

JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright. Republication only by previous arrangement

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency / 165 West 46th Street / New York, New York 10036

Vol. XLV - 61st Year

Monday, August 28, 1978

No. 167

POPE JOHN PAUL I SAID TO RESPECT THE JEWISH PEOPLE, JEWISH RELIGION

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA)--An American, who was the only rabbi to be present at Vatican II presided over by the last two Popes, said today that their successor, Pope John Paul I, "will be good for the Jews."

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national inter-religious affairs director of the American Jewish Committee, explained his remark by saying that the former Cardinal Albino Luciani "possesses the warm touch of Pope John XXIII and the practical wisdom of Pope Paul VI." The 65-year-old Luciani, who was Patriarch of Venice until his surprise election yesterday by his fellow Cardinals as the 263rd Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, selected a name that was apparently intended to signify he intended to continue the work of his two predecessors.

"In recent years as Cardinal of Venice, Pope John Paul made several statements in which he expressed his great respect for the Jewish people and the Jewish religion," Tanenbaum said. "It remains to be seen as to how he will translate his positive attitudes toward the Jewish community into policies toward Israel and, in particular, toward Jerusalem."

Tanenbaum noted that the AJ Committee looks forward to "an early opportunity for establishing a dialogue on all questions and particularly to promoting peace between Israel and her Arab neighbors."

AJ Committee president Richard Maass issued a statement today in which his organization extended "its cordial and fraternal greetings" to the new Pope. "In a world that is threatened by potential nuclear destruction and haunted by vast human needs of the poor and deprived, we pledge to cooperate with Pope John Paul, not only in promoting improved understanding between Catholics and Jews, but as well in advancing the cause of world peace, human rights and social justice," Maass said.

Israeli Delegation At Coronation

Meanwhile, it was announced in Jerusalem today that the director general of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Israeli Ambassador to Italy will be part of the Israeli delegation attending the coronation ceremony of the new Pope next Sunday. Israeli government officials said the delegation will be larger than previously because of the improved relations with the Vatican. Catholic officials in Jerusalem said they expected the new Pope to attempt to broaden the Jewish-Catholic dialogue.

Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said last night that he hopes Pope John Paul will recognize the State of Israel and put an end to the slaughter in Lebanon. "I hope the first step of the new Pope will be to deal justly with the Jewish nation by recognizing the State of Israel," Goren added.

The Pontiff, in an appearance before a crowd of 150,000 at St. Peter's Square today, in which he said he never expected to be elected Pope, stated he was thinking of strife-torn Leb-

anon. Pope John Paul, who has never been out of Italy, is expected to be a pastoral Pope rather than concentrate on ideological matters as did his two predecessors. He was born in the village of Borgo di Canale, in northeast Italy, where his father, a Socialist, was for years a migrant worker before he got a job as a glassblower in Venice.

He worked as a parish priest and then as a teacher on the local level and in a seminary. Pope John made him a Bishop and Pope Paul named him Patriarch of Venice in 1969. In Venice, he allowed the churches to sell their jewels and precious stones to help the poor. He refused to wear the customary precious ring that went with his office. But he also recommended disciplining priests who spoke out in favor of the Communist Party or other leftist groups.

JTA AT CAMP DAVID

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27 (JTA)--Joseph Polakoff, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Washington bureau chief, will be at Camp David to provide first-hand reports on the summit conference due to begin Sept. 6, where Israeli Premier Menachem Begin, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and President Carter will meet together for the first time.

ISRAEL WILL SEEK COMPREHENSIVE ACCORD WITH EGYPT AT CAMP DAVID

By Barbie Zelizer-Meyouhas

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA)--The Cabinet met today in its concluding session before the forthcoming Camp David session, and unanimously decided that the Israeli delegation will work towards achieving a comprehensive agreement with Egypt. No alternatives to Israel's peace plan will be submitted at the summit meeting.

Following the Cabinet session, Premier Menachem Begin told reporters that Israel's delegation to Camp David will work towards achieving a comprehensive agreement with Egypt, will present its peace plan to Egypt in the hopes of signing a peace treaty and will work towards the continuation of negotiations between the two parties. "I don't want to think of failure," said Begin about the summit. "We are going with good will and open-mindedness concerning all proposals submitted to us."

The 11-man delegation to the summit will include Begin, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister Ezer Weizman, as well as other specialists involved in the drafting of Israel's proposal, including Gen. Avraham Tamir, head of the army's planning branch, and Meir Rosenne, legal advisor at the Foreign Ministry.

Yadin Decides To Forego Summit

Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin will not be attending the summit, by his own decision, and will instead function as Acting Premier and Defense Minister during the absence of the two officials. Interior Minister Yosef Burg will be Acting Foreign Minister.

Yadin had announced his decision last night not to attend the Maryland conference, thus preventing a potential coalition crisis on the part of the National Religious Party (NRP) which demanded that either the delegation be limited to its "three

functional representatives" (Premier, Foreign Minister and Defense Minister) or that its faction representative, Burg, accompany Yadin to Camp David.

Yadin insisted that the decision to remain in Israel during the summit was his own, and that it was taken independently of NRP pressure on Begin. However, the fierce opposition displayed by the NRP to his inclusion in the delegation would have rendered government approval of it too great a risk to take. Thus, despite Begin's approval of Yadin in the Israeli Camp David delegation, it is assumed he decided against going in order to prevent a governmental vote opposing his inclusion in the delegation.

Yadin, meanwhile, noted in an Israel Radio interview, that Israeli is going to Camp David to discuss in depth Israel's peace plan for the first time with Egypt. He added that there will be no discussion of tactical steps to be taken by Israel or potential good will gestures on Israel's part. If such an issue does come up, he noted, it would have to be discussed at a later date in the Cabinet.

It was revealed that on Friday, Weizman told Begin that he preferred not to attend the Camp David summit, since his Egyptian counterpart, Gen. Mohammed Gamasy, is not planning to be present. Begin, however, declined to accept Weizman's offer and emphasized the importance of his attendance at the summit.

Begin met over the weekend with the American Ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis, who left today for the U.S. to prepare for the summit. Begin and Lewis discussed in depth the American government's latest evaluations concerning the meeting.

Yariv Warns Against Failure

Meanwhile, Gen. (Res.) Aharon Yariv, former intelligence chief and presently head of the Institute of Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, warned this weekend that unless Israel drives at some agreement with the Egyptians at the Camp David talks there is a possibility that the situation between Israel and Egypt could deteriorate to a point where war would loom on the horizon.

In an interview with Israel Radio, Yariv said he is hopeful that since Begin, Sadat and President Carter are keenly interested in having a successful summit conference, there will be greater motivation in overcoming difficulties and a better chance of agreeing on a declaration of principles that will enable Israel and Egypt to continue their negotiations.

In a related summit conference development, the opening date for the summit may be pushed up from Sept. 5 to Sept. 6 because President Anwar Sadat of Egypt will be in Paris on Sept. 5 conferring with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. According to French and Egyptian sources, Sadat, who will be arriving in Paris Sept. 4, wants to have a last-minute consultation with Giscard to ascertain whether Western Europe and especially the nine-member European Economic Community will support Egypt should the summit talks fail.

WESTERN DELEGATES WALK OUT OF UN CONFAB IN PROTEST AGAINST RESOLUTION ATTACKING ISRAEL

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Aug. 27 (JTA)--The nine mem-

bers of the European Economic Community (EEC), Canada, Australia and New Zealand walked out of the final session of the United Nations-sponsored World Conference to End Racism yesterday, in protest over the inclusion in the concluding resolution of statements attacking Israel for economic and military support of South Africa and charging it with racial discrimination against the Palestinians.

The document was adopted by an 88-4 vote with Austria, Sweden, Switzerland and Finland voting against it. San Marino and Malawi abstained. The United States and Israel had not participated in the two-week conference because it included the 1975 General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism.

The resolution, which was drafted by African delegates who were supported by the Arab and East European blocs who had earlier wanted a stronger condemnation of Israel, said the conference "proclaims its solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation and against racial discrimination."

West Germany, which spoke for the EEC countries, said they could not support a charge of racism against Israel. Bonn also stressed that the EEC had made it clear even before the conference started that it would participate only if irrelevant matters were not raised.

Israel Denounces Conference

The Israeli Mission to the UN here issued a statement calling the conference "a scandalous spectacle" in which a UN body "was manipulated by the Arab-communist coalition and became a captive audience to reckless anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic instigation." Israel said, "Medieval calumnies as well as falsifications taken lock, stock and barrel from the Nazi propaganda arsenal have been resurrected here" by countries such as Saudi Arabia, the Soviet Union, Uganda, Iraq, Syria and Libya.

"In the upside down world of the conference, these regimes, notorious for their callous disregard for humanity, have been allowed to put on the ill-fitting garments of the prosecutor," the Israeli statement said. "At the same time, Israel, the Zionist movement and the Jewish people--the eternal victims of racial hatred and bigotry--have been singled out for the hideous and grotesque charge of racial discrimination."

DAYAN IN OFFICIAL THREE-DAY VISIT TO PARIS AT THE END OF OCTOBER

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 27 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is due in Paris for an official three-day visit the last week in October. He will meet with President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and confer with Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud. Dayan will arrive in Paris from New York where he is scheduled to attend the United Nations General Assembly.

The French government hopes that the talks with Dayan will help settle the political differences with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's own official visit to France, which has not yet been set. French sources say that the Premier's visit to France will rank high on the agenda of the Dayan-Guiringaud talks.

France invited Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin to Paris in 1976 and extended this invitation to Begin shortly after his election. The Begin visit was delayed and then postponed because of Israel's dissatisfaction with the final communique to be issued at the conclusion of Begin's stay. The French hope

to overcome these obstacles during Dayan's visit and fix a definite date for Begin's arrival in France.

ANOTHER ROW OVER THE SETTLEMENTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA)--A proposal to the Cabinet by Prof. Raanan Weitz, co-chairman of the World Zionist Organization's settlement department, for 31 new Jewish settlements in occupied territory has been returned to him with a formal statement that only Cabinet ministers can propose plans for Cabinet discussion.

But observers here noted that the rapid rejection of the 20 copies of the Weitz plan was undoubtedly connected with the basic political assumption behind the plan, the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Weitz's plan encountered bitter comments also among his own colleagues in the Labor Party. Several Laborites, notably veteran Mordechai Surkiss, have already asked party chairman Shimon Peres to take back Weitz's mandate as Labor's representative on the WZO.

Weitz's plans, which were sent last week to Cabinet ministers and WZO-Jewish Agency Executive members, said a Palestinian state should not be ruled out as long as Israel is allowed to maintain densely populated buffer zones along the Jordan Valley and the Yamit area. Weitz suggested establishing another 17 settlements in the Jordan Valley within the next five years, in addition to the existing 21 settlements. He also suggested another 14 settlements in the Rafah Salient.

Weitz Tries To Clarify Position

In an interview on Israel Radio, Weitz said over the weekend that the buffer zones would assure Israel that the territory earmarked for a Palestinian state would be kept demilitarized. "This would enable Israel not to annex the West Bank, and yet at the same time accept the Arab demand for recognition of their self-determination right," he said.

Weitz said that in return for the Israeli recognition of their right of self-determination, the Palestinians would recognize Israel's right to have the West Bank and the Rafah Salient demilitarized. The Palestinian state would be totally sovereign, except that it would not be permitted to keep an independent army or buy arms. "If we sit along the eastern line, no Palestinian state will be able to use the territories as a jumping board for attacking us," Weitz explained.

He rejected as a total mistake any further Jewish settlements in a densely populated Arab territory, saying Israel should concentrate its settlement efforts in the Galilee, Jerusalem and in the security buffer zones. He said the Gush Emini settlements were just a "collection of episodes." The deliberate mixing of populations would lead to further bloodshed, such as in Ireland and Lebanon, he said.

Peres Rejects Settlements Plan

Peres declared that the Labor Party rejected the plan strongly. "The Alignment refuses to allow any additional Palestinian state west of the Jordan River," Peres said. "Weitz is wrong when he says that the Arabs will never settle for less than a Palestinian state, and those who pre-

tend to speak for the Palestinians will not be satisfied with Weitz's ideas. Weitz's settlement plans were not discussed at any forum of the Labor Party," Peres said.

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the WZO/Jewish Agency Executives, also said the plan was Weitz's own idea and that the WZO Executive had never discussed the plan. Yisrael Galili, former chairman of the Ministerial Settlement Committee under the Labor Party government, said now was not the time--just before Camp David--for a public discussion of settlements plans. But, he added, it was the time to express repeated opposition to a Palestinian state.

Reacting, Weitz said he deliberately issued the publication of his plans prior to Camp David. "I believe that we are approaching a crossroad and now is the time to say clearly whatever we have to say."

KORFF GROUP PROMOTES TRAINING IN CONGRESS FOR ARABS, ISRAELIS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27 (JTA)--The U.S. Citizens Congress Education Foundation, an ultra-conservative group founded by Rabbi Baruch Korff of Rehoboth, Mass., is conducting a congressional internship program that is open to students from Israel, Iran and four Arab countries--Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

According to the Foundation's executive director, Barry Cooperstein of Taunton, Mass., the program is designed to place students for periods of six to nine months in jobs at the Capitol. The Foundation's scholarship fund pays part of their expenses, he said, but none of them is compensated in any way by the U.S. government. Cooperstein has directed the Foundation since it was organized in December, 1976.

Two Iranians have completed their training period. One served under the aegis of Rep. James R. Mann (D.-SC) and the other worked in a research capacity for the Senate Republic Steering Committee at the suggestion of Sen. James McClure (R. Id.).

At present, two Egyptians are in training. Mohammed Shebl is on the staff of Sen. Orrin G. Hatch (R. Utah) and Omar Said is supervised by Dr. Daniel R. Cloutier, director of research for the Senate Republican Conference of which Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R. Neb.) is chairman.

The interns' duties, according to the Foundation's publication, include participation in the "full range of staff activities, from monitoring hearings and specific legislative proposals, to conducting research projects and handling correspondence." They have opportunities, it said, to meet leaders of the House and Senate and top government officials.

Korff, who is honorary president of the U.S. Citizens Congress which he also founded and contributed to Richard Nixon's financial support after his resignation from the Presidency, was the guest of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat last December in Cairo. He initiated the internships after meeting with Egyptian officials here early last winter. Both the Congress and the Foundation have their offices in Washington.

"It is the intention of the Foundation not only to facilitate the learning process of the intern but also to motivate him in the pursuit of those components essential to good government and domestic stability," Cooperstein said. "This should ultimately benefit the intern's native country and its future relationship with the United States and its neighbors." Cooperstein said he expects interns from the other four countries to come here in the next two months.

TERRORIST BLAST AVERTED

By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA)--A major disaster was averted here this morning when the driver of an oil tanker truck discovered an explosive charge attached to the rear of his vehicle moments before he began to fill the tanker with fuel at the oil terminal yard at the Givat Shaul section of Jerusalem.

The driver managed to remove the charge to an open field some distance from the yard and ran back to call the police. Minutes later, just before a police sapper arrived, the charge exploded in the field without causing any damage. Police began an investigation of where the truck had been parked during the night and of the route the driver had taken to the oil terminal.

Police credited the driver with averting a major disaster. A number of tankers were lined up in the yard waiting to be refueled. Had the charge gone undetected the area would have been turned into a blazing inferno, police said.

Several Attempts Over The Weekend

This morning's terrorist sabotage attempt was one of several over the weekend and the 20th incident in Israel in the past two weeks where the alertness of a person averted a tragedy. On Friday, a man noticed a suspicious parcel tied under a taxi parked near the Plaza Hotel in East Jerusalem. The bomb inside the package was dismantled before it exploded.

Thursday night a vegetable vendor in the Rehovot vegetable market spotted a suspicious parcel near his stand and called the police. The area was evacuated and a police sapper dismantled the bomb. Also Thursday night, an explosive charge attached to the undercarriage of a bus went off in the Talpott section of Jerusalem. The vehicle was damaged, but there were no casualties. The bus, which operates along a route that passes through the East Jerusalem area, was parked near the driver's home.

In another incident, a Katyusha rocket was fired at Kiryat Arba near Hebron. The rocket exploded but caused neither damage nor casualties. Security forces searching the area found a rocket launcher at a site near Kiryat Arba. A number of suspects were detained.

Meanwhile, police and army units are continuing their search for two men who were seen boarding a taxi in Nablus Friday afternoon carrying a suspicious-looking parcel. Police were called but before they arrived the taxi disappeared in the direction of Kalkilya where it was found deserted a few hours later. A search was conducted for the two men in Kalkilya and in the nearby refugee camps.

Warns Of Other Terrorist Attempts

Police, who continued today to warn the public to report any suspicious objects, said that according to intelligence reports terrorists would try to carry out sabotage attempts on a grand scale during the days leading up to the Camp David summit talks. Arye Ivtzan, commander of the southern police force, convened a meeting of senior officers to discuss ways to prevent further sabotage.

"It is very largely thanks to the alertness of the public that terrorists were prevented from succeeding in their deadly missions," Ivtzan said. The police are concentrating their efforts on ad-

vising shop keepers, market vendors, bus drivers and civil servants how to detect suspicious objects.

DUTCH WAR CRIMINAL ARRESTED

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 27 (JTA)--Jan Kruyer, a Dutch war criminal, who has been in hiding in West Germany for more than 25 years, was arrested Friday by a Dutch customs inspector as he tried to enter the country at The Netherlands-West German border town of Venlo. The arrest followed a tip to the authorities by a Dutch reporter.

Kruyer, 62, had been sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by a Dutch de-Nazification court in 1947 for having taken part as a member of an SS commando group in the killing of numerous Dutch citizens in reprisal for the deaths of Germans by members of Dutch resistance groups. Kruyer, who had been active in the province of Groningen in the northeast part of Holland, was serving his prison sentence near the West German border when in 1952 he managed to escape over the border. Kruyer is the first of four wanted war criminals who had been hiding in West Germany to be captured by Dutch authorities. The other three, who had also been active in the Groningen province, are Siert Bruins, Wilhelm Bos and Jan Haje Klimp.

ISRAELI DOCTOR INVITED TO CAIRO CONFAB

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA)--An Israeli gynecologist has been invited to an international gynecological conference to be held in Cairo at year's end, it was revealed today. Dr. Yoram Diamand, practicing physician at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital, today received official confirmation of his invitation from the Egyptian government through the International Organization of Gynecologists, centered in Switzerland. The conference will be held under the sponsorship of Jihan Sadat, President Anwar Sadat's wife.

In its communique to Diamand, the gynecologists organization called on Israel to send additional researchers to the conference, noting that Egypt had not placed any limitation on the number of Israelis attending the conclave.

PHILIP BEN DEAD AT 65

TEL AVIV, Aug. 27 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here today for Philip Ben, a well-known journalist who died here Friday at the age of 65 after suffering a heart attack. For many years he was the United States correspondent for Maariv and a roving correspondent for Le Monde. Most of his years in the U.S. were spent covering the United Nations in New York.

Ben, whose real name was Norbert Niswiski, was born in Lodz. He became a journalist in Poland before World War II and when the war broke out he was recruited into the army where he published the army newspaper. In 1943 he arrived in Palestine with the Polish regiment. He remained there and worked for Haaretz and Yediot Achronot. When Maariv was founded he joined its staff. A few months ago Ben returned to Israel to arrange for his retirement but became ill and was hospitalized most of the time until his death.

VIENNA (JTA)--A rally scheduled for Friday by the Austrian neo-Nazi organization, Aktion Neue Rechte, was prohibited by authorities Thursday, following the arrest of five ANR members Wednesday night.

ATTENTION: There will be no Bulletin dated Sept. 4 due to Labor Day, a postal holiday.