

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVE

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) — After a 17-hour flight from Manila 102 Vietnamese refugees arrived via Athens at Ben Gurion Airport this morning. They were greeted by Absorption and Housing Minister David Levy who headed a large delegation of Israelis and former Vietnamese refugees who settled in Israel in 1977. "We shall provide you with solid land to step on," Levy told the newcomers, referring to the weeks they had been stranded aboard a ship in Manila Bay.

The refugees, with tears in their eyes, thanked the Minister and the delegation. After a short ceremony at the airport they were taken by buses to Afuleh where they will stay for some time at a new immigrants absorption center. Even before their arrival in Afuleh, housewives there were preparing cookies and sweets for the new guests. Rooms were being prepared and decorated with flowers and tables were set with bowls of fresh fruit. The Vietnamese already in Israel will help the newcomers during their first period of adjustment.

## ISRAEL-LEBANON BORDER QUIET AFTER UNIFIL CALLS FOR A CEASE-FIRE

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) — The Israel-Lebanon border was quiet this morning following a call for a cease-fire by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) yesterday. It was the first such call by UNIFIL since the UN forces replaced Israeli troops in south Lebanon last spring.

Meanwhile, life was returning to normal in Israel's northern villages, including Kiryat Shmona, which were heavily bombarded by Palestinian terrorist rockets yesterday. All the schools were opened including the Kiryat Shmona school hit by a Katyusha rocket tearing a hole in its roof. The main topic of conversation in the town was the miracle that the children had gone into shelters moments before the rocket hit and exploded in a classroom.

UNIFIL officers approached both Israel and the terrorists with the request for the cease-fire after several days of heavy artillery barrages between the two sides. Israel lobbed over 1000 shells yesterday in the direction of Al Aisha, where the terrorists are concentrated north of the Litani River; the Arnan area and the Rashidieh refugee camps where many terrorist bases are located. Israel denied that it shelled the port-city of Tyre, despite a claim by the terrorists that this was done. During the night, the terrorists and the Christian militia exchanged artillery fire.

A senior Israeli source in the north said that Israel's aim is to force the terrorists out of the villages in which they are now entrenched. Israel has announced it will not shell any village in which the village chiefs promise not to shelter terrorists. The Christian militia will patrol the villages to make sure that this promise is kept.

## U.S. Urges Maximum Restraint

In Washington, the State Department said today, "We feel the United Nations played an in-

dispensable role in bringing about a halt" in the firing. It called upon Israel, Lebanon and Syria today, as it did yesterday, to exercise "maximum restraint" and to cooperate with the U.N. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said yesterday that the U.S. was "in contact" with Israel, Lebanon and Syria. He said the U.S. was not communicating with the Palestine Liberation Organization on this problem because of its policy of not dealing with the PLO.

(At the UN in New York, Lebanon complained in a letter to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim about the Israeli shelling.)

Meanwhile, Israel has taken special security measures throughout the country following the death in Beirut Monday of Ali Hassan Salameh, the notorious Abu Hassan, who engineered the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre. Jerusalem is especially being put on alert since it is believed that the terrorists will try an act of terror to revenge Salameh's death, when a bomb exploded in a car, which they blame on Israel.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA

### LIBYAN DELEGATION IN THE U.S.

#### QUOTING PROTOCOLS OF ELDERS OF ZION

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 24 (JTA) — It seems that Billy Carter's "best friends" get their information on Jews and Jewry from the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion." A delegation of 30 Libyans, whose U.S. visit was prompted by an invitation by President Carter's brother, Billy, stopped in San Francisco this week on a cross-country tour. During a conversation with the press, the delegation's chief spokesman, Ahmed Al-Shahati, said that Zionism "was racist" and according to "what we read in the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, Zionism tries to give privileges to just a few," it was reported by Phil Bronstein, San Francisco Jewish Bulletin assistant editor.

Al-Shahati is the head of the Foreign Liaison of Libya's Congress, a kind of a Foreign Minister for the country. He and his delegation were escorted around Georgia by Billy Carter, who called the Libyans his "best friends." Carter aroused a storm of controversy by blasting what he called "Jewish pressure" on the press and politicians, who snubbed the Libyans. The Libyans are here on a "good will" mission.

Al-Shahati, speaking through an interpreter, spent a good deal of time blasting the American press for its "misinformation and propaganda aimed at giving a bad picture" of Libya. Pressed as to whom he thought was responsible for that "misinformation" he said "the world Zionists are behind this campaign, because they don't want to see good relations set up between the U.S. and the Arab people," Bronstein reported.

Asked about Libya's reputation for being a world haven and bankroller for terrorist organizations, Al-Shahati said this, too, was a plot. "We know that world Zionism is behind this rumor."

Al-Shahati also noted that eight C-130 planes the U.S. was planning to sell Libya, have been held up because of the "world Zionist influence" on the U.S. government. He also claimed that the reason few American politicians turned out to greet him during his tour was due to "Zionist Influence." Al-Shahati told the Bulletin that he believed the world Zionists had great influence over U.S. media.

and politicians.

He denied Libya has an anti-Semitic policy. He said Jews live in Arab countries with "the same rights as any Arab citizen," and noted that many Arab countries, including Libya, had invited Jews to return to those countries. "Islam," Al-Shahati said, "respects all other religions." Asked by the Bulletin whether Jews were restricted in obtaining Libyan passports, he said,

"Only if they are Zionist agents. He would not state the criteria for making such a decision, Bronstein said.

#### CARTER AND ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- President Carter last night reaffirmed "firm commitment to Israel's survival and security" and vowed to use America's influence to establish an Egyptian-Israeli peace. In a brief passage on the Middle East in his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress, Carter spoke of building a "new foundation" for America and the world "so that all of us may live our lives in peace." However, he gave no new clues on policy toward Israel.

In the Middle East -- under most difficult circumstances -- we have sought to help ancient enemies lay aside deep-seated differences that have produced four bitter wars in this century," the President said. "Our firm commitment to Israel's survival and security is rooted in our deep convictions and in our knowledge of the strategic importance to our nation of a stable Middle East. To promote peace and reconciliation in the region, we must retain the trust and confidence both of Israel and of the Arab nations that are sincerely searching for peace."

#### Seeks Lasting Peace

Continuing, Carter stated: "I am determined to use the full beneficial influence of our nation so that the precious opportunity for lasting peace between Israel and Egypt will not be lost."

The President followed this passage by saying that "the new foundation of international cooperation we seek excludes no nation. Cooperation with the Soviet Union serves the cause of peace, for in the nuclear age world peace must include peace between the superpowers -- and it must mean the control of nuclear arms."

Before Carter went to the Capitol to deliver his address, a senior White House official who briefed reporters about it did not elaborate on the Middle East section. He said in response to a question on the possibility of a Camp David-style summit that such a summit was not excluded but that it was not an immediate option. He said that once U.S. special envoy Alfred Atherton completes his current mission to Israel and Egypt, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance may meet with Egyptian Premier Moustafa Khalil and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. But the official would not go beyond that.

Carter in his address emphasized that "as long as I am President, at home and around the world, America's example and America's influence will be marshalled to advance the cause of human rights." He made no specific references to situations or nations, while calling on the present generation of Americans "to renew our nation's faith."

#### U.S. TRADE FLEXIBILITY PROPOSED IF

#### USSR HUMANIZES TREATMENT OF ITS JEWS

CINCINNATI, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Jerry

Goodman, the executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry suggested today that American Jews would support "flexibility" in U.S. Soviet trade relations if the USSR would "standardize and humanize" its treatment of its Jewish population.

Goodman told several hundred Jewish community leaders at a program planning session of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council's plenary meeting here, "If the harassment of new (emigration) applicants does not mount again, and if the 1979 level continues to remain relatively high... (we) will be asked to be flexible on the linkage of trade to emigration. We have insisted that when the time is appropriate we would be flexible in the matter of trade relations." Goodman's remarks were contained in a major policy paper outlining the tactics and objectives in 1979 for the Soviet Jewry movement in the United States.

Nearly 20,000 Jews left the USSR last year, the highest annual total since 35,000 left in 1973. The U.S. trade policy now offers credits and Most Favored Nation status to Communist countries that allow freer emigration. The major piece of legislation in this area is the 1974 Jackson-Vanik Amendment, principally intended to promote increased Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

"We are for detente and, of course, peace," Goodman said, "but detente requires reciprocal obligations. It is not a one-way street." The Soviet Union, he said, must alter its emigration policy, end anti-Semitism and allow its Jewish population the freedom to satisfy their religious and cultural desires.

#### Increased Emigration Rate Is Critical

"The achievement of an increased rate of emigration which could reach its own level, not obstructed by restrictions, is critical. The process must be standardized and humanized. If denials by reason of 'state security' are to be considered valid, these should be defined and made known in advance so the arbitrariness can be removed," said Goodman.

Hard-core refusenik cases should be processed expeditiously, said Goodman, and Prisoners of Conscience should be freed from Soviet prisons, labor camps and exile as soon as the law allows. "It would be a significant gesture if the POGs were released within the next few months. Since nearly all of them have wives and children, such an act of humanity and compassion would be well received in the United States," he said.

Goodman added that those Jews who remain in the Soviet Union should have "the full rights of every other Soviet nationality -- the right to their cultural, historical and religious heritage, the right to have Hebrew books and newspapers printed, synagogues open and functioning and trained rabbis and teachers available. Simply put, we want the Jews who remain to survive as a people; and to have the means to do so as part of their daily lives."

#### GAON TO BEGIN 'EXPEDITE' PROJECT RENEWAL TO AVOID SOCIAL STRIFE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- "Unless Project Renewal is quickly expedited, human expectations will explode," Nessim D. Gaon, president of the World Sephardi Federation (WSF), advised Premier Menachem Begin today. "We counsel patience, but there is just so much suffering people can endure." Begin responded that how "we expedite efforts like Project Renewal is what confronts us now. But my efforts will not be in vain, and will not take a generation."

Begin said that since assuming his office his

priorities have been peace instead of war, and a war on poverty" to complete the task of immigrant absorption.

Goan said, "We don't suggest there are injustices, but declare that unless human problems are rectified, there could be a social explosion." He added: "I speak out of love for Israel but see and feel and know that Sephardim are denied opportunities and representation at too many levels of Israeli society."

Liliane Winn, president of the American Sephardi Federation, and Stephen Shalom, a WSF vice president and a United Jewish Appeal national leader, accompanied Goan to see Begin. Project Renewal seeks to rehabilitate 160 poverty neighborhoods in Israel comprising some 350,000 persons.

#### ATHERTON ENDS TALKS IN ISRAEL

Says Agreement Reached On Some Points  
By David Landau

Jerusalem, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Alfred Atherton, the U.S. special envoy, wound up a week-long round of intensive talks with Israeli officials here today and flew to Cairo this evening to begin talks there tomorrow morning. He said that "most of the points" at issue regarding the key Article VI, paragraph 5, and the U.S. interpretation of it had been resolved, "but not all," and he would therefore return here from Cairo for further consultations.

He also said he would be taking to Cairo the Israeli government's views on Articles IV and VII. Israeli sources said there was agreement on virtually all of Article IV (the "review clause"), but virtually no progress on Article VI which deals with the relationship of the peace treaty to the Palestinian autonomy proposal.

Atherton himself bracketed the two Articles together without elaborating as regards what progress had or had not been made on each one of them, and observers therefore deduced that he might try to put them to the Egyptians as a "package": an Israeli concession on Article IV ought to be matched by an Egyptian concession on Article VI.

The U.S. team headed by Atherton and Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, who is the head of the Israeli negotiating team, held their 15th and final session of talks this evening, following a three-hour Cabinet session earlier in the day which dealt with the disputed points in the draft peace treaty. Prior to the final talks between the U.S. and Israeli teams Atherton and Ben-Elissar had an "informal" conversation. The nature of their conversation was not made available.

#### DENY ISRAEL-SOUTH AFRICA SPORTS RIFT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Israel Olympics Committee (IOC) Plenary announced last night that it had not suspended sports relations with South Africa. It claimed that IOC chairman Yitzhak Ofek's statement that the IOC presidium had done so was an incorrect report in the press.

Chaim Wein, the IOC's vice chairman, said the relations with South Africa will continue as before with Israel following the rules set by international sports federations on South Africa. This means that Israel will continue to compete with South Africa in sports where international federations have not banned South Africa because of its apartheid policy.

The Plenary meeting last night came after

a storm of protests in Israel over the reported action of the IOC. Both the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Culture and Education expressed anger that the action came without the government being consulted. They said the IOC's statements had damaged Israel. At the same time they praised restraint shown by South Africa. It was noted that South African Jews and some South African sports figures expressed understanding of the situation in which Israel was being pressed.

Maccabi leaders were especially upset since they feared the decision would endanger the 14th Maccabiah scheduled for 1981. South African Jews are permitted to participate in the event, according to rules of international sports federations, and they were major participants in the last Maccabiah.

The Maccabi leaders had demanded that Ofek resign for mishandling the situation, improper negotiations, and for not consulting with the government. He refused and blamed all of the problem on misquotations by the press.

After the press reported that the IOC had suspended sports relations with South Africa, Ofek told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the suspension was only until after the 1980 Moscow Olympics so as not to give the Soviet Union a pretext to bar Israel from Moscow.

The IOC acted after it was advised by Lord Killanin to refrain from sports relations with South Africa to prevent the adverse publicity such relations is causing Israel. The IOC presidium agreed to keep a low profile, but when the information was relayed to the press it was given as a suspension of relations. The IOC Plenary said it had discussed Killanin's recommendations but that it will continue its present policy.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONDEMNS ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Israel was condemned today by the General Assembly in one resolution for its "continuing and increasing collaboration with the racist regime of South Africa" and in a second resolution for its alleged nuclear collaboration with the Pretoria government. While the first resolution was exclusively devoted to Israel, the "nuclear collaboration" resolution cited also the United States, France and West Germany.

The vote on the first resolution was 82-18 with 28 abstentions. The United States and other members of the Western bloc voted against the resolution. The vote on the second resolution was 19-5 with 23 abstentions. Israel did not participate in the vote of either resolution.

Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, in explaining Israel's position before the vote, declared: "Because Israel has been singled out as the only country in the world for specific condemnation on its own in a special resolution, my delegation will not participate in the voting on the issues before us. I request that this non-participation be duly reflected in the record. We take this stand to express our abhorrence at the cynical debasement of this entire discussion."

Today's resolutions were part of the Assembly's vote on policies of apartheid of the South African government. Israel, which recorded its opposition to apartheid numerous times before, voted today in favor of another resolution adopted by the Assembly which offered tribute to the memory of leaders and outstanding personalities who contributed to the struggles against apartheid and other forms of oppression.

## STUDY SHOW TV 'HOLOCAUST' SERIES HAD SIGNIFICANT EDUCATIONAL EFFECT

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The television production "Holocaust," which was shown on NBC-TV last Spring, had a significant educational effect, making its audience of 120 million viewers "more aware of, and perhaps more sensitive to, a catastrophe almost beyond comprehension." This is the conclusion of a study commissioned by the American Jewish Committee, the results of which have just been issued by the Committee in a 50-page pamphlet, "Americans Confront the Holocaust."

The publication summarizes the results of a telephone survey conducted in the weeks following the program by the professional polling firm, Response Analysis, Inc., of Princeton, N.J. The booklet contains an analysis of the survey findings, written by Geraldine Rosenfield, of the AJC Committee's Information and Research Services Department.

As an indication of the program's effect on its audience, the poll determined that nearly half of the viewers found the four-part series "difficult or disturbing to watch." Further, the analysis continues, "majorities of both viewers and non-viewers (in the sample) approved the presentation of the program. Many respondents expressed the hope that if people knew of such things, they would not let them happen again, and a substantial majority wanted the schools to teach about the Holocaust."

The analysis states also that the audience for "Holocaust" was even more self-selected than are television audiences in general: "Persons who were interested in the subject in the first place... were strongly represented among the viewers, while a sizeable proportion of non-viewers were ignorant of recent European history, indifferent to the possibility of future catastrophes similar to the Holocaust, and/or apathetic about events not immediate to them in time or place."

The analysis concludes that while the findings of the survey confirm that most Americans condemn racism and Nazism, "they also indicate that a hardcore of racists and anti-Semites remains in the United States, and that a good many Americans, without being anti-Semitic, feel themselves quite remote from Jews and their concerns."

## MOST GERMAN VIEWERS OF 'HOLOCAUST' SERIES ARE RESPONDING FAVORABLY

BONN, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Shock, surprise and disbelief, along with skepticism and hostility, were among the reactions of West Germans after the broadcast Monday night of the first segment of "Holocaust" -- the American-made TV series depicting the rise of Nazism and the brutal liquidation of European Jewry.

Officials of the TV stations that broadcast the film -- the WDR regional network in Cologne -- reported yesterday that thousands of German viewers called after the broadcast with at least two-thirds responding positively and approving of the broadcast. The other callers complained that "Holocaust" only opens "old wounds" and "We should forget all this. It is enough time already." The TV officials said the responses to the program were unprecedented.

The channel airing "Holocaust" is a regional one and its programs usually attract only five percent of German viewers. However, the German producers of the series said they hoped for 15 percent of the audience for "Holo-

caust." No official estimates on the size of "Holocaust" viewers were available today, but officials said the program is having a wider viewership than expected.

Press reports pointed out that the German viewers got a more effective broadcast of "Holocaust" mainly because of two reasons: unlike the American broadcast of "Holocaust" the German telecast is not interrupted by commercials and the sound track is dubbed in German which, as one reporter noted, makes the Nazis more believable when speaking their own language.

## Schmidt Commends TV Series

Meanwhile, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, speaking in Parliament today, commended "Holocaust" and said the film was a "must" in connection with the current controversy over extending the legal time limit under which Nazi war criminals can be prosecuted. Injecting his remarks into a major speech on the national budget for 1979, Schmidt said: "Some parts may be false but much in the film is right. It compels one to critical and moral reflection. For historical reasons, he added, people should be aware of the power of totalitarianism on both the right and the left."

## EVRON SAYS SAUDI ARABIA IS MAJOR FACTOR IN DELAYING PEACE TREATY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Ephraim Evron, charged yesterday that "Saudi Arabia" is the major factor which has delayed the signing of a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and called on "the American government to take new initiatives, especially in view of the developments in Iran, to prevail upon Saudi Arabia to endorse the agreements previously formulated at Camp David."

Evron addressed several hundred delegates to a special Torah convocation of the Rabbinical Council of America at Congregation Beth Shalom here. He said he is convinced that "President (Anwar) Sadat is sincere in his pursuit of peace" with Israel and "were it not for the intrusion of external pressures, particularly from Saudi Arabia, the pact would have been signed weeks ago." The Israeli envoy claimed that the recent Baghdad meeting of Arab ministers "with Saudi Arabia playing a pivotal role, was primarily responsible for the hardening of the Egyptian position."

Rabbi Sol Roth, first vice president of the Rabbinical Council, appealed to Jewish federations and welfare funds throughout the U.S., and particularly the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in New York "to establish at least 3000 scholarships to enable newly arrived Russian-Jewish immigrants to receive a religious education."

He warned that "Jewish schools are almost without exception in danger of financial bankruptcy due to rising costs of education which have driven tuition up sharply. The children of these Russian immigrants are ignorant of the basic rudiments of their faith," he said, "and their absorption into Jewish schools cannot be achieved without the financial assistance which only Jewish welfare funds can provide."

Roth said "It is to the credit of the federations that considerable assistance has been provided to these immigrants to help them become economically self-sufficient," adding, "I profoundly believe, however, that it is equally incumbent upon the federations to assure the fiscal costs of providing to the children of these Russian families the Jewish education they sorely lack."