



# daily news bulletin

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## U.S. CONFIRMS SENDING MESSAGE OF THANKS TO 'PALESTINIANS' FOR HELP IN BEIRUT EVACUATION

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 22 (JTA)--The State Department confirmed today that a message of thanks was sent by the U.S., through "third parties," to the "Palestinian leadership" in Lebanon for its role in the evacuation of Americans from that country and in moving the remains of the American Ambassador, Francis B. Meloy and the Economic Counselor Robert O. Waring who were murdered in Beirut last week.

The Department issued a brief statement today in response to a question raised yesterday after the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported from Beirut that Farouk Khaddoumi had received a message of thanks from Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. Khaddoumi is the "foreign minister" of the Palestine Liberation Organization. According to Wafa, the message said that Kissinger "wishes to inform the Palestinian leadership of his appreciation of the great and constructive role undertaken by the Palestinians."

The State Department's statement said: "There has been no written communication to the PLO. However, on instructions of the Secretary, the American Embassy in Beirut has conveyed orally, through third parties, to the Palestinian leadership, his appreciation for the assistance provided during the movement of the remains of Ambassador Meloy and Mr. Waring and the evacuation from West Beirut."

### First Communication With PLO

According to sources here, the message was the first communication by the U.S. government to the PLO, directly or indirectly. American policy has been to avoid any official contact with the PLO and according to the State Department that policy remains unchanged.

Meanwhile, Kissinger, who is presently visiting West Germany, summoned the U.S. Ambassadors to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria there for a meeting on the situation in Lebanon. The White House announced today the interim appointment of Ambassador Talcott Seelye as special representative to Lebanon. The State Department said that Seelye participated in the meeting with Kissinger in Bonn.

According to Wafa, Khaddoumi responded to Kissinger's message as follows: "In spite of our basic and principal differences with the U.S. government, which takes a stand hostile to Palestinian and Arab national aspirations, the leadership of the Palestinian revolution is well aware of its international and local responsibilities and is very much concerned to deal with all on the bases of justice and the legitimate objectives for which the Palestinian revolution was launched."

### RED MOGEN DAVID HANGS UP 'SHINGLE'

TEL AVIV, June 22 (JTA)--The makeshift field hospital set up on the Lebanese border to aid civilian refugees from the fighting in that country has been given a more permanent character. Like any other medical office it has even hung up a "shingle."

The sign, bearing a large Red Mogen David

says "First Aid Station, Daily (Except Saturdays) Ten to Twelve Noon and Two to Four p.m." A tent has replaced the ambulance which served as a clinic and the army medic who had to care for his own unit's troops as well as the refugees has been replaced by a special medical officer who will be in charge of the clinic. Refugees continue to arrive at the rate of about 30 a day--many of them children--to seek treatment and medical advice.

### U.S. SHIP CANCELS HAIFA VISIT

TEL AVIV, June 22 (JTA)--The U.S. Navy has cancelled the visit of the guided missile cruiser Yarnell which was due at Haifa tomorrow for a four-day rest and relaxation stay for her officers and crew. The reason given was routine operational requirements. Sources here believe that the Sixth Fleet alert over the situation in Lebanon caused the cancellation. It was announced one day after an announcement that the U.S. had cancelled its pavilion at the international modern living exposition that opened today on the Tel Aviv fair grounds.

The Yarnell would have been the second U.S. Navy unit to visit Israel for the purpose of allowing its crew respite from exercises in the Eastern Mediterranean. The missile-carrying destroyer USS Mahan spent several days at Haifa in April when her men toured Israel as guests of the Israeli Navy. A British missile cruiser visited Haifa two weeks ago.

### ALLON LEAVES FOR WEST GERMANY

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 22 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon left for Bonn this morning for a series of economic conferences aimed, he said, at reducing Israel's \$430 million deficit in its trade with West Germany. Allon is heading the Israeli delegation to the first meeting of the joint Israeli-German Ministerial Commission on Economic Relations.

The group was set up by the two countries to encourage trade, investments and exchange of scientific and technological information on the governmental level. Before departing, Allon reiterated his earlier denial that he would meet South African Prime Minister John Vorster who is presently visiting West Germany or Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger who is also in Bonn. Vorster is expected to leave West Germany before Allon's arrival.

Referring to the political situation, Allon said he knew of no Syrian threat against Israel arising from its intervention in Lebanon. However, he said, he had no illusions about Israel's security problems once the Lebanese conflict is settled.

### ISRAELIS SEE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE IN 1976

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA)--Highly placed Israeli sources said today they do not rule out the prospect of some stepped-up American Middle East diplomacy in advance of the Presidential elections. The sources said there is not "yet" any hard evidence to support this prediction, but they nevertheless consider it a reasonable possibility. They explained that the Ford Administration

would have two purposes in accelerating its diplomatic efforts in the region at this time: to ensure continued quiet through the closing stages of the election campaign; and to underline its past successes in this field and its image of successful peacemaking between Arabs and Israelis. The sources said the U.S. effort could take two forms: either a trip through the region by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who is due to visit Iran in the summer, or invitations to Israeli and Arab heads of government or foreign ministers to visit Washington.

The sources said an American initiative was feasible even if the Lebanese crisis has not been settled by the summer. On a related issue, the sources said no Arab state has as yet responded to Israel's end-of-war initiative but it was significant, and perhaps encouraging to note that by the same token no Arab state has officially rejected the initiative. There were some rejections voiced by the press and other media commentators in some Arab states, but this still did not represent an official rejection, the sources said. They added that the chances of the initiative eventually bearing fruit seemed reasonably hopeful, especially when one considered the alternatives: stalemate leading to war--which neither side appeared to want at this time; or overall peace settlement talks, which seemed an unrealistic prospect at present.

#### ORTHODOX TO CHALLENGE COURT RULING DENYING STATE AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS IN N. Y.

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA)--An Orthodox leader here said today an appeal will be made to the U.S. Supreme Court from a decision yesterday by a federal court in Manhattan voiding as unconstitutional a 1974 New York State law reimbursing religious schools for the costs of state-mandated testing and record-keeping.

At the same time, Sidney Kwestel, president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) said COLPA believes that the 1974 law does not violate previous Supreme Court rulings in that area of public assistance. Kwestel also told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that COLPA intends to file a brief in support of Jewish day school and yeshiva students in any appeal of the decision.

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, in reporting that the lower court decision would be appealed, "by a group of non-public schools," called the lower court decision "a serious error in judgement." Rabbi Bernard Goldenberg, director of school organization and professional services of Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools, also criticized the decision. Declaring that there are some 200 yeshivas and Hebrew day schools in the state, he said that, at this time of inflation, they would "feel this financial blow."

#### Court Cites Aid To Religion

The special three-judge federal court struck down a provision of the 1974 state law under which the state paid up to \$10 million a year to the non-public schools for the costs of administering Regents examinations, keeping pupil attendance records and other state-mandated paperwork.

The court said it was "clear" that the aid to the secular functions of "sectarian schools is in fact aid to the sectarian school enterprise as a whole and results in the direct advancement

of religion." The two rabbis gave differing totals for the amounts received by Jewish day schools annually under the 1974 law. Goldenberg estimated the amount as \$1.5 million. Rabbi Sherer's estimate was \$750,000.

The 1974 law represented a state effort to meet U.S. Supreme Court objections to a 1970 state law providing for such reimbursement, which the Supreme Court struck down as unconstitutional. The 1974 law was challenged by the Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL), a coalition of 36 civil liberties, educational, labor and other groups, including a number of Jewish organizations. Leo Pfeffer, counsel for the American Jewish Congress, has served as counsel for PEARL.

Kwestel said the 1974 law, unlike the 1970 law, requires strict accountability for the manner and the purposes for which reimbursement is made to the non-public schools and that for this reason, COLPA believed the 1974 law was constitutional.

Goldenberg said it had been "fully expected" that the 1974 law, "which does not deal with teachers or instruction" in non-public schools, and which was "totally secular and non-ideological," would be accepted. But he stressed that the loss of funds to financially-pinched day schools, while it would make "matters worse," would not cripple or force closure of any of the affected Jewish day schools.

#### POLICE QUELL DISTURBANCE BY ISRAELIS SEEKING U.S. VISAS

TEL AVIV, June 22 (JTA)--Police were called to the United States Embassy here yesterday to restore order after disturbances broke out among hundreds of Israelis waiting in line outside to apply for American tourist visas. The disputes were mostly over who was first in line. Many visa applicants camped outside the Embassy grounds overnight and many more were forced to wait for hours under a hot sun which aggravated frayed tempers.

American officials at the Consular Section which issues visas said the reason for the long waits was the meticulous check that is made of every visa application. They said the scrutiny was nothing out of the ordinary but was necessary because past experience showed that many Israelis who went to the U.S. as tourists remained there and tried to get permanent residence permits. The result is that it now takes weeks for some visas to be issued. Many students who intended to visit the U.S. during the summer holidays have had to cancel their plans because they would not be able to obtain visas before school reopens.

#### MRS. FORD DEDICATES CENTER

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA)--Mrs. Betty Ford today dedicated the city's newest Jewish cultural institution--the Martin Steinberg Center of the American Jewish Congress--in a Manhattan garden. The center is designed to serve as a gathering place for young Jewish artists, writers, musicians and filmmakers. Funds for the new center were provided by a gift from Martin Steinberg, a Brooklyn realtor and investor. Before formally unveiling a plaque bearing Steinberg's name, Mrs. Ford watched as Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the AJ Congress, affixed a mezuzah to the doorway of the building. The new center is joined by a garden to Stephen Wise Congress House, national headquarters of the AJ Congress.

## RABIN MEETS WITH ISRAELIS WHO SUPPORT PALESTINIAN STATE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin met for two hours yesterday with a group of Israelis advocating recognition of a Palestinian state provided that such entity recognized Israel. The group, known as the "Public Council for an Israel-Palestine Peace" was founded several months ago and includes a number of leading personalities with left-leaning or "doveish" views. No details of the meeting were disclosed.

Views were said to have been exchanged on the situation in Lebanon, in the administered territories and on Israel's Arab population and options for peace. Little agreement was reported between Rabin and his visitors.

The latter included: Elyahu Elyashar, former chairman of the Sephardi Federation in Israel; Uri Averbach, editor of the weekly "Haolam Hazeh"; and a former Knesset member; MKs Arye Eliav and Meir Payil; Res. Gen. Matityahu Peled; writer David Shaham; and Yaacov Arnon, former director general of the Finance Ministry and presently chairman of the board of the National Electric Co.

## JEWISH GROUPS BLAST CARMICHAEL TV APPEARANCE; ASK EQUAL TIME

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA)--Three major national Jewish organizations have sharply condemned anti-Zionist remarks made by Black activist Stokely Carmichael during an interview on the WABC-TV "Like It Is" program Sunday. Two of them have asked for equal time to rebut Carmichael's statements.

Naomi Levine, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, who requested the right to appear on "Like It Is" "to respond to Carmichael's vicious lies," declared that it was "deeply regrettable" that WABC-TV "has seen fit to have as its guest on June 20 Stokely Carmichael, an incendiary revolutionary with anti-Semitic and anti-American views."

Haskell L. Lazere, executive director of the New York chapter of the American Jewish Committee, wrote to Kenneth H. MacQueen, vice-president and general manager of WABC-TV requesting that "equal time should be given to provide your viewers with an opportunity to hear from responsible Black leaders and spokesmen." He characterized Carmichael's remarks as "an incitement to violence, murder and to the destruction of a member of the family of nations." The Jewish Telegraphic Agency was unable to reach any WABC-TV official for comment.

Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, expressed "deep concern and dismay, but not surprise" at Carmichael's "parroting of anti-Jewish, anti-Israel propaganda" because he "has a long history of anti-Semitism and bitter hostility to Israel." The ADL is not known to have requested equal time.

According to transcripts of the interview, Carmichael, who is chairman of the All African People's Revolutionary Party, said "It is totally improper that the (U.S.) government should continue to send our tax dollars to Israel" and that "Zionists remain the primary supporters of the repressive South African regime and unjustly occupy land belonging to Egypt."

## ISRAELIS' HEBREW CRITICIZED

JERUSALEM, June 22 (JTA)--A significant

number of Knesset members representing a broad spectrum of political factions reached agreement yesterday that many Israelis cannot speak proper Hebrew. Shalom Levin, of the Labor Alignment, who happens to be chairman of the National Teachers Association, introduced an agenda motion on "The State of the Hebrew Language" in Israel, which he found to be poor. He suggested that Knesset members should be provided with special language advisors to check their speeches--before and after delivery--for correct usage.

Levin claimed that very few Israelis could say they have mastered the Hebrew language. Specifically, he charged, "most radio and TV broadcasters, public figures, Knesset members and even university professors harm the language, sometimes because of disrespect for it and sometimes merely because they don't know better."

Most of Levin's colleagues concurred. But Likud MK Yitzhak Moda'i thought the Knesset should devote itself to more pressing matters. Moda'i has been trying to introduce an agenda motion critical of the new value added tax (VAT) that goes into effect July 1. He charged that whenever the Knesset presidium wanted to avoid an embarrassing subject, it took up such topics as the state of the Hebrew language. (By Gil Sedan)

## ZOA ASKS REPUBLICAN PLEDGE AGAINST IMPOSED MIDEAST SOLUTION

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 22 (JTA)--The Zionist Organization of America wants the Republican Party to promise, in its 1976 Presidential platform, to continue efforts for peace in the Middle East through direct negotiations between the conflicting parties, to re-affirm that there will be no imposed solution and no settlement at the expense of Israel and to pledge to keep Israel strong within defensible borders.

The ZOA's draft proposals were submitted to the Republican National Committee by Allen Lesser, director of the ZOA's Washington office. The Committee is meeting here under the chairmanship of Gov. Robert D. Ray of Iowa to receive platform proposals. Another session will be held at Ames, Iowa June 24. The final platform will be determined at hearings in Kansas City Aug. 9-11, the week before the Republican National Convention opens there.

The ZOA asked that the platform pledge that "A Republican Administration will continue with the efforts to bring the conflicting parties in the Middle East to negotiate directly for a just and durable peace in the area" and that "the Republican Administration will remain faithful to the pledges made by the Republican President against imposing a solution on the parties in the Middle East conflict." The ZOA wants the Republican platform to state further that "A reasonable and just solution can only be reached by the parties themselves, negotiating in good faith."

The ZOA statement recalled President Ford's recommendation, when he was House Republican Minority Leader, that the united city of Jerusalem be recognized as the capital of Israel and the U.S. Embassy be transferred there from Tel Aviv. It recommended that this be included in the Republican platform. Such a recommendation was included in the Democratic Party's platform adopted here last week. \*\*\*

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The International Council of Jews and Christians convened Monday in Jerusalem, for the first time in the Israeli capital.

## CATHOLIC THEOLOGIAN SEES END OF CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA)--A leading Catholic theologian foresees the disappearance of Christian religious anti-Semitism and Vatican recognition of Israel. The prediction was made by the Rev. Edward H. Flannery, executive secretary of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the U.S. Bishops Conference, in an essay in the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith interreligious quarterly "Face to Face." The issue, entitled "Jewish-Christian Relations: Looking to the Twenty-First Century," features the views of Catholics, Protestants and Jews who have been prominent in the Jewish-Christian dialogue.

Father Flannery anticipates that "anti-Semitism of a religious or theological kind will be the first to disappear, leaving the field to secular or areligious varieties." He said that for Christian churches, "which contributed so potently to the creation and growth of anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism," to be among the first to repudiate it is "a historical reversal." He described the principal forms of anti-Semitism today as being "completely laicized, such as those found in Soviet Russia, the Middle East, fascist parties and some 'liberal' ideologies." These varieties, he continued, "live an existence of their own, independent of all religious sustenance, and are impervious to all ecclesiastical influence or effort."

### Roots In New Testament

Dr. David R. Hunter, formerly deputy general secretary of the National Council of Churches, stated that a major obstacle to eliminating anti-Semitism is the root of the prejudice in the New Testament and the writings of such revered leaders as St. John Chrysostom and Martin Luther. Commenting that this has been "a paralyzing force," he observed that "it will probably take another John XXIII, supported by a non-temporizing Curia, a courageous World Council of Churches, and a host of faithful lay people around the world really to change the course of history and finally remove the religious sanctions for anti-Semitism."

Dr. Franklin H. Littell, founder of Christians Concerned for Israel, called for a fundamental re-examination of Christian theology in the light of the Holocaust and a returned Israel. He went on to pose questions about the credibility of Christianity after 6,000,000 Jews were murdered by baptized Christians, whether or not Jesus could be considered a "false Messiah" and, "if Jesus is the true Messiah, where are the signs of the Messianic age?"

Prof. Michael Wyschogrod, of Baruch College, urged that Christianity "not lose its self-confidence" in the next century because of "a sense of horror at Christian anti-Semitism," which, he noted, is at times "the result not so much of compassion at the suffering of Jews" as using the Jewish issue to injure the church. He said Nazism and Communism are the two greatest enemies of Jews and Judaism in this century and are also "the most virulent anti-Christian forces."

According to Wyschogrod, "while Jewish existence under Christian rule left much to be desired, Jewish existence under anti-Christian rule is far, far worse. The continuation of living Christianity is vital to Jews."

### SLEPAK JOINS MONITORING GROUP

WASHINGTON, June 22 (JTA)--With the emigra-

tion of Vitaly Rubin, Vladimir Slepak, the longest waiting "refusenik" in Moscow, has become a member of the Public Group to Assist the Fulfillment of the Helsinki Accords in the USSR, filling the vacancy caused by Rubin's departure, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews reported.

Led by scientist-dissident Yuri Orlov, members of the group formed on May 13, 1976, include Yelena Bonner, the wife of Andrei Sakharov; Alexander Ginzburg, Anatoly Marchenko and Pyotri Grigorenko, all prominent in the human rights dissident movement in the Soviet Union. Besides Slepak, the other representative of the Jewish emigration movement is Anatoly Sharansky who, together with Slepak, is one of the leaders of the refusenik community in Moscow from whom the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews learned of this new development.

Meanwhile, the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry reported that Slepak's wife, Masha, has divorced her husband so that she and her 17-year-old son Leonid can apply to emigrate separately. Masha's health, undermined by many years of nervous tension, has deteriorated in the last few months. She is suffering from serious vascular and endocrinal disorders and needs immediate medical care which she could get in Israel.

A group of leading Soviet refuseniks including Dr. Alexander Lerner, Ida Nudel, Anatoly Sharansky, Dina and Yosef Bellin, and others, wrote to emigration movement leaders in the West that "the tragic fate of this remarkable family is well-known, kept back in the USSR for more than seven years and suffering constant and uninterrupted persecution." They appeal for a major campaign for the release of Masha Slepak and her son, to include doctors and other public figures.

It was learned by the Washington Committee that Masha has been refused an exit visa, even though the official reason for her being detained for seven years has been her husband's alleged knowledge of "secrets." She was told by Ovir: "We don't destroy families. We know that the Slepaks are one family."

### ARNOW HEADS UJA-FJP DRIVE

NEW YORK, June 22 (JTA)--Robert H. Arnow, Jewish community leader and board chairman of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, has been named general chairman of the 1977 Joint Campaign of U.J.A.-Federation. Arnow will begin organizing a corps of volunteers for the campaign for funds for local Jewish programs, Israel and for needy Jews throughout the world.

### ARABS TO BUY-LONDON HOTEL

LONDON, June 22 (JTA)--The Dorchester, a famous London hotel popular with Israeli visitors, which housed President Ephraim Katzir and Mrs. Katzir during their visit here last week, is to be sold to a consortium of Arab businessmen, it was announced today. The buyers, mostly from Saudi Arabia and Persian Gulf oil states, are paying about \$20 million. They will be represented on the board of a new holding company by Sheikh Najib Alamuddin, a Lebanese who is chairman of Middle East Airlines.

The Dorchester is frequented by wealthy Arabs who often rub shoulders with prominent Israeli guests. The selling company, which will be represented on the new board of directors, has given assurances that nothing will be done to make Jewish guests feel unwelcome.