



# daily news bulletin

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## **RABIN DISCLOSES NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW INTERIM ACCORD UNDERWAY "THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS"**

**Insists Israel Will Say 'No'**

**To Unacceptable Terms**

**By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil**

JERUSALEM, June 25 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin revealed today that negotiations toward a new interim agreement with Egypt are currently being conducted "in a quiet manner through diplomatic channels" but indicated that Israel will not be pressured into accepting any terms it considers unacceptable.

If the conditions of the other side in the present talks are not acceptable, Israel will have to say "no" again as it did last March, Rabin told 150 Israel Bond Organization leaders from seven European countries at a meeting here. He said, however, that Israel was in a better negotiating position now than it was last March during Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's "shuttle" efforts. The situation since then has not worsened "and perhaps even the opposite has happened," Rabin said. But if the present talks break down, Israel will have to move toward the next step "to reach for an overall settlement which would be more difficult to achieve," the Premier said.

### **Pessimistic Outlook On Final Peace**

He expressed satisfaction that the new talks were proceeding quietly "through diplomatic channels" which, he said, was the best way to clarify the elements and the differences of opinion and to avoid too many expectations which would lead to too many disappointments. Rabin doubted the possibility of another interim agreement with Syria which, he said, could lead to new tension in the area.

In comments before different groups, Rabin and Defense Minister Shimon Peres seemed pessimistic about the chances of a final peace settlement in the Middle East. Peres, addressing the "Etgar" ideological group of the Labor Party in Tel Aviv tonight was, in fact, doubtful over reaching an interim settlement with the Egyptians. Rabin, who spoke at the Haifa Technion graduation exercises said there was no certainty that peace could be achieved through an interim settlement or even that such a settlement could be achieved with Egypt. He stressed that Israel faced a tough road ahead. It is engaged in a political and military struggle to reach peace, to prevent war and yet to be ready if a new war is forced on it. He said that Israel would know better in the next few weeks which road to take.

### **Would Give Up Oilfields, Not Passes**

Peres maintained that Israel could not reach a general settlement unless it was prepared to see Jerusalem a divided city once again. This, in essence, is the Rogers Plan and the Americans know it, Peres declared. Replying to questions, he said it would be unwise for Israel to make an interim agreement with Egypt and not with Syria, but an agreement with the latter would require Israel to withdraw from the Golan Heights. Peres said that Israel was prepared to give up the Abu Rodels oilfields in return for an

acceptable interim agreement with Egypt since the oilfields are a commercial venture. But Israel cannot give up the Gidi and Mittle Passes in Sinai because they are vital military positions, he said.

## **VISITING CHURCHMEN OFFER PRAYERS AT YAD VASHEM**

JERUSALEM, June 25 (JTA)--Two high-ranking Soviet bloc prelates now visiting Israel held separate prayer services at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Institute here today in memory of the six million Jews killed by the Nazis.

Catholicos Vazken I, head of the Armenian Church, and Metropolitan Philaret, head of the Russian Church in East Berlin and Central Europe, both leading delegations of churchmen, paid their respects at the memorial and met with the chairman of Yad Vashem, Yitzhak Arad. Later, Philaret was the luncheon guest of Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Raphael at the Knesset. This afternoon, Raphael was keynote speaker at the dedication of the new Armenian Theological Seminary in the Armenian quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. Catholicos Vazken dedicated the impressive group of buildings.

## **ARAB MOVE TO OUST ISRAEL FROM UN WILL DEPEND ON MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS THIS SUMMER, ISRAELIS SAY**

**Arabs Still Undecided On Action**  
**By Yitzhak Rabi**

UNITED NATIONS, June 25 (JTA)--Israeli diplomats at the United Nations, although aware that the Arab and Third World countries will initiate a move to suspend Israel from participating in the General Assembly in September, say that it is too early to determine whether the Arabs and their allies will make such a move. "It all depends on what happens in the next few months in the Middle East itself," a member of the Israeli delegation told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

According to the diplomat, if there is progress in the Mideast in the months ahead the Arabs are not likely to press for Israel's ouster from the Assembly, a move that would jeopardize any concessions they might gain from the Israelis. "If there will be a stagnation in the area, I believe that the Arabs will not hesitate to take such an extreme move as calling for the suspension of Israel from the General Assembly deliberations with all the dire consequences to the world organization," he said.

Another Israeli diplomat here said privately that everybody is talking about what the Arabs are going to do at the 30th General Assembly "while the Arabs themselves probably did not reach a decision whether to press for Israel's suspension."

The Arabs made their position known this week when they said that Israel's moves in coming months would determine the actions in the Assembly in September. Arab diplomats at the UN say privately that no decision has been reached yet on the issue and, as the Israelis claim, they insist that their actions will be based on the political developments in the Middle East. Syria, which appears to be leading the drive to oust Israel, did not participate in this week's Arab League lunch in New York where Arab delegates expressed their views on the issue.

## STATE DEP'T. OFFICIALS CLASH WITH OPPOSERS OF U.S. AID TO SYRIA

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 25 (JTA)--State Department officials clashed today with Congressional critics of U.S. financial aid to Syria at a hearing before a special International Relations Subcommittee on investigations concerned with the "current situation of Syrian Jewry."

Harold M. Saunders, Assistant Deputy Secretary of State, contended that the question of Syrian Jewry should be submerged and handled with "quiet diplomacy" in the interests of the "overriding objective" of a peace settlement in the Middle East. Saunders was supported by Robert H. Nooter, assistant administrator of the Agency for International Development (AID), who interpreted the U.S. law on aid to Syria being contingent on improvement of the lot of the 4500 remaining Jews in Syria as being "not a legal prohibition" but a sense of Congress and should be dealt with as such.

### U.S. Makes 'Pragmatic Mistake'

Rep. Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D.NY), declaring that "principles are very far down on the list of State Department priorities," told Saunders that "the fundamental difference between us is that when the United States engages in pragmatic opportunism, at the moment, it deals in a grey area of law violations" and when it "practices quiet diplomacy...we (the U.S.) make a pragmatic mistake." He said "When we stand on principle, we gain significant advantage for the United States" but "when we do the opposite, we tarnish the reputation of the United States." Rosenthal said that when the State Department gave Syria \$25 million in aid last February, "none of us resisted" because "we expected improvement" in Syrian emigration policies. But, he added, there has been no "measurable" improvement.

### Claims Lot Of Syrian Jews Has Improved

Saunders contended, under pressure from Rosenthal to discuss the issue in public and not in private session as Saunders had requested, that there had been improvement. He said that journalists and others have stated on television and in the public prints that the situation of Syrian Jewry had improved. The subcommittee agreed without dissent to accept Saunders' request that the details of the Syrian Jewish problem be discussed in executive session. Saunders said also that "our purpose" in providing aid "is to draw Syria into the peace-making process."

Rep. Steven Solarz (D.NY) contended U.S. aid to Syria was really futile if it was intended to outbid the Russians. He said that the Soviet Union and the Arab states had contributed more than \$3 billion to Syria in economic and military aid between 1954 and 1973 while the U.S. is providing about \$109 million. Noting that the Soviet-Arab aid to Syria is 27 times as much as what the U.S. is prepared to give, he asked how the U.S. could expect "any kind of meaningful leverage in the direction of a peace settlement" in the Middle East.

### FINAL STEP TAKEN TOWARD RATIFICATION OF ISRAEL-COMMON MARKET PACT

BRUSSELS, June 25 (JTA)--The Ministerial Council of the European Common Market voted this morning to lift the restrictions on four agricultural products excluded from the economic

agreement between Israel and the Common Market. The move was the final step toward ratification of the agreement which is to take effect July 1. The four products--orange and tomato juices and concentrates, had been restricted at Italy's request in order to allow the accord to be signed in May. The agreement will now cover all products.

### 20 TERRORIST CONVICTS EXCHANGED FOR BODIES OF STERNISTS

TEL AVIV, June 25 (JTA)--Israel handed over 20 convicted terrorists from Sinai and the Gaza Strip to Egyptian authorities today and received in exchange coffins bearing the remains of Eliyahu Hakim and Eliyahu Beth Tzuri, who were hanged in Cairo on March 23, 1945 for the murder of Lord Moyne, the then British Resident Minister in the Middle East. The bodies will be re-interred tomorrow with full military honors at the Military Cemetery on Mt. Herzl.

Hakim and Beth Tzuri were members of the underground Stern group of the British Mandate era in Palestine. They assassinated Lord Moyne in Cairo on November 6, 1944 and were subsequently captured and sentenced to death. Relatives of both men were at the Balooza checkpoint in Sinai this morning when the bodies were exchanged for the terrorist convicts. Also present were Geula Cohen and Itzhak Shamir, Knesset members of Likud who were formerly members of the Stern group.

### DECKHANDS ON WILDCAT STRIKE IDLE ISRAELI SHIPS

TEL AVIV, June 25 (JTA)--Israeli deckhands went on a wildcat strike today. Other branches of the seamen's union refused to go along. One Israeli ship was idled in Haifa harbor and the crews of others were deliberating whether to join the walk-out which was condemned by Histadrut and the shipping companies. Several Israeli ships on the high seas radioed that they would strike on reaching Israeli ports.

The strike was called by Moshe Levy, secretary of the deckhands' branch of the union, to protest one of the tax reform measures now before the Knesset that would tax a portion of seamen's salaries hitherto exempt. It is, in effect, a strike against the government, not the shipowners, and a rebuke to Histadrut which Levy assailed for its willingness to extend present contracts for another half year. His co-secretaries, representing engine room and stewards department personnel, rejected the strike call but the walk-out by the deckhands was sufficient to idle the ships affected.

### LEADER OF UJA-FEDERATION JOINT CAMPAIGN AIR CRASH VICTIM

NEW YORK, June 25 (JTA)--Saul Horowitz, Jr., a leader in the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies joint fund-raising campaign here was among the 110 people who died in the crash of an Eastern Airlines 727 jet as it approached Kennedy Airport yesterday afternoon: Mr. Horowitz, 50, a builder, was chairman of the board of HRH Construction Co., a trustee of the Federation and vice-chairman of the real estate division of the UJA-Federation Joint Campaign. His father, Saul Horowitz, is also active in the Federation and other Jewish organizations. Mr. Horowitz, who was Mayor of Scarsdale, a New York suburb, from 1969-71 was born in New York City and was a graduate of Phillips Andover Academy and of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He served as secretary, assistant treasurer and chairman of the Federation's 1963 campaign.

## ANGRY FORD DENOUNCES 'LEAK' OF ALLEGED ISRAELI PEACE OFFER

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 25 (JTA)--President Ford, in an unusual and angry statement that implied criticism of Israel, declared today that the United States would not compete with leaks in diplomacy affecting a Middle East settlement. His statement came as a result of an article in the New York Times today accompanied by maps which reported an Israeli offer of a compromise on the Sinai for a second-stage agreement with Egypt. The article by the Times Jerusalem correspondent, Terence Smith, said that Israel has offered Egypt a land corridor to the Abu Rodels oilfields and an Israeli withdrawal from the western part of the Gidi and Mitle Passes in return for an Egyptian agreement not to resort to force for the next three to four years.

### Maps 'Inaccurate,' 'Misleading'

Ford's statement was issued by the State Department after it was asked to comment on the Times report. The statement said: "The President has asked the Department of State to state that we will not get into the business of competitive leaks of confidential diplomatic exchanges. The maps that appeared in the New York Times are inaccurate and highly misleading. We would caution anyone from drawing any conclusions from these press accounts. Finally, competitive leaks of confidential diplomatic exchanges makes negotiations extremely difficult."

State Department spokesman Robert Anderson who read the statement at a special briefing was immediately asked whether the New York Times had done something detrimental or unpatriotic and replied he was not criticizing the newspaper. He said he would not get into a substantive discussion when a reporter asked how, if the report was misleading and inaccurate, could the leak be of a confidential nature. Asked if he was implying that the maps were inaccurate but not the report, Anderson said he was not making that implication and cautioned the press not to make it. Asked if the competition was between the Times and other news media or between the U.S. and Israel, Anderson said, "I leave that to your good judgement." Asked if the competition was between Egypt and Israel, Anderson would not comment. But he observed, "I am saying obviously it is not journalistic competition."

### SISCO SEES MODERATION WINNING

#### OUT IN MIDEAST

Claims Arabs Accept Co-Existence With Israel

NEW YORK, June 25 (JTA)--Joseph J. Sisco, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, told an assembly of Jewish community relations leaders here today that the "forces of moderation in the Middle East today had the upper hand, thus strengthening possibilities for further agreements through "the diplomatic process." Addressing the plenary meeting of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Sisco said that the Middle East had undergone "important psychological changes" since the Yom Kippur War and that the "front-line Arab states"--Egypt, Jordan and Syria--along with Saudi Arabia--have come to accept "the concept of co-existence" with Israel. "It is my belief that people of both sides are absolutely sick and tired of war," he said. But, he added, unless there was continuing diplomatic progress, the possibility of fur-

ther outbreaks continued.

### Reassessment To Be Completed Shortly

During an appearance that lasted more than an hour, Sisco indicated in reply to questions that the Administration's ongoing reassessment of Mideast policy would be completed shortly. But he could give "no precise date." He said the reassessment was focused on "the diplomatic options" arising out of the collapse of the Kissinger "shuttle" in March. He defined the two major options as pursuing the step-by-step process between Egypt and Israel or seeking an overall agreement at Geneva. He reiterated that the U.S. favored the step-by-step approach because of "the difficult and complex issues" which when separated are "more manageable" and each successful step becomes a "confidence building" measure. He added, however, that the Administration would make no final judgement on which direction to move diplomatically until consultations--such as the latest Israeli proposal to Egypt transmitted through the United States--are completed. Sisco is in direct charge of the reassessment process.

On the question of military assistance, Sisco said that the U.S. will address itself to the problem after the reassessment. It has not been considered yet, he said. He said the decision to sell arms to Jordan had been made before the reassessment and that there had been no change on the arms sale policy to Saudi Arabia which was only for self-defense. He said if the U.S. did not sell to Saudi Arabia others would and with "considerably less safeguards."

### LOUIS GOTTSCHALK, HISTORIAN, DIES AT 76

NEW YORK, June 25 (JTA)--Louis Gottschalk, the historian and authority on the French Revolution, who led the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations during the turbulent 1960s-period of Jewish student involvement in the civil rights and social justice movements, died yesterday in Chicago. He was 76.

Dr. Gottschalk, who was born in Brooklyn, taught at the University of Chicago from 1925 until his retirement in 1964. He was chairman of the history department from 1925-1952. He was made a Chevalier in the Legion of Honor by the French government in 1953. Dr. Gottschalk served for six years as chairman of Hillel's governing commission after his appointment in 1963. Before that he had been faculty advisor to the Hillel Foundation at the University of Chicago and was a member of the governing commission since 1959. He helped develop Hillel's internationalization and pioneered the national faculty program that encouraged a scholarly examination of Jewish life and thought. A memorial service will be held this fall on the University of Chicago campus.

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TEL AVIV (JTA)--The government's decision to authorize the export of Israel's new jet fighter, the "Kfir," was made on the understanding that the low-priced combat aircraft, the first manufactured in Israel, would be offered on the world market only with the consent of and prior coordination with the United States. Reliable sources said that the Cabinet agreed unanimously at its Sunday meeting that the sale of the "Kfir" overseas was a matter to be settled with both the United States and with France whose Mirage V jet the "Kfir" resembles. The day when the supersonic "Kfir" will be offered for sale to foreign countries is apparently still far off. Israel Aircraft Industries, manufacturers of the "Kfir," has yet to make preparations to expand production for export.

# **BEHIND THE HEADLINES** **JACK WEILER PILOTS JDC** **THROUGH INVIGORATING REVIEW** By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 25 (JTA)--Jack D. Weiler of New York City, communal leader and philanthropist par excellence, is now devoting his seemingly boundless energies to a fundamental stocktaking and revamping of the Joint Distribution Committee whose chairman he became last December. In Israel last week to attend the Jewish Agency's fourth annual Assembly, Weiler, a member of the Board of Governors, spoke of his plans and hopes for the "Joint" with JTA's executive vice-president Jack Siegel and Israel bureau head David Landau.

At the very first meeting of the "Joint's" powerful board of governors under his chairmanship, Weiler said, he put forward the potentially traumatic proposal for the venerable organization to conduct a thorough and indepth study of its role and activities. The proposal won immediate and enthusiastic support from the 40-odd board members. It is time, Weiler said, after 61 years of service, to reconsider where we are headed, to reexamine our priorities and our aims.

The most superficial survey of the "Joint's" manifold world-wide activities poses questions, Weiler said: Why keep the head offices in Geneva? Perhaps move them to Israel? Why spend 40 percent of the annual \$30 million-plus budget in Israel? Perhaps spend more in Israel, perhaps less? Why cannot the Iranian Jewish community become self-sufficient in its social services, allowing the "Joint" to divert funds and manpower elsewhere?

The board, acting on Weiler's proposal, commissioned an outside team of experts--comprising some of the best-known and most highly regarded "professionals" in American Jewish life. This team will review all the "Joint's" activities, in the U.S. and around the world, examining procedures, interviewing key officials, checking budgets and will report back to the Board.

Weiler concedes that the overhaul--naturally--has caused some concern among the "Joint's" staff. But this, he says, is unavoidable in the interests of a better, more modern, more relevant and more efficient JDC. In the interim, Weiler as chairman does not remain idle (his constant vigor belies his 70 years). He himself regularly visits centers of JDC operations--in Israel, in Geneva, in Iran and in Rumania, and last month in South America.

## **Projects For Aged In Israel**

In Iran, he points out, the Jewish community contains several men of wealth who do not--as yet--do their share in alleviating the social plight of other, less fortunate Jews. Weiler feels these wealthy Jews must be persuaded, by a process of education, to undertake the sustenance of their own communal welfare organization. The "Joint" can help, he believes. It is already beginning to teach Iranian Jews "how to fund-raise"--an art which has become highly sophisticated in the West but is still in its infancy among some Oriental communities.

While in Israel Weiler signed on behalf of the JDC a \$15 million agreement with the government of Israel represented by Health Minister Victor Shemtov, providing the financing for Jerusalem's "Brookdale Institute of Gerontology-JDC." The Institute, headed by one of Israel's

foremost sociologists, Dr. Israel Katz, former head of the National Insurance Institute, is doing the research and planning for the eventual establishment of a 50-apartment facility for the aged and a geriatric wing to be part of the capital's "Misgav Ladach" Hospital in the Katamon Quarter.

Weiler said at the signing ceremony in the Knesset that he hoped the project would contribute towards Israel's becoming a leader in the field of old-age medicine and social work.

## **Mobile Homes Project Stalled**

Jack Weiler has become known in Israel over recent years for his efforts within the reconstituted Jewish Agency to introduce modern building techniques into the Israeli construction industry. He initiated the "Tach"--the Technological Advisory Committee on Housing--(a group of mainly American building experts) attached to the Jewish Agency, and this in turn hosted a visit of Israeli builders and housing officials to the U.S. to study techniques there.

Weiler hoped to have a factory set up here turning out American-style mobile homes (by another American, Dan Katzman who was ready to put up the money and build). Weiler himself planned a "pilot project"--a housing estate in a Tel Aviv suburb in which he would display the best of American techniques and living-comforts--and show that they were achievable cheaper than the regular Israeli-style construction. Tach, however, has petered out. (The Agency Assembly last Thursday passed a resolution deploring this.) Katzman's factory was never built, and Weiler's "pilot project" also never materialized for various reasons which he frankly prefers not to analyze.

Far from being dismayed or despondent, Jack Weiler shakes off his disappointments with a shrug and a smile. Perhaps, he says hopefully, the Israeli builders and officials will come up with the same ideas in two or three years time, asserting they are their own ideas--and therefore workable. Weiler won't mind. He is not looking for glory, only for ways of aiding Israel's chronic housing problem and improving living conditions for the thousands of families still without adequate accommodation. The disappointments, he says with a determined laugh, "will never stop me from working for Israel."

## **EL AL FORECASTS 3000 FEWER** **TOURISTS FROM U.S. THIS SUMMER**

TEL AVIV, June 25 (JTA)--El Al, Israel's national airline, said yesterday that it expected to carry 3000 fewer tourists to Israel from the United States this summer season than it did during the same period last year. Amos Torin, deputy director general of El Al for the U.S. region, said at a press conference that the forecast was based on the economic recession in the U.S. and reports in the American news media of the security situation in Israel. He disclosed that El Al was forced to cancel 15 flights in the last two months owing to the drop in traffic.

According to Torin, the airline had in fact anticipated a growth of 6000 tourists this summer so that its total loss will amount to 9000 passengers. Meanwhile, El Al has instituted a new service for the convenience of its passengers from Jerusalem who may check their baggage there before proceeding to Ben Gurion Airport.

WASHINGTON (JTA)--The International Development Association announced Tuesday a loan of \$1 million to Jordan to finance part of a pilot potash project.