

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## EGYPT CANCELS DIRECT AIR FLIGHT OF UJA LEADERS FROM ISRAEL TO EGYPT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- The first United Jewish Appeal Prime Minister's Mission scheduled to fly directly from Israel to Egypt did not take off today. Instead they flew to Sharm el-Sheikh, the Israeli town on the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula that is to be handed over to the Egyptians at the end of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

The plan for a visit to Egypt was cancelled last night by the Egyptians. They said that at this stage of the peace process no Israeli planes should fly directly to Egypt. The 300 UJA Mission leaders from the United States and Canada were scheduled to go to Egypt aboard an Israel Air Force plane which had taken this route many times in the recent past, usually carrying Israeli delegations, including the journalists covering the Israeli-Egyptian peace talks.

The Mission participants arrived in Israel yesterday. Shortly after arriving they were received by Premier Menachem Begin in his office in Jerusalem. He told them that recognizing the Palestine Liberation Organization is tantamount to accepting the genocide of the Jewish people rejected as "superfluous" any United States effort to introduce a new resolution on Palestinian rights in the UN Security Council, and said that tensions between Blacks and Jews in America would prove temporary.

Begin also told the UJA Mission members that Israeli air and land strikes against terrorist bases in south Lebanon are preemptive and have been effective in deterring terrorist attacks on Israel. He said that "If civilians are also hurt in these strikes, this causes us deep grief and sorrow." He pointed out that the terrorists used Lebanon as a "sortie base" for attacks against Israel and that "we are trying to hit the terrorists at their bases prior to their actions."

On the issue of Black-Jewish tension in the U.S., following the resignation of Andrew Young as U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Begin said this was "a passing episode." Jews always stand for civil rights and equality of rights, he said. He added that whoever recognizes "the so-called PLO is in effect recognizing genocide, both as far as the objectives and the methods are concerned."

Meanwhile, despite the cancellation of the UJA flight to Egypt, the Foreign Ministry learned here this week that Egypt had officially notified the International Civil Aviation Organization about the termination of the state of war between the two countries and waived her long-time "exceptions" regarding Israel in the international covenant of the organization.

This notification is in line with an Egyptian commitment to cancel all exceptions toward Israel in international conventions which were made as a result of the state of war between the two countries.

## MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION ON SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION POSTPONED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- The Ministerial Defense Committee meeting on the situa-

tion in south Lebanon scheduled for today was postponed at the last minute, at the request of Defense Minister Ezer Weizman. No new date was set for the meeting. It was expected, though, that the subject would be raised at the regular weekly session of the Cabinet this Sunday.

Weizman reportedly argued that if the situation in south Lebanon were now discussed at this level, the Israel Defense Force's operational activity would become a subject for a public controversy. The subject has in fact already become controversial following critical comments made during this week's session of the Cabinet of Israel's bombings in south Lebanon. Weizman reportedly complained to Premier Menachem Begin about the leaks from that session to the media.

Speaking before the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee today, Weizman defended the army's operations in south Lebanon, and reportedly won a wide support from the committee members. Weizman said that these operations prevented terror actions in Israel such as those on the Haifa-Tel Aviv coastal road in March, 1978 and in Nahariya last April.

He noted, however, that the defense establishment reviewed the overall policy in the area before each action in south Lebanon. He said the IDF responded with artillery fire only after the terrorists had attacked the area under control of Christian leader Maj. Saad Haddad.

## U.S. REJECTS CLAIMS THAT ISRAEL DETERMINES U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- The Carter Administration today rejected claims by defenders of Ambassador Andrew Young that Israel determines U.S. foreign policy because of the 1975 American commitment not to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization until it agrees to recognize Israel's right to exist and accepts UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

That contention, raised loudly since the Young resignation, recurred today when State Department spokesman Hodding Carter was asked whether the commitment is an "encumbrance" to the Administration.

"This Administration accepted the commitment from its first day," Carter replied. "We accept it today. We feel we are bound by it voluntarily. Carter did not comment on whether it is an 'encumbrance.'"

Important sections of the media in various ways are siding with Young and his supporters, principally the Black community, that the U.S. should find means to deal with the PLO without the terrorist organization first accepting Israel's right to exist in peace and Resolutions 242 and 338.

The campaign for the Carter Administration to move closer to the PLO is kept alive by continued media activity and pressure from PLO supporters to allow PLO chief Yasser Arafat to visit parts of the U.S. outside the precincts of the UN in New York City.

Hodding Carter today noted that if Arafat accepts an invitation for a meeting in the U.S. and a waiver is requested for his travel outside New York, the State Department would consider it. He emphasized that requests for waivers "are turned down 99.9 percent of the time."

Young To Head Trade Delegation To Africa

Meanwhile, the State Department announced that Young will go to Africa Sept. 5 with a "high-level" trade delegation that will include business executives to develop contacts with African government officials. The tentative itinerary includes Liberia, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Kenya and Senegal.

Spokesman Carter noted that Young will make the trip with his rank as U.S. Ambassador since "he will be there (at the UN) until he is replaced." The replacement date is expected to occur Sept. 20. President Carter may name Young's successor Friday.

Among reported leading candidates is Donald McHenry, Young's deputy. McHenry, a Black, received wide exposure in the last three days as the chief U.S. negotiator with Soviet authorities at New York's Kennedy Airport to determine whether ballerina Ludmila Vlasova was being forced to return to Moscow.

LEBANON REQUESTING UN COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS ISRAELI RAIDS

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 28 (JTA).-- Ambassador Andrew Young, this month's president of the Security Council, started private consultations today with members of the Council on the situation in south Lebanon and a possible meeting of the Council to discuss the issue.

Young, who resigned two weeks ago, met this afternoon with Lebanese Ambassador, Ghassan Tuani. According to a United Nations spokesman, Tuani delivered a letter to Young requesting a meeting of the Council. Lebanon's request for a meeting followed Israeli raids against terrorist bases in south Lebanon in recent weeks.

Sources here said that the meeting of the Security Council would take place probably Thursday.

Young also met today with Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Blum and discussed with him the possibility for a Council meeting on south Lebanon this week. The two envoys, it was reported, also discussed the possibility that former British UN Ambassador, Ivor Richard, would be sent to Lebanon as a special envoy of Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

According to sources here, the nature of the mission is not defined as yet but it is expected that the issue of the proposed mission will be brought up before the Security Council when it convenes later this week. The sources said that if the mission is approved Richard will go to Lebanon in the middle of September and then will visit there twice more in October and November.

EMOTIONS RUN HIGH AT TRIAL OF TWO TERRORISTS

By Yitzhak Shargil

REHOVOT, Aug. 28 (JTA).-- The trial of the two surviving members of the terrorist gang which hijacked a bus on the coastal Haifa-Tel Aviv road in March, 1978 and killed 37 people is heavy with emotion. The courtroom of the military tribunal here is crowded with survivors and relatives of victims -- fathers and mothers, grandparents, brothers and sisters and children.

The two terrorists, Halad Hussein, 18, and Hussein Fuad, 19, show no remorse. Instead they wave their hands in Palestine Liberation Organization victory signs, they spit at people in the audience and they smile and even laugh when witnesses describe the atrocities of the terrorist gang.

For the survivors, however, the trial is a return to hell, a return to those horrible minutes on the road outside Tel Aviv when their fellow bus passengers were murdered. Members of the audience begin crying when a witness describes the circumstances of the death of a beloved one.

Emotions run high and there are outbursts from the audience. The anger is aimed, not so much at the two Palestinians, but their Jewish lawyer, Leah Zemel. Many in the audience are indignant at the questions she asks seeking to undermine the credibility of the witnesses.

Eye Witness Accounts

Ethel Sacherbrott, an elderly woman who was wounded by the terrorists, described how, after the bus was set afire, a woman with a baby in her arms was shot by the terrorists. Some of the passengers tried to take the baby but a woman terrorist grabbed the infant and threw it into the burning part of the bus. Fuad clapped his hands in joy as the incident was described. There was silence in the courtroom for a moment and then sobs could be heard throughout the audience.

Mrs. Sacherbrott, who had a heart attack after the massacre, raised her hand over her eyes and cried, "Oh God, I am trying hard to forget these sights, these horrors, but I can't." She then fainted. The audience began shouting at the defense attorney, accusing her of selling out for PLO money. The testimony continued after Mrs. Sacherbrott was revived.

Esther Avi-Assaf, 14, a passenger on the bus, said she saw the two defendants throwing grenades as the passengers tried to escape from the burning bus. She said the terrorists used her as a shield while she pleaded in English for them not to kill her. She escaped when a terrorist who was holding her let go to throw a grenade at a wounded passenger.

Throughout the hearings, the military tribunal, headed by Col. Aharon Halperin, tried to keep both the witnesses and the audience calm as one harrowing tale after another was told. Witnesses were instructed to answer questions from Mr. Zemel and persons who shouted at her were removed from the courtroom.

MAPAM AGREES TO HAVE THEIR KNESSET MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN SYMPOSIUM

TEL AVIV, Aug. 28 (JTA).-- Mapam's veteran leaders Meir Yaari and Yaacov Hazan found themselves in the minority yesterday when the Mapam Secretariat voted in favor of allowing its two Knesset members, Chajka Grossman and Natfali Feder, to participate in a symposium organized by New Outlook magazine to take place in Washington in October. At a meeting of the Secretariat last week Yaari and Hazan succeeded in preventing a resolution from being passed approving their Knesseters' participation despite the fact that the general feeling was for participation in the symposium.

In yesterday's session, Hazan was absent and Yaari left before the vote was taken. The sole hold-out was Knesseter Omri Ron. However, the Secretariat laid down specific conditions for participation: that there be no representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the symposium, that no resolutions be adopted at the conference, and that there be a wide range of opinions. The Secretariat also suggested that the venue of the symposium and its timing be reviewed by the organizers.

A great deal of heat was generated in Mapam and in the Labor Party over the symposium entitled "The Middle East Between War and Peace." The Labor Party Bureau, the highest decision-making body of the party, went on record as opposing the participation of its Knesseters who were invited to

take part in the symposium but did not officially forbid their participation. Party officials felt that the symposium would not be one-sidedly in favor of the Palestinians. New Outlook editorial board members said, however, that the symposium would be open to a wide range of views.

#### AMERICAN RED CROSS URGED TO HELP FALASHAS IN ETHIOPIA

By Judith Rosen

NEW YORK, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- Eleven members of the Concerned Jewish Youth (CJY) and the American Association for Ethiopian Jews forced their way into the offices of the New York director of the American Red Cross here today, to explain the plight of Ethiopia's Falasha Jews and to urge officials of the Red Cross to take action on their behalf.

CJY co-chairman Stuart Wax, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said that the two groups focused on the American Red Cross because it has the political "power to do something" for the Falashas, whereas the International Red Cross and various Jewish organizations have been ineffective.

The Falashas, or "Black Jews" of Ethiopia, have been the victims of genocide and other atrocities following the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie and the subsequent revolution of 1976. The Falashas, who now number 28,000 from 250,000 in 1975, are working with the Jewish Agency in Israel for a mass aliya for their people. Zacharias Yona, a spokesman for the Falashas told JTA in an interview earlier this year.

Barnet Deutch, the director of the New York American Red Cross, responded to the group's demand for an airlift by the Red Cross by saying "No way can the Red Cross, in any part of the world take planes into another country. Realistically, a great deal of this (airlift and rescue work) must be done through hard negotiated efforts." Barnet, however, did promise to "check into the matter thoroughly."

In the presence of the protesters, Barnet called American Red Cross headquarters in Washington and was notified by them that the Red Cross currently had seven delegates in Ethiopia to oversee medical, food, blood and other rescue and emergency efforts sponsored by the Red Cross for all Ethiopian refugees. Barnet told the group that the "Red Cross in the U.S. is concerned with this problem" and that he will go to the national headquarters to present the group's concern.

#### Red Cross Official Promises Action

Lenox Spector, a co-chairman of CJY, called the International Red Cross "morally bankrupt" in its failure to recognize the Israeli Red Mogen David as a legitimate affiliate of the international organization. Barnet conceded that this was so and that many of the anti-Israeli "emerging nations" who vote on International Red Cross membership were responsible for blocking the Israeli group's admission.

The group concluded their meeting with Barnet by lighting yahrzeit candles and reciting a memorial service for Falashas who perished in Ethiopia's political upheavals.

The CJY is Henuh affiliated and has offices on many college campuses throughout the New York area and in major American cities. The Americans for Ethiopian Jews works closely with the National Jewish Student Network and has 200 members across the nation, according to Yehudah Shapiro, a board of directors member.

#### STANFIELD WILL NOT TALK TO PLO DURING HIS TRIP TO THE MIDEAST

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- Robert Stanfield, former leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, said he has no intention of meeting with any Palestine Liberation Organization representatives either in Canada or in the Middle East while he is there to study the feasibility of moving Canada's Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Stanfield was appointed special Ambassador to the Middle East by Prime Minister Joe Clark to sound out the feelings on this issue among leaders of Arab countries.

During a meeting with a delegation of the Canadian-Arab Federation in Ottawa several days ago, Stanfield was told that a meeting could be arranged with PLO chief Yasser Arafat while he is on his Mideast visit. The delegation also asked Stanfield to intervene with the Canadian government for the opening of a PLO bureau in Canada. Stanfield is understood to maintain that the PLO is not representative of all the Palestinian people and that in the past he opposed Arafat's presence at the United Nations General Assembly.

Before leaving for the Mideast next month, Stanfield will meet with representatives of Canada's business community and other organizations who favor an eventual transfer of Canada's Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

#### STRAUSS MEETS JEWISH LEADERS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- Special Ambassador Robert Strauss met for 80 minutes today with eight Jewish leaders in the first of his planned series of meetings with interested Americans on Middle East policy issues.

Strauss reportedly briefed his visitors in detail on his last discussions in Cairo and Jerusalem. While it is understood the Andrew Young affair was mentioned, neither White House nor Jewish sources provided any information on the meeting as a whole. The meeting is understood to have been arranged by Edward Sanders, President Carter's liaison with the Jewish community.

Meeting with Sanders and Strauss at the Executive Office Building were: Theodore Mann, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; Yehuda Hellman, executive director of the Presidents Conference; Jack Spitzer, president of B'nai B'rith; Maxwell Greenberg, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Richard Maass, president of the American Jewish Committee; Bernice Tannenbaum, president of Hadassah; Jacob Sheinkman, president of the Jewish Labor Committee; and Sara Shane, president of American Mizrahi Women.

#### KAHANE JAILED FOR THREE MONTHS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28 (JTA) -- Jewish Defense League founder Meir Kahane was jailed for three months by an Israeli military court in Ramallah today, and given a further nine-month suspended sentence that can be implemented for the next three years. Kahane was convicted of violating an order of the Military Government forbidding him from entering Hebron (in light of provocative statements and actions he had undertaken in Arab cities in the past).

Kahane, who lives in Kiryat Arba, near Hebron, vowed after sentence was passed that he would not be deterred by the jail term. "I will sit, and I will go free, and I will return to Hebron," Kahane vowed.

# SPECIAL TO THE JTA CAJE ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF JEWISH TEACHERS' CHAPTER IN THE USSR

By David Szonyi

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., Aug. 28 (JTA) —

The Coalition for Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE), a grassroots organization of more than 1,500 North American Jewish educators which is holding its fourth annual conference at Rutgers University here, announced the formation of a chapter in the Soviet Union.

The chapter comprises 30 Jewish teachers in Moscow, Leningrad, Minsk, Kiev, Vilna, Kishinev, Tbilisi and three other cities. Most of these teachers were visited this summer by Barbara Pomerantz and Kurt Stone, two Cincinnati Hebrew educators and CAJE members who were touring the Soviet Union. Upon their return to this country, Pomerantz and Stone briefed the CAJE board on the state of Jewish education in the USSR. The board then formally invited the 30 teachers to join the organization and attend its fourth conference which ends today.

Although the teachers, many of whom are refuseniks, were not permitted to leave the Soviet Union, a hushed CAJE plenum listened to a tape appeal from Lev Ulanovsky, a 29-year-old refusenik astrophysicist, who is now one of Moscow's leading Hebrew teachers. "We have a tremendous shortage of educational material," Ulanovsky said. He appealed for books, tapes and other resources which, he added, "are a matter of life and death for the future of Jewish life and culture in Russia."

The plenum voted Sunday night to establish a task force on Soviet Jewish education. The primary purpose of this task force will be to provide desperately needed educational material for Soviet Jews. It will also offer such material to Soviet Jews in this country, and will establish educational links between North American Jewish teachers and students, and their Soviet counterparts.

Even before the task force held its first meeting, a response to the educational needs of Soviet Jews was forthcoming. It was announced by Rabbi Daniel Syme, national director of education for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, that Ktav Publishing Co. president Bernard Scharfstein has agreed to donate material requested by the Moscow Gan (Jewish kindergarten). Scharfstein will visit the USSR next month to attend the Moscow Book Fair.

## HADASSAH RAISES OVER \$31.75 MILLION; MEMBERSHIP REACHES 370,000

CHICAGO, Aug. 28 (JTA) — Hadassah raised over \$31.75 million this year, it was announced at the closing session of its 65th national convention meeting at the Palmer House here. Bernice Tannenbaum was re-elected president for her fourth one-year term.

Bess Katz, national treasurer, reported that even though the members responsible for fund-raising achieved a remarkable feat, in light of the inflation, they will have to accept even higher quotas for 1979-80.

"The inflation and devaluation of the U.S. dollar has put a tremendous burden on our Israel budgets. Thus, Hadassah's banner collections are eaten up by the rise in costs," she told the 3,000 delegates and guests who approved the following quotas (1979-80) for Hadassah's health, education and rehabilitation and land reclamation services:

In Israel: Hadassah Medical Organization maintenance — \$9 million; HMO building and

development — \$3.3 million; youth aliya — \$2.3 million; Hadassah Israel Education Services (Community College, Seligsberg/Brandeis Comprehensive High School, and the Vacation Guidance Institute) — \$1.5 million; Jewish National Fund — \$700,000.

In the United States the budget is over \$4 million. This includes Hadassah's adult and youth programs in Jewish Education, American Affairs and Youth Activities as well as leadership development. "The total includes funds from endowments, annuities, bequests and grants, as well as the money raised directly by the members," Mrs. Katz explained.

## Membership Grew From 360,000 to 370,000

Edith Zamost, national membership chairman, reported a leap in membership this year from 360- to 370,000. In analyzing the reasons for the leap, Mrs. Zamost said:

"First, one must understand that when one must figure an annual loss of members through death and attrition this means that more than 25,000 new members joined Hadassah this year in order to show an overall gain of 10,000. Furthermore, it is significant that the special drive for Life Membership this year resulted in the enrollment of 15,000 new Life Members. This brings Life Membership in Hadassah to the unprecedented figure of 35 percent of our total enrollment.

"Secondly, membership in volunteer organizations usually increases in response to emergencies. But this year our great leap forward dates from the good news and rising expectations emanating from Camp David. The hope for peace has encouraged the American Jewish community to support programs designed to improve the quality of life such as Hadassah's health, education and land reclamation projects in Israel."

## Lot's Wife No Example For Hadassah

Hadassah's new Jewish National Fund project for the renewal of land in Israel, is at Biblical Sodom where Lot's wife looked back and turned to salt.

"Since Hadassah women look forward," Fannie Cohen, national JNF chairman said, "we have only good expectations." The new project is in the Arava, the northern Negev, adjacent to the Dead Sea.

The area, Ms. Cohen said, is "made up of sculptured hillocks of sand, and practically no vegetation. It looks absolutely primitive, like an area no human being ever touched; yet, we know that in Biblical times it supported a creative life and a good-sized population. We will, in partnership with the JNF, help turn this area into an agricultural development. Furthermore, it will provide a home not only for natives and newcomers, but for those who are now crowded into over-populated areas."

The new area will have a packing house which several communities can share, Ms. Cohen said. Regional schools, community cultural centers, and other regional facilities will enhance living and provide further security in this area on the Jordan border.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Neighborhood House, built by the National Council of Jewish Women in Portland, Oregon in 1910 to help in the resettlement of Eastern European immigrants, has been granted national landmark status, it was announced by the NCJW. It is one of only three settlement houses remaining in the United States. Beginning in October it will return to its original purpose by becoming the home of the Indochinese Cultural and Service Center, assisting in the resettlement of the Cambodian, Vietnamese and Laotian refugees who are coming into Portland in record numbers.