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## BEGIN TERMS VISIT A SUCCESS; SAYS HE IS LEAVING U.S. 'A HAPPY MAN'

By David Ettinger

WASHINGTON, July 21 (JTA)--A smiling Premier Menachem Begin told a throng of well-wishers here yesterday that he defined his visit to the United States "as a real success." He said he "will be leaving the United States a happy man" and will bring "good tidings to the people of Israel from the United States and from Washington."

Begin made his remarks to several hundred persons, among them Vice President Walter Mondale and other top Administration and diplomatic officials and American Jewish leaders at a reception in his honor at the Shoreham Americana Hotel. He referred to the uncertainty with which many had anticipated his first meeting with President Carter. "I now can tell you your minds may be at peace," Begin said. "There is no confrontation. On the contrary (there has been) a deepening of the friendship between the United States and Israel," the Premier said.

### Report Bodes Well For Future

He said his five hours of talks with Carter were characterized by "understanding," "cordiality" and "friendship." He repeated that the "personal rapport established between the President and myself will help us work together in the months and years to come."

Mondale, who participated in the Carter-Begin talks, confirmed the Premier's assessment of them and was, if anything, more enthusiastic. He termed the meetings "very successful" and said "one of the reasons is this remarkable new Prime Minister, Mr. Begin." Mondale added, "I've sat through all of the talks with all of the foreign leaders who visit our land and none have gone better, none have been... more personally joyous than those between the President and the Prime Minister."

Jewish leaders at the reception appeared gratified and optimistic. "A spirit of trust has clearly been established. I am hopeful, I've started to uncross my fingers," one of them said. Begin looked healthy and vigorous despite his rigorous schedule of the past three days. Asked about the Premier's physical condition, an Israeli official said he was holding up remarkably well. He confirmed that no extraordinary medical precautions were taken on the visit in view of Begin's heart ailment.

### PROTEST RALLY AGAINST ATTACKS ON MRAP AND THREE OF ITS ATTORNEYS

PARIS, July 21 (JTA)--Several hundred demonstrators protested last night against the attack last week on the "Movement Against Racism and Anti-Semitism" (MRAP) and three of its attorneys. Representatives of the French Bar Association, the Union of Magistrates and the Association for Civic Liberties were among the demonstrators who gathered in front of the MRAP offices.

The organization's Paris headquarters were damaged by an explosion last Thursday. The following night, July 15, bombs exploded near the homes of three attorneys working for MRAP. There were no injuries and the police have no known clues as to the identity of the assailants.

The MRAP is a pro-left organization active in the fight against anti-Semitism and racism. Far to

the left of the better known League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICRA), it is especially detested by extreme-right wing and neo-Nazi groups.

### CABINET APPROVES GOVERNMENT BILL TO BAR EXTRADITION OF ISRAELI CITIZENS CHARGED WITH CRIMES ABROAD

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--The Cabinet approved yesterday a government-sponsored bill that would bar the extradition of Israeli citizens charged with crimes abroad. The measure, drafted by Attorney General Aharon Barak on the instructions of Premier Menachem Begin, would provide for the trial of such offenders in Israel. If passed by the Knesset, it would amount to the abrogation of extradition treaties that Israel has with 22 nations.

The measure is controversial here. Under present law, Israeli courts are incompetent to try citizens for crimes committed in other countries. Several months ago, the Public Committee on Extradition Legislation, headed by District Court Judge Eli' Nathan, recommended that extradition be continued, though only on the basis of reciprocity. Only one member of the committee dissented.

But the minority view was supported by Begin who countermanded an order by former Justice Minister Haim Zadok for Barak to draft a law in the spirit of the majority legislation. One immediate beneficiary of the new bill if it is adopted will be MK Samuel Flatto-Sharon, the millionaire businessman who fled to Israel from France in 1972 to avoid arrest on charges of tax evasion and fraud. France's request for his extradition is now before the Israeli courts.

### SPECIAL TO THE JTA ORTHODOX RABBIS SAY BEGIN WILL DO ALL TO AMEND THE WHO IS A JEW LAW

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--Leaders of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada claimed today that Premier Menachem Begin of Israel reiterated to them the commitments he made to his religious coalition partners in Israel, including a promise to do everything possible to obtain a Knesset majority to amend the Law of Return by including the term "according to halacha" in connection with conversions to Judaism.

In a statement released to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, the Orthodox rabbis presented their version of a meeting last Sunday with Begin at the home of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, before Begin left for Washington.

The statement quoted Feinstein as saying, "I have already pointed out numerous times, in writing and in speech, of the inherent danger in the who is a Jew law which recognizes false conversions, and it is therefore most important Mr. Begin's promise to amend the law so it will clearly state that conversions are valid only if performed according to halacha."

According to the statement, Feinstein also reminded Begin that in a previous discussion with him he "expressed satisfaction with the agreement

between Agudath Israel and the Begin government which promised to institute changes in favor of Judaism, including prohibitions against working on Shabbos, drafting girls in the army, autopsies, the abortion law as well as other commitments in subjects of education."

#### Confident Commitments Will Be Met

Rabbi Simcha Elberg, chairman of the Union's administrative committee, expressed confidence that after Begin's agreement with the Aguda Israel Party in Israel "all of the commitments--beginning with prohibiting work on Shabbos till the recent abortion law--will be fulfilled.... Also the commitment to amend the who is a Jew law should not merely remain a promise on paper."

According to Elberg, "the inclusion of the word halacha within the legislation of Eretz Yisroel is in itself of monumental significance." Israel must be governed by halacha, he asserted.

Rabbi Hirsch Ginsberg, director of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, said, "Till now, we had to protest against negative developments, today, however, we live with hope that we will merit seeing Israel bloom in the spirit of Torah."

According to the statement, "Mr. Begin answered to all the above, giving hearty thanks for the opportunity to meet with the rabbonim and reiterated that he will make speedy implementation of all his commitments, stressing that he will do everything possible to mount a majority to amend the who is a Jew law." The meeting between Begin and the Union was one of several last Sunday the Premier had with Jewish communal and rabbinic leaders.

#### LEVICH QUESTIONED FOR SEVEN HOURS

LONDON, July 21 (JTA)--Prof. Benjamin Levich was questioned by the KGB for seven hours yesterday at Lefortovo Prison, according to reports reaching here from Moscow today. It was reported that the questioning focussed on his relationship with Anatoly Sharansky, the 29-year-old Jewish activist arrested last March and charged with treason. Levich, a leading physicist, was reported to have told his secret police interrogators that he knew Sharansky and was convinced that he was not guilty of any crime. But he refused to answer many questions, according to the reports.

Friends of Levich were quoted as saying that the KGB made no reference to any proceedings against him and did not indicate whether he would be summoned for questioning again. Levich, an associate member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, applied for an emigration visa five years ago and has been repeatedly refused.

#### NEWSMAN RESIGNS FROM MINISTRY JOB THE SAME DAY HE WAS TO BEGIN WORK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--Journalist Dan Margalit resigned from his job several days ago as spokesman for the Defense Ministry, the same day that he began it. He quit when Defense Minister Ezer Weizman informed him that he was not to be appointed a "political aide" as well. Margalit, the former Washington correspondent of Haaretz, said he was not interested in the information post without the higher level assignment.

A "political aide" has full access to government and diplomatic documents and serves as an advisor to the minister on the basis of the widest possible information. Asher Ben-Natan, a diplomat who served as Israel's Ambassador to West Germany and France, was political aide to Moshe Dayan and Shimon Peres when they were Defense Ministers.

According to press reports, Dayan, now Israel's Foreign Minister, persuaded Weizman not to elevate Margalit to the rank of political aide.

His reasons were not clear, but some observers speculated that Dayan regarded a political aide for Weizman as something of an inroad into his bailiwick at the Foreign Ministry. Weizman is married to the sister of Dayan's former wife, Ruth, and while the two retired generals are no longer brothers-in-law, they remain close friends.

Margalit began his career as a cub reporter for the weekly Haolam Hazeh and gained journalistic prominence as Haaretz's man in Washington. He received international fame earlier this year when he broke the story of the bank account kept in Washington by Premier and Mrs. Yitzhak Rabin in violation of Israel's currency laws, a disclosure that precipitated Rabin's resignation as head of the Labor Party.

#### ISRAEL'S NEW ENVOY TO MEXICO SAYS THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL EXPAND THEIR COMMERCIAL AND TRADE RELATIONS

MEXICO CITY, July 21 (JTA)--Israel's new Ambassador to Mexico, Shaul Rosolio, presented his credentials to President Jose Lopez Portillo at the National Palace today. Rosolio, formerly chief of Israel's police, said his country would work for a just and lasting peace with its neighbors despite Arab intransigence and other obstacles. He also said that Mexico and Israel will expand their commercial and trade relations in the future. He specifically mentioned joint investments in the aviation industry.

Rosolio was received by the President along with the new ambassadors from the United States, Argentina and the Cape Verde Islands. At the same time, Mordehai Hatzor, Histadrut representative for Latin America, and Akiva Levinsky, special representative of the Irving Beller Foundation, presented an award to Mexican trade union leader, Bernardo Cobos.

#### ASK PROBE ON TV PLAY BAN

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--Two Knesset members submitted urgent motions yesterday calling for an investigation of attempts by certain "political elements" to suppress a television play dealing with an incident of Israeli brutality toward Arabs during the 1948 war for independence.

The play, now in the final stages of editing, is a television version of the novella "Hirbet Hiz Eh" by the prominent Israeli writer, Yizhar Smilensky. The story tells of the removal of Arabs from their village by Israeli soldiers. Yosi Sarid of the Labor Alignment and Meir Payil of the Sheli faction pointed out in their motions that Smilensky, who signs his works S. Yizhar, is one of the most famous Hebrew writers. His stories are included in literature courses on the high school and university levels in Israel.

Many of his war stories are based on incidents of misconduct by Israeli soldiers toward Arabs and critics say that they create the impression that such incidents were typical of Jewish behavior and a matter of high policy. The Broadcast Authority will preview the edited film before deciding whether to put it on the air. Some commentators said the attempt to ban the film is a foretaste of what the Broadcast Authority will have to contend with from the Likud government which is "very sensitive to delicate national problems."

# ISRAEL BASKETBALL TEAM LOSES OUT TO UNDERDOG U.S. SQUAD AT 10TH MACCABIAH By Haskell Cohen

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--The 10th Maccabiah Games ended last night when a highly favored Israel basketball team lost in the finals to the underdog U.S. squad by 92-91 before 7000 fans. The contest had the fans on their feet for the full 40 minutes of play.

Considered too young and immature for the internationally tested Israelis, the boys from the States, led by high school All-Americans Dan Schayes and Willie Sims, together with Syracuse University freshman Hal Cohen and Maryland's yearling Brian Magid, led at half time 42-41 after trailing by as many as nine points. In the second half the Americans built up a nine point lead but blew it as the game came down to the wire.

With three seconds remaining and Israel leading 90-89, Sims drove for the hoop and was fouled. While the panting fans from the U.S. cheered, the Israelis booed to distract the Black Jew from Long Island City High School. After an Israeli time-out, Sims stepped to the foul line, took a deep breath and calmly caged two foul shots giving the U.S. a point edge. The host quintet couldn't get the ball in play with three seconds left on the clock thereby giving America its first basketball championship in three Maccabiahs.

Sims, a quiet, lovable character, who had to leave the Yad Vashem structure in Jerusalem last Thursday because of an emotional breakdown that had him sobbing, remarked in the dressing room, "It's great to be a Jew in Israel. These have been among the happiest days of my life."

The U.S. for the first time in Maccabiah history, emerged as overall top medal winner with a total of 192 compared to Israel's 190. The other competing nations were far behind the leaders in winning the coveted hardware.

## Results In Other Events

In the diving competition, Michael Taber and Tony Scott of the U.S., ran 1-2 on both the three meter and 10 meter boards, setting game records in the process. Julie Bachman of the U.S., took golds in both women dives also establishing new records for her board work. The American wrestlers took nine medals in Greco-Roman wrestling and seven in free-style grappling. Israel didn't win a gold in this area while Canada surprised with four.

Rabbi Alex Sternberg, karate coach, withdrew the U.S. from the competition after one day due to the fact that the games organizing committee changed the rules governing the sport. Months ago, the rabbi was advised karate would be played under one set of rules only to find that pressure from European nations forced the games committee to switch playing rules on the eve of the games. Sternberg refused to go along with the change and with the approval of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel which sponsors the American athletes, withdrew his team from the play.

## Men's And Women's Tennis Finals

Top rated Steve Krulvitz of the U.S. whipped teammate Larry Nagler in the men's tennis finals 6-3, 6-2. Despite their excellent play the men had to yield to the women for suspense in the double finals. Here in a tough two-and-a-half-hour match, South Africa's defending duo, Ilana Kloss and Helen Weiner eked out a win over U.S. players Jodi Applebaum and Dona Robin, who led in the third set 5-3 and then blew the match.

In the women's final, unrated Dana Gilbert

beat her doubles partner Stacy Margolin in a brilliant display of two-handed backhand from corner to corner, running Margolin ragged. In six previous matches between these two, Margolin prevailed, but in this match she couldn't cope with Ms. Gilbert.

Peter Rennett and Joel Ross of the U.S., were sharp and swift in disposing of Israel's Haim Arlosoroff and Reuven Porges 6-3, 6-4, in the men's double final. Rennett then teamed with Margolin in mixed doubles to down South Africa's Ilana Kloss and Graham Silverman 6-3, 7-5, for the gold medallion.

## LIKUD SUFFERS FIRST KNESSET DEFEAT

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA)--Likud suffered its first defeat in the Knesset yesterday since taking office last month. The issue was relatively minor but it indicated the fragile nature of Premier Menachem Begin's narrow parliamentary majority.

Only 35 coalition MKs voted for Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon's proposal to strike from the agenda a motion by Naftali Feder of the Labor Alignment's Mapam partner to create a central authority to supervise the production and marketing of food derived from livestock. Thirty-six MKs voted for an alternative motion by Akiva Nof of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) to refer Feder's motion to committee. The House committee will decide which committee will deal with it.

## ONE-HOUR WORK STOPPAGE

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA)--Workers in hundreds of factories staged a one-hour work stoppage today to attend protest meetings against the new economic policy adopted this week by the government which entails a 25 percent hike on essential commodities. Histadrut, which called the work stoppage, is demanding an immediate increase in the cost of living index.

## CANADIAN UNIVERSITY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH HEBREW UNIVERSITY

TORONTO, July 21 (JTA)--President H. Ian MacDonald and Dean Sydney Eisen of York University in Toronto, returned recently from Israel where they signed a formal agreement with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The agreement provides for continuation of the year abroad program, funded programs for Jewish studies, and exchange of students and faculty between the two universities.

The signing of the agreement took place last month in the office of President Avraham Harman of the Hebrew University. Both university presidents stressed the importance of continuing the close relationship between the two institutions, expressed hopes for further student exchanges, and a bringing together of scholars. Areas where the two universities could relate, including graduate and undergraduate studies, professional schools and the liberal arts, were discussed.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has forbidden Israeli diplomats abroad to discuss or answer any questions about domestic or political matters inside Israel. The matter came up in the Knesset when Avraham Sharir of Likud asked about a Guardian report saying Avraham Kidron, Israel's Ambassador in London, predicted a short life for the Begin government. Dayan said he sent a letter of reprimand to Kidron advising him that it was not his place to discuss domestic developments in Israel and that in so doing he had exceeded his authority.

# NEW TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SHARANSKY ARRIVES FROM USSR. COMMISSION TO HEAR TESTIMONY IN WASHINGTON MID-SEPTEMBER

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--Testimony on behalf of Soviet Jewish emigration activist Anatoly Sharansky, presently being held in Moscow's Lefortovo prison, and under investigation by Soviet authorities on a treason charge, has been brought out to this country to be read at an investigatory commission scheduled for mid-September in Washington, it was reported by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ).

The commission will listen to witnesses and evidentiary material at a public hearing in the nation's capital. Prof. Alan Dershowitz of Harvard University and Jack Greenberg, director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, have agreed to serve as co-counsel for the hearings, the NCSJ said.

The documents from the USSR consist of a series of depositions citing the "absurdity" of the charges against Sharansky and his actual activities. They were obtained by the NCSJ for the fall commission. All those signing the documents have previously applied to emigrate to Israel and have been consistently denied.

## Sharansky's Activities Were Legal

"Because of his excellent knowledge of English, and his grasp of Soviet law, Sharansky often gave lectures, translated and interpreted for foreign journalists, visiting politicians and friends," wrote Dr. Alexander Lerner.

Lerner, a resident of Moscow who first applied to leave in 1971 said that Sharansky's activities were both "open and legal. He was never involved in secret work or had any of the information which he is accused of passing on to foreign correspondents. Such conversations were always and solely connected with emigration matters. It has to be pointed out that our struggle for the right to emigrate has nothing in common with anti-Soviet activities and is not aimed at damaging the Soviet system."

A group of Jewish activists in Minsk, all of them refusniks, expressed fears in their deposition that Sharansky, a 29-year-old computer specialist, may not get an open and fair trial, should the Soviets decide to prosecute. According to former Soviet Col. Lev Ovsishcher, one of the Minsk group signing the document, "we have no doubt that his innocence could be proven in any open court. Our concern is that the possibility exists that any such trial may not take place."

## Anti-Semitic Upsurges Feared

"In Jewish history," the group continued, "there are other examples of such trials; the Dreyfus case in France; the Beilis case in Czarist Russia; the 'Doctors' Plot' in the Soviet Union. In all these cases the truth finally triumphed. The innocence of the accused was fully proved and all that remained in history was a nasty trace. But in each of those examples, the very fact that the trial was held provoked an upsurge of anti-Semitism. We feel that if Sharansky was tried on a charge of betraying country and spying for a foreign power, there is the possibility that a similar wave could be produced today...."

Other refusnik-activists sending testimony included Alexander Slepak, Dina Beilina, Arkady May, Felix Kamov-Kandel and Zakhar Tesker. Sharansky was arrested in Moscow March 15 after the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia had accused him and several other Jewish activists of working for the CIA along with some American dip-

lomats and journalists in Moscow.

## MEETING SITE FOR BEGIN CHANGED TO ACCOMMODATE OVERWHELMING RESPONSE

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA)--An overwhelming response to Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's meeting in the United States with the leadership of the American Jewish community tomorrow has resulted in shifting the event from The Pierre to larger quarters in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

The change was announced by Leonard R. Strelitz, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, who called the luncheon together with Jerold C. Hoffberger, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and Laurence E. Tisch, president of New York's UJA-Federation Joint Campaign. On the basis of the initial national response to invitations, some 2000 community campaign leaders across the country are expected to attend.

"As Menachem Begin assumes his awesome responsibility at this critical moment in Jewish history," Strelitz said, "he will know that the Jews of America are a united community determined to increase our support, in all its forms, for the people of Israel in 1978." The meeting was arranged with the Premier during discussions with American Jewish leaders attending the Sixth Annual Assembly of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem last month.

## CONCENTRATION CAMP SURVIVOR CLAIMS HE SET FIRE TO MENTEN'S COUNTRY HOUSE

AMSTERDAM, July 21 (JTA)--Rotterdam police reported that a 53-year-old former inmate of Dachau claimed that it was he who set fire to the country house of accused Nazi war criminal Pieter Menten Sunday night. The man identified only by his initials, G.P. Van S., was transferred to the Amsterdam police and is being held here.

The fire, caused by a Molotov cocktail tossed on the straw-covered roof of the 20-room Menten villa in Blaricum, east of Amsterdam, destroyed the upper floor and part of Menten's valuable art treasures. Menten's wife, who was in the house at the time, was unhurt. She accused her husband's enemies of having set the fire.

Menten, 78, a millionaire art-dealer, is on trial for the murder of several hundred persons, mostly Jews, in the Lemberg region of Poland during World War II when he served as an officer in an SS unit. The trial, which opened in May, has been adjourned until August.

The person being held is apparently known to the police. He was described as a man of no fixed occupation who spent 18 months at Dachau and recently has been undergoing psychiatric treatment. Two years ago he tried to set fire to a small publishing house in Ridderkerk, a village near Rotterdam, which planned to publish a Dutch edition of Hitler's "Mein Kampf." Police said he gave them many details of the Menten home fire that he could not have learned of from newspaper accounts.

Meanwhile, the Amsterdam Civil Court has granted a legal separation to Menten and his wife who is some 25 years his junior. The couple requested the separation apparently for financial reasons as relations between them are clearly very affectionate. It enables Menten to transfer his property to his wife in the event that the court orders it seized.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir said Knesset committees will no longer be able to hold sessions in Tel Aviv without special permission.