

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## CARTER SENDS LETTER TO BEGIN REAFFIRMING U.S. COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL

By Gil Sedar

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA)—President Carter has sent what was described as a warm letter to Premier Menachem Begin containing assurances of America's continued commitment to the security and welfare of Israel. The letter was conveyed to Begin yesterday by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. It reportedly does not mention the aircraft sales package deal for Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia which the Senate ratified Monday over strenuous opposition from Israel's friends in the U.S.

Nevertheless, Carter's letter was seen as part of the Administration's efforts to assuage the bitterness generated by the aircraft sales to Arab countries and to calm Israeli fears that their special relationship with the U.S. has been affected.

More concrete expressions of American support are expected to be detailed by Begin at this Sunday's Cabinet meeting. They are said to include additional F-15 fighter planes and possibly American approval of the sale of Israel's Kfir jet fighter to Taiwan.

The Nationalist Chinese regime reportedly is interested in buying 50 Kfirs but so far Israel has not had a response from Washington for permission to sell the aircraft. Permission is required because the Kfir is powered by American-made engines. Two years ago Israel was denied permission to sell Kfirs to Ecuador.

The Prime Minister's Office reported today that it continues to receive telephone calls from Israel's supporters in the U.S., Jewish and non-Jewish, over the failure to block the aircraft sales to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The Premier's Office said the callers are encouraging and point out that the aircraft sales represents "only one battle lost."

## REPORT CLAIMS CLOSE TIES BETWEEN EX-NAZIS AND CIA, FBI AND DEFENSE DEPT

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA)—The CIA, FBI and Defense Department had close ties with alleged Nazi war criminals who entered the U.S. after World War II, according to a report released yesterday by Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D. Pa.). Eilberg said the report points to a "total breakdown in efforts by the State Department and the Justice Department to bring wartime criminals to justice."

This report was prepared by the General Accounting Office (GAO) at the request of Eilberg who chairs the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration which has been investigating the lack of action against Nazi criminals who entered this country after World War II.

Eilberg said the GAO examined cases involving 94 alleged war criminals and found that seven were paid by the CIA; two were used as confidential informants by the FBI; and one was employed by the Department of Defense. In addition, the GAO told Eilberg that three alleged war criminals were helped by the CIA and other federal agencies in entering the U.S.

"This report makes it clear that the CIA

and FBI were more interested in using these people and getting information from them than in conducting any background investigation as to their wartime activities or pursuing allegations that they were war criminals," Eilberg said.

He said the GAO cited other reasons why no action was taken against Nazi war criminals in the 30 years following World War II, including the low priority given to such investigations, deficient work by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), failure to pursue investigative leads in foreign countries and a lack of centralized effort by the INS.

The report also cites Eilberg's trip with subcommittee members in 1975 to the Soviet Union where Eilberg obtained a personal commitment from Soviet Deputy Procurator General Mikhail Malyarov that the USSR would cooperate with the U.S. in making eyewitnesses available for Nazi war crimes investigations and trials. Since that time, several hundred affidavits have been obtained by the Justice Department from the Soviets. These affidavits have played a major role in most of the Nazi war criminal cases now pending. Eilberg said his subcommittee will continue to pursue the issue with the CIA and other government agencies.

## NEW SETTLEMENT PLAN PRESENTED

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA)—The Ministerial Settlement Committee will review in the near future a new plan to establish six new towns in Judea and Samaria. The plan was introduced yesterday before the committee by the Defense Ministry.

According to the new plan, the towns will actually be a "thickening" of existing settlements in Maale Adumim, just east of Jerusalem; Gush Etzion, just south of Jerusalem; Nabl Salah, north of Jerusalem; Givon, north of Jerusalem; and Timnat Hares and Kamei Shomron in Samaria. The first four would form a belt protecting Jerusalem from three sides.

The idea behind the plan is to concentrate the settlement effort in six large sites rather than spreading it over a large number of smaller settlements. The plan seems to contradict plans presented in the past by Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, who is an enthusiastic supporter of a massive settlement drive. But Sharon's associates were quoted today as saying that the Defense Ministry plan was only a part of an overall settlement plan.

## WHITE HOUSE DENIES ANTI-SEMITIC SLURS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA)—White House Press Secretary Jody Powell flatly denied yesterday a National Public Radio (NPR) report that President Carter's top assistant, Hamilton Jordan, made remarks construed as anti-Semitic after the Senate endorsed the Administration's controversial aircraft sales package Monday.

According to NPR, an editor, not identified, heard Jordan berate the "Jewish lobby" and boast that the Jewish lobby had been "broken" by the Senate's action. An Israel Radio-English-language broadcast referred to the allegation and a lawyer, also unidentified, was said to have heard Jordan make the remarks.

At a briefing for reporters, Powell challenged those making the charges to identify themselves

and confront him with the allegation. He said the NPR item came from one of its reporters who had obtained it from an editor.

Noting that he first heard of the radio report from friends within the Jewish community who were "concerned," Powell declared that the unidentified editor was "lying" and challenged him to a meeting. "He has refused to do this," Powell said, adding "the editor is still anonymous." When another reporter reminded him that "a lawyer" said he heard the same remarks, Powell declared "There ought to be limits to slandering."

The Press Secretary denied that he or Jordan had ever remarked that the Senate vote broke the Jewish lobby. "We are concerned that the political debate not sink to the level of incivility," he said. "The worst thing that could happen is for a political debate like this to get into a debate in which people's motives are questioned."

At another point in the discussion, Powell said: "If honest debate over American policy cannot be conducted without the bases of motives, our society is in serious shape. That's why we all did our best to avoid confrontation."

#### ORLOV TRIAL MARKED BY ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA)--Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov, a leader of a Helsinki human rights monitoring committee, was sentenced today to seven years hard labor followed by five years of exile from Moscow, according to reports reaching here from the Soviet Union. Orlov's trial, which began Monday, had been marked by anti-Semitic remarks and incidents between Soviet policemen and Western newsmen and supporters of Orlov outside the courtroom.

After Tuesday's court proceedings, during which 15 witnesses for the prosecution testified, Orlov's wife, Irina, and his two sons by a previous marriage who were allowed to attend, tried to talk to reporters and dissidents outside the courtroom. But the police refused to let them talk and ordered them to move on.

As the small crowd of reporters and dissidents evolved into a walking news conference, following Orlov's wife, his sons and the policemen, a clash erupted after a policeman seized a tape recorder microphone from one of the reporters. Dissidents were then pushed and several people in the crowd that gathered shouted insults at the dissidents. One woman shouted at a dissident, "You have a kike's snout."

Earlier in the day, two British reporters, Richard Beeton of the Daily Telegraph and Oliver Waites of Reuters, were a target of anti-Semitic remarks in the area near the courtroom. "Zionist, Zionist," four men shouted at the reporters. One of the men said: "Jews, we will shoot you."

Meanwhile, it was reported that trials of other members of Helsinki monitoring committees were being held in other sections of the country. Prior to Orlov's sentencing today, Nobel Prize winner Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Yelena, and five other dissidents were seized by police after they tried to force their way into the courtroom. Sakharov and his wife reportedly hit a policeman during the melee. They were later released but said two of the five young men were given 15-day sentences for "hooliganism" and a third was fined.

#### MUSEUM OF THE JEWISH DIASPORA OPENS

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 18 (JTA)--An IL 95 million (\$5.9 million) Museum of the Jewish Diaspora

where the push of a button will bring the viewer an instant audio or visual history of nearly 3000 Jewish communities throughout the world, was officially opened here.

The project, including the IL 40 million four-story structure on the Tel Aviv University campus, designed by international experts including Carl Katz of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, was financed chiefly by funds raised by American Jewish organizations and landsmanschaften. The inaugural ceremonies were attended by a delegation from the U.S., and also by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, former president of the World Jewish Congress, who chaired the fund-raising committee, and Philip M. Klutznick, president of the WJC, who shared with Goldmann the task of raising funds for the museum.

Unlike traditional museums that consist of static displays, the Diaspora Museum is built around computers in which are stored information on thousands of years of Jewish history. This information is flashed on screens in the form of printed text, still photographs and motion pictures, depending on which buttons are activated. The computers also deliver scholarly lectures on whichever subject is selected.

Plans call for the programming of family names and genealogies which will enable visitors to trace their family trees. The museum also has an exhibition of synagogue architecture over the past 2000 years. The Diaspora Museum, eight years in the planning and construction, is managed by Yeshayahu Weinberg.

Almost as big an attraction as the museum was the presence of former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis who is on a private visit to Israel. Afterwards, she visited the John F. Kennedy Peace Memorial and Forest planted by the Jewish National Fund near Jerusalem where she planted a pine tree in honor of her late husband near those planted by other members of the Kennedy family. "I must bring my children to see this magnificent place," she said.

#### MAJOR CONCERNS OF U.S. JEWS PROBED

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA)--The major concerns of American Jews on the domestic scene are crime and inflation and "in the area of foreign affairs... by far the greatest Jewish anxiety involves the future of Israel," according to Bertram H. Gold, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, who delivered the keynote address at the AJCommittee's 72nd annual meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel today.

Gold based his analysis on the responses by about 1100 American Jewish adults from all regions of the United States to a questionnaire administered by the AJCommittee last winter to determine "what concerns them most as Americans and as Jews." He stressed that the survey was not a scientific sampling of the entire Jewish population.

He reported that in foreign affairs "90 percent --30 percent more than on any other Jewish issue --were very concerned about Israel's security and 93 percent considered Israel's survival essential to the American-Jewish community." Yet, Gold reported, "while Israel has become a major focus of Jewish peoplehood and has done much to strengthen our sense of identity and belonging, it has also generated some strains and tensions. For it must be acknowledged that a number of the premises and assumptions of Zionist ideology have not been sustained."

He listed, among the assumptions not yet

realized, the belief that the existence of a Jewish State "would once and for all legitimize us as a people," that it "would fashion the Jewish people in the image of all other people" and that the "existence of a Jewish State would help eradicate anti-Semitism in the world."

In connection with the latter, he noted: "Instead, we have seen anti-Jewish hostility transferred to the State of Israel and back again to Jews in other lands.... The current syllogism reads: Zionism is racism, all Jews are Zionists; therefore all Jews are racists."

Another assumption not borne out was that the Jewish State would bring "an ingathering of Jews to Israel and a gradual withering away of the diaspora. This too has not happened. Only 20 percent of the world's Jewish population lives in Israel and both the American Jewish community and the communities of Western Europe are flourishing."

#### Issue Of Dissent

Gold said the survey showed that Jews "seem to have few qualms about dissenting from any number of American policies, including those that affect Israel." But, "when it comes to public disagreement or differences with Israeli policies, we are much less sure-footed," he said. "Yet, as the concept of peoplehood has sharpened and the inter-relationship and inter-dependency of Israeli and diaspora Jewry have intensified, the responsibility on our part to be honest—and critical where necessary—has increased accordingly," Gold said.

He said he was disturbed "by those who view public dissent from any Israeli policy as 'treason' and by those who consider such dissent 'courageous' and 'heroic.' Both groups, it seems to me, perceive the American Jewish community as rigid, controlling and monolithic and such a perception, if there is any substance to it, must be thoroughly resisted."

Gold warned: "The more we see ourselves as besieged and beleaguered, the more impatient we become with those who disagree, and the more angrily we lash out at them. We must be careful not to make the same mistake that the Black community did in the '60s when the prevailing doctrine that all whites were racists left them no choice but to try to go it alone."

#### ISRAEL'S VALUE TO U.S. INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING AGENCIES IS ASSESSED

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA)—In the opinion of several former American military and diplomatic leaders, the Carter Administration and many Americans in general do not adequately appreciate Israel's strategic value to the United States and its contributions to American intelligence-gathering agencies.

Those views were expressed here yesterday by former Undersecretary of State Eugene Rostow; former Ambassador William Kintner; Adm. (Ret.) Elmo Zumwalt, former Chief of Naval Operations; and Maj. Gen. George F. Keegan, former Chief of Air Force Intelligence.

They participated in a discussion of current U.S. policy in the Middle East and the Soviet threat to that area at a symposium sponsored by Foreign Policy Perspectives, a Boston-based group that examines U.S. involvement in international affairs.

Two other participants, Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Arthur S. Collins, former deputy commander in

chief of the U.S. Army in Europe and Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Benjamin O. Davis, former deputy commander of the U.S. Air Force Strike Command, expressed views in favor of the Administration's sale of F-15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia, a project roundly condemned by the others.

#### Strategic Advantage of Israel

Kintner, who is director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Washington, and served as moderator, described Israel as "a strategic asset in a region necessary in defense of NATO" and as "an offset to Soviet military power" there. "Lots of Americans look at it (Israel) as a net strategic loss," he said. "They are unwilling to recognize the strategic advantage from our association with Israel even though at times it presents challenges and difficulties such as coming to Israel's support in the Yom Kippur War."

Zumwalt said the U.S. is incapable of successful military activity in the Middle East without Israel's support. He pointed out that only the threat of Israeli intervention stopped Syria from attacking Jordan in 1971 when King Hussein was battling Palestinian terrorists.

Keegan said that "if you could put dollar value on Israel's military intelligence" gained by the U.S. "it would be in the billions of dollars." He claimed that "five central intelligence agencies could not give us the intelligence information we get from the Israelis."

Keegan challenged the Pentagon's description of the F-15 warplane as a "defensive weapon." He called that description "one of the most misleading" statements the Pentagon has ever made. He denounced the President's aircraft package as injudicious because it has the effect of weakening Israel and thereby is detrimental to U.S. interests.

But Davis observed that Saudi Arabia, which will receive 60 F-15s in the package endorsed by the Senate Monday, is "pro-West" and the package, he said, will allow Israel to retain military superiority in the area. Collins said the U.S. could not have supplied Saudi Arabia with aircraft of lesser quality because the Saudis are a "proud people" and would regard such treatment as an "insult."

Rostow said "no effective" Middle East policy is possible without peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors that ensures Israel's strength and sovereignty. He contended that "President Carter has taken a position blaming Israel for the absence of peace. This is almost inexplicable: Israel isn't the obstacle."

#### RABBIS STAGE PROTEST

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA)—Seven Orthodox rabbis handcuffed themselves to the iron fence fronting the White House and denounced the Carter Administration's Middle East policy for about two hours in intermittent rain yesterday afternoon, before U.S. park police received orders to sever the handcuffs and end the demonstration.

The rabbis sat on shiva stools "in mourning against the death of political morality in the White House," a spokesman said. The rabbis were identified as Abner Weiss, Avraham Weiss, Joseph Shapiro, Shlomo Riskin, Saul Berman, Rubin Dobin and Reuben Gradner, all of New York. The demonstration climaxed a protest rally by some 1500 Jewish college-age students, mainly from the New York and Washington areas.

**CORRECTION:** The National Religious Party convention in Tel Aviv was mistakenly identified as the Aguda convention in the May 16 Bulletin.

# **BEHIND THE HEADLINES** **FRENCH-UNIFIL FORCES REJECT OFFICIAL** **ORDER NOT TO FRATERNIZE WITH ISRAELIS** By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, May 18 (JTA)—When France sent its troops to join the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) the soldiers were ordered by their superiors not to fraternize with Israelis. The Israelis were not to be trusted, they were told.

But the fraternization ban isn't working here any more than it did in Germany at the end of World War II. In fact, French soldiers of UNIFIL who flock to Israel on leave are embarrassed by it and frankly tell their Israeli hosts that it was unfair. A French Captain said, "I can see now that it was a calculated incitement. In the Middle East the only ones you can count on are the Israelis," he said.

Duty with UNIFIL has turned out to be a burdensome and dangerous assignment, especially for the French who have already suffered casualties. They must be constantly alert for mines and ambushes as they patrol the difficult terrain of south Lebanon. They cannot differentiate between an innocent Lebanese civilian and a terrorist carrying concealed weapons.

## Rest And Relaxation In Israel

For rest and relaxation there is no place to go but Israel. Beirut is inaccessible and, in any event, is ravaged by two years of civil war and fighting between various factions continues. Israel is easily reached and is a safe haven. The resort towns of Nahariya and Tiberias have excellent hotels and all forms of entertainment and recreational facilities. Both are close to the Lebanese border and transportation is fast and efficient.

Hotel operators in Tiberias do not conceal their satisfaction over the boom created by the presence of UNIFIL troops, not only French but Norwegians and Nepalese. Nahariya has become the center for UNIFIL officers and soldiers on leave. Many participated in the town's Independence Day celebrations last week.

In addition to providing recreation, Israel is feeding UNIFIL. The United Nations army gets most of its fresh vegetables, milk and dairy products from Israel. Replying to criticism in the French press that UNIFIL is not buying supplies from the Lebanese, a senior French officer noted that in Israel the supplies are concentrated at one source and there is no need to deal with individual farmers. Supply officers can pick up their needs at Trnava, Israel's largest farm products distributor, without worrying about mines or booby traps on the roads, he said. The prices are fair and the business methods are correct.

## Tensions Between UNIFIL, PLO

The friendly relations between UNIFIL soldiers and Israelis are in sharp contrast to the growing tension between UNIFIL commanders and the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

While PLO chief Yasser Arafat promised UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that his men would cooperate, other PLO leaders such as Yasser Abed Rabbo and Zahir Muhsein have declared that the PLO does not recognize Security Council Resolution 425 of March 19 under which UNIFIL was established. They warned that they would take action against UNIFIL soldiers who attempt to prevent members of the PLO from carrying out their war against the "Zionist enemy."

UNIFIL's mission is to prevent terrorists from

infiltrating areas of south Lebanon evacuated by Israeli forces. Gen. Emmanuel Enkine of Ghana, the UNIFIL commander, said in an interview in a Lebanese newspaper this week that his troops will act to restore Lebanese sovereignty in the south.

He stressed that the 1969 pan-Arab Cairo agreement that recognized south Lebanon as a staging area for terrorist action against Israel, was in direct contradiction of Resolution 425. "Our task is to prevent infiltration. If infiltration by the PLO continues, they will confront UNIFIL units," he said.

UNIFIL has other problems with the Maronite Christian villagers in south Lebanon who were disturbed by the Israeli withdrawal. They do not believe the UN force is capable of preventing the return of terrorists to the region and fear that UNIFIL will not protect them if the terrorists return. Israel has suggested that the UNIFIL commanders make arrangements to allay the fears of the Christians and avoid friction with them.

## 4 TOP WZO POSTS WILL BE GIVEN OUT IN NEW YORK ON MAY 25

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA)—The four main administrative posts in the World Zionist Organization will be given out in a ceremony in New York City May 25, it was reported here by Leon Dulzin, WZO Executive chairman.

The posts, which include the treasury, immigration and absorption, settlement and youth aliyah, were entrusted to the 10-member committee a month ago to be handed out to Executive members. The main rivalry is between Labor's Akiva Levinsky and Herut's Yoram Aridor for the important treasury portfolio. The 10-member group includes Dulzin, Allan Pollak, Charlotte Jacobson, Eliezer Havin and Moshe Kraner.

Dulzin said the meeting would take place in New York because most of the group's members live in the United States and because he and Kraner will be in New York at that time to deal with other matters pertaining to the WZO. Dulzin will, in addition, hold meetings with American Jewish leaders.

(In New York, Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the WZO-American Section, said a reception for Dulzin and his wife will be given May 25 at the headquarters of the WZO-American Section. Mrs. Jacobson also said that a press luncheon will be held for Dulzin for what she described would be "a wide-ranging discussion of the many problems facing Israel." Immediately after the luncheon on May 26 Dulzin will return to Israel, she said.)

## AID FOR JEWS FROM THE USSR

TORONTO, May 18 (JTA)—The Canadian government is working towards expanding the Immigration Act to allow more "non-conforming" refugees to enter Canada. Bud Cullen, Canada's Minister of Employment and Immigration, told a B'nai B'rith lodge meeting in his home constituency of Sarnia, Ontario. A special category, the humanitarian category, has been created for potential immigrants who do not fit the refugee definition of the Act, Cullen said. These would include Ukrainians and Poles in addition to Jews from the USSR. A unique project undertaken over the last two years by the Canadian B'nai B'rith in conjunction with federal immigration officials led to the government decision. B'nai B'rith was able to gain entry for 76 families who were chosen by a United Nations committee. Cullen said 32 of these families have already settled in Canada and the rest will arrive next month.