

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ISRAELI PULLBACK BEGINS IN LEBANON

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 11 (JTA)--Israeli forces began the first phase of a two-stage withdrawal from south Lebanon today, a move dictated more by political factors than the strategic situation in the field, military sources said. The sources said that Israel had little option but to pull back in light of American pressure.

But they insisted that Israel was losing very little in terms of tactical advantage while, hopelessly ridding itself of a political burden. Those sources claimed that the area being evacuated is not crucial and that Israeli forces would be able to respond to any emergency from the positions in south Lebanon they will continue to hold.

Although Israel is still not convinced that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is capable of controlling south Lebanon to prevent the return of terrorists, military circles were encouraged by the fact that a Norwegian UNIFIL unit did fire back when fired on by terrorists several days ago. That indicates that the UN troops will use their weapons if necessary, the circles said.

The Christian militia commanders appear to be the most dubious about the effectiveness of UNIFIL, pointing out that it is still below full strength and some of the units that have arrived in the field are still not organized. A 650-member Nepalese unit is expected tonight, bringing the strength of UNIFIL to more than 2500 members out of the 4000 authorized by the Security Council March 19.

The Israeli pullback was discussed by Defense Minister Ezer Weizman with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis last night. Meanwhile, long columns of Israeli trucks and combat vehicles began moving south. Israeli soldiers were busy rounding up every piece of equipment still useable as they pulled out of the area on the eastern sector of the front once known as "Fatah-land."

## PERES SAYS HE TOLD U.S. ISRAEL WOULD USE CLUSTER BOMBS AGAINST TERRORISTS

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, April 11 (JTA)--Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Party in Israel, said last night that "I told Vice-President Walter Mondale, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski that we shall use cluster bombs against the gangs shelling our women and children."

Peres spoke as the guest of honor at the Fourth Annual Dinner of the Friends of Ben-Gurion University here. Earlier, at a press conference, Peres said that the cluster bombs were used only twice in Lebanon, the first time when a deluge of Katyusha rockets hit Metulla and other cities and villages in northern Galilee, and the second time when Israeli defense forces ran into "sophisticated fortifications of the PLO."

Regarding his differences with Premier Menachem Begin, Peres said in his speech last night that "I disagree with Mr. Begin with regard to

his plans for the West Bank. I think that we should hand over to the Arabs most of the Arab-populated places in the West Bank. I told our American friends in Washington that if Resolution 242 should relate to withdrawal from the three fronts, pressure should be exerted not only on Israel but equally on our neighbors as well. 'We shall stand as one man resisting against Israel being pushed into a corner.'"

Regarding an American guarantee for a settlement, Peres said "the American guarantee means finally an Israel dependent on the United States. American friendship is too dear to us to become an extra hardship."

## 'HOLOCAUST' FILMING NYETED BY REDS

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--The producers of the NBC-TV film "Holocaust" were refused permission to shoot any of the film in East Europe where many of the Nazi death camps were located, Robert Berger, the film's producer revealed yesterday. He said he was turned down by Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, East Germany and Poland. The reasons given, according to Berger, were that parts of the scripts were seen as too "Zionistic," showed people rising up against the authorities or depicted people who were not Nazis as anti-Semitic.

## NBC SAYS ITS AFFILIATES HAVE SPURNED RIGHT WING PRESSURE TO KEEP 'HOLOCAUST' OFF THE AIR

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--The National Broadcasting Company declared yesterday that despite pressure on local television stations from ultra-right wing and anti-Semitic groups, 210 of the network's affiliates will be showing the film "Holocaust" April 16-19. The usual average for a major network presentation is 207 affiliates, an NBC spokesman said.

The spokesman also noted that the nine-and-a-half-hour program is fully subscribed to for the four nights with 40 sponsors. The NBC announcement came during a press conference at the Plaza Hotel at which members of the cast and others involved in the production, including the writer of the script, Gerald Green, participated.

The Rev. William L. Weiler, executive director of the Office of Christian-Jewish Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ, said that it was as important for Christians as for Jews to view the film since "only as the children of every generation know the sad facts of their past can they work and plan for a sane future in a world which provides justice for all people."

He noted that the fact that American Nazis march in Skokie and in St. Louis in full uniform "shows us that there are people today who will do all they can to see that Hitler's 'final solution' will yet be carried out." He said Christians should join Jews in saying, as they view the TV program, "never again."

## Network Praised For Presenting Film

Weiler had earlier joined Dr. Eugene J. Fisher, of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of

the U.S. Catholic Conference, and Donald W. McEvoy, senior vice-president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, in sending a letter to NBC praising the network for presenting "Holocaust," which they called an "important television event."

The three religious leaders said that "the presentation is very much in the public interest as this is a story which every American needs to know and understand." They urged NBC to ignore threats of boycotts and picketings because the small anti-Semitic organizations which made those threats are "in no way representative of the Christians of America."

They urged Christians and Jews in every community to view the film all four nights and then meet together to discuss it "in the anticipation of creating improved Christian-Jewish understanding in our nation."

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of inter-religious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, who served as a consultant on the production of "Holocaust," told the press conference that he views the television presentation as a "moral watershed presentation" in the life of the United States. He noted that although there have been many important books and scholarly works on the Holocaust, the television program will have more of an impact than all of these works put together because it will reach so many millions of people in the U.S. and abroad.

#### Anti-Semitic Incidents During Filming

Members of the cast stressed that they felt they were participating in something more than an ordinary film. Fritz Weaver, who plays Dr. Josef Weiss, head of the Jewish family around which the film evolves, said he began to feel so much like a Jew that he responded as he believes a Jew would on current issues facing Israel.

Members of the production company said that while shooting the film in Austria they tried to keep a "low profile" to prevent any incidents by such groups as the Baader-Meinhof gang from West Germany or the Palestine Liberation Organization. At the same time they noted an undercurrent of anti-Semitism from the local population. Swastikas were painted on their film sets and anti-Semitic epithets were hurled at them on occasions. However, Robert Berger, the film's producer, noted that while anti-Semitism exists in Austria, it is not confined to there and is present in other countries, including the United States.

#### USS NIMITZ SAILS FROM HAIFA AFTER FIVE-DAY COURTESY CALL

HAIFA, April 11 (JTA)--The 90,000 ton USS Nimitz, America's largest nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, put to sea today after a five day courtesy call at Haifa which her commander, Rear Adm. Robert F. Schulttz, described as "an experience never to be forgotten" and "illustrative of the close ties and mutual esteem that exist between the U.S. and Israel."

During her stay, the giant ship played host to Premier Menachem Begin, Deputy Premier Yigal Yadin, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, Israel's top army, navy and air force commanders, hundreds of Israeli navy and air men and several thousand civilians who were privileged to receive invitations.

Begin and Yadin lunched aboard the carrier and exchanged toasts with her officers following an inspection tour. Begin was presented with a

cap bearing the name and official insignia of the ship and a wooden model of her upper decks.

Over the weekend, Begin invited a number of Jewish officers from the carrier's 6000-man complement to a Sabbath reception at his home in Jerusalem and a tour of the city. Among them were Bruce Finkelstein and Ronald Shapiro of New York; Steve Diamond of Los Angeles; Jeffery Segall of Florida; Jeff Goldstein, of Wisconsin; and Jay Miringoff, of Kansas City. Schulttz and his staff were guests of the Premier at a reception Saturday night.

The Nimitz, more than 1000-feet long and over 100-feet broad, remained anchored in Haifa Bay during her visit. She is too large to enter the port. When she weighed anchor today, the signal flags on her masthead spelled out the words "Shalom, L'Hitroot."

#### REAGAN RAPS CARTER ADMINISTRATION POLICY ON THE MIDDLE EAST

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--Former California Governor Ronald Reagan sharply criticized Administration policy on the Middle East at a Chicago dinner on behalf of State of Israel Bonds last night. The dinner honored Futures Exchange industry leader Lee B. Stern at the Hyatt Regency and resulted in \$2,000,000 in Bond sales from the 950 members of the industry present.

Reagan took the Carter Administration to account for terming Israel's settlements on the West Bank illegal, for inviting the Soviet Union into the Middle-East discussions, and for placing the burden on Israel for setting up a Palestinian homeland. On the last score, he stated: "Since Jordan contains 80 percent of the territory that constituted Palestine after World War I, while Israel encompasses only 20%, the Carter Administration is wrong in attempting to make Israel solely responsible for setting up a Palestinian homeland."

He called the invitation to bring the USSR into the Mideast talks "an error of enormous proportions" because, he said, "Russia has no interest in the area except furthering its own imperialistic ambitions." As for Israel's establishment of settlements in the West Bank, he said: "The Administration is dead wrong when it brands them illegal." He asserted that "a little-noted provision in UN Resolution 242 authorizes such settlements until Israel and Jordan agree on secure and recognized borders."

#### COURT NIXES PLAN TO INCORPORATE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL INTO PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, April 11 (JTA)--The Supreme Court of Ontario has rejected a plan by the Board of Education of a Toronto suburb, North York, to incorporate a Jewish day school with compulsory religion classes, into the local public school system.

Judge John Holland declared in the ruling that no school board has the power "to establish a mandatory course of religious instruction in any school." He declared that if this was permitted, a situation could develop in which, in any school district, "one could find denominational schools, each teaching its own special mandatory course in religion."

The Board of Education, in making the proposal, said that students who did not want to attend the Jewish religion classes could be sent to another school in the district. Holland responded that "there is a clear right in each and every student in each and every school within the district to claim exemption from any religious studies." The Treasury, chairman of the North York trustees, said "we never talked

about the next step" in the event of an adverse court ruling. He added "the board will have to think about it." Integration of the Jewish school would have relieved the parents and the community of much of the financial burden of the private education. About 400 junior high school students at the Associated Hebrew Schools would have been involved. In Ontario, Jewish day schools do not receive any governmental funding.

Thomas Wells, the Educational Minister, told the board three years ago that it could make such an arrangement if religious classes were optional. However, Associated Hebrew Schools officials said in 1976 they favored the proposal only if the religion classes were mandatory. Ironically, Jewish organizations have supported the ban on mandatory courses in religion, hoping it could be extended to the removal of all courses in religion in the public schools, which in the past have always been courses and exercises in Christianity.

### FLAP OVER WOLF PRIZE WINNERS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 11 (JTA)--Awards totaling \$500,000 were distributed here last night to nine internationally prominent scientists who are this year's winners of the Wolf Prize, established several years ago by an anonymous donor, which has become a source of sharp controversy in Israel.

President Ephraim Katzir absented himself from the festive awards ceremonies in the Knesset's Chagall Hall to protest the fact that the \$10 million-fund administered by the Wolf Foundation is not earmarked for the encouragement of Israeli scientists. There were no Israelis among the winners last night. Katzir appears to express the feelings of many Israelis that the Wolf Foundation duplicates the work of the Nobel Prize Committee.

The Wolf Prize is often described as Israel's "Nobel Prize" and, as such, has been the object of both praise and criticism. It is administered under the conditions laid down by the donor, who insisted on anonymity. The prize was given official State recognition when the Knesset approved it by a narrow margin in July, 1975 at the urging of the late Pinhas Sapir.

The awards ceremonies were to have been held at the President's residence and Katzir was to have presented the prizes. In view of his objections, the ceremonies were moved to the Knesset building and Knesset Speaker Yitzhak Shamir made the presentations. Premier Menachem Begin was present, along with members of his Cabinet and the Knesset, the diplomatic corps and relatives of the winners. The winners received cash awards of \$100,000 which were shared in fields in which there was more than one award.

#### The Winners

They are, in the field of agriculture: Prof. George F. Sprague of the University of Illinois, for linking theoretical quantitative genetic theory with practical plant breeding, resulting in modification of the protein quality of maize; Prof. Emeritus John C. Walker, of the University of Wisconsin, for contributions to the control of plant disease and his book "Plant Pathology," the standard text on the subject.

In mathematics: Prof. Israel M. Gelfand of Moscow State University, for his work on functional analysis and mathematical group representation. Gelfand, a three-time winner of the

Order of Lenin and the Lenin Prize, did not attend the ceremonies; Prof. Emeritus Carl L. Siegel, of the University of Göttingen, for his contributions to the theory of numbers and complex variables. Siegel was represented at the ceremonies by the former German Ambassador to Israel, Per Fischer.

In chemistry: Prof. Carl Djessari, of Stanford University, for synthesizing the first oral contraceptive. His parents live in Israel. In physics: Prof. Chien-Shiung Wu, of Columbia University, for her work in fundamental physics in which she demonstrated the correlation between the direction of the beta-ray emission with the direction of nuclear spin, a relationship vital to the study of theoretical physics.

In medicine: Dr. George D. Snell, of the Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine, for discovery of the H-2 antigen in mice, a breakthrough in the field of immunology; Dr. Jean Dausset, of St. Louis Hospital, Paris and Dr. J. J. van Rood, of the University of Leiden, for their research into genetic factors affecting human acceptance or rejection of organ transplants and the possible role of those factors in the control or prevention of certain diseases.

### SOLIDARITY SUNDAY SET FOR MAY 21

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)--"Solidarity Sunday," an annual rally on behalf of Soviet Jews, will be held May 21 at Battery Park, it was announced today by Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams, chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. Last year the rally attracted more than 200,000 people and organizers are hoping for the same turnout this year.

According to Abrams: "The rally is being held this year to underscore Jewish solidarity and unity. Whether the cause be Anatoly Shcharansky, who has been held for more than a year in a Moscow prison and faces charges of treason, or other Jews across the world who are persecuted, we will rally together to protest injustice wherever it exists and in whatever ugly form it manifests itself."

The case of Shcharansky will be a major focal point for Solidarity Sunday. Although it was believed that Shcharansky might have been brought to trial at an earlier date, according to Margy-Ruth Davis, Executive Director, "We have reason to believe that our efforts and the efforts of others involved in the Soviet Jewry movement may have helped postpone Shcharansky's trial as Soviet authorities consider the implications it may have in the United States." Solidarity Sunday is sponsored by the 85-member organizations of the Greater New York Conference.

### INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR SCHEDULED

TEL AVIV, April 11 (JTA)--The second International Art Fair, to be held at the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds April 13-20, has drawn paintings from art galleries in Israel, the U.S., France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, West Germany and South Africa.

Famous artists who will be represented by their works include James Coignard, Max Papart and Claude Serre. A multi-racial group of artists from South America will be exhibiting their works abroad for the first time. An exhibition of posters and a painting workshop will also be featured at the fair which is sponsored by the Tel Aviv municipality.

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AMSTERDAM, April 10 (JTA)--Posters with a picture of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and the words "Begin, Murderer" have appeared on walls here. They are signed "Red Resistance Front," an extreme left wing group which maintains close relations with the Baader-Meinhof group.

**SPECIAL TO THE JTA****JEWISH STATE LEGISLATORS FORM GROUP**

By Rochelle Wolk

ALBANY, N.Y., April 11 (JTA)—The National Association of Jewish State Legislators has recently been organized, and executive director Albert J. Abrams of Albany says that this new organization "is not a bagel and lox society, but rather a vehicle for research and education in areas that are supportive of Israel and can improve the quality of life for Jews in America."

Comprised of 130 Jewish state legislators from throughout the United States at present, the organization expects to eventually include another 75, according to Abrams. "These men and women are bound together by ethnic background and common traditions," Abrams said, "and upon election frequently find themselves in an 'alien culture' of sorts in some states."

The response among the Jewish legislators, he noted, "has been fantastic, so apparently there was a need to bring them together." There have even been expressions of interest from members of the Provincial Parliament of Canada, and in the future legislative staffers may also be eligible for membership.

**Major Areas of Research**

The research department of the organization is headed by Dr. Jerome Benjamin, Chairman of the Political Science Department at State University of New York-New Paltz. Major areas of research this year will be: a study of Tay-Sachs disease, in conjunction with the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Foundation; identification of Arab investments in the United States, as a prelude to possible registration requirements; and examination of legal restrictions on American investments in Israel Bonds by banks, insurance corporations and other fiduciaries.

When the Association wanted to mobilize public opinion in regard to the terrorist attack on March 11 that took 33 lives in Israel, their leadership was able to secure immediate introductions and adoptions of resolutions in a dozen states, Abrams said.

In addition, with the cooperation of the Israel government, they have developed missions of non-Jewish legislators to Israel. From this group, according to Abrams, have come the most pro-Zionist legislators in the country. As an example, he cites Assembly Speaker James Kenelly of Connecticut, who calls himself the "Irish Zionist" and has been a leader in organizing friendship missions to Israel.

**Riding Piggyback On Other Groups**

Asked when the association members have the opportunity to get together, Abrams explained that the organization "rides piggyback" on non-Jewish legislative groups. "Wherever legislators meet, we meet," he said. For example, the National Association of Jewish State Legislators will meet this summer in Denver, when the National Legislative Conference meets there, and they have arranged to have Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz speak to this larger conference, as well as to their own group.

The association was founded by Abrams, in conjunction with Sen. Matthew Feldman of New Jersey, Rep. Joseph Forbes of Michigan, Sen. Jeremiah Bloom of New York, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, and others. A former chair-

man of the National Legislative Conference and Secretary of the New York State Senate for many years until his retirement, Abrams said that he opted for early retirement in order to create this kind of organization.

**IRMA LEVY LINDHEIM DEAD AT 91**

NEW YORK, April 11 (JTA)—Irma Levy Lindheim, who became president of Hadassah in 1926 after Henrietta Szold, the organization's founder, went to Palestine, and served in that capacity until 1928, died yesterday at the home of her daughter in Berkeley, Calif. She was 91 years old.

A staunch believer in the American pioneering spirit, Mrs. Lindheim identified the early struggle for nationhood in this country with the similar struggle of Jews in Palestine to create a national home. A native of New York, trained in the field of child study and social service, she made her first trip to Palestine in 1925, visiting numerous Jewish and Arab settlements from Dan to Beersheba on horseback. A record of this trip was incorporated into her book, "Immortal Adventure," published by Macaulay's in 1928.

In 1922 Mrs. Lindheim entered the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City, where she was accepted as a candidate for a rabbinical degree. From 1926 to 1928 she was, in addition to being Hadassah president, vice president of the Zionist Organization of America and a member of the World Zionist Organization Actions Committee. In 1930 she joined Hashomer Hatzair. In 1932 she helped organize the League for Labor Palestine and in 1933 became a member of Histadrut.

**Activities in Palestine**

After having made eight visits to Palestine in six years, Mrs. Lindheim settled there in 1933 as a member of Kibbutz Mishmar Haemek, on the slopes of Mount Ephraim, where she remained until her recent illness when she returned to the United States.

Mrs. Lindheim helped to introduce playground and recreational work in Palestine. She also interested Columbia University in 1919 in giving a three-year course to a group of women who later became nutritionists in the workers' settlements in Palestine. She helped further interest in the settlement of the Negev and helped to foster the publication of the first magazine edited by Jews and Arabs in Haifa.

One of her other outstanding activities was the creation of Palestine Fellowships in 1935 to permit American college youth to study and learn by travel and living in the Jewish homeland. In 1939 the Fellowship Plan was officially adopted by a Joint Committee of the Zionist Executive, Keren Kayemeth and the Keren Hayesod.

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TEL AVIV, April 11 (JTA)—Israelis preparing for the Passover holidays could hardly believe their eyes. The prices of many Passover foods are going down, not up as is normally the case at this season. The large supermarket chains announced they would lower prices in order to increase sales and to prevent high mark-ups by smaller merchants. Some commodities were reported in short supply but the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is making efforts to keep the shelves full and prevent profiteering. The prices of wines, sugar and meat are down. But the price of matzoh is up 45 percent over last year.

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