



# JTA daily news bulletin

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

Contents copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XLIV.—60th Year

Tuesday, July 5, 1977

No. 127

## **TERRORIST PLAN SEEN AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR RENEWED CHRISTIAN, MOSLEM FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN LEBANON**

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 4 (JTA)—The renewed fighting between Moslems and Christians in southern Lebanon may be linked to a terrorist plan to embarrass Israel and prevent the free movement of Lebanese villagers through the open fence, it was reported today. Villagers entering Israel for medical treatment said the terrorists were trying to provoke Israeli military action along the Lebanese border before Premier Menachem Begin's meeting with President Carter in Washington later this month. Lebanese authorities were said to be collaborating by spreading reports that an Israeli attack was imminent and appealing to the U.S. to try to prevent it.

Israel is keeping a close watch on events in southern Lebanon where an estimated 3000 terrorists are deployed in battle with local Christian residents. Yesterday several stray shells exploded in the fields near the Israeli border village of Hanita, site of a fence opening. There was no damage. The shells were believed to have been aimed at the Christian village of Alma W-Shaab which has been under attack by terrorist and Moslem leftists.

Lebanese who came to the open fence yesterday said they had been threatened by terrorists to keep away from Israel and appeared frightened. A 16-year-old boy wounded during the fighting in Yaroun village, came for medical treatment. He said about 40 terrorists occupied positions near the village and turned a mosque into an arms cache. Christians denied Fatah radio claims that Yaroun was captured. Meanwhile, local Christian authorities have renewed their appeals to Israel for help as their situation apparently has deteriorated in recent days.

## **FRICTIONS BETWEEN RELIGIOUS AND NON-RELIGIOUS INCREASE OVER DEATH OF SABBATH MOTORIST IN BNEI BRAK**

TEL AVIV, July 4 (JTA)—Religious and non-religious leaders are trying to calm an uproar in Bnei Brak following the death of a 22-year-old man when his jeep slammed into a chain put across a street to close it for the Sabbath. Police said that the driver, Herzl Attaya, was killed upon impact at midnight Friday and a friend in the jeep was injured.

Police said that Attaya did not see the chain because he was driving at excessive speed on the closed-off road, Hashomer Street. But the incident has exacerbated an already serious dispute over the closing of the road by the Municipality of Bnei Brak.

The Ministry of Transportation has objected to the municipality closing Hashomer Street in a religious residential area because the road is a major thoroughfare which goes through religious and non-religious areas. Bnei Brak has appealed to the Supreme Court the Ministry's decision and last week closed the road.

There were demonstrations and counter-demonstrations on June 24 when the municipality first closed the road and they intensified last Friday. Scuffles broke out and the police had to intervene. By night it was quiet and the chain was in place when the accident occurred.

When news of the fatality was reported on Israel Radio Saturday the area became filled with those in favor and those against closing the street for the

Sabbath. The police were augmented by crack units of border police who, along with Bnei Brak officials and religious leaders on one side and secular leaders on the other side, were able to prevent clashes except for shouting back and forth. Meanwhile, Labor, Mapam and Sheli have sent cables to Premier Menachem Begin demanding an investigation.

## **PENDING PLO OFFICE SPARKS PROTESTS**

AMSTERDAM, July 4 (JTA)—Seven Jewish organizations in Holland, including the executives of the Ashkenazi, the Sephardi and the Liberal Jewish congregation and The Netherlands Zionist Organization have publicly protested against the establishment of a Palestine Liberation Organization office in Holland.

In a feature interview in the leading Dutch daily, "NRC Handelsblad," the main Palestinian spokesman in The Netherlands, Mahmud S. Rab-bani, who is honorary consul of Kuwait, in The Hague, stated that such an establishment is imminent.

The Jewish organizations said that this would be a slap in the face of those Jews and non-Jews in The Netherlands who feel themselves close to Israel. Moreover, such an office would be an infringement of public order, they declared. They pointed out that even if the Dutch government did not accord to such a PLO office diplomatic status, the PLO would interpret its establishment as diplomatic recognition by Holland.

## **U.S. BASE AT HAIFA NOT CONFIRMED**

WASHINGTON, July 4 (JTA)—Reports that the Carter Administration is considering establishing an American military base, possibly a naval base near the port of Haifa, could not be confirmed today. Officials were not available for comment because of the July 4 holiday. According to the reports, the base is one of a number of proposals for demonstrating America's commitment to Israel. It was also cited as one of a variety of moves to reassure the new Israeli government of U.S. support.

Some sources here thought it unlikely that any official statement from the White House on this report would be forthcoming in view of President Carter's statement last Thursday at his press conference that the U.S. Mideast policy has been put under wraps until after he meets with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin July 19-20.

## **JEWISH AGENCY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS \$457 MILLION BUDGET**

Unswerving Support For Israel Affirmed  
By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, July 4 (JTA)—The Jewish Agency's sixth annual General Assembly ended a week of deliberations here with the adoption of a \$457 million budget for the next fiscal year and affirmations of unswerving support for Israel by world Jewry regardless of which political party happens to head its government. But two major issues that were the subject of lengthy debate by the 600 delegates from 90 countries attending the Assembly were not resolved.

These were implementation of the controversial Horev commission report and the problem of drop-outs—Jewish emigres from the Soviet Union who opt

to go to countries other than Israel after reaching Vienna. The Hovev commission recommended last year that the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish Agency's aliya department be replaced by an independent absorption authority responsible directly to the Prime Minister and headed by the chairman of the Jewish Agency and World-Zionist Organization Executives. Those issues apparently will be left to the 29th World Zionist Congress scheduled to convene here in February.

Meanwhile, Israelis attending the General Assembly were heartened by the words of Max Fisher of Detroit, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors, who addressed the closing session in the presence of Premier Menachem Begin.

"All too often we cease to wonder at the marvel of Israel's existence," Fisher said. "We forget the stress, the suffering and the anguish." His words reflected support and understanding of Israel's problems and were especially reassuring when he turned to Begin and declared, "Mr. Prime Minister, go forward with strength, with conviction and with wisdom. And we will be with you."

This allayed fears that widespread misgivings in Israel and abroad over the hard-line policies of the Begin government might result in an erosion of support for Israel in the American Jewish and other diaspora communities.

#### Role of Agency Assessed

Fisher also addressed himself to changes in the Jewish Agency itself. He emphasized the need for the Agency to be divorced from political parties in Israel. "The Jewish Agency can no longer be an instrument of politics," he said. "Today the Jewish Agency exists and touches every facet of Jewish life in Israel and belongs to the entire Jewish people. The Agency must have a working relationship with the new Israeli government. It is only logical—but whoever is ruling must recognize the Agency's new character," he said.

Fisher indicated support for the Hovev proposals which he described as a "beginning" although "it does not have all the answers". Addressing Begin, he said, "We hope the essential thrust of the Hovev report will be accepted as one of your highest priorities."

With respect to drop-outs, Fisher told the Assembly that "Something has gone wrong with our approach to immigration and absorption." He asked, "Why are Russian Jews dropping out? Why are dissatisfied immigrants leaving? What is there about the system that we can correct?" He added that "No immigrant need encounter red tape and no immigrant need experience frustration."

#### Problem of Fund-Raising Campaigns

Leon Dulzin, Jewish Agency Treasurer, observed in his budget speech that fund-raising campaigns at this time seem to be unsatisfactory. "The problem is that we have failed to get across the basic message of Israel's needs and their relationship to Israel's ultimate security and development," he said. He noted that at times of military peril, diaspora Jewry responded with contributions two and three times greater than the peacetime levels.

"You are the leaders of your communities, the leaders of your campaigns," Dulzin said. "This then must be your common task: To lead your communities to the full conviction that building Israel requires as much of their understanding and support in times of peace—if it can be called peace—as in times of war."

Dulzin, a member of the Liberal Party wing of Likud, is virtually certain to be a candidate for the

Jewish Agency-WZO chairmanship at the next Zionist Congress. The Labor Party incumbent, Yosef Almog, will resign at that time and Labor has not decided whether to nominate a candidate to oppose Dulzin. The latter is a strong supporter of the Hovev recommendations which has brought him into conflict with his Likud colleague, Absorption Minister David Levi, who insists that his ministry be expanded rather than dismantled.

#### BEGIN LAYS DOWN THE LAW TO CABINET MEMBERS: NO LEAKS, NO SMOKING

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, July 4 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin has laid down the law to his Cabinet: No smoking during Cabinet meetings, no talking to journalists afterwards. The ban on talking is aimed primarily at avoiding "leaks" to the press of sensitive matters, a situation that distressed previous governments.

Begin is adamant on the subject. "There will be no leaks from this Cabinet," he told his colleagues. He characterized "leaks" as "destructive on the domestic scene and even more so where our international relations are concerned." To ensure a leak-proof Cabinet the Premier has also banned the presence of ministers' aides and advisors at Cabinet sessions. Under his ruling, any minister who needs an aide or advisor during discussion of a specific subject must apply for permission beforehand. The aide would be allowed to attend only while the particular subject is being discussed.

Begin also enjoined his ministers to tell journalists not to contact them at their homes after Cabinet sessions. He promised that the Cabinet secretary will report to the news media on Cabinet matters "in the fullest possible detail" except on "classified subjects".

#### Dinitz To Remain Envoy

These instructions were followed yesterday by Cabinet members who declined to provide any statement, as had been the case in the past, to journalists waiting outside the Cabinet after its weekly session ended. According to the strict new rules, an official announcement stated merely that Simcha Dinitz, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, briefed the Cabinet on the latest developments in Washington regarding the Carter Administration's attitude toward Middle East developments; the attitude of the media toward Israel and the Arab view of a peace settlement as told him by members of the Carter Administration.

It was learned, however, that Begin told the Cabinet he had no intention of replacing Dinitz and that he praised the envoy for his excellent job in Washington. Another official Cabinet announcement noted that Likud Knesseter Yoram Aridor will be a Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and that Ephraim Evron has been appointed director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Begin also made it clear that he would not tolerate smoking during Cabinet meetings, especially cigars which he called "most disturbing". He was reportedly asked by one minister how he would deal with Prof. Yigael Yadin, an inveterate pipe-smoker, should Yadin's Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) join the government coalition. Begin replied that when the time comes he would discuss the smoking issue with Yadin.

#### YOSEF SUPPORTS BEGIN'S LEADERSHIP

By Nancy Chanin

NEW YORK, July 4 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin said he had "decided to sit at the negotiating

table with one purpose" in mind, that of achieving peace, according to Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel. The Chief Rabbi said he met with Begin June 23.

The Chief Rabbi told a press conference here Thursday night that there is "no doubt" that Begin has the "appropriate qualifications" to govern Israel, that Begin is "good for the people" and that Begin is "a man of wisdom," contrary to his image in the media. It is the "sacred duty of American Jewry and all those who want peace to give Begin their support," the Chief Rabbi declared.

Yosef said his talks with Begin were of a "spiritual and religious" nature but because he considered the topic of peace a religious one, it was discussed with Begin. In his appeal for peace, the Chief Rabbi said that the Arab leaders should consider peace not only on economic terms; spiritual cooperation is vital as well. He said that Israel and the Arab leaders have a "long history of cultural symbiosis".

Leaders of every Israeli government, including Begin's, "stated publicly that they were ready and willing to meet with any Arab leaders to consider peace," Yosef said. He also said that attempts to establish peace had also been made through secret negotiations but "the aim of Arab governments has been to destroy Israel". Yosef cited the threat by the late Gamal Abdel Nasser as President of Egypt to drive Israel into the sea.

#### Israel's Objective Is Peace

Regarding border concessions, Yosef said he "knows only the mood and the will of Israel" and that "the present government wants peaceful, cultural and economic relations," which will benefit all parties involved. It was not "necessary" for the Carter Administration "to give out statements prior to Begin's visit" to Washington, he said.

Yosef said he had considered visiting President Carter but did not want to appear to be pressuring the United States prior to Begin's visit here. If he had talked with the President, he said, he would have asked him why he repeatedly spoke of the plight of the Arab refugees without mentioning Jewish refugees.

In response to a question concerning the religious influence of Israel's new coalition, Yosef said he did not believe there would be any "tension or friction" in Israel. Religious persons do not want to force others to adopt their customs, but the former should have the right to practice their beliefs, he said.

Yosef's visit to the United States is being sponsored by Ozar Hatorah, an international network of Sephardic schools. He will be in this country until July 6. He has visited a Sephardic community in Brooklyn and plans to visit several more such communities before he returns to Israel.

#### DENY BRZEZINSKI WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR STATE DEPARTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 4 (JTA)--The White House and the State Department both contended Friday that National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski neither initiated nor caused the initiation of the State Department's statement of June 27 warning Israel its surrender of the West Bank is essential to a peace settlement.

However, neither the White House nor the State Department would identify the originator of the statement which caused a furor among Israeli supporters and brought a barrage of criticism against the Carter Administration by members of the Jewish

community and the Congress.

Although President Carter last Thursday put a lid on further discussion by his Administration of the Middle East situation until Premier Menachem Begin visits him here July 19-20, both Presidential Press Secretary Jody Powell and Department spokesman John Trottner took issue with a telecast that said "indirectly, the President seemed to be admitting" the State Department's policy statement "was a blunder".

#### Consultations Preceded Statement

CBS diplomatic correspondent Marvin Kalb added that the statement was "initiated" by Brzezinski and that it was "Brzezinski who added the section most critical of Israel's leaders, namely, the warning that the subject of Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank cannot be excluded from the negotiations".

Trottner said Friday that the statement in its "final form was the product of consultations by the Secretary of State with other officials and the National Security Council". He said the original statement was drafted in the Department. Kalb's report, he said, contained "a misunderstanding". But he did not give details. Among unanswered questions was who called Undersecretary of State Philip Habib to start the entire process of drafting a statement.

While official responses were made about the telecast, the Carter Administration continued to refuse to comment on statements and actions in the Arab world impinging directly on U.S. policy for a Middle East settlement.

#### MONDALE SENSITIVE TO JEWISH VIEWS

WASHINGTON, July 4 (JTA)--An American Zionist leader reported that Vice President Walter Mondale said he would try to bring President Carter and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin together to establish a warm personal friendship to talk together in candor. Carter and Begin meet here July 19-20.

Rabbi Joseph Sternstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, who left tonight for Israel to attend the ZOA's 80th national convention, said Mondale stressed during their half-hour meeting at the White House several days ago that the Carter Administration on the whole is extremely sensitive and aware of the disturbance within the Jewish community over Administration expressions regarding Israel and the Middle East.

Accompanied by Allen Lesser, the ZOA Washington representative, Sternstein met with Mondale and Presidential Counsel Robert Lipshutz to obtain the "sense" of the Administration's position regarding Israel for presentation to the ZOA's 80th convention next week in Jerusalem. Carter and Mondale "are friends of Israel and want to do the right thing for Israel," Sternstein said, "but they are being maneuvered and locked into positions which will be unfortunate for the resolution of the (Mideast) conflict."

Asked to identify the maneuverers, Sternstein declined to use names but said "somebody should talk to those at the State Department who are shooting from the hip". He noted that the Department makes comments on remarks by Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan but there is no response to Arab intemperance such as Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's refusal to cede a single inch of territory and "he is embraced as a moderate". Sternstein said Mondale offered assurance that "there is basic friendship for Israel on the part of the President and himself".

# **CHURCH GROUP SUES JEWS FOR JESUS FOR ENGAGING IN 'SUBTERFUGE'. JESUS GROUP DENIES THE ALLEGATION**

NEW YORK, July 4 (JTA)—The Long Island Council of Churches, target of a suit by Jews for Jesus over a Council letter accusing the Jesus group of "subterfuge and dishonesty," is not the first Christian organization to repudiate the efforts of such groups "for their campaigns to proselytize and thereby seek to undermine Judaism and the Jewish people," a rabbinical expert reported.

Hineni Ministries, the national Jews for Jesus organization, filed the suit in State Supreme Court in Manhattan Friday to stop the Long Island Council from disseminating what the group called negative information. The suit asks for an injunction against distribution of the Council letter in which Jews for Jesus is accused of "engaging in subterfuge and dishonesty" and with "mixing religious symbols in ways which distort their essential meaning."

In commenting on the lawsuit, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of inter-religious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, said that as recently as 1973, "more than 90 local councils of churches throughout the country involving Roman Catholics, Protestants and evangelical leaders, including Dr. Billy Graham, forthrightly rejected such efforts to target the Jewish community, and especially Jewish young people, as objects for their soul-snatching."

Moishe Rosen, director of the Hineni Ministries, said the Council letter had been reported in various media and that it "reflects poorly on the actions of our group, which are anything but dishonest."

Rev. Jack Alford, executive director of the 600-member Council, said the Jews for Jesus lawsuit "proves the point" of the Council letter. He said the Jews for Jesus "would like to deny us our rights protected under freedom of speech and freedom of religion." He said the outlook of the Jews for Jesus group was the kind "spawned in some fascist and communist countries."

## **Increased Activities Noted**

Hebrew-Christian groups have stepped up their activities in the New York area for the summer when prospective converts are out on vacation and more readily accessible. A spokesman for Jews for Jesus said the group plans to have 40 missionaries on Manhattan streets every day this summer.

Tanenbaum said that the Long Island Council "stands on absolutely firm ground in charging Jews for Jesus, the B'nai Yeshua and other so-called Hebrew-Christian movements with subterfuge." He said he could demonstrate "to any fair-minded person abundant evidence that Jews for Jesus and the allied Hebrew-Christian groups have consistently engaged in fraud, deception and the morally offensive actions of manipulating and trivializing Jewish sacred articles as well as Jewish religious beliefs."

Tanenbaum said that the groups use all of the symbols of Judaism, including sponsorship of Friday night services, Seders and similar Jewish observances, seeking to create the impression that they are simply another version of Judaism, in a masquerade for Christian missionary efforts.

He said that in a series of leaflets produced by Jews for Jesus and reprinted by B'nai Yeshua, which proselytizes on college campuses and invites Jewish students to attend weekly Friday night Sabbath services at its new \$1 million center in Stony Brook, N.Y., next to the State University of Stony Brook, Jews for Jesus uses the statement that "Jews for Jesus is a registered trade mark for Hineni Ministries."

Tanenbaum said Hineni, which is Hebrew for "Here I Am," Abraham's response to God's call, is

generally recognized as the official name of an Orthodox Jewish religious movement organized by Rebbeztin Esther Jungreis. "Moishe Rosen simply appropriated that name undoubtedly to try to transfer to himself and to Jews for Jesus the public image of some kind of association with an authentic Jewish group," Tanenbaum said. "If that is not deceptive, then I do not know what the word means."

He reported that in another pamphlet the Jews for Jesus group have the phrase: "Hineni here am I. It's a highly Jewish thing to do," referring to giving up Judaism to become a Jew for Jesus. He called the idea of Jewish-Christians "a theological impossibility". Alford said his organization stands by the letter which led to the lawsuit. The letter was sent last February to the 600-member churches and to the 200 Long Island synagogues.

## **KEREN HAYESOD CO-CHAIRMEN APPOINTED**

JERUSALEM, July 4 (JTA)—Mrs. Faye Schenk, president of the American Zionist Federation and Phil Granovsky, president of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, have been appointed co-chairmen of Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, it was announced at a press conference here today.

The appointments were made by the World Zionist Organization Executive at a meeting during the sixth annual General Assembly of the Jewish Agency last week. They succeed the late Ezra Z. Shapiro, who was chairman of Keren Hayesod for the past six years. Schenk and Granovsky will serve as co-chairmen until the 29th World Zionist Congress convenes here in February 1978. They also joined the Keren Hayesod Board of Directors.

## **U.S. PAYS \$43 MILLION IN BACK DUES TO UNESCO**

WASHINGTON, July 4 (JTA)—The State Department has confirmed that the U.S. has paid its 1975-76 dues to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, thereby ending a three-year impasse resulting from UNESCO's politicalization of itself in discriminatory actions against Israel.

The payment of \$43 million in back dues is about 20 percent of UNESCO's two-year budget. UNESCO was borrowing from oil-rich Arab states to meet expenses. The U.S. refused to make payments in 1974 when UNESCO excluded Israel from any regional grouping. Last year, however, UNESCO allowed Israel to join the European regional body and early this year a permanent Israeli delegate was named to UNESCO's headquarters.

## **FIRST JEWISH MAYOR**

TORONTO, July 4 (JTA)—Sam Davis, a 62-year-old engineer turned shoe retailer, is the first Jewish mayor to be elected in Saint John, New Brunswick, one of English-speaking Canada's oldest cities. He had served on the City Council for eight years and was elected by a landslide majority last month. He is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of New Brunswick. Saint John has a population of 86,000 (109,000 total with the suburbs) of which 1,500 are Jewish. The city was established by Loyalists (Tories) in 1785.

NEW YORK (JTA)—The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has learned that Yakov Vinarov, former Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience has received an exit permit.