview that he would file a complaint with the police against Yossi Ginossar, the Shin Bet operative named in Nafsu's complaint.

LAVI JET PROJECT GETS A BOOST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 28 (JTA) -- The Lavi jet fighter project, which appears to have lost the confidence of the defense establishment and is in deep trouble because of cost overruns, was vigorously defended by Moshe Keret, director of Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), the government-owned company that manufactures the plane.

Keret had the ear of Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, a strong advocate of high technology industries, who visited the IAI plant Thursday.

His main argument was that halting the Lavi project would remove Israel from the roster of aircraft producing countries. IAI has built two prototypes of the advanced combat jet and is currently testing them. It plans to test additional prototypes and select the best for production. But that awaits government approval.

IAI also manufactures the Kfir, the first jet fighter designed and built in Israel, as well as a line of executive jets. Keret told Peres that half of IAI's 20,000 employees were engaged in the production of various types of aircraft. He said IAI's exports accounted for 15 percent of Israel's total exports, with sales of some \$600 million a year.

Since 1980, IAI has exported about \$2.2 billion worth of planes and other high technology products, Keret said. But while Peres had praise for its high technical level, he could make no promises about the Lavi. Its future depends on economic considerations, he said.

JERUSALEM MARKS REUNIFICATION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, May 28 (JTA) -- The 20th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem was marked by commemoration and celebration Wednesday as Israelis recalled the military victory and the lives lost to achieve it.

"The battle for Mt. Zion was won here on Mt. Herzl," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres declared at a memorial service at the military cemetery on Mt. Herzl. Elsewhere, veterans of the paratroop brigade that helped capture East Jerusalem from the Jordanian army in the 1967 Six-Day War met for reunion and reminiscence.

They gathered first on Ammunition Hill, site of the fiercest battle. Later they marched through St. Stephen's Gate, where they first entered the Old City 20 years ago.

The Western Wall was jammed throughout the night with youngsters, yeshiva students and soldiers as fireworks burst over the city and laser beams swept the skies. About 100,000 Israelis and tourists came here to celebrate. Among them was a large group of Ethiopian immigrants, who held a ceremony at Kibbutz Ramat Rahel, just outside the city, in memory of Ethiopian Jews who died on the long trek to Israel.

KAHANE WANTED IN KANSAS

By Michael Devere

The Kansas City Jewish Chronicle

OVERLAND PARK, Kan., May 28 (JTA)-- Rabbi Meir Kahane, the controversial Kach representative to Israel's Knesset, is a wanted man here.

Overland Park Municipal Judge Sheldon Crossette issued an arrest warrant for Kahane May 20 after he failed to appear at a hearing for a disorderly conduct charge stemming from a shoving incident with two men attending Kahane's speech here last November 18.

In addition, one of the men, Mousa Shukair of Kansas City, has filed a civil suit seeking in excess of \$10,000 damages for "assault, battery and outrageous conduct resulting in emotional distress" due to the incident.

If Kahane were to return to Kansas he could face a maximum of six months in jail and a \$500 fine for the municipal misdemeanor. But according to Overland Park Assistant City Attorney Karen Arnold-Burger, Kahane faces the penalties only if served with the warrant, and it probably wouldn't be served unless he returned to the state.

She added that the State of Kansas generally does not extradite for misdemeanor offenses, as Kahane is charged with.

When the warrant was issued, Kahane was enroute from Boston to Los Angeles, according to Steve Samson, a West Coast spokesman for Kach International. That day in Los Angeles, Kahane was served with papers for the civil suit.

Overland Park dropped the disorderly conduct charge against Shukair May 20, as it did earlier for Shukair's cohort at the speech, Rezek Muslet.

Kahane has 30 days to respond. He has returned to Israel, according to a spokesperson at Jewish Idea here, his support movement.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION REFUSES TO REVERSE ITS DECISION ON WALDHEIM

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, May 28 (JTA) -- Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky was unable to persuade the Reagan Administration to reverse its decision barring Austrian President Kurt Waldheim from the United States during his visit to Washington last week.

Vranitzky, who met with President Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and members of Congress, told a National Press Club luncheon audience that he had hoped that the U.S. would weigh the 40 years of "excellent relations" with Austria against the American law that required it to bar Waldheim.

He conceded, however, that his expectations that the U.S. would lift the ban had been "very low." When he was asked at a press conference after his meeting with Reagan last Thursday, if he thought the ban might now be lifted, he replied, "quite frankly no."

At the same time, he stressed that this decision will not affect the relations between the two countries.

Vranitzky told the press conference that Reagan stressed to him that the Administration had no choice but to act as it did under U.S. law.

But Reagan emphasized that the decision to put Waldheim on the U.S. "Watch List" of persons barred for their participation in Nazi atrocities during World War II was "not directed at the Austrian people, government" or Waldheim as President of Austria, Vranitzky said.

Prima Facie Evidence Cited

The State and Justice Departments, in placing Waldheim on the Watch List April 27, said the evidence it had "establishes a prima facie case that Kurt Waldheim assisted or otherwise participated in the persecution of persons because of race, religion, national origin or political opinion."

Waldheim has been charged with participating in atrocities against Jews and others in Greece and Yugoslavia as a lieutenant in the German army.

Vranitzky said last Thursday that the U.S. does not consider Waldheim a war criminal, but someone who was "indirectly" involved in the atrocities. He said the Austrians believe Waldheim had "no personal or "direct" involvement. -

There were reports that Reagan and Shultz rejected a proposal from Vranitzky that the U.S. should suspend its decision while Waldheim is in the largely ceremonial office and then put him back on the Watch List when he leaves office.

Vranitzky said both at the press conference and at the press club luncheon last Friday that many Austrians were upset with the decision because they did not understand the U.S. law. He said many considered it to be a criminal "sentence."

In response to a question Friday, Vranitzky said that while some Austrians blamed Jewish organizations for the U.S. action, this was not the position of the Austrian government. Waldheim's past became an international issue when

his conduct during World War II was raised by the World Jewish Congress.

There have been reports that Vranitzky, a Socialist, who originally defended Waldheim, a Conservative, has recently been trying to distance himself from the Austrian President.

An Austrian diplomat told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that most Austrians would like to see the whole issue disappear. He said this includes Waldheim's opponents as well as his supporters.

Calls For Education

Vranitzky said Friday that Austria must pay "attention" to what he called the "shadows of the past" to ensure that it never happens again. He said this education is especially needed for Austria's youth.

While stressing he rejected "collective guilt" for his nation, he said young Austrians must be taught that "hundreds of thousands of Austrians were forced to leave their country or died in concentration camps" and other Austrians "contributed" to this.

But Vranitzky stressed both at his press conference and in his luncheon address that Austria has been a haven or transit point for 2 million refugees since World War II. He particularly noted that some 600,000 Soviet Jews have come through Austria on their way to "havens" elsewhere.

He pledged that Austria was ready to serve again as a transit point for Soviet Jews, if unofficial reports were true that large numbers of Jews will be allowed to leave the USSR.

ARAB KILLED IN NABLUS RIOT

JERUSALEM, May 28 (JTA) -- Arab rioting in the center of Nablus Tuesday night resulted in the death of a 38-year-old Arab money-changer, apparently from shots fired by Israeli security forces.

Soldiers were called in to quell a demonstration in the town's central square. Hundreds of demonstrators hurled rocks at them and one gasoline bomb that ignited but caused no injuries. The troops used tear gas and rubber bullets, but the crowd did not disperse until live ammunition was fired. The area was cordoned off.

A gasoline bomb was thrown at an Egged bus in Jerusalem Tuesday night, slightly damaging the vehicle. No one was hurt. An Arab policeman was fatally shot in Gaza, presumably by a terrorist.

RAFAEL KLATZKIN DEAD AT 82

TEL AVIV, May 28 (JTA) -- Rafael Klatzkin, a veteran actor associated with the world famous Habima theater, died here Wednesday at the age of 82. He had suffered a heart attack recently and collapsed while strolling near his home.

Klatzkin, who was also a poet, was born in Poland and came to Palestine in 1914 to study at the Herzliya Gymnasium in Haifa. He returned to Poland after the outbreak of World War I but moved permanently to Palestine in 1940 as a construction worker.

He joined Habima in the late 1920's and had major roles in hundreds of its productions. Verses he wrote at the time of Israel's War of Independence in 1948 became the lyrics of many popular songs.

REFUSENIKS TO GATHER ON CHILDREN'S DAY TO DISCUSS SEPARATED FAMILIES

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, May 28 (JTA) -- The plight of separated families will be observed in Moscow by refuseniks on June 1, International Children's Day. Simultaneous discussion meetings, coordinated by Jewish Women Against Refusal (JEWAR), are planned for that day in the apartments of prominent refuseniks.

* Families of children under 16 will discuss the problem of Jewish education and their children's emotional stress at the apartment of Viktoria and Andrei Lifshitz.

* The issue of adult children (over age 18) who were allowed to apply for emigration visas for themselves will be the topic at the apartment of Rimma and Evgeny Yakir.

* Parents of children who have already left the Soviet Union will be discussed at the apartment of Silvia and Yuri Fiskin.

* Parents of children who have emigrated will be the subject at the apartment of Freda and Vladimir Melamed.

Three Soviet Jewry activist organizations in the United States -- the Coalition to Free Soviet Jewry, the National Council for Soviet Jewry, and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry -- provided the names of the families who will host the gatherings, and all the groups relayed the participants' request for maximum publicity, including notifying local newspapers in the U.S. and cables and phone calls to the individual apartments where the discussions will take place, at the time of the meetings, 5 p.m. Moscow time. People are urged to contact any of the three groups to get phone numbers and additional information.

JNF NAMES ROSTROPOVICH MAN OF THE YEAR

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, May 28 (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund named music virtuoso Mstislav Rostropovich of the National Symphony Orchestra Man of the Year Wednesday.

Rostropovich, a cellist and conductor who left the Soviet Union 20 years ago, will have a JNF forest named for him outside Jerusalem.

Accepting his award before some 340 persons, Rostropovich spoke of his visits to Israel beginning in 1959, when the country was "full of big stones and bulldozers," and his friendship with Soviet Jews. "Jews and music, they are the same," said Rostropovich.

Rostropovich also lauded the U.S. for supporting the National Symphony and for protecting freedom.

"Not only forests need defense, but also people need defense. I'm so happy America is so strong," said Rostropovich. "We need a strong country to protect us and secure freedom."

Former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle echoed the theme of America's strength, saying that the U.S. must compete with the Soviet Union which spends 15 to 17 percent of its Gross National Product on military.

"American strength is vital not only to the security of our allies, but to the security, even to the existence of the State of Israel. We want to protect the millions of trees and the people who enjoy it," said Perle. Perle, who left the Reagan

Administration three weeks ago, said that when President Reagan first took office, the U.S. defense systems were badly in need of improvement. "We've asked the American people to make the sacrifice," said Perle. "We're part way there, but not all the way, and it's no time to quit."

Perle also said he was sure neither Congress nor the President would revoke the Jackson Vanik Amendment which links increased emigration from the Soviet Union with trade benefits.

Sen. John Heinz (R. Pa.), a friend of Rostropovich, had just returned from a trip to the Soviet Union where he had met with refuseniks.

"They've undergone incredible travail and tragedy and yet somehow when you meet them the last thing you feel is any of that. You generally feel inspired," Heinz said.

Eric Fox, a former JNF president, presented Rostropovich with the JNF award calling him "a living symbol of growth and rebirth."

U.S. EDUCATION SECRETARY PRAISES RELIGION'S ROLE IN SHAPING VALUES

NEW YORK, May 28 (JTA) -- U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett praised the role of religious groups in shaping national educational issues in a speech to the Agudath Israel of America annual dinner at the New York Hilton Sunday night.

Of the 270 organizations representing educational interests, "There is no group more attentive, more intelligent, displaying more probity in the education of our children than Agudath Israel of America," Bennett told the audience of about 1,700 Orthodox rabbis and lay leaders. He stressed the importance of religion in formation of the society's values and the right to freedom of choice in education. Aguda presented its Humanitarian Award to Bennett.

President Reagan sent a message saying the educational activities of Agudath Israel have strengthened the moral fabric of this country. "Over the years your members have proven themselves to be pillars of strength in their communities ... Their belief in the Almighty, religious freedom, and personal morality enriches all of our lives and our society as well," the message said.

Orthodox rabbinic speakers expressed concern over what they viewed as escalating attacks on Orthodox Judaism and institutions in Israel and America. Others urged increased outreach to the non-observant.

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio) and Senate Minority leader Robert Dole (R. Kas.) are urging Secretary of State George Shultz to reconsider his desire to sell F-15 jets to Saudi Arabia.

In the letter to Shultz, the Senators say, "we have no desire to see a divisive and rancorous fight on the floor and we want you to understand how broad and deep is the concern in the Senate."

The Reagan Administration announced last week that it is postponing the sale of the 60 F-15s to Saudi Arabia until later this summer. The delay came in the aftermath of refusal of two Saudi F-15s to force down the Iraqi jet that attacked the U.S. missile frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

A NOBEL LAUREATE'S LAMENT

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 28 (JTA) -- Isidor Isaac Rabi, the Nobel Laureate physicist and one of the world's most renowned scientists, laments the fact the Jews are not as prominent in the world of science today as they were a generation ago.

"Jews used to be the best scholars and scientists. But the young Jews of this generation go to Wall Street. They make money. Now the best scholars are the Orientals," the 89-year-old Rabi said in an interview here.

But, he noted, Jews are still contributing to the world of science. "All I can say is that I am pleased."

Rabi, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1944 for his work on magnetic properties of atomic nuclei, was asked to rank Israel's position in the world of science today. "Israel is a modern scientific state. It is not a world leader, but it plays a significant role in the world of science. It is not like France, the United States or West Germany, but it can certainly be compared to Austria, for instance, or be placed above Norway or Poland when it comes to science," Rabi observed.

Long Association With Columbia University

Rabi was born on July 29, 1898, in Rymanow, Galicia, which was then part of Austria-Hungary, to an Orthodox Jewish family. He immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of 2, and has ever since been living in New York.

He has had a 63-year association with Columbia University, which in 1985 accorded him the rare honor of creating a professorial chair in his name. In 1967 he was named Professor Emeritus by the university. Still very much active and alert today, he remains a familiar figure on Columbia's campus, where he meets with students, attends seminars and works in his office almost daily. He is also a member of Israel's Bar-Ilan University's Science Advisory Committee.

Role Of Science In Modern Times

Sitting in the living room of his Riverside Drive apartment overlooking the Hudson River, Rabi reflected on the role of science in modern times. "Science is the most important subject in the modern human world," he said. "Science gives you the power over nature, but this power implies ethical responsibility. Therefore, ethics must also come out of science. . . ."

Does the linkage between science and ethics mean that science can be misused?

Rabi replied in the affirmative. "Science can be misused when it is used to kill people," he said, "or when the science of psychology, to give another example, is used to manipulate people."

The professor, however, is aware that some times there are just wars, such as the war against Nazi Germany, or Israel's wars against its enemies.

"I was not against the making of the atom bomb during the war. We were in an emergency then, trying to save civilization. But a just cause is hard to define You have to use it (science) in self-defense. It is a just war to fight somebody like Hitler or the Ayatollah Khomeini," Rabi said, referring to Iran's fanatical leader.

On the subject of science and religion, Rabi said: "If you mean a religion which is found in

the supernatural, it is very difficult for a scientist to follow, although some of the scientists I know are devout Jews and Christians. I am a religious person in a sense that I am a Jew. I am glad I am a Jew. I am not an atheist. I have no objection to the idea of God, the Creator, but I find it hard to follow the idea of God, the Administrator. It is less noble than the grand idea of God the Creator."

Although he was born to an Orthodox Jewish family, whose many members perished in the Holocaust, Rabi says he does not practice the rituals of the Jewish religion. Asked if he attends synagogue on Yom Kippur, he said, "No."

Comfortable As An American Jew

Rabi said he finds it "wonderful" being an American and very comfortable as an American Jew. "I am not suggesting that there is no anti-Semitism here, but I think it is natural. We (the human race) are so built that we do not like strangers. We, the Jews, are different, and no matter how much we imitate the others, we are still Jews," he said.

Did he encounter anti-Semitism during his academic career?

"Yes and no," he replied. "I had a feeling that I would be admitted to many elements of society if I were not Jewish. But once I was in the academic world I did not really encounter anti-Semitism. I always made it clear that I am a Jew. I found it an advantage to be a Jew, to be part of a great history. . . and to the non-Jews, Jews are a mystery," Rabi observed.

He said that he is "first of all an American. That's all I know, that's the only experience I have." But he added, "I am very happy about Israel, that the Jews were able to establish a State and prevail against their many enemies and that the Jews were able to create a State that makes such significant contribution to any element of civilization and culture."

CHARLES KREMER DEAD AT 90

NEW YORK, May 28 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held Friday for Charles Kremer, a Rumanian-born dentist who was instrumental in bringing about the deportation from the United States of Archbishop Valerian Trifa, the Rumanian cleric who was the leader of the fascist Iron Guard which fomented a massacre of Jews in Bucharest in 1941. Kremer died here Tuesday after a long illness. He was 90 years old.

Born in the town of Braila, Rumania, Kremer immigrated to the U.S. in 1919. He graduated dentistry school at the University of Pennsylvania in 1924 and was in practice for more than 53 years. He became famous in Rumania for introducing penicillin there in 1947.

Kremer, who was active in many American Jewish organizations and in the Rumanian Jewish community in America, devoted his life to bringing to justice Nazi war criminals who found refuge in the U.S. He lost scores of relatives in the Holocaust.

He played a major role in discovering evidence about Trifa's fascist past which culminated in a Federal deportation order. Trifa left for Portugal two years ago and died there several months ago at the age of 72. Trifa admitted concealing his past when he entered the U.S. in 1950. He headed the Rumanian Orthodox Episcopate in Grass Lake, Mich.

PROPOSED SALE OF MAVERICK MISSILES TO SAUDIS FACES FIGHT IN CONGRESS

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, June 2 (JTA) -- Strong bipartisan opposition is seen in Congress to the State Department's proposal Monday to sell 1,600 Maverick air-to-ground missiles to Saudi Arabia.

About 30 Senators have written to President Reagan stating that the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia, including the Mavericks, is "not in our best interests." The Senators note the opposition of Saudi Arabia to any peace initiatives with Israel, "our best friend in the region," and ask if "these are the actions of a friend."

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the \$360 million Maverick sale was already approved by Congress in 1984, but delivery was delayed at the Saudis' request.

The arms sale will occur unless Congress blocks it within 30 days. The Administration, citing the 1984 agreement, refused to give Congress the 20-day advance notification of the sale.

"There's no good justification anywhere for this sale," Rep. Mel Levine (D. Calif.), a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "It's obviously an Administration effort to buy back some of the credibility lost through the Iranian arms sale."

Levine, who said he would introduce a resolution to oppose the sale, said the Mavericks sale was a case of the Administration "salami-slicing" the arms package so that while each individual sale was not enormous, its total effect is significant.

More Lethal, Says AIPAC

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee said that the Mavericks in question are more lethal and are significantly more sophisticated than those approved for sale by Congress in 1984. The newer version has never been exported before, according to AIPAC. "They're so upgraded, they could be in a class by themselves," said an AIPAC spokesperson.

The proposed sale of the Maverick missiles comes a week after the Reagan Administration announced that it would postpone the sale of 60 F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. The delay came in the aftermath of the refusal of two Saudi F-15s to force down the Iraqi jet that attacked the U.S. missile frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf.

The State Department has defended the Saudi response, saying that the pilots didn't get authorization to stop the jet. "The Saudis do quite a bit in terms of providing combat air patrol support for the AWACs (surveillance planes) that are in the (Gulf) region," Redman said.

FORMER SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT HEADS JUDICIAL PROBE OF GSS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA) -- A three-man judicial commission to investigate alleged misconduct by the General Security Services (GSS) was appointed by Supreme Court President Meir Shamgar Tuesday. He acted at the formal request of

Premier Yitzhak Shamir. The panel is headed by Justice Moshe Landau, a former President of the Supreme Court. Its other members are State Comptroller Judge Yaacov Maltz and Gen. (Res.) Yitzhak Hofi, a former head of Mossad, Israel's external intelligence agency.

They will convene immediately after the Shavuot holiday to plan their schedule and agenda.

The Cabinet voted Sunday to initiate a judicial inquiry into the GSS, also known as Shin Bet, following charges that it fabricated evidence and extracted a confession by illegal means to obtain the conviction by a military tribunal in 1981 of former Israel Defense Force officer Izat Nafsu on charges of treason and espionage.

Nafsu, 32, a Circassian soldier, was sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment. He was released on May 24 by order of the Supreme Court, which overturned his conviction and upheld his charges against the GSS.

SKOKIE, ILL., HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL VANDALIZED EARLY MONDAY MORNING

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- A suburban Chicago Holocaust memorial, dedicated Sunday afternoon, was defaced with spray-painted swastikas and defamatory phrases before daybreak Monday. Police in the suburb, Skokie, focus of a confrontation between Holocaust survivors and neo-Nazis in 1978, are investigating the crime, but have no suspects.

The vandalism took place sometime between 4 and 6 a.m. Monday, according to Michael Kotzin, regional director of the Greater Chicago Regional Office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. A routine police patrol discovered it at 6:15. Kotzin said the perpetrators must have been hiding in bushes and acted quickly. He did not rule out the desecration being the work of teenagers, exhibiting "hostility and aggression. Often, these young people know they can hurt people," Kotzin said.

However, he confirmed the existence of various hate groups operating in the Chicago area, with splinter groups ranging in size between two and six persons each, espousing neo-Nazi ideology. There have been a few reports of anti-Semitic literature and fliers. But Kotzin said ADL found a decrease in anti-Semitic activities in the Chicago area from 23 in 1985 to 14 in 1986.

Five Bronze Figures

The bronze monument is located on the village green between Skokie Village Hall and the public library. It features five figures: a mother holding a dead child, a male child embracing an observant male Jew, and above them with arms spread, a male resistance fighter. On each figure, swastikas were sprayed in silver paint. Over the words honoring "the underground resistance and the U.S. Armed Forces who helped defeat the scourge of Nazism" was painted the word "Liar."

The monument, the work of Detroit artist Edward Chesney, was built after a three-and-a-half-year fundraising effort by the Holocaust Monument Committee, established by the Holo-

caust Survivors of Metropolitan Chicago. Of Skokie's population of 69,000, about half are Jews, an estimated 7,000 of whom are Holocaust survivors. Many of them helped to put Skokie into the national eye when they opposed a planned neo-Nazi march through Skokie streets in 1978. After legal challenges to the march organizers, who were affiliated with the National Socialist Party of America, a small demonstration was held instead in a Chicago park.

Mayor Albert Smith, who was Mayor in 1978 during the well-known neo-Nazi incident, released a statement about the vandalism, saying: "I, and the citizens of Skokie, abhor this criminal act. We believe that this highlights the need for us all to never forget."

Reward Offered

A \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible was offered by the American Jewish Committee, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago and the Church Federation of Greater Chicago. The three groups released a joint statement saying: "This incident not only represents a violent assault on public property, but it defiles and trivializes the suffering of the victims of one of the most monstrous evils committed during this century. It is especially painful for the many Holocaust survivors who live in the Skokie area, for it is a tragic reminder that hate and bigotry continue to poison our community."

Monday evening and again Tuesday afternoon, Jewish religious services were held at the memorial. Clean-up of the vandalism is scheduled to begin Wednesday.

Kotzin noted that more people have seen the memorial since the vandalism than who came to the dedication Sunday.

Mordechai Levy, leader of the Jewish Defense Organization, told JTA that the group has "several dozen people" in Chicago who are going to patrol the nearby synagogue and Jewish institutions "to make sure the incident does not repeat itself."

SHARON, IN U.S. TO SEEK INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL, RIPS MIDEAST CONFERENCE By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- Israeli Minister of Industry and Trade Ariel Sharon warned Tuesday that an international peace conference on the Middle East is "extremely dangerous" for Israel.

Addressing a special meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the Likud Minister asserted that Israel would find itself completely isolated in the much discussed international conference which would be sponsored by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Noting that "even our only friend, the United States," never accepted Jerusalem as Israel's capital, Sharon said that the other permanent members of the Security Council, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France, will put pressure on Israel and support the Arab position. He noted that the USSR and China do not have even diplomatic relations with Israel, charging that Moscow has been supporting Arab terror against Israel and had instigated wars against Israel.

Rejecting charges that the Likud is opposed to peace with the Arabs, Sharon said, "Everybody

wants peace." But Sharon said he supports peace through direct negotiations with the Arabs without preconditions and that security must be "a vital factor" in dictating Israel's borders.

In response to a question, Sharon said that he is opposed to new elections. Noting that public opinion polls show that almost 80 percent of the Israelis share his opinion in that matter, he said that the present unity government should continue in office until November 1988, when new elections are due.

Seeks Help Attracting Investors

Turning to more specific issues of his Ministry, Sharon called on the Jewish leaders to help Israel attract foreign investors. He said that in the last two-and-a-half years it became "easier" for foreign investors to invest in Israel and that special attention was given to eliminate the hardships of "red tape."

Sharon said that he is eager to get in touch with personal investors in the U.S. to "show them the possibilities in Israel."

According to Sharon, the size of foreign investments in Israel's economy is small. He said the total investments in Israel in 1985 reached the sum of \$1.2 billion, with only \$47 million of it in foreign investments.

He said that one of the signs of the improved Israeli economy is the growth in Israel's export of industrial goods. He said that last year Israel's industrial exports amounted to \$6.3 billion, a 10 percent increase from the previous year.

Sharon arrived in New York Monday for an eight-day visit, mainly on matters relating to his Ministry.

REFUSENIK TELLS CONGRESSMAN SOVIETS THREATEN CHARGE OF PARASITISM By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 2 (JTA) -- Lev Elbert, a longtime Jewish refusenik, revealed Monday that the Soviet government is threatening to charge him with "parasitism" for not having a job while refusing to provide him with employment.

Elbert told this to Rep. Larry Smith (D. Fla.) during a telephone call from Smith's Capitol Hill office to Elbert in Kiev.

"If anybody is listening on this telephone line, I hope they understand it is a disgraceful, despicable thing for the Soviet Union to keep you from getting a job, and prosecute you for not having one," Smith told Elbert.

A spokesman for Smith said there was little difficulty in getting through to Elbert. However, Soviet Jewry activist groups in the United States and Canada who tried to call refuseniks in Moscow and Leningrad Monday were told the lines were "out of order."

Smith promised Elbert that he will ask Rep. Steny Hoyer (D. Md.), co-chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, to press Elbert's case with the Soviet government both at the Soviet Embassy here and in Moscow.

During a recent visit to Moscow, Hoyer brought up the Elbert case in talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev; Yuri Dubinin, the Soviet Ambassador to the United States; and his predecessor, Anatoly Dobrynin. He was told a decision would be made within three weeks on whether Elbert and his family could emigrate to Israel, but six weeks have already passed, according to Smith. Elbert, who has been trying to emigrate with his family since 1976, was released

from prison on June 20, 1984, after serving a year on the charge of "evasion of draft by a reservist."

He had been denied permission to emigrate on the grounds that he possessed classified information, even though his army service was as a private in a construction battalion that had been building a swimming pool.

Smith said that during his conversation he learned of a new concern for Elbert and his wife, Inna: their son, Karmi, will be eligible for the draft in a year, which could give the Soviets new grounds for denying the family an emigration visa.

BARBIE TRIAL PROMPTS RASH OF FRENCH ANTI-SEMITIC GRAFFITI

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, June 2 (JTA) -- The trial of Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie has produced a flood of anti-Semitic graffiti and pamphleteering all over France, much of it aimed at high school students in the Paris area.

The most frequent claim is that the Holocaust was a Jewish hoax. A synagogue in Nantes, a city of 223,000 in northwestern France, had its walls daubed with the words "Free Barbie" and "Hitler will live for 1,000 years." The graffiti was discovered Sunday morning by Rabbi David Azoulay. The local police are investigating.

Elsewhere, anonymous tracts have appeared stating that "No Jews were killed by the Germans who deported them to Eastern Europe because the Jews were the enemy of Germany."

The tracts add, "The Jews opposed Hitler like they oppose Waldheim now, but a thousand times more." The reference is to President Kurt Waldheim of Austria, who has been accused of complicity in Nazi atrocities when he served in the German army in the Balkans during World War II.

Barbie, charged with crimes against humanity, is on trial in Lyon where he was the wartime Gestapo chief responsible for the deportation of thousands of French Jews to death camps.

JEWISH GROUPS ASK SUPREME COURT TO OVERTURN MOMENT-OF-SILENCE LAW

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- Two national Jewish organizations have filed friend-of-the-court briefs asking the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold a federal appeals court ruling that a New Jersey law requiring state school employees to direct a moment of silence in public school classrooms is unconstitutional.

The briefs were filed in the case of Karcher v. May by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Congress, both of which maintain that the New Jersey legislation was enacted "solely for religious purposes" to circumvent the separation clause which bans organized prayer in public schools.

The AJCongress brief was signed by the American Jewish Committee, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, People for the American Way and the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, an umbrella group representing 125 Jewish communal organizations.

The ADL was joined in its brief by Americans for Religious Liberty, a national educational organization defending religious liberty.

Meyer Eisenberg, chairman of the ADL's Law Committee, said the New Jersey statute was the

latest of many attempts by the state legislature to put prayer back into its public schools. The state "is not permitted to legislate a substitute for vocal prayer," Eisenberg said. "To the extent the New Jersey moment of silence law has this very purpose -- to substitute for organized vocal prayer in our public schools -- it intends to endorse and does endorse prayer and religions," he added.

The AJCongress brief cited 18 previous attempts by the new Jersey legislature to circumvent Supreme Court rulings holding public school prayer unconstitutional. "This case presents, in stark relief, the question whether it is the business of government to encourage or promote religious observance," the brief states.

The legislation, enacted in 1982, was the subject of a suit brought against the State of New Jersey in federal court by a teacher and several parents who claimed it was unconstitutional. The district court ruled against the state. New Jersey officials appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals, which upheld the lower court decision. The state then appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has agreed to hear it.

The brief points out that New Jersey school children are not now prohibited from praying privately during their free time at school, so that the creation by the government of a scheduled silent period proceeds beyond accommodation of religion, as required by the Constitution, and constitutes an endorsement of religion, which is constitutionally prohibited.

AJCONGRESS LEADERS SEE GREECE SOON ESTABLISHING FULL TIES WITH ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- American Jewish Congress leaders said Monday that they have every reason to believe Greece will establish full diplomatic relations with Israel, perhaps within two years. The two countries are cooperating in tourism and agricultural projects.

AJCongress officials, led by honorary president Howard Squadron, just returned from Greece, where they met last week with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and other government officials, as well as members of the opposition New Democratic Party.

Squadron said government and opposition party officials uniformly acknowledged in the meetings that Greece should establish full diplomatic relations with Israel "at the earliest possible time." He pointed out that following Spain's recent resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel, Greece is the only member of the European Community that does not have such relations with Israel.

Squadron said the Greek officials told his group that an important motivation for Greek backing of Third World and Arab aspirations was the need to gain their support in Greece's dispute with Turkey over Cyprus. "Nonetheless," Squadron said, "it was uniformly acknowledged by both government and opposition officials that Greece should establish full diplomatic relations with Israel at the earliest possible time."

He declared that the delegation "was encouraged by its conversations with Prime Minister Papandreou to believe that the establishment of full diplomatic relations with Israel will not be long delayed and would certainly occur in the current term of the current government," which runs through early 1989.

UNITY GOVERNMENT CONCEPT FINDS ONE DEFENDER AT SYMPOSIUM - PREMIER SHAMIR

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 2 (JTA) -- A three-day symposium on "The power-sharing politics of national unity government -- cure or predicament?" produced few defenders of national unity government as a permanent fixture of Israeli politics. Most participants contended that it wasn't functioning properly and many deplored what they saw as subordination of ideology to political factors.

The symposium, which opened Sunday at Tel Aviv University, is sponsored by the Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum for Public Leadership and Public Policy, named for the former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. It drew speakers from the major Israeli political factions and from abroad.

The best that was said of the present Labor-Likud unity coalition was that it did a good job extricating the Israel Defense Force from Lebanon and stabilizing the economy. Most participants agreed it failed to resolve social problems or make progress toward peace.

Its most vocal defender, Premier Yitzhak Shamir, insisted that the unity government was "continuing to function effectively," though he admitted that the dispute over an international peace conference for the Middle East "came close to threatening the government's stability." But he added that this was no reason to dissolve the coalition and call early elections.

Ideology Said To Be Submerged

Israeli author Moshe Shamir noted that the dispute over the proposed international conference was not expressed in ideological terms, as he believed it should have been. Another author, Amnon Shamosh, said ideology was rendered impotent under national unity governments and this produced only shallow leadership.

Former Histadrut Secretary General Yitzhak Ben-Aharon charged that Israel was not making maximum use of its available resources because ideological goals were being ignored. "We all sit by the stream and go thirsty," he said, adding that it was better to take an ideological stand on issues than to abandon ideology.

Dr. Bernardino Gomes, former chief of the Prime Minister's Office in Portugal, observed that the problem is not confined to Israel. "Nobody wants to discuss ideology today... Throughout Europe, bureaucratic and technical approaches to government take precedence over ideology," he said.

Other Opposition

Labor MK Abba Eban, who chairs the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, likened the present coalition to strong medication which can become addictive if taken to excess. "The sooner we return to our previous system, the sooner we place responsibility on one political bloc, the better our democratic system will be," Eban said.

Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar, who was Israel's first Ambassador to Egypt, cautioned that in the future national unity governments should be formed only in a grave emergency. He predicted it would be a long time before the experiment is tried again.

Yossi Beilin, Political Director General of the Foreign Ministry, said the rival political parties continued to assert their differences

within the national unity government, impairing its ability to function properly.

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel maintained that the national unity government in fact has ceased to function. He suggested that if Labor and Likud cannot work together, the coalition should be disbanded because the present situation endangers democracy.

Hebrew University Prof. Yehezkel Dror suggested that if Israel's national unity government must continue, it could be improved by giving the Prime Minister more power, holding referenda on controversial issues such as the future of the West Bank, improving the civil service and spelling out a clear code of conduct for ministers.

U.S. Secretary of Labor William Brock said power-sharing in the U.S. "is done at the behest of the electorate" and "there are a lot of Americans who seem to like it," a reference to the Republican Administration and Democratic-controlled Congress.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL ENDORSES BILL ALLOWING YARMULKES IN MILITARY

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA) -- Legislation introduced in Congress to permit religious Jews serving in the military to wear yarmulkes is supported by the Synagogue Council of America (SCA), an umbrella organization of U.S. Jewish religious organizations.

The legislation states that "A member of the Armed Forces may wear an item of religious apparel if ... (it is) part of the religious observance of the religious faith practiced by the member." It is sponsored by Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D. NJ), and has 20 Senate co-sponsors. Representatives Stephen Solarz (D. NY), Patricia Schroeder (D. Colo.) and Jim Courter (R. NJ) are co-sponsoring it in the House.

Last year the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Air Force did not have to make an exception to its dress code to allow a Jew, Captain Simcha Goldman, to wear a yarmulke. A 5-4 court majority felt the yarmulke threatened Air Force discipline.

OPHTHALMOLOGIST IS FIRST POLISH JEW TO STUDY MEDICINE IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA) -- Dr. Leopold Glasner, a 32-year-old Jewish pediatric ophthalmologist from Poland, is studying here with Dr. David BenEzra, a world authority on immuno-ophthalmology at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center. According to Polish and Israeli authorities, he is the first Polish physician permitted to visit Israel for advanced training since the State was founded in 1948.

Glasner, who was born in Gdansk and works at the Eye Hospital there, said he started a correspondence with BenEzra after reading his articles in American medical journals. "We wrote one another often because I wished to learn more from him about treating patients in our eye hospital in Gdansk," he said.

"I applied to the Polish Ministry of Health and they agreed that I could go to Hadassah. The Hadassah Hospital receives patients from many lands and we see eye diseases we do not see in Poland," Glasner explained.

He will study here for three months before returning home.