

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL HOPES NEW ROUND OF TALKS WITH EGYPT WILL TAKE PLACE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 30 (JTA)—Premier Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan briefed the Cabinet today on their talks with U.S. special envoy Alfred L. Atherton Thursday and Friday. Atherton is due back here tomorrow for further talks following his weekend of meetings with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammed Kamel in Cairo. Cabinet Secretary Arye Noor announced after today's session that the Cabinet's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 7 immediately following the visit here by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

"If needed, new decisions may be taken next week," Noor said but did not elaborate. He told reporters that it was hoped the "much talked about" new round of Israeli-Egyptian negotiations would indeed take place, probably at a locale in Sinai.

Atherton indicated before leaving for Cairo Friday that the U.S. expects the negotiations to be resumed in mid-August with Vance presiding. Other U.S. officials said the next round of talks might well be the occasion for the U.S. to present its own ideas aimed at bridging the gap between the Israeli and Egyptian positions that were clearly defined at the foreign ministers meeting at Leeds Castle, England.

They said the American proposals would focus on the five year transitional period for the West Bank and Gaza Strip and the future of those territories after the five-year interim. According to the officials, there were some points of agreement between Israel and Egypt on the transitional period but the parties remained deadlocked over the post-transition status.

## Egypt Stands Pat On Basis For Talks

(Kamel told reporters in Cairo after meeting with Atherton that there were no changes in the Israeli and Egyptian positions and that any common elements between the two were coincidental and irrelevant. He said that the resumption of talks between Israel and Egypt would depend on what kind of proposals the U.S. presented. Atherton held several sessions with Kamel Friday and Saturday and was scheduled to meet with President Anwar Sadat before returning to Jerusalem.

(He gave no hint to reporters that any progress was made toward bringing the two sides together for another round of talks. However, he stressed the U.S. view that "there is great importance in having a continuing process of negotiation to continue to try to arrive at areas of agreement. That is the purpose and that is what we're looking forward to and that is what we are discussing," he said.

(When he arrived in Cairo from Jerusalem, Atherton said he "just had very detailed and useful talks with Prime Minister Begin and his colleagues in Israel. I think I will be in a position to convey a clearer understanding of the Israeli position to the leaders of Egypt.")

Atherton met with Begin and Dayan for two hours Thursday. The meeting was attended by

Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin. Dayan said later that the Israelis had listened closely to the American diplomat's briefing on his talks last week in Saudi Arabia and Jordan. "We want the negotiations to continue and are ready for them to continue," Dayan told reporters afterwards.

## RETURN OF REGULAR LEBANESE ARMY TO SOUTH LEBANON IS TOPIC OF DISCUSSION

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, July 30 (JTA)—Israeli and Lebanese officers met at the Ras el-Nakura border post today to discuss the return of the regular Lebanese army to south Lebanon which Beirut says is imminent. The Israeli position, which will be conveyed to the authorities in Beirut, is that there are no objections to the deployment of the Lebanese army in the south provided the troops are not dominated by Syria or escorted by Syrian forces. Israel expects them to prevent terrorist activity in the area.

Israel is also insisting that the open fence on the Israeli-Lebanese border continues to function and that no reprisals are taken against the Christian militia in south Lebanon and its commanders. Syria is reported to have demanded that Maj. Saad Haddad and other local Christian commanders be brought to Beirut to face court martials.

Israeli sources do not believe that Lebanese regulars will return to south Lebanon until an agreement is reached with Israel on the integration of the Christian militia into the Lebanese army. The militia is in control of the Christian enclaves in the south and claims to be the vanguard of the regular Lebanese army. Lebanese troops from the north are not expected to take over the enclaves immediately. Today's meeting was arranged by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Meanwhile, Israel had no comment on reports from Palestinian circles that the leader of the Christian Phalangist army, Beshir Joumayyel, has visited or is about to visit Israel. Saudian sources claimed Joumayyel was brought to Israel aboard an Israeli naval vessel but Joumayyel denied that. However, rumors persist that he visited Israel recently to warn of Syrian attempts to annihilate the Lebanese Christian community.

## CONCERN EXPRESSED FOR SOUTH AMERICAN OPPONENT OF SHELTERING WAR CRIMINALS

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)—The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has expressed fear for the safety of a South American human rights leader jailed by the government of Paraguay.

The ADL reported that Domingo Laino, a former member of the Paraguayan Chamber of Deputies and vice-president of an opposition political party, was arrested one day after returning from a recent visit to the United States. After intensive interrogation he was incarcerated in Tacumbo prison in Asuncion to await trial on charges made against him and other political leaders in 1976 of violating law 209 which "defends democracy and personal freedom."

According to Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, director of ADL's Latin American Affairs Department, Laino is in the forefront of the opposition to sheltering Nazi war criminals in Paraguay and to the violations of human rights by the dictatorial regime of General Alfredo Stroessner.

Rosenthal noted that it was "ominous" that Laino was arrested early this month immediately upon his return from a six-week visit to the U.S. during which he publicly criticized Paraguay's violations of human rights and its official hospitality to Nazi war criminals. While in the U.S., Laino met with officials of the State Department, members of both Houses of Congress and the Human Rights Commission of the Organization of American States.

#### Sought To Revoke Mengele's Citizenship

"These actions," Rosenthal added, "have placed Laino in great jeopardy." He added that this is an obvious attempt by the regime to silence a courageous voice for human rights fearlessly proposing that the government investigate the Nazi influence in Paraguay and to revoke the citizenship of the most infamous of all Nazi war criminals, Dr. Joseph Mengele, the sadist who performed inhuman experiments on concentration victims in Aushwitz. "Mengele was granted Paraguayan citizenship in November, 1959."

Concern for Laino's safety was intense, Rosenthal said, because officials of the Paraguayan government at first denied any knowledge of his arrest; he was snatched from his car by men in civilian clothing.

He praised the swift action of the American ambassador to Paraguay, Robert White, who "expressed our government's concern in urgent terms" and is maintaining a close observation of the situation. Rosenthal said that the U.S. must maintain its interest in Laino's treatment to help insure a fair and open trial.

#### AVITAL SHCHARANSKY BACK IN ISRAEL AFTER ILLNESS ENDS HER U.S. TOUR

TEL AVIV, July 30 (JTA)--Avital Shcharansky returned to Israel yesterday after cutting short her North American tour on behalf of her husband, Anatoly Shcharansky, who was sentenced to three years' imprisonment and 10 years at a labor camp by a Moscow court earlier this month for alleged treason and anti-Soviet agitation.

She became ill in Chicago several days earlier and was ordered home by her physician. He described her condition as "complete exhaustion" stemming from the physical and mental strain of her campaign to secure her husband's release. Looking pale and thin, she arrived at Ben Gurion Airport and was taken to her home where she is confined to bed.

She told reporters that she would resume her struggle on behalf of her husband and all Soviet Jews who want to emigrate as soon as she regains her strength. She said it was urgent to get as many Jews as possible out of Russia because there are reports that the Soviet authorities will discontinue issuing exit visas as of January, 1979. She said she was unable to contact her relatives in Russia because their telephone lines were cut.

#### Aroused Public Opinion In The U.S.

(Mrs. Shcharansky's Campaign in the U.S., which took her coast-to-coast, succeeded in arousing public opinion against the Soviet treatment of her husband and all dissidents and gained considerable support in Congressional and other official circles. Eight Senators have written an "open letter" to Shcharansky declaring that the use of their "open meeting" in Moscow three years ago as "evidence against you of criminal conduct

is tragic and unjustified."

(The charges against Shcharansky were based on his contacts with Western circles including American journalists alleged by the Soviets to be agents of the CIA. The Senators wrote, "We shall continue to urge Soviet authorities to reconsider their actions in your case and permit you to emigrate."

(Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D. Conn.), one of the signatories, said on the Senate floor Thursday that "It is especially unfortunate that one part of the 'evidence' which the Soviet authorities presented at Shcharansky's trial to support the charge of 'anti-Soviet agitation' was the fact that he met with a delegation of U.S. Senators visiting Moscow in 1975.")

(In St. Louis, Mo., Attorney General John Ashcroft, speaking at a "Free Soviet Jewry" rally, announced he is sending Soviet leaders a three-by-four foot scroll with a message reading "I express my outrage at the inhumane, illegal treatment of Anatoly Shcharansky and other Soviet patriots. I urge you to conform with the Helsinki Agreement and end oppression now." The rally last Thursday was sponsored by St. Louis Jewish organizations.)

(In Detroit, the Board of Commissioners of The Michigan Bar Association adopted a resolution condemning the Soviet Union for "the violations by the Soviet government of the legal rights recognized by treaties" in the Shcharansky case. It urged Soviet authorities "to take all steps necessary" to insure that Shcharansky and "all others similarly situated be treated in accordance with the obligations of international law assumed by the USSR.")

#### TOURISM FROM U.S. TO ISRAEL EXPECTED TO INCREASE DUE TO DISCOUNT FARES

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)--Tourism from the United States is expected to increase as a result of the approval by the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) of an application by El Al to provide discount fares between New York and Tel Aviv that are 50 percent below normal economy fares, according to Israel Zuriel, Israel's Commissioner for Tourism in the U.S. and Canada. The CAB approval last Friday was in line with an agreement Israel and the U.S. signed in Washington earlier this month.

The new fare for economy rates are \$655 for round trips in peak season and \$545 during the basic season, as compared with regular economy fares of \$1330 and \$1194. Similar fares are expected to be approved by Israel for TWA, the American carrier that flies between New York and Tel Aviv.

Zuriel said that the new reduced air transportation cost to Israel will herald a new era in American tourism to the country. He noted that 17 percent more Americans visited Israel in the first six months of 1978 over the first half of 1977, and the new lower airfares are expected to further enlarge this increase. Zuriel added that the other major effect of the U.S.-Israel agreement is that charter flights will be permitted from all parts of the U.S. to Israel effective Nov. 1. Hitherto, charter flights were only permitted to Israel from the West Coast.

#### RIVLIN ON 3-WEEK U.S. TOUR TO DISCUSS JNF'S FIVE-YEAR PLAN

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)--Moshe Rivlin, world chairman of the Jewish National Fund, has arrived in the United States from Israel on a three-week tour to discuss with friends and supporters of the JNF specific projects and programs designed to implement the new five-year plan recently adopted by the JNF. Rivlin, who will visit San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, San Diego, Denver,

St. Louis, Minneapolis, Baltimore and New York, is in the U.S. in response to an invitation given by Rabbi William Berkowitz, president of the JNF, when the two leaders conferred recently in Israel.

The five-year plan Rivlin will be discussing calls for the preparation of the sites for 185 new settlements and the reclamation of 40,000 acres of wasteland for intensive agriculture. During the coming years, 50,000 dunams will be drained and dams will be built to control flood waters and reservoirs will be constructed to conserve large amounts of water. In addition, the JNF will break through 2000 kilometers of new roads and will plant new forests over an area of 150,000 dunams.

During his tour, Rivlin will also review the plans for the construction of the Humbert H. Humphrey Parkway in the American Bicentennial Park. This joint American-Israeli tribute to a champion of Israel was announced jointly some days after the Senator's death last January by Rivlin in Jerusalem and by Berkowitz in the U.S. Rivlin will also discuss current JNF activities in Israel. Upon his return to New York in mid-August, he will participate in a two-day national staff conference of JNF national and regional directors.

At the same time, Berkowitz and Rivlin will also hold discussions dealing with the danger points and crises facing world Jewry, as well as charting new paths JNF will follow in the next decade. "JNF has always been and will continue to be a mass people-to-people movement dedicated to the land of Israel. Yet in the days ahead there is a greater need to broaden the base in the areas of Zionist information and education, and to create personal contact between Jews so as to reclaim and renew the Jewish soul as well as the Jewish soil," Berkowitz said.

#### SENATE FOREIGN AID BILL REAFFIRMS U.S. TRADITIONAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, July 30 (JTA)--The Senate has adopted a foreign aid authorization bill for the fiscal year beginning October 1 that contains provisions reaffirming America's traditional support for Israel.

The bill provides Israel with \$785 million in economic security assistance and \$1 billion in military aid. Egypt is provided with \$735 million in economic aid; Jordan with \$275 million military and economic support; and Syria with \$90 million in economic aid. A movement is gathering in the House, which may take up the bill this week, to cut the overall foreign aid total and this may affect the allocations for various countries as well as international financial institutions like the World Bank.

Sen. Howard Baker (R. Tenn.), the Minority Leader, introduced two amendments to the bill, one relating to the entry of officials of proscribed organizations to the U.S. and the other to the Middle East negotiation process coupled with backing for Israel.

First, he offered an amendment eliminating the provision enacted last year known as the McGovern Amendment, that required the Secretary of State automatically to recommend approval of applications from any organization to enter the U.S. with the Attorney General alone having discretion to bar them on security grounds. The Baker Amendment that superseded McGovern's provision was adopted by a 50-42 vote.

Baker's second resolution was adopted without dissent. This "sense of the Congress" resolu-

tion specified among its provisions that the U.S. "should continue to promote direct negotiations between Israel and Egypt and to encourage other Arab states to enter into negotiations leading to peace treaties with Israel; and that the U.S. should be responsive to Israel's economic needs and defense requirements, including the provision of additional advanced aircraft to maintain Israel's defense capability, which is essential to peace."

#### BRITISH MOVE VS. U.S. BOYCOTT LAWS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 30 (JTA)--The British government has launched a surprise attack on United States anti-boycott legislation because of its possible impact on U.S.-controlled companies in this country. Edmund Dell, the Trade Secretary, has issued a toughly worded statement saying that U.S. regulations infringed the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom and could have an adverse effect on United Kingdom trade and employment. He advised British companies to contact the department as soon as possible if they thought they might be affected.

The government has also issued a lengthy note to major companies explaining the working of the American regulations and is to send a two-man fact-finding mission to Washington. Officials here stress that they are critical only of the extra-territorial aspects of the U.S. Export Administration Law's 1977 amendment and do not contest the right of foreign governments to regulate activities of companies in their own countries.

The announcement was made now because an important part of the American regulations comes into effect Aug. 1. This requires companies to report to the U.S. government receipt of all boycott questionnaires. It applies to foreign companies in which 25 percent or more of the equity is in the hands of American shareholders.

The statement also coincides with attempts to introduce British legislation on the lines of the American anti-boycott measures. The government does not support the Foreign Boycotts Bill, still in committee stage. However, it denies that Thursday's move was intended to weaken it.

Supporters of the bill have, nonetheless, bitterly compared the government's strong reaction to the American legislation with its traditional timidity toward the Arab boycott itself. If the government is so sensitive about the extra-territoriality of U.S. legislation, they say, why did it not show similar concern about the extra-territorial influence of Arab legislation regarding trade with Israel?

#### USOC HEAD SAYS HIS GROUP INSISTS ON ISRAEL'S PARTICIPATION IN OLYMPICS

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., July 30, JTA--Robert J. Kane, the president of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), declared here that the organization is committed to Israel's participation in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Addressing a press conference last Thursday, Kane said the USOC will "stand staunchly" at Israel's side if any attempts are made to bar Israel from participating in the Moscow games.

Kane's statement was the most definitive yet on how the USOC will react to an attempt to exclude Israel from the 1980 Olympics. In view of the recent trials against Jewish dissidents in the Soviet Union, and reports that last minute legal maneuvers might be enacted to keep the Israeli team from participating in the Olympics, the USOC has been under pressure recently to boycott the games.

## JUDGE DENOUNCED FOR PERMITTING EX-NAZI TO KEEP U.S. CITIZENSHIP

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)--The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has urged the Justice Department to appeal the ruling of July 26 by Federal District Judge Norman C. Roettger in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., permitting a former Nazi to keep his U.S. citizenship. At the same time, Jewish Defense League board member Irwin Block, and the JDL's counsel, Sam Polur, a New York attorney residing in Miami Beach and a member of the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, denounced the verdict as a "travesty of truth, of justice, of decency." Block and Polur said that "the heart of the ruling is the announced statement that Fedor Fedorenko was a victim of Nazi aggression."

Roettger ruled that there was insufficient evidence to warrant the revocation of citizenship and deportation of Fedorenko, 71, a former guard at the Treblinka death camp accused of the torture and murder of Jewish inmates.

Ending a 15-day trial at which Jewish survivors of Treblinka now living in Miami Beach and witnesses from Israel testified that they saw Fedorenko shoot Jewish prisoners and beat and torture them, the judge said that the prosecution had failed to prove its case. He characterized Fedorenko himself as a "victim of Nazi aggression" who most certainly would have suffered execution had he refused to carry out Nazi orders. He also questioned the credibility of the witnesses and suggested that some of them may have been coached.

### Lied About Wartime Activities

The government sought to deport Fedorenko, a native of the Ukraine, on grounds that he had lied about his birthplace and his wartime activities when he entered the U.S. and applied for citizenship in 1949. Fedorenko admitted that he had passed himself off as Polish when he entered the U.S. but claimed he did so to avoid possible repatriation to the Ukraine. He denied committing atrocities at Treblinka.

Roettger said, "If the court were convinced that the allegations charging him with atrocities at Treblinka were true, there is no doubt he would not be entitled to citizenship. However, this court must decide this case on the record before it and the strict burden of proof has not been met."

Justin Finger, the ADL's assistant director of civil rights, said: "We are at a loss to understand the court's ruling in as much as Fedorenko admitted lying on his 1949 application for American citizenship by concealing his role as a guard at Treblinka, the Nazi death camp. The fact is that if Fedorenko had truthfully completed his application in 1949, he would have been refused American citizenship."

Commenting on the U.S. attorneys who tried the case, Block said the JDL commended them. "They worked diligently," he said. "They were hamstrung throughout. But they surely proved their case. By an overwhelming factual, legal and moral suasion of guilt of lying beyond any doubt at all. They forced Fedorenko to admit he lied. That was the only issue before the judge. He chose to ignore that, apparently."

### ADL TO INVESTIGATE WAR CRIMINALS

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)--The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith announced the formation of a special task force to concentrate upon

the investigation and counteraction of Nazi war criminals and their activities in the United States. According to Arnold Forster, the ADL's general counsel, the new task force established in cooperation with the Society of Survivors of the Riga Ghetto will enable the ADL to expand its existing investigative and counteraction program in this area.

Elliot Welles, a concentration camp survivor, will serve the task force as full-time consultant, Forster said. In this capacity, his duties will include serving as liaison with various organizations of Holocaust survivors throughout the world, field investigations and the monitoring of information about the governmental actions directed toward Nazi war criminals in this and other countries.

Individuals with information about Nazi war criminals or who are interested in assisting the task force are requested to contact Welles at ADL's national headquarters, 315 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

### ORTHODOX RABBI SCORES REFORM LEADER FOR VIEW OF 'WHO IS A JEW' AMENDMENT

NEW YORK, July 30 (JTA)--Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, took issue today with Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, for his attack on the Law of Return amendment which passed its first reading in the Knesset last Wednesday. Sherer was particularly angered by the segment in Schindler's statement which noted that new political efforts are underway "to disqualify two-thirds of world Jewry from membership in the Jewish people."

Responding to Schindler's statement, which appeared in the July 28 Daily News Bulletin, Sherer said that the Reform leader painted "a false picture about the consequences of this amendment" by failing to speak about "the single key issue at stake: how can one be converted from a non-Jew into a Jew." Sherer said that the proposed amendment "does not in the slightest" disqualify two-thirds of world Jewry from membership in the Jewish people.

"The truth is," Sherer stated, "that the amendment addressed itself only to non-Jews who sought to become Jews. It does not have the slightest effect on the status of anyone born as a Jew of a Jewish mother, who is considered a Jew in the fullest sense, regardless of whether he or she affiliates with any of the Reform or Conservative groupings."

These Jews, Sherer continued, "have the status of Jew in the fullest sense of the word." He urged that any dialogue on this question "stick to the pivotal issue: whether a non-Jew who seeks to be recognized as a Jew can simply join our ancient faith community through a non-halachic procedure, or whether, indeed halachic requirements must be met."

\*LONDON (JTA)--Greville Janner, the Anglo-Jewish leader and Member of Parliament, was involved in the contacts which led to King Hussein agreeing to meet Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Alignment in Israel, in London two weeks ago, it was learned. It was at a private dinner party given by Janner that former King Constantine of Greece, an old friend of Hussein, told Peres that such a meeting could be arranged. However, when Peres telephoned Israeli Premier Menachem Begin about it, the Israeli leader requested him not to see Hussein, who has so far refused to join in the peace initiative launched by Egypt and Israel. (By Maurice Samuelson)