

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## DAYAN DEFENDS MEETING WITH OUTSPOKEN PRO-PLO GAZA LEADER

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said today that he will continue to meet periodically with West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians of various political persuasions despite criticism of his meeting yesterday with an outspoken supporter of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Explaining his 90-minute meeting with Dr. Haider Abdul-Shafi, chairman of the Gaza Red Crescent Society, Dayan said their conversation helped him to better understand the views held by Palestinian leaders in the administered territories. "I learned a lot I didn't know before," the Foreign Minister told reporters. It is not enough for Jews to talk to each other, over cups of tea, about what the Palestinians are thinking," Dayan observed.

Nevertheless, Dayan was careful to distinguish between talking and negotiating. He had not met with Abdul-Shafi to negotiate about the autonomy or about the normalization. Rather, they had had a general exchange of views on how Abdul-Shafi sees a future of coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians, Dayan explained.

The doctor, for his part, described the conversation as "academic and theoretical." Dayan is fond of exploring -- even in a situation where there is no point to explore," he told a reporter after the meeting. Abdul-Shafi said he had told the Foreign Minister that he wanted a Palestinian state comprising the West Bank and Gaza Strip and not initially linked to Jordan. He favored open borders between that state and Israel -- once an agreement was reached with the PLO.

## Meeting Evokes Mixed Reactions

The news of Dayan's meeting with the Gaza leader evoked mixed reactions in the political community. Several ministers seemed to have known in advance of the meeting and appeared to have approved it. But others had reservations.

Most outspoken was the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Moshe Arens of Herut, who accused Dayan of "shooting from the hip again -- and in the wrong direction." Arens deplored Dayan's action, taken, he said, just when Israel was fighting desperately against growing Western recognition and contact with the PLO.

If Dayan's reasoning was that Israel must know first hand what the various Palestinians were thinking, then by the same token, Arens charged, there was nothing to stop Dayan meeting with PLO chief Yasir Arafat. Arens dismissed the supposed distinction between talking and negotiating.

Dayan, for his part, said today that Arens' reaction came as no surprise to him. Naturally, of course, had he been surprised by any of the views expressed by Abdul-Shafi. The doctor had twice been exiled from the Gaza Strip for pro-PLO activities during Dayan's term as Defense Minister.

## U.S. - ISRAEL IS PRACTICING 'TERROR' BY HITTING TERRORIST BASES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The

Carter Administration at the highest levels has formally declared Israel is practicing "terror" by its attacks on Palestinian terrorists in south Lebanon, and rejects Israel's position that its attacks are in self-defense to prevent terrorists from striking at Israelis from their south Lebanese bases.

The Administration also has made plain, in a followup to resigned Ambassador Andrew Young's address to the UN Security Council yesterday on violence in south Lebanon that it will consult with Congress on possibilities of reducing U.S. weaponry to Israel as punishment for Israeli incursions in south Lebanon.

Young yesterday spoke of "terror and counter-terror" and called on Israel to "end its policy of preemptive strikes on Lebanese soil." He also said "the Palestinian leadership should stop attacks on the Lebanese militia groups in southern Lebanon and on Israel."

Young's address, which the State Department and Young himself said was cleared by the U.S. government's highest authorities, did not mention the Palestine Liberation Organization by name.

Today, the State Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, was asked to explain the shift in U.S. policy since it previously had spoken of the "cycle and re-cycle of violence" or used similar language in describing the PLO infiltrations against Israelis and Israeli retaliation.

"The words have to speak for themselves," Carter said in reference to Young's statement, while confirming that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance had approved them. Vance, who returned from vacation yesterday, is to meet the press next Wednesday at the State Department. Congress returns the same day from its summer vacation.

## Dayan Being Blamed

State Department sources are putting out the views that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is to blame for the stiff anti-Israel position taken by the U.S. on south Lebanon. These sources contend that Dayan had said the U.S. approves Israeli shelling of Palestinian bases but opposes casualties the Israeli "preemptive strikes" cause among civilians.

The Department response to the Dayan remark did not fully reject the Dayan comment, the sources say, and this caused the situation among the PLO and others in Lebanon to "become ugly" against Americans. To overcome this "ugly" attitude, which alarmed the American Embassy in Beirut, the Department on Monday said it rejected the Israeli "strategy" in south Lebanon and then followed up with Young's address and Carter's remarks today.

Carter said repeatedly today that the U.S. is not "condoning" terrorism; that the Young statement "has to stand on its own feet and explains itself"; and that the Department "certainly is not suggesting that any people can be expected to endure terrorism."

Responding to questions from a reporter on how the U.S. expects Israel to stop PLO killers from murdering innocent people in Israel after Israel had erected all sorts of barriers in hope of preventing infiltrations by the PLO, Carter replied, "We suggest it is no answer in steadily employing use of force" and "particularly when the majority" of the victims are "strictly innocents." He added that "we have been seeking repeatedly to prevent the continuing tragedy on both sides."

Asked whether Young's remarks were intended

to "pick on Israel," Carter denied that was the purpose. He said Young was addressing "both sides" and he added that "both sides" is a "loose term" because "we are talking of more than two sets of players." He said the U.S. is trying "across the board" to settle the situation. He added that "there is no way to settle it by one party."

#### ISRAEL SAYS U.S. MADE ARMS, AMMO REACHING TERRORISTS By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Israeli military sources reported today that a group of military correspondents and several foreign journalists have been shown an American 105-mm howitzer shell fired by Palestinian terrorists into a Christian enclave, contradicting a statement by the United States Embassy in Beirut that the U.S. was not now delivering arms or ammunition of that caliber to any of the parties in conflict in south Lebanon. According to the sources, the serial number on the shell indicates that it was produced in the 1970s.

The Embassy statement contended that several 105-mm howitzer guns were lost by the Lebanese army to various factions during the 1975-76 civil war in Lebanon. Arms of this caliber had last been delivered almost five years ago to Lebanon and these may have fallen into the hands of terrorists, according to the Americans.

(In Washington, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said yesterday, in response to reporters' questions as to how some 30 U.S. 105-mm howitzers and ammunition for them got into the hands of terrorists in south Lebanon, that such guns and ammunition have not been delivered "for over four years" to Lebanon.)

#### Christian Leader Decries Indifference

Meanwhile, the leader of the Christian militia spoke bitterly in his headquarters in the Marj-Ayoun office of the apparent indifference to the fate of the Lebanese Christians by all the protagonists, except Israel.

Maj. Saad Haddad said to Israeli reporters, "Why don't they speak of us being bombed and shelled? Are we not human beings? Don't we have a right to live?" Declaring that a family of four Lebanese Christians was killed by Palestinian fire at Mis Ad-Jabel, including a child and an old man, Haddad said "no one raised his voice. Has our life no value? Where is world public opinion?"

He was particularly bitter in noting that there had been no condemnation of the killing of 10 Christian civilians last week in Sidon by terrorists of George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and Naif Hawatme's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Haddad told the Israeli reporters that "the world serves the terrorists and the reason is Arab oil."

Haddad handed the reporters a note he said he hoped they would transmit to President Hafez Assad of Syria. Haddad quoted Assad as saying that had it not been for the Israelis in south Lebanon, the Lebanese army would have been able to take control of the area. He said he would tell Assad to drop his speculation about encounters between Lebanese and Lebanese, adding "let him send a Syrian force and we will be ready for it."

#### Militia On The Alert

Some reporters felt that challenge was an exaggeration but a tour of the Christian enclaves indicated that Haddad's militia was on the alert.

Moreover, while many troops of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) complain they would like to go home, some of the units are beginning to take their assignments -- one of which is to keep the Palestinian terrorists away from Israel's northern border -- more seriously. The reporters said this was particularly true of the new Norwegian unit, the Nepalese, the Filipinos and even the Dutch.

An Israeli army spokesman said that all UNIFIL casualties -- listed by UNIFIL General Emanuel Erskine as 10 dead and 13 injured -- have been victims of the terrorists, not of Israeli or Christian militiamen.

#### MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- With Israeli-U.S. relations strained to its farthest ends by the Carter Administration's tilt toward Arab perceptions the last few weeks, Israelis and Americans are to hold several meetings in Washington in mid-September.

A prospective meeting is to be held by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and an as yet unnamed Egyptian representative soon. Issues include the U.S.-supported United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization in Sinai to replace the UN armed force there.

This meeting is expected to take place Sept. 12-13. But the factor of another meeting may cause a shift. Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman is to be in Washington Sept. 13-14 to discuss, principally with Pentagon officials, the shipment of sophisticated Soviet tanks to Syria. These tanks excel the U.S. and British tanks Israel has.

Meanwhile, special Ambassador Robert Strauss is now tentatively set to go to Haifa about Sept. 10 or a few days later to meet Egyptians and Israelis on their autonomy talks. State Department sources discounted possibilities of a summit conference by President Carter, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Premier Menachem Begin of Israel. It was reported that they would meet in Washington Sept. 17.

#### MODAI: ISRAEL MAY HAVE TO POSTPONE RETURN OF OIL FIELDS By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Israel may have to consider postponing the return to Egypt of the Alma oil fields in the Suez Gulf unless an Egyptian-Israeli accord is reached on the amounts and prices of the oil Egypt would sell Israel after the oil fields are returned, Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Yitzhak Modai said today.

He issued the warning at Ben Gurion Airport on his return from a meeting with his Egyptian counterpart at Abu Rodeis. Modai said the gap between the two countries on oil quantities and prices is so great as to perhaps force Israel to consider a delay, adding that this problem will have to be considered by the Israel government. He expressed hope that the issue will be settled next week during the meeting between Premier Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat in Haifa.

Israel wants an agreement for Egypt to sell Israel two million tons of oil annually, about the quantity produced by the field discovered and developed by the Israelis in south Sinai on the Suez Gulf. But, he said, the Egyptians are willing to sell Israel only 1.5 million tons a year -- 40,000 barrels a day -- as a special preference to Israel, and would require Israel to participate in international bidding for more oil. Modai said that apart from the dispute over quantity, Egypt demands the highest international spot market price, about \$32 a barrel.

## CARTER APPEALS TO BLACKS AND JEWS TO HEAL THE RIFT BETWEEN THEM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- President Carter appealed today to Blacks and Jews in America to end the rift that developed between them as a result of the resignation of Andrew Young as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations following his unauthorized meeting with a Palestine Liberation Organization representative.

Speaking at the dedication of a chapel in Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., Young's home town, the President declared: "Both groups (Blacks and Jews) have a particular call on the conscience of each other and on the conscience of us all. . . . Many nations are in danger of being torn apart by ethnic divisions, by political rivalries, by religious conflicts. We must seek resolution of differences and we must stand with each other to prevent all these quarrels of the world from being imported into our own national life."

Recalling that both Blacks and Jews suffered "too much pain, too much persecution," Carter continued: "Our pluralistic society is an important source of the vitality and creativity of American life. But we must not permit diversity to degenerate into division. In a time of trial, we must not permit the legitimate contest of competing views to become a war of group against group, special interest against special interest, and finally each against all other."

Carter also said in his speech that different political views "must not become the occasion for deep and damaging divisions between groups of citizens in our society. Black Americans and Jewish Americans have worked side by side for generations in the service of human rights, social justice and general welfare."

Referring to Young, who was unable to attend the ceremony because of the current Security Council session, Carter praised the outgoing Ambassador for having turned the distrust and fear of the U.S. into an understanding that America supported the rights of oppressed people for justice.

## JEWS LEADERS EXPRESS SORROW OVER ASSASSINATION OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN

LONDON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Leaders of the Board of Deputies of British Jews expressed sorrow at the assassination by Irish terrorists of Earl Mountbatten of Burma and three other members of his family. Eulogies were delivered yesterday at a meeting attended by Philip Klutznick, president of the World Jewish Congress.

Messages of condolence to the Queen and Prince Philip have been sent by many Jewish leaders, including MP Greville Janner, who is president of the Board, and Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits.

Mountbatten was very popular in the Jewish community. He had on several occasions taken the salute at the annual memorial parade of Jewish ex-servicemen. His wife, who died in 1960, was a granddaughter of Sir Ernest Cassel, a Jewish millionaire born in Germany, and a forest in her name has been planted in Israel.

## LEVY: OLIM AND YORDIM BALANCE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- For the first time in many years, the number of returning Israelis exceeded that of Israelis leaving the country, Absorption Minister David Levy said at a press conference here yesterday.

Levy said that balance was reached last year when 22,900 Israelis returned to the country,

in comparison to about 10,000 who left the country in the same period. He said 6662 came back as part of a special program launched by the Ministry of Absorption on the occasion of Israel's 30th anniversary, with the assistance of aliyah and absorption institutions. The others came back on their own.

The plan to encourage Israelis to return home began in January 1978 and is scheduled to end at the end of this month. According to Levy, within the framework of the plan, some 12,000 returned in that period. Some 30 Israelis were returning daily, he said.

But Jewish Agency sources said yesterday in reaction that only some 4500 registered as returning Israelis in the period discussed. They did not know how Levy compiled his figures.

It is understood that the gap between the Absorption Ministry figures and that of the Jewish Agency stems from differences in definitions. Levy included in his count all Israelis who had spent more than two years overseas as well as all those who returned married to new immigrants. If those two groups are subtracted, the number of Israelis who spent more than four years overseas (the usual definition for yordim) and who return to Israel, the number is 4300.

Using the same statistics, Levy claimed that the number of returning Israelis in the period discussed exceeded in some cases those of the number of immigrants. For example, some 6100 Israelis returned from North America. The number of immigrants from that part of the world was 5125 in the same period.

Levy said that according to Central Bureau of Statistics figures, the number of Israelis who left the country last year and are expected to stay overseas for a longer period did not exceed 10,000, a decrease of 21 percent compared to the year before.

## AJ COMMITTEE TO AID BOAT PEOPLE

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee has launched a major campaign to encourage more Americans to sponsor Indochinese refugees who seek admission into the United States, and to provide other kinds of assistance to the uprooted people of Southeast Asia. It was announced by Bertram Gold, AJ Committee executive vice president. Titled "Operation Boat People," the project will be put into action at the grass-roots level by the AJ Committee's 86 chapters and units around the country.

In presenting an action plan to its local groups, the AJ Committee recommended that each chapter, in an emergency session of its executive board, make a commitment to sponsor a given number of Indochinese refugees, and that it appeal to its members to personally undertake individual sponsorships. It also urged each chapter, in conjunction with the other local Jewish communal organizations in its area, to call a meeting of spokesmen for a wide variety of community groups, including Christian agencies and churches, fraternal and social groups, and to persuade each group to set its own quota for refugee resettlement.

## ISRAELIS RESCUE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- An Israeli merchant vessel rescued 41 Vietnamese refugees in the South China Sea today after their boat sank in a storm, Israel Radio reported. The Israeli container ship, Zim Sydney, responded to a message by an American plane which spotted the refugees in a life boat, according to the report. After rescuing the refugees the Israeli vessel continued on its trip to Singapore. Israel has taken in about 200 Vietnamese refugees as permanent residents over the past two years.

# SPECIAL TO THE JTA SOME 1600 NORTH AMERICAN JEWISH EDUCATORS HOLD CONCLAVE TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVES IN JEWISH EDUCATION

By David Szonyi

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Aug. 30 (JTA)

"This is probably the largest meeting of Jewish educators held since... well, perhaps since Sinai." That claim was made by Jerry Benjamin, chairperson of the Coalition on Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE) and the recently-named executive director of the Maimonides School in Boston, in referring to the fourth CAJE conference which took place at Rutgers University from Aug. 23-28. Over 1000 people involved in every major facet of Jewish education and representing the entire religious and ideological spectrum attended the conference.

CAJE, a four-year-old grassroots organization with over 1600 members in the U.S. and Canada, organized the conference and obtained the co-sponsorship of the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York (BJE-NY). Financial support was provided by the Fund for Jewish Education (created by the New York Federation and administered by the BJE-NY, the World Zionist Organization, the EMET Foundation, and the Gimprich Family Foundation). Office space was donated by the National Jewish Conference Center.

Participants at this conference had their choice from among 158 modules (intensive pedagogical sessions lasting up to 12 hours and usually over several days) and 128 Lehrhauses (sessions averaging 90 minutes on one special theme or issue). Topics covered ranged from the practical ("The 'How-Tos' of Starting a Teacher's Center") to more effective areas of learning ("Judaism and Psychosynthesis: Personal and Spiritual Growth"), and included several lessons that were as witty as they are informative ("Laugh with a Litvak: Humor in the Talmud").

Among the hundreds of session leaders were Ilya Goldin, an activist in Jewish political and cultural affairs in Minsk who now lives in Haifa; Michael Berenbaum, deputy director of the President's Commission on the Holocaust; and Samuel Narich, a vice-president of the World Jewish Congress and doctoral candidate in sociology at the University of Wisconsin.

## Eclectic Nature Of Conference

The conference was the first CAJE convocation to include full-day "mini-conferences" on such wide-ranging subjects as "Adolescence," "Day Schools" and "Women in Judaism." Many in attendance expressed the view that no previous group of Jewish educators has ever been exposed to such extensive artistic and creative programming. On the evening of Aug. 25 alone, participants had their choice of attending one of two plays -- one consisting of legends about and biographical sketches of the Baal Shem Tov, the other about the experiences of an unusual Jewish woman growing up -- seeing the Rakdaneen, a dance group sponsored by the American Jewish Congress, or listening to either the Fabriggen Fiddlers -- a "bluegrass/klezmer" group based in Washington, D.C. -- or singer/composer Debbie Friedman.

During the two evening plenum sessions, a number of speakers commented upon the eclectic nature of the conference. "This is the only place in the world where we have the participation of Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist, secular, Zionist and Yiddishist Jews, Hasidim

Mitragdim -- everyone," observed Robert Bergman, a Reform rabbi from Santa Ana, California.

Steven Shaw, a Conservative rabbi from Rutherford, New Jersey and consultant to the American Jewish Committee and National Jewish Conference Center, remarked that "The Alternatives Conference is the first major Jewish forum where the generation which came of age during the 1960s is doing most of the programming for the entire Jewish community."

## 21 Task Forces Established

During the plenum sessions, participants voted to establish 21 task forces to help improve teacher training and the sharing of resources, develop new educational materials and explore specific areas of interest. These included: "Developing Effective In-Service Staff Training," "Confronting Aging and the Aged Through Jewish Education" and "Developing Programs and Materials for Family Education."

They also agreed to create a newsletter, help European Jewish educators (several of whom attended), organize a similar conference in 1980 or 1981, and investigate the possibility of holding a conference in Israel within the next few years.

At their concluding plenum, CAJE members adopted a new governing structure and elected Rabbi Daniel Syme, currently national director of education of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, as the organization's new chairperson.

Reflecting on CAJE's importance, Benjamin told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the organization represents "a new movement of people energized both by the problems they've encountered and the belief that, by working collectively, they can begin to end the isolation and frustration experienced by so many Jewish teachers."

## JEWISH BOOKS AT MOSCOW BOOK FAIR

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The Association of Jewish Book Publishers (AJBP) has accepted an invitation to exhibit at the Second Moscow Book Fair, Jacob Steinberg, president of the AJBP, announced. Steinberg said that the exhibit in Moscow Sept. 4-10, would include more than 650 Jewish books published in the United States. The exhibit consists of a careful selection of the foremost Jewish books culled from literature, culture, history, religion and contemporary life, he noted. It will also include outstanding fiction in English translation, and titles in Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian, and prayerbooks.

"Our aim is commercial," Steinberg said, "but at the same time the titles will give their readers access to the Jewish heritage, and an in-depth knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Jews and Judaism, both past and present."

While the AJBP exhibit at the First Moscow Book Fair in 1977 was limited largely to books by its members, the second exhibit will contain titles of Jewish interest issued by general trade publishers and university presses as well. The enlargement of the exhibit to double that of 1977, Steinberg said, was made possible by a grant from the Joseph Meyerhoff Foundation and the participation of the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Welfare Board Jewish Book Council as co-sponsors.

The exhibit will exemplify the wide variety of books of Jewish interest published in the United States, and will provide a basis for mutually beneficial discussion of publishing rights and related matters with USSR publishers and those of other countries represented at the Fair. The Moscow Fair exhibits will be open to the general public as well as to publishers, librarians and other professional book people.