



daily news bulletin

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Monday, March 13, 1972

No. 50

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The bishop quoted from the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, calling it "a well-known book" and said Greek Orthodoxy was threatened by freemasonry and rotarianism. The bishop said the Freemasons and the Rotarians are controlled by Jews and Zionist organizations.

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TORCZYNER RESIGNS FROM AZF POST

Follows Adoption Of Resolution By
16-3 Vote Expressing No Confidence
And Requesting Torczyner To Resign

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As chairman of the national board, Torczyner held the highest post with the AZF among ZOA officials. Last month the ZOA decided to withdraw as a constituent organization from the AZF. In announcing his resignation, Torczyner said the AZF had been founded "with great hopes about its future and its impact on the American Jewish community.

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"Unfortunately, these hopes were not realized," he said, "because the Federation, by its very nature, was forced to reduce its ideological position to the lowest common denominator. As a result, it has not become a factor in the Jewish community." Torczyner, who is also co-president of the World Union of General Zionists, acknowledged a need for "an overall coordinating body of American Zionist organizations," but said the AZF has fallen far short of fulfilling such a role.

Instead, he said, the AZF overstepped its designated function by heedlessly attempting to "take over the specific activities of some of its constituent organizations." Torczyner said the ZOA's withdrawal from the AZF "does not and should not mean that there has to be an internecine fight within the American Zionist movement.

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Otherwise, however, the Israeli team was received correctly and was made comfortable. Their performance at the tournament was poor, a fact attributed in part to the cold weather which Israelis are not accustomed to and to their excitement.

JARRING ASKED TO REPUDIATE HIS FEB. 8 MEMO: TO DISCUSS THIS WITH WALDHEIM

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RABBI URGES UNITY OF ALL BRANCHES OF JUDAISM TO COMBAT ASSIMILATION

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TWO SOVIET MIGs FLY OVER SINAI ON PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE MISSION

TEL AVIV, March 12 (JTA)--Two Soviet MIG-23s, presumably piloted by Russians, overflew the Sinai peninsula Friday on a photo reconnaissance mission, it was disclosed today. The overflight was the third violation of Israeli air space by Soviet MIGs since last Oct. The US has been given full details of the overflight nine miles inside Sinai. As on the previous occasions, Israeli interceptors were unable to make contact with the Russian jets which are the fastest, highest flying combat aircraft in the world. The overflight occurred on noon.

The MIGs crossed the Sinai peninsula on a diagonal course from north to southeast which took them from Ismailia in the central section of the Suez Canal zone to Sharm-el-Sheikh on the southeastern extremity of the peninsula. They then changed course and flew westward across the Red Sea to Egypt, Israeli military sources said.

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Egypt is believed to be the only country outside the borders of the USSR where the MIG-23s are deployed. They are piloted exclusively by Russians and are part of Egypt's air defense system which has been under Russian control since the Six-Day War. Israelis believe that the presence of the MIG-23s is evidence that Soviets are using the Suez Canal area to test their most sophisticated military hardware under conditions approximating combat.

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AZF LEADER URGES PROGRAM TO REVERSE ALIENATION AMONG JEWISH YOUTH

NEW YORK, March 12 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, asserted tonight that while the trend of alienation from Judaism among the Jewish student body on the campuses of the country is now undergoing a process of reversal, a bold and dramatic program of communication is needed if the vast numbers of these students are not to remain vulnerable to enticement into new brands of paganism and cults.

The Zionist leader, who recently returned from the 28th World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, attributed the reversal of the alienation trend to the growing disenchantment among Jewish students with the spurious anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda of many sections of the New Left and the attempt to keep alive the fading Vietnam issue by equating it with American support of Israel.

In a keynote address before 200 Zionist leaders at the opening session of the semi-annual meeting of the National Board of AZF, Rabbi Miller stressed the priority of a more than superficial Jewish education. He disclosed that surveys presented to the Zionist Congress indicated that the Jewish people has lost more adherents through assimilation than through all the wars of this century and the Nazi holocaust combined. It is estimated that but for assimilation the Jewish people today could have numbered from 140 to 150 million people instead of its present total of 13 million.

Rabbi Miller decried the anti-Israel prejudice manifested in many circles of the Protestant clergy and in Church publications which, he said, have succumbed to anti-Israel propaganda and "leftist-oriented" clergymen who are inclined to regard Zionism as "narrow tribalism" or racist chauvinism, and see Israel as a militaristic and expansionist state.

He referred to a report presented to a meeting of the National Council of Churches held in Charlotte, N.C. in mid-February. While he voiced gratification with their opposition to the internationalization of Jerusalem, he termed as misguided and insensitive to Israel a proposal in the same report calling for increased participation of the Palestinian Arabs in the planning and decision-making of the future of the city.

TERRORISTS RECEIVING ARMS FROM USSR

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA)--Direct military supplies from the Soviet Union have begun reaching terrorist units in the Middle East, according to the latest issue of the Beirut weekly Kol Shai. Until now, the USSR has been selling arms only to Arab states--mainly Syria and Iraq--which would pass them on to Palestinian units.

SPECIAL JTA ANALYSIS**U.S. AID TO ISRAEL SINCE 1948, MAINLY CREDITS, IS \$2.4 BILLION**

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA)--Israel's master of finance, Pinhas Sapir, was credited with saying a year ago or so that every Israeli child started life owing foreigners about one thousand American dollars. Today, the Lithuanian-born Finance Minister could say each newly born Israeli's share has risen to \$1,200. Close to half of that--at least \$500--is in obligations to the US government.

An independent study by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency shows that Israel's external debt, shouldered by fewer than three million Israelis, is edging over \$3.5 billion. Of that total, more than \$1.5 billion--three of every seven dollars--are owed to the US government. Most of this is in direct government loans but some is in guarantees of borrowings from private American financial institutions like the 200 savings and loan associations that made up the loan of \$50 million in mid-February to finance Israel's construction of 11,000 housing units.

About another \$1 billion is in Israeli bonds. Virtually all of them are bought by Jews in the non-Communist world. The remainder, approximately another billion, was supplied by international organizations like the World Bank group, foreign governments--mainly West Germany and, to a smaller extent, by Canada, England and others--and by non-governmental investment banks. The highest per capita foreign indebtedness by any country, other than Israel's \$1,200, is less than \$300. This means that Israel is burdening itself at the ratio of four dollars per person from borrowings abroad compared to one dollar by the next highest debtor nation.

It also means that foreign governments, private banks and millions of individuals overseas are confident that Israel, although beleaguered by enormous hardships from hostilities and its needs for internal development, is a good credit risk and will repay her debts and the interest on them that she is accumulating at the rate of \$2 million every day. Imposing as these figures must be to Americans, they are astronomic to Israelis whose wages average about \$3,000 a year.

Classified Amount 'Substantial'

JTA's study involved Israeli and American government sources. The data included statistics of the US Departments of Defense and Agriculture, the Export-Import Bank, and the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) and its predecessor organizations going back to the Marshall Plan period (1949-1952). Since Israel became a nation in 1948, the US government has "obligated" or "authorized" for its credits, loans, loan guarantees and grants totaling \$2,400 million.

Grants amount to \$441 million, about a fifth of that total. Israel's repayments on loans and interest aggregated \$458 million--a similar fraction. Thus, Israel at present owes us about \$1.5 billion, apart from the "classified military credit assistance" during the last 18 months of the Johnson Administration and the first 18 months of the Nixon Presidency. A competent Israeli source described this "classified" amount as "substantial."

A clue to the "classified" figures is that the credit of \$500 million brought about by Democratic Senator Henry M. Jackson's amendment of 1970 "covered obligations arising" over the two-

year period from July 1, 1969, through June 30, 1971, according to US sources. But the last full fiscal year under President Johnson remains secret. In the last several years the US government assistance has been overwhelmingly for military procurement. Of the \$1,087 million earmarked in the last two years ending next June 30, at least \$845 million are in credits for direct military purchases.

Another \$50 million is a grant to bolster Israel's economy as a result of the military strain. The economic side is \$192 million. This comprises \$103 million in credits for agricultural commodities, \$30 million in loans for industrial needs (which may rise to \$80 or \$90 million if pending negotiations are completed), \$50 million in the aforementioned guarantee of loans to finance housing, and slightly more than \$9 million in grants for American schools and hospitals in Israel. Amounts in the bills pending in Congress to aid Israel absorb Soviet Jewish emigres are not included in this survey. Authorized aid for Israel in the first Nixon year which ended June 30, 1970, totaled less than \$64 million.

Regarding "military supply" a footnote on a US data sheet provided JTA said: "US sales supplement Israel's arms purchases from other countries and Israel's own growing domestic armaments production. Although details of US arms supply are largely classified, the US did make public in 1968 its intentions to supply 50 F-4 Phantom aircraft during the period covering the end of 1969 and 1970. The US has kept all of its commitments to the government of Israel with respect to the delivery of military equipment."

Not A Penny For Military Equipment

Apart from the three-year period of the classified military credit assistance which is curiously excluded from public data, American government fiscal support authorized for Israel during the Nixon Administration almost equals that of the Truman-Eisenhower-Kennedy-Johnson Administrations combined. Part of this high figure is accountable by inflation of the dollar and part to the prodding and encouragement from both Republicans and Democrats in the Congress--witness the Jackson amendment and the bi-partisan Senate resolutions on Phantoms.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that under President Nixon, the US has authorized \$1.151 million for Israel--close to half of all publicly disclosed American aid to Israel in its 23-year history. Preponderantly military, the aid has come partly as a result of the continuing tensions between Israelis and Arabs but, perhaps now, much more importantly in America's own interests in view of the Soviet penetrations into the Levant as Nixon's recent Foreign Policy Report clearly implies.

The assistance from previous administrations, however, has been nearly all economic. That came when Israel was building its national foundations and needed food for its immigrants. Thus, between July 1, 1948, (Truman) and June 30, 1969 (last Johnson budget) US economic aid to Israel totaled \$1,225 million. Military support (classified data excluded) aggregated below \$24 million of which less than \$18 million came in 1964-65 when Nasser's threats alarmed both Jerusalem and Washington.

Until June 30, 1969, loans authorized for Israel

totalled \$880 million and grants \$369 million. In the Nixon period, loans authorized totaled \$1,046 million and grants \$105 million. It must be stressed that in all the 23 years, Israel has not received a penny in grants for military equipment. Seeking to credit each US Administration with its precise support can be hazardous since the data is based on "net obligations and loan authorizations" and, of course, the secret figures.

When and how much of the budgeted funds actually were made available by the administrations which made the budgets could not be pinpointed. As already indicated, Johnson, for instance, pledged 50 Phantom- but many of them were delivered after Nixon's inauguration and with his approval. It is to be expected that much more will be heard about aid to Israel from both Republicans and Democrats until the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November.

PASSOVER SUPPLIES SENT TO EUROPE, N. AFRICA, JDC CHAIRMAN REPORTS

NEW YORK March 12 (JTA)--More than 607,500 pounds of matzoh and matzo meal and 21,700 bottles of Passover wine have been shipped to Europe and North Africa by the Joint Distribution Committee to help the Jewish communities celebrate the Passover holiday properly, it was announced this week by Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland, JDC chairman.

"This is only part of the JDC Passover assistance program," Ginsberg said. "Passover relief grants in Eastern Europe, Morocco and Iran, special Passover food parcels and Passover meals in canteens will entail expenditures more than double the cost of the supplies shipped this year." The estimated cost of the Passover shipments is \$136,500, he added.

"The program will enable tens of thousands of elderly and needy Jews, who otherwise would have been unable to do so, to observe and celebrate Passover properly and with dignity," Ginsberg stated. Funds for Passover relief and other JDC health, welfare and refugee assistance programs comes mainly from the campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal. Most of the Passover supplies were shipped to Eastern Europe, Ginsberg noted.

DORON: SYRIAN JEWS PRISONERS OF STATE

UNITED NATIONS, March 12 (JTA)--Israeli Deputy Ambassador Jacob Doron advised the Commission on Human Rights that "the situation of the Jews in Syria has become even more grave" in the past year. "There has been no change whatsoever for the better," he said, and "a small community of about 4,000 people is being discriminated against in the most drastic and cruel manner for no other reason but that they are Jews."

Detailing strictures on the activities and movements of Syrian Jews, Doron declared that the regulations "are designed to humiliate and suppress their defenseless victims." He noted that "we are told that members of other faiths in Syria also have their respective religions indicated on their identity cards, but the great difference is that the Jews are not allowed to leave Syria, whereas the others are free to travel.

Appeals To Government In Vain

When a Jew succeeds in escaping Syrian territory, Doron charged, "members of his family and his friends are arrested and subjected to torture to extract from them information as to the ways and means (of escape)." The property of the escaped Jew is then confiscated by the government, Doron said. Noting that Damascus has denied similar charges in the past, Doron asked: "If things are

so good there, why is the Syrian government so afraid of permitting the Jews to leave?"

Doron asserted: "It appears that Syrian laws permit anyone living there to leave the country, except those who are on a certain list. As all the Jews living in Syria have been placed on that list, the inference is simple and inescapable: The whole of the Jewish community there have thus become prisoners of state." Concluding his presentation Thursday afternoon to the Human Rights Commission, Doron said: "Unfortunately, all appeals to the Syrian government to let their Jewish prisoners go were so far in vain. I therefore place their tragedy before you."

CHIEF RABBI OF FRANCE PROTESTS ARRESTS OF JEWS AT KIEV SYNAGOGUE

PARIS, March 12 (JTA)--France's Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jacob Kaplan, cabled Soviet Ambassador Piotr Abrassimov to protest the arrests three consecutive weekends of young Jews at the Kiev synagogue and the denial to young Jews of access to it. "I protest against these serious infringements on the liberty of the individual and his conscience," Dr. Kaplan wrote. "I demand that the Soviet authorities put an immediate end to such dealings." The text, circulated throughout the Jewish community here, was read yesterday in all French synagogues.

AUSTRIAN JURY ACQUITS TWO EX-NAZIS

BONN, March 12 (JTA)--An Austrian jury in Vienna deliberated six hours Friday and then acquitted Walter Dejaco, the Nazi architect who designed and built the gas chambers and furnaces at the Auschwitz death camp, of murder. Dejaco was released from custody after the verdict. The jury accepted Dejaco's plea that he was not guilty because he was acting under military orders and that he did not know the use to which the chambers and ovens would be put.

The jury of seven men and one woman also acquitted his former aide, Fritz Ertl. Dejaco is 63 and a former SS member. Ertl is 64. The jury unanimously found both men not guilty of directly aiding the mass murder of inmates at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest death camp in occupied Poland. By a 5-3 vote, the jury decided that Dejaco did not bear a "remote" guilt in the deaths. Ertl was convicted on that charge but excused on grounds he was acting under "duress of orders."

The verdict caused little surprise. Austrian courts have a long record of leniency toward Nazi defendants tried on war crimes charges. State Prosecutor Hugo Kresnik said he would seek a re-trial. More than 60 persons testified, including Auschwitz survivors. Many refuted Dejaco's plea that he did not know what the chambers and ovens were used for. The court was shown blueprints which included plans for elevators to move corpses from gas chambers to the ovens. All of the blueprints bore Dejaco's signature. The trial was largely the result of efforts of Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal.

FRENCH YOUTH LIKE ISRAEL

PARIS, March 12 (JTA)--A poll published in Le Figaro showed that more youths between 15 and 20 years of age would rather live in Israel (8 percent) than in China (7 percent) or in Cuba (6 percent). Only the Soviet Union of all the Communist countries drew more votes with 9 percent. The majority of the youth expressed a desire to reside in Western countries such as France, the US, Britain and Sweden.



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Last Oct. 10 two MIG-23s flew for several minutes parallel to the Israeli coastline and while they did not enter Israeli air space, did enter the area controlled by the Lydda Airport control tower. Last Nov. 6, another pair of Foxbats overflew northwest Sinai.

AZF LEADER URGES PROGRAM TO REVERSE ALIENATION AMONG JEWISH YOUTH

NEW YORK, March 12 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, asserted tonight that while the trend of alienation from Judaism among the Jewish student body on the campuses of the country is now undergoing a process of reversal, a bold and dramatic program of communication is needed if the vast numbers of these students are not to remain vulnerable to enticement into new brands of paganism and cults.

The Zionist leader, who recently returned from the 28th World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, attributed the reversal of the alienation trend to the growing disenchantment among Jewish students with the spurious anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda of many sections of the New Left and the attempt to keep alive the fading Vietnam issue by equating it with American support of Israel.

In a keynote address before 200 Zionist leaders at the opening session of the semi-annual meeting of the National Board of AZF, Rabbi Miller stressed the priority of a more than superficial Jewish education. He disclosed that surveys presented to the Zionist Congress indicated that the Jewish people has lost more adherents through assimilation than through all the wars of this century and the Nazi holocaust combined. It is estimated that but for assimilation the Jewish people today could have numbered from 140 to 150 million people instead of its present total of 13 million.

Rabbi Miller decried the anti-Israel prejudice manifested in many circles of the Protestant clergy and in Church publications which, he said, have succumbed to anti-Israel propaganda and "leftist-oriented" clergymen who are inclined to regard Zionism as "narrow tribalism" or racist chauvinism, and see Israel as a militaristic and expansionist state.

He referred to a report presented to a meeting of the National Council of Churches held in Charlotte, N.C. in mid-February. While he voiced gratification with their opposition to the internationalization of Jerusalem, he termed as misguided and insensitive to Israel a proposal in the same report calling for increased participation of the Palestinian Arabs in the planning and decision-making of the future of the city.

TERRORISTS RECEIVING ARMS FROM USSR

JERUSALEM, March 12 (JTA)--Direct military supplies from the Soviet Union have begun reaching terrorist units in the Middle East, according to the latest issue of the Beirut weekly Kol Shai. Until now, the USSR has been selling arms only to Arab states--mainly Syria and Iraq--which would pass them on to Palestinian units.

SPECIAL JTA ANALYSIS**U.S. AID TO ISRAEL SINCE 1948, MAINLY CREDITS, IS \$2.4 BILLION**

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, March 12 (JTA)--Israel's master of finance, Pinhas Sapir, was credited with saying a year ago or so that every Israeli child started life owing foreigners about one thousand American dollars. Today, the Lithuanian-born Finance Minister could say each newly born Israeli's share has risen to \$1,200. Close to half of that--at least \$500--is in obligations to the US government.

An independent study by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency shows that Israel's external debt, shouldered by fewer than three million Israelis, is edging over \$3.5 billion. Of that total, more than \$1.5 billion--three of every seven dollars--are owed to the US government. Most of this is in direct government loans but some is in guarantees of borrowings from private American financial institutions like the 200 savings and loan associations that made up the loan of \$50 million in mid-February to finance Israel's construction of 11,000 housing units.

About another \$1 billion is in Israeli bonds. Virtually all of them are bought by Jews in the non-Communist world. The remainder, approximately another billion, was supplied by international organizations like the World Bank group, foreign governments--mainly West Germany and, to a smaller extent, by Canada, England and others--and by non-governmental investment banks. The highest per capita foreign indebtedness by any country, other than Israel's \$1,200, is less than \$300. This means that Israel is burdening itself at the ratio of four dollars per person from borrowings abroad compared to one dollar by the next highest debtor nation.

It also means that foreign governments, private banks and millions of individuals overseas are confident that Israel, although beleaguered by enormous hardships from hostilities and its needs for internal development, is a good credit risk and will repay her debts and the interest on them that she is accumulating at the rate of \$2 million every day. Imposing as these figures must be to Americans, they are astronomic to Israelis whose wages average about \$3,000 a year.

Classified Amount 'Substantial'

JTA's study involved Israeli and American government sources. The data included statistics of the US Departments of Defense and Agriculture, the Export-Import Bank, and the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) and its predecessor organizations going back to the Marshall Plan period (1949-1952). Since Israel became a nation in 1948, the US government has "obligated" or "authorized" for its credits, loans, loan guarantees and grants totaling \$2,400 million.

Grants amount to \$441 million, about a fifth of that total. Israel's repayments on loans and interest aggregated \$458 million--a similar fraction. Thus, Israel at present owes us about \$1.5 billion, apart from the "classified military credit assistance" during the last 18 months of the Johnson Administration and the first 18 months of the Nixon Presidency. A competent Israeli source described this "classified" amount as "substantial."

A clue to the "classified" figures is that the credit of \$500 million brought about by Democratic Senator Henry M. Jackson's amendment of 1970 "covered obligations arising" over the two-

year period from July 1, 1969, through June 30, 1971, according to US sources. But the last full fiscal year under President Johnson remains secret. In the last several years the US government assistance has been overwhelmingly for military procurement. Of the \$1,087 million earmarked in the last two years ending next June 30, at least \$845 million are in credits for direct military purchases.

Another \$50 million is a grant to bolster Israel's economy as a result of the military strain. The economic side is \$192 million. This comprises \$103 million in credits for agricultural commodities, \$30 million in loans for industrial needs (which may rise to \$80 or \$90 million if pending negotiations are completed), \$50 million in the aforementioned guarantee of loans to finance housing, and slightly more than \$9 million in grants for American schools and hospitals in Israel. Amounts in the bills pending in Congress to aid Israel absorb Soviet Jewish emigres are not included in this survey. Authorized aid for Israel in the first Nixon year which ended June 30, 1970, totaled less than \$64 million.

Regarding "military supply" a footnote on a US data sheet provided JTA said: "US sales supplement Israel's arms purchases from other countries and Israel's own growing domestic armaments production. Although details of US arms supply are largely classified, the US did make public in 1968 its intentions to supply 50 F-4 Phantom aircraft during the period covering the end of 1969 and 1970. The US has kept all of its commitments to the government of Israel with respect to the delivery of military equipment."

Not A Penny For Military Equipment

Apart from the three-year period of the classified military credit assistance which is curiously excluded from public data, American government fiscal support authorized for Israel during the Nixon Administration almost equals that of the Truman-Eisenhower-Kennedy-Johnson Administrations combined. Part of this high figure is accountable by inflation of the dollar and part to the prodding and encouragement from both Republicans and Democrats in the Congress--witness the Jackson amendment and the bi-partisan Senate resolutions on Phantoms.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that under President Nixon, the US has authorized \$1.151 million for Israel--close to half of all publicly disclosed American aid to Israel in its 23-year history. Preponderantly military, the aid has come partly as a result of the continuing tensions between Israelis and Arabs but, perhaps now, much more importantly in America's own interests in view of the Soviet penetrations into the Levant as Nixon's recent Foreign Policy Report clearly implies.

The assistance from previous administrations, however, has been nearly all economic. That came when Israel was building its national foundations and needed food for its immigrants. Thus, between July 1, 1948, (Truman) and June 30, 1969 (last Johnson budget) US economic aid to Israel totaled \$1,225 million. Military support (classified data excluded) aggregated below \$24 million of which less than \$18 million came in 1964-65 when Nasser's threats alarmed both Jerusalem and Washington.

Until June 30, 1969, loans authorized for Israel

totalled \$880 million and grants \$369 million. In the Nixon period, loans authorized totaled \$1,046 million and grants \$105 million. It must be stressed that in all the 23 years, Israel has not received a penny in grants for military equipment. Seeking to credit each US Administration with its precise support can be hazardous since the data is based on "net obligations and loan authorizations" and, of course, the secret figures.

When and how much of the budgeted funds actually were made available by the administrations which made the budgets could not be pinpointed. As already indicated, Johnson, for instance, pledged 50 Phantom- but many of them were delivered after Nixon's inauguration and with his approval. It is to be expected that much more will be heard about aid to Israel from both Republicans and Democrats until the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November.

PASSOVER SUPPLIES SENT TO EUROPE, N. AFRICA, JDC CHAIRMAN REPORTS

NEW YORK March 12 (JTA)--More than 607,500 pounds of matzoh and matzo meal and 21,700 bottles of Passover wine have been shipped to Europe and North Africa by the Joint Distribution Committee to help the Jewish communities celebrate the Passover holiday properly, it was announced this week by Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland, JDC chairman.

"This is only part of the JDC Passover assistance program," Ginsberg said. "Passover relief grants in Eastern Europe, Morocco and Iran, special Passover food parcels and Passover meals in canteens will entail expenditures more than double the cost of the supplies shipped this year." The estimated cost of the Passover shipments is \$136,500, he added.

"The program will enable tens of thousands of elderly and needy Jews, who otherwise would have been unable to do so, to observe and celebrate Passover properly and with dignity," Ginsberg stated. Funds for Passover relief and other JDC health, welfare and refugee assistance programs comes mainly from the campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal. Most of the Passover supplies were shipped to Eastern Europe, Ginsberg noted.

DORON: SYRIAN JEWS PRISONERS OF STATE

UNITED NATIONS, March 12 (JTA)--Israeli Deputy Ambassador Jacob Doron advised the Commission on Human Rights that "the situation of the Jews in Syria has become even more grave" in the past year. "There has been no change whatsoever for the better," he said, and "a small community of about 4,000 people is being discriminated against in the most drastic and cruel manner for no other reason but that they are Jews."

Detailing strictures on the activities and movements of Syrian Jews, Doron declared that the regulations "are designed to humiliate and suppress their defenseless victims." He noted that "we are told that members of other faiths in Syria also have their respective religions indicated on their identity cards, but the great difference is that the Jews are not allowed to leave Syria, whereas the others are free to travel.

Appeals To Government In Vain

When a Jew succeeds in escaping Syrian territory, Doron charged, "members of his family and his friends are arrested and subjected to torture to extract from them information as to the ways and means (of escape)." The property of the escaped Jew is then confiscated by the government, Doron said. Noting that Damascus has denied similar charges in the past, Doron asked: "If things are

so good there, why is the Syrian government so afraid of permitting the Jews to leave?"

Doron asserted: "It appears that Syrian laws permit anybody living there to leave the country, except those who are on a certain list. As all the Jews living in Syria have been placed on that list, the inference is simple and inescapable: The whole of the Jewish community there have thus become prisoners of state." Concluding his presentation Thursday afternoon to the Human Rights Commission, Doron said: "Unfortunately, all appeals to the Syrian government to let their Jewish prisoners go were so far in vain. I therefore place their tragedy before you."

CHIEF RABBI OF FRANCE PROTESTS ARRESTS OF JEWS AT KIEV SYNAGOGUE

PARIS, March 12 (JTA)--France's Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jacob Kaplan, cabled Soviet Ambassador Piotr Abrassimov to protest the arrests three consecutive weekends of young Jews at the Kiev synagogue and the denial to young Jews of access to it. "I protest against these serious infringements on the liberty of the individual and his conscience," Dr. Kaplan wrote. "I demand that the Soviet authorities put an immediate end to such dealings." The text, circulated throughout the Jewish community here, was read yesterday in all French synagogues.

AUSTRIAN JURY ACQUITS TWO EX-NAZIS

BONN, March 12 (JTA)--An Austrian jury in Vienna deliberated six hours Friday and then acquitted Walter Dejaco, the Nazi architect who designed and built the gas chambers and furnaces at the Auschwitz death camp, of murder. Dejaco was released from custody after the verdict. The jury accepted Dejaco's plea that he was not guilty because he was acting under military orders and that he did not know the use to which the chambers and ovens would be put.

The jury of seven men and one woman also acquitted his former aide, Fritz Ertl. Dejaco is 63 and a former SS member. Ertl is 64. The jury unanimously found both men not guilty of directly aiding the mass murder of inmates at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest death camp in occupied Poland. By a 5-3 vote, the jury decided that Dejaco did not bear a "remote" guilt in the deaths. Ertl was convicted on that charge but excused on grounds he was acting under "duress of orders."

The verdict caused little surprise. Austrian courts have a long record of leniency toward Nazi defendants tried on war crimes charges. State Prosecutor Hugo Kresnik said he would seek a re-trial. More than 60 persons testified, including Auschwitz survivors. Many refuted Dejaco's plea that he did not know what the chambers and ovens were used for. The court was shown blueprints which included plans for elevators to move corpses from gas chambers to the ovens. All of the blueprints bore Dejaco's signature. The trial was largely the result of efforts of Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal.

FRENCH YOUTH LIKE ISRAEL

PARIS, March 12 (JTA)--A poll published in Le Figaro showed that more youths between 15 and 20 years of age would rather live in Israel (8 percent) than in China (7 percent) or in Cuba (6 percent). Only the Soviet Union of all the Communist countries drew more votes with 9 percent. The majority of the youth expressed a desire to reside in Western countries such as France, the US, Britain and Sweden.