

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## FORD OFFERS TO HELP FURTHER EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE PROCESS

Optimistic About Success of Peace Talks  
By Gil Sedan and Yitzhak Shargil

JERUSALEM, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Former President Gerald Ford, here with Mrs. Ford on a private visit, stressed last night that "The special relationship between Israel and the U.S. must remain unbroken" and promised "to help in any way I can" as a private American citizen, to further the peace process between Israel and Egypt.

The Fords arrived at Ben Gurion Airport yesterday from Cairo where the former President had meetings with President Anwar Sadat and other Egyptian officials. He met with Premier Menachem Begin last night and, according to press reports, expressed optimism for the eventual success of Israeli-Egyptian peace negotiations. He reportedly based his optimism on his conversations with Sadat who was said to have expressed concern over developments in the region, especially in Iran and stressed the need to conclude a peace treaty with Israel in the near future.

Ford met with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan for breakfast this morning at the King David Hotel where they were joined by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. Dayan would not disclose the details of their conversation but indicated that it covered the Middle East situation. He described the former President as "quite knowledgeable about developments in the Arab countries."

Last night Ford was awarded an honorary Ph.D. degree by the Hebrew University for his "outstanding contributions to his country, to Israel and the world at large." Responding to the warm words of welcome by Hebrew University president Avraham Harman, Ford declared that democratic societies have a special responsibility to stay together and work together. "The special relationship between Israel and the U.S. must remain unbroken, must be strengthened, fortified and, I believe it will be so in the future as it was in the past," he said.

## Failure Will Please Russians

Later, at a dinner in his honor hosted by Begin, Ford said: "If the current peace negotiations prove successful, then the Israelis, the American Jews and the moderate Arabs will rejoice. If the negotiations fail, then the Russians and the extremist Arabs will rejoice. If you look at it that way, then there is only one thing to say: I do not want to please the Russians and the extremists." Former Premier Yitzhak Rabin was among the 60 invited guests. He and Ford greeted each other as old friends. Rabin was Israel's Ambassador to Washington and got to know Ford well.

The former President and Mrs. Ford were greeted at the airport yesterday by Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir on behalf of the government and by Rabin, now a Labor MK. Thanking Tamir for his words of welcome, Ford said:

"I come as a private citizen but I come as an individual whose record shows, I believe, the desire on my part to help in any way I can to make constructive headway in the long, controversial and difficult issue in the Middle East. We seek peace and security, peace with justice, and if I, as

a private citizen, can find any way that I can be helpful in an unofficial way, you can rest assured that I'll do all I possibly can."

Last night Ford took time out between formal receptions to visit the Jerusalem television studios where he watched a satellite broadcast of the Super Bowl game in Miami. This morning, he and Mrs. Ford were conducted on a tour of East and West Jerusalem by Mayor Teddy Kollek. They visited the Yad Vashem, Herzl's grave and the grave of Premier Golda Meir. Ford recalled his several meetings with Mrs. Meir: "This is an opportunity to pay tribute to what she did for Israel and for humanity in general," he said. The Fords will visit Saudi Arabia and Syria after leaving Israel.

## KHOUMEINI SAYS JEWS WILL ENJOY ALL RIGHTS IN IRANIAN-ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the 78-year-old Shi'ite leader who is believed to be emerging as Iran's new ruler, said today that Jews will "enjoy all rights and full religious freedom" in an Iranian Islamic republic. Khomeini, who was addressing his followers at his villa at Neauphle-le-Chateau 25 miles from Paris, said that an Islamic republic "would mean for the Jews a return to the days of the emirs, when all men were equal and justice reigned." (See Related Story.)

The Ayatollah, who was speaking in Persian, continued by saying: "In those days, a Persian Jew lodged a complaint with the kadi (Moslem judge) against the emir himself. The kadi called on both men, the Jewish tradesman and the ruler, to appear before him. After questioning them he ruled in favor of the Jew and ordered the emir to pay him damages and a fine."

Khomeini, who according to close aides has been shocked to hear that he is being charged with anti-Semitism, concluded: "shortly the Islamic republic of Iran will become a reality and all its citizens, Jews, Christians and Moslems will enjoy equal rights." The Ayatollah added: "those who say that Jews will be discriminated against under our rule are enemies of the Iranian people — foreigners who support the Shah."

His aides later confirmed that Jews will enjoy equal rights but added that as far as Israel is concerned "not a single drop of oil will be shipped" as long as peace with the Arab states is not signed and the Palestinian refugees allowed to return to their homes.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA

## KHOUMEINI'S AIDES SAY THE 'NEW IRAN' MIGHT RENEW LINKS WITH ISRAEL

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Jan. 22 (JTA) — Close advisers to the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini said here they were neither anti-Israeli nor anti-Jewish and that the "New Iran" might even renew at some future date some of its former links with Israel.

They told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israel will have to fulfill, however, three basic conditions first: sign a peace treaty with the Arab states, allow the Palestinian refugees to return to their former homes, and return the Moslem holy

places in Jerusalem to "Islamic rule."

The men around the Ayatollah, who serve as his advisers and public relations men, told JTA that if these conditions are met, which they described as "minimal," a future Iranian government under Khomeini's inspiration might even resume its oil shipments to the Jewish State.

"We are not against Israel or against the Jews," they said. "On the contrary, our holy books teach us that we should live in peace, like brothers, with all men. Our holy man (Khomeini) is a man of peace and brotherly love. He is opposed to any form of violence but he wants justice, justice for all and this includes our Palestinian brothers."

Some of the Ayatollah's lesser advisers stressed that they also expect Israel to "punish" those Israelis who, they claim, had helped set up the Shah's political police, the Savak, and assisted him in running it. "We have complete files with all the pertinent details on the Israelis who cooperated with the Savak. We want the Israeli government to try and punish them for their crimes against humanity" say some of these exiled Iranians.

All these comments and declarations express more a mood and a trend among Khomeini's followers than a clear-cut policy as Khomeini's headquarters in the small village of Neauphle-le-Chateau, 40 kilometers southwest from Paris, resemble neither an administration, even embryonic, nor a government, even in the making.

**Atmosphere At Khomeini's Headquarters**

Two small cottages and a striped blue and white tent used for prayers and for larger meetings are off the main highway running from Paris to Chartres. The Ayatollah resides in one of the cottages, which contains four rooms, a kitchen and bath and his main offices. He is rarely alone except when he walks along the snow-covered path to attend the five daily religious services which take place in the tent. Even during occasional interviews with the press, he generally listens and nods his head while letting one of his advisers do the actual answering.

Most of his time is spent listening to the reports which pour in from Iran, meeting envoys of the various Iranian political parties or dictating his instructions over the telephone. It is difficult to believe the power which he wields, as one watches the short, old man in his grey flowing robe and black turban sitting on the often wet floor of a working class bungalow. And yet, his slightest words succeed in making millions of Iranians move, demonstrate and face death with a certain equanimity.

In the main courtyard, off the tent, hundreds of Iranians, students, intellectuals, workers, exiled ministers and would-be political leaders wait. The mood there is openly anti-Israeli and generally anti-Jewish. Most of these people blame Israel for having supported the Shah and his police and blame the Iranian Jews for having profited from the general corruption.

Visitors, such as the JTA correspondent, can enter the courtyard or the "general offices" with no visible restrictions. There are no guards and no security precautions. The Iranians who wait, sometimes practically round the clock in spite of the bitter cold, are prepared to welcome all visitors with no questions asked.

**Harmful Development For Israel, Jews**

The guest just walks by the tent, in which scores of men and women pray all day long,

chanting Khomeini's name, and up the steps to the second cottage. Shoes are left outside the door. In the main office sit some of the advisers, cross-legged on the floor in stocking feet. Because of the bitter cold, most keep their overcoats and fur caps on.

They are a strange mixture: university professors from America, world famous economists, former ministers and ullema's, Moslem religious preachers. Anyone who wants to join is welcomed into the circle. As one noted, "This is Islamic democracy."

In spite of the advisers' apparent attempt to reassure international public opinion over Israel and the future of Iran's 80,000 Jews, the atmosphere is one of obvious hostility. A new Iran, under the Ayatollah's leadership, is definitely a harmful development for both Israel and the Jews.

**LEADING TERRORIST KILLED**

**JERUSALEM, Jan. 22 (JTA)** -- Five Palestinian terrorists, including the El Fatah leader Ismail claims was responsible for the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre, were killed by a bomb explosion in Beirut today, according to reports from the Lebanese capital.

The reports said that Ali Hassan Salameh, also known as Abu Hassan, and four of his aides died when a remote controlled bomb detonated near their car while they were driving through the Moslem section of Beirut. Salameh headed the personal bodyguard of PLO chief Yasser Arafat who is presently attending a Palestine National Council meeting in Damascus.

Israeli security sources singled him out as the mastermind behind the terrorist attack on the Israeli compound at the Olympic Village in Munich in September, 1972, where 11 Israeli athletes were slain. According to Beirut radio, El Fatah did not say who was responsible for the bomb attack on Salameh but vowed revenge.

**GERMANY URGED NOT TO INTRODUCE  
STATUTE OF LIMITATION OF WAR CRIMES**

By Maurice Samuelson

**LONDON, Jan. 22 (JTA)** -- An impassioned appeal to West Germany not to introduce a statute of limitations for Nazi crimes was made here by Simon Wiesenthal, who has helped to bring 1,100 criminals to justice since World War II.

Wiesenthal, the 70-year-old head of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna, said yesterday the statute of limitations would be a "big political victory" for present-day Nazis and a moral and physical defeat for the Jewish people. Among criminals who might benefit would be Gustav Wagner, former deputy commandant of the Spibor concentration camp. Wagner is in prison in Brazil awaiting extradition to West Germany, where he is due to be tried for the murder of 200,000 prisoners.

Wiesenthal, who was speaking at a seminar on anti-Semitism to the young leadership of the Joint Israel Appeal left for Bonn today to lobby West German politicians on the statute of limitations.

Speaking of the resurgence of right-wing anti-Semitic groups in many parts of the world, he said these could be combated only on an international basis, and that Jewish communities would be the losers if they stayed alone. "One of the biggest Jewish mistakes since the war was to stress the six million Jewish victims of Hitler and not the overall total of eleven millions, which included the six million Jews. Our number was true, but our propaganda was false," he said.

It had cost the Jews many of its friends including former resistance leaders, many of whom were still influential in European governments. Nevertheless, in the face of reviving anti-Semitism, it was still not too late to form a "brotherhood of victims of dictatorship," Wiesenthal said.

#### MANN: U.S. JEWS ARE NOT 'YES MEN' FOR EITHER WASHINGTON OR JERUSALEM

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Are American Jews "yes men" for either Washington or Jerusalem? The answer is "no," according to Theodore R. Mann, chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC). "American Jews are a free and independent community whose reactions to any issue of concern are guided by a sense of responsibility."

Addressing some 400 Jewish community leaders from all sectors of the United States at the opening session of the NJCRAC's four-day plenary meeting here at the Netherlands Hilton, Mann analyzed the role of American Jewish organizations in the search for peace in the Middle East and what he described as a change in the Israeli-American Jewish relationship.

Mann said that the current Middle East negotiations have "wall to wall Jewish unity" but it is "as much an expression of unified opposition to unfair and hostile public criticism of Israel as it is supportive of Israel's actions."

Making clear that the role of American Jewish leadership is to mobilize understanding and support for the goal of a secure Israel, not to make policy decisions on how that security ought to be achieved, he said. The Israelis understand their security needs far better than we.

While there are adequate channels for disagreeing with a particular Israeli policy or action, he continued, "we would severely compromise our ability to cry out against public U.S. chastisement of Israel if we ourselves indulged in the same practice." He pointed out that Premier Menachem Begin and Israeli leadership in general have made themselves directly accessible to American Jewish leaders who wish to convey their views, in that Israeli decision-makers more than ever take American Jewish reactions into account.

#### Relationship Entering A New Phase

They know, he declared, "that we are one kind of factor in the negotiation when we react as a united community and another kind when we do not." Mann, who is also the chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said that the Israeli-American Jewish relationship is entering a new phase primarily because of American Jewry's changing image of itself. The American Jewish community today, he asserted is "cohesive and dynamic."

He characterized the relationship over the past 30 years as having been built on "fantasy" -- on the one side, the belief of many Israelis that Jewish communities living outside of Israel, including American Jewry, would disappear through assimilation and acculturation; on the other side a sense of inferiority stemming from "outsized respect and awe of our Israeli partners."

He asked Israelis who believe that Jewry cannot survive outside of Israel to reconsider. "Believe in our future and act on that belief just as we believe in your future and act on that belief... real enduring unity will come only from movement by each community to support

the other's most essential needs."

Mann cited the following as "imperatives" for the American Jewish community in the year ahead:

"To exercise its First Amendment rights with 'uncommon vigor and wisdom.'"

"To understand that the United States continues to be Israel's friend and ally despite transient misunderstanding, but to nevertheless cry out at the Administration's lack of understanding 'of the enormity of the danger to both Israel and America if an imprudent resolution of the West Bank problem were to allow the PLO to become ensconced there now or ever.'"

"To point out to the Administration, 'with its refreshingly high moral standard in its conduct in international relations, the immorality of a policy which would countenance even for a moment the return of East Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.'"

#### RABBI CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT OF ERA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- Rabbi Bernard Rosensweig, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, told several hundred delegates at a special Torah convention here at the Quality Inn Motel that "the present form of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) represents a potential danger to the entire religious community of the United States."

Orthodox Judaism, Rosensweig stated, does not "support any form of discriminatory practice against women. We simply have reasonable fears that the ERA Amendment may open up a Pandora's box of unforeseeable discrimination against the religious practices and principles of major segments of our society."

One of the fears, he said, is that many religious schools "which resist the integration of sexes may be liable to lose their tax-exempt status and other governmental grants. Considering recent rulings of various governmental agencies in the areas of affirmative action, one cannot dismiss these fears as illegitimate."

Rosensweig announced the appointment of a blue ribbon panel headed by Rabbis Sol Roth and Gilbert Klaperson with instructions to study the problem in all its ramifications and to submit recommendations to the Rabbinical Council's national convention in June. It was learned, meanwhile, that a delegation from the Council will meet with Congressmen in Washington to propose amendments to protect the religious rights of women and to maintain religious schools in their present form.

In another part of his address, Rosensweig expressed profound concern over the reliability of the United States' commitment to Israel in view of what happened in Taiwan. "We trembled when we read of America's abrogation of her twenty-five year military treaty with Taiwan," he said. "If covenants signed and sealed and approved by Congress are so lightly undone, how secure can Israel feel with commitments which are verbal, however fervently and persistently expressed. It is not intransigence for Israel to insist on precise stipulations; no protective precautions may be considered unreasonable and excessive."

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- U.S. special envoy Alfred Atherton remained in Jerusalem Monday because, as one source put it, "there is something to talk about." Atherton resumed talks with the Israeli negotiating team led by Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar late Monday night after a long delay in which he consulted with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Israeli sources continued to be hopeful that "at least a partial solution" could be found to the legal issues in dispute.

**ORT ADOPTS RECORD \$78 MILLION BUDGET****TO AID MORE THAN 100,000 IN 1979**

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- More than 100,000 men, women and young people -- depending on events in Iran and the Soviet Union, the number may be even greater -- will need and receive skill training and other economic and educational services in 1979 from ORT. To meet the increased needs, a record budget of \$78,110,000 was adopted yesterday by the American ORT Federation at its national conference at the New York Hilton. The new budget is \$23 million more than the organization spent in 1978 in 24 countries on four continents.

Outgoing American ORT president Harold Friedman, in proposing the expanded programs, noted that much of the required budgetary increase is the result of worldwide inflation and the drastic devaluation of the dollar. But a major factor, he told the delegates, "is the urgent necessity to expand ORT programs to meet increased Jewish needs in response to critical events in many parts of the world. In the year just past, ORT programs in 24 countries enrolled almost 28,000 young, not so young, adults, refugees and others." Currently ORT maintains a four-continent network of more than 700 schools and training facilities.

Some 600 delegates, representing over 160,000 members in communities throughout the country, elected Sidney E. Leiwant, a South Orange, N.J. insurance consultant, to succeed Friedman as president of the American ORT Federation. Dr. William Haber, of Ann Arbor, Mich., is honorary president.

Nearly half of ORT's expenditures in 1979 will be made on behalf of almost 60,000 students in Israel in 88 ORT schools, Friedman indicated. While hoping that "local and governmental allocations to ORT Israel would be increased," the ORT leader added soberly that "Israel's economic problems and defense needs do not permit optimism in this regard."

Friedman noted that the number of Israeli youth of high school age enrolled in vocational and technical high schools now exceeds those in academic schools, which he described as "a massive reversal of the social and educational values of Israel."

**Processing 6600 Soviet Jews For Resettlement**

Gaynor Jacobson, executive vice president of the United HIAS Service, worldwide Jewish migration agency, told the conference that "in Vienna, Rome and its environs, more than 6,600 Soviet Jews are currently undergoing processing for resettlement in the West, mostly in the United States, and that since so many are ultimately bound for English-speaking countries, many heads of families are enrolled in English classes at the ORT schools in those areas."

Thousands of Soviet Jews in transit have benefited from the services of Jewish agencies overseas. "Their very beginnings in the free world," the HIAS executive added, "will have been enriched because of the service of ORT."

**Situation In Iran Unpredictable**

In his presentation, Friedman also cited the situation in Iran, where ORT has been training some 1,200 students. "The 80,000 Jews in Iran are sitting pat in the traumatic crisis shaking that country, apparently hoping to continue as an accepted minority in the land where they have dwelled for the past 2,500 years," he declared.

Painting out that in the present situation all schools in Iran are closed down, including the ORT schools, Friedman noted the impossibility of attempting to forecast the future in a situation where everything "changes from hour to hour and from day to day," but expressed the hope that when things settle down the ORT schools will be able to function again.

A message from President Carter to the conference delegates noted that ORT is responsible for "opening doors of opportunity for thousands of youngsters in Israel and many other countries. Vast numbers of new refugees will need your help and benefit from your long experience in practical training."

**BAN SALES OF NAZI-ORIENTED BOOK**

LONDON, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- A leading educational publisher has stopped sales of a German language reader because of claims that it gives a favorable picture of the Nazis. Heinemann Educational Books took the decision after complaints about the book, entitled "The Hitler Era," by Mrs. M. E. Mountjoy, a modern languages teacher at a boys school in Kent. Her book, designed for teenagers, had already sold 2,000 copies since it appeared a year ago.

It quotes Hitler as saying: "Who is to blame that there is no work? Capitalism is to blame. Communists are to blame. The Jews are to blame. The Jews are not Germans. They do not belong here. They profit from German workers. The Jews get rich by financial speculation. The Jews always have money. Only the Germans don't." The book mentions concentration camps in a single sentence and ends with the words: "On 30 April 1945 the Führer dies with his wife, Eva Braun, in a bunker in Berlin. Heil Hitler!"

**ANTI-SEMITIC PLAY BROADCAST****OVER RADIO IN THE UKRAINE**

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (JTA) -- A play on Jewish emigration, aptly tragic aftermath, was performed in the Ukrainian city of Vinnitsa, according to information received by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. Entitled "Lost Horizon" the play was simultaneously broadcast on local radio.

The Conference said that the play's plot centers on a Jewish engineer who cannot find a good job in the Soviet Union. Out of anger he emigrates to Israel, where he still cannot find the job he desires. His wife starts to work for the rights of the Palestinian people and he turns her in to Israeli authorities. In a subplot, another Jew emigrates to Israel at the request of the woman he loves. The Jew later discovers that she is a prostitute, paid to lure him out of the USSR.

Margy-Ruth Davis, executive director of the Conference noted that the play follows a standard theme in Soviet anti-Semitic literature, which openly seeks to discourage Jewish emigration by trading on classic anti-Semitic stereotypes.

"The women in the play are meant to stand in contrast to each other," Mrs. Davis said. "One stands for the ideals of the Russian people; she is betrayed by her opportunistic and money-grubbing Jewish husband. The other woman is the mold of the Jewess as temptress and prostitute. Recent anti-Semitic pieces have identified Hasidic women, especially, as prostitutes."

GENEVA (JTA) -- The Office of International Committee for European Migration said that the departure of the 100 Vietnamese refugees for Israel will take place Tuesday.