



# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XLIV - 60th Year

Tuesday, May 10, 1977

No. 90

## BEHIND THE HEADLINES

### CONCERN THAT THE U.S. MAY WITHHOLD WEAPONS TO ISRAEL AS PRESSURE MOVE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 9 (JTA)--A series of developments with respect to American military supplies to Israel since the Carter Administration took office has raised fears in Israeli circles that the U.S. may withhold weapons to coerce Israel into accepting its settlement plan for the Middle East.

The latest manifestation of this approach was the State Department's notification last Friday that Israel will not be included on the top priority list of American arms recipients. That list includes the NATO countries and Japan.

Israeli circles say the notification was unwarranted because Israel never has received equal or preferential treatment in weapons systems deliveries, except for the F-15 jet fighters which Israel got at the same time as West Germany. The American statement therefore did not represent any change of policy but could be construed as a form of pressure, the circles said.

That view gained credibility in light of what some Israelis see as a subtle change in the American military supply relationship with Israel. The U.S. veto of the sale of 25 Kfir jet fighters to Ecuador and the Administration's request to Congress to pass legislation that would force countries exporting arms systems which include American technology or know-how to obtain permission from Washington even before approaching a potential customer, are seen here as part of the same pattern. The requested legislation in fact is believed to be aimed primarily at controlling Israel's arms industry.

### Fear Reins Being Tightened

Other disturbing developments were the Carter Administration's decision not to honor President Ford's commitment to sell Israel cluster bombs and the FLIR night vision system and its refusal--after prolonged delays--of Israel's request to produce part of the 250 F-16 jet fighters it intends to buy from the U.S. The refusal of the cluster bombs was, in fact, the first time a new Administration reversed a pledge by a former Administration and had the effect of narrowing Israel's military potential.

Some sources have expressed fear that the U.S. is tightening the reins on military supplies in order to soften Israeli opposition to an American-imposed Middle East peace settlement. Despite repeated assurances from President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and other American officials that the U.S. has no intention of trying to impose a solution of the Middle East conflict, there is a gnawing suspicion here that an American plan does exist and will be unveiled sooner or later.

The sources say that all Israel can do now is lessen its dependence on American military equipment by expanding its own weapons producing capability. Israel's largest manufacturer of weapons systems, Israel Aircraft Industries, is preparing to produce a military helicopter within the next four years and has developed blueprints for a new, sophisticated combat jet, a second generation Kfir. The Air Force has not yet approved the plans but if the present American attitude persists it will have

no choice, the sources said.

### MAJOR SETTLEMENT PROJECT APPROVED

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--The Joint Settlement Committee of the government and the World Zionist Organization has approved an IL 30 million allocation to expedite the "southern project," a major development and settlement undertaking that envisions about 100 new settlements in the south during the 1980s.

The project was initiated by Prof. Raanan Weitz, head of the WZO's settlement department. The allocation will be used to study special farming techniques for the settlement area which extends from the Rafah salient to a point near Beersheba. Water will be piped in from the Tel Aviv region sewage system which will have to be re-cycled. Yesterday the Cabinet approved IL 575 million for the re-cycling project. An additional IL 350 million may be required to complete the project.

### BARAK: PERES IS NOT ACTING PREMIER

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres does not hold the title of Acting Premier, Attorney General Aharon Barak ruled today. Barak gave his opinion at the request of Yitzhak Livni, Director General of the Israel Broadcasting Authority. Livni asked for Barak's opinion following a complaint by a member of the Democratic Movement for Change. Thus, until further notice, it is Defense Minister Shimon Peres, and the title of Premier refers solely to Yitzhak Rabin.

### CARTER REAFFIRMS THAT MIDEAST SETTLEMENT MUST INCLUDE SOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, HOMELAND

By Edwin Eytan

GENEVA, May 9 (JTA)--President Carter said here today that a Middle East peace settlement must include "a resolution of the Palestinian problem and a homeland for the Palestinians." The President, who arrived in Geneva for a meeting with Syrian President Hafez Assad, added that such an agreement must also include an assurance of permanent and real peace with guarantees for the future security of these countries (in the Middle East) which all can trust.

Carter arrived here this afternoon from the economic summit conference in London. In a brief statement at the airport, he said "I hope that later this year we might come back (to Geneva) to find a resolution of differences that have separated one nation from another and one people from another for many, many years in the Eastern Mediterranean area." At the meeting with Assad, Carter was accompanied by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and the chairman of the National Security Council, Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Before the meeting, Carter addressed the press together with Assad. Both men seemed to be addressing each other, saying openly and publicly what each appeared to think the other would like to hear. Carter paid tribute to Assad's work for peace, thanked him for coming to Geneva to meet with him and described his experience in world affairs. He also apparently wanted to prepare a good working climate by stressing the

Palestinian homeland and a resolution of the Palestinian problem.

### Cites Need For Flexibility

Carter said a peace agreement must be based on flexibility. "There must be forgetting about past differences and misunderstandings; there must be determination and there must be a resolution of the Palestinian problem and a homeland for the Palestinians," Carter said. "There must be some resolution of border disputes. There must be an assurance of permanent and real peace with guarantees for the future security of these countries, which all can trust."

Assad, speaking in Arabic without notes, stressed Syria's desire for peace and its determination to seek a just and lasting solution. He said he was optimistic because Carter, by his previous remarks, created an optimistic climate.

Assad then read a written statement in which he denounced Israel's continued occupation of Arab land and Israel's refusal to recognize the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. He stressed that the Geneva conference should provide a suitable framework for the implementation of the Middle East resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly.

The General Assembly's resolutions on the Middle East have often been violently anti-Israel and it was generally thought they could not serve as a basis or a framework for the Geneva conference or for any solution of the conflict. Carter and Assad retired to the 17th floor of the Intercontinental Hotel, overlooking the Palace of Nations where the Geneva conference convened briefly in December, 1973, for their talks. Vance is due to meet in London Wednesday with Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and will visit the Middle East next month. In the meantime, Carter will meet in Washington with Saudi Arabia's Prince Fahd.

### TERRORIST ALERTS AUTHORITIES ABOUT PLOT TO KILL TWO JEWISH LEADERS

By Jon Fedler

BONN, May 9 (JTA)--A German-born Jewish terrorist wanted on charges of kidnapping and murder has alerted the authorities to a possible attempt on the lives of two Jewish community leaders. Hans-Joachim Klein, 29, disclosed the plot in a letter to the magazine, "Spiegel." He said the intended victims were "Gallinsky of the Jewish community in Berlin and the leader of the Frankfurt Jewish community, Schmitz or Schmiedke or something similar."

Klein was apparently referring to Heinz Gallinsky, head of the West Berlin Jewish community and Ignaz Lipinski, the Jewish community leader in Frankfurt. Klein wrote that they would be "shot in the very near future." His letter came to "Spiegel" in a box that contained a pistol and 12 bullets. It bore his fingerprints to establish his identity. Police have confirmed the authenticity of the fingerprints. The box was postmarked April 26 from Milan.

Klein was a participant in the December, 1975 attack on the OPEC oil ministers meeting in Vienna. In his letter he said he was under pressure to prove his loyalty by committing further "acts of madness." He said he regretted his part on "Fascist-like" acts of terror in the past. He also insisted that he was betraying no one by disclosing the plot "but simply prevented something I regard as an act of madness."

According to "Spiegel," Klein's mother was a concentration camp survivor who died six months after his birth. Although Klein's earlier activities were widely publicized, the "Spiegel" report was the first to mention his Jewish origin.

### \$2.5 M IN TORAH SCROLL THEFTS

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--More than 200 Torah scrolls valued at over \$2.5 million were stolen from synagogues all over Israel last year, police reported. Only a few have been recovered. Police said many of the scrolls were smuggled overseas. There is also a large demand for them in Israel since the Yom Kippur War because families want to commemorate a fallen son with a Torah scroll. The average price of a scroll on the open market is \$5000. Police said they were working with the Religious Affairs Ministry to provide better security for synagogues.

### JERUSALEM IN CHILDREN'S ART

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--Thousands of children from all over the world have sent in drawings as part of the international children's exhibition on Jerusalem on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the city's reunification. The drawings, gathered at the government information center here, depict Jerusalem as seen in the minds of children who have never been here nor even viewed a photograph of the city.

One nine-year-old boy from Burma drew Jerusalem as a city where children walk with flowers in their hands among Far East-style pagodas. A 13-year-old girl from Norway saw Jerusalem as a city of beautiful churches decorated with menorahs and Stars of David. A group of first grade school children in a small West German village sent a joint drawing with an explanation stating: "We imagine the city of peace as a place where people walk with flowers, where there are no fights and nobody kills animals." Most of the young artists are not Jewish.

### SEAMEN BEGIN VOTING FOR KNESSET

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--About 1000 Israeli seamen aboard 36 ships now at sea or at foreign ports voted for the next Knesset today, eight days in advance of the general elections to be held here May 17. They cast their ballots by authority of a special election law clause which permits voting aboard any Israeli vessel overseas in which there are at least 14 eligible voters.

The ballots will be mailed from foreign ports in time to reach the Central Elections Committee for counting on election day. Except for seamen, Israel provides no absentee ballots and its citizens living abroad cannot vote. Each ship was provided with a list of all parties participating in the elections and summaries of their platforms. The balloting is supervised by the ship's captain and one seaman.

BONN (JTA)--A parade of the right-wing National Democratic Party's (NPD) youth group at Fuerstenfeldbruck near Munich last weekend was disbanded after police intervened to stop fist fights between supporters of left and right-wing groups. The NPD youth originally wanted to hold a parade in the town of Dachau, but this was changed after protests by various groups.

BRUSSELS (JTA)--Belgian families are hosting 17 Israeli war invalids who are on a European tour under auspices of the B'nai B'rith.

### B'NAI B'RITH COMMITTEE WORKING OUT POLICY TOWARD HILLEL DIRECTORS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF BREIRA

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, May 9 (JTA)--A special 11-member committee of B'nai B'rith leaders met here yesterday to begin working out a policy for the organization to take toward its Hillel directors who are members of Breira. The committee, appointed by B'nai B'rith president David Blumberg, is expected to hold several more meetings before it makes its recommendations to the fraternal organization's board of governors, a B'nai B'rith spokesman said today.

Blumberg announced his intention to name the committee early last March in the wake of charges that some of B'nai B'rith's Hillel directors are promoting anti-Israel, pro-Arab views through their membership in Breira. In a memorandum to the board of governors at the time, Blumberg said the committee would recommend a "policy which protects both the integrity of the institution (B'nai B'rith) and that of its staff members."

The committee is headed by Billy B. Goldberg of Houston, Texas, a former B'nai B'rith vice-president. Other members are Philip M. Klutznick, honorary president of B'nai B'rith and chairman of the Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress; Dr. Marver H. Bernstein, president of Brandeis University and former Hillel Commission chairman; Burton M. Joseph, national chairman of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League; Dore Schary, ADL's honorary national chairman.

Also: Mrs. Grace Day, of St. Joseph, Mo.; Murray Shusterman, Philadelphia, B'nai B'rith vice-president; Dr. William Haber, former Hillel Commission chairman; Prof. Seymour M. Lipset, the present Hillel Commission chairman; Eli M. Topel, Bronxville, N.Y., president of B'nai B'rith District 1 and Leonard Stein, Silver Spring, Md., president of District 5.

Rabbi Benjamin Kahn, B'nai B'rith's honorary executive vice-president, is serving as a consultant to the committee. Also advising the committee is the noted author Elie Wiesel.

### PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE SAYS U.S. ARMS POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL IS EXAMPLE OF CARROT AND STICK APPROACH

NEW YORK, May 9 (JTA)--The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said today that it was "profoundly disturbed by reports that our country might now limit preferred nations status in arms exports to countries which have formal security treaties with the U.S., a policy that would deprive Israel of "such preferred nations status in the future." (See related story P. 1)

In a statement issued here, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Presidents Conference, urged that this policy "should be abandoned." He characterized it as an "example of the 'carrot and stick' approach to Israel which Jimmy Carter rightfully denounced when he was a candidate for the Presidency" after "expressions by the previous Administration which placed the American commitment to Israel's survival in doubt."

Schindler said that "The reported change in U.S. arms export rules would bring about precisely the situation Mr. Carter warned against" when he accused the previous Administration of "maneuvers... bound to produce... both failure in negotiations and suspicion among its participants."

Schindler said the Carter Administration's objective of reducing world arms traffic "is highly

commendable but unless there are agreements with other countries at an overall reduction in arms sales, our country's policy will result in penalizing our closest and most reliable friend." He claimed that the "Unilateral reduction in arms sales to Israel--which has no other source of military supply essential to its security--may be likened to unilateral disarmament."

Schindler warned that "America's traditional commitment to Israel's security and survival--a commitment that President Carter has expressed on numerous occasions and in eloquent terms--can only be jeopardized by any action that is bound to be interpreted as a diminution of that commitment."

### RAKAH, PLO REPS MEET IN PRAGUE

First Time PLO Acknowledges Contact

TEL AVIV, May 9 (JTA)--Leaders of the pro-Moscow Rakah Communist Party and representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization met in Prague last week. Their meetings, held on Tuesday and Wednesday in the Czechoslovakian capital, were the first official contact between an Israeli political group and the PLO.

Although there have been previous meetings between Rakah and PLO people in Moscow and New York as well as meetings in Paris last year between PLO representatives and members of a non-Communist leftist Israeli group headed by Gen. (Res.) Matiyahu Peled and Arye Eliav, none of these contacts was ever acknowledged by the PLO.

This time, however, the PLO news agency in Beirut announced the meeting. Its communique said "The Prague meeting was arranged in accordance with resolutions of the Palestine National Council," which endorsed contacts "with democratic and progressive Jewish forces" both inside and outside "the occupied homeland."

The Rakah participants in the Prague meeting were Dr. Wolf Ehrlich, head of the faction's internal control committee; Emille Touma and Uzzel Bernstein of Rakah's political bureau; and Ali Ashour, a member of Rakah's central committee.

The PLO representatives were Majid Abou Sharar, director of the El Fatah terrorist organization's revolutionary committee; Issam Abu Latif, of the Democratic Front group's political bureau; Abdallah Horani, director general of the PLO's cultural and information division; and Arabbi Awad, a member of the Jordanian Communist Party.

### WEST BANK MAYOR VISITING THE U.S.

WASHINGTON, May 9 (JTA)--Muhammad Mulhim, the Mayor of Halhul on the West Bank, has begun a 30-day visit to the United States as one of "six distinguished international visitors," the State Department announced. Mulhim, a teacher of English, was elected Mayor in April, 1976. Halhul was described by the State Department as a community of about 10,000 persons in an agricultural area "on the West Bank of occupied Jordan."

Mulhim is the third West Bank Mayor to visit Washington under the Department's "multi-regional project on local government and community leadership." The project includes seminars in Washington on American political, economic and social systems and visits to American cities. The Mayors of Ramallah and Bethlehem had been here previously.

## SPECIAL INTERVIEW

## THE FOCUS IS ON ALIYA

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 9 (JTA)--Newly organized and with a new name, the North American Aliya Movement (formerly the Association of Americans and Canadians for Aliya) is looking toward playing a major role in helping American Jews to emigrate to Israel.

"We hope that NAAM will become the umbrella organization for aliya in North America, to which all other aliya organizations in the United States, Canada and Mexico come for information and programmatic support which they themselves cannot provide," Dr. Sam A. Lehman-Wilzig, the newly elected president of NAAM, and its executive director Harvey G. Harth, said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

They said that the recent annual national convention of their organization, held in Pikesville, Md., was a turning point in the history of the movement, which was founded in 1967, because for the first time a constitution was adopted and an Executive Board was elected. "The convention was a complete uplift for all of us," Wilzig said. He noted that the changes will enable NAAM to operate more effectively for the promotion of aliya to Israel.

According to Wilzig and Harth, NAAM's strength is in the fact that American Jews approach other American Jews to go on aliya. "We are the only organization that deals exclusively with aliya," Wilzig said. "As Americans we have better ability to communicate with Americans who consider aliya." Harth and Wilzig said that they themselves will be going on aliya "in the next two or three years." They added that all members of NAAM--about 2000 at present--are committed to aliya.

The two leaders emphasized the non-ideological character of NAAM. "We are firmly committed to ensuring that NAAM will not be a spokesman for any single ideological or political perspective. Of course, this does not mean that we shall remain silent on the issues that directly relate to aliya. In this regard we will try to be more forceful than ever," Wilzig said.

## Planning Public Campaign

According to Harth, the main activity of NAAM is conducted in 65 chugim (chapters) throughout the country. In the chugim, which meet on a monthly basis, the potential American olim are briefed on issues relating to life in Israel and the process of immigration, including education and job opportunities and packing and shipping from America to Israel, Harth said.

In order to attract more potential olim, NAAM is planning to launch a public relations campaign shortly which will include advertisements in Jewish newspapers, lectures and distribution of posters. Wilzig and Harth also said that a special program will be launched to attract members of Jewish youth groups to the challenge of aliya to Israel.

Contending that the immediate aims of NAAM are to increase their members, to strengthen ties with their sister organization in Israel--the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel--and to attract American Jews who are presently far removed from the issue of aliya, Harth said: "For us, the meaning of Zionism is aliya and aliya means Zionism."

## BOOK FAIR TERMED HUGE SUCCESS

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--The eighth Jer-

usalem International Book Fair, which was held here at the Binyanei Ha'ooma from April 26 to May 2, was the biggest and most impressive since the biennial event was started. It was attended by some 100,000 visitors, compared to 90,000 two years ago. It featured 1000 exhibits from 1023 publishers in 43 countries displaying 50,000 books. On the average, this year's Book Fair was about 40 percent larger than any previous one.

According to Shlomo Erel, director of the Export Institute's Book and Printing Center, the Fair was "quite successful" from a business point of view. But it is clearly more than a business event. The tens of thousands of people who jammed the convention center each day testified to the Book Fair's universal cultural appeal.

During the official opening ceremonies, President Ephraim Katzir awarded the Jerusalem Prize to the Mexican poet, Octavio Paz. The prize is conferred biennially by the Jerusalem Municipality on the writer whose work expresses "the freedom of the individual in society."

Paz: '...I Would Be A Zionist'

Paz told a press conference that when Mexico voted in the United Nations to equate Zionism with racism "I wrote an article proving that they had made an enormous moral and political mistake. Zionism is a historic and political expression of auto-emancipation; it is not nationalistic in the narrow sense of that term. Since the Holocaust, if I were a Jew I would be a Zionist."

The Fair's agenda included a session of the "first international conference of scientific editors," an international meeting of the printing and publishing committee of the "Jerusalem Economic Conference" on the subject of Jerusalem, the Holy Land and the Bible in the context of religious and general publishing and a luncheon hosted by Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev. Publishers participating in the Fair also breakfasted with Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek and attended an informal discussion with former Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

As at previous Jerusalem book fairs, the Israel Museum sponsored the International Art Book Prize. The five books, out of 200 entered in the competition, which were cited for excellence were: "Drawing, a Creative Process," designed by Kurt Wirth and published by ABC Verlag, Zurich (a gold medal); "Glad Konst," designed by Olle Eksell of Sweden (a silver medal); "La Marca Magica" by Antonio Grass of Colombia (a silver medal); "Anti-Object Art" by Lawrence Levy of Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois; and "Zeichensprache Der Architektur" by Rolf Parriett, Zurich.

Some of the biggest and most prestigious names in publishing in the United States and other countries were represented at the Book Fair. American participants included Bantam Books, Time-Life Books, New American Library, Yale University Press, Harvard University Press, Grosset and Dunlap and William Morrow. (By Uzi Benziman)

BRUSSELS (JTA)--A Ben Gurion Club has been formed here to develop Zionist studies and activities without allegiance to existing political bodies. The founders say they seek to give an accurate picture of Israel to Jews and non-Jews in Belgium and to combat anti-Semitism and assimilation.