



# daily news bulletin

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## CONFIRM VANCE WILL VISIT ISRAEL AND FOUR NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Cyrus Vance, who will become Secretary of State on Thursday, will visit Israel and four neighboring Arab states at the end of February or early in March in the first of two steps the Carter Administration is planning to deal with the Middle East situation, it was confirmed here today.

The second step, according to informed sources, will be President Carter's meetings in Washington, beginning early next spring, with leaders of the five countries that Vance will visit. State Department officials declined to discuss Vance's trip today inasmuch as he will not take office until after Carter's inauguration. But they acknowledged that the trip would take place within a month to six weeks and that Vance will visit Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel, presumably in that order, to assess prospects for new negotiations leading to an Arab-Israeli settlement.

Reports of the Vance trip followed the Secretary of State-designate's meetings here with the Ambassadors of the four Arab countries at the State Department and a conversation he had with Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz last Friday. The "crash diplomatic venture," as one source described it, was prompted only partly by the Arab "peace offensive." Officials here indicated that the primary consideration was Vance's assessment of the general situation in the Middle East.

Premier Yitzhak Rabin of Israel is reported to have been invited to Washington in late March to become the first Middle East leader to meet with Carter. His visit would take place about six weeks before Israel's general elections scheduled for May 17. Sources here said that in the event that Israel's Labor Party decides at its convention next month to replace Rabin with Defense Minister Shimon Peres, both Peres and Rabin would be invited to come to Washington in March.

The Israeli visit will be followed in April with visits by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Crown Prince Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia. King Hussein of Jordan is said to have tentatively accepted an invitation to visit Washington early in May. So far, President Hafez Assad, of Syria, is reported to have declined to visit Washington but he is said to have agreed to send a top aide to see Carter in the event he himself does not come.

### Administration Officials Named

Meanwhile Vance announced officially today that Alfred L. Atherton Jr. will remain as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. Vance also named Hodding Carter, editor and associate publisher of the Delta Democrat-Times of Greenville, Miss., to be the new State Department spokesman. He will replace Robert Funseth.

The State Department said that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will bid a formal fare-

well to his assistants and staff tomorrow and will leave Undersecretary of State Philip Habib as Acting Secretary for the brief period until Vance is inaugurated Thursday. Kissinger will spend several days in New York and will vacation until about March 1. The Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies disclosed that Kissinger will become affiliated with Georgetown University and will lecture at the Foreign Service School there. He will also work on a book.

## RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY LEADER DEFENDS INAUGURAL PLANNERS FOR OMITTING RABBI AT CEREMONY

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, differed today with Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, interreligious affairs director of the American Jewish Committee, for criticizing the decision not to include a rabbi in the religious segment of the ceremony inaugurating President-elect Jimmy Carter and Vice President-elect Walter Mondale. Rabinowitz said it would be appropriate to have only one clergyman, representing all faiths, deliver an "appropriate prayer."

It was announced last week that United Methodist Bishop William Cannon of Atlanta would give the invocation and Catholic Archbishop John Roach of Minneapolis would offer the benediction. Tanenbaum said that "given the fact that over the past five inaugurations it became an established American institution that the four major religious communities were part and parcel of the mainstream of American society," the decision to exclude representatives of Judaism and Greek Orthodoxy "cannot but lead to misunderstanding and in many cases even to resentment."

### Rejects Clerical Numbers Game

Rabinowitz, referring to what he termed the "clerical numbers game" said: "All the prayers are addressed to the One God. Why not one prayer in behalf of all America proclaiming our common gratitude for the blessings and bounties of freedom and invoking our prayerful hopes for the fulfillment of American ideals?" Continuing, the Washington rabbi stated:

"There is really no need for more than one clergyman to reflect the sentiments of all Americans. We are one nation under God. For this one clergyman to represent all faiths, the phraseology of his prayer must be broad enough to enable all Americans of all faiths to identify with it. The prayer must be offered in the name of the Deity who is the God of all humanity, and must be free of any doxology or formula that may flow from the ritual of any single faith, it is to be hoped that the two clergymen selected this year to participate in the Inaugural Service will be no less sensitive to the Americans who are not of their denominations." Recalling that at the last five inaugurations there were four clergy-

clergymen of different faiths, including a Jew. Rabinowitz offered additional defense of the inaugural planners. He noted that the four clergymen's prayers made "the inaugural ceremony seem as though it were primarily a prayer service and only incidentally a ceremony of state" and that "an outdoor ceremony on a cold January morning is hardly a setting conducive to instilling a spiritual mood sufficient to appreciate four sometimes lengthy prayers."

#### CRITICISM OF FRANCE CONTINUES IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Strong reaction continued today among Jewish organizations in the United States and abroad over the release by France of Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud.

A delegation representing the local branches of the constituent members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations met yesterday with Gerard Gausson, the French Consul General here, to tell him that pressures were mounting for a boycott of French products in the United States and of travel to France. A similar warning was issued last week when a Presidents Conference delegation led by its chairman, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, met with the French Ambassador in Washington.

The New York delegation, led by Seymour Reich, of B'nai B'rith, presented Gausson with a letter signed by representatives of the New York branches of the 32 constituent members of the Presidents Conference. Reich said the letter was intended to "express the shock and outrage of the American Jewish community over the callous and precipitous release of Abu Daoud by a French court with the obvious acquiescence of the French government."

Gausson told the Jewish leaders that the failure of West Germany to apply through diplomatic channels for Daoud's extradition left the French court with no choice but to release him. But, Jack Elkin, of the American Jewish Congress, replied that "France found a technicality by which to release Abu Daoud. There is no doubt in our minds that France could have found a technicality to keep him in custody until the extradition process had been properly completed."

The delegation here repeated Schindler's statement in Washington that each of the 32 organizations in the Presidents Conference would act individually in response to the pressures for a boycott of French products and travel.

#### Surrender To Economic Blackmail

The Jewish Federation of North Jersey sent a telegram to French Ambassador Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet in Washington saying it was "shocked, dismayed and angered at the demonstration and captivation to political and economic blackmail by the French government" in releasing Daoud. The federation said that "the unwarranted release of this murderer has removed France from the list of impartial participants concerned with peace in the Middle East and has placed your country amongst the oil-bowed and economically controlled puppets of the Arab states."

In Palm Springs, Calif., Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, told the Pacific Coast Regional Conference of the Conservative rabbinic organiza-

tion that by releasing Daoud, France was "prostituting itself and dancing to the Arab terrorist tune." He urged his West Coast colleagues to continue a campaign of protest against France.

#### Canadian Statement Praised

Meanwhile, in Montreal, the Canadian Jewish Congress has sent a telegram to External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson commending the Canadian government for its statement that terrorists should be prosecuted. The telegram, signed by Alan Rose, the CJC's national executive director, was sent shortly after the government's statement was issued last Friday.

The statement by the Department of External Affairs spokesman said that "Canada considers it of greatest importance that terrorists be brought to justice either by prosecution or by extradition to a country for the purpose of prosecution. Canada has been working intensively in cooperation with other interested countries, including France, to strengthen the framework of international law in that field. We are concerned that the Abu Daoud affair will make the success of such efforts more difficult to achieve."

#### A Moment Of Shame

The Information and Documentation Center for the Middle East in Brussels said in its bulletin that the "moment of truth in the Abu Daoud affair had been the moment of shame." The Center commented in a communique: "The Abu Daoud affair was a test case for the sincerity and credibility of Europe. Besides France, the host country to the Palestinian killer, and Germany, which was the scene of his bloodiest massacre, all Europe is involved in the arrest of the former chief of Black September."

The Center added: "Belgium has not forgotten the murder of its diplomat. Guy Eid in Khartoum. We are not proud to be Europeans today."

#### Bar Ilan, Sorbonne Sign Accord

While criticism of France continued, an academic exchange agreement was signed over the weekend between Bar Ilan University and the Paris Sorbonne. The signatories, at an informal ceremony on the Bar Ilan campus in Ramat Gan, were Prof. Raymond Polin, president of the Sorbonne, and Prof. Nathanel Katzberg, acting rector of the Israeli University. Katzberg observed that the agreement was a re-affirmation of the basic friendship between the Israeli and French people despite the hostile act of the French authorities in releasing Daoud.

The agreement provides for annual exchanges of professors and experts in the humanities, exchanges of information and publications, cooperation in research and the organization of and joint participation in seminars and symposiums. Polin has spent several weeks at Bar Ilan University as a guest lecturer in philosophy.

#### ANNOUNCE MORE CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM WEST COAST TO ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Charter flights from the U.S. West Coast to Israel will

be increased to four a month, Moshe Shoshani, director of the Israel Tourist Office for Western America announced today. He said the additional flight would be operated by Continental Express Tours employing a 250-passenger jumbo jet.

According to a recent survey by the Ministry of Tourism, 70 percent of tourists coming to Israel from the U.S. West Coast said they would not have made the trip had there been no charter flights available. The survey appeared to bear out the Ministry's long held view that tourism would rise if charter flights to Israel were permitted.

Charter flights were approved last year over strong opposition from El Al and the Transport Ministry. Until then, the only charter flights allowed to Israel were from Scandinavian countries. The success of the West Coast charters has led to a demand for charter flights by tour packagers in other areas of the U.S., the Ministry reported.

#### B'NAI B'RITH OFFICIAL URGES U.S. JEWS TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN SHAPING AMERICAN SOCIETY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith's new executive vice-president, contending that the diaspora cannot thrive on just a "symbiotic relationship" with Israel, urged the American Jewish community to reverse "its trend toward insularity" and broaden its involvements in "shaping American society."

Dr. Daniel Thursz, who began fulltime duty two weeks ago as chief administrative officer of the 500,000-member organization, said here Sunday night that "important as Israel may be to the scheme of things and for our sense of Jewish identity, it is simply not sufficient" for the cultural survival of the next generation of American Jews.

Addressing the annual midwinter meeting of B'nai B'rith's Board of Governors -- his first formal appearance before the organization's highest policy body -- Thursz said the "change in perspective" did not mean any diminution of support for Israel but was a strengthening of the "prophetic tradition" which had identified organized Jewish life with "concern for the general welfare and demands for social justice."

#### Cites Various Issues

Thursz, for the past 10 years dean of the University of Maryland's Graduate School of Social Work, cited the need for organized Jewish support of anti-poverty and senior citizens campaigns, energy conservation, anti-discrimination measures for such "beleaguered minorities" as the Chicano and Indian communities and similar social and political causes.

"In an era when many Jews have given up strict observance of religious rituals, when assimilation is a serious threat, there is need for a stronger ideological base which will provide greater purpose for Jewish life in America," Thursz declared.

An American diaspora with that "sense of mission becomes a stronger ally of Israel's cause," Thursz said. "But to live vicariously through the exploits of our Israeli colleagues is to deny them and ourselves, and is not a basis for Jewish survival in America." Nor, he added, "is it sufficient, as some philosophers

would suggest, to base the purpose of our existence on the desire not to give Hitler a posthumous victory. The Jewish ethos cannot be conceived as a sort of museum of bitter memories."

#### ADOLPH ROSENBERG DEAD AT 65

ATLANTA, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Adolph Rosenberg, editor and publisher of the Southern Israelite, died yesterday after a four-year fight with cancer. He was 65. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at an Atlanta Chapel. Rabbi Alvin Sugarman of The Temple and Rabbi Richard Lehrman of Temple Sinai will officiate.

Rosenberg joined the staff of the Israelite in 1940 and became publisher in 1946. He was a three-time president of the American Jewish Press Association and also served as its secretary, treasurer and vice-president. He had been a leader in advancement of ethical journalism standards. He was cited at the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds last November with the Boris Smolar Award for long and meritorious service in the field of North American Jewish journalism.

Rosenberg was a founder and past-president of the Atlanta Press Club and a founder of the Atlanta chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi. He was founding chairman of the Georgia Communications Council. In 1967, he headed the convention of the American Jewish Press Association to Israel, as president. He served on the boards of the Atlanta Zionist Organization and South-eastern Zionist region and was on the board of the Gate City B'nai B'rith Lodge. Before joining the Southern Israelite, Rosenberg was a reporter for two Atlanta newspapers, the Constitution and the Journal.

#### ALBERT G. MINDA DEAD AT 81

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- Rabbi Albert G. Minda, a past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and spiritual leader of Temple Israel here from 1922-1963, died Saturday at the age of 81. A former international vice-president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, he was born in Holton, Kansas. He was graduated in 1918 from the University of Cincinnati and was ordained by the Hebrew Union College in 1919.

Rabbi Minda was active in civil and religious affairs in Minneapolis. He was a co-founder of the Minneapolis Urban League and of the city's Round Table Conference of Christians and Jews. In 1940 the Minnesota Territorial Centennial Commission named him to the list of 100 great living Minnesotans.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A Knesset education subcommittee is to propose the establishment of a national council for research and documentation of the heritage of Jews of Middle Eastern or Oriental background. Its purpose, according to subcommittee chairman Havi Shimon of the Labor Alignment, will be the enrichment of Israeli culture and incorporation of material on Middle Eastern Jews into the elementary school curriculum.

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES ARAB SMOKE-SCREENS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 18 (JTA) -- The Arab world may be deliberately throwing up smoke-screens and sowing confusion. Or it simply may be unable to reach any degree of unity with respect to future peace negotiations with Israel. In any case, Israel's leaders and political analysts are having a difficult time making sense of the bewildering array of contradictory statements that comprise the so-called Arab peace offensive.

For example: Last Friday, Egypt's Foreign Minister, Ismail Fahmy, let it be known that his government would demand Israel's withdrawal to the 1947 partition boundaries. On Sunday, Fahmy's boss, President Anwar Sadat, told a New York Times interviewer that he was ready to give Israel any guarantees it wanted -- provided that it withdrew first to the pre-June 1967 lines.

On Friday, Sheikh Mohammed Ali el-Jabbari, the former Mayor of Hebron, returned from a visit to Jordan claiming the right of the West Bank population to self-determination. The people of the West Bank, not the PLO must have "the first word to say" about their fate, he declared, speaking, presumably, with the blessings of Jordan's King Hussein. But a day later, Hussein signed a joint declaration with Sadat favoring a separate Palestinian state on the West Bank.

These contradictions seem to bear out Israel's long-standing belief that all Arab statements must be taken with a large grain of salt. But who expresses the Arabs' true intentions? Sadat or his Foreign Minister? Jaabari, a retired politician who is a sentimental favorite but no longer a political influence in his home town or the Hashemite King who appears to have reversed himself and now supports the PLO?

### Trying To Lay The Groundwork

Apparently the Arabs are trying to lay the groundwork for a joint stand when the time comes to reconvene the Geneva conference. Their efforts are expected to culminate in March when the Arab heads of state are scheduled to meet in Cairo to finalize their "understandings." The recent meetings between Sadat, Hussein and President Hafez Assad of Syria appear to have resulted in a common position on the part of the three confrontation states. The next two months probably will be devoted to trying to extend the consensus to the more extreme Arab regimes of Iraq and Muammar Qaddafi of Libya.

But if the Arabs are joining forces to squeeze concessions out of Israel, it is hard to understand how they hope to achieve this by their current smokescreen tactics. And if they do adopt a united stand on the eve of a resumed Geneva conference, the conference may fail to materialize because Israel will not accept the terms demanded by the united Arab front.

Saturday's joint communique by Sadat and Hussein indicates some of the difficulties that may arise. It speaks in favor of a separate Palestinian delegation at Geneva, a co-equal with the other Arab delegations and the "legitimate rights of the Palestinians, including the right to establish an independent political entity." Israel is not likely to accept these

terms. In fact, recent reports that such influential Americans as Prof. Zbigniew Brzezinski, who will be President Carter's National Security Advisor in the new administration, now oppose a Palestinian state bolsters Israel's opposition.

### Jordan's Role Probed

What needs examination is the new Jordanian support for a Palestinian entity. The Daily Telegraph of London reported today that Hussein would soon meet with PLO chieftain Yasir Arafat, their first meeting since Jordan destroyed the PLO presence within its borders in the bloody battles of September, 1970.

The Jordanian position is easier to understand in the context of internal Arab politics. Hussein is preparing the groundwork for greater involvement on the West Bank, not as an interested party but as a patriotic Arab leader carrying out the mandate given to him by the entire Arab community. The joint communique speaks of an "independent political entity" but also mentions Sadat's recent proposal that a formal link should exist between Jordan and a future Palestinian state. Hussein, not surprisingly, welcomes the idea.

Although Arab ambiguity has created a dilemma for Israel, official reactions to the Hussein-Sadat communique were positive. Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told the Cabinet yesterday that Jordan was again given a role in the Palestinian issue, despite what Allon described as lip service to the 1974 Rabat summit meeting. Political analysts noted that although there was reference to a Palestinian state in the joint communique, there was no reference to the PLO as "the sole representative of the Palestinians," a figure of speech contained in the Rabat resolutions.

"Anything that brings Jordan back into the Palestinian issue is positive since it is the Israeli position that the Palestinian question must be answered in the context of negotiations with Jordan," political sources here said today. The Israeli view is that Jordan is enjoying a comeback in the Arab world. Sadat does not want to see Jordan totally in the Syrian camp nor does Hussein want to tie himself entirely to one camp.

Israel believes that a final settlement on the West Bank is possible only through negotiations with Jordan and regards the Sadat-Hussein communique as a step in that direction. On the other hand, the fact that the moderate Hussein officially endorses a separate Palestinian delegation to the Geneva talks is viewed with concern since Israel will not accept such a provision.

If this turns out to be part of the united Arab stance it may well become the main obstacle to reconvening the Geneva conference. It is expected to be the subject of talks between Middle East leaders and the new American administration.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A Nahal (para-military) settlement in the Raffah district south of Gaza was officially transformed today into the first kibbutz in the region and given the name Soffa (storm). The new settlement, and the four existing moshavim in the Raffah area, will produce greenhouse vegetables, mangos and avocados for export to Europe.