

# JTA daily news bulletin

Contents copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement.

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

Vol. XLV - 61st Year

Thursday, September 14, 1978

No. 179

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA SUMMIT APPEARS TO BE MOVING TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION: TRILATERAL JOINT STATEMENT EXPECTED MOMENTARILY By David Landau

THURMONT, Md., Sept. 13 (JTA)--The Camp David summit appeared to be moving toward a successful conclusion, with Israel and Egypt expected to agree by late tomorrow on the continuation of peace negotiations and also to a statement specifying new areas of understanding. Informed conference sources told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency late today that there was "good reason to hope" for this favorable outcome and indicated American, Israeli and Egyptian officials were working on the text of a joint statement.

According to some informed predictions the three foreign ministers will jointly make the statement public, possibly tomorrow. The three heads of government may then appear jointly on television.

The favorable outcome of the summit was the result of an intensive effort this week by President Carter to persuade both Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat of the merits of American compromise proposals on some of the disputed issues. The conference sources indicated to the JTA that the expected statement would by no means signal agreement on all the key questions. But it certainly did mean that some of the issues had been thrashed out through a commonly accepted conclusion.

Thus, the Camp David summit may very well succeed beyond the minimal hopes voiced before it began by Begin who spoke in terms of an agreement merely to continue negotiations. There is agreement on that--and also on matters of substance.

Begin is understood to have made significant concessions in the known Israeli positions; the U.S. delegation is understood to have steered Israel and Egypt around some of the controversial concepts--such as "sovereignty"--which have proved to be stumbling blocks in the past. Dan Patir, spokesman for Begin, told the JTA today that the Israeli delegation was "working for and hoping for" this successful outcome and he noted that all three delegations "were making efforts" to achieve it.

## SUMMIT APPROACHING THE FINAL STAGES WITH ACTIVE CONSULTATIONS AND INTENSE SPECIFIC WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSIONS By Joseph Polakoff

THURMONT, Md., Sept. 13 (JTA)--Presidential Press Secretary Jody Powell said today that the Camp David summit conference "obviously" is "approaching the final stages." He said that was his "judgement." But he cautioned newsmen, at his regular press briefing this afternoon, that there is "no basis of informed speculation on the final outcome" of the conference, now in its eighth day, and repeated that he does not know when it will be concluded.

He said the discussions over the "past several days" have been "intense, specific and

wide-ranging." He said the process, since Sunday, was one of "active consultations" and "we are basically in a situation now" where "the question" for both the conferees and the media is "what fruit will they (the discussions) bear."

He reported that President Carter met with Israeli Premier Menachem Begin for 80 minutes last night in the President's quarters at Aspen Lodge and that members of all three delegations are engaged in a series of meetings within their own groups or with other delegations. But Powell emphasized that "it is not possible to speculate" on the results "in an informed manner."

Powell was pressed to explain why there has been no trilateral meeting between Carter, Begin and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt since last Thursday. He replied that "When it seems appropriate in the flow of business, they will do so." He added that "without doubt" Carter, Begin and Sadat "will meet again." He said the delegations have begun exchanging drafts in writing but pointed out that "the reduction of thoughts to paper has been going on since the beginning of this week." However, the nature of the papers, to whom they are being presented and what points they cover, have not been disclosed.

Asked if Carter had telephoned King Hussein of Jordan, Powell said "To my knowledge he has not." He said he would reply later to a question as to whether Sadat has spoken to Hussein since his telephone conversation with the Jordanian ruler in London last Sunday. But when asked if Jordan's involvement is such that the summit can be regarded as a four-way conference, Powell said he had no information about Jordanian involvement apart from the Sadat-Hussein conversation.

## Conflicting Appraisals Of Developments

When reporters asked if one or more "vital areas" still need to be settled, the White House spokesman replied, "draw your own conclusions." In fact, there were conflicting appraisals of developments at the summit conference today. Expectations appeared in some quarters that the principles are approaching an agreement that might be announced before the end of the week although Powell replied "no" when asked if the principals were making an effort toward drafting a final statement.

In other quarters, however, doubts were expressed that an agreement was anywhere in sight. Carter's meeting with Begin last night was described by Israeli sources as "a good, friendly meeting." It followed a session between Carter and Sadat yesterday morning which led to speculation that Israel had proposed a compromise formula that was under consideration by Egypt.

Powell's assertion yesterday that there was "flexibility on both sides" further supported an optimistic outlook. Begin's press advisor, Dan Patir, told an Israel Radio reporter that gloomy reports from Camp David carried by the Egyptian media were "exaggerated."

But reports circulated in other quarters that Carter is preparing a unilateral statement to explain why his efforts have not succeeded in bridging the Israeli-Arab differences. Carter has speaking engagements over the weekend. But Powell said that schedule would be reconsidered should the summit conference continue into the weekend. Nevertheless,

there was growing speculation that the conference may end by tomorrow night.

That prediction was offered by Sen. Richard Stone (D. Fla.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's subcommittee on the Middle East, who spoke to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency during the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra's concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington last night and was repeated by sources here today.

Stone acknowledged that he had no direct access to the Camp David proceedings. But he predicted that an agreement would be reached there, on the basis of an Israeli formula, and would be announced tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow night. He said he based this on the "feeling" that Begin and Sadat will "work out" an agreement because they and Carter have "too much at stake not to make tangible progress."

#### AMIT RESIGNS FROM GOVERNMENT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 13 (JTA)--Meir Amit, the Minister of Transportation and Communications, resigned from the government today to serve as a leader of a new political group that has broken away from the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC). Amit informed Premier Menachem Begin of his resignation in a telephone call to Camp David where Begin is attending the summit conference.

The new group, known as Shai--an acronym for Shinooy (change) and Yozma (initiative)--will hold its first council meeting tomorrow. Under an agreement between Amnon Rubinstein, leader of the dissenters and Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin, the DMC which Yadin founded more than a year ago to be a new force in Israeli politics will cease to exist as of tomorrow.

Of the DMC's 15 Knesset members, seven, including Rubinstein, will form the nucleus of the new faction which will not be a member of Begin's coalition government. Six MKs will remain with Yadin, and one, Assaf Yaguri, is expected to declare himself a one-man Knesset faction but will continue to support the coalition.

#### Begin's Knesset Majority Reduced

The break-up of the DMC will reduce Begin's Knesset majority from 76 to 69 seats, still a comfortable margin. Amit, former head of the Histadrut-owned Koor Industries, quit the Labor Party before the 1977 elections to join with Yadin and Rubinstein in the DMC leadership.

In his letter of resignation, submitted to the Cabinet secretary, Arye Nqr today, Amit said his new party "believes in an active and flexible foreign policy." He noted that as a Cabinet member he had fundamental differences with the majority of ministers. A principal difference was his belief that Israel's policy on the issue of the occupied territories should be based solely on security needs, Amit wrote, implying that the majority of his colleagues had leaned toward Begin's insistence that the West Bank and Gaza belonged to Israel by historic and Biblical right. Amit said in his letter that under the circumstances he could not continue to serve as a minister.

In a radio interview today, he said Begin told him he regretted his move but understood the reasons for it. "It was an expected move which expresses a reality that must be understood by the public," Amit said. His resignation has created certain legal problems. Under the law, when a

minister resigns his powers automatically revert to the Premier. As Begin is out of the country, he will have to designate a temporary replacement for the Transport Minister.

#### 50 RIGHTEOUS GENTILES RECEIVE AWARDS

By Henriette Boas

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 13 (JTA)--More than 50 Dutch Righteous Gentiles received Yod Vashem awards from Shlomo Argov, Israel's Ambassador to The Hague, in a solemn ceremony Monday in Amsterdam. It was the tenth ceremony of this kind here. The awards were given for having hidden or helped Jews during the Nazi occupation of Holland. The recipients came from all parts of the country. Several were accompanied by one or more of the Jews whom they had saved.

Argov recalled that the Dutch men and women who had helped the Jews at their own peril, provided an example of humanity in a world which had been largely devoid of that quality. Not only had the Nazis been determined to exterminate the Jews of Europe but the Allies had done very little to save them, he said. This, Argov added, should be a lesson for the present and the future of the State of Israel.

"We can never be confident again that anyone else will guarantee us or protect us against another attack against the Jewish people," the envoy declared. He referred specifically to the propaganda campaign being waged currently against Israel, its government and its people, by comparing them with the Nazis.

The ceremony was also addressed by Amsterdam Mayor Willem Polak, himself a survivor of the Nazi occupation; Dr. Emmanuel Wikler, vice-president of the Ashkenazi Community Council; and Elisabeth Hags, Undersecretary of the Justice Ministry. Those attending the gathering included representatives of former Dutch resistance groups, rabbis and members of the First International Jewish Women's Conference, who had spent three days in Amsterdam studying the effects of the Holocaust on the Dutch Jewish community. More than 100,000 Dutch Jews were victims of the Holocaust.

The Conference, jointly sponsored by the Women's Divisions of the National United Jewish Appeal and Keren Hayesod, comprised some 200 women from 13 countries. The group left shortly after the ceremony for Israel where they will spend a week focusing on "Project Renewal," the \$1.2-billion social plan sponsored by world Jewry to reabsorb 45,000 poor immigrant families into the mainstream of Israeli society.

During their visit here, the Conference participants visited the Anne Frank House and the "Hollandsche Showburg," which served as a transportation center for Amsterdam Jews after being rounded up during the Nazi occupation. They also visited the famous 17th Century Sephardi Synagogue and the Jewish Historical Museum. Friday evening the group attended the Liberal Jewish Synagogue.

In addition, the participants attended a symposium on the psychological impact of the Holocaust which was addressed by two Dutch Jewish experts on this subject. They were also received at The Hague by the new American Ambassador to Holland, Mrs. Gery Joseph, and also visited the Liberal Jewish Synagogue there.

#### ROUSING OVATION FOR ISRAELI ORCHESTRA

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (JTA)--The Israel

Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Zubin Mehta and with Daniel Barenboim performing Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, received rousing ovations from a capacity audience at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts last night.

The 110-member orchestra, in the concluding stages of its two-month tour abroad in celebration of Israel's 30th anniversary, will perform again at the Kennedy Center Saturday night under the direction of Leonard Bernstein and then finish its tour with a concert Sunday night at Carnegie Hall in New York again under Bernstein's direction.

The orchestra opened the tour with a series of 10 concerts in Mexico City in August as part of Mexico's Cervantes Festival. It then performed in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Curitiba in Brazil from where they went to Montreal and Toronto.

A possibility had existed that the principals at the Middle East summit conference at Camp David, 60 miles away, would attend last night's concert. Israeli Premier Menachem Begin had invited President Carter and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to attend, but none could come.

Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, who was the concert's patron, also was unable to attend, being confined to the political conference along with other members of the three delegations. His wife, Mrs. Vivian Dinitz, was hostess at a reception following the concert, which was attended by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and his wife, former Undersecretary of State Joseph Sisco, who is now President of American University, Sens. Jacob K. Javits (R. NY) and Richard Stone (D. Fla.).

#### REPORT SOVIET, LIBYAN EXPERTS TRAINING PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Sept. 13 (JTA)--Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eytan reportedly told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee yesterday that Soviet and Libyan military experts are training Palestinians in Lebanon in the use of sophisticated weaponry. Eytan's briefing was closed to the press: The reports of it that appeared in local newspapers this morning confirmed that the Knesset committee is prone to leaks. Gen. Eytan cited that situation to justify his refusal to inform the MKs of Israeli plans to deal with the situation in Lebanon.

The Chief of Staff reportedly expressed concern over Syrian intentions in Lebanon. He said these were not known and not predictable but evidently were part of an overall plan that proceeded regardless of such diplomatic activity as President Hafez Assad's official visit to West Germany this week.

Eytan reportedly said that Syrian artillery in Lebanon is within range of large Israeli settlements but refused to reply to questions about possible Israeli counter-measures on grounds of leakage. With respect to the Russian and Libyan presence, he reportedly said that the training of Palestinians was being conducted on the brigade level and that the Palestinians were also being trained in Libya.

Meanwhile, it was apparent that the Lebanese central government in Beirut is unable to exercise authority in south Lebanon. A heavy artillery duel took place yesterday morning between terrorists and the Christian militia in the south. Israeli sources said that terrorist strength in south Lebanon is now at about the same level as it was before the Israeli invasion of that ter-

ritory last March, despite the presence of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The terrorists and the Christian militia exchanged artillery fire over the heads of the UNIFIL troops, mainly in the eastern sector of south Lebanon just north of the Israeli town of Metullah.

#### ISRAEL BOND CONFAB SET FOR WEEKEND

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (JTA)--A wide-ranging and intensive campaign to marshal economic aid for Israel will be mapped at the 1978 Fall International Leadership Conference of Israel Bonds, to be held tomorrow to Sunday at the Washington-Hilton Hotel in Washington, it was announced here today. Close to 1000 Jewish leaders from 50 communities in the United States and Canada will create new programs and extend ongoing activities to produce the largest possible outpouring of bond sales to support the economy and continue to build the infrastructure of Israel.

Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israel Bond Organization who will preside at the key sessions of the conference, said that a major responsibility of the conference would be to assure the successful mobilization of American and Canadian synagogues to conduct High Holy Day appeals in behalf of Israel Bonds. Rosh Hashanah begins sundown, Oct. 1. Presently, 1200 synagogues are scheduled to hold High Holy Day Bond appeals.

The delegates to the conference are scheduled to be addressed by Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.), Ambassador Simcha Dinitz of Israel, and Dr. Zvi Elinstein, Israel's Economic Minister to the Western Hemisphere. A progress report on the 1978 Bond campaign will be given by Michael Arnan, president and chief executive officer of the Israel Bond Organization.

#### ISRAEL TV SCREENS 'HOLOCAUST'

JERUSALEM, Sept. 13 (JTA)--The Israel Broadcasting Authority has taken extensive measures to ease potential severe psychological distress among viewers, caused by the present showing of the American NBC-TV mini-series "Holocaust" on Israel television. The Authority has four psychologists in the studio to answer telephone calls from viewers distressed by the program. It opened a special telephone exchange for such viewers.

The Authority's decision to take such measures came after the recent suicide of a woman in London following the showing of the program on British television.

"We didn't want an unauthorized person or secretary to answer such telephone calls. Rather, we wanted people who can help and assist," Mordechai Kirschenbaum, director of programming, explained.

However, the measures taken far exceeded what was needed. After the showing of one part, only five viewers called, and none was in need of psychological assistance.

Israel's educational television network, meanwhile, interviewed historians and experts of the Holocaust period rather than psychologists. It also opened a telephone switchboard to answer calls on the subject, which received 54 calls. The viewers expressed both praise and criticism of the series.

Only one-fourth of the calls were from viewers under the age of 20. Two-thirds were native-born Israelis and from Eastern European backgrounds, while one-third was of Asian or African background.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--The anti-Shah uprising in Iran has cost the life of at least one Jew there, it was reported here. A Jewish scholar was murdered in the town of Mashad. No details were available.

## CONDITIONS IN VLADIMIR PRISON WHERE SHCHARANSKY WILL BE FOR 3 YEARS

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (JTA)--Anatoly Shcharansky will spend the next three years of his life in Vladimir Prison, which is described by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry as "the most notorious" jail in the Soviet Union. If he survives that ordeal he will be sent to a harsh labor camp for another 10 years.

The Soviet Jewish activist was sentenced July 14 on a charge of treason to three-years in prison and 10 years in a "strict regime" labor camp. The SSSJ today released what it termed "a chilling insight into Vladimir Prison's daily routine," which was provided by Vladimir Bukovsky, a recent inmate of that prison who is now in the West. According to the release, Bukovsky wrote:

"The normal cells in Vladimir have iron screens on the window so no ray of light can penetrate into the room. The cells are of different size: some have three men, some five, and some 10 in the same cell, locked up throughout the day except for a half hour for exercise. Exercise takes place in a small courtyard, like a room without a roof. Only those in the same cell may exercise together.

"The walls of the cell are made of rough concrete so they cannot be written on, and are damp. There is a heating system but part of the punishment is to keep it deliberately low, even in winter. The guards shove food through a trap door. Some cells have no toilet, only a bucket or just a hole in the floor. All the stench from the sewage system returns to the cells, which have no proper ventilation system.

### Horror Of Solitary Confinement

"Conditions are worse in the punishment cells. You are kept in solitary confinement in a room about 2-1/2 square meters. The only light is from a small bulb in a deep niche in the ceiling. At night you sleep on wooden boards raised a few inches from the ground with no mattress or blankets or pillow. You are forbidden warm clothing.

"Often there is no heating at all in winter. It is so cold you can't sleep at all, and have to keep jumping up and run around your cell to keep warm. At 6 a.m. your wooden bed is removed and there is nothing for you to do the rest of the day--no newspaper, books, pen, pencil or paper--nothing.

"In solitary, prisoners get a specially reduced diet. This happened to me in Vladimir in 1976 after (Soviet President Leonid) Brezhnev had signed the Helsinki Agreement. On alternate days I had nothing to eat or drink except a small piece of coarse black bread and some hot water. On the other days I had two meals--in the middle of the day some watery soup with a few cabbage leaves, some grains of barley, sometimes two or three potatoes, which were black and bad. In the evening I had gruel made from oatmeal or some other cereal, a piece of bread and several little fish, which were rotten and however hungry I was I couldn't eat them.

### Diseases Are Widespread

"The appalling conditions in Vladimir means that almost everyone there suffers from stomach ulcers, liver and kidney diseases, or heart and vascular diseases. You are allowed to send out

one letter a month but the prison authorities can deprive you of that right. If prisoners try to describe their state or health or the lack of medical help in prison, their letters are confiscated.

"Essential medicines are often not available. For example, they have no blood bank. I remember a man named Kurki who had a perforated ulcer and died. There was no blood available for a transfusion. He lay bleeding for 24 hours and then expired."

## 12 YOUNG U.S. JEWS TO LIVE, WORK IN ARAB VILLAGES, JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN ISRAEL IN 'INTERNS FOR PEACE' PROGRAM By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (JTA)--After more than two years of preparations, 12 young American Jewish men and women will leave for Israel next month to begin their two-and-a-half year internship of living and working in Arab villages and Jewish communities in the Haifa district. The program, called Interns for Peace, was conceived by a group of Israeli Arabs and Jews who have been active in the field of Arab-Jewish relations in Israel.

The 12 members of the group, who are mostly in their early twenties, met yesterday in New York to discuss and arrange the last details of their mission. According to Rabbi Bruce Cohen, the director of the program, the project will start next month with a six-month training period on Kibbutz Barkai. "During their two-year internship, the interns will live in rural Israeli Arab villages, and later on in Jewish communities," Cohen said. The interns, Cohen added, will initiate or strengthen programs in pre-natal care, pre-school child care, child development, adolescent recreation, pre-college preparation, geriatrics care and community development.

The program is aimed at achieving further cooperation and understanding between the Jewish and Arab communities of Israel, to advance the chances of peace in the Mideast, Cohen said.

According to Cohen, the program is "an independent human relations program" and is not affiliated with any political party and platform. The program, however, received assistance in Israel from Mapam's Kibbutz Artzi and its Arab-Jewish Center of Givat Haviva, and the Menashe Regional College in conjunction with Haifa University.

### Claims Many Support Program

Cohen said that outside of Israel the Interns for Peace program has received endorsement and support from many groups and individuals, including the Central Conference of American Rabbis, National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, Jewish Peace Fellowship, Philip M. Klutznick, president of the World Jewish Congress, and Prof. Allen Pollack, member of the World Zionist Organization Executive.

Among those listed on the program's North American Advisory Committee, for identification purposes only, are: Muriel Berman, director of social action, United Synagogue of America; Rabbi Balfour Brickner, executive director, New York Federation of Reform Synagogues; Victor Carter, Los Angeles; Arnold Forster, general counsel, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Jacqueline Levine, West Orange, N. J.; Rabbi Stanley Rabino-witz, immediate past president, Rabbinical Assembly; and Albert Vorspan, executive vice-president, Union of American Hebrew Congregations.