WJC GIVING $10,000 TO AID RUMANIAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS; JEWISH AGENCY TO ASSIST IN REBUILDING 3 SYNAGOGUES

GENEVA, March 8 (JTA)--The World Jewish Congress announced today that it is contributing $10,000 to the relief fund for victims of the Rumanian earthquake disaster. The donation is being made through the offices of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Rumania which will convey it to the appropriate authorities in that country.

The WJC has also launched a world-wide appeal to its member communities and organizations urging them to contribute to the Rumanian disaster relief fund as a humanitarian gesture to a country that has given its Jewish community full religious and cultural freedom.

(In Jerusalem, the World Zionist Organization Executive announced today that it will assist in the reconstruction of three synagogues damaged by the earthquake. The WZO, after learning that no damage was suffered by the Jewish community in Transylvania and that the kosher restaurant in Bucharest was open for business, WZO chairman Yosef Almogi expressed regret on behalf of the Executive over the Rumanian disaster. At the same time, Israel's Ministry of Health donated IL 100,000 to purchase medical supplies for the earthquake victims. The first shipment will leave for Bucharest tomorrow.)

UAHC Establishes Relief Fund

(In New York, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, announced that the UAHC has established a relief fund for Rumania among its 720 Reform synagogues and 1.2 million members in the U.S. and Canada. He said the UAHC's 13 regional offices have been asked to search for "badly needed" medical supplies for shipment to the Rumanian Red Cross.)

Jacob Birnbaum, director of the Center for Russian and East European Jewry in New York, said Rumania has made available two telephone numbers for those who want to get through to relatives in Rumania. He said direct phone calls and cables are not possible because of earthquake damage. The numbers to call are: In New York-(212) 867-5200; in Munich, West Germany--011-498-9-210-2513.)

EX-SS OFFICER DEPRIVED BY COURT OF RIGHT TO PRACTICE AS LAWYER

BONN, March 8 (JTA)--A former SS officer accused of participating in the deportation and murder of numerous Jews in France has been deprived by a court in Oldenburg, north Germany, of his right to practice as a lawyer. The action against Hans-Dietrich Ernst, wartime regional commander of the German Security Service and Security Police in France, followed representations by the French anti-Nazi lawyer, Serge Klarfeld.

Ernst was sentenced to death four times by French courts, in absentia. The sentences were not recognized by West Germany although the Cologne State Prosecutor is currently investigat-
recognition and that strength and that friendship and that sense of mutual purpose will never waver."

Cardo declared further, "Many people in our own country have looked on our relationship with Israel as one of support and one of friendship that was to Israel’s benefit. I have never looked on it that way. I consider it to be an equal partnership that has derived for our country and for the cause of freedom tremendous benefits for us and this is a time of sharing of plans for the future."

New Beginning Seen

In his response to the President, Rabin said that "the unique relationship that has been developed between our two countries" results from their "spirit of freedom, the belief in democracy and the permanent search for peace and happiness." He said "your initiative" to start the talks with the Middle Eastern leaders "this time will allow us to build the kind of thinking and I hope also action with coordination with other leaders of the area that will bring about an end to a long futile war and will start a new beginning for Israel and for all the countries in the area."

Rabin also said that this is the first time a Premier of Israel "has come to the United States without a shopping list, without the need to make an imminent decision because of the pressure of events. In keeping with the scaled-down formal programming, the dinner was limited by the President to 35 guests. They included the Israeli cabinet and embassy officials, the President’s principal aides and prominent members of Congress."

Earlier yesterday, Rabin met with Defense Secretary Harold Brown for more than an hour at Blair House following a long working lunch with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. On leaving the meeting, Brown described it as "useful and productive."

ORTHODOX RABBI RAPS U.S. SOVIET JEWRY GROUPS FOR THE WAY THEY HAVE HANDLED SOVIET MATZOH BAN

By Yitzhak Rabin

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)—A prominent American Orthodox rabbi was sharply critical today of the methods employed by American Jewish organizations active on behalf of Soviet Jewry. Rabbi Pinchas Teitz, of Elizabeth, N.J., claimed the methods were "wrong" that they "defeated the purpose" and "do a disservice to Russian Jews" resulting in such acts as the Soviet ban on the shipment of matzohs parcels to Jews from abroad.

Addressing a press conference at the Roosevelt Hotel here, Teitz named two organizations, AIPAC and the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYCSJ). He said the restrictions on matzoh parcels from abroad was the response by Soviet authorities to the political campaign that Jewish organizations in the West were waging on behalf of Soviet Jews.

"The matzoh became a political message," he said, adding "We use a religious article and wrap it in a political wrapper." He said he was opposed to using religious symbols in the struggle for Soviet Jews.

Claims Ample Supplies

Teitz indicated that most Soviet Jews would have ample supplies of matzohs for the Passover holiday. He said he spoke by telephone last night to Shalom Kleinman, president of the Moscow Synagogue, who informed him that the Soviet authorities increased the allotment of flour for baking matzohs this year and reduced the price for a package of matzohs from 2.5 to 2 rubles. He said that as of yesterday, Jews in Moscow had already baked over a quarter million pounds of matzohs and that the Jewish communities in Leningrad, Kiev, Riga, Vilna and Tashkent received increased allotments of matzoh flour.

He said, however, that Jews in smaller communities in the USSR might be denied matzohs because they have always relied on parcels from abroad. He said these Jews were not aware of the ban and so might not seek supplies from other Jewish communities in the Soviet Union.

Teitz disclosed that he himself sent 1000 pounds of matzohs to Soviet Jews and the parcels were received without interference. He said he would send another 1000 pounds in the next few days. Asked why Jews have not applied to his shipments, Teitz replied, "If sent it is a religious item and you can understand it as you want," He appeared to be intimating that the Soviets were prepared to allow shipments that had no political strings.

Organizations Respond To Teitz

Responding to Teitz’s statement, Rabbi Walter Wurzburger, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, in conjunction with the GNYCSJ, said the Soviet ban on the importation of matzoh "cannot be seen in isolation," but "is part of a mounting campaign against the Jewish people in the Soviet Union launched in the last few months." They referred to the recent allegations in the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia that Jewish activists were working for the CIA, the showing of anti-Semitic films in the USSR and the threat of "new show trials" of Soviet Jews.

They stated that "Soviet Jews ask us to maintain Western pressure against all these attacks and to continue to be forthright despite Soviet attempts to intimidate the Soviet Jews and their millions of friends around the world."

With regard to the boycott in the Soviet Union, Wurzburger and the GNYCSJ said it had "no assurance" that they "would ever reach Jews in the many medium and small-sized cities and towns throughout the Soviet Union" or that "they will be made freely available to Jews living in cities where they are being baked."

Rabbi Chayim Levin issued a similar statement on behalf of AIPAC. Rejecting "all allegations that matzohs sent to the Soviet Union were or are being used as a political issue," he cautioned, "Before we rejoice at the fact that the legal end of a frame matzoh shipped by Rabbi Teitz reached the Soviet Union and will ascertain whether or not these packages will actually be distributed gratis to 1000 Orthodox families or whether they will suffer the same fate as other-religious articles shipped to the synagogues officials" in Moscow.

BUDAPEST (JTA)—A new rabbi was ordained here this week and appointed to serve in the city of Szeged which has a relatively active Jewish community. The new rabbi, Istvan Zucker, was ordained by Budapest’s Chief Rabbi Mordechai Schwartz in the presence of Jewish community representatives from all over the country.
RABIN SAYS THAT THE 1967 BORDERS ARE NOT DEFENSIBLE
By Joseph Polokoff

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA)—Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin declared today that "defensible boundaries" for Israel do not coincide "in any way with the lines before the Six-Day War." Responding to a question about the term used by President Carter yesterday, Rabin said, "I believe defensible boundaries can be interpreted in different ways by different people. For me it allows Israel to defend itself by itself."

Answering questions at a crowded news conference at the Israeli embassy, Rabin said "legally we have a right to negotiate boundaries." He stressed that the only lines that existed in 1949 were those that the Arabs stressed were demarcation lines for military purposes and not necessarily boundaries that would be reached in a peace agreement. He said the 1967 lines were "not defensible."

Rabin met with the press following a one-hour meeting in the White House Oval Office with Carter this morning. It was his fourth meeting, and one of two that were unscheduled. The other was a one-hour discussion late last night in the President's private quarters at which only the two leaders were present, White-House News Secretary Jody Powell said the meeting last night, which was at Carter's request and followed the working dinner for Rabin, "covered core issues of the Middle East."

Before last night's dinner ended, Carter told the 35 guests that he wants to see Israel remain secure for a thousand years and will do everything in his ability toward that end.

'We Talk Of Genuine Peace' 

Rabin also told the press conference that there is "no need to add words to Israel's desire for peace and to achieve peace." But, he decried "false solutions" and emphasized that "we talk of genuine peace— the kind every man in the street will call peace."

The Israeli Premier stressed that "only parties to the conflict can negotiate, sign and maintain" an agreement in the Mideast. He said that "we will see what is possible and what is not possible" in regard to reconvening a Geneva conference this year. Noting that Israel has lived for 23 years "in limited agreements and sometimes nonagreements," Rabin said "if our neighbors are not ready" for "real peace" then "I am sure we will agree to something."

Rabin agreed that there is a Palestinian question, but emphasized "it is by no means the heart or the crux" of the Mideast conflict. He reiterated that "what prevents peace is the reluctance of the Arab governments to recognize Israel as a viable, independent Jewish State." He said once this recognition is achieved all the other problems will be easily solved. The Palestinian issue could then be dealt with by negotiation with Jordan, he said.

Powell told reporters yesterday after Rabin and Carter held their 90-minute conference that the "question of the PLO did not come up." Powell noted that the U.S. "has said as long as the PLO does not accept the existence of Israel and the Security Council resolutions we do not see a way for the PLO to fit into the peace process."

Israel's Arms Sales Discussed

Powell said today that Carter and Rabin have agreed to a formulation of policy that will preclude situations where Israel is prevented from fulfilling orders from foreign countries for military equipment produced under U.S. license. He was referring to the U.S. refusal to issue re-export licenses for 24 Israeli-made KFIR jet fighters to Ecuador. The KFIRs are powered by General Electric engines.

At his press conference, Rabin confirmed that he and Carter "agreed to develop machinery" to obtain agreement before Israel concluded a sale of arms to a foreign buyer. He said that "while the U.S. may not agree to every country to which we might sell" military equipment, the number of countries to which Israel will be allowed to make such sales will be greater than the number where the U.S. would object.

He said "it would be better for Israel not to come to the U.S. about every item" it wants to sell. He stressed that it was in his country's interest to export part of its arms production, but that Israel was not seeking to become "a merchant of arms."

U.S. Will Sell Israel F-16s

Powell said that Carter had re-affirmed to Rabin that the U.S. will sell Israel F-16 fighter planes, originally promised by the Ford Administration, although the numbers and timing of deliveries has not been decided. He said the U.S. reversal of the Ford Administration's offer to sell Israel conventional bombs "did not come up during the Rabin-Carter talks. Rabin also said that he had not heard from Carter any demands to reduce the present level of U.S. arms shipments to Israel.

CABINET-APPROVES IL 31.8 BILLION FOUR-MONTH INTERIM BUDGET

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JRA)—The Cabinet approved an IL 31.8 billion four-month interim budget today to cover government expenditures through Israel's May 17 general elections. A special session was held for the purpose, in the absence of Premier Yitzhak Rabin who is in Washington, in order to get the budget before the Knesset without delay. Its approval is virtually certain since the interim measure was drafted by a special committee on which both the government and the opposition were represented.

It contains no innovations, no new taxes and no changes in the linkage between wages and the cost-of-living index. The latter had been a feature of the original IL 122.5 billion budget for fiscal 1977-78 for which Rabin's minority government failed to gain Knesset approval last month. A budget for the full year is expected to be drafted when the next government takes office after the elections.

JUDITH MANDELBAUM DEAD AT 70

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)—Funeral services were held yesterday for Mrs. Judith Pinta Mandelbaum, 70, honorary national vice-president of the American Mizrahi Women. She died Sunday night. Mrs. Mandelbaum was editor of the Mizrahi Women's journal's secretary and national cultural chairman before becoming vice-president in 1957. Born in New York, she was a graduate of the teachers institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary. She taught at East Midwood Jewish Center and Flatbush Yahshiva in Brooklyn.
BEHIND THE HEADLINES
WOING FRENCH JEWISH VOTERS
By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, March 8 (JTA)--A French Jewish de-
legation is due to meet next month with President
Valery Giscard d’Estaing for an overall review
of the Jewish community’s problems and aspira-
tions. Jewish leaders say they intend to use
the opportunity to stress the Jewish community’s
attachment to Israel and to ask for a more bal-
anced approach to the Middle East and the Arab-
Israeli conflict.

The delegation, which will be led by Chief
Rabbi Jacob Kaplan and will include the presi-
dent of the Representative Council of French
Jewish Organizations (CRIF) Alain de Roths-
child, will be entertained for lunch by the Pres-
ident at the Elysee Palace. Observers here be-
lieve the invitation is part of an overall attempt
to mend the Jewish vote.

Traditionally, France’s Jews were not con-
idered an electoral pressure group because of
the deep split between the traditional right-wing
and central parties and the Socialist-Communist
opposition. Former Premier Jacques Chirac’s
entrance into the electoral arena where he is
challenging Giscard’s authority, has prompted
the two governmental parties, the Chirac Gaul-
lists and the pro-Giscard Independent Republi-
cans, to vie for the Jewish vote.

With municipal elections to be held March 13,
the two parties and the left are now actively
competing for Jewish voters, especially in cer-
tain Paris districts in which Jews represent
over 20 percent of registered voters.

Jewish Candidates On All Lists

This struggle is especially bitter in the Paris
“Pilletz,” the old Jewish quarter once inhabited
by East European Jews and now a stronghold
of North African Jewish families. All three par-
ties, the Gaullists, the pro-Giscard Republicans
and the left, present electoral lists which include
several Jewish candidates.

The Gaullist list is led by a Jewish profes-
sor, Mrs. Nicole Chouraqui; the Socialist-
Communist list is headed by a Jewish senior
government official, Georges Dayan; and the In-
dependent Republicans, by a non-Jew, Jacques
Dominati, who is a member of the executive com-
mittee of the Franco-Israeli Friendship Associa-
tion and prominent in the Franco-Israeli Alli-
ance and the Association for Christian-Jewish
Friendship. Second on this list is Jacques Finel,
local Jewish businessman.

The municipal elections are considered as
especially important in view of the in-fighting in
the governmental camp and as a curtain-raiser
to the legislative elections due to be held next
year. As part of this wooing by all parties of the
Jewish electorate, Jewish delegations have al-
ready met with Socialist, Communist and pro-
governmental leaders. This will be the first
time, however, that the President himself will
confer with France’s Jewish representatives
as such.

DEMAND SOVIET AUTHORITIES
PRODUCE SANYA LIPAVSKY

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--The Student
Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSJ) and the Union
of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ) are demand-
ing that the Soviet authorities produce Dr. Sanya
Lipavsky “to face the world press and state him-
self that he indeed wrote the accusations against
Vladimir Slepak, Alexander Lerner and Anatoly
Sharansky. If he cannot be produced, we must
assume for the future, and in his case name,”
this demand was cabled to the two groups to
Soviet Procurator-General Roman Rudenko.

Lipavsky is a former Soviet Jewish dissi-
dent who purportedly wrote an open letter that
appeared last Friday in Izvestia accusing Soviet
Jewish emigration activists and disidents of
working for the U.S. Central Intelligence Ag-
ency (CIA).

The two groups said that their demand was
prompted by the fact that they just received let-
ters dated Feb. 25 from Lipavsky to Reps. Dante
Fascell (D.Fla.) and Morris Udall (D.Ariz.)
asking that he be allowed to emigrate to Israel. The
SSJ and the UCSJ noted that the Izvestia attack
came on Purim “which recalls the evil Ham-
an’s accusations against the Jewish people.
Just as the Jews were then saved, we are confi-
dent that justice will triumph even if Lipavsky
is ultimately discovered to have been a KGB
agent.”

Sverdliv Gets 1-Year Suspended Sentence

In another development, the SSJ and UCSJ
reported that Leningrad activist Vladimir
Sverdliv was given a one-year suspended sen-
tence last Friday. He had been charged with
“stealing ammunition” after several 17-year-
old bulllets from the time he was a student
schoolman were found during a search of his
home last August. Leningrad Jews asserted
he was persecuted because he led an informal
weekly “Shalom Club” to study Jewish subjects
and celebrate Jewish holidays.

Sverdliv was restricted to Leningrad for
the year and warned that if convicted again on
any charge, the suspended term would be added
to his sentence. A former chief engineer of a
chemical projects office, Sverdliv, 42, applied
to leave the Soviet Union in 1974 but was refused
an exit visa on the grounds that his brother was
employed in a job with national security

THOUSANDS OF PURIM KITS, MEGILLOTH
DISTRIBUTED HERE AND ABROAD

NEW YORK, March 8 (JTA)--More than
500,000 Purim kits were distributed nationally
by the Lubavitch Youth Organization (LYO). It
was reported by Rabbi Samuel Butman, organi-
dation director. At the same time, thousands of
Megilloth with Russian translations were
distributed in the United States, Caïada, Israel,
New Zealand and many other countries by the
AI Tidom Association, according to Rabbi
Harry Bronstein, president of the Association.

Butman said that the Purim kits were dis-
tributed in elementary schools, high schools,
colleges, army bases, hospitals, nursing homes
and on the streets. Lubavitcher Hasidim even
went “behind bars” to bring the Purim observ-
ances and holiday spirit to Jewish prisoners.

Thousands of people also received Purim kits
through the Mitzvah Mobiles or “tanks against
assimilation.”

Bronstein reported that Megilloth in Hebrew
and Russian were distributed to synagogues,
Jewish centers, day schools, yeshivas, universi-
ties and organizations aiding recently ar-
ived Soviet Jews. He said that many requests
came in from private individuals requesting
Megilloth in Russian for customers or neigh-